

11-17-2006

Daily Eastern News: November 17, 2006

Eastern Illinois University

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Eastern Illinois University, "Daily Eastern News: November 17, 2006" (2006). *November*. 16.
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/den_2006_nov/16

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the DAILY EASTERN NEWS

FRIDAY
11.17.06

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

Volume | 92 Issue | 63

CAMPUS | PERFORMANCE

Eastern's true blue crew

By Kevin Kenealy
Online Reporter

Around 100 people showed up. Three were blue men.

EIU's Blue Man Group put on an hour-long show Thursday in the University Ballroom of musical surprise and humorous silence.

Based on Chicago's Blue Man Group, it was a classic Blue Man set: fanagled pipes, enough wires to light up a small city, and, of course, spontaneity.

Christopher Lexow, creator and production manager for the group; Ryan Stack, a sophomore music education major; Dave Sugrue, a sophomore with a major leading towards biology, put on the blue and the drum rolls to get the spectators tappin' their feet.

"I seen it (Chicago Blue Men Group) a couple times and I just had an ambition right before I came to college and said, 'you know what we really need to start something like that when we come to college,'" Lexow said.

The show started before the three even took the stage, with a video showing the Eastern's Blue Men in humorous character at a cafeteria.

The three curiously played with the rotating entrance gate, played around with students eating and eventually developed a drumbeat.

The same ideas would be incorporated into the set. A whiffing glow stick was the first noise heard, but not for long as Lexow ba-bum-ba-bummed away on the pipes.

Let the games begin, at the wave of airport-style flashlights.

The four-piece backup band would begin playing a tune with the lights on, NS when the band stopped, Lexow would turn the lights off.



JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Guest cellist Abby Latek, a freshman special education major, accompanies the EIU Blue Man Group during their first performance Thursday evening at the University Ballroom in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

» SEE BLUE, PAGE 10

CITY | HUMAN SERVICES

Money awarded for food stamp program

Some college students are eligible to receive food stamps

By Nicole Nicolas
Staff Reporter

For one Charleston resident, Cindy Hubbard, the food stamp program helped her free up some money to use on other things she needed.

To help people like Hubbard, Governor Rod Blagojevich received \$2.3 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Stamp Program for all of the Food Stamp Programs in Illinois. The state of Illinois was awarded this money because it made improvements to its programs and to help continue them.

"It (the money) will help to make the program run more efficiently and continue to improve the food stamp accuracy," said Tom Greene from the Department of Human Services in Springfield. "It will help them to qualify for assistance without having to wait for it."

The governor is making plans to use the money to make it possible for people to fill out and make changes to their applications online and by telephone, said Kara McGahey, a manager at the Illinois Department of Human Services in Coles County.

"People will never lose the option to come in and see us," McGahey said. "The point is to help the people who are going to work and school to be able to access it telephonically and electronically."

The Illinois Department of Human Services feeds and helps approximately one million people and 560,000 families in Illinois to get back on their feet.

In Coles County, approximately 2,216 people are on food stamps according to the IDHS November 2006 census. Typically, approximately \$6 million in food stamps is given to Coles County residents every year according to IDHS 2006 census.

In order to be eligible for food stamps a person's income and assets must be less than \$2,000. College students who have less than \$2,000 in assets and income qualify for food stamps in Coles County.

But there is a special policy that applies specifically to college students.

Students must either work a minimum of 20 hours a week or at least one hour of federal work study a month or have a child under the age of 6, McGahey said.

» SEE PROGRAM, PAGE 10

Frisbee golf course proposed to AB

By Matt Hopf
Student Government Reporter

A Frisbee golf course was one of the options proposed at Thursday night's Apportionment Board meeting.

Ken Baker, director of Student Recreation, presented possible ideas for the Student Recreation Center.

Besides the Frisbee golf course, purchasing four new elliptical machines and purchasing "Curves" type circuit machines were the other ideas proposed.

The "Curves" equipment are weight machines that do not have weight stacks.

The machines would be non-intimidating, according to Baker.

Elliptical machines would cost \$6,000 a piece. A Frisbee golf course would cost \$15,000 and the "Curves" machines would cost \$23,000 for the set of 10.

The ideas were brought to AB for consideration, Baker said. Other ideas can be explored as well.

AB Chair Levi Bulgar asked that all members of the board get student feedback on all the ideas. Faculty members of the board were also asked to get feedback from the faculty.

Baker wants the board to decide on what projects to go ahead with.

"You can't get too much student input," he said on getting the students involved.

It would be a way to show what

some student fees are used for, Baker said.

In other business, the board unanimously approved a \$4,358 allocation to send four members of Student Government and an adviser to the Conference on Student Government Associations at Texas A&M University in February.

Student Body President Sean Anderson and Student Senate Speaker Kent Ohms presented to the board.

Delegates to the conference will be able to get new ideas, share ideas and network with other student governments, Anderson said.

Board member Eric Wilber was concerned that Student

Government should be placing COSGA in its budget yearly if they attend it each year.

"We did not cut it from our budget," Anderson said. "AB made the recommendation to cut it."

Also, Student Senate members Kenney Kozik and Jullian Ruddy asked that the \$4,000 left over from the buses that transported students to the Eastern football game at the University of Tennessee-Martin be transferred to help with costs for the Illinois Student Government Association Conference that will be held in January.

Two thousand dollars has been approved for the conference already.

Pelosi becomes first female speaker

WASHINGTON – Democrats embraced Rep. Nancy Pelosi as the first woman House speaker in history on Thursday, then quickly snubbed her, selecting Steny Hoyer of Maryland as majority leader against her wishes.

"Let the healing begin," Pelosi, D-Calif., said after Hoyer had eased past her preferred candidate, Rep. John Murtha, a prominent opponent of the war in Iraq. The secret-ballot vote for Hoyer was 149-86. Pelosi was chosen by acclamation.

Added Hoyer, a 25-year veteran of Congress: "The Republicans need to know, the president needs to know and the country needs to know our caucus is unified today."

Hoyer, Murtha and several other Democrats predicted there would be no lingering effects from the bruising leadership campaign as the party looks ahead to taking control of the House in January after a dozen years in the minority.

Not everyone sounded convinced, though. "It created these tensions that we now have to work on," said Rep. Jose Serrano of New York, a Hoyer supporter.

Rep. Jim Moran, D-Va., who backed Murtha, said some members of the rank-and-file had told both rival camps to count them as supporters. "We know who they are," he said, although he later added that many of them were lawmakers whose victories on Nov. 7 gave Democrats their majority.

"If they're freshmen, they get a pass on this one," he said.

Democrats chose their leaders for the next two years as lawmakers in both houses labored to wrap up work for the expiring 109th Congress and look ahead to the 110th, which convenes on Jan. 4.

House Republicans hold elections on Friday, with a two-way race for minority leader.

Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, the current majority leader, faces a challenge from Rep. Mike Pence of Indiana. A third contender, Rep. Joe Barton of Texas, dropped out of the race and endorsed Boehner.

Missouri Rep. Roy Blunt, the incumbent GOP whip, also drew an opponent, Rep. John Shadegg of Arizona.

Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., has decided to step down from

leadership in the wake of his party's election defeat.

Pelosi, 66, faced neither challenger nor controversy in her own race to become the Democrats' choice for speaker – and the first woman in history – after four years as party leader.

Her ascension awaits a vote by the full House on Jan. 4, the opening day of the new Congress.

"We made history and now we will make progress for the American people," the Californian told fellow Democrats moments after her selection in the closed meeting, according to officials familiar with her remarks.

She pledged that after 12 years in the minority, "we will not be dazzled by money and special interests."

A veteran of nearly two decades in Congress, Pelosi raised more than \$50 million for the party's candidates and committees over the past two years. In her time as minority leader, she was credited with molding an often-fractious rank-and-file into a unified force opposing the conservative agenda advanced by President Bush and congressional Republicans.

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About The Daily Eastern News

The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and twice weekly during the summer term except during university vacations or examinations.

One copy per day is free to students and faculty. Additional copies can be obtained for 50 cents each in the Student Publications Office in Buzzard Hall.

The Daily Eastern News is a member of The Associated Press, which is entitled to exclusive use of all articles appearing in this publication.

Subscription price | \$50 per semester, \$30 for summer, \$95 all year.

Comments | Tips

Contact any of the above staff members you believe your information is relevant to at their provided e-mail address.

You may also call 581-7942 or visit the student publications newsroom at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

Corrections

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581-7942 (phone), 581-2923 (fax)
1811 Buzzard Hall

Periodical postage paid at
Charleston, Ill. 61920
ISSN 0894-1599

Printed by
Eastern Illinois University

Attention postmaster

Send address changes to:
The Daily Eastern News
1802 Buzzard Hall, Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, Ill. 61920



The Daily Eastern News is printed with soy ink on recycled newsprint.

Gamers line up for new console

NEW YORK – Die-hard gamers and entrepreneurs prepared to shell out \$500 or more for the new PlayStation 3 console that goes on sale Friday, many of them after waiting in line for days despite the likelihood they'd go home empty-handed.

Retailers across the country arranged midnight sales at some of their stores. Lines sometimes stretched around the block, even where the first consoles wouldn't be sold until Friday morning. Deliveries went down to the wire with FedEx vans sending boxes of the sleek black or silver consoles to individual stores Thursday.

Nine months pregnant, Julie Mosley said she tried to ignore her contractions for the chance to score machines for her family, her daughter's father and her younger brother.

"I'm going to hold out as long as I can," Mosley said Thursday as she sat on a cooler in the 19th spot outside a Circuit City in Mount Laurel, N.J., joking about giving birth on the sidewalk.

Potential customers braved freezing temperatures in Fargo, N.D., and heavy rain and winds in Baltimore and other East Coast locales.

"Katrina could come through here and I wouldn't switch," said Marco Cajas, 20, of Baltimore. "I spent the night on the cold street."

Short supplies and strong demand could be the formula for trouble as Sony Corp.'s PlayStation 3 makes its U.S. debut, a half-year late because of problems completing work on a built-in, next-generation DVD player.

The struggling electronics company, which has contended with laptop battery recalls and trails rivals in key products such as music players and liquid crystal displays, is counting on the PS3 to maintain and build its dominant position in video game consoles.

In Palmdale, Calif., authorities shut down a Super Wal-Mart after some shoppers got rowdy late Wednesday and started running around inside the store. In West Bend, Wis., a 19-year-old man

ran into a pole and struck his head racing with 50 others for one of 10 spots outside a Wal-Mart.

At a Circuit City Stores Inc. location in New York, potential buyers traded accusations of line-cutting and tried to avoid fights amid heightened emotions.

"You can't even sleep unless you have your eyes open," Wataru Nada said.

Some customers were buying PS3 machines for themselves or as gifts, but many were hoping to resell them at a profit. Even before Friday's launch, units were fetching four or five times their retail price at the eBay Inc. auction site.

"As soon as I buy it, I'm going to sell it," said Jose Mota, 26, who grabbed the first spot in line Tuesday outside the Union City, Calif., Best Buy. "People will pay whatever just to get their hands on one."

Many stores reported calm. At a Best Buy in Boston with 140 machines for sale, employees simply gave out tickets for the first 140 in line so that everyone can go home.

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Faculty turn on the funk

Jazz concert draws crowd to the Union with performing professors

By Jordan Crook
Staff Reporter

Music was in the air when the EIU Jazz Lab Band performed renditions of several jazz and funk classics Thursday night at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

The band was directed by Paul Johnston, professor of jazz studies, and was accompanied by Sam Fagaly, director of jazz studies, who played the tenor saxophone in several songs.

The concert began with the band playing Nat Adderly's "Jive Samba," which was followed by several songs featuring brass and piano solos.

The night ended with the band playing a rendition of Dave Eshelman's "We're Outta Here," with Fagaly performing a saxophone solo with the band.

Fagaly and Johnston performed a duet near the end of the concert entitled "When I Fall in Love" with Fagaly playing the saxophone and Johnston playing the piano.

Johnston expressed his joy at having Fagaly as a guest performer several times during the concert.

"We're very lucky to have him (Fagaly) performing here tonight," Johnston said before he and Fagaly began their duet.

The concert, which lasted about an hour, drew a crowd of nearly 100 people, the majority of whom were students, though some members of the Charleston community did



JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Pianist Derek Drudge, a junior music major, plays a solo during the EIU Jazz Lab Band's rendition of "Girl Talk" by Neal Hefti on Thursday evening at the MLK Jr. Grand Ballroom.

show up to show their appreciation for the jazz band.

Charles Tidus, a member of the Charleston community, comes to EIU events often and was pleased by this particular concert.

Tidus said he enjoyed the concert.

"I come almost every time they have them."

One of the students who came to the concert was Harrison Cole, a sophomore piano performance major, who said after the concert that it was a great experience.

"It was one of the best," Cole

HARRISON COLE | PIANO PERFORMANCE MAJOR

"I come to all the EIU Jazz Lab performances, and this one was definitely one of the best."

said. "I come to all the EIU Jazz Lab performances, and this one was definitely one of the best."

No more concerts are scheduled for the EIU Jazz Lab this semester, but the Jazz Ensemble, directed by

Fagaly, will be performing 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 30 in the Grand Ballroom of the Union.

The Eastern Jazz Combos will also be performing 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 5 at Top of the Roc's.

UNIVERSITY | STUDENT LOAN SALE

Hold-up costs more than \$1 million

Governor's idea to sell the student loan debt still in proposal form one year later

By Tiarra Steele
Staff Reporter

Gov. Rod Blagojevich proposed a plan one year ago to sell the Illinois Student Assistance Commission's student loan portfolio to a private bidder.

Today, it is still just a proposal. The Illinois House of Representatives had a committee meeting Wednesday for ISAC to report on the progress and what's going on with it.

State Representative Chapin Rose said ISAC has no idea what they are doing.

"The Attorney General came to the committee and said she was unable to get any information from the governor's office or ISAC," he said. "The governor's office and ISAC has been holding out information for a whole year."

Rose said the whole point was to give college students additional credit to go to school by selling the student loan portfolio and the money from that would go toward a scholarship.

This scholarship Rose speaks of is the Monetary Award Program Plus

JONE ZIEREN | DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AID

"At Eastern there would be an estimated 2,200 students affected by this and at \$500 a student, that's more than \$1 million, so we are not awarding this grant until the money comes through."

scholarship, which would award students \$500 a year, that's \$250 a semester.

Jone Zieren, director of Financial Aid, said the MAP Plus scholarship is designed for students who are not receiving the regular MAP award.

"This grant would be for Illinois residents whose total family adjusted gross income as reported on the FAFSA is less than \$200,000," she said. "They must be enrolled at least part-time basis, sophomore, junior or senior standing and at a MAP approved Illinois college."

Zieren said right now the MAP scholarship is an under-funded program, and it doesn't pay full tuition at Eastern.

"A new student would be paying \$7,068, and the maximum they can receive from the MAP scholarship is \$4,968; that's a \$2,100 difference to be made up."

Zieren said she would like to see the funds from the selling of the loan portfolio be able to go back to maybe fill that gap.

Rose said ISAC doesn't know how the money is going to be

generated and some schools have already started offering credit based on this scholarship.

"What if this proposal doesn't go through?" he asked. "How are the schools going to get their money?"

Zieren says she knows for a fact none of the 4-year public institutions in Illinois have given credit, but some of the smaller community colleges may have.

"At Eastern there would be an estimated 2,200 students affected by this and at \$500 a student, that's more than \$1 million, so we are not awarding this grant until the money comes through," she said.

Judy Erwin, executive director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, said through the hearings last year having the loan portfolio being housed at ISAC has not benefited Illinois students, and it could be greater benefits if they sold it.

"Most of the opposition comes from a general lack of understanding," she said. "It has much greater potential in the long run, and I think that's what ISAC is

trying to ensure." Erwin said they all agree that any of the proceeds need to be given back to higher education.

Rose shared this sentiment and said that the concept could've been great, but he thinks it was just ill-conceived and not thought out well.

"This was proposed last April and they said it was going to take a year, well now it's November and there's nothing," he said. "All spring long, I said this was going to happen."

Erwin said it's turned out to be a lot more complicated than it was expected to be.

Besides not knowing how the money is going to be generated, there are also concerns of that it might violate state law.

Rose said ISAC doesn't know yet if the plan to sell the student loan portfolio is even lawful because it hasn't had legislative approval.

In a press conference held Thursday, the Representatives officially requested information from the Governor's office and ISAC regarding the legality of selling the state's student loan portfolio.

CAMPUS

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policereport

» Theft - On Nov. 7, it was reported that a parking barricade was stolen from the Booth House lot.

» Theft - It was reported Nov. 8 that a Dell MP3 player was stolen from a room in Andrews Hall on the Eastern campus.

» Criminal Damage to State Supported Property - On Nov. 11, it was discovered that a green security light pole was broken off in the area of Booth Library.

2006 ACHIEVEMENT AND CONTRIBUTION AWARD RECIPIENTS

Listed are the faculty who received 2006 Achievement and Contribution Awards. The award recognizes outstanding contributions to the University during the 2005-2006 academic year.

Teaching: Shirley Bell, communication studies; Ronan Bernas, psychology; Lynn Calvert, communication disorders and sciences; Richard Cavanaugh, health studies; Steve Daniels, physics; Teresa Freking, secondary education and foundations; Belayet Khan, geology/geography; Kip McGilliard, biological sciences; Jeanne Snyder, family and consumer sciences; Jeffrey Stowell, psychology. **Research:** Lillian Barria, political science; Roger Beck, history; Julie Campbell, English; Gary Canivez, psychology; Tim Coombs, communication studies; Morton Heller, psychology; Ryan Hendrickson, political science; Sarah Johnson, library services; William Joyce, business; Scott Meiners, biological sciences; Stephen Mullin, biological sciences; Charles Pederson, biological sciences; David Radavich, English. **Service:** Jeff Ashley, political science; Melanie Burns, family and consumer sciences; Frank Goldacker, communication disorders and sciences; Assege Haile Mariam, psychology; Karla Kennedy-Hagan, family and consumer sciences; Kathleen O'Rourke, family and consumer sciences; John Henry Pommier, recreation administration; Rebecca Throneburg, communication disorders and sciences. **Balanced:** Philip Age, technology; Gary Aylesworth, philosophy; John Best, psychology; Eric Bollinger, biological sciences; Julie Chadd, technology; Daneen Deptula, psychology; Sace Elder, history; Ann Fritz, biological sciences; Linda Ghent, economics; Vincent Gutowski, geology/geography; Marilyn Lisowski, early childhood, elementary and middle level education; Davia Markelis, English; Debra Reid, history; Paul Switzer, biological sciences.

ourmistakes

In Thursday's article "Puffing along on last leg," Tim Johnson was referred to by the wrong legislative title. He is a United States Representative.

COMMENTS | CORRECTIONS | EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our news editor, Sarah Whitney, via: Phone | 581-7942, E-mail | DENnewsdesk@gmail.com Office visit | 1811 Buzzard Hall.

VIEWS

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11.17.06

GUEST COLUMNIST | ELLIOT BROWN

TV went downhill

By Elliot Brown
Louisiana State University

(U-WIRE) BATON ROUGE, La. — Television is dead to me. Last week "Dancing With the Stars" was the No. 1 program in America with 22 million viewers according to the Nielsen Media Research group.

How did we get here? How did a dance-off between Emmitt Smith and Mario Lopez become Americans' most pressing concern when they reach for the remote?

It wasn't always like this. From 1991-1994 the top-rated show in America was the CBS News show "60 Minutes." America was watching the news.

Today, the country is embroiled in a war in, coming off a hotly contested presidential election and discontent with the ruling political party in Congress has led to it being swept from power. The top-rated program during those troubled times from: a show best described as an electoral karaoke bar hosted by a former Laker Girl and a loudmouth Englishman. To go from "60 Minutes" to THAT in just 10 years is quite a jump.

I firmly believe the downfall began in 1992 when MTV premiered a show called "The Real World." The concept was simple and explained succinctly in the show's tease. Seven strangers were picked to live together in a house. It sounds comparatively tame in today's world. But in 1992 this was groundbreaking material. It might have just faded into a footnote in television history if it hadn't been for its third season in San Francisco.

Of course I'm talking about the season of Puck, a half-crazed, belligerent slob whose highlights included picking his nose and then plunging his fingers into another castmate's peanut butter jar. Here's the weird thing though: people were watching this crap.

MTV eventually caught on to the fact that people were willing to watch idiots make asses out of themselves on TV. Nor did MTV limit this phenomenon to "The Real World." Shows like "True Life," "My Super Sweet Sixteen," "Laguna Beach" and "The Hills" don't have any discernible plot or message. The goal seems to be pick someone spoiled, socially awkward, stupid, vain, naive or neurotic-though not necessarily in that order-shove a camera in front of their face and press record.

And it works..

And since other networks have been copying MTV since it went on air, the phenomenon has grown to the point where A.C. Slater's dance-off was the No. 1 show in America last night.

At least "Dancing With the Stars" ended last night. That's one less mindless show on the air.

Well, until "The Real World: Denver" premieres Wednesday. Sigh.

The editorial is the majority opinion of The Daily Eastern News editorial board. Reach the opinions editor at DENopinions@gmail.com.

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DRAWN FROM THE NEWS | DAVID PENNELL



ourview

Cancellations fine, but notice would be nice

When campus organizations cancel events, they should inform the students.

There is no excuse for this since there are several ways for notices like those to be announced, either by calling the *Daily Eastern News*, informing the webmaster of Eastern's Web site to put it on the university calendar, telling Eastern's media relations, or something as simple as posting fliers.

This semester there have been several events that were canceled shortly before the day of the event including Frisbee Golf in the intramural fields, a Halo Tournament in Seventh Street Underground and most recently the Poetry Slam for Native American Heritage Month.

On Nov. 7, students showed up to see the Poetry Slam in addition to an online reporter for DENnews.com.

After waiting and not seeing an event coordinator or any activity that remotely resembled a Slam, they left.

The paper later learned the event was canceled.

Groups whose purpose is to put on events like in these cases University Board and the coordinator for the Heritage Months are an

asset to the university.

They provide valuable and entertaining programming for students. That's part of being in college — experiencing events. That's why students are charged a student activity fee.

But these organizations also have a reverse responsibility.

If they say they're going to host an event and then it doesn't work out for whatever reason, then they must inform the students and the university community that an event was canceled.

Eastern undergraduate students pay \$102.03 for their activity fee each semester.

Part of this fee goes to University Board to put on affordable concerts and brings lecturers to campus.

But when the board starts canceling events the day of the event without telling anyone, the students are not getting their money's worth.

And the students, like those who showed up to see the Poetry Slam, like those who rearrange their schedules to attend an event just to find it canceled are just being inconvenienced and disappointed.

FEATURED BLOGGER | KRISTEN LARSEN



"Most coaches try to motivate their players by screaming right into their faces. Texas Tech head coach Bobby Knight, however, is known for trying to motivate his players a little too roughly and is at it again."

COLUMNIST | MATT DANIELS

Southern Illinois is diverse

Chicago needs to be its own state. Forget Puerto Rico.

Let's just take the 2.8 million people that live in the Windy City and make them their own state.

The city already has its own corrupt local government, so it should be well on its way to becoming a state.

Southern Illinois is not a bunch of redneck hicks who marry their siblings that people from up north think it is.

Being from so-called downstate Illinois and attending Eastern is a different experience.

No, we don't farm all the time or listen to country music or ride around in our four-wheel, 3,000-horsepower trucks dumping beer cans out the window.

We have shopping malls, decent high schools and even a Starbucks or two.

Sorry, us people from southern Illinois don't have the experience of riding the train downtown or having to pay tolls.

The university is currently offering bus service for students to return to the Chicago-area for Thanksgiving break, but no bus services to people who aren't from Chicago.

Yes, half the campus is from Chicago and it is a long drive home for some students. And for students who don't have cars, it would be burdensome for their parents to make the drive down to Charleston.

But what about people who live below I-80, where, according to the popular joke, people are considered southern if they live below this highway? What are they to do in order to get home if they don't have a car?

Two years ago when I was a freshman, a huge deal was made out of Eastern not having Comcast on its televisions in the residence halls. Mostly all of them were from Chicago.

Which makes sense after I found out that Comcast is a sports network devoted to covering Chicago-area sports. But people in central, east-central, southern and southeastern Illinois had probably never heard of Comcast.

Charleston is three to five hours away for people from Chicago or the suburbs. Whereas major cities like St. Louis and Indianapolis are about a two-hour drive away from Charleston.

And there are other counties in Illinois besides Cook, DuPage and McHenry.

With the recent elections over and the 2008 elections coming up, for once it would be nice if I knew my vote, be it Republican, Democrat or even Green Party, would matter and not be canceled out because of Chicago voters.

So I recommend Chicago be its own state.

It would work out for both Chicago and the rest of Illinois because Chicagoans already feel as if they own the state and, for the most part, don't know anything exists below I-80 and their world of toll ways, downtown train rides and corrupt local governments.

Matt Daniels



Matt Daniels is a junior journalism major. He can be reached at mwdaniels@ciu.edu.

on the verge

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS | DENNEWS.COM | FRIDAY 11.17.06

Activities stop while degrees drop

By Stacy Smith
Verge Reporter

When the temperature drops, many students tend to drop their workout routine as well.

"It takes more of an effort to exercise when weather changes, because people get lazy and have a tendency to stay inside," said Kim Schuette, head softball coach.

As the season changes, routines need to change.

Fall and winter seasons tend to last longer than spring and summer causing stress on students to get back into a stable workout, said Erin Myers, a graduate physical education major.

It is also important for students to set realistic goals and reward themselves with anything but food when accomplishing them, she said.

Ryan Collins, certified athletic trainer, said students should take advantage of facilities like the Student Recreation Center when it becomes too cold for outdoor activities.

"Exercising is a great way to lower stress, keep your metabolism high, so you have energy, and best of all keep your body healthy, which can help keep your immune system strong to fight the winter viruses," he said.

Problems when students discontinue exercising during colder weather include higher stress levels, lack of motivation, low self-esteem, weak immune system and exhaustion.

Jessica Lystlund, an aerobics instructor, said she notices a large decrease in aerobic classes during colder seasons.

"Students need to make themselves get out of bed and work out two to three times a week," she said.

When working outside during colder seasons, students should be conscience to dress appropriately by wearing as many layers as possible.

"Runners need to cover their head to keep their body temperature stable," Schuette said. "Because that's where most of your body's heat escapes."

Scheduling workouts at the same time everyday can be helpful because it becomes routine.

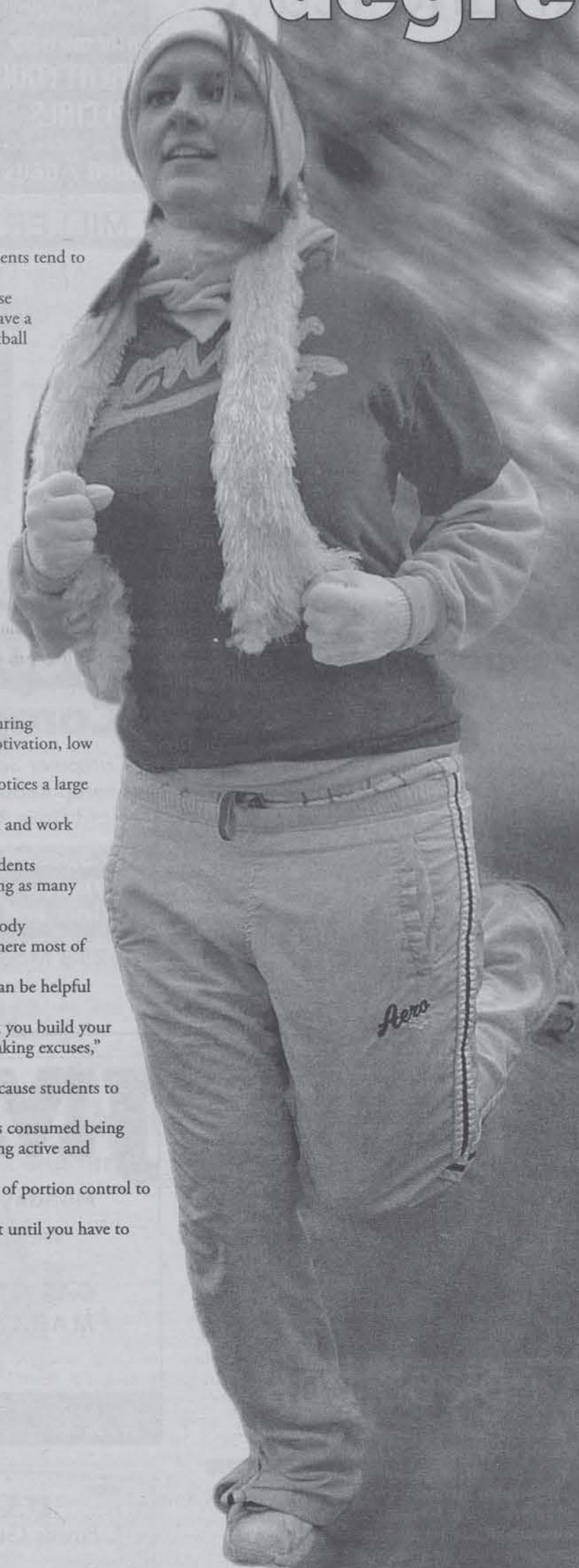
"If you keep your workout around the same time, you build your schedule around the time you workout instead of making excuses," Schuette said.

Overeating during the winter holiday season can cause students to become unhealthy and less active.

"The college appetite is never-ending with what is consumed being beverages and food," Schuette said. "The key is staying active and smart."

During holiday seasons students should be aware of portion control to avoid excessive over-eating.

"Have a little of everything until you feel full, not until you have to undo your pants," she said.



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Are you thankful?

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Stickin' around? Check it out

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Sweet potatoes & eggnog

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"The Birthday Party" p8

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Censorship

How to: p8

Build a set and work lights

JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Christy Snapp, a junior elementary education major, jogs three to four times a week, regardless of the weather.

insider

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he /she said

Time to give thanks, park your car and leave

By **Matt Poli**
Associate Verge Editor



At Thanksgiving, everybody undoubtedly sits around the table with family and/or friends discussing what they are thankful for. This holiday season, beside the obvious blessings (family, health, etc.), I am thankful I'm graduating in December.

I'm thankful that I've encountered many fantastic and insightful professors that have molded my mind to be prepared for the "real world." Not that I'm eager to get a job pertaining to my career right out of college (considering I find one), but eager to leave Charleston. Four years (and one extra semester, but who's counting) in this town gave me a good dose of what small-town rural life is like and as laid-back of a lifestyle it can be, it's just not for me.

Eastern has provided me with a great education, lots of relationships (some better than others), and a sense of self-identity, but Charleston has held me back.

From the early curfew on alcohol sales to city ordinances regulating placement of garbage cans, Charleston, in my eyes, has shown me all it has to offer.

A degree enables you to go wherever you want to practice your newly developed talents, and Charleston is just not a place I could do that.

This campus is rapidly expanding with liberal-education facilities and students, but Charleston's conservative demeanor just can't keep up.

So this Thanksgiving, while we're all thanking our lucky stars for the obvious blessings, I, for one, will be thankful that I'm getting out of this small town that has kept me captive for four some odd years.

By **Holly Thomas**
Verge Editor



During this time of year to give thanks, I thought I'd share with all what I am most thankful for.

I'd like to start with the new 2007 Lexus LS; the car that parallel parks by itself. American people have one less thing they have to do for themselves. Oh sweet technology, because with all the problems in the world, parallel parking is one of priority.

I'm thankful for Eminem's success for inspiring Kevin Federline to attempt a rap career, Jessica Simpson for setting women back 1,000 years and for the casts of "The Real World" and "Road Rules" never moving on with their lives and giving us challenges to watch until the end.

I'm also thankful for the Electoral College for making me feel like my one vote does not count.

"Full House-The Complete Fourth Season" is on my list of thanks. I'm so thankful that my roommate has 676 minutes more of Bob Saget to watch. As if the other 12 discs weren't torture enough.

In all seriousness though, I'm thankful for the end of the semester as well as the end of Screech's (Dustin Diamond) career. Along with the new E! reality show "House of Carters," about the former Backstreet Boy Nick Carter and family. This show has increased my self-esteem, self-confidence and has made me appreciate my family in ways I never thought possible.

I'm also thankful for Scientology, Tom Cruise's motivation for his absurd behavior that ended his contract with Paramount Pictures (It's about time).

Most importantly, I'm thankful for God, family, friends and the First Amendment.

Poli and Thomas can both be reached at denverge@gmail.com

Local Weekend Events

Misc.

The Eastern Health Service building will be providing free flu shots all day today. Students can make appointments by calling (217) 581-3013.

The 8th Annual Festival of Trees will be held at the Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center today and Saturday. It will feature a winter wonderland of more than 30 decorated trees, wreaths and holiday items. Today it will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children 2. For more information, call (217) 258-2511.

There will be a Mattoon Area Singles dance this Saturday at the Burgess Osborne Auditorium (1701 Wabash Ave.). It is a volunteer-sponsored, smoke-free, non-alcohol event. For more information, call (217) 246-3033.

Concerts

The Eastern Illinois University Jazz Lab Band will be playing today in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. Union. The show begins at 7:30 p.m.

Reel Big Fish will be playing at the Canopy Club in Urbana this Friday. Also playing with them is Streetlight Manifesto, Suburban Legends and Westbound Train. The show begins at 8:30 p.m. and costs \$16. For more information, call (217) 344-2263.

This Sunday the Headlights, Canada, Skeletons and the Girl Faced Boys, The Beauty Shop and Caleb

Engstrom will all be performing at the Cowboy Monkey in Champaign. The show begins at 9 p.m. and costs \$7. For more information, call (217) 398-2688.

Theater and Visual Arts

"Mornings at Seven" will be performed today at the One Normal Plaza in Normal. The play will begin at 7:30 p.m. and tickets will range from \$6 to \$12. For more information, call (309) 452-8709.

The 1959 movie "Ben Hur" will be shown at the Virginia Theatre in Champaign this Saturday. The showings will be at 1 and 4:30 p.m. and tickets will cost \$3. For more information, call (217) 356-9053.

The 1952 film "The Greatest Show on Earth" will be playing at the Virginia Theatre in Champaign this Saturday. It will be showing at 7 and 9:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3. For more information, call (217) 356-9053.

vergestaff

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Associate Verge editor **Matt Poli**
Sr. Verge writer **Michael Peterson**
Designers **Dave Hanley, Holly Thomas, Matt Poli**

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Finals Guide:
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Tasty Thanksgiving Treats

Sweet Potatoes



3 large sweet potatoes
1 stick of butter
½ cup of corn syrup
2 tablespoons brown sugar
3 tablespoons water
1 bag of marshmallows (jumbo or mini)

Peel and wash the 3 large sweet potatoes, cut into 2-inch chunks
Place in baking dish with butter, corn syrup and water
Sprinkle with brown sugar
Bake for 20 minutes at 350 degrees or until tender
Cover with marshmallows
Continue baking until marshmallows are golden brown

Eggnog



2 egg yolks
¼ cup white sugar
1 pinch salt
2 cups milk
2 tablespoons rum
½ cup heavy whipping cream
1 pinch ground nutmeg

In the top of a double broiler, whisk together egg yolks, sugar and salt
Add milk and mix well
Stir frequently and cook over hot water until mixture thickens to coat a metal spoon
Mix in rum and chill
Beat whipping cream until stiff peaks form
Fold into chilled egg mixture
Pour into glasses and top with freshly grated nutmeg

PhotoPoll

What's your favorite part of Thanksgiving



John Klyczek

junior English major

"I honestly don't like very much of it, but if I had to pick it would be a cross between turkey and stuffing."



Rhett Hite

sophomore geography major

"Ham because it's tasty and from a pig."



Alicia Rumchak

junior English major

"Mash potatoes and gravy because my mom makes them really good."



Jenny Dubina

senior elementary education major

"Seeing family from out of state."



Megan Ogulnick

junior communication studies major

"The eating contest between the cousins that I win every year."

'Mozart Requiem' receives standing 'O'



By Jason Duarte
Verge Critic

Sunday's "Mozart Requiem" performance featuring the Eastern Symphony Orchestra, University Mixed Chorus and Oratorio Society was a unique experience.

In the beginning of the two-hour-long performance, solo violinist Maureen Murchie, was the main attraction of the show.

The Centennial High School Orchestra from Champaign performed before the Mozart Requiem portion of the concert.

But if Murchie's violin were a guitar, she would be shredding alongside the likes of Satriani and Steve Vai.

Aside from her fast solos, the rest of the show was commendable.

When the requiem portion began, they performed the tune "Pirates of the Caribbean" from the movie.

That was fun for anyone who had seen the movie and recognized the tune.

The orchestra also performed "America" from "West Side Story," which was another musical treat.

The Mozart Requiem portion featured four solo singers.

It was interesting as there were parts reminiscent of an opera that's occasionally on TV as someone might flip through the channels.

The solo singers sang soprano, mezzo soprano, tenor and bass.

The overall sound in the McAfee South Auditorium was great, and surprisingly clear the music sounded mellow and relaxing.

The audience was very receptive to hearing live classical music in the auditorium.

At the end of the performance, the orchestra received a standing ovation.

Nothing strange about this flick



Movie: **Stranger than fiction**

Rating: **PG-13**



By Nicole Milstead
Verge Critic

Herald Crick (Will Ferrell) is a boring, everyday IRS agent who, along with his trusty wristwatch, has made his life as efficient as possible down to the second and the toothbrush stroke.

Little did he know that his life was boring, until Herald Crick heard his narrator.

However, with efficiency comes monotony.

The twist is that boring Herald is in fact the subject of the "greatest" novel Kay Eiffel (Emma Thompson) has ever written. Shortly before Eiffel finishes her book, Herald finds her to request that she not end her book in her usual way: death. He started altering his routine to throw off her story. However, everything she types still happens to Herald.

The intelligent dynamics and great cast

make "Stranger Than Fiction" one of this year's best movies.

The comedy is filled with unexpected humor which in most cases comes at the expense of Ferrell. A large change for Ferrell is that he plays a serious character which is interesting and a break-through for him.

The film is directed by Marc Forster. He places special effects of white writing and illustrations on the screen while the action is going on. These illustrations deepen the viewer's understanding of the situation that would take longer for the characters to explain in a traditional method. Other great members of the cast include Maggie Gyllenhaal as Crick's Girlfriend, Dustin Hoffman as an English literature professor, and Queen Latifah as a writing assistant.

"Stranger Than Fiction" is a great movie with both a comedic and serious side. The fresh idea and mix of characters makes it well worth seeing.

lastcall

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'The Birthday Party' for adult eyes only

Village Theatre put on a jaw-dropping play performed superbly

By Michael Peterson
Senior Verge Reporter



Rape, torture and psychotic breakdowns would be unexpected when going out for a relaxing night of theater.

But those who went to see "The Birthday Party" at the Village Theatre last weekend were treated to exactly that.

The play, which was put on by Eastern's Department of Theatre Arts, was a rendition of Nobel Prize winner Harold Pinter's 1958 play.

The script revolves around a failed piano player named Stanley (played by Rich Aguilera), who is staying at a small boarding house in a seaside England town, owned by Petey (Robert Mendoza) and his kind-natured wife Meg (Cari Maher).

Meg is planning a birthday party for Stanley even though Stanley is constantly verbally abusing her.

However, things really get interesting when two men, Goldberg (Ryne McCormick) and McCann (Garin Jones), show up at the boarding house looking for a place to stay.

Goldberg and McCann are two business-dressed men who seem to somehow know Stanley from the past and have come specifically to the house to find him. The men take every chance they have to torture and interrogate Stanley.

"The Birthday Party" is soaked to the bone in ambiguity. The audience never finds out why Goldberg and McCann come looking for Stanley or even how they know him. The reason for Stanley's eventual mental break-down is also shrouded in mystery. The play is more of a character study than anything.

For a play that revolves around the psychology of

the main characters, the acting abilities of the people portraying the people can either make or break the play. Luckily, the acting was very strong. McCormick and Jones were especially good in their portrayals of the two men coming to "collect" Stanley. However, it really was McCormick's performance that stole the show.

McCormick brought a menacing tone to his character that put shivers down the audience members' spine.

Also, of all the actors faking accents, McCormick's was the most convincing.

Even the props, lighting and costumes were well done.

It was nice to see a play where the actors were actually eating real food and drinking real liquid instead of miming it.

They even had fake cigarettes, which puffed out smoke when the actors blew out of them.

The major complaints would be with the accents though.

Most were done convincingly enough, but occasionally there were times when it became too obvious that Americans were the ones starring in a play that takes place in England.

Also, the play is definitely not for everyone. There is a scene near the end of the play that is clearly for mature audiences.

The play definitely left some audience members scratching their heads at the end.

If one goes into this play expecting to get answers at the end, they will be greatly disappointed.

Aftermath

After hearing that the "The Birthday Party" has generated some local controversy because of a graphic rape scene, I started thinking about the state of censorship in America today.

Ever since Janet Jackson shocked the nation with her infamous "wardrobe malfunction," censorship has been a very hot topic. And today, the king of censorship is Wal-Mart.

In 2005, Wal-Mart refused to carry Willie Nelson's new album "Countryman" because it featured marijuana leaves on the cover.

However, an alternate cover was then later distributed by Wal-Mart to satisfy its concerns.

Since then, other musicians have had to change their cover art or song lyrics to satisfy Wal-Mart.

Should artists bend over backwards to please Wal-Mart just so they can sell their albums to a wider market?

It's sad artists are compromising their artistic integrity. I would really like to see artists stand up for their work and not compromise with Wal-Mart.

Luckily, there are still plenty of art that is untouched by America's fast-growing intolerance.

Wal-Mart couldn't stop me from seeing "The Birthday Party," which contained plenty of profanity and sexual content, and if I ever want to buy CDs I will just walk over to Positively Fourth Street Records, which sells CDs the way artists intended them to be.

Behind the scenes: lighting and design

big role.

Poor lighting and stage design can distract the audience from the power of the play.

Lighting, props and design all make up the set of a play.

Therese Kincaid, director for the Charleston Community Theatre for more than 20 years, explained that for its last show, "Stones in His Pockets," the theater's use of the stage was very minimalistic, which means there is little stage design to show the setting.

The only things in the background on the set were blown-up pictures of images one would see in Ireland and a few small props.

The two reasons for having a minimalist

stage are making it easy to switch locations during the play without having to change a lot of furniture around and it forces the audience to focus on the characters.

"For this show, I wanted to make it as minimal as possible," Kincaid said. "I wanted to make it uncomplicated so they (the actors) could move quickly from one scene to another and one character to another. For example, at one point they are in a bar, but they never actually have a drink in their hands."

Another important factor when making a set is the lighting.

David Radavich, an English professor and

author of 17 plays, explained the lighting a director chooses to use during a play often varies on the genre of the production.

"Colors are very important in lighting," Radavich said. "The color of the lighting depends on the nature of the play. For instance, if you have a depressing play, then you would have a lot of black and maybe some blue. If it's a murder scene you might use dark red lights during the scene."

He also said if the play is a romantic comedy, directors will often use pastel or light colors.

Lighting, therefore, can make or break the mood the director is trying to get across.



By Michael Peterson
Senior Verge Reporter

"Romeo and Juliet," "Death of a Salesman" and "The Birthday Party" are all great plays that many attend for the moving story and powerful characters. But there is much more to making a good play than having a great script; stage design and lighting play a

the daily eastern news **CLASSIFIEDS**

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» Program

FROM PAGE 1

These are not the only students who can qualify to receive food stamps, but these circumstances are used as guidelines to help IDHS decide which students can receive food stamps. Students who are single, married, a single parent or an average college student can apply to get food stamps, she said.

A person can only use the food stamps for food and not hygiene products, cigarettes or alcohol, said Lynn Collins who manages the food pantry at a church in Charleston.

Hubbard pointed out that it didn't seem fair because she didn't know how people on food stamps were going to buy hygiene products or other things they need.

Previously, Illinois received \$4.3 million for the Food Stamp Program from the USDA in 2004. This money was used to gain better tools, such as upgrades on their computer programs, McGahey said.

"The number of people on food stamps has been climbing for several years," Greene said. This is a result of the economy and of the program's efforts to help more people receive food stamps in Illinois, he said. Hubbard and her husband no longer receive food stamps. Now Hubbard's husband has a job that pays a mere \$750 a month for working seven days a week and they don't qualify for food stamps, Hubbard said.

» Blue

FROM PAGE 1

The men then used this method to direct the audience to stand, move to the left, right and sit down at the light's off position.

Following a knocking on the door exercise, where two drummed on one side and the third would answer on the inside, Chicago's imitation of the marshmallow skit was 'thrown' together.

No marshmallows were thrown successfully in a blue man's mouth, but many were thrown at one of the member's backs, or were headbutted, or thrown into the audience. One hit an audience member in the head.

They gave signs of their humor through, well, large cardboard signs the three held up, which were all must-reads: "96% of us will die in our lifetime" was one. "Go Cardinals" was another, gathering mixed crowd response, until "Go Cubs" came up, and finally "Go White Sox" satisfied most everyone.

The Eastern trio agreed that the hardest part of the act, though, is keeping their composure.

"I'm basically the idiot one," Surgue said. "I do a lot of stupid (stuff), so it's kind of hard not to laugh when you have two guys staring you down the whole time."

"Once you get into costume and everything, it makes it a lot easier, I think, because you just get into the



JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

EIU Blue Man Group performs during their show Thursday evening at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union in the University Ballroom.

zone," Stack said.

The three have said (off-stage that is) they have taken a lot of their ideas from the Chicago show, but have also learned to incorporate their own ideas into EIU Blue Man. "The Sneeze" is an example.

This was a variation of the imitation of Chicago's sliding pipe, adjusted by Sugrue and Lexow, and given a pulse by Stack. Sliding the pipe creates higher or lower noises in the sound and just as it was

gaining steam, one of the members let out an "achoo" to a number of laughs.

The three ended the show with a rock-out combo of drum line, backup music that gained pace

by the second, along with the airport-style flashlights, getting the crowd off their feet. This was the same crowd that gave a standing ovation at the night's end anyway.

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» **Athletes**

FROM PAGE 12

Bellantoni said even though it means they won't be going home for Thanksgiving, most of the athletes would rather be playing football and still have a chance to compete for the national championship.

"I am hoping we don't get to go home," Stinson said. "Sure, it would be nice to go home, but in the back of my head I would be thinking, 'Man, I wish I was still playing football.'"

The men's basketball team and the football team, if they are still here, plan to have Thanksgiving dinner together because they can't be with their families.

"I can't think of a better way to spend Thanksgiving than with the team," Stinson said.

The football team usually has Thanksgiving dinner at Richards Farm in Casey.

"That is pretty much the highlight of the whole week," Bellantoni said. "For a lot of guys that is all they've been talking about for four or five weeks, how they want to make the playoffs so they can go there, and I am one of them."

The men's basketball team will not be going home for Thanksgiving because they have a game on Tuesday at Lantz Arena and will be traveling on Friday to Murray State. Eastern plays at Murray State on Saturday.

"I think when you're a college ball player you know that is part of

it," said men's head basketball coach Mike Miller. "Thanksgiving and Christmas fall right in the middle of our season. It is just what comes with it and we make the best of it."

The women's basketball team has a game on Tuesday at Indiana State and the players can either go home from there or come back to Eastern and go home from Charleston. But they will all be expected back on Friday.

"Best thing about it for me is when classes aren't in session there is no rules as to how long we can stay on the floor," said women's basketball head coach Brady Sallee. "So we can practice and watch film all day. We will give our thanks over being able to practice and watch film many, many hours."

Even though the athletes will still be practicing, many appreciate the break from school so they can focus on their training.

The wrestlers will have practice until Tuesday or Wednesday of next week and will come back on Friday. Most of their practices will be twice a day because they don't have any classes to worry about.

Swimming and indoor track will be leaving for Thanksgiving break, but all athletes are expected to continue training on their own.

"If they don't get their stuff done over the break, they are the ones that pay the price," said head swim coach Ray Padovan. "It is not bad that they go home. Seldom do I get more than one or two that don't do what they are supposed to do. And you can figure that out real easy."

WEEKEND SPORTS | PANTHER BRIEFS

Men's basketball heads to Chicago looking for first win away from Lantz

Eastern looks to pick up its first road win of the season Friday when the Panthers travel to DePaul.

The Blue Demons are trying to get their first win before they travel to the Maui Invitational next week.

DePaul's home opener comes after two disappointing road losses to Bradley and Northwestern.

The Blue Demons are only averaging 48.5 points per game, which includes a 49-39 loss Tuesday at Northwestern.

The Blue Demons (0-2) are led by senior guard Sammy Mejia, who scored 19 points on eight of 11 shooting from the field two years ago, leading DePaul to a narrow 53-51 victory against Eastern in the Panthers' 2004-05 season opener.

Eastern's only player averaging double-figures is forward Bobby Catchings.

The Naperville native is scoring 14.2 points per game and shooting 51 percent from the field and 60 percent from beyond the arc.

The Panthers (1-3) are only allowing 60 points per game and forcing 17 turnovers per game.

- Matthew Stevens

Two Illinois teams ahead for Panthers' women's basketball

Two more in-state rivals await the Panthers this weekend.

After knocking off Bradley in its season opener, Eastern will take on Illinois-Springfield today in Lantz Arena and then Illinois-Chicago will make the trip to Charleston on Sunday afternoon.

Freshman Jessica Huffman performed well in place of injured starting point guard Megan Edwards, scoring 23 points and recording 7 assists against Bradley.

In Eastern's 92-75 win against Bradley on Tuesday night, 6-foot-2 forward Rachel Galligan scored 25 points, a career high, and pulled down seven rebounds in 33 minutes of play.

The Panthers had a sizable height advantage against the Braves, and they will again Friday because the Prairie Stars have just one player on their roster over six feet tall.

Against UIC on Sunday, however, the Panthers will be tested in the paint as the Flames have three forwards with size comparable to Galligan.

- Joe Waltasti

Wrestling heads to Missouri Open with divided squad

Last weekend's Central Missouri Open consisted of just one tournament.

This Sunday at the Missouri Open, though, presents a different scenario for the wrestlers.

"This weekend is an unusual tournament because it's two tournaments in one," said head coach Ralph McCausland. "They're going to divide it in half. They're going to have an open division on six mats and have a freshman-sophomore division on six mats."

McCausland said the tournament is well-organized every year, so it will be able to handle the two tournaments at once. He also said this is a chance for younger wrestlers to compete against people on their level.

"This is kind of a good scenario, especially for the younger guys, heading into a big tournament like this," he said. "We got true freshmen that ... could meet up with an all-American, fifth year, seasoned veteran."

- Adam Larek

» **Stevens**

FROM PAGE 12

They couldn't defend without fouling and couldn't attack the basket at all.

The team went a combined 18-37 during the 2003-04 and 2004-05 seasons, with losses to Division III Florida Gulf Coast and an eight and four-game conference losing streak. Now we are in the Mike Miller era.

Miller accepts the responsibility and understands he is the face of the program. He has brought an OVC-best recruiting class (something no Eastern coach has ever done) to Charleston.

This year's team looks to be playing extremely hard at the defensive end (allowing 59 points per game) and has the athletes to rebound the basketball. For the first time in my Eastern history, they have a fundamental problem - the new players can't put the ball in the basket.

Miller has brought the complex and sophisticated triangle offense to Charleston, and let me be the first to say: it's not working.

Don't get me wrong, I believe it's being taught perfectly, but this team isn't getting it. The ball goes from the point guard to the forward at either elbow and then, NOBODY MOVES!

It's like time stands still. No effective backdoor cuts, no screening for others, nothing.

Then the post player awkwardly tries to get rid of the ball without turning it over and 12 to 15 seconds is off the shot clock. Miller is forced to scream "move it" to players who can't help but look frustrated and confused. Miller's Eastern teams currently average 57 points per game and just scored 21 points in a half against an NAIA school Wednesday night. That's not good enough. The Ohio Valley Conference is down.

Defending champion Murray State has already lost to a Division II school and Eastern could pounce if they just loosen up, play, attack the basket and stop waiting for others to score.

our predictions

Here are the Daily Eastern News score predictions for Saturday's football game between Eastern and Jacksonville State.

Sports Editor
Matt Daniels (10-1)

Eastern 24, Jacksonville State 17

The Panthers win this tough, physical battle. QB play will be the difference and EIU's Cole Stinson comes through.

Associate Sports Editor
Marco Santana (9-2)

Eastern 17, Jacksonville State 13

Panthers make the playoffs by winning a defensive struggle, which is reminiscent of last season's finale.

Sports Reporter
Matthew Stevens (10-1)

Eastern 21, Jacksonville State 18

Panthers limit RB Clay Green's touches and force Gamecocks to pass.

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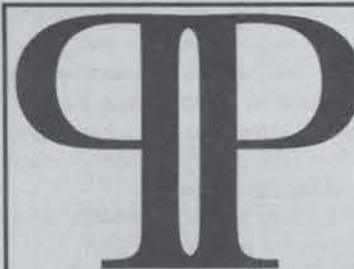
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SPORTS

FRIDAY
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PANTHER SPORTS SCHEDULE

MEN'S BASKETBALL

TODAY at DePaul | 7:30 p.m. Chicago

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

TODAY vs. Illinois-Springfield |
7:35 p.m. Lantz Arena

FOOTBALL

SATURDAY vs. Jacksonville State |
1:30 p.m. O'Brien StadiumSUNDAY at Missouri Open |
ALL DAY Columbia, Mo.MATTHEW STEVENS | THROWING
HEATThree eras
of Panther
basketball

Five years of Eastern basketball has allowed me to see three different eras. The Henry Domercant era, the post-Henry Domercant era and now the Mike Miller era, none of them successful, all of them dysfunctional but for different reasons.

What's interesting, if you compare all three, is that the problem has flipped 180 degrees.

The Henry Domercant era, which ended three years ago, was a pleasure to watch simply because everybody in Lantz Arena knew Eastern's all-time leading scorer was getting the ball, and still he scored 27 at Marquette, 30 at Illinois and 40 against Northern Illinois. By the way, the average attendance was 2,573, including a sellout crowd of 5,020 for Domercant's final home game against Austin Peay; compare that to 767 for Wednesday night's home opener against Indiana-South Bend. Pathetic.

The offense didn't stand around and watch Domercant, either. Everybody moved and screened to get Domercant an open shot.

It was the most effective I've ever seen an offense run at Eastern, but if Domercant had a bad night, a loss was inevitable because they couldn't defend well.

Lack of recruiting athletic wing players led to no postseason.

Next came the post-Henry Domercant era, which is not talked about much because these teams weren't just bad, they were silly bad.

This era got Rick Samuels fired. Josh Gomes was not a go-to scorer yet, Jesse Mackinson was not a legitimate center and guard Derik Holyfield was a cancer that killed the team.

» SEE STEVENS,
PAGE 11

Matthew Stevens is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at danville1999@yahoo.com.



NORA MABERRY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Head coach Mike Miller and Eastern will remain in Charleston during Thanksgiving break. The Panthers play two games during the break and will open up their Ohio Valley Conference season at Murray State on Nov. 25, the Saturday before students return.

No break for athletes

Practices, team meetings over
break have become routine
while other students head
home for ThanksgivingBy Brandy Provaznik
Staff Reporter

While the majority of Eastern students will gather up their laundry and pack their bags to head home today, many of the student athletes on campus will resume practices and meetings like normal.

The athletes have gotten used to the fact that getting time off is often detrimental to their training and sometimes the game or meet schedules conflict with the break.

"You really don't get too many breaks when you are an athlete," said assistant wrestling coach Clayton French. "Breaks mean time off and time off means other people are getting ahead of you. The time off from school is good, but training is a daily routine. You don't really want to get out of your routine especially during season."

Quite a bit of planning goes into keeping the athletes here over break because of housing and meal concerns.

If the athletes live in a residence hall, they are told to fill out waivers so they can stay, and since the dining centers will be closed, they also have to figure out a way to feed the teams.

The men's basketball team and football team plan out what the men eat on a day-to-day basis.

Eastern football's defensive coordinator Roc Bellantoni said that in the past, local restaurants have made donations to the team.

This year the football team is not yet sure if they will be staying for Thanksgiving break and they won't find out until this weekend.

The Panthers will need to win their game on Saturday against Jacksonville State at O'Brien Stadium, but doing so still will not guarantee a postseason bid.

If they win, they will have to wait until the selection show on Sunday afternoon to know if they are in the playoffs or not.

"It would be nice if we weren't in this stage of limbo," said junior quarterback Cole Stinson. "I wish we would have taken care of business awhile back."

» SEE ATHLETES, PAGE 11

FOOTBALL | REGULAR SEASON FINALE VS. JACKSONVILLE STATE

Eastern ready for
must-win gameA victory would give Panthers near-certain playoff
game while a loss could eliminate them completely

Win and possibly move on to the playoffs. Lose and the season's over.

This is the scenario Eastern coaches are preaching to their players this week leading up to Saturday's regular season finale at 1:30 p.m. against Jacksonville State at O'Brien Stadium.

However, four potential scenarios exist which could make one of four teams (Eastern, JSU, Tennessee State and Tennessee-Martin) the Ohio Valley Conference league champion and give them the automatic I-AA playoff berth.

Eastern, however, is only concerned about JSU.

"They practice a physical style of football," said Eastern acting head coach Mark Hutson about JSU. "They're a well-disciplined team. They very rarely beat themselves."

Since joining the OVC in 2003, JSU beat Eastern in its first two meetings.

Last year, with the conference title on the line for the Panthers, Eastern won 10-6 in a hard-fought, defensive struggle.

JSU is 11th in the nation in yards per game (263), while Eastern is 29th in the nation against the run.

Gamecock head coach Jack Crowe said he expects a big test from Eastern's defense.

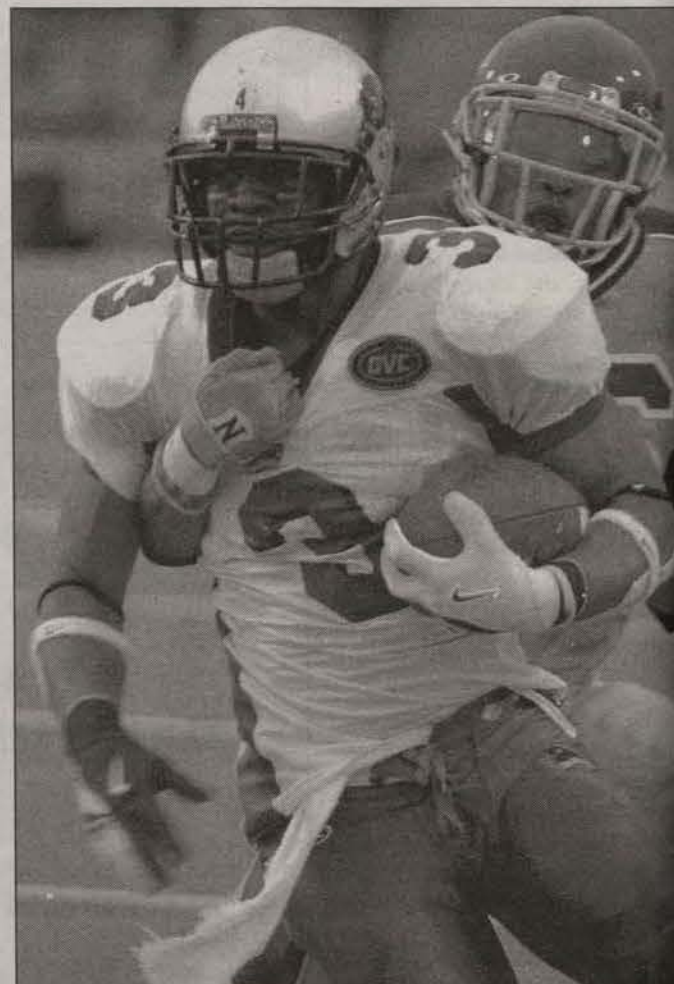
"Eastern seems to be a very consistent football team," Crowe said. "I think going to play an outstanding Eastern Illinois' defensive team would be a tremendous challenge."

— Matt Daniels

More inside

FOR ADDITIONAL BRIEFS ON
WHERE PANTHERS TEAMS WILL BE
THIS WEEKEND ...

SEE PAGE 11



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior wide receiver Jermaine Mobley makes a catch in last week's game in Cookeville, Tenn. The Panthers finish the season at home against Jacksonville State on Saturday.