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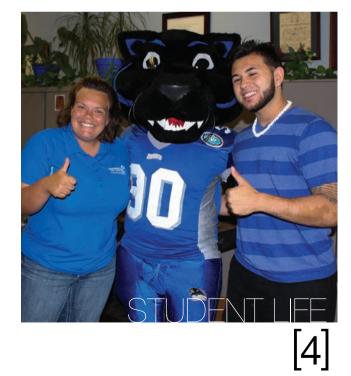
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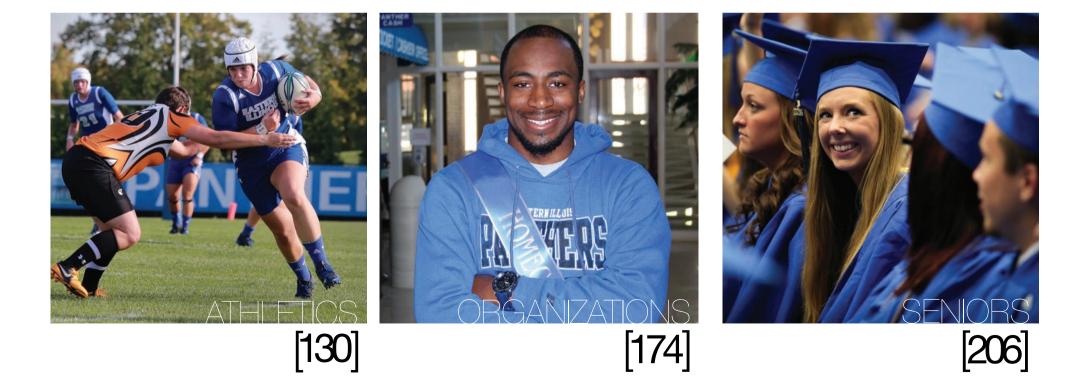






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What makes EIU different?

With an enrollment of 8,913 students, Eastern's campus is greatly influenced by the individuality of each student.

Eastern provides students with resources and support they need to succeed. However, the greatest achievements are seen when students engage and create activities they are passionate about.

Students can select among more than 200 Registered Student Organizations, which means you can go Greek, serve on student government, contribute to religious organizations, report for student media, and play for intramural and club teams. You can even be a Best Buddy, improvise comedy and bond over Harry Potter. Students leave their mark by creating RSOs, doing research projects, volunteering, breaking records, graduating and moving on to do greater things.

Small class sizes - a 12-to-1 ratio - within the small Charleston community provide more personable relationships on our 320-acre campus. You can even engage with our energetic, sociable president, Bill Perry, who regularly participates in campus activities.

The *Warbler* has been documenting Eastern since 1919, and, in doing so, has captured the essence of every year. Of course, that essence begins with you. That's why this year's book will focus even more on stories of as many of our 8,913 students as possible.

No story is the same; every student is unique. And that is what makes EIU special.











[STUDENT LIFE]

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Alex Wood, a junior exercise science major, poses during the Mr. EIU competition March 1, 2014, in McAfee Gymnasium. Wood, who competed in the lightweight division, was named the winner of his division and the overall winner of Mr. EIU.

Student breaks down diet, training preparation for Mr. EIU title

Story by Kaelin Kwiatkowski

Getting a spray tan, putting on a speedo, walking on stage underneath the beaming lights and performing in front of a panel of judges brings excitement and nerves to the Mr. EIU contestants.

After being active in bodybuilding for the past three or four years, Alex Wood, a junior exercise science major, decided to partake in the 2014 Mr. EIU competition.

Mr. EIU, Ms. Fitness and Ms. Physique all consisted of the same requirements that each competitor had to complete. The requirements included participating in a group-symmetry round, performing personal routines and mandatory poses that allowed the judges to assess each of the muscle categories individually and against their competitors.

In January 2014, Wood committed to the competition and began his preparation. He originally wanted to partake in the competition his sophomore year but did not feel like he was where he needed to be physically so decided to wait another year.

Once Wood was set on participating in the competition, he contacted a sponsored body builder athlete and asked him for some advice. Along with some tips on nutrition, the body builder also gave Wood the advice to not do anything too crazy, just keep doing what he was already doing.

Working out and eating healthy was already part of Wood's daily routine, but he had to take it more seriously if he was going to be ready for the competition by March 1.

"I stuck to a diet which consisted of five meals a day,

including eggs, oats, veggies, salads and chicken," Wood said.

His daily training consisted of a 60-to-90 minute intense work out with weights and 25 minutes of cardio. Two weeks prior to the competition, Wood started doing additional cardio in the morning before eating breakfast.

Dedication was the most important of Wood's training for Mr. EIU. Sticking to the diet he planned for himself as well as his workout routine, was crucial for Wood to be in the right condition when he went on stage.

Another part of Wood's preparation was practicing the execution of his poses and holding them for a long period of time. Wood said that practicing the poses was almost as hard as one of his training sessions. During the competition he did not have to hold them for as long as he thought but toward the end of the finals, the posing became much harder.

Throughout all of the conditioning and preparation, the hardest part of it all was that Wood was not able to celebrate his 21st birthday, which fell just 10 days prior to the competition. Unlike how he planned, he celebrated his birthday at home like any other day and treated himself to a little bit of steak.

The night after the competition, Wood had a belated birthday bash treating himself to a huge cheat meal and his first legal beer at Buffalo Wild Wings with friends and family. He also got to celebrate his birthday and his Mr. EIU 2014 title during spring break.

"The best part about competing was that I got to do it with friends that supported each other along the way," said Wood.

Design by Lindsey Caudle

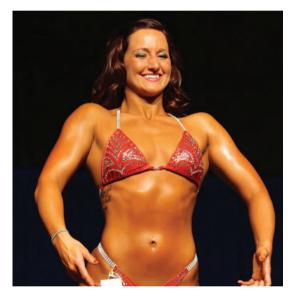


PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Brittany O'Dell, a senior kinesiology and sports studies major, performs her individual routine during the Ms. Fitness competition March 1, 2014, in McAfee Gymnasium. O'Dell took first place in this division after competing in a personal routine and group poses. O'Dell said to prepare for the competition she ate five to six meals a day.

'INSPIRED CONNECTIONS' EIU Dancers use real-life experiences to spark routine

Story by Gina Volk and Shauna DeLacey

All the choreography had to be memorized in only six practices, several dancers quit the show, and finding upbeat tap music seemed impossible. Despite these challenges, Amanda Chapman successfully choreographed and performed two dance pieces related to her personal-life relationships in the EIU Dancers' "Inspired Connections" production.

"Inspired Connections" is based on the interpretation of relationships and how each of those connections inspired them as performers and dancers. It consisted of three sections: friends, family and love.

Chapman, a senior family and consumer sciences major, has been dancing for 20 years, and has been part of the EIU Dancers for two years. In her second year, she was a company member and a choreographer.

"I like being a choreographer because I can put in my own ideas, and see how it all came together at the end," Chapman said.

Even though there was freedom to choose her own costumes and music, Chapman struggled with limited time and disappearing dancers.

"For each dance, you have to choreograph and teach it to everyone, and you only have six practices," Chapman said. "A girl dropped after the sixth practice, and two or three dropped in the middle." Chapman overcame this by rearranging her company dancers. For her performance in the "love" section, she originally started with four women and one man, Danny Hernandez. Each woman had a solo dance with Hernandez at the beginning of the piece to the song "Total Eclipse of the Heart." After a dancer quit, Chapman had to teach the solo to a new dancer. Because of the limited practice time, only three of the women completed the last part of the dance, which consisted of them dramatically turning away and rejecting Hernandez.

This was symbolic of Chapman's experience with a previous boyfriend who had cheated on her. The solos represent the time her boyfriend would spend with other girls, and the rejection at the end of the piece shows Chapman breaking off the bad relationship.

"One of the guys that I was dating had two or three girls on the side. So basically that's how the relationship ended," she said.

In addition, Chapman produced a piece in the "family" section. She found it difficult to find a tap piece that was upbeat and that made sense with a family theme.

Antoine Thomas, director of EIU Dancers, said this performance should help inspire students to reach their goals, because of the obstacles the dance group faced.

"The show is a testament of what is possible for a group of people when they join together," he said. "For a school that doesn't have a dance program this show is about what is possible if you will work for a dream. We hope that it will inspire other to follow their dreams."

"Inspired Connections" was the 33rd annual spring concert for the EIU Dancers, which was held on March 27-28 in the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Even though there were struggles, Chapman said the crowd's involvement made the show all worthwhile. In regular dance recitals, the audience is not supposed to scream or clap, but Thomas made an exception. He came out between dances and encouraged the audience to go crazy if they were enjoying the performance.

"Once you get on stage, you can hear the audience's reaction," Chapman said. "Throughout the show you can hear people shouting your name and just encouraging you."

When Thomas started the year, he explained the concept of the show to the dancers and asked them to think about friends, family and people they loved who inspired them to be better or changed. He asked his dancers to choreograph around these connections. Through this experience, Chapman encourages everyone, regardless of their talent, to find inspiration through dance and life experiences.



PHOTO-BY-DOMINIC BAIMA The EIU Dancers perform their show "Inspired Connections" Thursday, March 27, 2014, during a dress rehearsal in the Theatre of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

ME LOV 1, **SHOM**

PHOTOS BY DOMINIC BAIMA Thompson Square performs in Lantz Arena on Thursday, April 24, 2014, during the Spring Concert.

Country couple performs for spring concert

Story by Gina Volk

Illuminated only by spotlights, Shawna and Keifer slowly walk from opposite sides of the stage into each other's arms. As they stare into each other's eyes, they sing "If I Didn't Have You," as if they were the only two in the room, singing to each other. Keifer leans in for a kiss, but giggles as Shawna's cheetah-print hat deflects his chances. As the song concludes, they both remove their hats and share a kiss as the crowd at Lantz Arena erupts in cheers.

Shawna and Keifer Thompson, the countryduo known as Thompson Square, showed the love of their 13-year marriage Thursday, April 24 during Eastern's annual spring concert.

While introducing their brand new single "Testing the Water," Shawna described Keifer as her "beautiful, awesome husband."

"Yes, we are married, not brother and sister, so don't freak out when we kiss," Shawna said.

After attending college in Indiana, Keifer said he moved to Nashville and his first week there he met Shawna. He said this could have been luck, but perhaps it was something much bigger, like fate.

"After 13 years, you make your own luck," Keifer said, as the band began singing "You Don't Get Lucky."

Thompson Square connected with Eastern students by talking about tailgates, bonfires, cold beer and partying with only two weeks left of school.

"I know that this concert is only 90 minutes, but I'm kind of wondering where the after party's at," Keifer said.

Shawna added that she had heard of a little place down the road called Marty's, and not to be surprised if the duo showed up at the bar on Fourth Street.

Haley Titsworth, a sophomore communication studies major, had the opportunity to work with

University Board to set up for the concert.

"At the end they kissed and I thought it was like the sweetest thing ever," Titsworth said. "I think it just kind of adds to their credibility and how sweet they are."

Before their performance, Thompson Square had a "Meet and Greet" with fans. Titsworth met the couple, and also had her photograph taken with them.

Keifer and Shawna interacted with their fans not only before the show, but during as well.

5-year-old Heighden Fairley was invited by Shawna to come up on stage during the last song of the concert, "Are You Gonna Kiss Me or Not."

Fairley impressed the entire crowd when she began singing all the words to the popular song.

Thompson Square ended the show with Fairley's solo, but they happily gave autographs and took "selfie" pictures with the crowd.



LIFE ON A Longboard

Students get their hearts pumping by traveling around campus on new, smaller set of wheels

Story by Roberto Hodge

She stands across from me, her arms adorned in intricate rainbow-beaded and twined bracelets. Her hair, half the color of dark skies and sienna green oceans, Citlally Fabela, a freshman biological sciences major, smiles shyly, revealing braces as she explains how she's been longboarding for four years.

Fabela learned how to longboard from watching her friends skateboard. She said she started practicing skateboarding on her friend's boards and eventually got her own longboard.

What's the difference between the two?

Skateboards are smaller and meant for tricks and longboards are usually longer and wider with bigger wheels. Longboards are typically meant for the cruise, but can also be used for tricks or downhill riding.

Fabela said she thinks about the things she has to do for the day as she longboards; for her, it's a rush.

"You feel your heart pumping, it's a feeling of slight fear—you pretty much just let yourself go," Fabela said.

Wearing fitted blue jeans, a gray beanie and a red-orange V-neck, Travis White, a freshman graphic design major says longboarding is a stress reliever for him and gives him a sense of purpose.

"It's a freeing feeling and I love it," White said.

"When I first got on it, I knew I wanted to longboard all of the time."

Like Fabela, White started longboarding from skateboarding and crossed over since the two sports are similar. He said he started skateboarding when he was 10, but grew out of it at age 15; however, White eventually picked up longboarding when he came to Eastern last fall.

Longboards come in many different styles, sizes and colors with a price range to meet their elaborate shapes. Prices can range from \$150-\$200, with boards as short as 32 inches or as long as 40 inches.

White, who stands at 6 feet 4 inches, says his board is about 44 inches long because he has a wider stance. Those with shorter stances would favor a shorter board.

Trucks, the metal bar that holds the wheels to the board, also help determine the prices. Longboarding should only be done in dry weather so that the trucks and bearings don't rust.

Even though White has been used to riding these low-leveled four-wheelers, he hasn't gone unscathed.

White mentioned there was a time when he was longboarding he fell on his knee and slid into the grass. "It was pretty painful for grass," admitted White.

PHOTO BY OLIVIA S. DIGGS

Citlally Fabela, a sophomore biological sciences major, playfully rides her longboard around campus Nov. 14, 2014. Fabela has been longboarding for four years.







PHOTOS BY OLIVIA S. DIGGS

Top: Jessica Hegberg, a graduate student in the exercise science program; Fabela; Samantha Marsteller, a sophomore psychology major; Erik Piper, a geography major; and Tobias Gamino, a clinical laboratory sciences major, longboard together in front of Buzzard Hall Nov. 14, 2014. **Left:** Piper pops a wheelie on his longboard while performing stunts with his friends at Buzzard Hall. **Right:** Longboarders customize their rides with different decals, prints and patterns.

STUDENT LIFE [13]





PHOTO BY GINA VOLK Shahmir Haq, a senior public relations major from Pakistan, enjoys EIU's Holi Celebration April 25, 2014, in the library quad. This Hindu Festival of Colors lasted from noon to 2 p.m.

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Shifa Shamim, ajunior accounting major from India, celebrates Holi in the library quad April 25, 2014. "Everyone plays in India. Everyone in the streets puts color and water on each other no matter if they're friends or not."



HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Students celebrate Hindu traditions with Holi

Story by Gina Volk

Music, water, colored powder, mud and laughter were all shared during Eastern's Holi Celebration as part of Asian Heritage Month.

The event kicked off at noon, as people in all white were dipped, drenched and sprayed with water. Brightly colored powders made of pure starch were handed out to participants to be thrown on each other.

The Study Abroad program hosted the Festival of Colors, which is a Hindu holiday.

"The festival name of Holi comes from the Hindu demoness, Holika," said Jyoti Panjwani, an Eastern professor from Kolkata, India.

According to the Hindu myth, an evil king was granted a boon, or wish, to never be killed. As the king became invincible, he became arrogant and wished to be worshiped as a god. His son was aware of his father's wrongdoings and refused to worship his father.

The king called upon his sister, Holika, to kill his son. Holika had a special fireproof cloak; therefore, she planned to sit on a fire with the king's son in her lap. She thought the cloak would protect her and burn her nephew instead. However, as the fire rose, the cloak flew off Holika and covered the righteous son while Holika burned to death.

The myth teaches that good will always triumph over evil, Panjwani said.

The day before Holi, Hindus burn an effigy, or a cloth statue, to represent the evil Holika burning. This bonfire the night before Holi kicks off the Festival of Colors.

"Holi is observed in March to welcome spring," Panjwani said. "You compete the color of the powders with the colors of nature."

This year, the Hindu Holi was celebrated on March 17. However, Eastern's Festival of Colors was held on Friday, April 25, as part of Asian Heritage Month.

During Holi, participants are to forget about all grievances and hatred toward enemies, Panjwani said. The start of a new spring should also be the start of new relationships so that the year that follows will be sweet.

Shifa Shamim, a junior accounting major, is also from India and enjoys participating in Holi at Eastern for social purposes and seeing others loving her Indian tradition.

"It is so much fun just watching other people playing Holi, and being a part of it is always a total joy," Shamim said.

A big difference that Shamim sees between the celebrations at Eastern compared to India is the absence of her family and Indian cuisine.

"In India, people cook special food and a drink made with milk or yogurt and lots of Indian sweets," Shamim said. "I miss the food and relatives."

Shahmir Haq, a senior public relations major, wanted to be a part of Holi this year because he thought it would be a great experience with his new friends at Eastern.

His friends had another idea in mind as they picked him up by his arms and legs and dumped him into a giant water tub. Haq, who is from Pakistan, remembers having Holi every year to welcome spring and as a great way to celebrate graduations.

In addition to the water and powder fights, Holi offered upbeat music, hula hooping, dancing and lots of mud in the library quad.

Regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or religion, participants embodied the Hindu idea of Holi by embracing new friendships and the welcoming of spring.

Gracuation Spring Class

DESIGN BY KATIE EDELMANN

PHOTOS BY DOMINIC BAIMA

Dressed in blue robes, caps and cords, Eastern seniors filled Lantz Arena at Spring Commencement May 10, 2014. Student Commencement Speakers represented each college during the ceremony, and band members serenaded those in attendance with the traditional "Pomp and Circumstance."

























PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Carolanne Pilch, a senior RA majoring in communication disorders and sciences, tries to control her residents in Ford Hall Sept. 4, 2014. Sara Kennedy, a sophomore English major; Amanda Anderson, a sophomore sports management major; Rachael Johnson, a sophomore chemistry major; Kaen Henry, a sophomore graphic design major; Max Kestner, a sophomore music education major; and Josh Welzen, a senior science major demonstrate the struggles and advantages of living in a coed-floor residence hall. "The boys really smell," Kennedy said.

NO GIRLS ALLOWED!

SADET HEL

Guests must be escorted all times.

> Courtesy hour are ALWAYS effect! Please do not disrup fifty to cat, sleep and

[18] STUDENT LIFE

FORD HALL RENOVATIONS Separated residence hall converts to coed floors

Story by Cassie Buchman

A new year comes with new changes, especially for the residents of Ford Hall, which received many new renovations over the summer.

According to Carolanne Pilch, a senior resident assistant majoring in communication disorders and sciences, renovations started right on move-out day, and when it came time for the RAs to move in, they still weren't finished.

"The lobby was not completed, the bathrooms were only halfway done, they still had to finish painting," Pilch said.

Every day about 20 workers would begin renovations at 7 a.m. and work all day, according to Pilch.

However, these minor inconveniences were worth it, Pilch said, because Ford was "dark and uninviting." Now with the help of a new paint job, Ford is a brighter, more welcoming hall.

One main change was the elimination of communal bathrooms. This is due to the changing of Ford Hall to coed floors. Before, women occupied two floors on the east side of the building, and the men lived in the two floors on the west.

Rachel Johnson, a sophomore chemistry major, said she liked the coed dorms even better, and that having guys made the hall "more open and more fun."

Even Sara Kennedy, a sophomore English major, said she "thought it was going to be

weirder" than it actually was.

Even though Kennedy likes the hall being coed, she found the boys in the hall were pretty stinky.

The only real change Pilch said she had to make as an RA was designing the hall to be more "boy-friendly."

Pilch is in charge of decorating the hall and organizing functions for all the residents. She found it difficult to entertain and decorate for both sexes.

All in all, the changes were a great success, and ensured the year got off to an interesting start.

Design by Gina Volk



Celebrating a legacy

Nanda shares family tradition, achievements at Eastern through Commemorative Courtyard

Story by Ty Noel

People crossing from Thomas Hall walk by it every day, usually without a second glance. There are benches and even a wall you have to walk around to get by it, but no one pays it any attention. The Commemorative Courtyard for most students is just another part of what makes Eastern beautiful. For Rohan Nanda, it's where his legacy at Eastern is set.

Nanda, a sophomore, is currently working his way toward earning his finance degree. At the age of 19, Rohan already knows the importance his family has played at Eastern. His uncle, Jagdish Nanda, came to Coles County more than 50 years ago with Rohan's great grandfather, just seven years after sailing to America. The trip took them about 45 days to complete.

Jagdish began creating a legacy for himself here at Eastern when he started teaching in 1964. He taught an array of subjects in the department of math and computer science for over 37 years, until he retired in 2001. Since his tenure at Eastern, there has been two major pieces he put into play on keeping his legacy alive. The first was putting in a memorial at the Commemorative Courtyard. The memorial currently boasts the names of his grandparents along with his wife. The memorial has a spot open for Jagdish's name as well when the time comes for him to be added.

The other part that will forever keep the Nanda name known at Eastern is the scholarship that was set up by Jagdish in the name of his wife who passed away. The scholarship, The S.L. Nanda Mathematics and Science Scholarship, was set up to honor her name and help students of Coles County pursue their dreams. The scholarship is offered to incoming freshmen that reside in Coles County.

Regardless of the past, Rohan is still working hard to keep the honor and memory of his family alive through him. While working on receiving his degree here at Eastern, he still goes to visit the memorial once in awhile. "Going to visit the memorial makes me feel proud," Rohan said. The memorial is there as a reminder of what his uncle has accomplished here, and it helps him to strive to reach his goals as well.

Design by Lindsey Caudle



PHOTOS BY DOMINIC BAIMA

Rohan Nanda, a sophomore pre-business major, shows the bricks located in the Commemorative Courtyard donated by his family members. "Going to visit the memorial makes me feel proud," Nanda said.



PHOTO BY MACKENZIE FREUND

Carly Kupersmith, a junior communication disorders and sciences major, asks sister Ally Kupersmith, a senior early childhood education major, for fashion advice. This is the Kupersmiths' first year of living together on campus.

[22] STUDENT LIFE

CHOOSING ROOMIES

Students share varied living experiences while in college

Stories by Victoria Adams

College is a time in everyone's life where they venture out on their own, become whomever they want, and truly invent themselves. There is more freedom than at home, and they must learn to live on their own, which is a big adjustment for anyone. It can be a little nerve-racking having to live with a stranger or to move into a house with friends and take on all the responsibilities that come with that. While all roommates face their difficulties often it turns into lifelong friendships. Throughout college many will have the chance to live in all different types of living situations. No doubt, roommates have a huge impact on one's success in school, so choose wisely.

THE SIBLINGS

Ally Kupersmith, a senior early childhood education and special education major, and Carly Kupersmith, a junior communication disorders and sciences major, are sisters who room together in Stevenson in a two-room suite.

Ally explained how her friends all graduated last semester and Carly is new to Eastern this year so it just made sense to live together.

Some of the benefits are the fact that they could share things; they didn't need to each buy things since it is all coming from the same house, she said.

Probably the most important part about living with someone who you have known your whole life is being able to just be yourself.

"You don't have to worry about making the other person feel comfortable," Ally said.

And with already having so many stresses in everyday college life, not having to worry about "fitting in" can make life a little bit easier.

THE RANDOM ROOMMATES

"It is like a dating site, but for roommates," she said.

She said they ask questions to find someone you are compatible with.

Using this site has made her first year at college a lot less stressful by not having to worry about completely not knowing the person she would be living with, and they have really began to mesh well.

THE MATCHING MAJORS

Hill Love, a senior athletic training major, lives with three other guys in a house off campus.

Tracie Roy, a freshman

mass communication major,

decided to take the less tra-

stranger.

have just met.

with a stranger.

ditional route of living with a

cal toward the idea of having

Thanks to the Facebook

page, RoomSync, Roy had an

easier transition into living

to live with someone they

Most are extremely skepti-

He met his three friends through his major and because of this it has made this year his favorite.

"It is really fun rooming with people who have the same major as you," he said. "You all have the same schedule and know NG MAJORS the same struggles the others have. You don't have to look for anything to do because everyone knows what everyone is doing in

the program." What is the downside of living with three other boys? The messes.

Deciding whose turn it is to clean can sometimes cause some arguments, but nothing too serious, Love said.

THE SIGNIFICANT OTHERS -

Michael Brown, a senior mass communication major, has loved living with his girlfriend of four years.

"My best friend is always here to talk to about any major life issues," he said.

While it may seem great living with your significant other, there can be a few drawbacks.

"There is a lot of compromise," Brown said. "I find my sensor and we always find a way to work it out, in other words she always gets her way."

He has let her decorate the apartment, which left them having a Marilyn Monroe poster hanging up in the living room that Brown does not care for.

Brown has had a few different living situations. He has lived in the dorms with a roommate, lived alone and lived with his fraternity brothers. Out of all of these, Brown likes living with his girlfriend the best.

"I'd choose her over anyone else," he said.

3 3 1

PHOTOS BY DOMINIC BAIMA

Chuck and Judy Young connect electronic matches to the ignition system while Dustin Tichler holds a light for them Saturday, Sept. 6, 2014, at Coaches Stadium. Extreme Pyrotechnics provided the half-time firework show for the first home football game against Southern Illinois.

Extreme Pyrotechnics illuminate O'Brien Field with firework display for home opener

Story by Dominic Baima

Boom! Nine and a half minutes filled with ear-popping explosions of light filled the sky over the baseball field late one Saturday evening.

The fire department was standing by from a safe distance watching this spectacle, some even with family members.

The people behind these explosions were standing nearby smoking cigars, eating popcorn and throwing around some jokes. They had one very long day where it seemed that what could go wrong, would go wrong.

Only 380 explosions (minus a few duds) made up the nineand-a-half minute show that entertained the crowd at O'Brien Field following the Panthers' loss in their first home game to the Southern Illinois Salukis with a final score of 38-21 on Saturday Sept. 6, 2014.

The fireworks show was set up by a group from Extreme Pyrotechnics, each of the members had a very different story and background. This was not their day job; they blow things up just for fun.

According to shooter Chris Krizek, nicknamed Twizzler, it took a one-day class to learn how to shoot off fireworks. You have to learn most of it on the job and by doing it, he said.

Krizek, who has been doing this legally for seven years, worked very quickly and efficiently.

Meanwhile, shooter Chuck Young was standing away from the launch zone smoking a pipe, wearing a monocle and a Civil War style cap. He said this was only his second show.

"This is my second time," Chuck said. "I'm kind of learning as I go. I've been shooting real cannons since I was 12 years old though."

Chuck's wife, Judy Young, was also shooting with the crew at Eastern. Like the other shooters, Chuck and Judy have other "day" jobs. Chuck is the vice president of marketing for a fire-

arms manufacturing company.

He is overseeing the building of a factory in the Dominican Republic, and Judy is a sales representative for a company in Champaign.

The whole group had a very relaxed tone and demeanor the entire day. They were running behind, according to lead operator, Robbie Novak.

The trailer filled with explosives blew a tire on the way to Eastern.

"It was very scary. God bless the other three tires," Novak said, who was driving at the time. He said that was a first for him.

The crew had the shredded tire and twisted fender laying next to the trailer the whole time they set up the show.

The crew set off a couple of shots during the national anthem and then some more during halftime before the big end of the game show.

Right before the shots were fired off for the national anthem, Novak said in an excited voice, "I think there was a mix up. At least it will be fun!"

Afterward, with a huge smile on his face, he said, "What could possibly go wrong? That's our creed."

Novak, a high school math teacher, had a group of neighborhood kids push the buttons that set off the halftime shots. The smiles on the kids' faces were so big when the fireworks went off. "That was awesome!" they all screamed in unison.

"Right there, that's worth it," Novak said while grinning ear to ear.

Novak explained that he loves his job, because of the people he meets, not just his crew, but at every show.

"We all do it because we love it," explained Novak. "You get to do something you love and get a little bit of money for it. We would do it for free if we could."

Design by Pablo Ramirez

INTERNATIONAL BARRIERS

Student struggles to integrate into American culture

Story by Dominic Baima

Lonely.

That's how Minji Cha explains how she feels at Eastern.

Cha, a junior communications major, comes from South Korea as part of a one-semester exchange program from Sejong University in Seoul, South Korea.

Feeling lonely at first is a common problem among international students, Cha said.

"I think every international student kind of has the same problem because whenever I meet them, they keep talking about how they sometimes are very depressed and very lonely because there aren't too many people from their nation," Cha said.

Holidays are a time when international students feel especially lonely, Cha said.

American students go home to their families for breaks, but that is not an option for Cha and other international students who live over 6,000 miles away from their families.

Cha explained that her English is not very good and fears that people at Eastern do not want to talk to her because they can not understand her.

The Office of International Students and Scholars provides resources for international students to get adjusted to campus. Kevin Vicker, the director of the Office of International Students and Scholars, said his office provides orientation to help get students immersed in the Eastern and American culture.

This orientation takes place before the start of each semester and helps guide students through the registration process and arrival.

Students are provided transportation from the airport and temporary housing to work with their arrival time.

A first trip to Wal-Mart is also provided to help students buy everything they need for their new residence.

Conversation Partners is a program offered by the office that pairs international students up with American students to help both learn more about each other's cultures and help the international students with their English.

There are some unique differences that international students face when they come to America and Eastern that most students would not think about.

Cha explained that she has a hard time buying clothes because sizes are very different in America.

Another big difference is electricity in America. American power outlets output 120 volts, while most European and Asian countries, the continents where most of Eastern's international students are from, use electrical outlets with over 200 volts.

This causes problems for international students bringing their electronics between countries.

Electronics brought to America might not get enough power to work properly and electronics from America taken back to other countries cannot handle the extra power provided through the outlet.

These challenges and differences have not stopped international students from thinking less of Eastern.

International student enrollment has been on the rise.

There are 273 international students enrolled for the fall 2014 semester, an increase from the 151 international students in fall 2012.

The biggest way international students find out about Eastern is through international students who attended Eastern, Vicker said.

While Cha feels lonely at times and is having to adapt to the differences of American culture, she says that her experience at Eastern has been priceless and that her one semester here is not enough.

PHOTO BY DOMINIC BAIMA Minji Cha, a junior communications major, came from South Korea as part of a one-semester ex-change program from Sejong University in Seoul, South Korea during the fall 2014 semester.

Sinbad brings comedic relief for Family Weekend

Story by Samantha Middendorf

Despite technical difficulties from the beginning and a late starting time, Sinbad brought plenty of entertainment to Eastern's Family Weekend.

Chase Anthony, a college dropout turned comedian from Atlanta, set the mood of the evening by opening up for Sinbad in Lantz Arena Sept. 20, 2014.

Anthony experienced many microphone-related technical difficulties for the first half of his set, while audience members yelled to him that they could not hear him.

Once the microphones were correctly adjusted, Anthony pleased the crowd with jokes about student refund <u>checks</u> and Family Weekend.

Anthony received a warm reaction from the audience when he referenced seeing visiting parents drunk at the local bars.

"They say we're starting at Marty's," he said. "Turn up."

Anthony presented personable

jokes and had friendly interactions with those in the audience.

The quick, roughly 30-minute set gave Anthony nothing but laughs once the technical difficulties were solved.

Sinbad, '90s comedian and actor, came to stage following Anthony's skit and immediately commented on the microphone mishaps and said the university must only bring out the useful sound system when popular bands appear on campus.

Sinbad also mentioned his first impression of Charleston, which he called a "major metropolis."

"If this college was not here, this city would not be here," he noted.

The audience seemed to agree, as their laughter continued for several moments following the joke.

Prior to the show, Sinbad mentioned his affinity toward Cracker Barrel, and their hearty oatmeal.

"Y'all need to at least get a Cracker Barrel, you claim you have one because you can get to it," he said. "Every Cracker Barrel between here and Champaign is out of the way."

Sinbad received a warm reaction from the audience with his impressive crowd-interactions and personal jokes.

At one point, Sinbad had an argument with an English major in the crowd.

"When was the last time a comma changed your life," he asked.

Sinbad's jokes about college life were by far the most entertaining out of his array of "50 Shades of Grey" references and dating puns.

With a knack of bringing stories full-circle, Sinbad managed to keep the crowd entertained by connecting different jokes.

Overall, the audience at Lantz Arena, which was comprised of both large groups of families and students out on their own, appeared to be caught in fits of laughter throughout the comedic set.

BRINGING THE FUNK TO EASTERN

PHOTO BY CHYNNA MILLER

Sinbad answers questions from the audience during his comedy performance for Family Weekend in Lantz Arena Sept. 20, 2014. Sinbad based his show on crowd interaction and personal jokes.

Date nights in the Chuck

Eastern students adapt to dating in small-town community

Story by Danielle Tadlock and Gina Volk

She walks down the hall from the shower to her dorm room. Then she takes the outfit she had picked out the night before and puts it on. Looking in the mirror she decides to change her outfit, for the fifth time. She looks at her reflection in the small mirror hanging on her closet door where she curls her hair and applies her makeup. Leaving her room, she walks down the steps of Thomas to see him standing there.

Stevie Roberson, a sophomore graphic design major, follows this routine when preparing for her dates with her two-year boyfriend, Brendan Haile.

Roberson and Haile, a freshman applied mathematics major, are a hometown couple now facing the dating world in Charleston.

The two met while working together at the Fazoli's restaurant in their hometown of Mt. Vernon.

Roberson prefers dating in her hometown to dating in Charleston.

"It's because I know the places there and feel comfortable," Roberson said.

The laid-back couple enjoys relaxing during their free time. Because they prefer their dating life in their hometown, they usually find themselves reminiscing on old dates, fun times and their favorite places.

Charleston does not have as many bigchain restaurants as some students are used



PHOTO BY DANIELLE TADLOCK

Stevie Roberson and Brendan Haile recreate one of their favorite movies "The Fault in our Stars" at the square in Charleston Dec. 17, 2014. The couple enjoys going to the movie theater for a small-town date night.

to. However, Roberson and Haile try to stay optimistic by trying places that are similar to the ones in Mt. Vernon.

"We like to go to Monicals Pizza because it's a lot like DiMaggio's back home," Roberson said.

Some students in relationships are not

lucky enough to both attend Eastern, making long-distance another struggle while dating.

Jasmin Ashikyan, a freshman psychology major, waits anxiously for her boyfriend to travel about 50 miles to see her once a week.

Ashikyan has been in a relationship with Wesley Day, a sophomore at the University of Illinois in Champaign, for eight months. The couple met while attending Oakwood High School in Fithian.

"I don't have a car here so he'll come get me a lot and take me back," Ashikyan said. "When we are here in Charleston the closest thing to a date night we have is coming to the Union."

Charleston is known for its small-town image, and for all of Eastern's students creating the best date may be a challenge.

On their weekly visits, Ashikyan and Day are content with hanging out on campus and enjoying each other's company. Even though there's not a lot to do in Charleston, the couple is content with relaxing with each other.

"When it was really nice, we would get food and eat on the Doudna steps," Ashikyan said.

Every couple finds positives and negatives of dating in a small-town environment. Long-distance relationships and limited options are some struggles that couples must face.

Design by Gina Volk

PHOTO BY DANIELLE TADLOCK

Stevie Roberson and Brendan Haile stand in front of the AMC Theatres in Mattoon Dec. 17, 2014. The theater is only 7.42 miles away from Eastern's campus, and the town of Mattoon provides more date night options for couples living in the Charleston area.

PHOTO BY CLARISSA J. WILSON Participant of E-spa, Ayanna Jones, helped baby Damiyah with her pom poms while the other children played in the front lawn of the Wesley Foundation on Sept. 25, 2014.

OH, BABY E-Spa creates play group, support system

Story by Danielle Tadlock

College is usually the next step after high school, but for some students motherhood comes first.

The Eastern Student Parent Association is a program on campus that promotes the academic and social welfare of students with children.

E-spa was founded by Theresa Lindsay in 2004 because she did not feel like there was an outlet for student parents and their children.

Maggie Burkhead is the director of the TRiO student support service program and adviser for E-spa.

Members of E-spa have spoken with the university to pitch the idea of building a day care center, but they have had no luck.

"In the past, petitions have been signed so EIU would have it's own day care center," Burkhead said.

Because the group does not have their own building, they have to find other outlets and day cares for their children.

Burkhead looks for events and activities in the community to suggest doing as a group, but the members usually run the program.

On Tuesdays, they go to Pizza Hut where kids eat free, and they all can eat at the buffet.

"We all bond over food," Burkhead said. "We also go to the pumpkin patch in the fall."

During orientation over the summer, E-spa joined New Student Programs to inform new students and student parents that there are different outlets and support for them.

"We let them know that the support is there and let them know about other resources in the community," Burkhead said. "They help each other out."



PHOTO BY CLARISSA J. WILSON Damiyah, daughter of E-spa member Valarie Phillips, enjoys outdoor time while student parents gathered inside the Wesley Foundation on Sept. 25, 2014.

They also have guest speakers come and teach parents about new programs and what they can do if an issue were to occur.

Last semester, E-spa and the criminology club got together and they taught the kids and parents of "stranger danger."

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Photo BY GINA VOLK Paul Blackmore, a sophomore engineering major, attacks an opponent with a dagger during a Belegarth practice in Morton Park Dec. 2, 2014. Belegarth is a type of LARPing (live action role playing) that focuses on medi-eval combat and tactics in fighting.

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Medieval times in Morton Park LARPing acts as stress reliever, sense of community

Story by Ty Noel

Foam swords clash against foam swords. Men yell as they charge each other in battle. Sweat drips down their faces as they try to kill the man in front of them. A foam arrow whizzes by Paul Blackmore's head as he takes his eight foot, homemade sword and slaps it heavily against the arm of his attacker. Belegarth, known to the common person as LARPing, is more than just a game that is mocked in the movie "Role Models," but an intense and engaging sport for Blackmore.

When it comes to LARPing, there are at least three different groups that Blackmore can think of. The first is called Dagorhir, a group that focuses more on character, a story and of course fighting. The group that Blackmore is a part of is called Belegarth. The main focus of Belegarth is on both medieval combat and tactics in a fight. Finally, the group that most people have encountered is called Amtgard, which according to Blackmore, is your stereotypical LARPing group. This group focuses heavily on using magic, telling a story, dressing up, getting into character and of course some fighting. It may not seem like a big difference, but most of the time it is.

"I've fought in Belegarth groups before that have taken on Amtgard groups," Blackmore said. "Their biggest complaint is that we hit too hard and that we leave bruises."

Blackmore is part of a group that used to meet at Lake Land College. The group was disbanded and soon came together again in the Charleston area. Most of their fights take place at Morton Park across from the Subway and Taco Bell in Charleston. Most of the group uses some form of a medieval theme weapon that can range from short daggers to axes and two-handed greatswords. Most of the people Blackmore has met have said that they prefer to have LARPing called a medieval sport over anything else.

Blackmore started participating in Belegarth at the age of 14 when he was living in Arthur. A friend of a friend decided to start a group after he had enough of doing the bigger groups in Champaign. Blackmore said he joined because it offered him physical activity, a unique way of stress relief and it involves both teamwork and strategy, all of things that he loves to do. So far Blackmore has fought with a foam sword and foam shield and occasionally uses a fiberglass bow with foam tipped arrows when in combat. During this summer, Blackmore has also worked on creating his own chainmail t-shirt as well. It has taken about three months of work to make and is about 25 pounds.

During this summer, Paul went and fought with his friends about a half a dozen times. They met at Morton Park and Kiwanis Park here in town. There were roughly five to 10 people and the group split up for each fight. They had separate teams along with different games that were played as well including a one versus all. The easiest way they get into contact is through the Facebook group called Coles County Fighters.

There are some problems that can occur within the sport. Often times they get stuck

with only having two-on-two fights since other people are busy. In the winter, if they can't find a gym, they end up not being able to play at all. One of the biggest frustrations that has occurred for Blackmore are the people themselves that play.

"Some days you get tired, frustrated with the people who are extremely good or cheat to win and you just don't want to play anymore," said Blackmore.

One other problem they tend to face is the negative stereotype of them being geeks that are playing pretend. He said a lot of the "idiot" athletes tend to give them a hard time until they stop to join in, and after about five or 10 minutes of playing they decide that the fighting is actually pretty cool. The biggest hecklers are the ones that drive by though.

"A lot of people will yell insults at us as they're going by, but most of the time people don't say anything when they're walking because no one wants to mess with a guy with an eight-foot stick," said Blackmore through a chuckle.

Belegarth is a sport that the community within has made its own. Besides just medieval battles, they've also adapted classic games to the sport as well. They have games where the new guys get a big team versus the veterans that have a small one. They have Capture the Flag and King of the Hill. The game has become a sport for Blackmore and it's a place where some of his best friends have been made.



PHOTOS BY KATELYN IFFT

Top left: Kristina Kastl, a senior English major, made a replica of the yellow dress worn by Belle in "Beauty and the Beast." Kastl said she relates most to this Disney princess.

Bottom left: Kastl also created the popular outfit that resembles Anna's dress in "Frozen." This dress is the latest addition to Kastl's collection of Disney princess dresses.

Right: Kastl wears a replica of the dress worn by Merida in the Disney-Pixar movie "Brave," which she made herself. She added a red wig to complete the persona.







FROM FAIRYTALE TO REALITY English major recreates favorite childhood princess costumes

Story by Victoria Adams

Most little girls play dress up and pretend to be their favorite Disney princesses.

One girl, however, really did grow up and become a princess after all.

Well, sort of.

Kristina Kastl, a senior English major, makes Disney princess dresses as a hobby. She, like most young girls, always loved the Disney movies, but especially the princess ones.

Kastl became interested in sewing through the Intro to Costuming course, which is a required course for theatre majors and minors. For the final exam they were able to make whatever they wanted, and she chose to make a dress. After the final she realized how rewarding sewing could be, she said.

"I knew I wanted to start going to bigger things and my favorite thing to wear is costumes, specifically Disney prin-

cess costumes, or just princess costumes in general because I love dresses," Kastl said. "I have always loved prom dresses. I decided to kind of combine everything and just make my own."

Kastl said she relates most to Belle from "Beauty and the Beast."

"I have always seen a lot of myself in her (Belle)," she said. "She loves books and physically she looks like me the most. I just love the qualities about her."

Currently, Kastl is working on Anna's black and blue dress from the movie "Frozen" and will eventually make both of Elsa's dresses.

Kastl said it took only a week to make Merida's dress from the movie "Brave," but that is because she spent multiple hours a day working on it. It took her nearly a year to finish Belle's ball dress.

"There is a lot of fabric in that yellow dress," Kastl said. Currently, Kastl has not made dresses for others, but she hopes to one day get to the level where she cannot only make dresses for friends but maybe start her own business in the summers when she isn't teaching.

Kastl has taken requests and said she hopes to make her sister the pink dress from "Sleeping Beauty" for next Halloween.

Jenna Mellendorf, Eastern alumna and Kastl's former roommate, has seen the dresses and thinks that Kristina has so much talent.

"That's not the easiest thing to do and I find it impressive," Mellendorf said. "She does a lot of things by whim showing her natural talent. It seems to always go smoothly though and the end result is always fantastic."

Kastl said she hopes that she can eventually be involved at the high school, where she will teach in the theatre department and help with costuming and maybe even be a director one day.

Kastl will help make more girls reach their dreams of being a princess, one dress at a time.



Run for your life Students run Zombie 5K to raise awareness for Multiple Sclerosis

Story by Shirmeen Ahmad

On Friday, Oct. 10, Hannah Wilson stayed in to practice putting toilet paper on her skin. She used glue to keep it in place and made

sure to add a couple of layers.

To make it match her skin she used baby powder and foundation. The last touch was adding fake blood. After testing all of this out she knew she really looked like a zombie.

Wilson, a senior art major, was a zombie runner for the Zombie 5k Run on Oct. 11 at the Panther Trail. So Saturday morning she did it all over again.

Wilson said she bought a shirt at Wal-Mart that looked funny and tore it up. Then, at the run, she poured fake blood everywhere to really become her character.

"I'm an art major," Wilson said. "So I like to be creative."

The Zombie 5K Run was put on by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) at Eastern for the second year. All support raised from the run went to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Elyse Podwojski, an Eastern graduate, who was the vice president for SHRM last year created the event.

Podwojski said she had to put on an event

for her Project Management class and she had always wanted to do a Zombie Run. Having Multiple Sclerosis (MS) herself, this was a way to spread awareness of what it is.

There are two groups in this run, the zombies and the runners. The zombies are given zones to be in which are determined by color. The runners have three flags that are the same colors as the zones. When they enter into those zones, the zombies chase them to get that color flag. Each flag represents one of their lives.

Podwojski said what's special about the run is there are quarantine areas for people to be able to stop and take a break.

"I know as a person with MS I wouldn't be able to do the whole run," Podwojski said.

Wilson wasn't put in a zone. She was able to run all over the course and get people's green flags. Her favorite part was chasing after people and scaring them.

She gets the "satisfaction of catching humans."

"I watched a lot of 'Walking Dead' to prepare," Wilson said.

At the end of the race, runners weren't placed by when they finished the race but by how many lives they had remaining.

Design by Katie Edelmann







PHOTOS BY TONY KOMADA

Top: Hannah Wilson, an art major, acts as a zombie and hides behind a tree at the Panther Trail Oct. 11, 2014. The zombies were required to steal flags from the runners in designated areas. **Bottom Left:** Many zombie participants of the 5K Run dressed to impress, even using toilet paper to add the "undead" look.

Bottom Right: All the runners and zombies gather for a photo before the festivities. Zombies paid \$30 and runners paid \$20 to participate, and all proceeds were given to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

STUDENT LIFE [39]

PHOTO BY MACKENZIE FREUND

ILLINOIS.

Dylan Niebrugge, Dan Martin and Phillip Arnold show off their Bass Fishing apparel. The Bass Fishing and Hunting Club was formed in 2008, and they compete in tournaments around the nation.

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BIG FISH, SMALL POND Bass Fishing, Hunting Club ranks 14th nationally

Story by Mackenzie Freund

Bass fishing may seem like a hobby to most people, but to the Bass Fishing and Hunting Club, it is a competition. Formed in 2008, the club, which competes nationally, is slowly becoming known in the Eastern community.

In the 2013-2014 season, Eastern ranked 14 out of 232 other schools across the nation. In the 2014-2015 season, Eastern is expecting to participate in a minimum of 10 tournaments in hopes of improving their ranks.

"The season begins in January with pre-registration, and tournaments are spread out over the spring, summer and fall," said Dan Martin, a senior environmental biology major and president of the club.

Eastern participates in the Midwest division, which typically makes their opponents the University of Illinois, Northern Illinois University, McHenry College and Southern Illinois University. The team also travels to compete in one and three-day tournaments.

"We check in around 5:30 a.m. and get all of the safety and registration done with, then we fish for eight hours," said Evan Hakman, a junior biology major. "You want the most cumulative weight for five fish, and after the fish have been weighed, prizes get handed out."

The members of the club also participate in three-day tournaments, which have the same basic rules as a one-day tournament.

The main goal being to get the most cumulative weight over the three days, which "means catching 15 fish [five fish each day] to get the most weight," Hakman said.

In addition to prizes for first, second and third place, participants try to win the "biggest bass" competition for the day as well as raffle prizes.

"Various members have won several thousand dollars for themselves and the club through the collegiate bass fishing tournament sanctions that are held nationwide," said Matt Kattenbraker, adviser of the club.

More than anything, though, the men love to compete.

"I want to be a professional bass fisherman one day," Martin said. "I want to compete so I can see where I fall with my opponents, and I try my best to prove I can accomplish anything I put my mind to."

Similarly, Hakman joined the club for his love of competition and the freedom he feels while fishing.

Even though collegiate bass fishing is growing in popularity nationwide, there is little recognition of the team's success at Eastern.

"Unless you know or follow bass fishing, you would not know Eastern has a club team," Martin said.

In addition, paying for the tournaments is not a simple task. The club is working on putting together different fundraisers to help pay for the fees involved with the tournaments.

"We are trying to raise funds for travel and entrance fees as well as awareness for the club, and we have some ideas that might stick around in the future," Hakman said.

HOMECOMING 2014

PHOTO BY JASON HOWELL

Jalen Whitlow, a junior quarterback, runs the ball past the Tennessee State defenders at O'Brien Field Oct. 25, 2014. Whitlow had 91 rushing yards during the Homecoming matchup.

DESIGN BY MEGAN IVEY



PHOTO BY JASON HOWELL Eastern fans and members of Blue Crew cheer on the Panthers for the Homecoming game Saturday, Oct. 25, 2014. The Panthers defeated the Tennessee State Tigers, 28-3, at O'Brien Field.



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PHOTO BY JASON HOWELL Homecoming king and queen Brandal Miles and Alexis Lambert throw candy during the Homecoming parade Saturday.

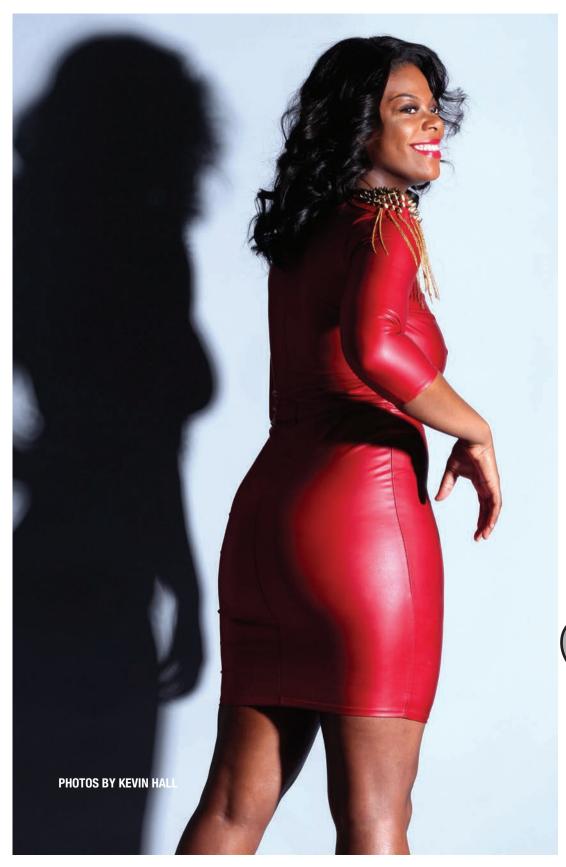


PHOTO BY GINA VOLK Catelin Witt is crowned as the Homecoming princess on Monday, Oct. 20, 2014, in McAfee Gym. Witt represented Alpha Gamma Delta.



The color guard of the Eastern's ROTC stands and waits for the Homecoming parade to step off near the intersection of Seventh Street and Lincoln Avenue on Saturday.

STUDENT LIFE [43]



DRESS AS YOU'D LIKE TO BE ADDRESSED

Story by Kevin Hall

Every day you wake up, consciously or subconsciously, you make the decision as to how the outside world will perceive you. Before an individual gets any sense of your personality, the first thing they see is what you are wearing, which allows them to make different inferences.

An individual's sense of style and fashion relies solely on personality and comfort.

Clothing is something that can definitely become trendy, but if you want to truly succeed with any fashion statement, the key is confidence. Though clothes may seem like the most essential part of style, even more essential is the confidence in which an individual wears his or her clothes. Fashion is a form of self-expression that allows a person to use his or her body as a canvas. Fashion is an aspect of society that will always be relevant because it is always changing and adapting with new generations.

Fashion is something that is continuously progressing as time goes on and no one will ever be able to keep up with every trend. An individual's best bet in terms of fashion is to find a style, whether it is one of flamboyant colors or a more subtle approach, as long as you can walk in any room with your head held high, you can cause heads to turn in awe.

Design by Megan Ivey

I believe that fashion is very important because it is a way of unity. Our society is continuously keeping up and creating new trends that everyone follows. No matter where you are from, where you have been, or where you are going, fashion will always be present.

> -ANTANEISE HENDERSON, SENIOR KINESIOLOGY AND SPORTS STUDIES MAJOR



Fashion is the way of dressing during or for a popular trend among different cultures or group of people. Fashion is an aspect of everyone's life that keeps evolving into what is now defined as a form of art. JUNIOR COMMUNICATION STUDIES MAJOR Fashion isn't about name brands to me. It's a creative way to express yourself. It's your individual style. I think it's interesting you can inspire someone just by the way you put pieces together. Fashion is making a statement. If you're going to make a statement, why not make a big one and make them remember you? -ASIA HALL,

SOPHOMORE COMMUNICATION STUDIES MAJOR





Some days I want to portray how I feel, and I do that with how I dress. Fashion is important to a society because it makes one an individual. Seeing how others express themselves can ultimately help you express yourself.

-BLAKE JEFFERIES, FRESHMAN COMMUNICATION STUDIES MAJOR

STUDENT LIFE [45]

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Nev Schulman, host of the MTV show "Catfish," interacts with the audience during his lecture in the Grand Ballroom Oct. 28, 2014.

[46] STUDENT LIFE

CATCHING THE 'CATFISH' CRAZE

Nev Schulman shares relationship advice through personal tales

Story by Gina Volk

Through his own "catfish" catastrophe, Nev Schulman teaches the importance of self-respect, individualism and honesty on the Internet and in real life.

Schulman, host of the MTV series "Catfish," created his show, lectures and book "In Real Life" after his own real-life experience. He was tricked into an online relationship after a woman lied about her identity, coining the term "catfished."

Eastern students filled the Grand Ballroom Oct. 28, 2014, for Schulman's lecture. He explained that his life was not always easy.

He was thrown out of school, started fights, ruined friendships and was self-centered. By being kind and honest, Schulman changed his life and found success in photography, producing and much more.

"I realized I had a story that was unique," Schulman said. "There's so many feelings and complications and shades of gray in life, so I wanted to talk about those sorts of things more."

Schulman's 2010 documentary "Catfish" shows the story of him falling in love and engaging in an online relationship with "Megan." After investigating, he finds his girlfriend to be a middle-aged married woman named Angela.

In the presentation, Schulman shows an interview with Angela's husband from the documentary. The husband explained that when codfish are being shipped, fishermen put catfish in the vats to keep the cod agile and tasteful.

"And there are those people who are catfish in life," the husband said. "And I thank God for the catfish because we would be droll, boring and dull if we didn't have someone nipping at our fin."

Schulman named his documentary and show "Catfish" because of this positive philosophy.

He took this experience and helped other people in similar situations. In fact, the MTV series is several stories of Schulman investigating other people's online "catfish" relationships.

"Angela catfishing me changed my life for the best," Schulman said. "I took what could have been a really bad situation and I turned it into something I think is pretty great."

"Catfish" can actually be a good thing, according to Schulman. It can be a person with new, exciting ideas that challenge you. The intent was not to spread bad light on those who hurt you, but appreciate those who make you a better person.

"I'm not here to talk about catfish and how bad they are, although there are some bad ones," Schulman said. "I am here to talk about finding people who can



PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Jessi Hrymak, a sophomore hospitality management major, takes a photo with Nev Schulman after his lecture in the Grand Ballroom Oct. 28, 2014. "It was really exciting meeting Nev," Hrymak said. "I have seen every new 'Catfish' episode." Schulman autographed his book and took selfies with all the members of the audience after the show.

kind of be 'catfish' for you in your life."

Schulman also reminded students that the Internet is forever, and maybe it is safer to take a Polaroid picture than posting inappropriate things online. He warned that employers could easily search and investigate social media, much like he does on his show.

"Be truthful, gentle, fearless," Schulman said. "You never know where your next friendships can come from, or your next job opportunity."



PHOTO BY ROBERTO HODGE Eastern archivist Robert Hillman displays a newspaper article from 1895 that confirmed Charleston's bid for obtaining Eastern. The cities of Charleston, Mattoon and Paris placed bids for the site of the university.

[48] STUDENT LIFE

THE CHRONICLES OF EASTERN

University's 1st archivist retires after 25 years of service

Story by Roberto Hodge

For 25 years, Robert Hillman, Eastern's first archivist has worked in a corner office on the bottom levels of Mary J. Booth Library. His office, now covered in boxes for retirement, once held stacks of documents and papers filled with historical information.

Hillman, who was hired in 1989, is the keeper of many of the historical artifacts and documents in the library. The deeper basement levels of the library houses some of the oldest items on Eastern's campus, including a guitar once played by the famous musician, Burl Ives, who dropped out in 1929. There is also the oldest known item on the campus, which is an old Bible from the 1500s.

"It's been fascinating to be here," Hillman said.

Hillman said during his years, he has seen and had to find some interesting artifacts for the university.

The fire in Blair Hall a little over 10 years ago burned the top floor of the building and while it was being renovated, someone discovered a tobacco can in the walls of the foundation with a note inside.

Hillman said Eastern once saw the visiting relatives of Mary Hawkins, the old director of Pemberton Hall, and had to search for some documents on her. He said during his search he found a letter that she wrote to Livingston C. Lord in 1910, Eastern's first president.

In the letter, Hawkins spelled out how she qualified for the job in Pemberton Hall because she had heard the job was going to go to another person. She eventually received the job.

"It was a different world back then," Hillman said. "That was an interesting find."

Hillman said he is most happy with his job when someone emails or writes to him asking if they can find an artifact or document.

"It's rewarding to be able to do that kind of thing and help people out," he said.

Hillman said the hardest item he had to find was an old newspaper on a museum from the 1920s, which had some connection to Eastern.

Hillman said he will miss the faculty and staff the most when he is retired. He said he has been working a long time and once retired, he will have enough free time for travel and to work on longer research projects, which he enjoys doing.

"I may not look as old as I am—I'm not exactly young," Hillman said, "I'll miss everyone when I'm gone, it's been a great privilege."



PHOTO BY ROBERTO HODGE Hillman presents a Bible from the 1500s. It is the oldest known artifact on campus.

PHOTO BY DOMINIC BAIMA

Paige Scamihorn and Karmen Rowe of Marshall, take a selfie before the third annual Holiday Hustle on Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014. Scamihorn and Rowe were two of the 110 runners participating in the 5K for One Stop Community Christmas. **5**K

HUSTLE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Students reflect on charity 5K start-up, 3rd year successes

Story by Cayla Maurer

What started out as a group project for a class assignment, turned into a community-wide event that helps hundreds of Charleston residents.

Presidential scholar students Sydney Scamihorn, Andrew Donsbach, Ben Feltes, Scott Harrell, Jamie Howse, Hannah Osborne and Mackenzie Ward all had a helping hand in creating the Holiday Hustle during the fall of 2012.

Presidential scholars must enroll in a course where they are required to create a service-learning project. The seven students knew they wanted to set up a 5K run, but didn't know where to start.

Rachel Fisher, director of the student community service office, came in to talk to the group about organizations that could benefit from the funds raised by the 5K. The One Stop Community Christmas organization immediately reached out to them.

One Stop Community Christmas collaborates with several organizations around Christmas time to provide help to families in seven different counties. In 2013, the charity helped 765 families for the holidays.

Scamihorn, a junior communication disorders and sciences major, said they built the Holiday Hustle from the ground up by learning everything along the way.

"We didn't have a route, we didn't have money, we didn't have anything," Scamihorn said. "We just knew we were going to do this."

The students had to go on Google Maps to find a 3.1 mile loop around campus, work



PHOTO BY DOMINIC BAIMA

Jessica Howse, a senior special education major, dressed up as a reindeer with her family in front of Old Main for the Holiday Hustle Dec. 6, 2014.

with the city to see what it would take to do this and request space by Old Main to set up. Students also went around to local businesses to ask for donations for One Stop Community Christmas and startup costs.

Donsbach, a junior management major,

said he thought planning a 5K would be a piece of cake, but quickly realized it would take a lot of work.

"While planning the 5K, we never thought about getting approval from the city or contacting the police department," Donsbach said. "You never think about those things."

For the first run in 2012, Fisher said she would be ecstatic if the students got 20 runners signed up. The students exceeded the goal by getting 80 runners and raising \$3,000 for One Stop Community Christmas.

Every year since then the group has implemented new things that will draw in more people. In 2013, 90 people signed up to run and they started doing online registrations. In 2014, 110 people ran and they implemented team registrations and encouraged groups to raise money outside of the team's registration through donations.

People are also always encouraged to wear holiday-themed attire for the "Best Dressed" competition.

"People come decked out," Scamihorn said. "This year we had a family dressed in brown sweatpants with red noses and reindeer ears."

Scamihorn and Donsbach both agreed that this has been a learning experience and helped them grow not only as students, but professionally as well.

"It's a rewarding experience that has tangible proof that we are making a difference," Donsbach said.

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A. Mr. Strat. 7 strately amount 2. over maning and investigation persient three only so people itol, we fixed in ferre moute. Indiana at 103 Wren Road. Back in those days, your instructions every morning were "Go outside and play." There weren't arranged play dates, you'd just go outside and play with the neighborhood kids. We lived in this really hilly area that had a ravine in the backyord. and I would go down there and dig things up. There was this huge tree that had fallen over and the root system was exposed. I would excavate II. like an archeologist/collector/ artist/nature person. I would lake some of these little things that I found and sort of arrange them. If it was raining, I had full access to the basement and the sewing machine and I would see fabric scrops and make crozy sculptures stuff, I was a missial media artist of the age of four, and it was probably seems of my freed work (my and when the grant make a se-Prest - strengthere is with montherstated mations processing and place spini tanta region of social private it with desiversent wheel descriptions and

I was a mixed mestic ortist of the ope of four and it was probably bome of my best work

A WORK OF ART

Students create literary magazine to showcase art department

Story by Danielle Tadlock

Someone broke into the office, pried open the door and stole every last dollar and check.

All of the money had been raised to pay for the expenses of printing the student-run art magazine, *Blue Room*. However, the art department ensured the unknown thief did not put an end to the publication.

It was the students' first issue for *Blue Room*; they collected money from tear-out postcards that students and faculty would sign and pay for by cash or check.

The pay period for *Blue Room* was open for a month and all the money was going toward printing the magazines.

"Since it was cash and check there was no way to trace it, and we never found who it was," said Jamie DeAnne, senior graphic design major and founder of *Blue Room*. "That almost ended the magazine right there."

The art department and a lot of the faculty pitched in to help cover the losses. With all the help and donations, the staff was able to publish their first issue.

Now students and faculty have to pay through an online payment system on the magazine's website if they wish to purchase a copy of *Blue Room*.

"We are also trying to add a couple of our pages from *Blue Room* on our website," said Brooke Szweda, 3D studio art major and executive editor of the magazine.

DeAnne is also president of the Art Association and pitched the magazine idea to students and the faculty. The faculty members loved the idea but told DeAnne that it would be nearly impossible because there would be a lot of work involved in creating the magazine. However, this did not stop DeAnne from moving forward with the art publication.

DeAnne and the staff who work on *Blue Room* have no adviser and have no funds. All of the money that is collected, including the money that was stolen, is used only for the expenses of printing. The staff does not make any profits on the magazine.

"It was something that needed to get started in our department," DeAnne said. "It was something I had to figure out from scratch."

Blue Room started with a staff of 15 people that were dedicated to get the magazine published.

"I couldn't have done it by myself," DeAnne said.

As a staff, their first goal was to see if publishing a magazine was even



PHOTO BY DANIELLE TADLOCK

Blue Room, an art magazine that has been published for the last three semesters, is run entirely by students. The magazine contains art created and submitted by alums, faculty and students.

possible.

After the first issue was published in the fall of 2013 they knew they had to set up a system that students in the future could follow.

Their overall goal is to be recognized by Eastern as a publication and help get the word out to students.

^{*}Anyone can get involved and honestly we want other people from different backgrounds to join," DeAnne said. "We're just guessing with the stuff we don't know."

Blue Room has sections dedicated to faculty, student and alumni submitted artworks.

DeAnne thought there should be a way where students get their artwork published in a magazine.

Like other art magazines, *Blue Room* has a committee that selects which submitted artwork is worthy enough of being published in the magazine.

["]It's a great way for students to market themselves," DeAnne said. "And we gain experience from it."

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Lunchbox Voodoo members transform into their characters with the help of their box of props Feb. 13, 2015, in Coleman Hall. The members from right to left are Chynna Miller, a senior theatre arts major; Seth Mowrer, a senior English major; Kyle Hess, a senior communication studies major; Dakota Pruemer, a sophomore communications studies major; Devon Harmon, a freshman pre-physical therapy major; Josh Saxton, a sophomore journalism major; Conor Michno, a junior psychology major; Nathan Barnett-Bishop, a pre-engineering major; and Olivia Diggs, a senior family and consumer sciences major.

VOODOO

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RETURN OF THE VOODOO Student restarts sketch comedy group, finds family

Story by Chynna Miller

Hearing the laughter of audience is how I know I have done my job. It is positive affirmation that I'm doing something good, and it gives me energy to keep going.

Lunchbox Voodoo is Eastern's premier sketch comedy group. We write our own sketches and perform them for the campus. We're basically like SNL, without all the funny actors and writers. We love to have fun, make jokes and to perform.

But a couple years ago it would have been hard to believe that the crazy people seen on stage on Thursday nights almost weren't in existence. With all the chaos, lack of members and bad reputation on campus, Lunchbox Voodoo has come a long way.

Lunchbox Voodoo started about 13 years ago by a group of students who wanted an outlet, other than the Theatre Arts Department productions, to perform in. At the time, only people that were theatre art majors could perform in those productions.

I joined Voodoo the fall of 2012. It had the reputation of being a "sketchy" group, no pun intended. We had missed show dates with UB, and we had conflicts with our fellow comedy group, Hello Dali.

It was still a great experience working with talented students, writing comedy and performing together. We'd have dinner before shows, we'd have parties together after the show, and I felt as if we were own little family. After my first semester in, I had taken the following spring semester away from Eastern, and I returned fully expecting my little dysfunctional group to be functioning.

But when I came back that fall 2013 semester, I found no trace of Lunchbox Voodoo around.

A former member of the group, Whitney Pledger, and I decided to take things into our own hands. We rebuilt the group. We held audi-

tions and recruited a new group of members that brought a certain passion and drive to the group that we had never seen before. Every day Pledger and I would go and meet with people to help fix our tainted relationships on campus.

Two of our greatest accomplishments during our time in term were rebuilding the relationship with the theatre department and Hello Dali.

In the past, the group had some issues with the department, which resulted in us not keeping in contact with them. We also moved our rehearsal out of Doudna and into the Thomas Hall basement. When revamping the group, we worked on performing more shows in Doudna and keeping a good relationship with our faculty adviser, Christopher Mitchell. He helped schedule performances in Doudna and put our name back on the radar with the theatre department. Though we still rehearse Sunday nights in Thomas basement for tradition sake, we've reestablished a new, healthy relationship that we are proud of.

We have also rebuilt a bond with Hello Dali. In the spring of 2014, we performed together for the first time in years. We called it the "Voo-Dali Show." Voodoo members played improv games with Dali members, and Dali members did sketches with Voodoo members. We also had a Comedy Cup where we competed against each other for a trophy, in which nobody won. We would go to each other shows, we would eat together and we would party together.

We became a comedy family.

[Editor's Note: Chynna Miller, a senior theatre arts major, wrote this first-hand account of the revamping of the sketch comedy group, Lunchbox Voodoo.]



PHOTO BY OLIVIA S. DIGGS

Shakya Kiron Jarrett, a junior sociology major, poses at the end of the scene titled "Tired" at "The Untold Truth: We Are Kings and Queens" G.L.A.M. fashion show on Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015. Jarrett says the scene was about how "African-Americans are tired of being held down and held back. Every corner that is turned presents a new challenge, but that's exactly it. Every challenge is an opportunity to do better, have better and be better. Therefore, we have to rise to the occasion."



PHOTO BY MACKENZIE FREUND

Chris King, the editor of the *St. Louis American*; Wiley Price, a photographer for the *St. Louis American*; and Kenya Vaughn, a reporter for the *St. Louis American*, answer questions that students and faculty have during the "Through the Smoke: Covering Ferguson" panel on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2015, in the Charleston-Mattoon room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.



PHOTO BY MAGGIE BOYLE

Shaquille D Smith-Bridges, a freshman undecided major, recites poetry at the "Black on Black Rhyme Poetry Slam" on Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2015, in 7th Street Underground. Smith-Bridges recited three poems and won first place at the competition.



PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Andrea Jenkins, a senior health studies major, performs a lip sync routine to a Chaka Khan song for the "EIU Edition: Soul Train" Feb. 19, 2015, in the Grand Ballroom. The event was hosted for African-American Heritage Month, and students and staff were invited to come dressed from their favorite decade, dance the night away, play games and watch performances. "Soul Train" was a pop music dance show that ran for 35 years, beginning in the 1970s.



PHOTO BY DOMINIC BAIMA

Kayli Kman, a junior finance major, and Becca Simpson, a sophomore accounting major, stack wood in a shed at Shiloh Christian Children's Home in Clarence, Mo. on Friday, Feb. 13, 2015, during a work trip with the Christian Campus House. The group from Christian Campus House chop and stack enough wood to heat the five homes on the Shiloh property.

Warming Spirits Christian House chops wood to heat homes

Story by Josh Saxton

In just two days, the Christian Campus House managed to chop a year's supply of wood. In doing so, they maintained a 24-year-old tradition.

The group took 34 students and alumni to the Shiloh Christian Children's Ranch in Clarence, Mo.

Don McCain and Stan Way, who at the time were ministers in the Clarence area, founded the ranch in 1977.

The ranch serves as a home for many children, all of who have been either abused, neglected or abandoned. With acres of land and six homes on the property, the ranch provides a unique home environment for the kids.

"I thought it was a great experience," Kayli Kman, a junior finance major said.

At the ranch, everything is heated with firewood. They have three wood-burning heaters and a boiler that heats their water.

They don't have a lot of the luxuries and

electronics most kids have, such as gaming systems. Senior campus minister, Roger Songer, claims the children do chores instead.

"They all have chores around the ranch to build character," Songer said. "They don't have all those video games and other things."

The house parents and directors like to keep a close home environment for the kids, and they value spending their time together.

The ranch directors have been there for 30 years, and the Christian Campus House has helped uphold the tradition for 24 years.

The Shiloh Christian Children's Ranch is a private charity organization. They do not have any government assistance and mostly depend on help from donations and mission work.

"The directors pretty much depend on us to help," Songer said.

Songer admired the authenticity and beauty of the ranch and enjoyed helping out.

Design by Megan Ivey

STUDENT LIFE [59]





Story by Dominic Baima

Andrew Phipps knows Charleston.

Growing up in Charleston and graduating from Eastern have helped Phipps, 25, own and operate Ike's bar.

Phipps earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from Eastern in sports management. He said the courses he took provided material that transfers over to what he is doing now.

He believes his younger age is an advantage to running a bar on a college campus.

"My age being able to relate to clientele is great," said Phipps, who explained that being young allows him to understand what his clients want.

"It is the same concept of relating to your people who are supporting you and making sure they are taken care of and they see that," Phipps said.

But he also believes the older bar owners in the town have different advantages, having been in business in Charleston for so long.

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"It is definitely an advantage relative to how you use it," Phipps said.

Eastern has a long tradition with the Phipps' family. Both his parents graduated from the university and all of his siblings have taken

classes at Eastern.

"I have grown up here 21 years and I've had a lot of history here with my family and just myself in general," Phipps said.

Phipps came to own Ike's after working as a manager his senior year in 2012. He purchased the bar in June 2012 and renovated the inside to give it a new look, while maintaining some of the same traditions.

Phipps is pleased with the Charleston City Council's recent change in the ordinances to allow bars to stay open until 2 a.m. on the weekends.

"I've seen a different kind of environment and it's definitely been for the better," Phipps said. "It is just creating a friendlier environment for the students, I believe. It was a good move by the city of Charleston as a business move."

Friend and employee of Phipps, Dirk Bennett, 26, of Charleston, grew up with Phipps and works at Ike's cooking and filling in where needed.

Bennett says he loves working at Ike's, and one of the things that sets the bar apart from the others is its open environment with the employees.

Bennett said that his and Phipps' age and connection to Eastern has helped them keep

things up to date.

"We have new ideas all the time," Bennett said. "Every week there is a new idea."

Bennett feels that Charleston has become a huge part of his life and he keeps coming back.

"You get away and it sucks you back in," Bennett said.

To help give back to the community, both Bennett and Phipps coach local soccer teams in Charleston.

"There is a lot of personal investment in the businesses whether it is (Ike's) or our competition, there is a name you can put with a face so there is an open dialog between the bar owners constantly," Bennett said. "They may compete, but at the same time they are bouncing ideas off each other, keeping everyone having fun. There is that sense of community here."

Both Bennett and Phipps agreed that going to Eastern and growing up in Charleston has helped them, and they feel the connection to the university and the community that it encompasses.

"It is that attachment that you have to this university, they have given me a lot and shown me a lot," Phipps said.

Design by Megan Ivey and Gina Volk

LIBRARY BOOTH



[62] STUDENT LIFE

LIFE OF A PANTHER CARD

Worker explains purpose of cards, multiple uses on campus

[Editor's Note: Information was provided by Susan Woodyard, staff clerk in the Panther Card Office, during an interview with staff reporter Shirmeen Ahmad.]

THE LOST PANTHER CARD

Some students never lose their Panther Card and some get anywhere from three to seven new Panther Cards in their entire collegiate career. When a Panther Card is lost, there is a \$20 charge. When it is damaged but present, it is \$10.

Some of the common reasons people buy new Panther Cards is because the chip has fallen out, they have lost their card, the card has wear and tear or people punch holes in them to put in their key rings.

THE CHIP VS. THE STRIP

The chip is like a wallet. It stores all the money that you put in it by using the cash to chip machines that are in 16 different locations across campus. The chip was added to the Panther Card in 1998 to try to upgrade to the new technology.

The magnetic strip on the back of the card has information that is all stored online: how many times you go to the Student Recreation Center, your meal swipes and dining dollars, and the items you check out at the library.

WHAT'S UP WITH THE NUMBERS?

The E-Number is assigned to students once they are admitted to the university, whether they attend or not. It is similar to a social security number.

The ISO number, which is under the E-Number on the card, can be changed each time a new card is issued. It has to be taken to the Dining Office in order to put meal plans back on and the library and the Rec Center need to update the information so they can track when the student uses them.

The date it is issued lets the Panther Card office know when the Panther Cards are issued out and how recent a new card was issued.



Handling the workload Students find part-time jobs to help pay tuition costs

Story by Olivia Diggs and Jarad Jarmon

College is a place where students go to learn, experience young adult life, and eventually, graduate with a degree to fulfill their dreams.

These dreams do not come cheap, though. The hefty price tag on higher education has kept many from acquiring the career they hoped to achieve. It has made it so that the lofty college degree has become unreachable. Despite this, some students rose to the challenge, taking on part-time jobs to pay for the abundant cost of college.

Keithara Baker, a graduate student in the family and consumer sciences program, works as a manager at Taylor and Thomas Dining Halls up to 20 hours a week.

College students have to learn to be self-sufficient to make their college experience enjoyable.

"I have a part-time job to help support myself because my mother has two other children," Baker said.

Even though challenges arise maintaining a job and schoolwork, Baker said working at the dining hall has its benefits.

"It has its ups and downs and I have definitely learned a lot because of the diverse culture [in the dining halls], and I have met some pretty interesting people," Baker said. "I have been in food service for quite a while now and it isn't something I would want to pursue for a living, but I have picked up skills that I am certain I can apply elsewhere in my future career."

Laia Hill, a psychology major, has two parttime jobs where she works between 32-35 hours a week because she needs the money to survive.

"Now that I have two jobs I am able to get done what I need to get done and also have a little bit of play money," Hill said.

Hill works as a waitress at Steak 'n Shake and is a Greek Court desk assistant. She said money is not the only benefit to her jobs.

"I enjoy both of my jobs because in both I am able to socialize with all kinds of people, which builds my networking skills and communication skills," Hill said. "I like my desk assistant job because it gives me a chance to do homework while working."

These jobs are not necessary though, she said.

"If I didn't have these jobs, I do still think I would be able to get through school, it would just be a lot harder without them," Hill said.

Jennifer Antkowiak, a senior music major, is the assistant production manager of the Doudna Fine Arts Center. Her position provided many opportunities and unique experiences She said she loves being so invested in her work.

"Working does not interfere with class or homework," Antkowiak said. "My time management and productivity skills are developed enough that I learned how to prioritize."

This does not mean sleep time is readily available. She said her job and school work have made it sometimes difficult to get the optimal amount of sleep.

"That doesn't mean that I get enough sleep every night, but all of my work is done well and on time," Antkowiak said. "I love this job; I'm dreading leaving it once I graduate. I work anywhere from 25-35 hours a week, depending on how many events are happening in the building."

These students are not the only ones either. Much of the higher education students in the country take on work outside of school for various reasons.

A U.S. Census report calculated 71 percent of the nation's 19.7 million college undergraduates were working in 2011.

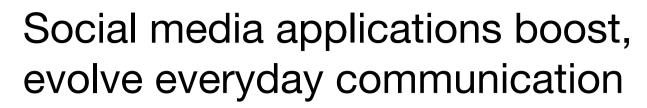
Of that number, one in five undergrads were working at least 35 hours a week year-round, according to the report.

PHOTO BY CAYLA MAURER Laia Hill, a psychology major, holds two part-time jobs and is a full-time student. She is a waitress at Steak 'n Shake and a desk assistant in Greek Court.

Unwind

WENDER

Lain



Story by Kevin Hall

As technology has emerged throughout society, social media applications have advanced alongside it. Social media apps have become major resources in the development of modern-day communication.

These apps allow the world to be more connected and people to communicate faster. But to what purpose does this serve?

Social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and Yik Yak have taken communication, put a character limit on it and given it a platform to be displayed to the world.

The effect social networks have had on society has been one of great magnitude. Allowing an individual to get in contact with someone across the world in less than minutes, social media apps have not only shortened the time it takes to relay a message, it has also made communication brief.

With apps, people have become accustomed to keeping conversations short and simple.

"For some people, apps like Snapchat have even replaced texting, due to its quick and easy convenience," Doyle Nave, a junior foreign languages major, said.

Due to its quick access to over a million people in less than seconds, social media apps can serve as a benefit and hindrance to socialization.

Stretching its means to not only affect individuals with personal profiles, social apps have made many attempts to converge with college universities.

A recent example of this unifying app is Yik Yak. Acting as a bulletin board app for a specific demographic, Yik Yak restricts access and ability to post things depending on where you are located in relevance to the targeted college population.

Filled with comments in regards to the university's Greek life, campus' social atmosphere, or sometimes random nonsense posting, Yik Yak has served its share of controversy.

Yik Yak has become the bases of several online race and fraternity wars, said Lookman Olowo, a freshman pre-business management major.

Veteran apps like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are still relevant in today's society as well as on campus because of the large masses they reach.

Organizations have begun using social network apps, not to make communication more convenient, but to also plan and schedule events. Calendars and timelines have become essential to social apps, because they allow the user to keep track of current events, as well as to make plans.

Facebook has become popular in a way that it makes for easy access to several hundred people at a time.

"I stay in Greek Court, and we have a housing Facebook page and I find it very helpful in keeping me updated," Liz Martinez, a nursing major, said.

Although serving good for publicity, social media apps are also subject to be a prerogative.

A concern for some is how quick information can be dispersed through social apps.

"A major negative effect of social apps is when things go viral," said Mary Jo Thompson, a senior family and consumer sciences major.

Design by Megan Ivey

[66] STUDENT LIFE

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"Facebook would have to be my favorite. It has so much of my family and high school friends on it."

-Mary Jo Thompson, senior family and consumer sciences major



"To some Snapchat has

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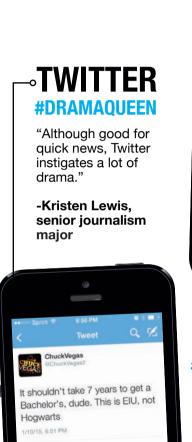
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"Some social apps allow you to hide behind pictures and assist in digressing human interaction."

-Marlene Acosta, senior sociology major



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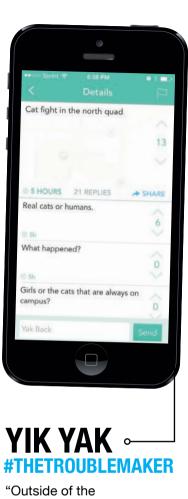
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"Outside of the disputing, Yik Yak is an app that serves as entertainment."

-Lookman Olowo, freshman pre-business management major



PHOTO BY DOMINIC BAIMA

Dallas Bragg, a junior psychology and sociology major, and his service dog Frida sit near the alumni clock tower March 26, 2015. Bragg suffered post-traumatic stress disorder after three tours in Iraq, and Frida was provided to him through an organization called Puppies Behind Bars.

MARINE'S BEST FRIEND Service dog helps veteran acclimate to civilian life

Story by Kristen Gisondi

Dallas Bragg would not be attending college if not for his furry friend, Frida, a large, yellow Labrador retriever.

Bragg, 32, suffered post-traumatic stress disorder after being blown up five times during his three tours in Iraq. When he returned home to Illinois, Bragg did not do much until he received Frida through an organization called Puppies Behind Bars, which trains prison inmates to raise service dogs that help wounded veterans acclimate into civilian life.

"Before Frida, I wasn't going to school, and I probably wouldn't have gone to school," said Bragg, a junior psychology and sociology major. "There for a while when I got out the service, I just wanted to stay home. I was a hermit."

There are more than one hundred training organizations in the United States that offer service dogs free of charge to veterans. Service dogs, which train for up to two years to meet high standards, do not all make the cut. Most organizations only use Labrador and golden retrievers for training because these breeds are perceived as friendly.

"We want our veterans to have better reactions from the public since many have PTSD, so we only use dogs that have good public perception," said Cheryl Woolnough, the trainer supervisor for Patriot Paws in Texas. "Some of the veterans travel a lot. Some cities have banned certain breeds of dogs, and we don't want to add that trouble to a veteran."

More than 700 U.S. cities ban pit bulls and other "fighting dogs," making them unfit for service dog work.

Frida, meanwhile, can be a magnet for attention on Eastern's campus. Petting a service dog is improper etiquette, but Bragg makes exceptions for students and staff.

"Here at Eastern, a lot of kids miss their dogs," Bragg said. "So we allow it a lot."

Frida helps Bragg avoid angry and loud situations before they occur. One time, in a shopping line at Walmart, Frida was given the command to watch Bragg's back because fights and crowds set him off. The people behind them started showing aggression by pushing each other around.



PHOTO BY DOMINIC BAIMA Frida wears a patch to signify her title of service dog to veteran Bragg.

Instead of letting Bragg know about the aggressors, Frida just bared her teeth at them. The group backed away.

Bragg was unsure about this behavior, so he called dog-training experts, who confirmed that Frida did her job correctly.

"That was one of the moments I realized that service dogs help a lot," said Bragg. "Next thing I know, she will be at a grooming appointment, and I go out in public without her, and I'll think 'I can't do this."

Service dogs learn 60 to 95 cues, but Woolnough also trains dogs to respond to specific needs.

"We have even taught one of our dogs to zip and unzip a veteran's pants," Woolnough said.

Service dogs retire at 9 years old, which means Frida will retire in two years. Bragg says he will likely not get another service dog and just keep Frida as a family pet, but getting Frida was one of the best decisions he ever made.

"I don't really look at her as a service dog anymore, even though that's what she is," Bragg said. "She's part of me."

FACES OF DEBT



Sara Kordek [Sophomore career & technology education major] [70] STUDENT LIFE



Katrina Vrzal [Senior elementary education major]



Christopher Pickard [Sophomore political science major]



Jaromir Kurty [Senior athletic training major]



Kelly Inda [Clinical counseling graduate]

Students disclose finances, 78 percent earn federal aid

Story by Cayla Maurer

When students get their acceptance letters into their dream universities, they think about campus life, what their major will be and even imagine their graduation day.

What students sometimes forget to think about is how they will pay for the next step in the education process.

According to Federal Student Aid, an office of the United State Department of Education, more than 13 million students apply for over \$150 billion in federal grants, loans and work study funds each year. About 78 percent of Eastern students receive some form of financial aid each year.

Sara Kordek, a sophomore career and technical education major, has no idea how much student debt she has accumulated in her two years at Eastern. Kordek's mother fills out her FAFSA and taxes for her, but her mother did tell her that she has taken loans out to pay for college.

Kordek said she would fill out scholarships if it was easier and less time-consuming.

"It kind of freaks me out that I don't know how much debt I'm in, but Eastern isn't that expensive," Kordek said. "If I am in debt, it can't be that bad."

Kordek said she plans on figuring out how much debt she is in so she can start saving money to pay the loans back after college.

Christopher Pickard, a sophomore

political science major, has \$5,000 worth of student debt for one loan broken into \$2,500 a semester for his sophomore year.

Pickard is the recipient of the Commitment to Excellence Scholarship – Tier 2 through Eastern, which awards him \$1,250 per semester. He also received a few local scholarships his freshman year. Pickard's parents paid the remaining balance.

"My parents wanted a better start for me and they always told me that I was going to college," Pickard said. "They didn't care for what, but I was going."

Pickard said he does not apply for scholarships as much as he should because it takes too long and is a complicated process.

Pickard will be studying abroad in South Korea during the fall 2015 semester, which supplies him with a tuition waiver. It will save him money because he will only be paying for fees.

Katrina Vrzal, a senior elementary education major, has around \$25,000 in student debt. Vrzal found out by looking at her credit report recently.

"Compared to other people I think I have a pretty low amount of debt so it's not too bad," Vrzal said.

Vrzal said students should find out how much debt they have during their junior year so they can figure out how they will pay it back after they graduate.

Design by Gina Volk



Amanda Chapman [Senior FCS major]



Roberto Hodge [Senior journalism major]



Clinton Belott [Senior biological sciences major]



Mikayla Grant [Freshman clinical lab science major]

STUDENT LIFE [71]

PHOTO BY TONY KOMADA

Jake Armijo, a senior applied engineering and technology major, holds his push controller that he uses to control various aspects of song mixing and levels while performing as a DJ at Stu's, Marty's and Ike's. Armijo, "Mij" for short, performs by his motto "less jumping, more dancing."

CHANGING HIS TUNE Athlete trades hockey for academics, DJ-ing

Story by Tony Komada

Performing as a freelance DJ at Stu's, Marty's and Ike's, staying up until 2 a.m., waking up early for 8 a.m. classes, and fly fishing. This is the life of Jake Armijo, a senior applied engineering and technology major, also known as Jake Mij.

Despite Mij's current life path, he was a serious hockey player before attending Eastern.

Mij was a part of two different national hockey leagues and traveled to foreign countries such as Russia and Sweden to play.

Mij moved from full-time hockey player to full-time student at Eastern when he was 21 years old. He started going to parties, then started DJ-ing and quickly became wellknown.

Mij said he likes having the freedom to play any genre of music while performing, but he likes "house music" the best. Mij said this genre drives dance opposed to just random jumping around with its "four to the floor" music style.

Much of Mij's inspiration comes from artists such as Deadmau5 and Skrillex, but also his brother, Daniel Armijo, who was also a DJ.

When joining songs together, Mij will commonly mix a song that is well-known with a song that many have not heard, but something that will get the people to flow into the music. Mij finds influence from everywhere in his life, and uses that to change up his acts while DJ-ing.

With bars extending hours to 2 a.m. on weekends, Mij said he liked the change, but it has made him more tired than he normally would be.

"Other towns are open until 2 a.m., so why not EIU?" he said.

Although, Mij does wish people would go to the bars earlier. The way it is, he said many people don't go to the bars until midnight or 1 a.m.

Mij's 8 a.m. class makes working on Thursdays until 2 a.m. a struggle, but Mij said he has been able to keep high grades by being responsible. Being older has given Mij more self-control when asked to drink before class. He admits he has actually been waking up early enough to make his morning classes.

When Mij isn't DJ-ing, he is either tinkering with what music he wants to use later on, or fly fishing. "Fly fishing ties into DJ-ing, sometimes you catch something cool, sometimes you don't."

Design by Megan Ivey and Gina Volk





PHOTOS BY TONY KOMADA

Armijo takes control of his DJ booth and blasts CO2 from a cannon onto his drummer to get the crew pumped up at Stu's bar March 28, 2015.

Ninth Street Hall

Tarble Arts Center

Buzzard Hall

University Court

Andrews Hall

Thomas Hall

Human Services Building

Life Sciences Building

Doudna Fine Arts Center

MLK Jr. University Union

Power Plant

Blair Hall

Klehm Hal

Student Services Building

.....

Multi-Cultural Center

PHOTO BY DOMINIC BAIMA

An aerial view of Eastern's campus was captured on Wednesday, March 11, 2015. Eastern's campus is comprised of 320 acres, and is the university for 8,913 students and more than 200 faculty members. **DESIGN BY DOMINIC BAIMA**

[74] STUDENT LIFE

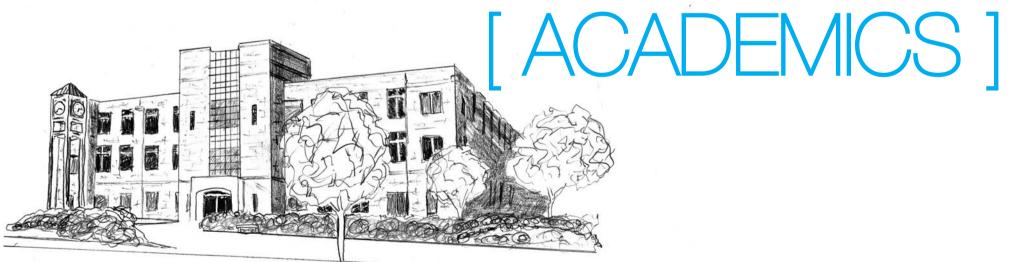












PHOTOS BY GINA VOLK

Lauren Price, a senior biological sciences major, shows off her fungi and mold research May 8, 2014. Price has been working with Dr. Methven to discover which buildings on campus are sick. After swabbing the Life Science Building, Price places the fungi and molds into plates. The plates are stored in a refrigerator for further study.

2-870

Breakingthemold

Student uncovers potential mold hazards at Eastern

Story by Ty Noel

Over the last two semesters, Lauren Price has worked with Dr. Andrew Methven to find fungi and mold in the buildings at Eastern. Through their research, they decide which buildings are considered sick.

So far both Price and Methven have worked on Blair Hall and the Life Science Building. They have identified more than 31 fungi and mold in the Life Science Building alone.

Price, a senior biological sciences major, originally approached Methven to just get in some research. As an eventual pre-med student, she wanted to identify sick buildings on campus.

"Sick Building Syndrome comes from a building having a specific kind of mold," Price said. "The building affects the health of the people in the building, including upper respiratory problems, sneezing and coughing, itchy-watery eyes, and colds."

Blair Hall was the first building to be tackled by Price and Methven after it had received complaints from faculty.

The first step in determining whether a building is sick is to find out if the building has anything in it. They took swab samples throughout the building to try and find evidence of both mold and fungi.

During their research, they swabbed offices, air vents and windowsills to try and find evidence of mold and fungi growing within the building.

One of the ways that these buildings grow mold and fungi is through water damage. After Blair Hall caught fire, there was a lot of water damage that ended up taking place within the building.

After Price swabs the building, she places samples on a plate. As soon as she gets the plates back to the lab, her and Methven incubate their samples and identify them. To find out what spores they're reproducing, they have to wait for them to actually reproduce, which can take some time.

In the process of doing all of this, Price has been able to identify more and more fungi.

"She's done really good work culturing fungi and learning how to identify them," Methven said. "She's gotten down being able to identify them in the plate and is now working on how to identify some of them in a microscope."

When her research ends, Price is submitting a paper with both the school and the Board of Higher Education.

"The ventilations in these buildings suck and that's part of the reason why they're sick," Price said. "We need the capital funding project to help fix these buildings."

Currently Eastern's biology building sits at the sixth spot for government projects in Illinois.





Oh, the places you will go Management major broadens horizons through Study Abroad

Story by Lindsey Caudle

In a word, "life-changing." That is how Jordan Nelson, a junior management major, would describe her study abroad experience. Nelson traveled to London, England, during the spring semester of 2014 to spend five months experiencing the academics and culture of the city.

"I fell in love with the city. There was something different on every street, and it is always changing," Nelson said. "I had the best experience I could have asked

for."

Travel has always been a love of Nelson's, but her trip to England opened new doors for her future.

"Studying abroad made me realize that there is so much more to the world than Illinois," Nelson said. "When I was in England, I was a more confident, curious person. It definitely opened my eyes."

While studying in London, she also participated in an internship, which helped broaden her horizons.

"I began considering my international career. I know

now that I want to work in London and thanks to study abroad, I already have work experience there," Nelson said.

Nelson encourages other students to participate in the study abroad program.

"Study abroad says a lot about a person. It shows that you are ambitious and independent," Nelson said. "If you have any interest at all, don't hold back: just go!"

Design by Lindsey Caudle



Who Studies Abroad?

Dr. Kurt Olausen, director of Study Abroad, dispels the stereotypes behind students who participate in the program.

RICH KIDS

"Don't let the cost stop you from looking into study abroad. There are numerous scholarships to help defray the expense. Also, some of our programs actually cost less per semester than studying at EIU."

FOREIGN LANGUAGE MAJORS

"Students often say, 'I have to go to a country that speaks English, because I don't speak any other languages.' But that is not true. English is used all over the world. Always be open to locations you may not have originally considered."

HUMANITIES MAJORS

"Many majors are represented in our study abroad participants. We have a high number of education majors who choose to study abroad. Family and consumer sciences, elementary education, kinesiology and communication studies were among the top ten majors of EIU students who studied abroad during the 2014-2015 school year."



MAJOR BREAKDOWN

Enrollment drops, women outnumber men by 1,845

Story by Gina Volk

Enrollment at Eastern has declined, but students still find the college and major that they are passionate about. With lots of options, students help contribute to the university with smaller class sizes and several academic opportunities.

Compared to fall of 2013, enrollment has declined by 862 students. In the fall of 2014, Eastern had a total enrollment of 8,913 students.

The College of Sciences has the most success of students within their program with 2,374 enrolled.

Kylee Gochanour, a senior biological sciences major, believes that the hands-on experience of the sciences helps with the enrollment.

"In other majors, you can sit behind a desk and listen to a lecture and that gets the point across and is a sufficient way of obtaining the information you need," Gochanour said. "In biology it's important to see the concepts in action. It's the science of life. You need to be able to see living things doing what you're learning about."

In addition to the experiments, Gochanour loves the interaction with her professors. With smaller class sizes, the professors take the time to learn students' names and encourage them to participate in research. Gochanour is involved in research with a lab group, and she said the knowledge and experience she has gained is "invaluable." Within the college, the biological sciences major is the most popular with 543 students. Women outnumber the men in the major by almost 44 percent.

"I definitely feel empowered," Gochanour said. "It makes me so happy to see all these girls succeeding in the sciences and makes me feel like I can do it too. It's also sending such a good message to the younger generations of girls."

Gochanour also feels that biology is applicable to many different career choices like pre-vet, pre-pharmaceutical and pre-med, all of which biology would be a requirement for. With more women aspiring to engage in those careers it increases enrollment in their department.

Even though the College of Sciences is the biggest college by number, the largest number of students are found in the kinesiology and sports studies major. Even with 678 students in the major, the College of Education and Professional Studies declined the most since 2013. The college decreased by 406 students.

[Editor's Note: Information was gathered from Eastern's Institutional Research Databook Table. The totals represent the number of students enrolled within each major and college for the fall 2014 semester. The statistics are organized into the amount of students enrolled in each college.]

Design by Pablo Ramirez

Major numbers by college

Interdisciplinary/No College Designated	405
Continuing Education	511
Arts and Humanities	1,335
Business and Applied Sciences	2,143
Education and Professional Sciences	2,145
Sciences	2,374

Students by gender

 Female
 Male
 Total

 5,379
 3,534
 8,913

PHOTO BY PABLO RAMIREZ

Back to the schoolyard Students adapt to student teaching

Story by Katelyn Ifft

Rachel Sepich wakes up in her room in Thomas Hall around 6:30 a.m.

Instead of getting ready to be a student, she is on the other side of the classroom, as the teacher.

Sepich, an English major with teacher certification, leaves Charleston around 7 a.m. to begin her 40-minute commute to Stewardson-Strasburg High School, where she is a student teacher for English and mass media, teaching freshmen to senior students.

Doug Bower, who currently oversees the student-teaching program at Eastern, says the program tries to accommodate students as best they can and place them in their ideal location.

"We recognize that student teaching is a full-time experience where they're paying tuition and working full time," Bower said.

As part of the application process, prospective student teachers request which "zones" of the state they would like to be placed in. From there, they are matched with a coordinator who represents that zone and places them with a cooperating teacher in a school district.

When Hillary Outinen, who is currently student teaching in a first grade classroom at Hilltop Elementary in McHenry, was originally placed in a school that was over two hours away from her home in Ingleside, she said her student teaching coordinator worked to get her placed in a closer location.

"I felt really confident in how I was being taken care of,"

Outinen said.

However, because of other universities in the state competing for student teaching placements, or due to the lack of students in a region, there are areas in the state of Illinois that are not open for student teachers from Eastern. One of these areas is Peoria, which for Sepich, whose hometown is Morton, means she is not able to live close to home for student teaching.

Bower said the most requested zones for student teaching are in the Chicago and Charleston areas. Students who live outside of student-teaching regions get the top priority in getting placed in or near the Charleston and Mattoon area.

According to Bower, most students who live in a student teaching region would like to be placed near their home-towns.

Don Seidelmann, a fifth year senior kinesiology major with a K-12 teacher certification, has just begun the application process and says he would prefer to be placed near his home in Hometown.

"I'd probably be more comfortable with living back home while student teaching because that's where I grew up and went to school so I have a little more familiarity with the schools in that area," Seidlemann said.

As for Sepich, she says she's adjusting to living in the residence hall while student teaching, but it's a different experience.

"I forget my friends are in classes all day," Sepich said.

PHOTO BY KATELYN IFFT

Rachel Sepich sits in the lobby of Thomas Hall, where she is a resident. Sepich, a senior English major, commutes 40 minutes from Eastern to Stewardson-Strasburg High School to complete her student-teaching requirements.

DO AS THE ROMANS DO

Professor uses summer travel experience to source teachings

Story by Cassie Buchman

Traveling to different and exciting places is one of the many things that can make the summer memorable. That is especially true in the case of Dan Otto, Eastern philosophy professor, who spent six weeks traveling in Italy over the summer.

He visited places such as Sicily, Rome, Pompeii and rural Tuscany.

"A lot of my teaching deals with Ancient Greece, and I have visited Italy before as a student and wanted to spend more time there," he said, explaining some of the reasons he chose to go to Italy.

"(Italy) has changed dramatically since I was last there. It is much wealthier today, and many prices are higher."

During his time in Italy, Otto spent a lot of time exploring ancient ruins, going to structures built approximately 2,000 years ago.

One place he visited that stood out to him the most was an ancient theatre where he got to see a staging of a play by Sophocles. The play was staged in Italian, but as he already knew the story, he was able to understand what was happening in various parts.

"It was amazing to see a theater that was 25,000 years old," Otto said.

One memorable thing about Italy for Otto was going to see the Vatican.

"The scale of the Vatican is overwhelming, the Basilica itself is huge," he said. "We went in the middle of the day, which made the size of it seem even more overwhelming."

He said that he and his wife also went to the Sistine Chapel, and their experience illuminated by



PHOTO BY TONY KOMADA Dan Otto, a philosophy instructor, holds a book about Ancient Rome, where he visited last summer.

reading the biography of Michelangelo in Rome.

"Every day was an exciting day," Otto said.

After Italy, Otto and his wife ended the trip in Austria, where they hiked in the Alps. The thing that made the trip special to Otto was that it was the same hike they did 32 years ago.

"We spent all day hiking then spent the night in a hut in the Alps," he said. "It was exciting to take a hike we did when we were half the age we are now, and finding out we could still do it."

Otto's traveling has made an impact on his teaching in many ways.

"So much of what I teach originates where I

traveled," he said. "To spend time in ancient Rome as well as the Vatican deepened my understanding of the texts that I teach."

He also talks freely in class about a variety of the places he has been.

"I travel a lot, so in my Intro to Religious Studies class, and teaching the Sacred Spaces Class, I was able to use original photos from Machu Picchu in Peru," he said. "Many of the places I talk about in class lectures were places I actually visited."



Filming fiction ALT-TV offers creative producing outlet

Story by Danielle Tadlock

On campus there are a lot of creative outlets for students, but the students who like producing film or TV had to sit on the sidelines.

Scott Walus, assistant professor in communications studies and adviser for television and film club, founded ALT-TV in 2012.

Walus came to Eastern in 2011 and noticed quickly that there weren't any outlets for students who wanted to do film or television instead of broadcast news.

"ALT-TV started because a lot of students wanted to do things out of traditional documentaries, or news outlets," Walus said.

Starting a new club meant there was going to be a lot of work to organize and figure out how to make it flow easy throughout the semester.

"I remember it being chaos to get everything together because the first year everyone wanted to talk and be involved but nobody shot anything," Walus said. "The president and I shot the whole thing in about two days."

Essentially, if the students don't get the screenings done,

there is no club.

The ultimate goal is to have a couple screenings per semester but it's about getting stability within the group.

Slowly over time they were starting to get recognition with other advisers in the department and they would send students to the club.

They average about 20-30 students a year.

"For something that offers no school credit, requires extra work and to get involved just for the love of making TV and Film, that's pretty cool," Walus said.

A lot of the students are independent producers but some come in knowing nothing about producing.

The club has two presidents per semester, and sometimes they are students that started out knowing nothing about producing.

"Being on set is the best memory of the club, we're always laughing and joking," said Michael Moy, a senior communication studies major and president of the club.

"Over time we've become a family," said Kayla Myers, a junior communication studies major and president of the club. Once a semester the club will have a screening at Top of the Roc.

They want to have the screenings off campus for the community to enjoy.

"We started having people who came to Free Music Fridays for the monthly concert also come to the screening. So people not from EIU are watching it too, which makes it feel more real," Walus said.

Screenings are usually right before the semester is over.

Episodes are meant to flow like a television program and are more of an Adult Swim or skit-show format.

Along with showing the screenings off campus, Walus doesn't like to put old work on any social media website.

"It's not as gratifying to get a like on Facebook or a view on YouTube," Walus said. "It's about making it an event."

If they were to post their videos online, it would make the public screening less significant.

"I take pride in the fact that I started it and kept it going for three years," Walus said.

PHOTO BY DANIELLE TADLOCK Michael Moy, a senior communication studies major, shoots a scene of their kicker for the end of the semester showing.



PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Joey Zigler, a senior environmental biology major, probes the snake to determine the sex in the herpetology lab Dec. 9, 2014. He then uses a tool to remove some of the scales of the snake. Zigler said this process does not hurt the snake; rather, it is equivalent to a human receiving a hair cut.



PHOTO BY GINA VOLK Snake skins hang throughout the lab. Zigler researches and tracks brown snakes in the Charleston area, specifically at Fox Ridge State Park.



PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

After finding the snakes at Fox Ridge, Zigler measures them from head to tail. He records the measurements to determine which brown snakes have already been tracked.

SNAKE TRACKERS

Biology research team monitors brown snake migrations

Story by Ty Noel

Snakes may not be the animal most people would want to study or even save, but for Joey Zigler, it's part of the research he's been doing at Eastern. Zigler is the head undergrad student for Dr. Mullin's research group that tracks and monitors brown snakes at Fox Ridge State Park.

Zigler is a senior environmental biology major. He chose to do conservation work instead of research because he plans to become a conservation officer.

Zigler was first introduced to the work Dr. Mullin was doing when a friend had asked him if he wanted to go along with him to do some of the research. Zigler said he had enjoyed doing it and was eventually asked by Dr. Mullin if he wanted to take over as the head undergrad student for their research.

"It's good research and experience for me," Zigler said. "I want to be a conservation officer and it will help me find different ways to conserve wildlife once I'm out in the field."

Since then, Zigler, along with other biology majors, have been going out to Fox Ridge from about March to early November to track the movements of the brown snake.

The research the group is doing is tracking the migration of the snakes in the fall and spring, monitoring how many of the snakes are being killed by cars and what kind of impact it is having on their species and environment. The research was set up in 2010 and currently has no plan of ending anytime soon, according to Zigler.

Tracking the brown snakes is no easy task. The group currently has nine fences set up around the roads at Fox Ridge, with about eight fall traps at each fence and four cover mats. The fall traps are simply just buckets that are set up for snakes to fall into, while cover mats are exactly how they sound and are set up for snakes to go under when it's chilly outside. Students take either university cars or their own when none are available to check traps. Sometimes there are more than just snakes in these traps. There have been instances where voles, racer snakes, ringneck snakes, a possum and even a dove were trapped in them. In all instances, they always make sure to release the animals from the traps in the direction that they were originally heading.

Whenever they do find a brown snake, they take them back to the lab in pillowcases to be marked and measured. When measuring the brown snake, they measure the tail length, and then the length from the snout to the vent. Along with the length, they also track the sex and weight of each one. When they're done, they use a medical cauterizer the scales of the under belly to keep track of the snakes they found. If they by chance catch the same snake again, they check to see if it's grown or reproduced.

Besides doing research with the snakes, Zigler and the rest of the group also does outreach programs with kids to teach them not to be scared of snakes. They often participate in Eastern's Celebration to help educate students, faculty and staff about the average snakes that are found on campus. Zigler has also gone to classes with the snakes as well. There is one time in particular he can remember where the program didn't go as well as planned.

"I had a snake that we took to a fourth grade class to show," Zigler said. "We've had him since he's hatched and raised him since then but for some reason, he still occasionally likes to bite. I was holding him and showing him to the class when he decided to turn and bite my hand. He drew a little blood and it didn't hurt, but it still freaked some of the class out."

This bite is one that rarely happens with their snakes though, and they usually encourage students to hold the snakes to show that they're not aggressive. The big thing to remember is that they won't try to hurt you if you don't try to hurt them.

> Design by Megan Ivey and Mackenzie Freund

• Iced Coffee - \$1.70 \$1.95 "Iced Tea - \$1.60 \$1.90/ 45\$2.951 -Americano-\$1.90 \$2.45 .1552.65 * Latte- \$2.45 \$2.95 Mocha-\$2.95 \$3.50

and the second second

COLD

DRINKS

PHOTO BY TONY KOMADA

GRANDE

1.70 \$1.95

9552.45

552.95

3350

\$1.95

The available drinks from The Café, located within Room 1414 of Klehm Hall, is posted on a large menu on the wall of the restaurant. The Café is open from 8:30-11:30 a.m.



BREWING SUCCESS Students manage, operate café for fa

operate café for faculty

Story by Morgan Murray

There are not many students that can leave college saying that they ran and operated a café. For family and consumer science majors, Chris Starbird and Renee Boyd, they can confidently say they did.

Both Starbird and Boyd work for The Café, a coffee shop that is fully operated and managed by students. The Café, which is located in Klehm Hall Room 1414, is open every day from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. for faculty and staff. They brew coffee with espresso machines, bake pastries, make the menu and fulfill customer's needs. The catch is that they are not paid; they do all of this for experience and for class requirements.

The Café is a learning experience for Boyd, Starbird, other students and the faculty.

"Not only is it convenient because it's on Eastern's campus, but it is both a classroom and a business all in one," Boyd said.

Pantera is the restaurant aspect of The Café that is only opened Tuesday nights. There is catering also, but in order to eat at the restaurant a online reservation is required.

"Renee oversees The Café aspects, and I oversee most of the Pantera operation," Starbird said.

Boyd is the undergraduate intern for The Café. She schedules the independent study students to ensure that each one gets 90 hours of work by the end of the semester, Boyd said.

Guests are required to pay \$13 and



PHOTO BY TONY KOMADA

Renee Boyd, a family and consumer sciences major, poses in front of The Café in Klehm Hall Dec. 8, 2014. The Café is a student-ran restaurant only available to the faculty of Eastern.

anyone is welcomed. Each night a different student picks the meal that the student cooks make. There is a different guest chef every Tuesday.

"The students are getting marketing skills from working here," Starbird said. "Also, they are, of course, learning how to bake all different kinds of things."

The Café fulfills the class requirements of Commercial Quantity Food Production class; each student is required to be there working or cooking. Each night is a different themed menu.

Taylor Little, a family and consumer sciences major and worker at The Café, says that her experience with the Café has taught her valuable lessons that a normal classroom setting could not teach her.

Little's themed meal focused on comfort food, which included fried chicken and macaroni and cheese.

"It has taught me that the restaurant life isn't for me," Little said. "But it has taught me what parts of my managing skills I need to improve on when I go into my career."

The Café is not only a place where students can get hands-on learning but also a place where they can see if managing is really what they want to do.

"I used to be an English major, but after my first semester, I knew it wasn't for me," Boyd said. "I have enjoyed working with the public in the restaurant industry since I was 16. Hospitality was the right choice for me."

Nethan

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK Megan Schutzbach, a senior chemistry major, displays her crystal research in the organic chemistry research lab, located in the Physical Sciences Building Jan. 14, 2015. Schutzbach has been conducting her research for her undergrad thesis.

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MINERAL MAKER

Student grows crystals to further research

Story by Shirmeen Ahmad

Lab goggles, lab coat, lab materials and, most importantly, lab jeans. With all of these, Megan's ready to perform her experiment. She puts a kind of liquid solvent in with different compounds and waits for the liquid to dissolve and the compound to grow. At the end she checks to make sure she produced what she wanted: crystals.

Different crystals mean that various structures are made up of different molecules. When doing x-ray crystallography, Megan Schutzbach, a senior chemistry major, tries to find these different crystals. She uses an x-ray that diffracts off of the crystal and with a computer program determines what atoms are present.

"All projects focus on answering a question," Schutzbach said. "My project is focusing on molecular shape and reactivity."

Schutzbach said she knew since her freshman year that she wanted to do some type of research to help her with graduate school.

"I wanted to have a thesis written," Schutzbach said. "A thesis is a nice way to show what work you did as an undergrad."

And in her final semester of her senior year, that is what she is doing. The research that Schutzbach has been collecting has been for her departmental honors. The last stage is now to put it all together to show her data.

Dr. Kraig Wheeler, an organic chemistry professor, has been her adviser throughout this process and has been doing x-ray crystallography with undergraduate students for years.

"Our students have the opportunity to do independent research," Wheeler said. "I was certainly interested in her background. I think it's safe to say it



PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Mineral-grown crystals are made in the organic chemistry research lab and stored in labeled containers. The crystals are various colors because of the different compounds used to create them.

was a mutual interest: she chose me and I chose her."

Schutzbach said that one thing she has learned from doing this research is that it is very time consuming and having deadlines keeps her motivated to keep working. But she still feels like she can do more with it.

"This project, I could still do three more years and still not put a dent in it," Schutzabach said.

Even though she took a chemistry class in high school, Schutzbach said she had a good experience with chemistry at Eastern. She took an honors general chemistry class and had a great teacher. She has been working in the lab ever since.

The chemistry department has four seniors and one junior doing research, which according to Schutzabach is a big class.

And while the other students have set schedules when they come into work, she stays in there "all the time." All of her experience gives her an advantage of knowing what she has to do on her own.

There have also been times when the experiments did not work out as expected, which is frustrating for Schutzbach. But that's why she likes to take a step back to see what went wrong.

"Sometimes it can lead you into a new direction," Schutzbach said. "It's all a learning experience."

Even with the ups and downs in the lab, she has been able to achieve a lot.

"All my students, hopefully, get a chance to investigate," Wheeler said. "Megan has great drive and determination and hasn't been backed down from challenges and has overcome hurdles others would be challenged with."

One for the history books Women's Studies program reenacts influential women

Story by Kristen Gisondi

Taylor Yangas likes to keep things real, but not too real.

When she performs as a "living history character" for elementary school kids, Yangas censors parts of history that confuse students. Last year, Yangas played Irena Sendler, a woman who got in trouble with the police while helping children escape the Nazis during World War II.

"There was a girl in the room whose father was the police chief, and she told me 'I don't think this lady was a good woman because she went to jail," said Yangas, a senior history major. "I tried to explain that the police in Nazi-controlled Poland were not the same police that protect Charleston, and I told them that the police back then weren't always good. They were like villains. That way I was like the hero who fought the bad guys."

Since 1989, the women's studies program has attracted Eastern students by allowing them to dress up as influential females and present a firstperson, historically-accurate script to elementary kids. Participants present their characters to the kids in March, which is Women's History Month. Sace Elder, an associate history and women's studies professor, says students join for fun or to gain experience in public speaking.

"The Living History program has been called the Living History project as well, and I think that is more accurate because it is something that is ongoing," said Elder, who is also a co-coordinator of the program.

The performers research influential women in history by reading articles, websites and interviews to develop their character's persona. From there, the actresses build a script. For many of the performers, dressing up is their favorite part of the program.

"I've always liked living history museums and dressing up," said Cayla Wagner, a junior history major. "It kind of makes me feel like a Disney princess."

Students typically select costumes from a closet in the Doudna Fine Arts Center, which houses a room specifically for the program.

Ashley Samoska, a junior English major, borrowed a pair of her grandmother's loafers to play Katherine Hepburn last year. Samoska enjoys knowing that her presentations are not typical to a regular classroom lecture.

"A lot of the other girls pick historical figures who did really important political things, and I like doing pop culture and performers because it's something (students) don't get in their textbooks," Samoska said.

Sometimes students recognize performers from previous years. After each presentation, the kids receive a "playing card," or a card that has the birth and death date of the historical figure, along with a quick biography. Many elementary students ask the performers to sign the cards. Sometimes, these young students even recognize performers from previous years.

"One of the students called me 'Mrs. Harriet! Mrs. Harriet!' and that made me feel like a celebrity," Wagner said.

While some of the performers plan on becoming teachers, Yangas does not.

"I don't plan on working with kids, but I do plan on being a mom and I will totally dress up as characters to teach them history and stuff," Yangas said. "I plan on my kids being total nerds."

Design by Gina Volk

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Taylor Yangas, a senior history major, portrays her Living History character, Christine de Pizan, in Booth Library. Pizan was a medieval Italian author, and she dedicated her life to promoting a higher place in society for women through her writing. Yangas and her roommate hand-made the head piece and shirt for her costume.

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PHOTO BY DANIELLE TADLOCK Stevie Roberson, a sophomore graphic design major, and Deanna Tadlock, a freshman graphic design major, act out their inner selves in the chalk stairway of the Doudna Fine Arts Center. They created the masks for their 3-D Foundations course.



SHOWING THEIR TRUE FACES

Art students emulate self-identity through 3-D masks

Story by Katlyn Quill

People wear masks to hide parts of themselves, but art students were challenged to do the opposite.

Students in the 3-D Foundations course were told to show off their quirks, personality traits or interests in a mask made entirely of cardboard. Instead of hiding, these artists were encouraged to showcase their personality to the public.

A few art students struggled to put their ideas into action.

Deanna Tadlock, a freshman graphic design major, and Stevie Roberson, a sophomore graphic design major, went through several obstacles before completing their final piece. They had failed ideas, spent several hours in the art studio outside of class and even ruined clothing while painting.

The two artists also explained how difficult it was to get creative while on a time crunch.

Tadlock said that she hoped to create something "unconventional and unique," but it was tough to come up with an idea. Tadlock and Roberson said that it was difficult to think of ideas so early in the morning. Their class meets at 8 a.m., and they admitted that they are still trying to wake up at that time.

Roberson explains that students were only given a week to complete the project. By the time they discovered a creative idea, they had limited time to execute that idea.

When the project was originally assigned, Tadlock and Roberson hoped to create animals that are similar to each other to since they are close friends. Tadlock was going to make a coyote mask, while Roberson completed a wolf. But after "messing around" with the material, Tadlock said that her cat turned into a coyote and then finally a fox.

All of these challenges led them to an incredible finished product. All the time spent on this project was definitely worth it in the end.

"I'm proud of my final project," Tadlock said.

Tadlock and Roberson also put in extra effort by painting their masks even though it was not required of them. Tadlock admits that she wanted to tweak a few things about her project.

"I wish mine looked less like a rat," Tadlock said.

Clearly, creating a piece of art out of a flat, boring piece of material has its challenges. That is why Tadlock and Roberson are eager to get started on other projects with a variety of materials. Throughout the semester, students will work with ceramics, clay, architecture, paper and more. Tadlock and Roberson agree that they are most excited to create art out of wire since it is a unique material made with new and interesting tools.

The two young artists offer some valuable advice to their peers about how to succeed in these hands-on art courses. They encourage others to stay creative even if they are tired. But they also add that artists need to stay true to themselves.

"Do your art for yourself," Tadlock said. "Don't try to be someone else."

In the end, these two talented creators made some incredible art by reflecting on their personal interests, thinking outside the box and conquering all obstacles thrown their way. Instead of hiding behind a mask, Tadlock and Roberson wear their masks with pride.

SWITCHING LANES

Students learn to teach behind-the-wheel training

Story by Megan Ivey

For many, driver education ends after obtaining a driver's license.

For those minoring in safety and driver education, as a part of the health studies department, driver education extends the typical six-week course.

Approximately 20 students in this minor learn not how to drive, for many already have their licenses, but instead how to teach driver education to others.

The hands-on program allows the students to become the teachers.

Students in the course "HIS 3330: Advanced Driving Maneuvers" teach behindthe-wheel training to first-time drivers in the Charleston area.

The new drivers have to be accepted into the program.

Robert Bates, the chair for the health studies department, said that the program teaches new drivers with an array of backgrounds.

"We have international students who have had very little experience with the automobile, and then we have 60 to 70-yearold women who have had a spouse pass away, making them need to learn how to drive for the first time in their life," he said.

The students spend the first weeks preparing to teach those enrolled in the program, and then once a week they take



PHOTO BY DANIELLE TADLOCK Seidelmann teaches Jones the basics of left and right-hand turns with the help of cones in the Carman Hall parking lot Feb. 17, 2015.

the new drivers on the road.

Bates said his students are shocked at times about the new driver's prior skill set.

"They come back after the first time driving and are surprised at how low the start skill level was," he said. "They forget the struggle they went through when first learning."

Bates prepares his students by teaching them technical and social techniques.

"It's a two-step process," he said. "It's one thing to know how to use your turn signal, it's another to know how to properly teach it." Bates said both his students and his students' students gain from the program.

"The drivers who complete the project often pass the DMV on-the-road test and stay in contact," he said. "And my beginning teachers gain confidence."

Bates grades the teachings of his students from a camera placed inside each driver ed vehicle. The videos recorded from the sessions are used for three points of teaching: one, to evaluate themselves; two, to evaluate the teachings; and three, to be used as class discussions.

"We go over the tapes, and have a class discussion on what went well and what could be improved," he said.

Eastern has had the program since the 1950s.

Bates said Eastern is one of four universities in the state with the program.

"It used to be more common, but many universities have dropped it," he said. "It's not as visible of a program."

Despite the dwindling number of programs, Bates said driver education is an important part of society.

"The No. 1 cause of death for people ages 15-45 is a motor vehicle accident," he said. "It's for everyone's safety. From good teachers come good results."



PHOTO BY DANIELLE TADLOCK

Rosalyn Jones, a junior family and consumer sciences major, and Don Seidelmann, a senior kinesiology major, walk through the basics of driving Feb. 17, 2015, in the parking lot of Carman Hall. Seidelmann is part of a student teaching program for beginning drivers.

Power of the spoken word Speech team excels in competition, friendship

Story by Chynna Miller

This year, Eastern's speech team has taken long strides, from winning third place in its first weekend competition to qualifying for national tournaments.

But these successes did not come without a lot of practice. The 2014-2015 practices started over the summer with workshops.

"We would get together over the summer, and some of our members that didn't live in Charleston would Facebook in," said Austin Mejdrich, a sophomore political science major.

In addition to practices, the team does one-on-one coaching sessions with speech coach Sara Gronstal.

"Sometimes we'll do mini tournaments [during workshops]," said Gronstal, who is also an instructor in the communications department. "We'll have everyone perform, while myself and other members of the team fill out fake ballots and give feedback."

Along with memorizing scripts and poems, writing 1,400-word speeches and researching topics that they might have to present a speech on, the team also makes sure to take care of themselves during tournament weeks.

"I try to get a lot of sleep, eat healthy food and drink a lot of water," said Marques Brown, a junior communication studies major.

SPEECH TEAM EVENTS

Dramatic Interpretation: taking a scene from a play or monologue and performing it

Prose: pulling an excerpt from a book and telling a story

Poetry: taking parts from poems and mashing them together to create an overall theme

Duo: two people performing a dramatic script or play

Impromptu: getting a rhetorical situation and creating a six-minute speech with a two-minute preparation time

Extemporaneous: speakers receive 30 minutes to prepare a politically based question in the form of a speech; questions will either be social, international or domestic, and the speech is required to have sources

Tournaments usually start early in the morning, which sometimes forces the team to spend the night in the tournament area.

"Tournaments usually start about 8:30 or 9 in the morning," Mejdrich said. At a normal tournament, there is usually about 10 schools that participate. At bigger competitions, there are usually around 30 to 50 schools from around the nation.

"Teams come anywhere from California to Florida," Gronstal said.

During the tournaments, the participants have rounds where they perform their speeches.

Even though rounds can get intense, they still remain friendly with other schools they are competing against.

"You can compete with them in the round and then walk out the room and have a conversation afterwards," Mejdrich said.

Friendliness, social skills and critical thinking skills are just a few things that Mejdrich and Bethany Oxford, a senior psychology major, have learned from being on the speech team.

"I want to be in social work and you have to actually make a connection with other people," Oxford said, "Speech helps you do that."

And making a connection is exactly what this speech team has done. It is more than just a team, they are a support system for one another.

"This year's team has bonded very well," Oxford said, "We all have the same vision and that helps us be more competitive and grow."

PHOTO BY CHYNNA MILLER

Austin Mejdrich, a sophomore political science major, and Bethany Oxford, a senior psychology major, display their speech aids in Coleman Hall on March 26, 2015. Notecards and the little black book help the speakers remember their talking points during an event.

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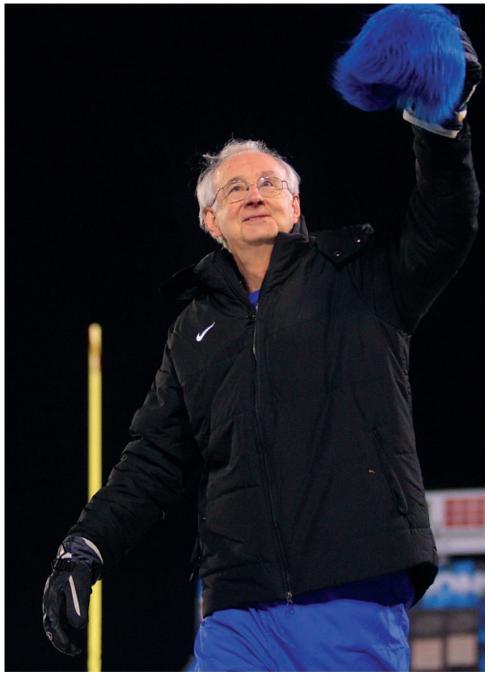


PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

President Perry cheers to the crowd during the FCS quarterfinal matchup against Towson State Dec. 13, 2013, at O'Brien Field. Perry is known for cheering on the Panthers at sporting events, where he can be seen with his iconic blue wig.



PHOTO BY CHYNNA MILLER President Bill Perry converses with students about the progress of their residence hall during "Popcorn with the Prez" Feb 25, 2015, in Thomas Hall.



PHOTO BY CODY DELMENDO President Perry shows off his skills in a game of bags Sept. 16, 2014, during "Panther Party with the Prez" held at Greek Court. His partner for the game was Ashley Biro, a special education major.

[104] ACADEMICS

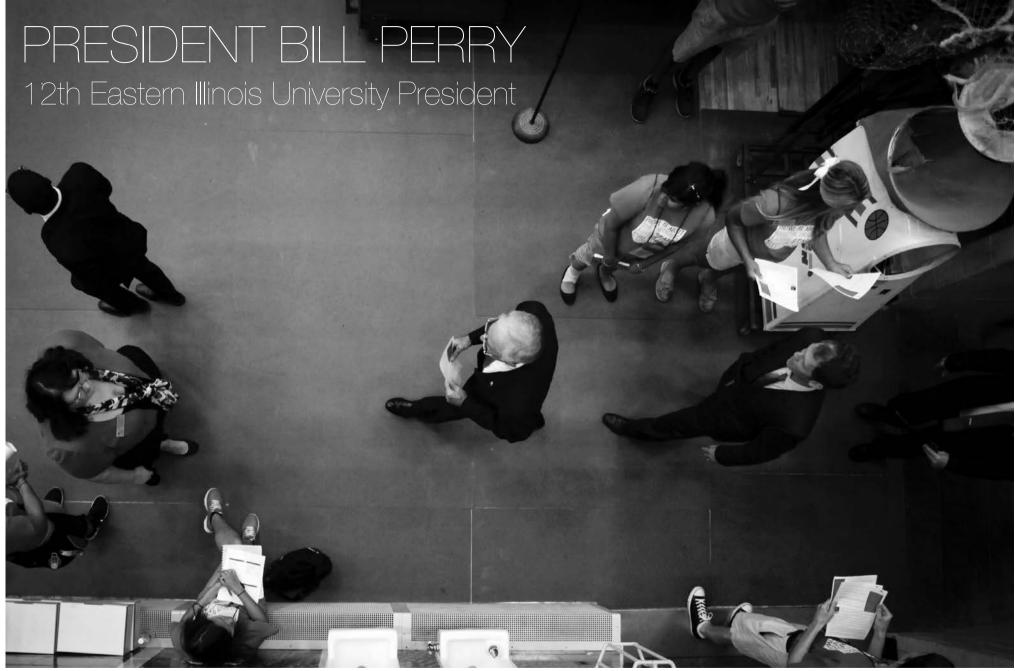


PHOTO BY DOMINIC BAIMA

President Perry enters Lantz Arena on Friday, Aug. 22, 2015, for the annual Convocation Ceremony. The ceremony is held by New Student Programs to welcome all new students at the beginning of each academic year.

FAREWELL, PERRY

President retires after 8 years of leadership

Story by Kevin Hall

After eight years, President Bill Perry will retire from his presidency at Eastern Illinois University, but he will always be EIU.

Coming to Eastern in July 2007, Perry came with goals and ambitions to assist the university in becoming one of the top public universities in the state. During Perry's tenure at Eastern, the U.S. News ranking for regional universities named Eastern the number one public regional university in Illinois and the fourth public regional university in the Midwest.

The quality of academics and the deep belief in personal relationships are qualities of EIU that attracted Perry to the campus and allowed him to reign successfully for almost a decade.

"Personal relationships are key to success," Perry said. Whether it's the relationship between students, faculty and staff, staff and students, personal relationships are just the glue that holds it all together."

Upholding the sociability and unison of the campus has been one of the driving forces in how Perry has carried out his presidency. During the recruitment process several years ago, a belief in excellence and in personal relations was imposed upon me, Perry said. This has guided him through his presidential journey.

Participating in countless social events throughout campus, Perry has become extremely popular for his events hosted by student government.

Initially being limited to only "Pizza with the Prez," student government eventually expanded its events with the president to appeal to a broader audience on campus. Events such as "Putt-Putt with the Prez" and "Peppermint with the Prez" allowed the campus a chance to talk to Perry in an intimate, yet social atmosphere.

"We're all on a personal journey and every university is on an institutional journey and our personal journeys and institutional are intertwined," Perry said. "As long as we remember that we are on journeys and we continue to evolve, we just get better and better at what we're suppose to do."

Expecting greatness from Eastern as a whole was motivation enough to keep Perry pushing through any endeavor that he had to take on as president of the university.

"Expecting greatness of oneself and others has become the heart of Eastern," Perry said. "I just want to be remembered as a president who is student centered and expected excellence."

Taking on an active social role on campus was essential to how President Perry went about his presidency. The advice Perry offers to any of the possible future presidential candidates is, "Don't sit in the office all the time."

Though it may take some time, Perry advises anyone that seeks the presidential position to get out and find that moment.

"Find the moment that defines you and makes you know you know that you are EIU," he said.

In order to proceed forward successfully, the next president of EIU must have a solid vision, Perry said.

"The vision must be a lofty one and one that is enjoyed and shared by the entire team because that is what makes universities proceed forward," he said.

Design by Megan Ivey

PHOTO BY JASON HOWELL

President Bill Perry sits at his office in Old Main Sept. 5, 2014. When asked about the legacy of his presidency, he said, "What I hope [people] will think is that I was a president that cared deeply about our students, our faculty and staff, and that I cared deeply about excellence and personal relationships."





GREEK LIFE]

ONE FLAG, FLAG,

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Brandyce Gordon, a senior journalism major, practices tugs with her AST sisters March 2, 2014 in the field across from the Sigma Phi Epsilon house. Practice was stopped early that day due to a massive storm that drenched the tuggers and left the field a mud pit.

"Those five words were music to my ears for two and a half months while I trained to be a member of the Alpha Sigma Tau tugs rope..."

Story by Brandyce Gordon

BEGINNING THE JOURNEY

The journey started on Feb. 1, 2014, and even after one workout I was in for more than I thought.

On the first day my hands were killing me in less than 20 minutes but thankfully my muscles were feeling great.

We were doing one-minute tugs and a minute has never seemed so long before. I didn't understand how long 60 seconds was until someone was fighting against me for the entire minute.

My armpits were sore for weeks. Every time I put my arm down there is a throbbing pain. Like a bruise that was being pushed on.

TAKING IT TO THE MUD

About 24 days into the season we had our first night on the field and I felt like a real tugger with cleats and the cold all around me.

I had so much fun tugging outside even though it was cold. I have never been one to want to get dirty before, but I think something is changing in me because I do not care if I get muddy in the name of tugs.

I could feel my arms staying closer, my hip pushing up, feet

going going going, my thighs working hard.

This is what a tug should feel like. And it was hard! But even as I got tired, I still wanted to tug more. I felt so strong and powerful and I loved it!

BREAKING MOMENTUM

Spring break is during tugs season. It is a whole week without tugging. A whole week of losing the calluses and stamina that has been built up over the entire season. So when we came back I was expecting the first couple of days to be hard.

And of course we did tug longer. And of course I was a bit winded. But honestly, it was not nearly as bad as I thought it would be.

The cold was really the worst part. Not only did I spend the last week in Florida, but also the wind was strong and it felt like it was biting at my skin.

After the first tug my fingers were numb but once they started warming up in my pockets they burned! A searing pain. I wanted to cut my fingers off. But I kept coming back.

STARTING OFF RIGHT

We had a bye for Monday,

the first time Alpha Sigma Tau hasn't had to tug on a Monday in a long time. So when Wednesday rolled around we were more than excited to tug; AST against Delta Delta Delta, and we were ready.

All day my nerves ran around in my body. I could barely eat. I was itching to get out there and win.

When it finally came time to go to the field and warm up, I couldn't stand still. The coin flip gave us the pavilion side, but that didn't mean a whole lot, both sides were very torn up.

Waiting until it was our turn seemed like I was waiting for hours.

Finally I was on the rope. People were yelling but I had no idea what they were saying I was too busy going through the motions of setting, things that were second nature to me now, too busy thinking about what the win would feel like.

"SET" I hear our front girl yell and I know this was it.

"One flag. Two flag. TUG!" Jon yelled.

The crowd erupted and so did my muscles but soon we were being told to stop. I was confused. Apparently someone false started and now we had to do it all over again. I could see the anger in the faces of the girls around me.

We went through the setting motions all over again only this time when Jon said tug it was real. We were tugging and we were going backwards!

Pushing right leg, left leg. Staying on my toes. I never stopped moving my feet and we never stopped going backwards.

I heard someone yell, "They have one in the water!"

This is it. Just a little bit more. Find the strength deep down.

And done! AST has made it to the top four for the first time since the 1980's.

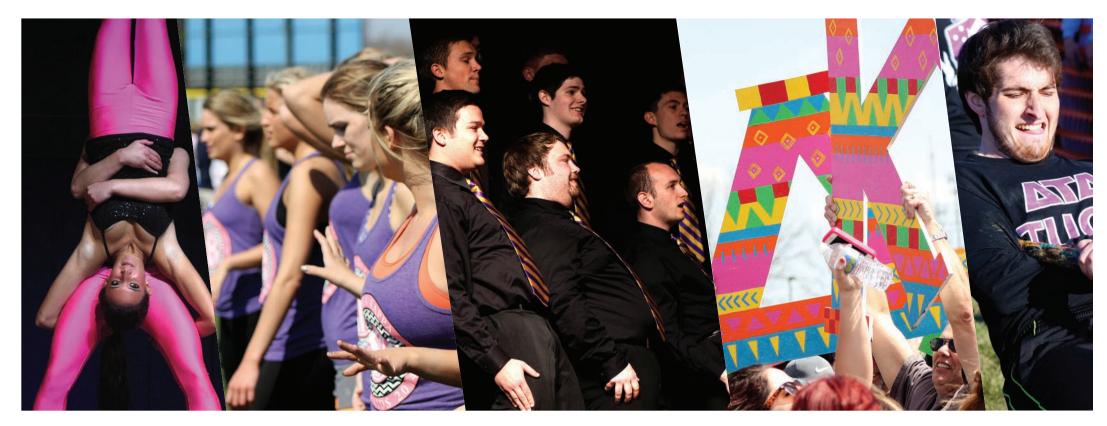
THE FINAL TUG

Friday our fate was not as great and we were pulled in the water pretty fast by Kappa Delta.

Saturday we were tugging for third place against Sigma Sigma Sigma. I was as nervous as I was Wednesday.

We put up an amazing fight and had them almost in the water before we lost the fight and the tug to Tri Sigma giving AST fourth place.

Design by Megan Ivey





[112] GREEK LIFE



PHOTOS BY SHEA LAZANSKY AND GINA VOLK **DESIGN BY KATIE EDELMANN**

2014 Winners Sorority

Airband

1st - Alpha Phi 2nd - Delta Delta Delta 3rd - Delta Zeta

Greek Sing

1st - Delta Delta Delta 2nd - Alpha Phi 3rd - Kappa Delta

Tugs

Pyramids

1st - Delta Zeta

1st - Kappa Delta 2nd - Alpha Sigma Alpha 3rd - Sigma Sigma Sigma

Greek Sing

1st - Sigma Phi Epsilon

1st - Sigma Phi Epsilon

3rd - Lambda Chi Alpha

2nd - Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Fraternity

Airband

- 2nd Sigma Alpha Epsilon
- 3rd Sigma Chi & Sigma Pi

Tugs: Big Men

1st - Sigma Chi 2nd - Sigma Alpha Epsilon 3rd - Sigma Pi

Tugs: Little Men

1st - Sigma Pi 2nd - Lambda Chi Alpha 3rd - Delta Tau Delta

Pyramids

1st - Sigma Pi

GREEK LIFE [113]

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PHOTO BY JASON HOWELL Members of the Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority plunge into Lake Sara during the 2015 Polar Plunge hosted by Special Olympics Illinois on Saturday, Feb. 28, 2015, in Effingham. With a team of 13 women, ASA raised \$3,155 for the event. In addition to the Polar Plunge philanthropy, the sorority holds the Greek Grill Master event that raises money for the Special Olympics as well.



GREEKS GIVE BACK Fraternities, sororities raise money for philanthropies

Story by Shirmeen Ahmad

The intramural field is packed. Some teams are at base and some are at bat. The remaining teams sit on the sidelines and wait their turn to compete in the annual softball tournament.

All the teams are made up of fraternity men and each team has coaches from the Alpha Sigma Tau sorority. They are distinguished by the T-shirts they wear.

Excitement bubbles in the crowd as teams slowly get eliminated leading up to the final game, which will determine who the champions of the "World Series Tournament" will be. The best part of it all, the whole-day event allows donations to be made for the Pine Mountain Settlement School, a boarding school for mountain children in Kentucky.

Different events such as these are held throughout the year by the sorority and fraternity chapters here at Eastern to raise money for philanthropies. Many of them have become traditions that people look forward to participate in, the "World Series Tournament" is one of them.

"A lot of people forget that community service and philanthropies have always been a part of Greek life," said LeeAnn Reid, a sophomore early childhood education major and vice president of community service on Panhellenic Council. "It's one of the values that all members surround themselves with and share with their brothers and sisters."

Each chapter works with their national organization's philanthropy and sometimes they also work with other philanthropies. There is normally a chair within the chapters that is in charge of planning and creating the event(s) or carrying out the traditional ones.

Nathan Gayheart, a junior chemistry major with teacher certification and president of the Interfraternity Council, said each year the goal is to have the event move up one step from the previous year and in most cases, that is the chair's job. They work with the other chairs and "have a roundtable to see what we're doing and can be doing."

Throughout the year, fraternities and sororities wait for presentations from one another during their chapter meetings explaining when and what the events are and the chapters can decide who they want to give money to.

"Sororities go out and get people to come and do a good job with it," Gayheart said. "Some of them you just show up because you have to, some you just enjoy." Gayheart also said "If a sorority can put their name with it, it works."

Many of the traditional events follow this such as Alpha Phi's "Phiesta Bowl," a flag football tournament, Alpha Sigma Tau's "Tau Trivia" and Delta Zeta's "Turtle Tug" named after their mascot.

Some of the other traditional events are Lambda Chi Alpha's "Watermelon Bash," Sigma Chi's "Derby Days," Sigma Alpha Epsilon's "Holidaze" and Sigma Nu's "Sigma Nu Showdown."

Along with working with philanthropies, sororities and fraternities have to complete service hours that all get tracked on a national level and with Eastern's Community Service Office. According to the office, 13,017.95 hours have been tracked since last spring.

Katie Raymond, a second year graduate student in the college of student affairs and graduate assistant for fraternity and sorority programs, said the Greek chapters do a lot to give back to the local Charleston community.

"It brings all the Greeks together to enjoy each other's company," Reid said. "It's important to give back to the community and the Greeks all value that."

Design by Megan Ivey

PHOTO BY KEVIN HALL

Brandal Miles, a kinesiology and sports studies major, leads the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. before they begin to hop at the 2014 NPHC show in McAfee Gym Saturday Nov. 8, 2014. Miles was the hop-master for Omega Psi Phi.

New era in NPHC step show Omega Psi Phi, Sigma Gamma Rho take home title, \$1,000

Story by Kevin Hall

The men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. and women of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. presented the reign of a new era to Eastern's campus at the Fall 2014 National Pan-Hellenic Council Step Show.

Saturday, Nov. 8, 2014, McAfee Gymnasium was the stomping ground for the men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., The Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., the women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. to display a performance that persuaded five judges they deserved to be the recipient of the \$1,000 grand prize and trophy awarded to each fraternity and sorority placing first in contest. Each organization was given 13 minutes to entice the judges based off of four criteria: originality, appearance, synchronization and execution.

Judging the competition were alumnus members of NPHC: Christopher Hightower, Anthony Avery, Nicolas Wright, and Vanessa Johnson. The judges' table consisted of a member from each organization that performed that evening.

Assisting in maintaining an electrifying show throughout the evening M.C./ Dj, Dj Band Camp interacted with the crowd throughout the show. Dj Band Camp made an effort to use the audience as a tool to keep the show exhilarating and enjoyable between performances.

Ashley Howard, the step show coordinator, said Dj Band Camp came highly recommended from Alphas. Returning to attempt a fourth year victory both the Alphas and the Zetas were unsuccessful in defending their titles as step show champions.

The Alphas, who performed first in the step show, provided the crowd with relatable humor and theatrics. Incorporating "Mr. Brown" one of the characters played in several of Tyler Perry films, gave the Alphas a humorous advantage in the forefront, and this would set for the evening.

Although laughter and excitement filled the gym after the performance of the Alphas, pure anticipation struck the air as the Ques took the stage in order to participate in their first step show on Eastern's campus since 1997. Brandal Miles, the hop-master for the Ques said, "We just wanted to make the statement that we are back and we are a force to be reckoned with."

Indulging in their own bit of theatrics, the Ques gave their show a very specific theme. Using their traditional fatigued apparel to their advantage, their theme was based on a troupe of men with one objective, and that was to attain that step show trophy from the Alphas.

Successful in their task to gain the trophy as well as the grand prize, the Ques also felt successful in this event because they felt that it aids them in taking a more active role on campus. "We hope that our victory showcased our fraternity in a positive light as we look to reclaim our positive reputation across the campus," Miles said.

Stunts throughout the night were signature in several of the organizations performances. Back-

wards flips, a Sigma lean, and even a human pyramid was on display at the NPHC step show.

Sherry Gunn, the step coordinator for the women of Sigma Gamma Rho, said stunts were a major influence in their show, because of ideas she had witnessed from YouTube by other members of her sorority.

Breaking a superstition that she normally follows, after participating in the step show for over three years, Gunn finally watched the acts that came before theirs and this played a key role in their success. "After witnessing the other organizations put on a good show, we were forced to go full out and give it all of our energy," Gunn said.

The SGRHOS' theme pertained to them being in a courtroom and having to prove to a judge that they loved their sorority. The women had to depict three elements in their efforts to prove themselves innocent. Successfully proving to the judge that they possessed originality, love for their organization, and completion of a difficult task the SGRHOS were set free.

Bragging rights, a trophy and a \$1,000 check was given to the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. for ranking the highest amongst the judges.

Howard said the funds will be allocated to the chapters and will be available to assist them in service projects, campus events and fundraising.

Design by Danielle Tadlock

LIVIN' ON A LEGACY

Greek legacies reflect on family bonds, evolving traditions

Story by Gina Volk

Upholding a Greek legacy can mean more than pledging to the same fraternity or sorority as a family member. To some Eastern students, the legacy helped them develop a stronger bond with their families: both Greek and blood.

A student is considered a legacy if they are a child, sibling, grandchild or relative of an initiated fraternity or sorority member.

Kathryn McIntosh, a senior sports management major, is upholding the legacy through her mother within the Delta Sigma Theta sorority. Even though her mother was a member at the University of Illinois, McIntosh is happy she continued the tradition because it brought her closer to her mother.

The telephone conversations, attendance at sorority events and Delta small talk became important memories to McIntosh when her mother passed away Jan. 14, 2015.

"Even when I never thought I was doing a good job, she would say, 'You are good enough," McIntosh said. "I know she's very proud of me and the work that I am doing in our organization."

McIntosh would call her mother when she felt overwhelmed with school and Delta activities. While on the phone, they would also discuss traditions and events that continued to evolve and change since her mother was active. Even though most of the sacred traditions were similar, McIntosh would have to explain new traditions like strolling, step shows, calls and the pyramid hand sign to her mother.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

McIntosh celebrates with her mother after her NIP, or "New Intake Presentation," into the Delta Sigma Theta sorority April 19, 2014. Being a Greek legacy, McIntosh was happy her mother was able to watch her cross into their sorority.

One event that McIntosh was happy her mother could be present for was her NIP (New Intake Presentation) or probate. A probate is an event where newly initiated members are publically introduced into the organization.

"She got to see me cross," McIntosh said. "It was super special. I saw her crying, and she said she was so happy."

Some of these traditions are sacred and must be kept between the members of a certain organization, especially within The Divine Nine or National Panhellenic Council. These are nine historically African-American Greek organizations, two of which are Delta and Omega Psi Phi.

Julian Robertson, a senior communication studies major, joined the Omega Psi Phi fraternity because of the traits and morals the organization stood for, which was instilled in him at a young age from his father. Robertson's father was active in the Omega chapter at Kent State University in 1981.

"We stand for perseverance, scholarship and uplift," Robertson said. "My dad lived that."

Even though Robertson continued the legacy, he said his father would never discuss the organization with him when he was younger because of the confidentiality rules within The Divine Nine.

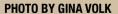
When Robertson was growing up though, he said he saw how well the members treated others with respect, and in return were highly respected. He was impressed with their ability to uplift people through their volunteering efforts, and he knew when he went to school that the organization was something he wanted to be a part of.

"It is the best decision I have made in my life up to this point," Robertson said. "It has opened my eyes about a lot of things, and it has matured me a lot."

Because Robertson is a member now, he can discuss certain aspects of Omega with his father. Robertson said his father has even visited Eastern to help with community service events.

"It has really brought me closer to my dad," Robertson said. "He talks to me a lot more, not even about the fraternity, but about life more."

Design by Gina Volk



Kathryn McIntosh, a senior sports management major, holds her mother's memorial card in her Delta Sigma Theta room March 27, 2015. Her mother was a Delta at the University of Illinois, making McIntosh a Greek legacy. McIntosh's mother passed away Jan. 14, 2015, so she was happy she upheld the legacy because it created a stronger bond with her mother.

ANKHOR



Taylor Hinton, Emily Manley, Taylor Haugen, Alex Kieffer, Katy Christensen, Molly Toennies, Maddie Kuerz, Lindsey LeBeau, Paige Birge, Stacy Malliaras, Amanda Nelson, Mackenzie Klein, Erin Deason, Courtney Cave, Kellie Rice, Annelise Bradley, Katelin Caddell, Katie Kniepmann, Logan Ferguson, Taylor Badal, Morgan Parise, Sara Bongratz, Brittany Dalcorobbo, Jade Welgat, Stevie Fanale, Clare Amann, Allison Kraz, Angela Engebretson, Jacqueline Spaniol, Lexie Mason, Emily Fadden, Megan Endsley, Jill Stock, Emma Hollister, Hannah Brockmeyer, Karli Mirabelli, Kate Schuster, Kate Quill, Jess Shrage, Megan Hernandez, Kiona Webber, Bree Baez, Maggie White, Ashlen Powles, Kaila Phelps, Hayley Hess, Catie Witt, Brittney Malouf, Renee Taylor, Kelsie Abolt, Laura Trost, Sarah Reader, Stephanie Meier, Caroline Trumbull, Cassi Palan, Emily Jones, Elizabeth Curtis, Chloe Strandberg, Shannon Thodos, Abbey Buerkett, Angela Ferruzza, Ashley Jamerson, Kellie Winans, Savannah Schofield, Maralea Negron, Kaely Cantua, Dena Abdelaziz, Maria Sakellaris, Bri Fay, Lauren Grosso, Sarah Cowger, Allie Bohnstengel, Elizabeth Dyche, Jamie Martin, Madison Harrawood, Bree Hasenstab, Peyton Scholl, Morgan Retzer, Taylor Hatfield, Kathleen Broussard, Mary Johnson, Alexa Jones, Meghan Cebula, Katie Pratl, Katie Ruane, Kerrie Coughlin, Cailin Wilhelm, Allison Doelker, Rachel Hollings

[120] GREEK LIFE

ALPHA GAMMA DELTA: 'LIVING WITH PURPOSE'

Story by Gina Volk

Why did you choose Alpha Gamma Delta?

"Everyone was so welcoming and so nice. There was something about being here that was so different. The girls were so genuine and they remembered me. So it was things like that that stuck with me throughout recruitment and made me decide to come here."

What were some of the events Alpha Gamma Delta held in 2014?

"We had our 'Teeter-Totter-a-Thon' event where we were on a teeter-totter for two days on campus. We have girls sign up for times so there is always someone on the teeter-totter. A third girl is there to explain to people what we are doing and to collect any donations (to the Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation.) If people gave a donation they could hop on if they wanted.

We also had our Battle of the Greek Gods (benefiting the American Diabetes Association.) It's just hysterical to go to that because the guys are so funny and other sororities will come and support the fraternity they want to win."

What was the best part of being president?

"Just getting to know these girls and getting to be a leader and knowing that they chose me to be their leader is such an awesome feeling. You meet so many people that you wouldn't have met otherwise, and you really open yourself up as a person. It has made me come out of my shell so much, especially being a leader of the chapter."



Annelise Bradley Senior Elementary Education Major 2014 Alpha Gamma Delta President

What was your best memory during your presidency?

"I really loved going to Convention over the summer. It happens every other year and they perform rituals that we would do but on a much larger scale. You get to see people who do so much for our organization win awards. It was Indianapolis so we got to walk around town, and it was a really cool experience."

[Editor's Note: The 2014-2015 sororities and fraternities participated in a Greek photo competition. Whichever group captured or submitted the best photo received a full-page spread in the yearbook. Congratulations to the members of Alpha Gamma Delta, who won the competition with the best photo, as seen on the prior page. The remaining fraternities and sororities that participated by submitting photos can be seen on the following pages.]



Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated

Brion McBeth, Charles Dennis, Darien Ghostone, Amechi Alozie, Christopher Johnson, Phillip Love, Reginald Thedford, Cameron Douglas, Brian Hannah, Lamarcus Cotton, Reggie Williams, Kendell Fields, Michael McGee, Lawrence McMillion, Ellis Dudley

Alpha Phi

Vanessa Abraham, Lauren Acevedo, Mackenzie Anderson, Alexis Antonucci, Alison Baker, Nina Bednarz, Alexandra Bella, Sarah Benain, Payton Berg, Megan Botterman, Maggie Brennan, Paxton Campbell, Karen Campos, Gianna Coco, Macy Cornwell, Kami Dally, Leah Davis, Shauna DeLacey, Taylor Denk, Samantha Devoung, Makavla Digan, Allison Divello, Olivia Domin, Michelle Fechner, Morgan Fernandes, Cheyenne Fitzgerald, Allie Fleming, Laura Fontana, Caroline Gabiga, Lana Gammonley, Kimmy Getzin, Amanda Graf, Haley Grant, Bridget Griffin, Stephanie Gronau, Brittany Halliday, Emily Halliday, Amber Harris, Anna Hogan, Katie Huck, Katelyn Jensen, Allison Johnson, Lauryn Johnson, Courtney Kalebich, Kaitlyn Kelly, Alyssa Krause, Caitlin Kuemmeth, Bethany Kulacz, Amanda Kurpiel, Stephanie Lake, Ariana Lueder, Kelsey Miller, Lauren Morrow, Lauren Newberry, Tayla Noll, Kelly O'Linn, Paige Olmsted, Emmy Oraham, Meagan Page, Talia Persico, Alexis Podowicz, Sava Preradovic, Shelby Reed, Tristan Reeves, Kiera Rinker, Jenn Rodriguez, Bailey Rosales. Bridget Rosendahl, Macy Sanford, Brianna Scavone, Samantha Schrantz, Jillian Sebastiani, Madisen Smith, Katie St. John, Kellie Strobel, Samantha Swenson, Jessica Taylor, Marcella Toups, Sara Tredennick, Jenna Vega, Erika Von Itter, Emilie Vrabel, Riana Vujovich, Dominique Washick, Megan White, Michala Wood, Julie Wright, Rachel Young



Alpha Sigma Alpha

Grace Bailey, Alvssa Bengtson, Kena Bocek, Nikki Breese, Mackenzie Bumpus, Kathrvn Callahan, Holly Camerino, Sarah Canty, Amanda Carroll, Megan Carroll, Charlene Caudill, Daylea Conway, Cassandra DeStefano, Lindsay Elliott, Kelly Essig, Paige Fanok, Gina Flammini, Chevenne Gardner, Christina Grossi, Shavna Hamm, Katherine Harper, Monic Harrison, Jocelyn Herrera, Abigail Howard, Trisha Hughes, Kadarah Jackson, Emily Jacobs, Nichole Jassim, Viviana Jimenez, Biagotti Johnson, Emily Kahr, Alexandra Karagianis, Denise Killian, Alicia Kreier, Kavla Krowlek, Nicole Kuvper, Christina Lauff, Chandler Little, Molly Lucas, Elizabeth Martinez, Emma Martinus, Cassie May, Megan McGee, Megan McNichols, Allison Melton, Molly Milnamow, Emily Mitchell, Arely Morales, Tara Moran, Rachel Morlan, Haley Muller, Grace Munoz, Mackenzie Murphy, Grace Narcisi, Jessica Nolen, Elisa Perez, Amanda Ramsey, Casey Repplinger, Nicole Rickard, Lindsay Roling, Jordan Rowe, Corinne Ryan, Mary Sagert, Rvenn Schade, Jessica Slater, Kia Smith, Claire Terveer, Megan Tolan, Ciara Woodcock, Alyssa Young





Alpha Sigma Tau

Shelby Adams, Brittany Allen, Taylor Anderson, Katie Arndt, Ashley Ball, Whitney Bennett, Dyanna Blecher, Rebecca Bleeker, Emily Buehler, Anna Bunker, Mackenzie Buob, Dani Burden, Chloe Burken, Alyssa Carlson, Sam Cayson-Roth, Emily Christian, Emily Cook, Molly Corcoran, Cassie Dan, Victoria Danner, Lizzy Dietz, Rachel Doody, Katelyn Fawns, Cathy Ferrill, Josey Fioretto, Rachel Hanson, Caroline Harrison, Emily Hart, Cassandra Hazelwood, Melissa Hiller, Shelby Holladay, Sarah Hott, Jenna Hughes, Liv Jakubowski, Marge Joyce, Moira Kelly, Becca Kinnett, Jordan Knuth, Kim Kuspa, Mallory Lav. Liv Link, Kaylee Magnuson, Kayla Maieske, Brianna Martin, Alisha McCullum, Felisha McCullum, Imani McDaniel, Amanda Mendez, Kim Merwin, Ronne Miller, Stefany Mogorovic, Lindsey Moore, Devsi Moya, Karrah Mundy, Keara O'Connor, Amber Ohlendorf, Charlotte Pursian, LeeAnn Reid, Kaylee Rogers, Rebecca Russell, Jody Shults, Beth Tomaszewski, Anna Vaughan, Abriana Vesconte, Cristal Villarreal, Nicole Weatherford, Emily West, Jalyn Westcott, Kris Wilcox, Bailey Wilson, Hannah Wilson, Sarah Wirtz

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Delta Delta Delta

Cassie Bangs, Danielle Benter, Megan Borre, Haley Builta, Caitlin Dawson, Maggie Doyle, Kate English, Kaylee Hare, Molly Kearns, Kait Kulek, Taylor Little, Ali Lohr, Alisha McAlevy, Kelsey Peterson, Gabby Rodmaker, Danielle Sanders, Ashley Schultz, Elly Schwickrath, Erica Szaflarski, Liz Anderson, Katy Augustyn, Kelsey Bishop, Kailey Cassidy, Jackie Cheney, Kara Finlon, Kristen Holt, Steph Howell, Cherelle Jackson, Kayla Kistner, Courtney Klacza, Maddie Muskievicz, Alyssa Padilla, Kristen Schultz, Megan Trepanier, Ericka Arnold, Nicole Begrowicz, Chloe Castillo, Daniela Cicio, McKenzie Daniels, Sarah Darrell, Molly Davis, Bailey Derrick, Allison Engstrom, Kaiti Fruehe, Steph Furlong, Kinsley Hardy, Megan Jurgel, Steph Long, Morgan Murray, Sara Ralson, Felicia Rivera, Haley Sabie, Megan Scharp, Megan Schmoeger, Delaney Sebastain, Alyssa Wurtzinger, Chelsey Zelinka, Morgan Beachum, Mandy Borre, Sara Buchanan, Erin Byrne, Chloe Derrick, Nikki Fabiano, Kylie Farison, Zoe Irvine, Julia Jochums, Sara Kordek, Alex Love, Erica Mangia, Kellie Nowak, Lizzie O'Malley, Maddie Pasiewicz, Elizabeth Rapacz, McKenzie Sopoci, Stacie Steinmetz, Emily Suslee, Abbey Taylor, Jena Teragawachi, Danielle Yonan

Delta Sigma Theta

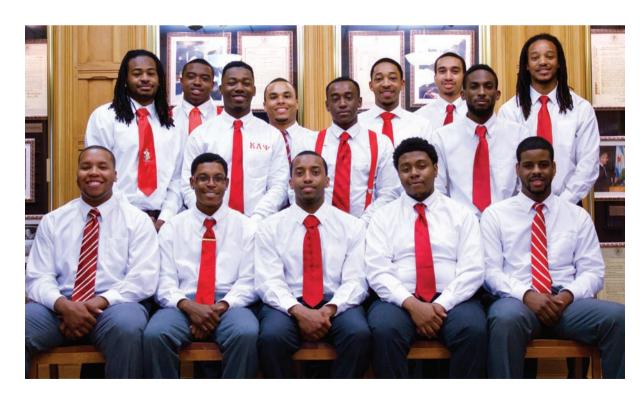
Shavon Francis, Kristen Lewis, Toi Wiley, Brittany Fisher, Kelsey Hosea, Kathryn McIntosh, Javiera Green, Shelaina Reid, Paulette Horton, Ashley Howard, Jalyssa T. Woodall, Gaibriel Wilkins



Delta Zeta

Elissa Antonakos, Katie Baaske, Jordyn Basler, Amanda Becker, Hannah Beeson, Brittany Beissel, Lexi Brown, Jordan Callahan, Nicole Carrao, Fallon Devlin, Jenny Diehl, Tatum Diehl, Hollee DiMario, Kelsey Drilling, Lauren Drucker, Katie Dusek, Sam Ehret, Lauren Engmark, Marissa Espo, Sierra Falk, Meg Fetter, Tracy Flahaven, Layne Fleming, Kristin Fox, Rose Gray, Brittany Gregus, Aubrey Hove, Sheeva Izadi. Ali Jacobs, Ali Korduck, Anna Liberto, Jen Mazurkiewicz, Aly McGinn, Madeline Mirich, Emily Mooneyham, Natalie Norman, Natalie Novak, Paige Olker, Deanna Pal, Bridget Pazely, Marissa Pettenuzzo, Emily Popp, Amanda Schiff, Sarah Stettner, Sam Suma, Amanda Taylor, Kyla Ulrich, Abigail Vigila, Sarah Waldman, Erin Waller, Leigh Walls, Taylor Weder, Katie Yakos, Zoe Zaranko, Mindy Olson, Paige Batinich, Hannah Alvis, Alena Batinich, Jill Brinati, Lexie Bustard, Nina Byrd, Julia Cygnar, Amy Geniesse, Chelsea Gourley, Anna Kolenda, Sam Kropke, Kinsey Lauf, Erica Lucash, Emily Malone, Jenna Moniger, Emmy Peck, Bailev Regalado, Rachel Rietveld, Jenna Rossi, Katelyn Sass, Emily Schlitter, Alexis Schubert, Meg Shudrowitz, Chaney Thomas, Carly Tillema, Morgan Vacala, Libby Walls





Kappa Alpha Psi

Kahmal Patterson, Jarvis Burks, Eric Echols, Rosevelt Smith, Brandon Ross, Marcus Curtis, Jermone Montgomery, Orlando Thomas, Jalin Rose, Cyle Colbert, Malcolm Jackson



Kappa Delta

Melanie Kaderabek, Emily Adair, Bridget DeLaurentis, Katie Colletti, Kelcev Bruen, Annie Gorman, Molly Newland, Allison Dart, Deanna Schumacher, Carly Bell, Hannah Saey, Madeline Blue, Kaelin Kwiatkowski, Jenna Mallaney, Meg Miller, Katelyn Murphy, Lindsay Pushala, Devon Sacramento, Lauren Schaffer, Samantha Sheelv, Nicolette Troja, Marybeth Xenakis, Danielle Pincente, Morgan Andreoni, Callie Beck, Ariel File, Bridgette Hearn, Carrie Johnsen, Heather Murphy, Jenna Santacaterina, Taylor Schumacher, Francesca Simoncelli, Christine St. Louis, Kelly Svoboda, Chevney Tschopp, Hannah Yarnell, Kelly Colletti, Ashley Renkor, Stephanie Blessman, Sarah Creasor, Cheyenne Creek, Athenamarie Demeros, Nancy Diaz, Taylor Huerta, Rebecca Jambrone, Jade Mallaney, Marissa Mesnard, Jess Munkvold, Jamie Murphy, Alexys Opel, Jenny Pierce, Sara Rediehs, Anna Renkert, Caitlyn Strader, Kayla Tutor, Allison Henrichs, Stephanie Lamb, Taylor Lyman, Kelly Neill, Domonique Sauerman, Dolly Shishodia, Alicia Bastidas, Lauren Bayless, Shannon Brannigan, Katelyn Brown, Rachel Brown, Jillian Colletti, Jamie DeLaurentis, Brianna Eggebrecht, Dana Fachie, Paige Franzen, Carrie Gibbons, Natalie Kotulski, Taryn Linke, Alexis Malkusak, Melissa McNanna, Kailee Nelson, Emily Whitney, Bianca Wiemeyer, Melanie Wilson

Phi Kappa Theta

John Hopkins, Jordan Roberts, Everett Henderson, Jonathan Lim, Brandon Stokes, Kyle Cooke, Jacob Rix, Joe Nalefski, Nathan Gayheart, Michael Kahn, Scott Sheahan, Ryan Naples, Allen Potter, Samuel Nusbaum, Carson McNeely, Erik Eckberg, James Bosonetta, Ian Stanley, Hugo Escobar, Justin Howse, Matthew Horacek, Trevor Warning, Chris Fenwick, Brandon Mata



Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Peter Zizzo, Colton Ray, Alex Wood, Oscar Correa, Mark Boswell, Nate Vanmatre, Michael Mullaney, Patrick Fay, Jason Nicodemus, Mitchell Gurick, Nicholas Massey, Matthew Fritz, Jason Russow, Peter Joslyn, Jeremy Handley, Jordan Scherle, Cole Keeler, Devin Burke, Thomas Herff, Dylan Williams, Ryan Wall, Francis Nitti, Colton Woolsey, Brock Bales, Mackenzie Miller, Brogan O'Doherty, Thomas Long, Shane Stille, Brian Lemke, Brendan Ohren, Joshua Maholovich, Dalton Jimison, Michael Lara, Omar Mughrabi, Brian O'Shea, Shamus Shields, Timothy Doran, Eric Benson, Robert Blaul, Alexander Braun, Byron Brinkley, Kevin Capodice, Cody Delmendo, Jerald Ducay, Benjamin Fauble, Trent Gebben, Colby Gerth, Paul Grossi, Raymond Guttendorf, Michael Hinze, Karl Horn, Matthew Kantner, Markian Masur, Roman Meduga, Cole Muench, Ian Nogle, Ethan O'Brien, Antonio Romo, Alexander Sandack, Terrence Shanahan, Bradley Snider, Jake Sopko, Brandon Taylor, Jeromy Warren, Daniel White





Sigma Kappa

Rachel Albrecht, Jessica Bates, Julia Bellinger, Michelle Bentkowski, Emily Bierly, Ashley Bobak, Eleanor Boyer, Heather Brand, Christine Brannon, Jordan Brown, Rachel Bushnell, Jessica Campione, Kailev Carey, Angela Chereso, Holly Deckelman, Emma Diedrich, Sydney Earl, Nicole Ellement, Jennifer Ellinghausen, Madisson Gillespie, Aisling Glenn, Meagan Gonvon, Taylor Gutierrez, Emily Homrighausen, Jessica Householder, Jessica Hrymak, Tiffani Hubbard, Kathryn Hughes, Jennifer Konrad, Kory Kowalski, Rachel Lehman, Michelle Lindgren, Carli Lloyd, Melanie Loman, Dawn Mangano, Kimberly McAvoy, Martha McAvoy, Megan McDonald, Mary Miller, Morgan Molitor, Gracie Morris, Maureen Ofiara, Alexis Parrent, Marissa Paul, Laura Pellegrino, Korie Poe, Samantha Potter, Carly Quick, Courtney Quinn, Maggie Roberts, Kayla Ruettiger, Mary Ruettiger, Michaela Rund, Sydney Ryan, Vildana Salkic, Sydney Schuldt, Erica Schultz, Kathleen Shanahan, Alexis Sheehy, Ashley Snoddy, Nicole Stevenson, Courtney Strole, Kelly Szafranski, Jamie Taaffe, Taylor Thompson, Kaitlin Trone, Lyndsey Trump, Amanda Tulipano, Claire Unkraut, Erika Van Buren, Kendra Weaver, Karlee Weissenhofer, Paige Weissenhofer, Chloe White, Miranda Wigger, Taylor Wilken, Kendall Willis, Alaina Wozniak, Jacquelyn Yarber, Breanna Zelenika

GREEK LIFE [127]



Sigma Phi Epsilon

Phillip Arnold, Joe Blanchette, Jensen Bryant, Mark Carlson, Taylor Christensen, Taylor Cook, Cory Conner, Alex Crayne, John Curtis, David Diaz, Eric Dobis, Thomas Doyle, Anthony Esposito, Matt Fogarty, Matt Furmanski, Daniel Guerrero, David Guerrero, Steven Hamann, Matt Holecek, Jon Jensen, Riley Johnson, Shane Jorgensen, Jonathan Keigher, Andrew Knell, Blake Kukla, Kyle Lee, Joe Lombardo, Jed Lux, Cody Lyman, Jake Morrell, Jake Murphy, Austin Myers, Jake Olson, John Prazma, Steve Purdy, Christian Sammons, Vince Savino, Kevin Seyller, Clayton Smentek, Jack Smith, Charlie Smith, Joey Sutkowski, Cody Tracy, Josh Treichel, Matt Underdown, Jake Wendell, Chris Widdel, Alec Zamora, Alex Zamora

Sigma Pi

Jason Adams, Aristidis Adrahtas, Kent Anderson, Kyle Baker, Erik Benhart, Jacob Benson, Matthew Boll, Ryan Bonarek, Dominic Bondi, Jerod Brummett, Gregory Carson, Kevin Cox, Patrick Cox, Tyler Danek, Gianni Davila, Ryan Frazier, Timothy Hahn, Matthew Hoffman, Chad Hosey, Eric Hurley, Christian Kabbes, Cody Knudsen, Phillip Krueger, Ross Kwasneski, Rene Mata, Greg Muntean, Michael Oetter, Andrew Palash, William Powell, Jack Rante, Terrence Redding, Louis Samson, Matthew Sarabia, Joseph Sbertoli, Drew Shore, Nicholas Sineni, Corey Thiesse, John Tomasetti, Jorge Vaca, Zachary White, Evan Wurtz, Conner Bennett, Jack Bucko, Terrence Calkins, Mitchell Carzoli, Tanner Davenport, Gregory Gilfillan, Nicholas Gountanis, Patrick Graham, Daniel Gray, Cole Harvey, Jonathan Herrera, Brandon Howrey, Joseph Kramer, Patrick Mitchell, Kevin Nugent, Ryan Oseman, Anthony Perrone, Armando Picallo, Marcelo Picallo, Matthew Pierce, Conor Redding, Savas Savidis, Thomas Sliwiak, Michael Sliwicki, Scott Triptow, Jacob Ulas, Zachary Wollenschlager, Francesco Di Lauro



Sigma Sigma Sigma

Alicia Aquilar, Ariel Anderson, Jamie Baumgartner, Katie Beese, Ellen Bergman, Ashley Biro, Maria Bonebrake, Katie Brelsfoard, Alexa Certa, Kayla Cook, Emma Davis, Caitlin Doyle, Tricia Doyle, Emily Duran, Anna Eisert, Autumn Fijolek, Nicolette Fleps, Elizabeth Flint, Clair Flint, Paige Gemein, Stephanie Gibbons, Jennifer Gorey, Morgan Graefen, Priscilla Heredia, Katherine Hickey, Janine Johnson, Nicole Karolich, Nicole Kink, Caitlyn Koch, Jen LaBella, Taylor Leake, Jade Lewis, Abigail Lyznicki, Kim Manthei, Erin Marincic, Jessica McLaren, Kaitlyn Millsaps, Nicole Moszur, Brianna Murphy, Briana Nevius, Beth Niemerg, Brittany Norris, Cortney Oneil, Alexia Perez, Emilie Pfeiffer, Shelby Phipps, Kayla Poole, Josie Ralph, Taylor Reardon, Holly Robisch, Katie Rodriguez, Yazmin Rodriguez, Elizabeth Romang, Rylie Rottman, Alexis Schilling, Kiernan Schock, Kristen Schuette, Katharine Schwarz, Olivia Scordato, Lauren Shelton, Candace Shepard, Nicki Shriver, Catharine Smiles, Jen Spiller, Megan Spillers, Brittney Stepanek, Alysa Stercay, Jenna Stokes, Jackie Swanson, Haley Vance, Emily Walker, Mariah Wallace, Jessica Wills, Kaitlyn Zoller, Olivia Garrett, Lauren Engel, Bri Demarco, Katlyn Payne, Renee Matthews, Rachel Rodgers, Angela Schramer, Maddie Sheley, Jaycey Vedder



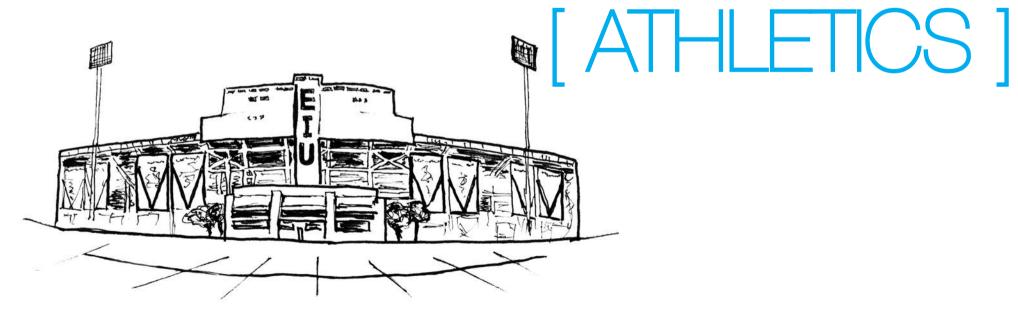


Zeta Phi Beta

Diamond Robinson, Kristina Graves, Jessica Stallworth, Jordan Parker, Teandra Armstrong, Danisha Campbell, Jasmine Parks, De Lorean Cameron, Tenia Collins, April Donaly, Melanie Dyer, Allyssa Grayson, Tyriana Hayes, Laia Hill, DeShawnte Mackmore, Breanna Young, Kayla Jackson, Ananysha Montague, Maliya Smith, Majarrie Marshall, Shringalah Webb, Yolanda Williams (adviser)







Scoring the perfect grade Students balance schedules for athletics, academics

Story by Sean Hastings

Student-athletes attend Eastern to earn degrees. Athletics is just an added bonus.

Even though they spend the majority of their time with athletics, they are also dealing with school.

Nick Smith, a junior biology pre-medicine major, is on the men's soccer team at Eastern and excels at his sport, but more importantly excels in the classroom.

Smith was named to the Eastern dean's list in the spring of 2014.

With his busy time in soccer, Smith has to balance his time between his schoolwork and his athletics.

"The hardest part about being a student-athlete is the time management, juggling your student life with your athletic life and to make sure you hit deadlines with everything," Smith said.

Student-athletes have to manage their time well, and they have to be able to work around the long hours they put into their sport.

Smith manages his time by making schedules each day for what he needs to get done. When he

is finished with a particular task, he crosses it off the list.

Smith says it is really easy to get stressed out and fall behind.

"If I can follow my plan, it keeps me sane and nothing goes wrong," Smith said.

Smith spends about four hours a day studying and will divide the classes he needs to study for. Usually he will try to spend one hour on each subject.

Kylie Bennett also excels in both her sport and in the classroom; she is a junior softball player with a major in communication disorders and sciences.

Even though Bennett spends most of her time with softball, she still keeps a 4.0 GPA, and there is a challenge that comes with that.

"You have to study for your tests super in advance," Bennett said. "You don't know if a test is going to change and you have to be flexible with everything else. You have to plan around the sport."

Bennett is busy with games, practices and workouts, studying during whatever free time she has.

Bennett will usually spend 10 hours a week studying.

Like Smith, Bennett also makes schedules for what she has to do each day to make sure she gets her work done. She makes the list to help manage her time better.

If the students can't do it all on their own, they get help from Cindy Miller, director of academic services for student-athletes.

Miller has been at Eastern for 19 years, 15 of which she has been working with student-athletes to help them with their schedules, and also making sure those schedules do not conflict with their sports schedules.

Miller also sets up tutors and study tables for any student-athlete who needs help with schoolwork.

Eastern has 450 student-athletes that Miller and her staff has to manage throughout the school year. She said it is not the easiest of tasks.

"It's hard to manage so many students," Miller said. "There are a lot of hats we wear and roles that we play."

Design by Gina Volk



[132] ATHLETICS

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Nick Smith, a junior biology pre-medicine major, studies for finals in Booth Library Dec. 15, 2014. Smith is a midfielder on the men's soccer team, but he is also a dedicated student. He was named to the dean's list in the spring of 2014.

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PHOTO BY CAYLA MAURER Senior Reynae Hutchinson earned All-OVC recognition as a dual-sport member of the EIU volleyball and softball team. She finished the season with six career sac flies, a new program record.

Covering all the bases

Multisport athlete leads softball team in home runs, stolen bases

Story by Kaz Darzinskis

One issue that faces all college students is how to manage time effectively.

For senior softball player Reynae Hutchinson, this takes on a new meaning. For the past four years she has competed in two sports, volleyball and softball.

This has consumed much of her time during her tenure at Eastern where she has excelled in all three phases of her college career: academically as a mathematics major, athletically and personally.

On the softball field this season Hutchinson is leading the team with seven home runs and 37 runs batted in. She is also tied for second on the team this season in batting average at .329.

Her success at the plate has also translated in the field as she has been versatile for Panther softball coach Angie Nicholson.

Hutchinson has played multiple positions this season, including all three outfield spots, and has spent time at first base as well.

She also leads the team this year in stolen bases, and has converted 12 out of 14 attempts this season.

Hutchinson said her dedication to two sports

- SOFTBALL HIGHLIGHTS -

Pitchers Stephanie Maday and Hanna Mennenga had a combined record of 37-14 with 327 strikeouts in 63 games.

Maday and Brooke Owens, senior catcher and designated player, were named to the 2014 Capital One Academic All-America Softball Team.

The team finished with a 38-14 record overall for the 2014 season.

has been overwhelming and a lot to handle.

"Athletes who have played a sport understand, but maybe sometimes non-athletes are unaware of the time commitments athletes must make," Hutchinson said.

She further explained that time management is a critical component of her everyday life.

"I definitely have to plan for sleep every night," Hutchinson said.

Hutchinson explained that in her previous three years, she would practice for softball in the

fall while playing volleyball, and then practice for volleyball in the spring while playing softball.

This kind of time commitment can exhaust a student, but Hutchinson seemingly takes it all in stride.

Hutchinson said that playing two sports has not hurt her development but feels her athletic ability in each sport has not reached full potential.

Regarding her athletic development by playing two sports, Hutchinson said "I don't feel like it hurts my development, but possibly my athletic ability in general might not have reached full potential in either sport."

Hutchinson said she has attributed her success this season to the coaching staff.

"Buying into what coach Nicholson has taught us this year, technique wise, has translated into success on the field," she said. "I'm not saying that prior coaches were not teaching us, but coach Nicholson has maybe seen some things that others have not."

Through her vigorous practice regiment, she feels like she has been well prepared for whatever is thrown her way.

Design by Katie Edelmann

PHOTO BY CAYLA MAURER

test

Ben Kennedy, a senior pitcher, stands in Coaches Stadium April 28, 2014. In addition to playing baseball his senior year, Kennedy also acted in the play "The Threepenny Opera," which was held in Eastern's Black Box Theatre.

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TAKING CENTER STAGE

Pitcher pursues artistic talent with theater

Story by Viviana Jimenez

Ben Kennedy has dedicated the past four years of his college career to both baseball and theater at Eastern.

Kennedy, a senior history major, has been involved with baseball since the age of 6, but started participating in plays at 16. A friend suggested he audition for a musical, and he landed the lead role.

"I was extremely fortunate since most of the kids auditioning had experience in chorus," Kennedy said. "From there, I knew I had some natural talent and that other people thought I did too. Dedication and practice has brought me to where I am now."

Head coach Jim Schmitz said there are always members of the baseball team in the audience to support Kennedy.

"The team camaraderie is very special," Schmitz said. "For Ben's last play, at least 20 team members attended, which really shows how supportive they are of one another."

Schmitz also said a talent like Kennedy's is difficult to come by.

"He's athletic and artistic, which makes

BASEBALL HIGHLIGHTS

Outfielder Caleb Howell led the Ohio Valley Conference with a .420 batting average in 224 at-bats and broke the Eastern record for most hits in a season with 94.

Pitcher Matt Borens, recently drafted by the New York Yankees, had a record of 6-4 with a 3.39 earned run average in 109 innings pitched.

Senior pitcher Troy Barton finished with an ERA of 3.2 in 24 appearances, 39 1/3 innings pitched and had eight saves on the year.

him incredibly versatile," Schmitz said. "He has a kind of confidence that we as coaches look for while recruiting, and that's why we chose Ben."

Kennedy said the support of his team members is important to him when it comes to theater.

"My team members have been incredibly

supportive," Kennedy said. "At least half the team comes to every show. They took up the whole first row at the last play and it was a very touching sentiment."

Assistant coach Jason Anderson said Kennedy's involvement in both baseball and theater has not affected his performance in baseball, because he puts in a lot of work in order to fit both of his passions in his schedule.

"I couldn't be more impressed with the talent he shows on stage and on the field," Anderson said.

Balancing schoolwork, baseball and theater can become difficult as time conflicts can sometimes occur, Kennedy said.

"I plan very well, but sometimes baseball, class and theater interfere," he said. "Luckily, all fields understand my situation. When theater is going, I have 12-hour days and events overlap sometimes. My day consists of lifting, stretching with an athletic trainer, class, baseball practice, rehearsal, then by 9 p.m. or so, I start on homework."

Design by Megan Ivey

ATHLETICS [137]

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK Ryan and Daniel Hughes, freshmen pre-business marketing majors, show off their EIU golf apparel on May 5, 2014. They were born in Wisconsin and they accepted scholarships to Eastern together to turn the golf program around.

TWINS TO THE TEE

Hughes brothers improve the future of Eastern golf program

Story by Blake Nash

When twin brothers Ryan and Daniel Hughes arrived at Eastern this fall, they vowed to turn around the school's struggling golf program.

Their high school, Cedarburg High in Wisconsin, also had a struggling program, which the two turned around during their four years.

Despite golf being an individualistic sport, they know it will take a tremendous team effort to get to the top of the mountain.

"For each individual tournament, five kids are usually invited to compete, with the top four scores counting for overall points," Ryan said.

Both have had plenty of opportunities in the past to feed off each other's emotions. Growing up, both played plenty of sports including basketball, baseball, air hockey and football. Playing competitive sports and growing up in the same household resulted in a few altercations.

"Really it's like being with any other brother," Daniel said. "You're going to have your ups and downs, but college has been more different."

Both got into golf following one too many injuries in their other physical sports.

"We got into golf after we had the exact same knee surgery, at the same time," Ryan said.

Golf was more fun and relaxing, and they both decided to invest their futures in the peaceful sport.

GOLF HIGHLIGHTS

Senior Tiffany Wolf finished her season with an average score of 83.5, and had one top-20 finish.

The women's best round came in the Indiana State Spring Invitational, where the team shot a total of 95 strokes over par.

Austin Sproles finished his season with an average score of 76.4 and had a top five finish this season.

The teams' best finish came in the OVC championship, coming in 7th place.

"That was tough on our parents emotionally and financially, so we devoted our time to golf from then on," Daniel said.

Eastern's golf coach Mike Moncel recruited the two out of high school, though they weren't set on going to the same school.

"We originally planned on attending separate schools, but that didn't work out," Ryan said.

Moncel seized the opportunity on their hesitation, and offered them scholarships.

"Coach Moncel knows the game, analogies,

plus he's fun and easy going," Ryan said. "The campus is amazing too."

Daniel said the pair enjoys the social atmosphere of a small school like Eastern.

"We were also recruited by Evansville and other small schools in Wisconsin, like UW-Platteville and Milwaukee, but our team is very close so we couldn't be any happier," Daniel said.

Ryan admitted this year was a little intimidating. "We were one of the few freshman to compete at the OVC championships on a PGA tour-sized golf course," he said.

"We walked in having competed on 6,600 yard courses in high school, to having to compete on 7,200 yards," Daniel said.

As they look toward the future, both want to raise the public's interest in the school's program.

"It would be great if we could host our own tournaments in our own state," Daniel said. "But to do that we have to start winning tournaments."

Both claim that lack of interest on campus relates to most people not understanding the game.

"It's hard to create interest because we travel all the time, also people just don't understand golf," Ryan said.

"We can get family and friends to come, but most people here don't even realize that Eastern has a golf team," Daniel said.

Design by Gina Volk

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

David Constantinescu, a junior pre-medicine major, represents Romania, America and Canada on Eastern's Rex Darling Courts. Constantinescu was born in Romania and moved to Canada when he was 2 years old. He wanted to come to America to play tennis, and decided on Eastern because of the pre-medicine program.

Diversity on the Court International tennis players make Eastern their home

Story by Bob Reynolds

The Eastern tennis program has players from all over the world, and they see this diversity as a strength for their team.

Director of tennis and women's coach John Blackburn, who has been with the team for nine years, said the diversity among the two teams allows his players to see tennis and life from different perspectives.

"It makes us more diverse in our approach to all things," he said. "I think it is a big positive for players to learn about and experience other cultures."

Apart from the men struggling this season with a 7-10 record and the women having an 11-6 record, Blackburn said both teams have bonded extremely well.

"They come from all over the United States and world," he said. "I think our diversity is our strength. The fact that they all don't come from one place encourages them to reach out to others."

David Constantinescu, a junior pre-medicine major, is one of six players from across the globe on the two teams and has lived in multiple parts of the world throughout his life.

Despite being from Port Elgin, Ontario, Canada, Constantinescu was born in Romania and moved to Canada when he was 2 years old.

Also, he and his parents are the only parts of his

TENNIS HIGHLIGHTS

Women finished with a record of 11-6 last season and 5-5 in the Ohio Valley Conference.

Janelle Prisner and Sephora Boulbahaiem finished with a doubles record of 12-3 last season and 6-2 in conference.

Men finished with a 7-10 record overall and were 4-5 in conference.

The doubles tandem of Grant Thompson and Moritz Kandt finished 5-1 overall.

family to live in Canada, as the rest live in Romania.

Constantinescu was recruited to play tennis three years ago and said the reason he wanted to come here was the opportunity to play Division I Athletics.

"Eastern Illinois out of all schools seemed to be the best fit when they recruited me," he said. "Canadian sports are not nearly as big as NCAA sports. I wanted the opportunity to study at a school with a solid program that would help me get into medical school." He added that Canadian schools did not give out scholarships at most schools, especially for tennis, so he wanted to be in school and play tennis at the highest level that he could.

Cultural wise, Constantinescu said he has not had a hard time adjusting to the United States as the difference between cultures is the fact that Canada has Double Big Macs and McDonald's in the United States does not.

Women's tennis player Sephora Boulbahaiem, who got to Eastern in the fall of 2011, actually did not move from the United States.

"I just go to college here and I am planning on graduating at EIU," she said.

Boulbahaiem, who is from Zonhoven, Belgium, said she had a fun time adjusting to the culture in the United States as it was not all that new to her and not tough at all.

She added the hardest part about being away from home was a way to figure out how to be independent and pay for bills, cook her own food and do laundry.

Other players from the tennis team that are from around the world, are Mariah Moshteva from Bulgaria, Ryan Henderson from New Zealand, Moritz Kandt from Germany and Rui Silva from Portugal.

Design by Pablo Ramirez

RUNNING ON FAITH Track runner breaks records, values Christian beliefs

Story by Mark Shanahan

Junior middle distance runner Kristen Paris is breaking records in indoor and outdoor track, but she is more proud of her relationship with God.

She put her name in the record book three times this past indoor season. She is third in school history in the 800 meters, fifth in the mile run and fifth in the 4x400 meter relay.

Paris said she sees her values within Christianity as more than just a religion, but a true relationship with God. She believes this relationship has helped her find her passions in life.

"I feel like God has gotten me where I am today," she said. "I don't know if I would have certain passions to do certain things. I feel like I was blessed with a gift and I want to use it to my full potential."

Her dad is someone who has told her about the gift she has been given.

"My dad always talks to me about when you find out about a gift you have been given you don't want to just forget about it or just waste it," she said.

Paris made the choice to be a Christian on her own, but she had some influence from her family. She said Christianity has helped her through tough times. "I grew up with it, yes, but the choice was ultimately mine and I don't know where I'd be without it," she said. "I had some trouble in the beginning of the year and little things kept not working out and I knew I just had to wait it out and that I was just going through a little storm."

Even though Paris said she can usually open up to most people, Paris would confide in her youth pastor in her hometown when she was struggling.

Now that she is attending Eastern, she found guidance through her participation on campus and at the Christian Campus House.

"I go to CCH on Sundays and they have life groups and I'm a part of that too," she said. "It's been really helpful at making sure I stay on track."

Paris will mostly be competing in the 1,500 meters, 800 meters and the 4x400 meter relay with opportunities in the 4x800 meter relay and the distance medley relay at some of the bigger relay meets, according to head coach Tom Akers.

"She has her sights set on going after some school records there," Akers said.

Paris currently is in sixth place in school history in the 800 meters for outdoor track.

Design by Gina Volk

TRACK HIGHLIGHTS

Sophomore middle distance runner Riley McInerney took first place at the Ohio Valley Conference meet in the mile with a time of 4 minutes, 12.84 seconds.

Junior sprinter Norvel Mohammed placed second in the Eastern record book in the 400 meters with a time of 47.05 seconds.

Junior pole-vaulter Annemarie Read placed second at the OVC meet in pole vault with a height of 11 feet, 6.25 inches.

Distance runner Jordan Wallace placed first in the Eastern record book with a time of 9:43.13 in the 3,000 meters.

The women's track team won first place in the OVC meet, and the men's team came in second place.



PHOTO BY DANIELLE TADLOCK Paris runs the 800 meters during the OVC Conference meet Feb. 28, 2015. Paris placed third in the event with a time of 2:12.84.



PHOTO BY DANIELLE TADLOCK

Paris, a member of the Christian Campus House, reads from her Bible in her apartment March 27, 2015. Paris said she gives all of the credit to God before and after she races.

PHOTO BY DANIELLE TADLOCK

odzero

Kristen Paris, a junior kinesiology and sports studies major, collapses into coach Tom Akers' arms after finishing the 800 meters at the OVC Conference meet Feb. 28, 2015. Paris finished the meet with a third place medal for both the 800 and 1,600 meters.

PHOTO BY CHYNNA MILLER

Jalen Whitlow, a junior quarterback, looks for an open Panther receiver during the Homecoming matchup against Tennessee State Oct. 25, 2014, at O'Brien Field. Whitlow threw for 2,075 yards and 15 touchdowns in his first season at Eastern. He also ran for 792 yards and 12 touchdowns, which was second best on the team.

EASTERNILLINGS

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EASTER

Finding a new home Transfer quarterback fights for starting position

Story by Aldo Soto

Following 15 starts during the course of two years at the University of Kentucky, Jalen Whitlow entered spring practice in Lexington, uncertain of his role under coach Mark Stoops. However, it didn't take long for the quarterback to find out what plans his coach had in mind. In April, Stoops sat down with Whitlow and said he wanted to go in a different direction at quarterback, asking him to change his position to wide receiver.

"I wanted to stay as a quarterback," Whitlow said. "We had a disagreement, and I was looking to transfer pretty much that same day."

His mind was clear. Whitlow was going to be at a different school for his junior year. The dual-threat quarterback had options.

Whitlow and his parents visited Eastern's campus in May. They talked with the coaches and the plan was if Whitlow transferred he would compete with Andrew Manley for the starting job.

Even so, once he finished his Eastern visit, Whitlow knew exactly where he was going to transfer.

"I just went with my gut, and when we left I knew I was going to commit to Eastern," he said.

Manley won the starting quarterback job in spring practices, beating out a plethora of passers on Eastern's roster. He was ready to lead the Panthers, but then Whitlow transferred in May and the real competition began.

Greg Stevens, first-year offensive coordinator with the Panthers, brought in a pro-style offense

FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS

Running back Shepard Little led the Panthers with 797 yards rushing and three touchdowns.

Wide receiver Adam Drake was the teams' leading receiver with 93 catches for 1,321 yards and 12 touchdowns.

The team finished with a 5-7 record.

that emphasized the run game, using the quarterback as a key weapon.

Out of the two, Whitlow was the more agile and faster runner, but Manley already had a headstart learning the playbook. Head coach Kim Dameron wanted to be fair to the red-shirt senior in Manley.

"I wasn't just going to hand the job over to Jalen; he had to win it," Dameron said. "It wouldn't have been fair to Andrew and it wouldn't have been fair to the team. I felt some loyalty to Andrew because he worked his hind end off."

Manley welcomed the quarterback battle.

"More competition is better for everyone," he said. "All it does is make everyone a better player. I believe in competing with the best to be the best."

It took three games for Whitlow to be named the outright starter, and with him the Panthers won five of their first six conference games before he got injured at Jacksonville State. Whitlow was named to the All-OVC second team, ending the year as one of the top two quarterbacks in the conference.

On Nov. 22, Eastern closed its season at O'Brien Field. Whitlow hopelessly watched instead of playing, as his sports hernia prevented him from playing.

Although he had been around his Panther teammates for less than a year, he said it felt like he had known them forever.

The start of the year saw the Panthers go 0-3, and splitting time at quarterback, Whitlow said it was a challenge getting in sync with the offense and getting in to a rhythm, but he won't use that as an excuse for his slow start. Through it all though, Whitlow gives credit to the senior class for showing him how to be a leader going forward.

"Those seniors are winners, true winners," Whitlow said. "They know how to win and what it takes to win. They definitely taught me a lot."

Maybe Dameron gave a hint to who the ultimate starter was going to be, as Whitlow started the first game against Minnesota, but there was never a doubt in Whitlow's mind on his decision to come to Eastern and it was reaffirmed when he came out of the tunnel with the rest of the Panthers against the Golden Gophers.

"When I walked out on the field and played, I felt like I was on the team for longer than I was, working hard over the summer, being with those guys every day, all day throughout the summer," Whitlow said. "I felt like I belonged here."

Design by Gina Volk

NAGIC INTHE MIDFIELD

PHOTO BY CAYLA MAURER

Jake Brillhart, a senior midfielder, has excelled both on the field and in the classroom. He has started all four years for the Panthers, and finished out his last season with 14 points.

Brillhart leads Eastern in final soccer season

Story by Sean Hastings

What better way to end your college soccer career than with your best season performed in your senior year? This is the case for four-year starter, Jake Brillhart.

Brillhart, a finance major and midfielder on the soccer team, finished his final season here at Eastern by scoring more points than in any previous season.

He netted five goals this year with two of them against Culver-Stockton. Brillhart also gave out four assists for a total of 14 points, leading the team in all categories.

Leading the team in shots on goal with 17, he started all 17 matches and logged 1,249 minutes on the year.

He also had one game-winning goal that came against Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Brillhart scores his goals by reading plays and getting into scoring areas.

He said that two or three of his goals came as little tap-in goals because he was able to read the play and knew what was going to happen.

Even though those look like little goals, they are huge for a player, he said. If you are in a scoring slump, sometimes those goals are all that you need to get going.

The feeling that Brillhart gets when he or his team scores a goal is indescribable.

Brillhart said that it did not hit him until after the season that it was his last year at Eastern.

MEN'S SOCCER HIGHLIGHTS

The Eastern men's soccer team had a 3-13-1 overall record this season and 1-4-1 in conference.

Senior Jake Brillhart led the team with 14 points on five goals and four assists.

Dominic Recca was second on the team in points with 11 on four goals and three assists.

He said it definitely was the most fun season he had in his four years playing.

Playing and starting all four years, Brillhart was looked up to as a leader by the younger guys on the team.

One player that looks up to Brillhart is freshman goalie, Mike Novotny.

"Jake had a different way of showing his leadership than most," Novotny said. "He is a player that leads by example both on and off the field. He may not be the loudest on the field, but he has a great presence."

Another thing that Brillhart did as a leader was keep his teammates motivated, regardless of the circumstances.

"He always kept my head up no matter what the score was and who we were playing against," Novotny said. "That helped my play immensely during the season." Novotny is not the only one who sees the leadership by example from Brillhart, head coach Mark Hansen also sees it from him.

"Jake is a leader by example with how he goes about his business on and off the field with a very professional attitude," Hansen said.

Senior day was Brillhart's favorite game of the year because they played IPFW, which was a big conference game. He was also excited to be recognized with his four good senior friends.

As a team, he said it was their best game of the year. Brillhart also scored a goal.

Brillhart's main job as a midfielder is to play offense and defense. He is also responsible for starting the rush up the field.

Novotny loves the work that Brillhart does as a midfielder.

"As a winger it is always crucial that when the other team gets possession of the ball that you bust your butt to get back and help the defenders out, and he did just that," Novotny said.

Now that Brillhart looks back, he is glad that he chose to come to Eastern and play soccer.

He was choosing between playing soccer or just going to University of Kansas strictly for academics.

After college, Brillhart still has not decided his career path.

He can try to play professional soccer, but he aspires to eventually be a financial adviser in either Dallas or Chicago.

Design by Megan Ivey

PHOTO BY JASON HOWELL

Lauren Hoppensteadt, a red-shirt defender, clears the ball against Indiana State Aug. 24, 2014, on Lakeside Field. After being sidelined for almost two years because of a hip injury, Hoppensteadt gained her leadership role on the field as a captain for the Panthers.

Supporting from the sidelines Hoppensteadt becomes leader despite hip injury

Story by Sean Hastings

Lauren Hoppensteadt on the Eastern women's soccer team was forced to fill another role for the past two seasons following an injury to her hip that sidelined her for almost two years.

Her teammates acknowledged how well she filled the leadership role including junior exercise science major, Karlee Deacon, who said Hoppensteadt's leadership was not lost during the time she was sidelined.

"She was very supportive off the field during her injury," Deacon said. "She continued to lead. It was just a different form of leadership."

Coach Jason Cherry said even with Hoppensteadt being sidelined, she was still one of the biggest supporters on the team.

"Lauren was still a leader for the team even though she didn't play," Cherry said. "She always helped out at training - giving advice and encouraging players."

She was forced to red-shirt during her junior year for the rest of that season and sit out the following season.

Hoppensteadt, a communication disorders and sciences major, described the pain as being sharp-shooting, and she couldn't run or kick the ball any more so it was pretty much "useless."

The injury to her hip stemmed off a lot of problems that she had her sophomore year with her quad muscle.

The doctors told her the injury came from overuse because her quad muscle was not that strong due to the previous injuries.

-WOMENS' SOCCER HIGHLIGHTS

Finished with a 2-15-2 record on the season and 1-8-1 in conference.

Senior Meagan Radloff scored a team-high 14 points with five goals and four assists. Also, junior Chris Reed finished with 11 points on five goals and one assist.

The Panthers converted on 3-of-3 penalty kicks on the season.

Her body relied on the hip flexor to kick the ball every time, which eventually led to the tear.

The doctors told her that sitting out and resting it would help with the healing process, so she did not end up getting surgery like she thought she was going to need.

She started her rehab in the middle of summer after her junior year, and then when she came back to Eastern she continued it twice a day.

The types of rehab exercises that Hoppensteadt did consisted of strengthening exercises, icing a couple times a day and stimulation.

Her rehab lasted six months.

Accounting major and defender-midfielder, Meagan Radloff, said Hoppensteadt was a tough player.

"Hoppy has always been one of the most physical players on the team, so we definitely lost a lot of toughness with her injury," Radloff said.

Cherry would add that Hoppensteadt is one of the soccer team's hardest working players.

"Players feed off her energy and passion," he said. "She makes players around her better and always helps players out."

Deacon said that the whole team was involved in helping Hoppensteadt get back on the field.

"We all wanted Lauren back on the field as soon as possible so we all tried to help her the best we could," Deacon said. "We all motivated her to continue rehabbing so the athletic trainers could get her back on the field."

Besides not being able to play soccer, Hoppensteadt had other difficulties off the field.

"I couldn't do any exercising at all or anything like that," Hoppensteadt said.

She added that she is a big exercise person. She would always go on runs and some-

times use running for stress relief and she was not able to do that.

With not even being able to run, Hoppensteadt had to find something to do in her free time, so she started baking.

As much as she wanted to play and get back out there right away she is really glad that she sat out because it gave her hip time to fully heal and now be successful in soccer.

Hoppensteadt would get back on the field for the start of the 2014 season feeling 100 percent and finish the season playing 17 games and adding two assists.

FORMING FOUNDATIONS

Seniors rebuild inexperienced rugby program, win single home game

Story by Bob Reynolds

Eastern rugby seniors Ellen Wilson, Carissa Burge and Kim Youhas left a mark on the program during the four years they have played rugby at Eastern.

During their freshman year, Wilson, Youhas and Burge were part of the team that defeated Quinnipiac when the rugby team started playing the first NCAA Division I series against the Bobcats.

Frank Graziano, who has been coaching for 15 years, said it was a huge step in Panther rugby.

"They as freshman got a chance to participate in all of that," he said. "They had a really great opportunity to participate in that moment in rugby history and contributed really well."

Wilson, Burge and Youhas have seen the ups and downs of the program, including their first two years, where they lost two games over two seasons.

2013 and 2014 were a tough stretch for them, as the program flipped over to a rebuilding stage after losing most of their veteran players to graduation.

In 2013, the Panthers were faced with having six freshmen and a senior who had never played the sport of

RUGBY HIGHLIGHTS

The Eastern women's rugby team had an overall record of 3-4 this season.

Freshman Jessica Maricich recorded a teambest 74 tackles, and Breanna Young led with 12 tries.

The Panthers defeated the University of Tennessee, 31-14, in their only home game of the season.

rugby before.

A year later, Graziano had another six freshmen on his team and was faced to deal with a very young team.

The Panthers lost their first six games in 2013 and finished 3-4 in 2014.

Wilson said it was tough, because she, Youhas and Burge were the only three to have experience and most of the team was just players who have never played rugby before. "It is kind of hard to build off, when you are missing a year of depth," she said. "It's not really anyone's fault. We just didn't have the experience to match the underclassmen."

So for the last two seasons, Wilson, Youhas and Burge had to play the role of leaders, and they did pretty well, according to Graziano.

"I think that was really important," Graziano said. "They all had the opportunity to play with a really good freshman class. If you don't get some type of senior leadership in all of that, then the freshman are working really hard but have no direction. So, it is kind of important for the seniors to take them under their wing."

With the three seniors graduating this year, Youhas said that this team is going to be perfectly fine for the years to come.

"I think these girls on the team now have a lot of potential," she said. "They are really athletic and they have got a lot of leadership. I think they will be OK. They have a solid group of girls that will continue to stay together through their senior year."

Design by Gina Volk



[150] ATHLETICS

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EASTERN

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PHOTO ABOVE BY MACKENZIE FREUND
Carissa Burge, Kim Youhas and Ellen Wilson walk off the rugby field one last time as their senior year and final rugby season comes to a close.
PHOTO ON LEFT BY GINA VOLK
Wilson and Youhas line up behind Burge as she kicks off at Lakeside Field Sept. 27, 2014. The Panthers defeated Tennessee 31-17 for the only home game of the season.

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EAST

Volleyball, volunteering, victory Brooke excels as captain in final season

Story by Blake Nash

Whether it is on the volleyball court, in the classroom or through volunteer activities, Eastern volleyball player Kelsey Brooke has made the most of a unique experience at Eastern.

The fifth year red-shirt senior has become a huge staple for the Eastern defense, averaging 25 assists and 174 digs per season in four years of play. She was named to the Ohio Valley Conference Commissioner's Honor Roll, an honor presented annually to the conference's student-athletes with a 3.25 GPA, and who have remained eligible the entire season.

Brooke has started since her sophomore season and has captured the admiration of her teammates for her hard work, leadership, dedication and skill both on the court and in the classroom.

"She became a starter and a huge part of our team emotionally, as well as playing on the court," said teammate Marah Bradbury. "I think we all look up to her for that, and for how hard she works."

Bradbury, her roommate, said that Brooke is always mindful of her grades, despite having a busier schedule as of late. Bradbury said her roommate has always done well academically, and she is always studying at home.

Brooke, a graduate student, was given an extra year of eligibility following her sophomore season when she dislocated her knee and was given a medical red-shirt.

"She had only played in a certain percentage of our games, so she was able to take the medical red-shirt and basically stay that year even though

VOLLEYBALL HIGHLIGHTS –

The Panthers finished with a 15-16 record overall this season, but lost in the OVC conference semifinals to Belmont in four sets.

Junior Abby Saalfrank led the team in points with 477.5 and kills with 422, and senior Marah Bradbury had 1,378 assists on the season.

Bradbury and Saalfrank earned All-OVC honors, while newcomer Allie Hueston earned a spot on the All-Newcomer Team.

she had played, it was not a year eligibility," said Eastern coach Kate Price.

She continued with her undergraduate degree in marketing and eventually graduated before deciding to pursue her Master of Business Administration degree at Eastern.

Brooke has also been a part of various volunteer activities including a particular organization known as Students Helping Honduras, a student-led organization composed of college and high school students whose goal is to end extreme poverty and violence in Honduras through education and youth empowerment.

The most memorable moment of that trip,

Brooke said, was building a school from the breaking of the ground.

"I was helping to like mix concrete because they didn't have a concrete truck to do that," Brooke said. "It was hard work all day long but it's really cool because you see how much it really changes their lives."

That work has become a part of the Eastern volleyball program including building bears for children at local hospitals.

"Other charities and volunteer work projects we've done involved cleaning up overrun areas by the town square and Relay for Life," Brooke said. "We even did some work for Habitat for Humanity years ago, clearing up leaves and other objects from the house they were building."

Price said Brooke brings a lot of enthusiasm into everything she does including practices, games and helping teammates on and off the floor.

"She's a very competitive type of person," Price said. "I think that competitiveness has led her to her fifth year in volleyball and academics, and she's the type of kid we were excited to have for a fifth year."

During her time at Eastern, Brooke has cherished every unique experience she has come across, including athletics.

"Athletics is a unique experience because sometimes we're traveling for homecoming because we have our own games to focus on," Brooke said. "If someone were to ask me if I could go back and change it, I would say absolutely not."

Design by Megan Ivey

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PHOTO BY JASON HOWELL Kelsey Brooke, a red-shirt defensive specialist, celebrates a great play for the Panthers against Southeast Miss our Oct. 31, 2014, in Lantz Arena. Brooke had 14 digs in the 2-3 loss against SEMO.

SASTERN ILL

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

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A COUNTRY

Riley McInerney, a sophomore from Charleston, and Joe Calio, a redshirt junior from Mattoon, represent their hometown cross country teams on the Panther Trail March 30, 2015. Even though Eastern is close to their hometowns, McInerney and Calio enrolled at Eastern and joined the cross country team because of the coaching staff and Panther pride.

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Just around the corner

Proximity plays no factor in local athletes' college choice

Story by Bob Reynolds

Cross country runners Riley McInerney and Joe Calio do not have to travel far to get to Eastern's campus.

Calio, who lives in Mattoon, and McInerney, who lives in Charleston, said they did not come to Eastern because it was so close.

While deciding among schools, Calio said he chose Eastern because of the coaching staff.

"The coaching staff here was phenomenal," he said. "They were welcoming, and I felt like they knew what they were doing coaching me. The team is here is just a community of people who love each other. It was just a really good transition. I just felt like this was the place for me to be."

For McInerney, Eastern has always been in his blood. Both of his parents went to Eastern.

His dad, John McInerney was an All-American runner at Eastern in both track and cross country. John was also the cross country coach from 1990-2003 and is currently a professor teaching kinesiology and sports studies courses.

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"Eastern cross country has been a part of me before I was born," McInerney said. "Eastern was the first school I visited. I kind of liked the smaller size."

- CROSS COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS -

The men's cross country team finished fifth place in the Ohio Valley Conference Championship and 21st in the NCAA Midwest Regional.

The women's cross country team took second in the OVC Championship and 27th in the NCAA Midwest Regional.

Freshman Maria Baldwin had two topthree finishes, as she came in second place in the Walt Crawford EIU Invite and third place in the Bradley Intercollegiate.

Senior Ryan Ballard had a personal-best time of 25 minutes, 23.26 seconds in the OVC Championship.

McInerney took only one other official visit and that was at the University of Illinois.

He was also looking at Notre Dame University and the University of Iowa.

"I liked some of the other schools I visited," he said. "The biggest reason I didn't go to the other schools is because they weren't Eastern. I really enjoyed the coaches and campuses at other schools, but they were not Eastern."

Eastern coach Erin Howarth had a helping hand in recruiting Calio and McInerney, but thought the close proximity for both of them did not make a difference in their decision.

"Both of them were looking at multiple schools, and I think what it came down to was the comfort level with the current team members," she said. "Both of them liked the current student-athletes on the team. If EIU was two hours away, I don't think it would have made a difference."

Despite living right around the corner, Calio and McInerney said they rarely go home.

In fact, Calio's mom told him he could not return home for six weeks of school.

She told him he had to make friends, because the first couple weeks of the semester are important for making friends.

"I told her I didn't have a problem with that," he said. "For me to go home, it's very rare. I probably go home twice a semester."

McInerney, who lives a block away from Carman Hall, does not go home much either.

"I know my mom hates that," he said. "Basically, everything I need is right at my apartment. I am a really picky eater, so I don't go home much for a home-cooked meal. Frozen pizza is pretty much all I need."

Design by Megan Ivey

STREAKS

Kroca

PHOTO BY DOMINIC BAIMA

Katie VanHootegem and Nikki Peck, senior swimmers, have known each other since they were 10 years old and swam on several teams together before they both walked onto the Eastern swim team their freshman year.

SWIMMING IN SYNC

Swimmers' friendship continues through college

Story by Sean Hastings

Seniors Katie VanHootegem and Nikki Peck share a special bond. Not only because they are both on Eastern's swim team, but because they have known each other since they were 10 years old.

VanHootegem and Peck attended Galesburg High School, where they were on the same swim team and even shared the same lane during practices their senior year.

Growing up, they never thought about swimming together in college. But one day at practice, they discussed which colleges were recruiting them.

Peck told VanHootegem that she was going on a recruiting visit to Eastern, and it just so happened that VanHootegem was coming on the same visit.

They both walked on to the swimming team their freshman year at Eastern, and now as seniors they are captains of the team.

"They were great role models, and have really set the bar for what it means to be a captain of the EIU women's swim team," coach Jacqueline Michalski said.

One special thing they shared at Eastern was that VanHootegem counted the times for Peck as she swam her 500-yard freestyle.

"She knows every single one of my times," Peck said.

VanHootegem knew when her teammate had

SWIMMING HIGHLIGHTS -

Freshman Amy Smith set a school record in the 200-meter backstroke at the conference meet with a time of 2 minutes, 3.82 seconds.

The men finished with a record of 1-8 this season, and the women finished with a record of 3-7.

Freshman Brandon Robbins cracked the team's top 10 with a time of 2:05.86 in the 200 breaststroke.

The Panther teams combined for 34 season-best times at the Ohio Valley Conference meet.

lifetime bests, when Peck was unaware of her times. VanHootegem does not swim the event, but she was there every time Peck competed.

"It was really sad at the conference meet," VanHootegem said. "I was sitting there behind her lane counting and I'm like 'this is the last 500 that I'm ever going to count for her and I almost started crying."

VanHootegem believes this showed how close their relationship is, and that they have always been there for each other.

"These past four years, if I didn't have her by my side, I don't know if I'd still be swimming," VanHootegem said.

She added that Peck was the one person that was always there for her during coaching changes and other people leaving. Peck helped her through it.

VanHootegem returned the favor for her friend.

"She is the ultimate motivator," Peck said. They were both honored for everything they've done at Eastern on senior night when they hosted Saint Louis University on Jan. 30,

2015. "It was bittersweet," Peck said. "We went through so much, it was fun."

Another accomplishment for the two was that they contributed to the team's GPA of 3.59 for the fall, which was tied for first in the nation for all division one women swim teams.

"Katie and Nikki really were great advocates of getting a good GPA," Michalski said.

Both girls are elementary education majors, and they plan to start student teaching when they graduate.

VanHootegem will be in Darien, and Peck will be in the Charleston area, but they are sure their friendship will last.

Design by Shirmeen Ahmad

SMALL FEET, BIG FOOTPRINTS Freshman enters Eastern, record books in 1st season

Story by Blake Nash

Eastern's freshman point guard Cornell Johnston is shorter than most players in NCAA Division I basketball at 5-foot-7-inches.

That did not stop him from achieving success on the court as he was named the Ohio Valley Conference's Freshman of the Year.

His college success includes breaking the Eastern freshman assists record of 115, which was set by Mike Robinson in 2008. Johnston finished the regular season with 130 assists, but added 21 more assists in three postseason games for the Panthers.

Johnston averaged 9.1 points per game this season, while also averaging 4.7 assists per game.

"He's a great leader," shooting guard Reggie Smith said. "He's just young and learning, but right now I think he's ahead of his time."

Smith entered this season having played point guard in high school, but Eastern coach Jay Spoonhour was able to lure Johnston from the St. Louis area, where he was known for his quickness and vision on the court. He was a major scorer for LaDue High School, especially during his junior year when he culminated a season with his 1,000th career point.

"My goal throughout high school was to get as many wins as I could," Johnston said. "Whatever came along whether it was steals, rebounds, points or diving on a loose ball, I would do it to win."

Spoonhour said that his desire to win is what drove him to sign Johnston, whose size scared bigger programs away. Eastern was the only Division I school to offer him a scholarship.

"Size has never been an issue with me in regards to players," Spoonhour said. "Cornell is a guy who just flat out wins, and gets it done."

Johnston arrived at Eastern this fall when the roster was full at the guard position. Smith and senior

MEN'S BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS

Eastern won its first conference tournament game since 2010. The Panthers defeated SIU-E, 78-66.

The Panthers finished with an 18-15 record overall and a 9-7 conference record.

Eastern won its first ever Division I postseason game over Oakland University, 97-91, in the first round of the CollegeInsider. com Tournament.

Junior forwards Chris Olivier and Trae Anderson led the team, averaging 13.1 points per game.

guard Dylan Chatman were returning to the Panthers, and walk-on junior guard Luke Norman also arrived at Eastern.

"It was a tough battle, battling for the one spot," Johnston said. "There was no guarantee that I would start."

Johnston became a part of Eastern's starting lineup for the first game and has remained there since. His father, Tyrell, attends most of the Panther's games, and he is the reason Johnston is called "Little T" by his friends and teammates.

"I've played for my dad since I was like 7 years old," Johnston said. "He was known as Coach T so that's how that nickname came along."

Teammates also call him "Uno" because he was born at one in the morning.

Johnston broke the freshman assists record during

the game against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville. Several of his family and friends from the St. Louis area were in attendance.

His ability on the court has also increased the confidence of his teammates, especially Chatman, who said that Johnston can find his teammates anywhere on the court.

"Lil T' can find us anywhere on the floor," Chatman said. "We just got to move around. He can get into the lane whenever he wants to."

Spoonhour also said that Johnston also helps make his teammates better around him.

"You don't choose if you're the leader," Spoonhour said. "He has a winning attitude and it shows when he is at practice and every game. He's just got a natural way that people around him enjoy being around him.

Johnston played youth basketball with current Duke freshman center Jahlil Okafor and Arkansas freshman guard Antoine Beard.

Johnston has a jump shot that comes with a quick release, which he uses to shoot the ball before taller opponents can block it.

"I try to get the ball off as quick and as comfortable as I can," Johnston said. "Practicing is just a matter of getting into the gym and working on it."

All that determination and hard work has helped Johnston make his mark in the Eastern record books so early in his career.

"I'm happy for him and all these accolades he's stacking this season," Spoonhour said. "He knew he could do it and I knew how good he could be. He just wanted a shot."

That shot taken by Johnston helped him lead the Panthers to the CollegeInsiders.com Tournament, which was the first time Eastern had played in the postseason since 2001.

Design by Megan Ivey



PHOTO BY JASON HOWELL

Freshman guard Cornell Johnston goes up for a shot during the Panthers' victory over Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, 78-66, in the first round of the Ohio Valley Conference Men's Basketball Championship on March 4, 2015, in Nashville, Tenn.

PHOTO BY DOMINIC BAIMA

ASTERNUL INDIC

Senior forward Sabina Oroszova sits under the spotlights on the Lantz Arena court March 2, 2015. Oroszova was raised in Slovakia, and struggled with learning the English language. However, she led the team in points and rebounds per game this season.

LEARNING THE LANGUAGE

International player dominates team, despite language barrier

Story by Bob Reynolds

When women's basketball senior forward Sabina Oroszova walked onto the campus of Eastern, she was not confident in herself to speak the English language.

Oroszova said it took her about two to three months to get comfortable with English.

"It wasn't that I couldn't speak it, my confidence was just very low," she said. "My teammates, my coaches and my teachers helped me a lot with getting confident speaking English and showed me that it's okay to make mistakes, because that is how we learn."

For the first couple months Oroszova was on campus, she would just listen to anyone to catch some words and phrases that were being used.

She was put in situations to where she was forced to speak in front of a whole group or read to kids in school. She said she was mad at first, but is now thankful that she had to.

"After a couple experiences like this, I was confident enough to completely express how I felt," she said. "As of today, I believe people think I talk too much and wish I could be quiet sometimes."

Back in her home country of Slovakia, Oroszova said English lessons aren't very effective in schools, so she had to learn the language by herself. She would practice by talking to her American teammates back home.

Oroszova was recruited by former Eastern coach Brady Sallee, who is now the coach of the Ball State women's basketball team. She was playing for her national team in the European Championship, and then she got an offer from a recruiter to play in the

-WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS

The Panthers finished with a 10-20 record overall and a 7-9 record in conference.

Senior forward Sabina Oroszova led the team with an average of 15.7 points per game and 10.1 rebounds per game.

Eastern made the Ohio Valley Conference tournament for the second year in a row under second-year coach Debbie Black.

Senior forward Arnisha Thomas finished the season with averaging 9.7 points per game, which was second best on the team.

United States.

Rachel Galligan, former assistant coach, traveled to see Oroszova play live in Slovakia. After watching video and hearing a strong report from Galligan, Sallee quickly made the decision that Oroszova was someone who they needed to bring into the program.

"It was a lot like we recruit anybody," he said. "We evaluated and identified. We visited and got in front of her and got on the phone with her. We sold her on Eastern Illinois and luckily she was sold on it. She ended up being a heck of a player and someone that had a great career."

After a long week of filling out paper work and deciding what Oroszova wanted to do, she had many scholarship offers on the table.

One of the first schools to talk to her was Eastern. She built a good relationship with Galligan over Skype and email.

Galligan said Oroszova was one of the first players that came across her desk, and they hit it off right away.

"We probably talked almost every day," Galligan said. "Once she had made her decision, we continued to speak, because there was so much that had to get done to get her over here. We had a great relationship over those different forms of communication."

Oroszova had a tough time overcoming the language barrier and homesickness her first year at Eastern, since she was 4,861 miles away from her hometown of Bratislava, Slovakia.

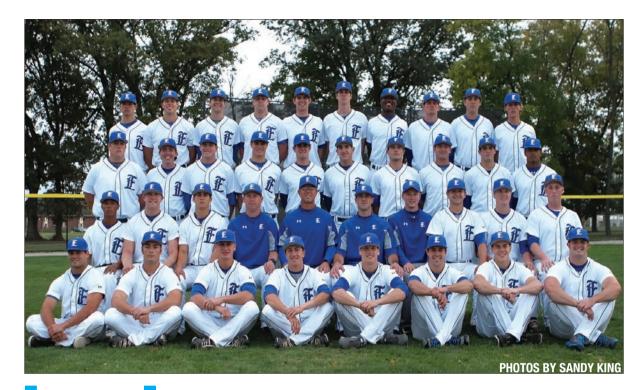
She said she had never been so far from home for this long, so it took her a while to get used to the fact that her parents weren't right there.

"I had to take care of myself and figure out many things myself," she said. "However, I am thankful for this opportunity. It helped me be more responsible and bold, which will come with me a long way."

Oroszova added that adjusting to the cutler was tough, especially deciding what types of food she liked and didn't like.

"The food here and overseas is very different, so it took me a while to figure it out," she said. "I give a lot of credit to my best friend and teammate, DeAnna Willis, who took me under her wings in the beginning and introduced me to many things and showed me what college is all about."

Design by Gina Volk



Baseball

Demetre Taylor, Drew Sterioti, Mitch Gasbarro, Troy Vandenbroek, Luke Bushur, Cameron Berra, Trey Russell, Tyler Schweigert, Ben Kennedy, Frankie Perrone, Jake Johansmeier, Caleb Howell, Dane Sauer, Adam Casson, Jason Scholl, Jaden Widdersheim, John Devito, Andrew Grahn, Joe Greenfield, Marshawn Taylor, Chase Thurston, Montana Timmons, Matt Borens, Christian Slazinik, Garrison Stenger, Troy Barton, Derek Page, Brant Valach, Jake Haberer, Nathan Upchurch, Jack Martin, Jacob Reese, Alex Cain, Matt Dunavant, Jim Schmitz (head coach), Jason Anderson (assistant coach), Julio Godinez (assistant coach)

Football

Jeremy Joseph, Jalen Whitlow, Jourdan Wickliffe, Anthony Standifer, Anthony Taylor, Pono Choy, Keiondre Gober, Joe Powell, Cedric Julius, Tray Mitchell, Stephen Bravo-Brown, Bradley Dewberry, Fedney Delphonse, Andrew Manley, D.J. Bland, Jeff LePak, Ben Krol, DySaun Smith, Anthony Goodman, Taylor Duncan, Jared Pilson, Austin Green, JoWahn Brown, A.J. Woodson, Shepard Little, Jimmy Lera, Will Vails, Jonathan Draper, Reggie Box, Trey Pendergrass, Deonte Jackson, Antoine Johnson, Elven Walker, Robert Haynes, Malcolm Miller, Kamu Grugier-Hill, Trevon Smith, Brandon Ross, John Wurm, Tavlor Kerr, Malik Harrison, Joshua McCambry, Mike Gunter, Houston Angel, Vince Speller, Marcus Banks, Nick Bruno, Andre Hodge, Matthew Eleweke, Darnell Lee, Brandon Matthews, Jake Lang, Bobby Krop, Adam Gristick, Seth Mc-Donald, Jake McNair, Tony Bradford, AJ Hantak, Joe Campagna, Adolphus Barnes, Jared Hauer, Thomas Coronado, Charlie Athans, DeShawn Wilbern, Leon Riley, Ben Jones, Eric Luhrsen, Austin Askin, Nick Borre, Cody Edwards, Louis Vailopa, Evan Kanz, Collin Seibert, Jimmy Lowery, Kurtis Brummerstedt, Nico Shepherd, Aaron Gooch, Austin Cohn, Marcus Robinson, Jack Kwiatkowski, Matt Christensen, Adam Drake, Addison Bounds, Dan Chism, Tavlon Shepard, Horace Arkadie, Tim Wilkerson, Timotheus Granger, Laguesse Taylor, Dante' Bland, Dino Fanti, Kim Dameron (head coach), Mike Markuson, Greg Stevens, Kane Wommack, Tony Gilbert, Michael Hodges, Danny Nutt, Micah Smith, James Truxillo, Dennis "Dirt" Winston, Thomas "TD" Woods



[162] ATHLETICS

Men's Basketball

Cornell Johnston, LeTrell Viser, Reggie Smith, Luke Norman, Anthony Johnson, Keenen Anderson, Trae Anderson, Jake Verhagen, Dylan Chatman, Luke Piotrowski, Chris Olivier, Mat Piotrowski, Justin Earls, Josh Piper, Jay Spoonhour (head coach), Rand Chappell (assistant coach), J.R. Reynolds (assistant coach), Marc Stricker (assistant coach), Taylor Jones (graduate assistant)



Men's Cross Country

Tyler Anderson, Ryan Ballard, Michael Brown, Joe Calio, Max Gassmann, Will Giroux, Derrick Johnson, Drennian Martin, Riley McInerney, Paxson Menard, Lucas Nudelman, Chris Orlow, Mark Pedziwiatr, Brock Ramos, Greg Rogers, Bruyn Yunk, Erin Howarth (coach), Brad Butler (assistant coach)





Oscar Borda, Brian Cauldwell, Marcus Dahlin, Will Drerup, Alex Gowin, Daniel Hughes, Ryan Hughes, James Jansen, Austin Sproles, Brady Welsh, Nick Yuhas, Mike Moncel (coach), Craig Toler (assistant coach)

Men's Soccer

Michael Spencer, Mike Novotny, Patrick Palmer, Conor Bartuch, Dominic Recca, Jeffrey Etter, Kyle Callender, Tony Meza, Nick Smith, Tayron Martin, Chris Boswell, Ben Stone, Eric McCausland, Zach Medawattage, Will Butler, Tyler Oliver, Victor Krogmann, Spencer Filosa, Sean Kirwan, Nick Wegrzynowicz, Davis Wegmann, Colin Rook, Damien Sampson, Jake Brillhart, Jack Patrick, Tim Pieper, Justin Oliver, Braylon Myers, Ben Feltes, Mark Hansen (coach), Jake Plant (graduate assistant coach)



Men's Swimming

Brock Bales, Conner Conroy, Dylan Ferguson, Steve Fishman, Matt Jacobs, Bryan McPherson, Brogan O'Doherty, Austin Parrish, Ben Pitlock, Ashton Pollick, Brandon Robbins, Jake Roberts, Kyle Ruckert, Stephen Truchon, Shane Witzki, Patrick Wood, Colton Woolsey, Jacqueline Michalski (coach), Rachel McGrath (graduate assistant coach)





Men's Tennis

David Constantinescu, Ryan Henderson, Grant Reiman, Trent Reiman, Rui Silva, Robert Skolik, Grant Thompson, Preston Touliatos, Jared Woodson, John Blackburn (director of tennis), Eric Stark (associate director of tennis and head coach), Geniya Vertesheva (graduate assistant), Kevin Bauman (volunteer assistant)



Softball

Brie Carmack (graduate assistant coach), Jennette Isaac, Haylee Beck, Kylie Bennett, Kaylie Pruett, Morgan Biel, Ashleigh Westover, Jessica Weber, Annie Crouch, April Markowski, Angie Nicholson (head coach), Matt Lambert (student manager), Brooke Owens, Ashlynne Paul, Hanna Mennenga, Carly Willert, Bailey O'Dell, Hannah Rachor, Reynae Hutchinson, Stephanie Maday, Amber Toenyes, Hannah Cole, Stephanie Taylor (assistant coach)

Volleyball

Josie Winner, Chelsea Lee, Kayla Nesbitt, Abby Saalfrank, Katie Kirby, Stephanie Wallace, Kayli Trausch, Dakota Springer, Allie Hueston, Marah Bradbury, Kelsey Roggemann, Kelsey Brooke, Maria Brown, Kate Price (head coach), Ryan Sweitzer (assistant coach)



Women's Basketball

Phylicia Johnson, Bh'rea Griffin, Grace Lennox, Sabina Oroszova, Erica Brown, Georgia Danos, Mariah Madison, Arnisha Thomas, Shakita Cox, Kandace Tate, Jalisha Smith, Alece Shumpert, Morgan Martin, DeAnna Willis, Debbie Black (head coach), Kim Foley (associate head coach), Sheri Sam (assistant coach), Bryce Agler (assistant coach), Ryan Gruebel (graduate assistant)





Women's Cross Country

Maria Baldwin, Emily Brelsfoard, Caroline Collet, Katelyn Duckett, Rachel Garippo, Ruth Garippo, Christina Gastfield, Ivy Handley, Kelsey Hardimon, Julie James, Quincy Knolhoff, Jennifer Luna, Whitney Maninfior, Michelle Meyerholtz, Victoria Quarton, Kristen Rohrer, Cassy Shaffer, Chelsea Sondgeroth, Lea Viano, Amy Yeoman, Erin Howarth (head coach), Brad Butler (assistant coach)





Women's Golf

Anne Bahr, Annie Getzin, Courtney LaFoe, Hannah Magda, Alexandra Pickens, Erika Von Itter, Tiffany Wolf, Chloe Wong, Mike Moncel (head coach), Craig Toler (assistant coach)

Women's Soccer

Kylie Morgan, Cortney Jerzy, Madison Carter, Carrie Caplin, Briana Hickman, Ali Carlson, Allie Lakie, Katie Burd, Kayla Thompson, Karlee Deacon, Bianca Navejas, Gabby Charles, Molly Hawkins, Cassie Willhite, Hannah Miller, Gabby Mclaurin, Lauren Rusk, Kathleen MacKinnon, Lindsey Marino, Lauren Hoppensteadt, Samantha Roumayah, Meagan Radloff, Chris Reed, Ellen Campbell, Madi Fisher, Emily Wolf, Chloe Gottschalk, Emily Hinton, Jason Cherry (head coach), Raymundo Gonzalez (assistant coach)



Women's Swimming

Carolyn Belford, Niki Beringer, Bridgette Bowen, Caitlin Danforth, Danielle DiMatteo, Paige Eavenson, Kelsey Ferguson, Jessie Freudenthaler, Lauren Hansen, Melissa Hepler, Laura Horvat, Beth Houghton, Sydney Jarrard, Renae Johnson, Kaylee Morris, Nikki Peck, Fallyn Schwake, Amy Smith, Katie VanHootegem, Joann Wakefield, Jacqueline Michalski (head coach), Rachel McGrath (graduate assistant)





Women's Tennis

Maria Moshteva, Kelly Iden, Ali Foster, Sephora Boulbahaiem, Hannah Kimbrough, Kamile Stadalninkaite, Grace Summers, John Blackburn (director of tennis and head coach), Eric Stark (associate director of tennis), Geniya Vertesheva (graduate assistant), Kevin Bauman (volunteer assistant)

EIU BASEBALL

PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Katie Watson, a junior kinesiology and sports studies major, and Hannah Cole, a senior kinesiology and sports studies major, scream in disgust at their "step-dad" played by April Markowski, a freshman sociology major, during the softball team's re-creation of Jimmy Fallon's skit "EW!" Their performance for Jock 'N Roll Feb. 4, 2015, landed the softball team a first-place win for the third year in a row.

JOCK ROLL Athletes perform to benefit veterans

Story by Cayla Maurer

Eastern's athletes danced, sang, played and performed for the bragging rights of winning Jock 'N Roll but, more importantly, to help raise money to benefit veterans.

The fourth annual Jock 'N Roll raised approximately \$750, with 250 to 300 people attending.

All the money raised sent four Eastern veterans to the Ohio Valley Conference basketball tournament in Nashville, Tenn. in March. The four veterans who received the tickets were Derrick Jackson, a sergeant in the Army National Guard; Jacob Lachapelle, a sergeant in the United States Marine Corp.; Peter Santoro, a sergeant in the United States Marine Corp.; and Tim Worman, a specialist in the United States Army.

Nine sports and spirit squads performed at Jock 'N Roll on Feb. 4, 2015, in the Martin Luther King Jr. Grand Ballroom. The teams consisted of women's swimming, men's and women's track and field, baseball, softball, men's and women's soccer, and men's golf and tennis.

The first place winners were the women of the softball team with their skit based off of Jimmy Fallon's skit, "EW!"

The skit depicts Fallon dressed as a teenage girl hosting a show from her basement. She has guests on the show who are constantly disgusted by the world around them. The softball team adopted this idea and acted dis-



PHOTO BY GINA VOLK

Jared Woodson, a freshman tennis player, surprises the crowd with a rapping accompaniment to the tennis and golf teams' musical performance at Jock 'N Roll Feb. 4, 2015, in the Grand Ballroom. The two teams merged talents to create a musical storyline entitled "Overcoming Adversity," which earned them third place in the competition.

gusted by the other athletic teams at Eastern.

Katie Watson, a junior kinesiology and sports studies major, said that the idea to do

the Fallon skit was decided early on in the season.

"We joked about it in the locker room and during practice so we already knew half of it, so we figured why not just do it," Watson said.

Watson said she was excited to win because the softball team had won the past two years and wanted to keep the bragging rights.

Each act was judged on three criteria: originality, preparedness and "how much it doesn't suck," according to co-host Danny Trevor.

Trevor co-hosted with fellow track and field mate Ephraim Dorsey, a senior psychology major. Dorsey said that Jock 'N Roll has evolved in his four years since the event started.

"Ever since everyone saw how it was judged and how fun it was, we've had more teams create better performances and to be more creative," Dorsey said.

Cindy Miller, director of academic services for student–athletes, said it is important for Eastern's student-athletes to give back because they are a part of the community.

"Students recognize the fact that many of the community members and their peers are supporting them in their endeavors," Miller said. "They find it to be very rewarding to support the community members and businesses, including our military veterans."

Design by Gina Volk

CHANGING THE LINE-UP

New director's roles at U of I prepared him for smaller program

Story by Bob Reynolds

Eastern announced the hiring of Tom Michael as the new athletic director on July 14, 2014.

He took over the role on Aug. 11, replacing Barbara Burke, who took a position at Tulane in April.

Michael played basketball at the University of Illinois from 1991 to 1994 and earned his bachelor's degree in 1993 and then his master's degree in 1994 in sports administration.

In 1996, Michael worked as an Academic Counselor for men's and women's basketball, wrestling, and swimming and diving in his first job.

He also spent 18 years at Illinois in various roles that prepared him to become the director of athletics at Eastern.

Michael said the size of the school, the number of students and the budget is different comparing Eastern and Illinois. However, the number of student-athletes is around the same amount.

"We have to do so much more with so much less," he said. "You are trying to do more for your student-athletes to create a better experience. That experience happens to relative to the program you are involved with and at the end, I want our student-athletes to be proud of where they earned their degree and competed athletically."

So far in Michael's time at Eastern, the Panther student-athletes have been successful inside the classroom, but also in their respective sports.

The women's indoor track team won first place in the Ohio Valley Conference, while the men placed second.

The men's basketball team won its first postseason Division I game and hosted a postseason game for the first time in program history.

Also, the women's swim team tied for the highest grade point average in the country with a 3.59 for the

fall semester.

Michael said seeing athletes compete in their various areas of expertise and achieving success is very important.

"The success of all of our student-athletes is why we are in the business we are in," he said. "It says so much for our coaches, for the student-athletes that they bring to our campus and then those student-athletes are making the most of an opportunity to participate in their sport and earn a degree to be successful after their playing days are over."

Despite the success Eastern athletics has gone through in Michael's tenure, there comes a difficult part to the job as well.

Michael said the most difficult part of his job has been balancing all the information, situations and issues that come through his door on a daily basis.

"Being able to make sure that I don't get bogged down in situations that don't need my direct attention and making sure that I handle the situations that do require my immediate attention," he said. "I have a very good staff that definitely helps with that. I love my job and know that I am making a difference in the lives of our student-athletes."

One of the first hires Michael's had to make was Jacqueline Michalski, who was a former swimmer at State University of New York.

Michalski was hired as the men's and women's swim coach on Aug. 13, and said Michael has shown a tremendous amount of support in her first year at Eastern.

"He really cares about the student-athletes here, making it a point to attend a duel meet and our conference meet," she said. "I'm so excited to watch this athletic department grow under his watch and blessed to be a part of it."

Design by Gina Volk





Kim Dameron Head Football Coach



Jacqueline Michalski Head Swimming Coach



Mark Hansen Head Men's Soccer Coach



ATHLETICS [173]









[ORGANZATIONS]



ACTS Campus Ministry

First Row: Jessica Wallace, Candace Williams (praise dance coordinator), Camille Williams (praise dance coordinator), Lynette Jackson, Ma'Kiya Thomas, Alexis Smith

Second Row: Courtney Walton, Derartu Fite, Kayla Fox, Courtney Thomas, Tania Stanford (executive board), Ly'Jerrick Ward (executive board), Ke'Ana Lampkins (executive board), Donzell Lampkins (executive board)

Third Row: Cassy Hodge, Camielle Freeman, Merissa Anderson, Dr. Andrew Robinson (pastor/faculty adviser), Bev Cruse, Condia Smith

African Student Association

First Row: Brandon Metoyer (historian/secretary), Alexis Bentley (vice president), Lynette Jackson (public relations), Elijah Weathers (parliamentarian)

Second Row: Martina Austin (community service), Shadaje Johnson (treasurer), Andrea Jenkins (event coordinator), Stephanie Jenkins (president)



Alpha Epsilon Delta

First Row: Sydney Rohmann (vice president), Brooke Probst (historian)

Second Row: Mikey Wolf (public relations), David Constantinescu (treasurer), Nicholas Smith (president)

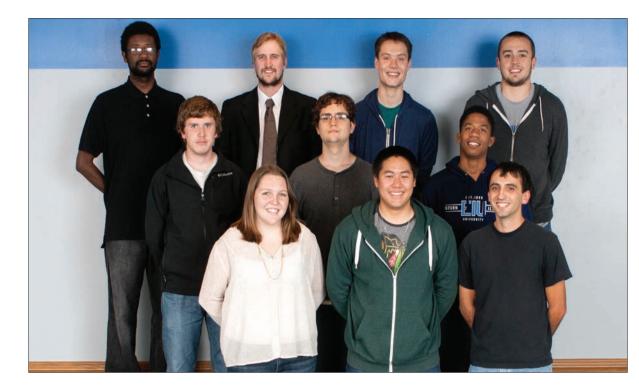




Alpha Kappa Delta

First Row: AnTashia Taylor, LaSha' Porter, Kendra Moultrie

Second Row: Ke'Ana Lampkins (president), Stephanie Glassco (secretary), Holly Robinson (vice president)



Alternative Television and Film Club

First Row: Kayla Myers (co-president), Michael Moy (co-president), Bryson Batson

Second Row: Dakota Pruemer, Conor Michno, Dion McNeal

Third Row: Jason Paige, Ben Hoene, Jay Biggerstaff, Kyle Ruckert

Association of Honors Students

First Row: Olivia Garrett (treasurer), Delaney Killian, Rebecca Nelson, Elizabeth Bridges, Becca Duke, Josie Clark

Second Row: Bailey Wilson, Lauren McQueen, Megan Christensen (secretary), Dominic Baima (president), Alaina Ruppert, Brook Roe (philanthropic), Jessica Helf (vice president)



Astronomy Club

First Row: Brian Wood, Bradley Ogilvie, James Trevarthan (president), Lauren Horn (secretary), Jordan Knuth (vice president), Stevie Momaly

Second Row: Nick Nezamis, Matthew Yakos, Condia Smith, Tom Sticha, Alex Harper





Best Buddies

First Row: Michelle Bergeron (secretary), Emily Fuhler (treasurer), Mallory Kowaleski (associate member coordinator), Meghan Carroll (president)

Second Row: Kathleen O'Brien (design), Chelsea Ward (fundraising) Katlyn Mulvihill (vice president), April Webb (secretary)



Black Student Union

First Row: Angela Davis (community service co-chair), Alexis Lambert (president), Ariel O'Neal (internal affairs)

Second Row: Jessica Jones (treasurer), Karinna Wesley (special-events chair), Astoria Griggs-Burns (secretary), Tylen Elliott (public relations/marketing chair)

Third Row: Alexandria Neff (chair of academic affairs), Tionna Alderson (community service co-chair), Kendel Fields (vice president), Shondell Bohanan (parliamentarian), Salonje Dorsey (social affairs chair)

Blue Crew

First Row: Emily Wilkerson, Amie Hansen

Second Row: Meghan Garby, Lauren Adams, Margaret Tomas, Kersten Kidd, Rachel Dorty, Ashley Pettinger



Bullying Prevention Mentors

First Row: Abigail Schmitz (president), Felicia Green (vice president)

Second Row: Allison Oates (undergraduate representative), Breanna Alt (historian), Kelsey Zak (secretary), Wenona Gierzynski (public relations)





Christian Campus House

Jared McCormick, Anthony Berry, Luke Hearn, Lucas Fain, Thomas Sisson, Danah Himes, Taylor Yangas, Tyler Gray, Robbie Miller, Erin Hill, Derrick Davidson, Nathaniel Corey, Zoe Roberts, Moriah Ord, Morgan O'Dell, Corrine Slabach, Sarah Schahrer, Tyler Parks, Brandon Harris, Andrew Donsbach, Zach LaVizzo, Sam Wheeler, Danny Schahrer, Chris Fryar, Chris Carlson, Jocelyn Swanson, Jacob Adams, Chris Starbird, Brandon Stone, Heather Began, Jessi Walker, Jordan Adams, Megan Lindsey, Megan Christenson, Matthew Thomas, Roger Songer, Lauren Hutton, Heather Peavler, Mia VonGillern, Lindsay Anderson, Emily Adams, Katie Caulkins, Jessica Grim, Kayli Kman, Danielle Stelsel, Baylee Dibble, Holly Jones, Morgan Huffman, Sarah Lewandowski, Brittany Borowski, Hannah Gay, Metadel Dessalegne, Bryn Buckwalter, Nathaniel Ed, Becca Simpson, Morgan VanDerLinde, Jeremiah Washington, Alicia Dickerson, Taylor Miokovic, Maddie Wilson, Michelle Falada, Jessica Bayles, Sarah Self, Xueting Sun, Marissa Damore, Jordan Hawkins, Janie Howse, Rebecca Williamson, Lizzie Bridges

ORGANIZATIONS [181]



Club Softball

First Row: Maddie Smith, Ashley Pettinger (tournament and spirit wear coordinator), Nicole Ellement (web master), Lauren Brown

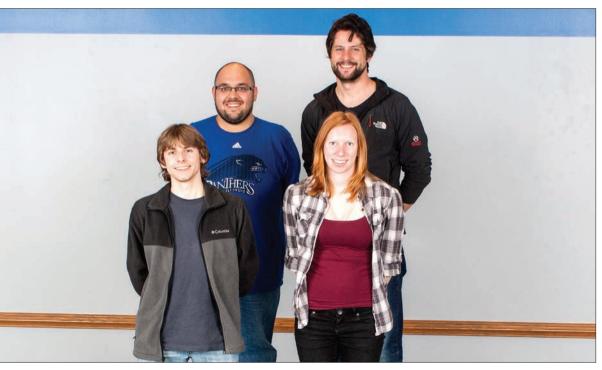
Second Row: Keira Kovach, Sam Maxey (fundraiser chair), Courtney Sage (vice president), Taylor Barrick, Natalie Biddle

Third Row: Jessica Johnson (treasurer), Alexis Brown, Emily Harms, Charity Huwe (president/secretary)

College Democrats

First Row: Christopher Kalinka (secretary), Stephanie Glassco (treasurer)

Second Row: Mike Olson (vice president), Ryan C. Woods (president)



College Republicans

First Row: Jordan Sullivan (vice president of foreign affairs), Stephanie Garcia (secretary), Tyler Gordon

Second Row: Steven Shay Oldham, Edwin Laskey, Josh Staske

Third Row: Garrat McCullough (vice president), Jack Cruikshank (senior vice president of domestic affairs), Kendall Leander, Zachery Yeakel (president)





College Student Personnel Association

First Row: Jacob Deters (secretary), Jordan Stayer (financial administrator), Aaron Hollis (president), Katie Raymond (social development coordinator), Lauren Stehlik (vice president), Tyler Kalahar (professional development coordinator)

Second Row: Caitlyn Buchanan, Erica Ferrufino, Rocken Roll, Caitlyn East, Allison Moran, Nathan Wehr

Third Row: Michelle Lisack, Jamye Hardy, Brinton Vincent, Nicolas Wright, Jorge El-Azar, Canaan Daniels, Eric Swinehart, Sean Sheptoski



Criminal Justice Club

First Row: Amber Taylor, Brandi Bolton (public relations representative), Paxson Menard (president)

Second Row: Shakina Thompson, Brian Anderson, Dylan Mahaffey (secretary), Trevor Bradley

Economics Club

First Row: Ericka Tiku, Samyukta Ghimire (vice president) Kayla A. Garner (social affairs chair), Nusrat Farah (fundraising chair), Jiyan Liu

Second Row: Wisdom Anku, Ifeanyi Okonta, Chris Reed (president) Maben D. Brown, Yagya Sharma, Ali Al-Tassan, Dezhi Jiang

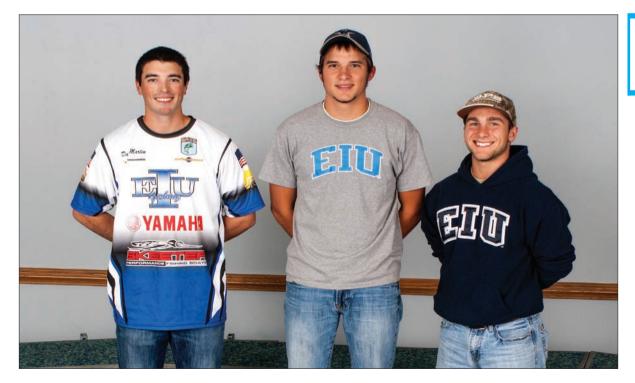
Third Row: Anish K.C, Chris Martin (vice president), James Bearden, Kedar Pokharel, Dwight Faber (secretary), Keshob Sharma Adesokan Kuti, Hamid Lahouij



EIU Army ROTC-Panther Battalion

Michael Ammer, Brian Anzures, Ryanna Bailey, LaJenna Bievenue, David Diaz, Jessica French, Iridian Guardado, Matt Holecek, Ben Jackson, Drew King, Raymond Maroney, Rugayyatou Mbaye, Tywon McCall, Conlon Muhr, Cassie Nelson, Valdivia Noe, Omar Nunez, Dylan Sathchakham, Laura Seiller, Shamus Shields, Tim Steiner, Paige Stokes, Joshua Taylor, Joe Winkler, Dymond Young, Travis Box, Kyler Davis, Nancy Diaz-Garcia, Justin Howse, Avonte Mister, Angela Robison, Anthony Rodriguez, Sydney Ryan, Bobbie Jo Staley, Zachary Steidl, Dalton Toberman, Joshua Wiggs, Andrew Baker, Jackie Cheney, Dylan Doughty, Karl Horn, Chris Kimball, Dylan Koeppen, Dakota Ligon, Roman Meduga, Blake Miller, Karina Saldanas, Steven Salesman, Alex Stringini, Jeffery Surbeck, Darin Wargo, Jasmine Winters, Shane Zobrist, Phillip Arnold, Drew Artega, Mathew Bailey, Jack Darling, Cody Gallagher, Jon Lim, Jarod Pugh, Antonio Romo, John Schield, Gerherdt Shafer, Joshua Smith, Lester Wang, Zachary White, Nick Futrell, Danielle Perkins





EIU Bass Fishing and Hunting

Dan Martin (president), Dylan Niebrugge (secretary), Evan Hakman (vice president)



EIU Equestrian Team

Amanda Wojcik, Kelsey Fanning (secretary), Sarah Lustig (treasurer), Samantha Krieger (vice president), Sara Conway (president)

EIU PRIDE

First Row: Nicole Scott, Amber Taylor, Ashlee Bell, Kev Saldanas (action director), Emma James (social chair)

Second Row: Mallorie Mosely (publicity chair), Jenny Greenberg, Jo Stauder (vice president), Stephanie Markham (secretary/treasurer)

Third Row: Nick Fonseca, Blaise Garstkiewicz, Malieka Irby, Jason Haarmann (president), Ryan Woods



Elogeme Adolphi Christian Sorority Inc.

First Row: Candace Williams (secretary), Tashi Nelson, Sierra Murray, Kayla Fox (co-inreach/outreach chair and treasurer)

Second Row: Condia Smith (link chair), Tyisha Wheeler, Ke'Ana Lampkins (COC), Camille Williams (inreach/outreach chair and historian)





Entrepreneurship Club

First Row: Kayla A. Garner (treasurer), Kimberly Stockon, Mitchell Gerth

Second Row: Jeff Oetting (adviser), Jake Brillhart, Spencer Filosa (president), Kelsey Roggemann (vice president)



Epsilon Sigma Alpha

First Row: Kayla Weihe, Rachel Crose, Alex Borgens, Jenna Dietz, KC Campanano, Jennifer Tortorice, Hillaire Henninger (jonquil), Kayla Fahrenbach, Elizabeth Rumbaugh, Kristen Eggenberger, Mallory Kowaleski (treasurer), Kasey Lindemann, Rebeccah Dyer

Second Row: Julia Parish, Emily Fuhler (recording secretary), Katie Silva, Jessica Howse, Natalie Gulliford, Anna Ricketts, Ashley Norris, Amanda Williamson, Emily Pavone, Emily Brodt, Janel Hutton, Rachel Miller, Marlynn Reuter, Alexandra Sterling, Kelsey Dougherty

Third Row: Shelbie Kearfott, Lauren O'Brien, Leah Holsten, Lindsey Finchum, Tesha Waters, Sha Wilbern, Cassie Bach, Leigha Yeske, Katarina Werner, Natalie Stephens, Mikayla Fritz (social co-chair), Sarah Gibbens (social co-chair)

Fourth Row: Natasha Edge, Thalia Frederick, Caitlin Snyder, Morgan O'Dell (vice president), Ally Sheehan, Rebecca Rosignolo (design chair), Kristen Webber (fundraising chair), Lorena Baji, Kassy Hemmen, Kelli Halfman, Taylor McCune, Stella Drimonas, Kelsie Schaefer, Victoria Gadbury, Brittany Davis, Gabby Orr, Erin Sutherland

Fifth Row: Sara Hayn (scholarship/educational), Jacy Samet (president), Madison Murphy (special event co-chair), Madison Spence, Lexi Dixon, Morgan Weise, Rachel Merrill (philanthropic chair), Kathleen O'Brien, Brook Roe, Miranda Haywood, Mikayla Neese, Kailey Aldridge, Morgan VanDerLinde, Elizabeth Wett, Brianne Horan, Hannah Fogleman

Financial Management Association

First Row: Tia Cadman, Zac Medawattage, Nicholas-Hai Hathuc (club marketer), Jayme Wazio

Second Row: Dominic Recca, Conor Bartuch (club marketer), John Patrick (secretary), Jake Brillhart (president), Alex Myers

Third Row: Kyle Callender (club marketer), Victor Krogmann (program chair), Benjamin Feltes (vice president), Colin Slabach (compliance officer)



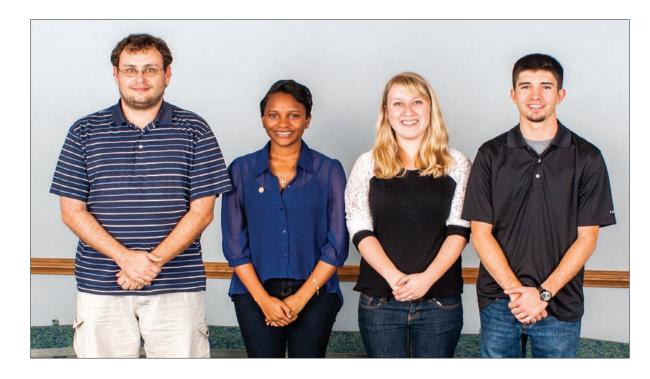
G.L.A.M.

First Row: Ashley Martin (member coordinator), Janesha Gully, Hillary Fuller (vice president), Whitney Turner, Kendall Brunson, Markeysha Small

Second Row: Beatrice White (first assistant), Rekyia Smith, Darneisha Bridges, Kamri Judon, MiKala Baburam, Kristin Jackson

Third Row: Kendall Jackson (president), Mustafa lyte, Janai Cooks (administrative assistant), Krystal K. Moore (mass media coordinator), Amber Hatfield (fashion director), Shaniyah Mayes, Gerald Smith





Golden Key Club

Brian Bourne (honorary member liaison), Unnikue Edwards (president), Cayla Wagner (secretary), Ryan Pavolka (vice president)



Graduate Student Advisory Council

First Row: Allison Moran (vice president of public relations), Jennifer Monkman (president), Rajasri Pingili (vice president of administration), Nathan Wehr (graduate student adviser)

Second Row: Frank Vargas (vice president of programming), Brad Oyer (student dean of the graduate school), Aaron Hollis (graduate student adviser), Bill Elliott (adviser)

Haiti Connection

First Row: Brooke Probst, Roxanne Sorci (vice president), Melanie Jarboe (treasurer), Bailey Lushina (secretary)

Second Row: Patrick Augustin, Kevin Augustin, Molly Tarter, Lauren McQueen (president), Jonathan Herrera



Harry Potter Club

First Row: Monica Burney, Hannah Kelly, Annie Pettit, Becca Duke, Jessica Maricich, Donald Blackwell Jr., Lauren Eberle, Emily Brodt (co-secretary)

Second Row: Ali Metzler, Chad Leitch, Johnathan Bailey, Alex Villa, Faith Blandin, Leigh Kmetz, Hunter Worthey, Katie Caulkins (president), Heather Began

Third Row: Mike LeRose (co-secretary), Eric Wiles, Ross Mattingly (treasurer), Mark Eden, Irving Coleman (vice president), Nathaniel Ed, Bryan Chiaramonte, Victoria Stoll, Jelani Hurtault

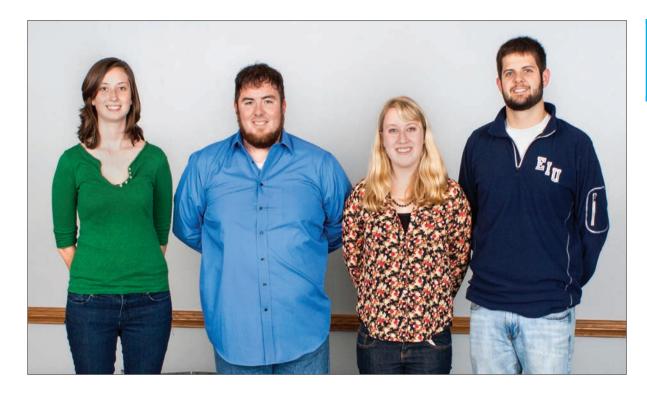




Hello Dali

First Row: Sarah Grace (Moldy Clown) Taylor, Kadie (Sandbox) Peterson, Imani (Yoga Pants) McDaniel, Suzanne (Pink Lemonade) Foehr

Second Row: Mike (Puppy Knives) Burns, Austin (Shaft) Scavone, Haley (Southern Belle) Ashby



History Club

Emily McInerney (co-president), Tom Travis (secretary), Cayla Wagner (co-president), Ryan Lawler (treasurer)

Kappa Omicron Nu

First Row: Dawn Howe (president), Brittany William (editor)

Second Row: Calista Rice (secretary), Martha McAvoy (vice president), Kayla A. Garner (vice president)



Latin American Student Organization

First Row: Blanca Aragon (public relations coordinator), Liz Arreola (president), Deborah Wilson-Wiley (event planner), Keila Ortiz, Arely Morales (secretary)

Second Row: Julia Abalos, Ivan Soria, Erica Ferrufino, Cynthia Escobar, Kaitlyn Dela Cruz, Anastasia Lindsey

Third Row: Christopher Macias (treasurer), Matthew Wilkie (vice president), Carrie Klaphake (adviser), Vanessa Perez, Diego Gudino





Merchandising & Apparel Design Association

First Row: Amber Gilliam (public relations), Tiffany Snead (vice-president), Brittany William (president), Brandon Mata (creative director), Tashon Lawrence

Second Row: Johnetha Brownlee, Crystal Bond, Veronica Simons, Martha McAvoy

Third Row: Aleah Conner, Nneka Evans, Kayla A. Garner



National Association of Colored Women Club

Sarah Smith (vice president), Shanae Connell (secretary), Maya Pitts (president), Kayla Vaughan (public relations chair), Alexandria Neff (chair of service affairs)

National Society of Collegiate Scholars

First Row: Grace Boyle (social media), Brianna Alt, Meghan Garby, Stephanie Aarons

Second Row: Maggie R. Perry (community service chair), Stephanie Glassco, Courtney Gramley, Abigail Ohl (president)



National Student Speech Hearing Association

First Row: Haley Berlett (autism representative), Mary Beth Xenakis (secretary), Maureen Ofiara (program coordinator)

Second Row: Brooke Taylor (graduate class representative), Madeline Blue (treasurer), Valerie Castle (president), Makenzie Ward (senior class representative)





Phi Alpha Delta

Haley Grant (secretary), Stephanie Garcia (vice president), Heather Murphy (treasurer), Steven Wolke, Matthew Jacobs (president), William Beltran



Phi Beta Lambda

First Row: Jason Kight (adviser), Beth Dunahee (advisory board), Sarah Cowger (professional outreach), Kelly Essig, Brittany Allen

Second Row: Brianna Bussell (student advisory board), Thomas Bidstrup, Chris Burke (secretary), Roman Meduga (vice president), Rachel Slavens, Rachel Doody, Kaylee Rogers

Third Row: Jerome Hampton Jr., Zachary Oscar (treasurer), Michael Pietras (fundraising), Andrew Donsbach (social media chair), Brian Lemke (president), Matt Shemroske, Richard Wang (adviser)

Phi Sigma Pi National Honors Fraternity

First Row: Kimberly Stockon (fundraising chair), Jordan Keigher (initiate adviser), Jessi Matulef (regional delegate), Elizabeth Sessions, Grace Boyle

Second Row: Rachel Wilson (secretary), Alexis Teichmiller (parliamentarian), Kim Wetherald (president), Michelle Secler (treasurer), Brooke Probst (awards and scholarships)



Pi Sigma Alpha

William Beltran (vice president), Steven Wolke (president), Matthew Jacobs, Mariah Wallace (treasurer)





Political Science Association

William Beltran, Brandi Bolton (vice president), Stephanie Garcia (president), Shirmeen Ahmad



Public Relations Student Society for America

First Row: Jazmin Smiley (service chair), Chloe Dreiske (co-chair publicity), Katelyn Ifft (president), Joryn Zeek-Lee (secretary)

Second Row: Courtney Cymerman, Victoria Adams, Elizabeth Grubart, Darius Francis (fundraising chair), Donzell Lampkins (programs)

Third Row: Leco Braggs, Raymond Guttendorf, Brian C. Sowa (adviser), Cayla Maurer (national liaison), Dalton J Lind (publicity chair)

Resident Hall Association

First Row: Mariah Weghorst, Taylor Key, Rachael Johnson, Anthony Klaus, Mackenzie Freund, Kadie Peterson (vice president)

Second Row: Thalia Frederick, Chasidy Garcia, Morgan Blackmore, Eric Bruce, Brandon Sanders, Frank Monier, Christina Lauff (president)

Third Row: Logan Headtke, Byron Edingburg, Kevin Lux, Kimbal Brown Jr., John Jaso, Kyle Anderson (treasurer)



Rhythm & X-Tacy

First Row: Asia Hall, Jamila Nelson (vice president), Brandal Miles, Sekiyah Ware, Makayla Curtis

Second Row: Bree Johnson, Tshawnda Kitchen, Carnesha Johnson (president), Mariah Scott, Lorie St. Cyr, Janae Houser





SAFCS

First Row: Fudia Jalloh, Ashley Terrell, Melanie Cabello, Megan-Elizabeth Maybell, Nicole Rosenberg

Second Row: Amber Taylor, Amanda Biddle, Aubrey Welch, Kayla Weihe (service fundraising)

Third Row: Marissa Norris, Rachel Crose, Dawn Howe (graduate assistant), Emily Menichetti (president), Braley Dietzen (vice president)



Sigma Rho Epsilon

First Row: Lauren Schaffer, Steve, Mallory Kowaleski

Second Row: Jessica Howse, Rachel Kinzinger, Ally Kupersmith, Amy Britton

Society of Physics Students

First Row: Stevie Momaly, Brian Wood, Jordan Knuth, Nick Nezamis (president), Lauren Horn, Bradley Ogilvie

Second Row: Alex Harper, Tom Sticha (vice president), Matthew Yakos, James Trevarthan, Condia Smith



Sociology/Anthropology Club

First Row: Emily Wilkerson, Evelyn Bellendir, Courtney Burner, Jennifer Tortorice (vice president), Ashlee Bell

Second Row: Audra Mathews, Trevor Bradley, Sha Wilbern (president), Taylre Foote, Prof. Gillespie

Third Row: Dylan Mahaffey, Sara Farrar, Crishon Gaines, Victoria Gadbury, Holly Robinson (secretary), Jacqueline Mearday





Stevenson Hall Council

First Row: Sarah Hix (secretary), Becca Gervais (president), Thalia Frederick (RHA representative), Megan-Elizabeth Maybell (PR chair representative)

Second Row: Byron Edingburg (RHA representative), Ronne Miller (PR chair representative), Gerard Ganshirt (vice president), Aaron Hollis (adviser)



Student Association of School Psychology at Eastern

First Row: Kaci Clark, Kristen Rusk, Nicole Menolascino, Morgan Eldridge, Shelby Beschta

Second Row: Brittany Morris, Jordan L. Wenger, Rebecca Rader (president), Jessica Berlinghof (vice president)

Third Row: Jordan Poll (fundraising chair), Morgan Nesbitt (treasurer), Kassi Charles, Kari Meyer, Travis Walls

Student Council for Exceptional Children

First Row: Kaitlyn Lacy (treasurer), Jeff Lester (vice president), Michelle Bergeron (membership)

Second Row: Amie Hansen (president-elect), Allison Nemmer (secretary)

Third Row: Mike Paczkowski (president)



Student Government

First Row: Amy Scarbrough (secretary of student senate), Melissa Brancato, Marlene Acosta, Yazmin Rodriguez (student vice president of student affairs), Lauren Price (executive vice president), Reginald Thedford Jr. (student body president), Courtney Sage (speaker of the senate), Shirmeen Ahmad (student vice president of academic affairs), Allison Dart (internal affairs chair), Molly Corcoran, Lorie SaintCyr, Mariah Scott

Second Row: Sherin Randall-London, Cristal Villarreal, Brianna Johnson, Cambreona D. Hendricks (academic affairs chair), Phillip Love (student affairs chair), Alec Edwards, Jamie Murphy (alumni affairs chair), Leo Lopez, Dani Burden (university enhancements chair), Madeleine Sheley

Third Row: Jessica Bellephant, Mackenzie Christian, Kenneth Newsome, Christopher Pickard (parliamentarian), Cayla Maurer (diversity affairs chair), Chris Johnson, Emily Christian, Stephen Simpson (business affairs chair), Catie Witt (external affairs chair), Derek Pierce, Christian Ruiz

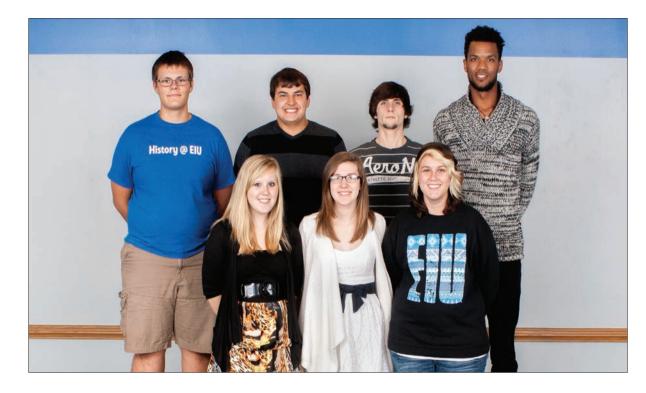




Study Abroad Society

First Row: Brazil Day (graduate adviser), Gladys Valentin (vice president), Brianna Martin (social chair), Denise Jimenez (president), Victoria O' Connor, Claudia Bahr

Second Row: Alexandria Glover (secretary), Lexi Clark, Alyssa Wrona (marketing chair), Phillip Rizzo, Meg Melbourne (treasurer)



Taylor Hall Executive Board

First Row: Brandy Balensiefen (public relations), Erin Kirkpatrick (president), Chevelle Fink (secretary/treasurer)

Second Row: John Jaso (RHA representative), Chris Wasson (vice president), Anthony Klaus (RHA representative), Zachary LaVizzo (historian)

The Agency

First Row: Jazmin Smiley (associate director), Ashley Jordan, Lexi Stickel (JWR editor)

Second Row: Liz Viall (adviser), Elizabeth Grubart (social media editor), Katelyn Ifft (director)



University Board

First Row: Tony Alozie, Ariel O'Neal, Darius Lee Francis (chair), Melanie Kaderabek (vice-chair), Claire Joy Castelli, Caitlin Becerra

Second Row: Tyler Seawood, Lori Knoechel, Jessica Jones, Tylen Elliott, Shelby Phipps, Ashley Eisenbarth

Third Row: Alexandra Sager, Courtney Carver, Blake Berenz, Jessica Ashley, Kyle Stalla





Water Polo Club

First Row: Mackenzie Freund, Sarah Godawa (secretary), Dan Martin, Emma Martinus, Nate Holm (president)

Second Row: Andrew Bowman (coach), Nick Corrie, Patrick Muhne, Michael Mason (social chair), Miriam Romine (treasurer), Fian Mott

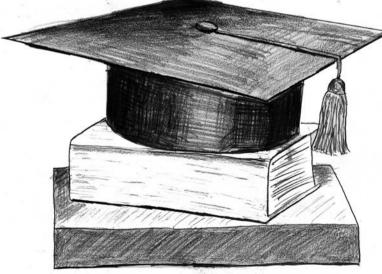








[SENIORS]



Sheldon Aaron | Sociology Marlene Acosta | Sociology Arion Adams | ELE: General Emily Adams | English Laura Adrian | MUS: Performance Angela Akoto | Psychology Jessica Akpan | Psychology

Isamar Alcantara | Recreation Admin Tionna Alderson | Communication Disorders Avery Allen | Biological Sciences Michael Allen | Psychology Amechi Alozie | Biological Sciences Brianna Alt | ELE: General Robin Anderson | Political Science

Jonathon Antonakos | Marketing Jacob Armijo | AET Abigail Armstrong | FCS: Family Services Teandra Armstrong | FCS: Family Services Charmaine Arnold | KSS Kara Atkins | Management Hannah Austin | Psychology

Dianna Avalos | ELE: General Daniel Babatunde | CMN Charu Banjara | AET Kaley Barak | SPE: Elementary Ed Dual Rae Barbre | CMN: Public Relations Katelyn Basich | FCS: Family Services Bryson Batson | CMN

Ryan Beebe | Management Information Barbara Beliz | FCS: Family Services Cierra Bell | FCS: Family Services Diamond Bell | Sociology William Beltran | Political Science Alyssa Bengtson | SPE: Early Childhood Danielle Benter | Psychology





Alexis Bentley | CMN Robert Beuck | HIS: International Studies Amanda Biddle | FCS: Family Services Thomas Bidstrup | Marketing Ashley Biro | SPE: Early Childhood Zakiya Blair | CMN Shanika Blatcher | Health Studies

Madeline Blue | Communication Disorders Caitlin Bohling | Management Anna Bomberry | ELE: General Jasmyne Bonds | Health Studies Labrina Bone | SPE: Elementary Ed Dual Se'phora Boulbahaiem | Marketing Antonio Boulden | Accounting



MITCH GURICK

Story by Victoria Adams

Mitch Gurick, a senior business education major, can safely say that he made the most of his time at Eastern.

Everyone who steps on the campus for the first time has high hopes to do something with their short time here. College is the time for everyone to invent themselves and figure out how to spend their life.

Gurick believes he was ahead of the game when it came to being involved on campus and spent his time at Eastern wisely.

Gurick was speaker of the student senate for Student Government, was student trustee to the Board of Trustees, is a member of the fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon, is in the service fraternity Phi Beta Lambda for the future business leaders of America, is vice president of Pi Omega Pi, the honorary fraternity for the school of business, and is teaching a university foundation class.

Gurick said he really enjoys the foundations class because you get to give students your perspective as an older student.

"I get to share some of my college experiences and encourage them to get involved," Gurick said.

Through all of this experience, Gurick received a position with the Bruce Rauner campaign, where he is in charge of about 25 interns who help campaign for the governor.

After graduation in May, Gurick will start a two-year development program with JP Morgan Chase & Co. in downtown Chicago.

"I am excited and so grateful," Gurick said. "But there is a mix of emotions because I love school."

Gurick said he has had an eventful college experience and has a lot to show for his time at Eastern. Christina Bounds | Psychology Chelsea Bow | Psychology Katie Bowman | Psychology Drew Bradley | Geography Samantha Branch | FCS: Family Services Kyle Breen | Sociology Amy Britton | SPE: Early Childhood

Kaytlynn Brooks | CMN Michael Brown | CMN Mollie Brown | Recreation Administration Mary Brummer | Psychology Isaiah Bryan | AET Christina Buckley | FCS: Family Services Haley Builta | ELE: General

Carissa Burge | SPE: Early Childhood Brandon Byers | AET Melanie Cabello | FCS: Family Services Zachary Call | FLG: Spanish Sel III Danisha Campbell | Sociology Jennifer Canavan | Health Studies Caytlin Cearlock | KSS

Tilly-Ana Ceriser | FCS: Family Services Dextavius Chatman | Psychology Marli Choate | Mathematics Kelsey Cicardi | Communication Disorders Emily Cihlar | FCS: Family Services Robert Clark | KSS Brendan Clary | AET

Margorie Clemente | English Taylor Coffman | History Belinda Cohen | Health Studies Hannah Cole | KSS Kelsie Coleman | KSS Kelly Colletti | Communication Disorders Roger Collins | Management





Shanae Connell | English Sara Conway | FCS: Family Services Kelly Cotterill | ELE: General Briana Cox-Holling | FCS Brittynnie Crenshaw | Sociology Aja Crittenden | Management Rachel Crose | FCS: Family Services

Glen Curry | Biological Sciences Antanique Darling | Health Studies Keaira Dates | FCS: Family Services Samantha Daugherty | FCS Crystal Davis | HST: Community Health Halee Davis | Early Childhood Education D'Andre Day | KSS



LEXIS BENTLEY

Story by Danielle Tadlock

Winning the big crown at a pageant is usually the peak of the night, but for Lexis JoNae Bentley, it was not enough.

Bentley, a senior communication studies major, continued her success by winning Miss Black Ambassador for Minnesota.

Bentley, vice president of the African-American Student Association, participated in her first pageant with her sister at Eastern.

"My mom thought I should do a pageant," Bentley said. "I didn't think I was ready, but I learned so much and I got the experience I needed from it." For the state of Minnesota, Miss Black Ambassador was a position that needed to be filled by a woman that was ready to lead the state for black women empowerment.

"I'm a very shy person, but Eastern helped me gain the confidence I needed to get me through this process," Bentley said.

Some states required that the women go through a pageant to be chosen, but for the state of Minnesota there was an extensive application process.

"It was long but I knew who I was and knew who I wanted to be," Bentley said. "You have to want to do it because you want to do good for the community, not because you want to win." Michael DeMuth | General Studies Erin Deason | ENG: Language Arts Mary Deboer | ELE: General Alesha Defend | Accounting Tatum Diehl | SPE: Standard Special Elizabeth Dietz | ENG: Language Arts Braley Dietzen | FCS: Family Services

Olivia Diggs | FCS Caitlin Dill | Biological Sciences Miranda Dillon | ART: Graphic Design Jessica Dixon | Geography Monica Dixon | Sociology Rachel Doty | AET Taylor Downey | FCS: Family Services

La'Vetta Doxie | FCS Stella Drimonas | CMN Casey Duh | FCS: Family Services Rebeccah Dyer | SPE: Elementary Ed Dual Michelle Earley | Management Abbie Easton | FCS: Family Services Ashley Eisenbarth | Psychology

Jenna Embree | FCS: Family Services Samantha Emery | ELE: General India Eshegbeye | FCS Ciara Estrada | FCS: Family Services Elizabeth Evans | Psychology Jeffrey Evans | Organizational & Prof Devel Christen Fairow | Biological Sciences

Kaitlyn Farmer | ELE: General Spencer Filosa | Management Brittany Fisher | Political Sciences Derartu Fite | Biological Sciences Gina Flammini | Sociology Suzanne Foehr | Marketing Stephany Fonseca | AET







Meghan Garby | SPE: Elementary Ed Dual Stephanie Garcia | Political Science Leana Gardner | ELE: General Monica Gardner | Marketing Kayla Garner | FCS Rebecca Garner | FCS: Family Services Christina Gastfield | KSS



DAROLD SPILLMAN

Story by Kristen Gisondi

Darold Spillman stood out at the Beckman Institute at the University of Illinois, where his coworkers have master's and doctorate degrees. Through the encouragement of his colleagues, he returned to school.

"They said 'you have the knowledge, just finish your coursework,' said Spillman, a senior general studies major. "I was told to go to Eastern because they have a good program for adults coming back to school."

Spillman spent 24 years in the Air Force, traveling to Germany, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and almost every European country. The biggest struggle coming back to school was finding time to balance a full-time job, helping with the Tuscola school board, church activities, working as district deputy for the area, and caring for seven kids. Eastern's online, evening and weekend classes appealed to Spillman's busy lifestyle.

"I thought, 'Why do I have to get a degree, I already know this stuff,' said Spillman. "My stubbornness hindered my coming back for a while."

Spillman likes the opportunities to do research, such as his project on lactose intolerance. He uses probiotics to help treat guniea pigs, rather than using lactate enzymes, which loses its effect as you get older.

"Degrees will help me in my job, but beyond that, it's fun to learn," said Spillman. "Now it's just a matter of where I want to get my master's degree." Michael Gately | Organizational & Prof Devel Becca Gervais | ENG: Language Arts Rachel Givens | Early Childhood Education Stephanie Glassco | Sociology Brandon Glotfelty | Finance Alexandria Glover | CMN: Corporate Christina Gould Communication Disorders

Timotheus Granger | CMN Jennette Grau | Sociology Lacresha Graves Sociology Allyssa Grayson | Pre-Business Management Steven Griffith | Business Administration Elizabeth Grubart | Journalism Mitchell Gurick | CTE

Caleb Gurujal History Grace Gustafson | ENG: Language Arts Sarah Haarmann Marketing Kelli Halfman | CMN: Interpersonal Kevin Hall Jr. Journalism Shayna Hamm | English Michael Hancock | Management Information

Brian Hannah | CMN: Corporate Shahmir Hag | CMN: Public Relations Mark Harames | Marketing Ashlee Hare | SPE: Standard Special Derek Harmeier KSS Ariel Harris | Sociology Sharita Harris | Journalism

Emily Hart | Marketing Threasa Haskett | FCS: Family Services Sara Hayn | Psychology Bridgette Hearn | Sociology Lindsay Hedl | ELE: General Britny Heinzelmann ELE: General Kevin Henry AET









Jennifer Hernandez | ELE: General Melanie Hewitt | Sociology Linda Hobbs | General Studies Andre Hodge | Sociology Roberto Hodge | Journalism Brian Holt | General Studies Kayla Horner | FCS: Family Services

Jasmin Horton | FCS: Family Services Abigail Howard | Sociology Tiffany Howard | Marketing Katelyn Ifft | Journalism Anita Ihuwan | Health Studies Alison Ikemoto | Sociology Jessica Intravaia | Geography



SHELDON AARON

Story by Katelyn Ifft

Between coaching runners for Girls on the Run, tutoring students in the sociology department and attending numerous meetings, senior Sheldon Aaron can be found in Douglas Hall, where he is a Resident Assistant.

Aaron, a senior psychology and sociology double major from Bloomington, started his journey at Eastern when he attended two programs through admissions and minority affairs.

"The faculty and students I met the two times I was here were fantastic, and I knew this is where I wanted to be," Aaron said.

This is Aaron's third year as a Resi-

dent Assistant. He started in Carman Hall, and then transitioned to Douglas Hall, where he has been for the past two years.

"I applied to be an RA because I wanted to be able to help students on campus kind of figure out their goals and be able to kind of be that support system for them away from home," Aaron said.

Currently, Aaron has applied to three graduate schools and is in the middle of the interview process for their clinical mental health counseling programs. If graduate school doesn't work out, Aaron hopes to be accepted for a Disney professional internship in either guest relations or leadership training.



Austin Jenkins | Biological Sciences Denise Jimenez | Political Science Carnesha Johnson | Health Studies Danielle Johnson | Psychology Kayla Johnson | KSS Brittany Jones | CMN: Public Relations Denzel Jones | Sociology

Joshua Jones | Journalism Sade Jones | Finance Sarah Jones | ELE: General Margaret Joyce | Organizational & Prof Dev Georgianne Kagianas | Marketing Rebecca Kalas | FCS: Family Services Kyle Kalebich | KSS

Elizabeth Kastl | General Studies Kristina Kastl | ENG: Language Arts Barisha Keys | Accounting Jae Kim | Mathematics Jyne King | ART: Studio Art Rachel Kinzinger | SPE: Early Childhood Jenny Knoepfel | Management Information

Maggie Koch | Early Childhood Education Caroline Kohout | ART: Studio Art Emily Kolasinski | CMN: Public Relations Vinny Kolinski | AET Brittany Kosik | FCS: Family Services Alexandra Kulikowski | ART: Studio Art Ally Kupersmith | SPE: ECSE/EC Dual





Bradley Kupiec | Journalism Kaelin Kwiatkowski | Marketing Megan Laffoon | Chemistry Donzell Lampkins | CMN: Public Relations Ke'Ana Lampkins | Sociology Michael Lara | Accounting Mary Larson | MAT: Teacher Cert

Jay Lawler | HIS: Teacher Certification Gina Leach | CMN: Corporate Jaime Leal | AET Daniel Lechman | Finance Nakita Lee | Psychology Nicole Lentine | FCS Grace Leynes | Biological Sciences



MORGAN REIDY

Story by Shirmeen Ahmad

Theater is the calling for Morgan Reidy, a senior theater arts major. Not knowing whether Eastern was the right school for her, Reidy came in wanting to pursue her passion and soon realized all that she had to offer Eastern and all that it had to offer her.

Reidy has been in the honors theater fraternity Alpha Psi Omega, the sorority Alpha Gamma Delta, and has been a worker in the theater department office.

More than that, Reidy has been a part of every performance in Eastern's theatre department since her freshman year.

"It's such a small department that everyone has to help out," Reidy said. "You get the opportunity of gaining different skills."

Reidy has been on costume crew about three times, has been a stage manager two times, built sets for different shows and has been on stage for more than 10 shows. Grace Munoz, a senior theater arts major, has been friends with Reidy since her freshman year. She said Reidy has always been the person with the bubbly personality that everyone enjoys talking to.

"Our first production was Vol Pone and she just came up and talked to me," Munoz said. "She put me at ease and she brings out that side in other people."

Reidy said her favorite performance was The 25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee, where she was the assistant stage manager. At the beginning of the show she was in charge of finding audience participation. One of the volunteers was President Bill Perry.

The show was about kicking the volunteers off after they spelled words incorrectly. Perry kept getting all the words correct until there was one that stumped him.

"It's the small things in theater that you remember," Reidy said.



Haizhou Li | AET Anastasia Lindsey | Management Information Amanda Loehr | CMN: Public Relations Robyn Lomax | CMN: Corporate Sheralyn Losito | Health Studies Nakeia Lovett | Sociology Sadie Lovett | English

Marquan Luckey | FCS Jenna Mallaney | Management Christopher Martin | Economics Subhi Matariyeh | ELE: Middle School Renee Mathews | SPE: Standard Special Jessica Matulef | ELE: General Miranda Maulding | FCS

Cayla Maurer | Journalism Samantha Maxey | Management Megan Maybell | FCS Alisha McAlevy | CMN: Public Relations Kimberly McAvoy | FCS Martha McAvoy | FCS Briawna McCall | FCS

Felisha McCullum | Psychology Caroline McLeese | CMN: Interpersonal Kevin McNally | Psychology Latashia McPhee | FCS Jacqueline Mearday | Sociology Jessica Mejia | CMN: Corporate Jessica Meyer | CMN

Rachel Meyer | Accounting Joseph Mickelson | History Brandal Miles | KSS Ashley Miller | Organizational & Prof Devel Jordan Miller | Recreation Admin Kathryn Miller | English Megan Miller | Communication Disorders



Gabriela Miranda | History Stephanie Mogorovic | Special Education Amanda Mohan | FCS Ananysha Montague | Sociology Joahny Montalvo | Sociology Kendra Moultrie | Sociology Katherine Mueller | English

Grace Munoz | Theatre Arts Heather Murphy | Accounting Ashley Nailing | FCS: Family Services Sarah Neill | CTE: FCS Education Kenneth Newsome | FCS Karen Nichols | Accounting Bailey O'Dell | KSS

HTTO BY ALA TAYLOR

ANTONIO ROMO

Story by Shirmeen Ahmad

To some, the EIU Army ROTC is just a program at Eastern. To Antonio Romo, a senior sports management major, it is where he is part of a family.

Romo has been a part of the program since he was a freshman. Since then he has been working his way through all the different requirements for each year of the program and is now waiting to see where he will be placed in the military.

"The program builds leadership and character," Romo said. "It helps us define who we are when we start embracing all the challenges."

Philip Arnold, a senior sociology major, has known Romo since they were both freshman in the ROTC program.

"He likes to make himself known, is very confident, a great personality and a great friend," Arnold said.

Romo was elected as the president of

Leadership and Excellence Club for this year. The group is affiliated with the ROTC program.

Romo said the group has helped him coordinate better with others, have better communication and he's learned to plan meetings.

Arnold said that as president, Romo keeps the program updated on what is going on in the community.

Along with ROTC, Romo has been involved in other areas on campus. He was a member of Student Government, vice president for Carman Hall, a Prowl Leader and is in the fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

To Romo, though, ROTC comes first.

"It's the main thing I'm here for at Eastern," Romo said.

Romo is making the most of his time and doing as much as he can while at Eastern.

"You got to work hard now to have it easier later," Romo said. "You'll live well later on."

Kelly O'Linn | FCS Jordan Parker | ELE: General Jasmine Parks | FCS: Family Services Natalie Passarelli | CMN: Corporate Marissa Paul KSS Kahla Peay-West | ART: Graphic Design Nicole Peck | ELE: General

Rachel Pender | CMN: Public Relations Trey Pendergrass | Accounting Maggie Perry | Psychology Sean Peters | SPE: Standard Special Amanda Phelps | Accounting Tiara Pillow | CMN Danielle Pincente | Psychology

Andrea Pope | CMN: Public Relations Veronica Popp | Communication Disorders Lasha Porter | Sociology Harlei Postlewait | Accounting Alison Potochnik | Psychology Brooke Probst | Biological Sciences Jarod Pugh KSS

Rhonda Purcell Geography Lindsay Pushala | Biological Sciences Latricia Quinn | General Studies Sydney Randall | ELE: General Yesenia Rangel | Sociology Emily Rardin | Psychology Trisha Ratliff | FCS: Family Services

Kathleen Rebbe | Sociology Morgan Reidy | Theatre Arts Paige Rhodes | Psychology Kellie Rice | FCS: Family Services Shaye Riley | Communication Disorders Stevana Roberts | FCS: Family Services Ryne Robertson | Geology













Alyssa Rush | Pre-Business Marketing Devon Sacramento | Management Stephanie Saintyl | Psychology Joseph Salazar | Management Alexandria Salem | Health Studies Jacob Salmich | Psychology Keyhanna Sanders | Psychology



TIFFANY KELLY

Story by Danielle Tadlock

In high school, doing drugs and drinking were ways that people try to fit in. For Tiffany Kelly, it was a way to escape.

Growing up, Kelly, a senior psychology major, had gone to a Catholic school for girls, which consisted of going to church two times a week for 15 years.

"I never felt connected to God," Kelly said.

When she reached high school, Kelly's parents gave her the decision to choose whether or not she wanted to attend church and eventually she chose not to.

"I fell into the wrong crowd, I focused on myself and how I looked to be popular," Kelly said. "And eventually in junior year I got depressed and decided that I didn't want to talk to anyone." She started drinking and doing drugs by herself, but eventually a friend invited her to youth group. There she heard a sermon that she said would change her whole outlook on God.

"It was a big flip for me, I went from thinking that I had to earn God's love to understanding that he does care," Kelly said. "It's more like a personal relationship."

She spends a lot of her time working and helping out the community.

Kelly works at the Doudna Fine Arts Center as the event manager. She keeps track of the lights and sounds for each show, as well as helping out the guests when needed.

When she's not working at Doudna she is leading a small Bible study with the young girls in the Charleston community.

Macy Sanford | ELE: General Shelby Sarlitto | FCS Ryenn Schade | SPE: Early Childhood Kelsie Schaefer | English Jordan Schertz | Athletic Training Kelsie Schneck | CTE: FCS Education Rebecca Schulz | CMN

Holley Schuman | Psychology Megan Schutzbach | Chemistry Elizabeth Schwindenhammer Accounting Regina Schwindenhammer | SPE Robert Sechriest AET Terrence Shanahan | Management Info Samantha Sharkey | FCS

Hannah Shay | Marketing Allison Sheehan | Recreation Admin Rhea Shirley | Biological Sciences Jacqueline Simonpietri | Biological Sciences Michael Skasick | English Rachel Slavens | Management Cecilia Smith | FCS: Dietetics

Condia Smith | PHY: Astronomy Erin Smith | ART: Studio Art Haley Smith Accounting Jacqueline Smith | FCS: Family Services Marchae Smith | FCS Sarah Smith | Health Studies Jaclyn Smyth | Sociology

Jenna Spiller | CMN: Corporate Darold Spillman | General Studies Christine St Louis Communication Disorders Tania Stanford | Sociology Brittany Stepanek | Communication Disorders Brooke Stevens | Marketing Kimika Stevenson | Psychology











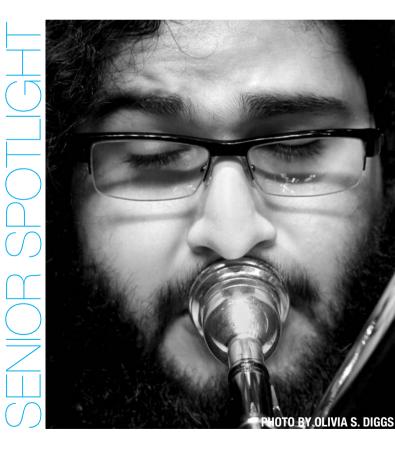






Jillian Stock | KSS Kimberly Stockon | Management Caitlyn Strader | CMN: Public Relations Stephanie Styx | Biological Sciences Jocelyn Swanson | FLG: Spanish Sel I Molly Tarter | Psychology Antashia Taylor | Sociology

Ashley Terrell | FCS: Family Services Reginald Thedford Jr | Political Science Arnisha Thomas | Sociology Jacob Thomas | Finance Edward Tjaden | Political Science Jennifer Tortorice | Sociology Lauren Turner | CMN



MICHAEL LIVINGSTON

Story by Katlyn Quill

When a person is passionate about something, their eyes light up, and they get excited to talk about what they love.

Michael Livingston, a senior general studies major, has that kind of enthusiasm when he speaks about his love of music.

Livingston has been studying the tuba at Eastern for almost six years now. His greatest passion in life is creating, performing and talking about music.

As a kid, Livingston was told that he could either play music or participate in sports. He knew at a young age that he wanted to pursue music.

"It was something that I was naturally good at it," Livingston said. "I didn't really have to force myself to practice. I enjoyed practicing and I enjoyed that challenge."

He learned to play multiple instruments, but ultimately tuba became his favorite.

"I think tuba is a much warmer sound

and I prefer to play in that kind of setting," Livingston said.

During his time at Eastern, Livingston has played in the wind symphony, concert band, marching band, concert choir, chamber instrumental and vocal groups, basketball band and more.

"I've had lots of different experience playing in different settings and having all that experience with different sound qualities helps me realize what I want to do with those capabilities," Livingston said.

After graduating from Eastern, Livingston will be moving to Red Wing, Minn. to attend Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical. This school will teach him how to repair, build and design instruments for other musicians to play.

He advises other young musicians to take risks and follow their dreams.

"Don't be afraid to go for it, it's never bad to experience new things," Livingston said.

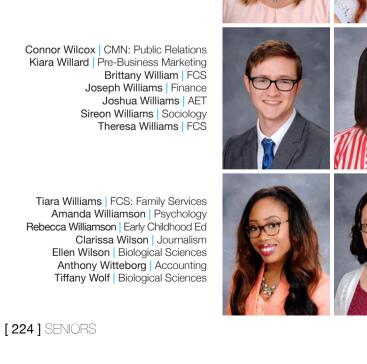
Kathryn VanHootegem | ELE: General Kayla Vaughan | Marketing Joshua Villalobos | AET Gina Volk | Journalism Jasmine Walker | FCS: Family Services Mariah Wallace | Political Science Mary Walsh | SPE: Elementary Ed Dual

Courtney Walton | ENG: Language Arts Bianca Ward | Psychology Makenzie Ward | Communication Disorders Tinayia Washington | CMN: Corporate Tesha Waters | FCS Amber Wayt | ENG: Language Arts Kayla Weihe | FCS: Family Services

Aubrey Welch | FCS: Family Services Kimberly Wetherald CMN Ervin Wheeler | Africana Studies Dyamon White | Psychology DeShawn Wilbern Accounting De'Sha Wilbern | Psychology Laura Wilcher | ELE: General

Connor Wilcox | CMN: Public Relations Kiara Willard | Pre-Business Marketing Brittany William | FCS Joseph Williams | Finance Joshua Williams | AET Sireon Williams | Sociology Theresa Williams | FCS

Tiara Williams | FCS: Family Services Amanda Williamson | Psychology Rebecca Williamson | Early Childhood Ed Ellen Wilson | Biological Sciences Anthony Witteborg Accounting Tiffany Wolf | Biological Sciences







Steven Wolke | Political Science Jalyssa Woodall | ART: Graphic Design Jared Woodard | Management Alyssa Woodrow | FCS: Family Services Chaase Woodruff | AET Juwaan Wright | Journalism Taylor Yangas | History

Wenli Yao | SPE: Standard Special Johnna York | Finance Joryn-Alyssa Zeek-Lee | CMN Amanda Ziencina | ELE: General Peter Zizzo | Marketing



REGINALD THEDFORD JR.

Story by Cayla Maurer

When Reginald Thedford Jr., a senior political science major, was searching for a school to transfer to in spring 2013, he wanted something more than a pretty campus and fun things to do. Thedford wanted diversity.

"I saw Eastern had African-American politics classes and diversity in the classroom," Thedford said.

During Thedford's two years on campus, he got involved with Black Student Union, NAACP, S.T.R.O.N.G. MENtoring, Pre-Law Society, and Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honors society. He is also a tour guide in the Office of Admissions.

"I saw a lot of opportunities at Eastern and I wanted to capitalize on those," Thedford said.

Some of the best memories Thedford has at Eastern are because of Student Govern-

ment. Thedford joined as a senator and worked his way up to student body president.

"Not only did Student Government help me in my political science classes, it helped me meet new people and exposed me to different opportunities on campus," Thedford said.

One of Thedford's biggest accomplishments is being a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity as of fall 2014.

"I just got this opportunity now and although I'm leaving in May, I'm glad that it happened at Eastern," Thedford said. "I wouldn't have wanted to be a part of a better chapter than the chapter here."

Thedford said he is happy that he chose Eastern.

"I want to be remembered for the contributions that I made to the university," Thedford said. "I served the university and gave everything I could."

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News

March

[March 18] Illinois primaries were held, announcing Bruce Rauner as Republican candidate for governor and Pat Quinn as the Democratic candidate.

[March 28-30] The City of Charleston commemorates the Charleston Riot of 1864 through events and ceremonies.

[March 27] President Perry announces his intent not to extend his contract, but instead to retire after his June 2015 contract expires.

[March 27] Athletic Director Barbara Burke announces her plans to resign April 12, after six years at Eastern.

[March 29] G.L.A.M. modeling perform their "Concrete Jungle Fashion Show" in McAfee Gymnasium.

[April 9] Student Action Team lobbies in Springfield to get funding for a new Biological Sciences Building and continued support for the Map Grant.

[April 14] Booth Library hosted The Edible Book Festival for the National Library Week. There was also a book sale during the week.

[April 15] Congressman John Shimkus visits the Renewable Energy Center/Center for Clean Energy Research and Education with President Perry.

[April 14] Andrew Methven, biological science professor, receives the Distinguished Faculty Award.

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[**April 25** – **27**] The College of Arts and Humanities held the 37th annual event of Celebration, a festival of the arts. It featured different food, music and arts and crafts on South Seventh Street.

[**April 26**] Project HERO, sponsored by the Military Student Assistant Center, showed support to veterans through special events to help them get involved on campus.

[**April 21**] Vice President Bill Weber announced his intention of retiring in May after 26 years of work at Eastern.

May

[**May 2**] The Special Olympics was held at O'Brien Field with over 500 people volunteering.

[**May 9**] Jimmy Garoppolo gets drafted by the New England Patriots as their second round draft pick.

August

[**Aug. 27**] A "Stand Out and Speak Out" march was held in the North Quad to peacefully protest the events that happened in Ferguson, Mo.

September

[**Sept. 4**] Minority Affairs and the Black Student Union hosted the seventh annual faculty and staff against BSU basketball game in McAfee Gym.

[**Sept. 6**] Small Time Napoleon performs in the Black Box at the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

[**Sept. 9**] The Booth Library holds the "Revolutionary Decade: Reflections on the 1960s" program.

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[Sept. 15] Pokey LaFarge performed in the "Best Of" concert series in the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

[Sept. 16] "Prowlin' with the Prez" series takes off with "Panther Party with the Prez." Other events throughout the year included "Putt Putt with the Prez," "Pets on Parade with the Prez," "Peppermint with the Prez," "Pastries with the Prez," "Popcorn with the Prez," "Pictures with the Prez," and "Picnic with the Prez."

[**Sept. 19 - 21**] Eastern's Family Weekend hosted events like Rock 'N Roll Bowling, wine tasting, Chinese acrobats, bingo night and tailgating. The Panthers defeated Austin Peay, 63-7, during the annual Family Weekend football game at O'Brien Field.

[Sept. 25] U.S. Senator Dick Durbin visits Eastern to discuss student loans and how a new proposed bill could help minimize debt.

October

[Oct. 1 - 31] Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer and Ally History month was hosted by the Pride RSO group.

[Oct. 3] Gaelic Storm performs Irish music in the Dvorak Concert Hall in the Doudna Fine Arts Center for the "Best Of" series.

[Oct. 20 – 26] Homecoming week starts with the theme of "Bright Lights, Blue City."

November

[Nov. 1 - 30] the U.S. News and World Report ranked Eastern No. 13 for the Best College for Veterans.

[**Nov. 4**] Polls open for Illinois midterm elections in the Martin Luther King Jr. Union and the Newman Catholic Center.

[**Nov. 5**] Winners for the midterm elections included Bruce Rauner for governor, James Rankin for sheriff and Dick Durbin for U.S. Senator.

[Nov. 20] Devonte Dixon, a junior communications studies major, is crowned as Mr. Essence 2014 in the Grand Ballroom during the "Essence of a Man" scholarship pageant.

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December

[**Dec. 2**] Students marched to express "Black Lives Matter" after the incident in Ferguson, Mo. Students marched from Carman Hall to Old Main protesting the trial decision.

[**Dec. 12**] Students lay on the ground in front of Old Main for a "diein" demonstration for 17 minutes representing the 17 black lives lost to police brutality in Ferguson.

January

[Jan. 12] The Presidential Search Advisory Committee selected Margaret Madden, David Glassman, Sam Minner and Guiyou Huang as candidates for the new president position.

[Jan. 20] Mayor Rennels and city council passed a new ordinance to allow Charleston bars to stay open an extra hour. In addition, they added requirements for liquor licenses and alcohol training programs for bar employees.

[Jan. 21] Presidential on-campus open forums take place in the Arcola-Tuscola room.

[Jan. 21] Jeannie Ludlow, associate professor in English and coordinator of women's studies, gave her speech on "Undue Burdens and Personal Responsibility: Literary Pregnancy and Abortion in the Post-Choice Decade in the United States" in the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

[Jan. 30] The Sexual Assault Counseling and Information Service held the "Rock Out Against Rape" fundraiser at Top of the Rock.

February

[Feb. 24] Student Government holds the "It's on Us: Take A Stand Against Sexual Assault" event in the Charleston-Mattoon room. Participants watched a documentary and participated in a discussion afterward.

[**Feb. 28**] Volunteers participate in the Polar Plunge at Lake Sara in Effingham with all the proceeds going to the Special Olympics in Illinois.

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Colophon

The 2014-2015 *Warbler* yearbook Vol. 96 was created entirely by a student staff. The *Warbler* has been the official Eastern yearbook since 1919.

Photography

All of the photos were taken by the photography staff with a Canon T5, Canon Rebel XTi, Canon T3i, Canon T5i, Nikon D3000, Canon 5D Mark II, Canon 6D and Canon 1D Mark III.

Сору

All copy was written by staff reporters, *The Daily Eastern News* staff and journalism students.

Printing

The 900 copies of the 240-page yearbook were printed on Legend/House Gloss Text #100 stock paper. The cover was printed on Smyth Sewn hard cover with silkscreen in glossy clear for the text on the front and spine. Endsheets were printed on #100 FSC certified C1S cover stock.

Special Contributions

Cover art and divider page drawings were created by Pablo Ramirez in Ado-

be Illustrator. The photograph appearing on the opening page was taken by Dominic Baima. The introduction and closing stories were written by Gina Volk. Endsheets were designed by Megan Ivey. Index was created by Danielle Tadlock and Gina Volk.

Typography

Body font used in the yearbook is Minion Pro. Headline and subhead fonts are Helvetica Neue. Colors incorporated in the book were 50.30.30.100 black, 90.50.5.30 dark blue and 99.0.0.0 light blue.

Production

The 2014-2015 *Warbler* was produced on three Macintosh computers and using Adobe InDesign CS6, Adobe Photoshop CS6 and Microsoft Word 2007. The book was published by Walsworth in Marceline, Mo.

Cost

The cost of the yearbook is incorporated into student fees for full-time Eastern students. Yearbooks are distributed by the yearbook staff to graduating seniors picking up their caps and gowns for spring commencement 2015 at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

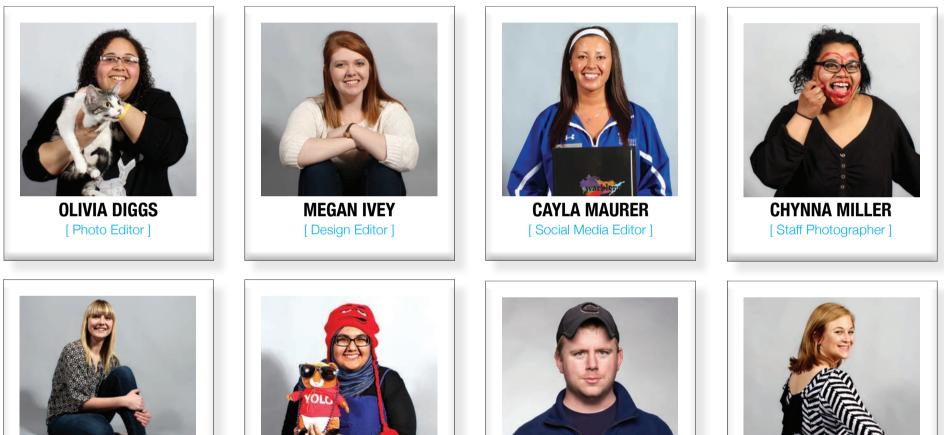
Contact

Student Publications Buzzard Hall 600 Lincoln Ave. Charleston, Ill. 61920 217-581-2812

Thanks

The 2014-2015 vearbook staff would like to thank our new adviser. Joe Gisondi, for assisting in every aspect of production. We could not have done it without you! We would also like to thank Betsy Jewell, business manager, for her contributions and help during our technical difficulties. We would also like to thank Walsworth Publishing Company, specifically, Jon Kauffman, our sales representative, and Mona Walters, our service representative. Thank you for the continuous visits and guidance throughout the year. We would like to thank the interim chairman of the iournalism department. Sally Renaud. for her continued advice, support and love for the Warbler. Lastly, thanks to The Daily Eastern News staff, Student Publications Director John Rvan, photo adviser Brian Poulter, DEN adviser Lola Burnham, and the journalism students who assisted in the production of this book.

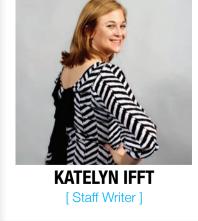
WARBLER STAFF 2014-2015



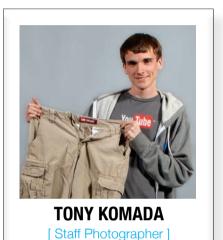
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SHIRMEEN AHMAD [Copy Editor]

BOB REYNOLDS [Sports Editor]

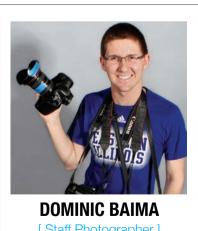








CASSIE BUCHMAN [Staff Writer]



[Staff Photographer]

Letter from the editor:

A new year and a new book comes with many changes.

A new publishing company, a new adviser and several new staff members to train seemed chaotic at first. However, I couldn't be more proud of my staff and this edition of the Warbler.

Joe Gisondi: Taking over for Sally Renaud as adviser, you had some big (cute) shoes to fill. Between the design advice, ethical dilemmas, copy editing, story ideas and normal small talk, vou have made my job as editor less stressful. You did an amazing job as our new adviser, and I thank you for all the hard work you have put in to the program.

Megan Ivey: You have been my right-hand lady throughout this whole process. You have cranked out beautiful designs, especially on deadline. You were the one who listened to my vision, and helped me put it on paper. Thank you for the late night designing, the brainstorming sessions and always being there when I needed vou.

Olivia Diggs: Since our first yearbook retreat. I knew we were destined to be friends. No matter what photo assignment we went to together, the weather conditions were always terrible, making for some great memories. Thank you for always being my number one support system.

Shirmeen Ahmad: Hiring you as a copy editor was a weight off my shoulders. You took on the heavy workload of finding even the smallest of errors. On top of your busy schedule, you took on some difficult stories that always turned out incredible.

Bob Reynolds: Having a sports editor this year has been a blessing. With 240 pages in the book, you made my job easier by overseeing the whole athletic section. You did a great job of coming up with story ideas and delegating responsibilities.

Cayla Maurer: Is there anything you can't do? I hired you as a Social Media Editor, and I received so much more. You took amazing photos, wrote stories and your connections landed us lots of story ideas.

Danielle Tadlock: A photographer, a writer, a designer and someone who took on an entire



GINA VOLK Editor-In-Chief

index. You played so many roles this year, which I really appreciate. You never gave up on a story or photo assignment, despite the struggles. That is what makes you a great journalist.

Dominic Baima: You were my go-to photographer. I knew I could trust you with all of the big assignments, and you were always reliable. In addition, you surprised me with some great writing and story ideas this year.

Pablo Ramirez: I cannot thank you enough for the artistic talent and graphic design knowledge you applied to this yearbook. Between your cover design, divider page drawings and layouts, your designs were always professional and awe-inspiring.

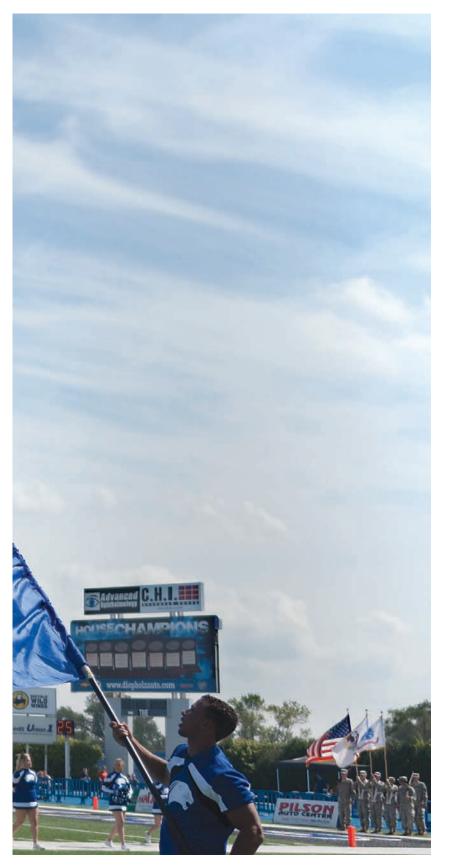
I would also like to thank my remaining staff members that continually produced topnotch content this year: Jason Howell, Chynna Miller, Katelyn Ifft, Cassie Buchman, Tony Komada, Sean Hastings, Mackenzie Freund, Lindsey Caudle, Katie Edelmann, Kevin Hall and Jarad Jarmon.

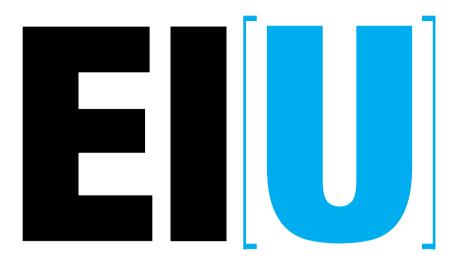
Being Editor-in-Chief of the Warbler has been the highlight of my collegiate career at Eastern. I love my staff, and I love this amazing piece of history we have produced together. Save the vearbook, save the world.

eler

PHOTO BY JASON HOWELL Chaney Ruffin waves the Eastern flag to cheer on the Panthers at O'Brien Field during a football game against Austin Peay Sept. 20, 2014. The Panthers de-feated ASPU 63-7 during the Family Weekend game.

food co vrt!





We thank the faculty and students who helped make this year special.

Outside of the classroom, students choreographed dances, raised funds for great causes, and even threw dried paint at each other during Holi, a celebration of colors. This school year, students have interacted with musicians, comedians and TV show hosts, such as Thompson Square, Sinbad and Nev Schulman.

Students excelled in academics by spending their time in labs creating crystals, tracking the migration of snakes in area woods and educating children about famous historical figures.

Greek organizations are also a major part of campus life. Fraternities and sororities fought for the championship during Greek Week, participated in the National Pan-Hellenic Council Step Show, and, most importantly, supported our community through philanthropies and community service.

Eastern athletes succeeded on and off their respective fields, as they trained and studied hard. But it is their off-field lives that were often more fascinating. Take Ben Kennedy, for example, a pitcher who changes from his baseball uniform into a theatre costume to act on stage. There was also Lauren Hoppensteadt, Kelsey Brooke and other athletes who overcame injuries to compete in their final season.

We say good-bye to our seniors. All seniors, regardless if they were nontraditional, foreign exchange, or transfers, have helped define the essence of Eastern in their own way.

Each student walks away from the 2014-2015 school year with a different experience and a personal story. When all these unique individuals combine their stories, we see the true vision of Eastern.

What makes EIU different? [You,]



Dr. James Tidwell (July 6, 1948 - April 12, 2014)

Dr. James Tidwell was the chairman of the journalism department and was a professor for hundreds of students during his 27 years at Eastern. In addition, he was a past chairman for the Faculty Senate and served on several boards. He has won numerous awards such as: the Distinguished Service Award, College Media Association Hall of Fame, Journalism Educator of the Year and much more.

"James Tidwell's legacy on our campus is far-reaching," said Sally Renaud, interim director of the journalism department. "From being the president of the Faculty Senate to initiating the Open Mic and Free Speech Wall for Constitution Day to being an ace bowler on the Faculty Bowling League, Dr. Tidwell seemed to be everywhere and know everyone. And anyone who took his comm law class fondly remembers his recitation (in his heavy Oklahoma drawl) of George Carlin's seven dirty words. He is deeply missed."



Brianne Martin (June 17, 1991 - Oct. 17, 2014)

Brianne Martin, was a positive, family-oriented individual. In her free time, Martin enjoyed Frisbee golfing, rap music and spending time with her daughter and family. Martin was a graduate of Lake Land College, and was an employee at the Central East Alcoholism and Drug (CEAD) Council in Charleston. Martin's family describes her as a determined and inspirational woman, who always radiated positivity and happiness.

"She was a large part of my life," said Jake Martin, Brianne's younger brother. "I loved how determined she was. She was so inspirational. She was happy and positive all the time. I would not be where I am today without her, and I will not let it go to waste. She is an inspiration to anyone she has come across on her journey. She cared about so many and loved so many. She was my light when I was lost, and I thank her for being the best big sister any man could ask for."



Samantha Middendorf (Nov. 26, 1994 - Nov. 15, 2014)

Samantha Middendorf, a sophomore journalism major, was known for her boisterous laugh and passion for life. She worked as the entertainment editor for *The Daily Eastern News* and was also a member of the EIU Mixed Choir her freshman year. Whether it was covering shows for the newspaper, performing in the choir or attending concerts, Middendorf cherished her passion for music.

"Her car was like a glorified music store. CDs could be found stuffed in every possible crevasse, and they ranged from One Direction to Kayne," said Megan Ivey, a sophomore journalism major. "Her passions showed just as much range. From music to writing, and women's beauty to women's empowerment, Sam found a love for everything. She was most happy when making others happy. She was an infectious, hilarious burst of sunshine. Her smile, hard work, and devoted friendship will never be forgotten."