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Daily Eastern News: February 03, 2011

Eastern Illinois University

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Student government committees create goals

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Top Cat Mick Viken looks to take down record

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WEATHER

Less snow fell than expected

By Sam Bohne
Associate News Editor

With expectations for 8 inches of snow Tuesday night, students awoke Wednesday morning to a snow day with only a few inches of snow on the ground.

Cameron Craig, a geographer and climatologist at Eastern, said Charleston did not get the snow he expected it to get because the weather system pulled out faster than he thought, "which was great because we didn't need any additional chaos."

In the Wednesday Feb. 1, edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, Craig said he expected Charleston to get a total of 5-8 inches of snow between Tuesday and Wednesday.

While Charleston received a layer of ice and some snow, the northern part of the state received about 20 inches of snow, according to the Feb. 2 issue of *USA Today*.

Craig said Charleston's weather could have been different if the low pressure would have moved more to the south and east. He said Charleston would have received more snow than ice.

As of Wednesday afternoon, Craig said temperatures for today should reach a high of 15 degrees and lower to minus 3 degrees at night.

"Cold, cold, cold, cold, cold," Craig said. "It's going to be an arctic blast."

Craig said with these cold temperatures, it might be difficult for road crews to get rid of the ice on the roads and sidewalks.

As for the weekend, Craig said Charleston might see some flurries, but nothing major. On Wednesday afternoon he predicted temperatures for the weekend to be in the 30s.

Students relax during their snow days

By Seth Schroeder
Activities Editor

With classes canceled Feb. 2 and 3, students had to find new ways to occupy their time. Many students went out to enjoy the weather, running through the snow, sliding on the ice and taking pictures of the frozen campus.

Other students have chosen to spend their days off indoors. The snow day has given many the chance to sleep in, play video games, watch TV and spend time with friends.

Lisa Perfors, a freshman music education major, has been visiting her friends and playing video games as well, but she has also used the extra time to work on her music.

"It's pretty sweet," said Perfors, "It's nice to have like one day where all I have to do is practice my violin and do homework."

Perfors lives in Pemberton Hall, where the resident assistants planned movie screenings in the hall's basement as part of the snow days.

Amanda Wood, a senior English major and an RA of Pemberton Hall, explained that she and

the other RAs planned the movie screenings in order to give their residents something to do during their time off. The movies were "Despicable Me" at 2 p.m. on Tuesday and "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World" at 2 p.m. on Wednesday. Wood also said many residents have been spending more time playing Pemberton's available board games.

Megan Budrean, a junior English major and resident of Pemberton, enjoyed the movie days, but she has also used the extra time to crochet. She does not consider herself very good, but she says she crochets often and whenever she watches TV. While she usually works on hats and scarves, recently she has been working on a doll.

Nicolas Ferry, a sophomore biology major, said he has found the snow days boring, and would like the university to plan more during snow days.

"Since we are paying for classes and don't have them, they should at least use the money for activities..." Ferry said. "I'd almost rather have classes."

Seth Schroeder can be reached at 581-2812 or scschroeder2@eiu.edu.

Darren Leeds, a senior geology major with a minor in broadcast meteorology said the next should not be like the past week.

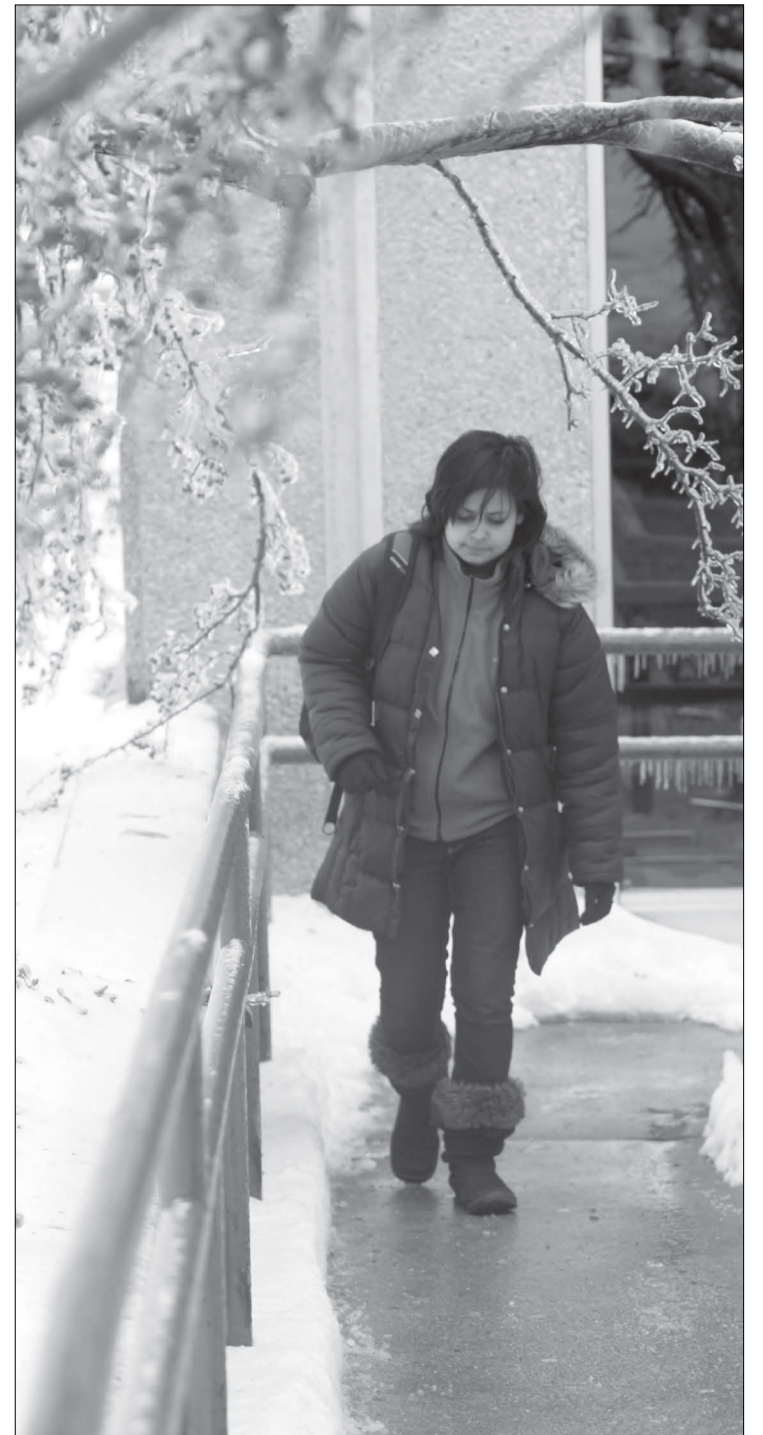
"As for right now, the next seven days are looking pretty dry," Leeds said Wednesday afternoon.

Leeds said Charleston had wind speeds of 20-25 mph On Wednesday

morning, but said the "wind event" is pretty much over.

"They're going to calm down and it's just going to be very cold," Leeds said.

Sam Bohne can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sami Ghimire, a sophomore accounting and economics major, walks out of the Stevenson Dining Hall on the shoveled ramp leading to the side walk Wednesday.

ENTERTAINMENT

Spring 2011 concert artist to be decided

Nike Ogunbodede
Student Government Editor

This year's University Board spring concert is rapidly approaching, and the final choices for the 2011 act are as popular as they are diverse.

The UB Concert contenders are: Keri Hilson, Owl City, Mike Posner with the Far East Movement, and The Roots.

Last year, the UB Concerts' brought Canadian-born rapper and actor Drake to Eastern's campus and more than 3,000 people filled Lantz Arena.

"We have to go with what's up and coming," Kelsey Warren, the UB Concert Chair-elect said. "It's a really long process and a lot more goes into it than anyone sees."

The decision process includes consulting an agent, surveying students, and researching present and future songs or album of perspective artists.

The concert committee has an agent to meet with who tells them who is up and coming, but ultimately the stu-

dents choose, Warren said.

"I think having a clear and open mind is a good first step because with any musical act there is the potential for a great show," Eddie Smith, the UB Concert Chair said.

Eastern is really yearning for a more diverse outlook from the hip-hop acts it has had before, Smith said.

"All of these groups were suggested by Eastern students when we had our first Facebook group up during the fall," Smith, a junior corporate communication major said.

Smith was in charge of last spring's Drake concert as well as Family Weekend's Kool and the Gang.

"With Drake we had a unique opportunity in front of us because when we originally booked Drake he didn't even have an album yet," Smith said.

One option is The Roots, a band formed in 1987, are currently performing as Jimmy Fallon's house band on his show *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon* has 10 albums out.

CONCERT, page 7



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Aubrey "Drake" Graham pauses during his performance April 6 at Lantz Arena. Before becoming a solo artist, Drake was most well-known for his role Jimmy on *Degrassi*.

BRIEF

Classes are in session

Staff Report

Class schedules are back on track beginning today after two snow days this week on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Classes were canceled while the university remained opened and faculty was asked to use their own discretion when coming to campus.

This was because of a winter storm that hit most of the United States during the beginning of the week.

Now that class schedules are back to normal members of the administration has asked everyone to remain cautious, said Vicki Woodard, the coordinator of public information.

"Students are to use their own discretion when deciding to come to campus, especially if they are traveling from out of town," Woodard said.

All facilities on campus should return to normal hours.

EIU weather

TODAY

FRIDAY



Clear
High: 11°
Low: -1°

Partly Cloudy
High: 20°
Low: 11°

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

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

Contact

If you have corrections or tips, please call:

217-581-7942

or fax us at:

217-581-2923

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About

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Contact any of the above staff members if you believe your information is relevant.

Corrections

The Daily Eastern News is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected as promptly as possible. Please report any factual error you find by e-mail, phone, campus mail or in person.

what's on tap

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

WEDNESDAY

6 p.m. Etiquette dinner

Learn the dos and don'ts of meal etiquette in the Grand Ballroom of the MLK Jr. Union. Learn practical tips and advice on how to conduct yourself during a formal dinner.

5 p.m. Chinese New Year

Carman Dining Hall is hosting a Chinese New Year celebration from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m.

All day- Deadline

The deadline for all faculty-led programs is this Friday. Applications have to be turned into the School of Continuing Education, which is located in Blair Hall, Room 2201.

4 p.m. Super Bowl party

Taylor Dining Center is hosting a Super Bowl party for students. There will be snacks, games and an eating contest, as well as watching the Super Bowl game.

If you want to add to the tap, please e-mail dennewsdesk@gmail.com or call 581-7942.

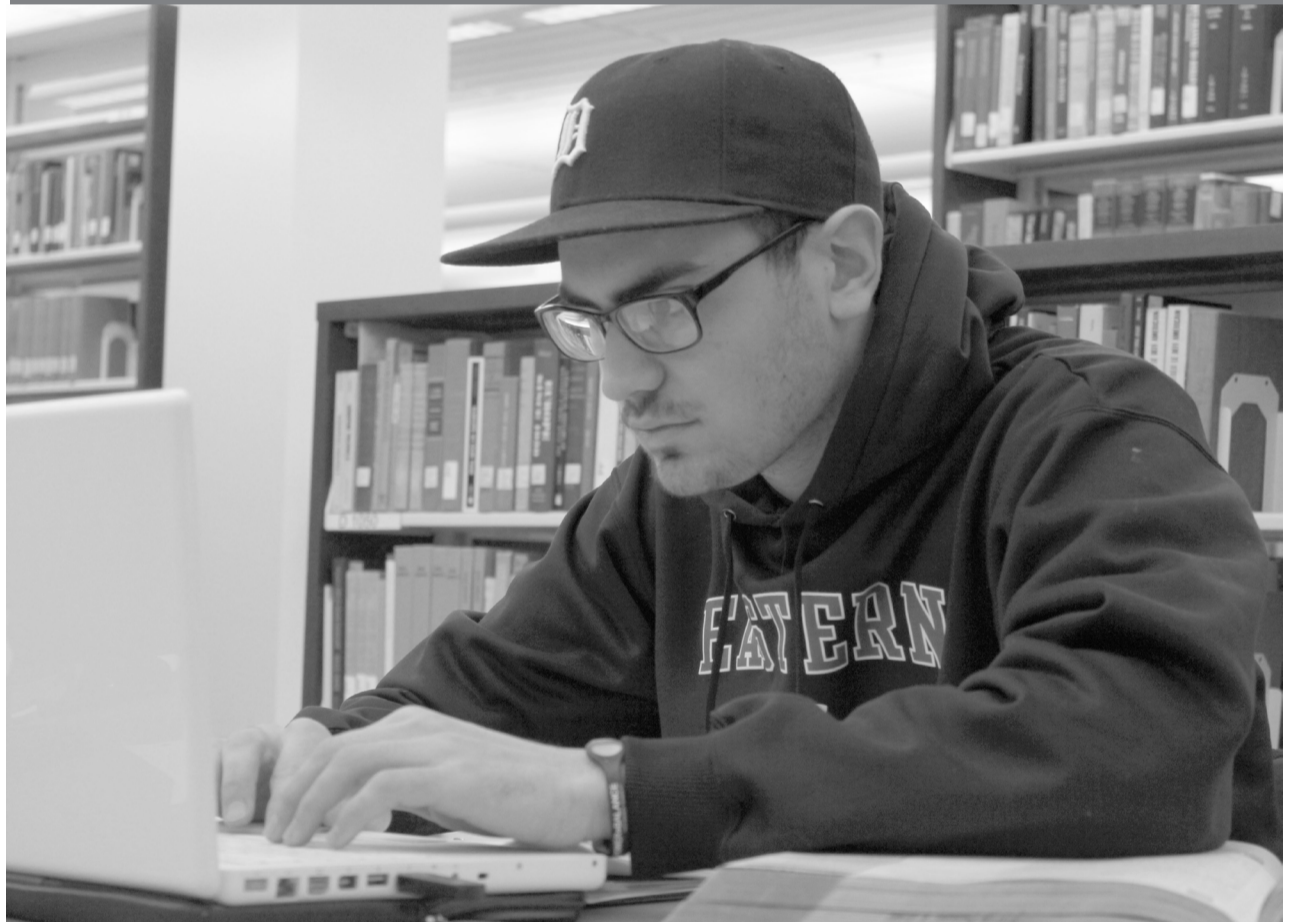
ONLINE



Blog: Wetlands

Were you trapped inside during the blizzard? Too far from campus to even think of going to the Rec? Too icy outside to even contemplate driving down the block? So was Christopher O'Driscoll. Read his blog "Together, we beat the blizzard" at DENNews.com to see how he and his neighbors beat the blizzard.

Studies come first



KATIE OVERBY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Nick Kosiek, a junior history major, takes advantage of the snow day on Feb. 2 to get homework done in Booth Library.

Show them you've got it bad with a Valentine's Day love ad

1X3 ad for \$10

• Ads will run Mon. 2/14 in a special Valentine's Day section

Come by Student Publications in Buzzard Hall or call 581-2816 by Thurs. 2/9 at 2 pm

EIU History Lesson

February 3

2009 A history professor from the University of Illinois turned African American Heritage month around when he gave a speech at Eastern about how most racial problems stem from white power.

1997 The Black Greek Council gave a presentation hoping to unify African Americans during African American Heritage Month.

1981 Eastern students began disputing with the police about the safety of the crosswalk on Fourth Street from the Triad over to Stevenson.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student committees share goals

By Seth Schroeder
 Activities Editor

This semester Jarrod Scherle, a senior finance major and Speaker of the Senate, asked each student government committee to come up with at least one productive program or goal for the end of the semester. While many of the committees are still planning things out, here is what they have so far:

Diversity Affairs Committee

Alex Boyd, a sophomore political science major and the chairman of diversity of affairs, said the point of his committee is to help unify the university. He hopes to do this by getting in touch with as many groups on campus as possible.

"The way I see it, there's a lot of people who don't know much about student government or just don't care," Boyd said. "A lot of people don't realize we have influence over a lot of important decisions on campus... I want to make them more aware of the other groups on campus, and make them realize we are more connected than a lot of people realize."

Academic Affairs Committee

Holly Henry, a sophomore political science major, is the chairwoman of academic affairs and she said she would like to make tutoring more accessible as well as possible co-sponsor a teen outreach program in Mattoon.

"I feel a lot of people don't really know where to go to find tutoring and some people are intimi-

dated by it," said Henry. "I want to advertise it more, let people know more about it. If you can get your grades up you can get a scholarship and save money."

Student Affairs Committee

The student affairs committee focuses on student government events as well as registered student organization requirements. Ed Hotwagner, a senior math education major and chairman of the committee, said that he would like his committee to review RSO requirements more quickly than before. He would also like to advertise the student government events more, make sure they are more planned out and work with the other committees.

"I feel student government is a machine and we need to work together to make it more efficient," said Hotwagner.

External Relations Committee

Tommy Nierman, a junior business management major and chairman of the external relations committee, said that he wants to plan more programs to help students build good relations with the city of Charleston. Two of these programs would be a local business expo to show off the business available in the community, and a website where landlords can post available housing information.

"The website would be a one-stop shop for students wanting to live off campus," Nierman said.



KIM FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Student Body President Michelle Murphy swears in the new senators at the student senate meeting Jan. 26 in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

University Development and Recycling Committee

Zach Samples, a freshman history major and chairman of the University Development and Recycling Committee, explained that this committee has two main projects.

They would like to expand paper recycling to every floor of every residence hall including Greek Court. They are also planning a green week where student government will plan several events to help ed-

ucate students environment related issues they will likely encounter.

"A lot of people don't realize that with paper recycling, the university makes money off that," Samples said. "So increasing that increases revenue and makes it easier for the university to make ends meet, which directly impacts students."

Internal Affairs Committee

The members of the internal affairs committee take care of student government time cards and make

sure student government is running smoothly.

Mary Lane, the internal affairs chair, was unable to comment at this time.

Business Affairs Committee

Roberto Luna, the chair of the business affairs committee, was also unable to comment at this time.

Seth Schroeder can be reached at 581-2812 or scschroeder2@eiu.edu

STUDENT GROUPS

African Student Association to present event in Coleman

By Amy Wywialowski
 Staff Reporter

Today the African Student Association will be presenting an event titled "Speak to Your Brother" in the Coleman Auditorium at 7 p.m.

This is the third time in three years that the group is teaming up other groups around campus to create such an event.

"The past two events were well attended and created good, heated discussions," said Chinenye Ezurike, a junior hospitality major and the ASA president.

She described the event as a way to discuss stereotypes.

"Basically it is a way to expose the positive and negative viewpoints posed to Africans and African Americans in society and on campus and how they affect campus and society

as a whole," Ezurike said. "Ultimately we are all brothers and sisters. We need to put aside our differences and come together as one."

Micheal Loudon, the ASA advisor, said the goal of the event is to create a dialogue between the African American community on campus as well as the African community on campus.

"With this event we try to create and initiate a dialogue between the two groups, even if it just once a year," Loudon said. "At past events we were astounded at the results, many people held these prejudices and didn't even know it and it really does depend on how you grow up and are raised."

Loudon said there will be six individual speakers at the event from the ASA, the Black Student Union and other groups.

Ezurike said this is ASA's "kick off" event for the spring semester.

"We're trying to open the door and raise awareness around campus that ASA is here and ready to get involved," Ezurike said.

She also mentioned they have a movie night planned for the end of February.

Ezurike is hoping for a good turnout for Thursday's event but says it depends on the weather.

"I know a lot of professors mentioned it to their classes and are planning on coming. Also, a lot of people accepted the Facebook invitation and wrote on the event page's wall; as long as we have school the event will go on as scheduled," Ezurike said.

Amy Wywialowski can be reached at 581-2812 or alwywialowski@eiu.edu

BRIEF

Film discussion to take place in Tarble Arts Center

Staff Report

"We're Eating Flipper," an event consisting of a film showing of "The Cove" and a panel discussion, begins at 7 p.m. today in the Tarble Arts Center atrium.

"The Cove" is a documentary that follows a team of activists that explore a cove in Taiji, Japan and discover

ecological crimes being committed.

The panel discussion following the film will be led by Eastern faculty including Robert Colombo, a biological science professor; Jonelle DePetro, a philosophy professor; Melinda Mueller, a political science professor and Robin Murray, an English professor.

The faculty will discuss the different ethical, environmental and legal

issues associated with the content featured in "The Cove."

Audience members can participate in the discussion after the faculty on the discussion panel present their viewpoint.

"We're Eating Flipper" is presented in conjunction with the "Thriller" exhibition in the Tarble Arts Center.

CORRECTION

In Wednesday's issue of *The Daily Eastern News* Martin Schaefer was misidentified. He was the acting president in 1977. The DEN regrets the error.

NATION

Obama, McCain talk in Oval Office meeting

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Now, more than two years after clashing as campaign rivals, President Barack Obama and Sen. John McCain are putting their relationship on defrost and searching for some common ground.

Obama and McCain, the 2008 Republican presidential contender, met privately for half an hour Wednesday afternoon in the Oval Office, the outcome of outreach between the two after the Arizona shooting spree that seriously wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords last month.

"We talked about a wide variety of issues," McCain said later. "Obviously we talked about immigration, we talked about Egypt, we talked about fiscal issues."

Aides to both men said the discussion centered on areas where they have shared goals, an indication of repositioning by both the president and the senator in the aftermath of the 2010 midterm elec-

tions.

Obama contacted McCain after the Arizona senator wrote an opinion piece in *The Washington Post* praising Obama's remarks at a Jan. 12 memorial observance in Tucson for victims of the Jan. 8 attack that left six people dead and 13 injured.

The meeting hardly signals a new friendship. There were tough words exchanged during the presidential campaign in 2008 and hard feelings lingered well after. During a bipartisan meeting on health care in early 2010, Obama pointedly rebuffed McCain's complaints that health care legislation was being written "behind closed doors." Said Obama: "Let me just say this John, because we're not campaigning anymore. The election's over."

On Wednesday, McCain said his relationship with Obama has "always been cordial."

Asked how often they would confer, McCain joked, "Every morning." He added that more meetings were likely in the future, "but they really depend on the issues."

STAFF EDITORIAL

Snow days cost cash and time

The snow days not only seemed awesome to students, but it showed that Eastern was concerned for the safety of the student body.

Classes were canceled for two days because university officials wanted to take extra precautions in the ice storm that struck Charleston.

There were not many students who had a problem with Eastern's decision, but have students realized how much money they really lost during those two days off?

Or the impact it could have on the lesson plans for their classes?

It costs \$254 per credit hour to attend Eastern. That means one three-credit hour class costs \$762.

That is a lot of money!

Classes were canceled for two days, so those who have a 15-credit-hour schedule probably missed five classes if each class was a three credit hour class.

When the snow days were all said and done, students, or their parents, lost approximately \$100, since each class is roughly \$20 to \$25.

With the \$100 lost to the snow days, students could have paid last month's electric bill or two trips to the grocery store.

When we miss classes, we tend to forget that those classes are already paid for, so it is like flushing our money down the toilet.

As far as lesson plans go, professors will have to speed through some sections and overload students with work.

The professors may have to load students with extra homework to make up for the day, or two days, of class that were missed.

Those classes that only meet one night a week miss even more work when class is canceled.

Other professors may opt to skip the material missed and just keep moving forward.

This makes it easier on the students' workload, but it means the students are not getting everything they should out of the class.

Some important material could be passed over.

The snow days may have been a nice break, but were they really worth the cost?

Eastern did the right thing by putting the students' safety first, but students need to remember that a snow day in college is not the same as a snow day in high school.

Snow days mean a loss of money and education.

We hope every student made the most of his or her snow days.

After all, you paid for them.

The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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

COLUMN

Historic snow day no reason to complain

The weather that turned Charleston's streets and sidewalks to dangerous ice skating rink didn't just hit the lucky residents of Coles county.

People all across the country were affected by the weather, which added hours of toil to the lives of millions of Americans, be it through added time sitting in traffic commuting to their jobs or shoveling their sidewalks.

But for myself and thousands of Eastern students, all the impromptu "icepocalypse" forced us to do was move our cars from under falling icy tree branches and get a two-day break from classes.

Even though campus was brought to its knees by the deadly combination of crippling winds, freezing rain, chilling temperatures and the kind of snow that gets in your boots and makes your feet wet, I'd wager the majority of on-campus students didn't have to brave any of it unless their residence hall wasn't attached to a dining hall.

I'd also wager that the majority of off-campus students only braved the cold if their food reserves ran out or if there wasn't



Doug Graham

quite enough beer to supply one of the many snow-day house party celebrations.

It is for that reason that there is no place in the world I would have rather been than here at Eastern during this time of dangerous weather— all of my needs were provided for without having to face the raging ice storms or shovel pounds of heavy snow or freeze in an unheated room.

Yet despite this, I have overheard many students still complain about their two days off from classes.

I want to make it clear that the people complaining were in the lucky portion of the student population who didn't have to go to class, go to work, or even go outside during the storms.

If the person complaining was one of the poor souls whose job it was to go dress up like an Eskimo and trudge across the tundra to swipe people's panther cards at a dining hall, then they have plenty of reason to do so.

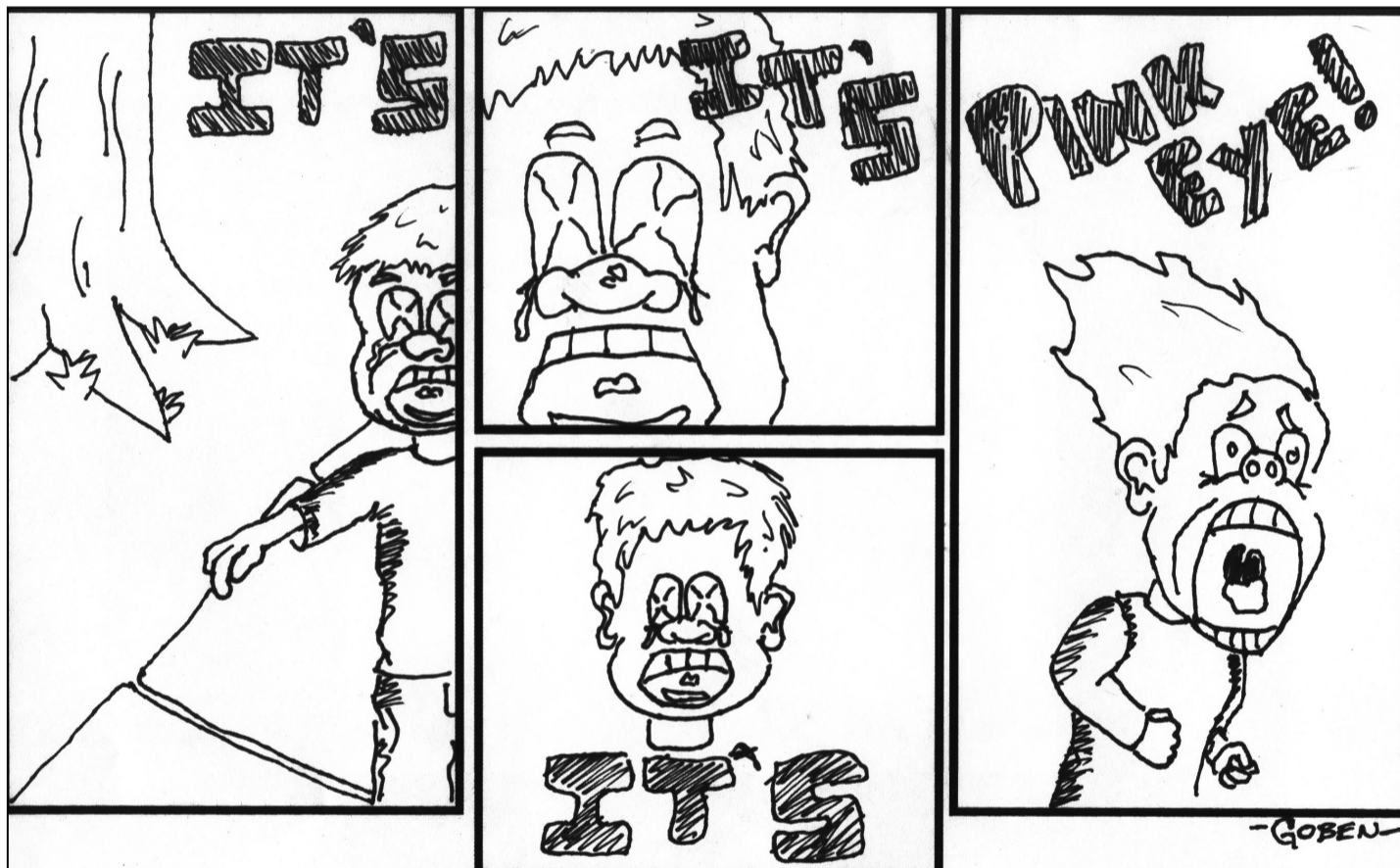
But those who are upset because the snow broke their weekly routine or gave them cabin fever have got to wake up and realize that what we've experienced these past two days is something historic and something that won't happen again in our college careers.

(I'm really hoping I jinx it by saying that and we get another one next week.)

The only way the two days off of class could be made any better is if the school crunched the numbers on our lost class time and cut each student a refund check for the lost learning time that we paid for— something just about as unlikely as another pair of snow days.

Doug Graham is a senior journalism major. He can be reached 581-2812 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

FROM THE EASEL



GARRETT GOBEN | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

COLUMN

The best teachers expect more from students

By Alesha Bailey
 Columnist

When I was in high school, I had an art teacher who used to push me to do my best.

My art teacher was not the type of person to hand out A's to everyone just because we finished our assignments.

She had high expectations for us. If she honestly believed we could have done a better job at our projects, she would grade us according to her expectations.

She would also give us advice on how to improve and think of more creative approaches with our artwork.

In college, students are expected to use critical thinking skills to contribute to discussions and share ideas with others.

In order to do this, professors have to force critical thinking out of students by pushing them to think outside of the box.

Professors are not here just to simply give out homework assignments and reward

grades to students.

They are here to inspire students to rise to their potential.

Students may find the encouragement from instructors to be inspirational.

An inspirational teacher is someone who tells you not to give up.

An inspiration teacher is someone who believes in the abilities of their students and gives their students the motivation to persevere.

Some students may not experience this positive energy from some of their professors, but students should not take for granted professors who push them to do their best.

Students should find comfort in the fact that an educator of a higher status believes in their ability to make it in the real world.

Role models can show up anywhere, and people can find ambition in the most unexpected places or circumstances.

Although I am a journalism major in college, I received motivation from an art

teacher in high school.

And I'm glad that my art teacher expected more out of me than simply showing up and doing the bare minimum required to pass the class.

My art teacher's ambitions for me also caused me to have ambitions for others.

I was a journalism counselor for a high school group over the summer.

Not only did I give them advice on the articles that they wrote, but I also tried to inspire them to be as creative as possible with their writing.

I'm sure that someone out there has a story that is similar to or even better than mine, where someone pushed him or her to be successful.

The motivation that educators give their students can hopefully cause them to become role models to others in the future.

Alesha Bailey is a freshman journalism major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in *The Daily Eastern News*.

The DEN's policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words.

Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

Letters may also be submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

STATE

Bill signed, striving for more

By Kayleigh Zyskowski
News Editor

Gov. Pat Quinn signed the Civil Union Bill into law on Monday, but Nick Canaday, the social director of EIU PRIDE, said there is still a ways to go before equality is reached.

"My initial reaction is to be happy," said Canaday, a junior English major. "It's nice to finally have legal recognition for our relationships."

However, while Illinois is one of the few states in the US to recognize a civil union between gay and lesbian couples, this contract will not be seen as the same across state lines.

"One of the main issues this creates is the notion of separate but equal," Canaday said. "It's just saying that it is good enough to have a civil union and basic rights but it's not at the same level as a marriage."

The idea that it is not a license that is recognized across state lines is not constitutional, said Ryan Plunkett, the president of the EIU Democrats.

"That is not how these things are supposed to work," Plunkett said.

The US saw this same debate in the '60s and '70s over interracial marriages, Plunkett said.

"It's just saying that it is good enough to have a civil union and basic rights but it's not at the same level as a marriage."

Nick Canaday, social director of EIU PRIDE

In the Supreme Court Decision of Loving v. Virginia, bans were lifted on interracial marriages.

"Eventually this ban was struck down," Plunkett said. "Someone will eventually take (the Civil Union law) to court and it will be made right too."

Ohio is another state in the Midwest that extends civil unions to gay and lesbian couples.

However, in Ohio, the supreme court found the absence of equal civil union rights to be unconstitutional however, making Illinois the only state in the region that has put it into law by legislative action, Plunkett said.

The Civil Union Bill that was passed in December by a vote of 61-52 in the Illinois House and 32-24 in the Senate gives rights to gay and lesbian couples such as hospital visitation and social security.

"This affects all LGBT across the nation; it is absolutely a step in the right direction," Canaday said. "However, there are still some things to keep working towards."

Hospital visitation rights and legal rights to money are two examples Canaday used that are now legitimized for gay and lesbian couples.

"While I can't speak for every member of the LBGT community, the majority of us are happy but we are going to keep working for more," Canaday said. "But it definitely gives us more protection than there was before. This is recognizing it really as more of just a business deal instead of a vow of love and trust."

Kayleigh Zyskowski can be reached at 581-2812 or kzyskowski@eiu.edu.

BOOTH LIBRARY

Franklin presentation promises to be electrifying

By Seth Schroeder
Activities Editor

Steven Daniels, a professor and the chair of the physics department, promises "arcs and sparks" during his presentation at 4 p.m. today in Booth Library's conference room on the fourth floor.

The seminar will focus on the inventions of Benjamin Franklin, and the science around it. As part of the event, Daniels will have several scientific demonstrations involving electricity.

"I hope to educate people a little bit about inventions, a little bit about electricity, and a little bit about Benjamin Franklin," Daniels said.

He said that he will also be presenting a musical instrument that was created by Franklin. The instrument is called an armonica, or glass harmonica, and uses the vibrations and resonance from the musician's hands running over glass surfaces to create musical notes. Daniels explained that this is a similar principle to the music produced by someone moving his or her finger around the rim of a wine glass.

"As Franklin put it, (the armonica) is one of his best inventions..." said Daniels, "It actually caught on for a while... people like Mozart wrote music for it."



Jocelyn Tipton, the head of reference services at the library and organizer for the event, said that Daniels' demonstrations should make the presentation exciting and "more lively."

"Franklin did so much with inventions," said Tipton. "This is really what we associate with Franklin."

Tipton said the library was excited to have someone from the physics department to do the presentation since the science involved really goes along with their field.

The presentation is part of the library's larger exhibit on Franklin that is going on throughout February. Tipton explained that since this presentation will focus more on Franklin's science it will "help round out all of the programs" since the others have focused more on his art and humanity work.

"The thrill of learning is interesting to me," Daniels said.

Seth Schroeder can be reached at 581-2812 or schroeder2@eiu.edu.

STATE

Flight cancellations top 6,000 for 2nd day

By The Associated Press

A massive winter storm smothered airports on Wednesday, and airlines canceled more than 6,000 flights for the second day in a row. They gave up altogether flying in or out of Chicago, where for a while the only plane landing at O'Hare International carried the Blackhawks hockey team.

Over two days the airlines have canceled more than 13,000 flights, according to flight-tracking service FlightAware.com. The cancellations were concentrated at O'Hare, one of the nation's most important air hubs.

The decision by all the major carriers to stop flying in Chicago ripped out to airports around the country, because even travelers who aren't headed to Chicago catch connect-

ing flights there on United or American, which use O'Hare as a hub. And snow and ice hampered flights elsewhere, too, with Southwest Airlines Co. canceling some Wednesday morning flights from Columbus, Ohio, and all of its morning flights from Dallas.

According to FlightAware, 474 flights in and out of Boston were canceled and 639 at New York LaGuardia. Overall, 1,356 flights were scrubbed at the three big New York-area airports because of snow and ice.

American Airlines was doubly troubled by a slowdown at its biggest hub in Dallas after ice coated the runways on Tuesday. The 1,600 cancellations by American and regional partner American Eagle added up to nearly half their schedule, spokesman

Tim Smith said.

Most airlines stopped trying to fly at O'Hare by Tuesday night. A charter flight carrying the Chicago Blackhawks hockey team landed around noon. Swift Air loaded the Boeing 737 with extra fuel in case it needed to circle or divert, and found a window in the weather when it could land, said Steve Kasteler, who runs Swift's VIP charters.

The Blackhawks had played in Columbus Tuesday night, and need to be in Vancouver for a game on Friday. "It's critical for them to get home to be in their own beds tonight and get a good night's rest," Kasteler said.

A handful of other charter flights landed at O'Hare later in the afternoon.

Airport snowplows worked all night to try to keep runways open, but they were almost no match for high winds and low visibility. Rosemarie Andolino, commissioner of the city's aviation department, was up in the old control tower that is now used to oversee snowplow and other airport operations. Wind gusts topped 50 mph.

"It was swaying. You can get to a point where you have to evacuate it. We were getting close to that," she said.

Airlines canceled hundreds of their Wednesday flights a day in advance. This avoids having travelers stuck at airports, and makes it easier to station crews and planes in the right places when flights begin again.

United Airlines was planning to

resume departures from O'Hare by mid-morning Thursday. It added extra flights on wide-body planes to help get people moving.

"Our maintenance personnel have been out there all day today making sure that the aircraft that are here will be ready for startup in the morning," Megan McCarthy, a spokeswoman for United Continental Holdings Inc., which runs United and Continental.

Airlines scratched more than 4 percent of all their flights between November 2010 and January 2011. Once final January numbers are available, that's likely to be the highest rate of cancellations for that three-month period since 1995-96, according to government data and flight-tracking firm FlightView.

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NATION

Blizzard brings record snow

By The Associated Press

CHICAGO — A fearsome storm spread a smothering shroud of white over nearly half the nation Wednesday, snarling transportation from Oklahoma to New England, burying parts of the Midwest under 2 feet of snow and laying down dangerously heavy ice in the Northeast that was too much for some buildings to bear.

Tens of millions of people stayed home. The hardy few who ventured out faced howling winds that turned snowflakes into face-stinging needles. Chicago's 20.2 inches of snow was the city's third-largest amount on record. In New York's Central Park, the pathways resembled skating rinks.

The storm that resulted from two clashing air masses was, if not unprecedented, extraordinarily rare for its size and ferocious strength.

"A storm that produces a swath of 20-inch snow is really something we'd see once every 50 years — maybe," National Weather Service meteorologist Thomas Spriggs said.

Across the storm's path, lonely commuters struggled against drifts 3 and 4 feet deep in eerily silent streets, some of which had not seen a plow's blade since the snow started a day earlier. Parkas and ski goggles normally reserved for the slopes became essential for getting to work.

"This is probably the most snow I've seen in the last 34 years," joked 34-year-old Chicagoan Michael

George. "I saw some people cross-country skiing on my way to the train. It was pretty wild."

Although skies were beginning to clear by mid-afternoon over much of the nation's midsection, the storm promised to leave a blast of bitter cold in its wake. Overnight temperatures in the upper Midwest were expected to fall wind chills as low as minus 30.

Airport operations slowed to a crawl nationwide, and flight cancellations reached 13,000 for the week, making this system the most disruptive so far this winter. A massive post-Christmas blizzard led to about 10,000 cancellations.

In the winter-weary Northeast, thick ice collapsed several structures, including a gas station canopy on Long Island and an airplane hangar and garages near Boston. In at least two places, workers heard the structures beginning to crack and narrowly escaped.

In Middletown, Conn., the entire third floor of a building failed, littering the street with bricks and snapping two trees. Acting Fire Marshal Al Santostefano said two workers fled when they heard a cracking sound.

"It's like a bomb scene," Santostefano said. "Thank God they left the building when they did."

More than a half-dozen states began digging out from up to a foot of snow that made roads treacherous and left hundreds of thousands of homes without power.



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Chad Franks, of marketing and promotions, and Brian Fitzpatrick, a graduate student in business administration take photos of the frozen trees outside of Stevenson Hall Wednesday. Wednesday was the second day that classes were cancelled at Eastern.

STATE

Chicago man dies while shoveling

By The Associated Press

LYONS— Police in suburban Chicago say a 58-year-old who collapsed while shoveling snow in front of his home has died.

The Lyons Police Department says authorities were called to the man's home around 11:45 p.m. Tuesday. Because the road was impassable the man was taken to an

ambulance by a police armored vehicle.

The man was later pronounced dead at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood.

His name hasn't been released.

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STATE

Snow day in Chicago a mix of joy

By The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago Public Schools fourth-grader Ryan Eaddy, bundled in bright pink snow gear and headed for a sledding hill, had just one word Wednesday for the first snow day off she's ever experienced — "Awesome!"

The 9-year-old joined her siblings and neighbors in making the most of Chicago's first snow day since 1999, frolicking in the more than 20 inches dumped by the third-worst storm in the city's history. Other students huddled at home on a free day featuring howling winds and sheets of snow that at times made outside play painful.

In some cases, being indoors offered little comfort as families faced a day at home without heat or the free school breakfasts and lunches they

rely on each weekday. They prepared for another after officials said school would be closed for a second day Thursday, an unexpected announcement in a city — and school system — that prides itself on its winter fortitude.

Reluctance to cancel classes in the nation's third-largest school district during the past 12 years hasn't been surprising. Chicago Public Schools has more than 409,000 students, 86 percent of whom come from low-income families. Despite the closures, school buildings were ordered to remain open in case students stopped by for meals. No one took them up on the offer Wednesday.

Officials said 26 school buildings remained without electricity Wednesday afternoon, and noted that temperatures were expected to plunge below zero while many city streets re-

mained impassable.

"Because of the severity of this blizzard it is very clear that many of our personnel, teachers, and especially our students are simply physically unable to get to our schools," said interim schools chief Terry Mazany. He said officials would decide Thursday whether to keep schools closed on Friday.

Parent Wanda Hopkins said her 12-year-old daughter had no interest in venturing outdoors after spending the night without electricity or heat and piled under blankets.

"Some families are trying to make the best of it by taking the children out there and sliding in the snow, but the bottom line is, when do we go back to school, do we know? No," said Hopkins, assistant director for the advocacy group Parents United for Responsible Education.

CONCERT, from page 1

"The Roots have a really strong fan base and they are nominated for five Grammy's this year," Smith said.

The Roots are described as a hip-hop band with jazz musical undertones.

"In 2003, Rolling Stone named (the Roots) one of the 20 greatest live acts in the world and it would be great to bring that to Eastern," he said.

The synth-pop band Owl City first hit mainstream radio with the 2009 hit "Fireflies" and reached number one in seven different countries including the United States.

"My top two picks would probably be Mike Posner with the Far East Movement or Keri Hilson," said Warren, a junior marketing major.

Mike Posner and the Far East Movement were given to the concert committee as a package deal. The Far East Movement is mostly known for its hit song, "Like a G6."

"(The) Far East Movement would put on a really good show and Mike Posner would be awesome," Warren said.

"All four of these acts have the potential to have a great show."

Kelsey Warren, UB concert chair-elect

Keri Hilson, from an economic standpoint, is bigger than ever especially since her song "Pretty Girl Rock" came out, Smith said.

Concert tickets will cost from \$20-\$30, but will probably cost between low to mid-20s, Smith said.

"All four of these acts have the potential to have a great show," Warren said.

Nike Ogunbodede can be reached at 581-2812 or ovogunbodede@iu.edu.

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STATE

Illinois scores in Texas, Pennsylvania

By The Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN — Illinois added a pair of running backs Wednesday to help fill the gap left by Mikel Leshoure's departure and notched a tight end who coach Ron Zook says has the athletic ability to be a back.

The Illini added 27 recruits on national signing day, a class rated as high as 35th in the country by recruiting services. It's highlighted by running backs Donovan Young and Josh Ferguson, defensive back Dondi Kirby and tight end Jon Davis.

Zook said he was impressed with Young, a 5-11, 215-pound back from the Houston suburb of Katy, Texas, since he got his first in-person look at him.

"The first time I ever laid eyes on Donovan was at the bowl game," said Zook, referring to the Illini's Texas Bowl win over Baylor in Houston last December. "I said, 'Man, that guy looks like an NFL back.'"

The bowl victory, Illinois' first postseason game since a trip to the Rose Bowl after the 2007 season, gave the Illini a 7-6 record after back-to-back losing seasons.

Young and Ferguson join returning backs Jason Ford, the front-runner, and Troy Pollard in a backfield that was Illinois' offensive strength last fall with Leshoure. The junior rushed for a school-record 1,697 yards before deciding to skip his senior season and enter the NFL draft.

Kirby, a 6-3, 190-pound player from Monroeville, Pa., could potentially play any position in the secondary, Zook said.

"He's a big corner, or he can play safety," Zook said.

Recruiting services consider Davis one of the top 150 players in the country. But the tight end from Louisville, Ky., plays a position that sometimes goes ignored at Illinois. Starter Evan Wilson caught 10 passes last season.

Zook said Davis, though, is athletic enough that the Illini will need to get him the ball.

"He could be a tailback," Zook said. "This is a guy who's going to prove to be a playmaker for us."

Zook also added one of the top players from Illinois, quarterback Reilly O'Toole from Wheaton. He led his Wheaton Warrenville South team to a Class 7A state championship last fall.

In all, Illinois signed 14 offensive players, 12 defenders and a punter, Justin DuVernois from Plantation, Fla.

The Scout.com recruiting service ranked this Illini class 35th in the country and seventh in the Big Ten. Rivals.com ranked the class 41st in the country and eighth in the Big Ten.

Zook said the 38-14 bowl victory boosted Illinois' recruiting profile in Texas and elsewhere.

"For some reason, everybody saw that game," he said. "Maybe it was the time slot. From that standpoint, I think it was a positive."

HIGHER, from page 12

Viken is just one of many Eastern track and field team members to be ranked in the NCAA. Viken is currently ranked 19 in the NCAA, while the Panthers are ranked 9 in the mid-west region.

Viken said the rankings do add pressure, but he enjoys the challenge.

"I think it adds a little bit of pressure, but I like it. Every week I go and check the rankings and see what everybody else has jumped. It's a tough sport because every week everybody is getting better. If you're not improv-

ing, you're going to be dropping on the list," Viken said.

Viken says that despite the size of Eastern's team, the Panthers still have the talent to compete with the bigger schools that are in the region.

"As a whole unit, our track team isn't as big and doesn't have the depth that Big Ten teams have, but athlete for athlete in any event this school has the potential to beat just about anybody. We win a bunch of events regardless of who we're competing against," Viken said.

Viken says his level of competition will not slow down after taking the school record.

"Getting the school record, that's a big thing. Hopefully in the next week I'll have it outright instead of just tying it. There are collegiate guys out there right now that are jumping 18 feet. I'm not going to let up or stop until I'm up there with all the elite guys," Viken said.

Dominic Renzetti can be reached at 581-7944 or dcrenzetti@eiu.edu.

IMPROVEMENT, from page 12

The Cougars shot 40 percent in the game, but only shot 11 percent from the field in the overtime period, which gave the Panthers an advantage.

The Panthers shot 25 percent in the overtime period and 48 percent in the game to win.

This season, Berry and Hill are the only two Cougars to average double figure points. Hill leads the team with 13.5 point per game. Berry averages

11.2 points per game.

The Cougars have struggled on the road this season, going 1-7 compared to 6-6 at home. The Panthers on the other hand are most successful at home, going 6-4 in 10 games this season.

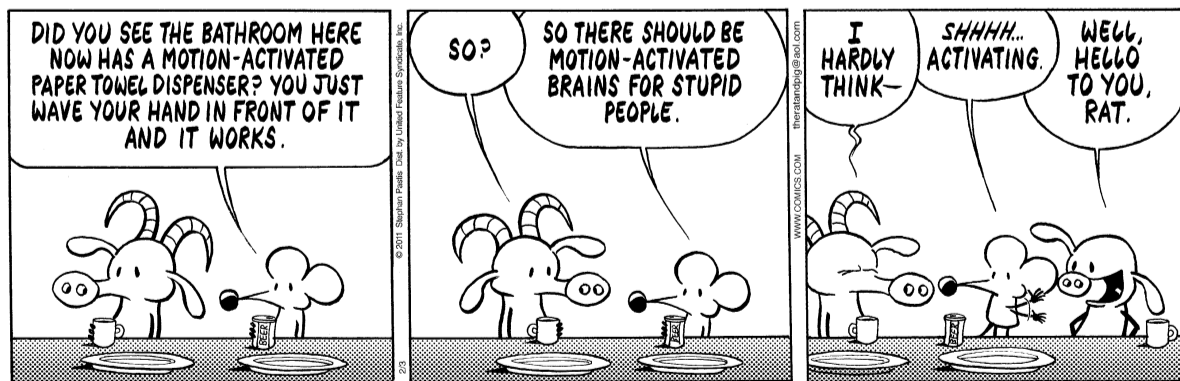
The Panthers are currently in fifth place in the OVC standings, behind Tennessee Tech, Morehead State, Tennessee-Martin, and Austin Peay.

Eastern has the same conference record as Austin Peay. Both teams trail the third place team by three games. Tennessee-Martin is 8-2 and in third place. Only three teams in the OVC have winning records overall — Tennessee Tech, Morehead State and Tennessee-Martin.

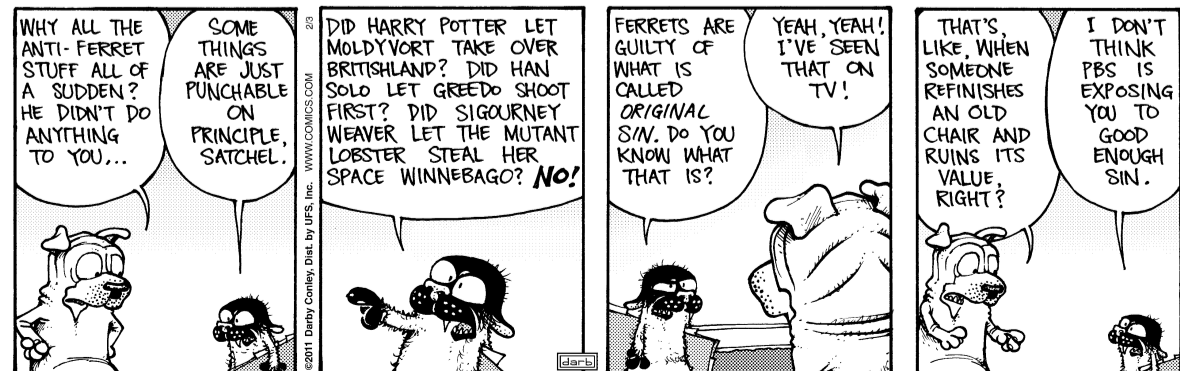
Alex McNamee can be reached at 581-7944 or admcnamee@eiu.edu.

COMICS

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE BY STEPHAN PASTIS



GET FUZZY BY DARBY CONLEY



NATION

Belichick wins third coach of year award

DALLAS — Bill Belichick is closing in on Don Shula.

The New England coach Bill Belichick won The Associated Press 2010 NFL Coach of the Year award on Wednesday, the third time Belichick has earned the honor. Belichick, who also won in 2003 and 2007, now trails only Don Shula, a four-time winner of the award.

For leading the Patriots to a 14-2 record, the best in the league, Belichick received 30 votes from a nationwide panel of 50 media members who regularly cover the NFL. That easily beat Raheem Morris, who led a turnaround in Tampa Bay and got 11½ votes.

Belichick has overseen a transition in New England to a younger team, particularly on defense. Of course, he still has Offensive Player of the Year Tom Brady at quarterback.

"I will say the foundation of the Patriots organization, which starts with Mr. Kraft and Coach Belichick, has not changed since the day I arrived," Brady said. "They have and will always do what is in the best interest of the team, and they will continue to find selfless players that love to work hard, compete and strive to be the best they can possibly be."

Then Belichick makes them even better.

"He really stays on top of us," wide receiver Wes Welker said. "He makes sure that we're not getting overconfident or believing in the noise outside the locker room and understand that every game's tough in the NFL."

Belichick's record with the Patriots is 126-50, plus a 14-5 mark in the postseason, with losses in the last three tries with teams that went a collective 40-8. His career winning percentage of .716 ranks eighth, tied with Hall of Famer Paul Brown, and no other coach has four 14-victory regular seasons.

This might have been Belichick's most impressive work as the Patriots retooled much of the roster, yet had a dominant regular season in which they won their final eight games.

"When you have so many things that go into a team, so many things that go into what's happened over the last decade, which ones do you point to?" he said. "You can make an argument for a lot of different things. In the end, it's each individual team and that collection of players that particular year and that particular time during the season or whatever it is, that was able to go out there and be suc-

cessful."

Belichick basically rebuilt the defense, particularly the secondary, where rookie Devin McCourty made the Pro Bowl.

He showed confidence in BenJarvus Green-Ellis as his main running back, and Green-Ellis rushed for 1,008 yards. Belichick claimed Danny Woodhead when the Jets cut him, and Woodhead was a dynamic piece of the offense and special teams.

Then there was the Randy Moss case.

Eager to remove the recalcitrant receiver, Belichick stole a third-round draft pick from Minnesota in early October for Moss, who lasted a month with the Vikings, then was cut.

Meanwhile, Belichick traded with Seattle for Deion Branch, the 2005 Super Bowl MVP with the Patriots. Branch had a rebirth in New England, making the Moss deal look even better.

And making the Patriots a better team — typical of what Belichick has done since getting his second chance to be a head coach. The first was a flop with the Browns, where he went 37-45 in four seasons and alienated nearly everyone in Cleveland.

"When I chose him, people at the league office, people in this town, sent me tapes of him in Cleveland and said, 'You don't want to hire this guy,' " Patriots owner Robert Kraft said. "And, remember, he went 5-11 (in his first year with Patriots) and we gave up a No. 1 draft choice (to the Jets to get him). People thought we were nuts.

"So I think that probably was one of the best decisions I've made in football."

Belichick is a disciple of Bill Parcells, the only other New England coach to win the award.

Morris lifted the Buccaneers from 3-13 in his first season to 10-6 in 2010 and in playoffs contention until the final week. He did it with the league's youngest roster.

"We put a lot on his plate," Bucs general manager Mark Dominik said, "and he has absolutely handled it all. We all see where this ship is headed."

Also receiving votes were Kansas City's Todd Haley (4½), whose team went 11-5 and won the AFC West; and four coaches with one selection apiece: Atlanta's Mike Smith, Philadelphia's Andy Reid, Chicago's Lovie Smith, and St. Louis' Steve Spagnuolo.

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INTRAMURALS

Pike Garnet, Revolution start games

By Chad Grimm
Staff Reporter

Intramural basketball holds more teams in its league than any other intramural year round. With a lot of teams, come countless competitive games.

The level of competition continues to grow as the intramural season progresses and that showed last night as game after game went right down to the wire.

One particular game stayed extremely close from start to finish when Pike Garnet took on Revolution at 5 p.m.

The teams battled back and forth

throughout the game with both teams leading numerous times. The nail-biter ended with Pike Garnet coming out on top by two points. Senior Ryan McNeil attributes the win to good free throw shooting.

"Free throws were big. I thought we were about to lose it. We'd missed a bunch of free throws all game," McNeil said.

"John (Roemer) stepped up and hit some big free throws at the end of the game and we shot well to close it out."

Roemer was fouled shooting a three-pointer with less than 20 seconds remaining in the second half and down by three points. He

stepped up to the line and knocked down all three shots to tie the game.

Roemer came down and hit another big bucket to give his team a two-point lead. Revolution dribbled back down the court but committed a backcourt violation to give Pike Garnet the ball back with 12 seconds remaining.

Revolution was given another opportunity with five seconds to go to tie the game. After a couple of missed shots, Revolution could not capitalize and Pike Garnet came out victorious, 41-39.

The teams, as well as the officials, seemed pleased with the way games are going this season. First year refer-

ee, sophomore Derek Tuchmann, said he is very excited about getting this season underway.

"This is pretty fun, we get some pretty fast paced games a lot of the time," Tuchmann said.

"It seems like the girls like to foul more than guys. I had to give one girl a technical for throwing some elbows but that's about it, no other problems."

McNeil has played in intramural basketball at Eastern before and he also thought the refs have been doing a much better job than years prior.

"I think officials have done a lot better this year actually. When peo-

ple drive, fouls are being called. Last year there could maybe be five free throws in a whole game," McNeil said.

With 86 teams in the league, it seems more and more people around campus are staying active and remaining healthy.

"I think there are definitely benefits from having so many teams. It brings a lot of people out here to the rec," Tuchmann said.

"A lot of people come to support. It's good for everyone and it gives me a job."

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NATION

Mike Who? Super Bowl coaches, that's who

By The Associated Press

DALLAS — Mike Who?

No one asks that anymore.

The coaches in Sunday's Super Bowl — Pittsburgh's Mike Tomlin and Green Bay's Mike McCarthy — were fairly obscure NFL coordinators when they were hired.

No one argues about their credentials now.

Tomlin was the youngest coach to win a Super Bowl when he took the Steelers to the 2008 title. McCarthy led the Packers to the playoffs in three

of his five seasons, culminating with their first trip to the big game since the 1997 season.

"You can't put into words what he brings to a football team," Steelers offensive coordinator Bruce Arians said, referring to Tomlin. "Intelligence, character, leadership, all the things you want in your head coach, and an uncanny rapport with his players, because he's basically their age."

Tomlin is 38; three players are only three years younger.

"For his age, he's more intelligent

than a lot of people who are probably older than him," cornerback Ike Taylor said. "He carries himself real well. Of course, he sees a lot of things other people don't see on and off the field."

Tomlin spent one year as Minnesota's defensive coordinator when the Steelers picked him to replace Bill Cowher and become just their third head coach since 1969. He and Tony Dungy are the only black coaches to win a Super Bowl.

"I embrace what comes with being a head coach," Tomlin said, "and a lot

of times that means making solo decisions and not finding comfort in certain places, and that's OK. My job is to lead these men, provide direction and a compass for them, and I take pride in doing it."

McCarthy is actually the coach with Pittsburgh roots, having grown up in the Steel City — rooting for the Steelers, naturally — and developing a desire to get into the business from watching Chuck Noll. While Tomlin is an intense, backslapper on the sideline, the 47-year-old McCarthy is not quite so de-

monstrative.

"He's a tough guy. He's a Pittsburgh guy," cornerback Charles Woodson said. "I think that's his presence. We kind of feed off of that. He wants his football team to play tough. I think we've done that over the course of this season. I think that's why we're here."

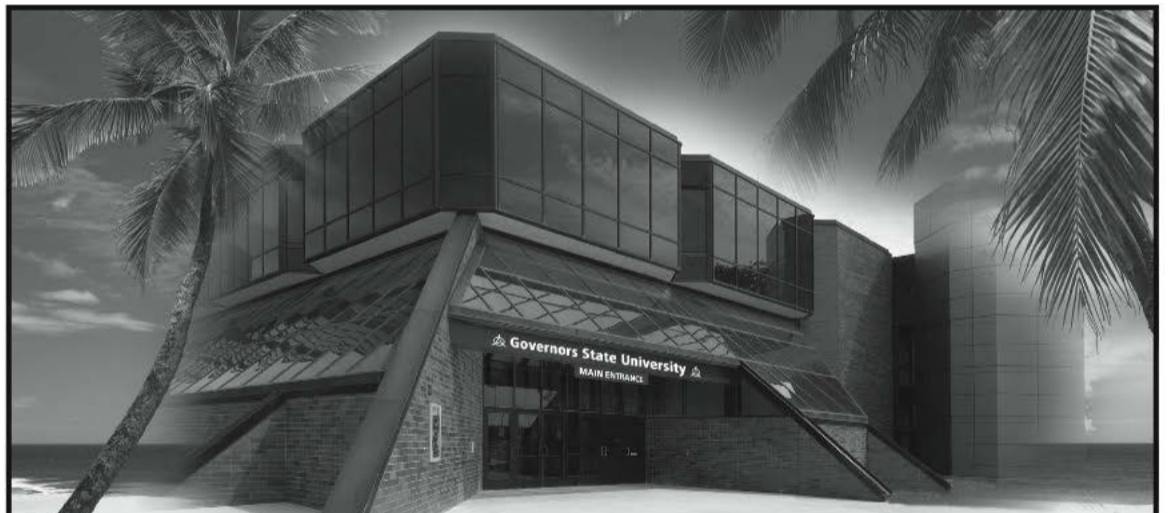
McCarthy was the offensive coordinator in San Francisco when he stepped into a position that always will be measured against one of the gods of the game, Vince Lombardi.

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TRACK AND FIELD

Nation's best bound for South Bend

Team moves to No. 9 in nation

By **Dominic Renzetti**
Assistant Sports Editor

The Eastern track and field team is hoping that the roads will be clear on Friday, as the team looks to travel to South Bend, Ind. for the Notre Dame Mevo Invite held at the Loftus Sports Center.

The Panthers will face a lot of good competition from schools such as Marquette and Western Michigan, as well as Big Ten schools Michigan, Illinois, Ohio State, Michigan State and Purdue. Also traveling up to compete in the meet will be SEC power Alabama.

The Panthers will enter the Mevo Invite with the No. 9 ranking in the midwest region. This puts the Panthers up two spots from last week's No. 11 ranking. Former top team Illinois has moved down from No. 1 to No. 5 in the rankings. Ohio State is currently ranked No. 16 in the nation by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

In the men's 60-meter dash, red-shirt junior Zye Boey will square off again against Andrew Riley of Illinois. Boey edged out Riley at last week's Illinois Intercollegiate tournament to win the event. Boey is currently ranked 27 in the nation, while Riley is ranked at 40.

Boey, who also won the 200-meter dash at the Illinois Intercollegiate, will also see Kirani James of Alabama at the Notre Dame Mevo Invite. James, a sophomore, currently holds the No. 3 nationally ranked time of 20.57 seconds. Boey is listed at No. 7 with a time of 20.74. James also holds the No. 2 time in the nation in the 400-meter dash with a time of 45.24 seconds.

The only other ranked member of the Panthers track and field team is red-shirt freshman Mick Viken, who is ranked No. 19 in the men's pole vault. Viken was also named Ohio Valley Conference Male Field Athlete of the Week for his performance at last week's Illinois Intercollegiate. This marks the second consecutive week Viken has received the honor.

Viken said that he is excited to face

the competition at Notre Dame.

"My goal every week is to win the meet, but this is a completely different meet than any that we have had. I think there's five or six Big Ten schools and some other schools with a lot of really big competition there," Viken said.

To prepare for the meet, Viken said he is looking to purchase new poles that will hopefully let him perform better.

"If I can get on those, I think I should be able to jump 17' 4" or 17' 5"," Viken said.

A 17' 4" or 17' 5" mark would break an Eastern school record of 17' 1", which Viken has already tied. The record is currently also held by pole vault coach Kyle Ellis, who set the record in 2007.

Viken said travel would not be an issue for the team come Friday with the recent winter storms.

"I feel like the worst of it is already come by and done, so we'll get up and leave early Friday and we'll get there," Viken said.



JORDAN BONER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman sprinter Kaleel Johnson runs during the end of the men's 200-meter dash during the EIU Mega Meet on Saturday, Jan. 22 in the fieldhouse in Lantz Arena.

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FOOTBALL

Spoos brings in talent, depth on Signing Day

Panthers sign 25, nine from Illinois

By **Alex McNamee**
Staff Reporter

Eastern football head coach Bob Spoo announced his last recruiting class as a football coach Thursday.

Spoo announced the names of 20 high school football players and five junior college recruits that are committed to Eastern.

Of the 25 total recruits there are nine from Illinois, six from Florida, two from Indiana, and the rest are from Missouri, Ohio, New Jersey, California and Virginia.

Throughout the 2010 football season, offensive and defensive linemen were focal points for Eastern, as the team saw many injuries on both sides of the line. Toward the end of the season, coaches said the line would be a focal point in recruiting.

The Panthers stuck to their word, recruiting 12 linemen on either side of the ball.

One of the defensive linemen is Josh Griffin, from nearby Paris High School in Paris.

Offensive coordinator Roy Wittke said the Panthers are excited to keep an area player at home.

The Panthers also added to their depth at the running back position by recruiting three, including Reggie Box from Glen Carbon.

"Reggie is a real steal for our program," recruiting coordinator Mike Lynch said.

Lynch said Box was a top rusher at Edwardsville High School, but was moved around to different positions as a senior. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch named him a Metro Top 30 player.

The Panthers also added depth at linebacker by signing three, including AJ Chappelle from Florissant, Mo.

"He will be a real good program guy," Lynch said.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch rated Chappelle the No. 22 player in the metro area. He played at Hazelwood Central High School.

Another player the Panthers are excited about is Trey Pendergrass, who is listed as an "athlete."

Defensive coordinator Roc Bellantoni said Pendergrass will be a versatile player.

Pendergrass was a finalist for Florida's Mr. Football Award this year at Jupiter Christian High School. He rushed for over 2,100 yards and 28 touchdowns, averaging 10.5 yards per carry.

He scored six touchdowns receiving the ball and had four interceptions as a defensive back in Royal Palm Beach, Fla.

"Trey is one of the most decorated players we've ever recruited here," Bellantoni said.

Alex McNamee can be reached at 581-7944 or admcmnamee@eiu.edu

Spoos's last recruiting class

NAME	POSITION	HT	WT	HOMETOWN
Nick Borre	Offensive Line	6-4	280	Bloomington, Ill.
Reggie Box	Running Back	6-0	175	Glen Carbon, Ill.
Devin Brinson	Running Back	6-0	193	Carmel, Ind.
AJ Chappelle	Linebacker	5-9	210	Florissant, Mo.
Vinnie Cordova	Offensive Line	6-5	280	Columbus, Ohio
Fedney Delphonse	Defensive End	6-3	215	Naples, Fla.
Dino Fanti	Defensive Tackle	6-1	248	Venice, Fla.
Josh Griffin	Defensive Line	6-6	265	Paris, Ill.
Mike Gunter	Safety	6-3	200	Springfield, Ill.
Robert Haynes	Linebacker	6-0	225	Punta Gorda, Fla.
Andre Hodge	Linebacker	6-0	240	Keyport, N.J.
Taylor Kerr	Kicker/Punter	6-1	175	Indianapolis, Ind.
Shepard Little	Running Back	5-10	173	Schaumburg, Ill.
Eric Luhsen	Offensive Line	6-5	235	Wheaton, Ill.
Trey Pendergrass	Athlete	5-6	155	Royal Palm Beach, Fla.
Jason Schuman	Tight End	6-7	225	Warrenville, Ill.
Clinton Scott	Defensive End	6-4	230	Casey, Ill.
Matt Talley	Safety	6-1	205	Deerfield Beach, Fla.
Demetre Taylor	Defensive End	6-3	220	Tampa, Fla.
Jourdan Wickliffe	Wide Receiver	6-1	195	Columbus, Ohio
Deonte Jackson	Defensive Back	5-10	175	Olympia Fields, Ill.
Mitch Reab	Offensive Line	6-4	280	Forestville, Calif.
Clinton Simpkins	Defensive Line	6-3	230	Fredricksburg, Va.
Eric Varela	Offensive Line	6-6	315	Temecula, Calif.
Jerone Williams	Defensive Tackle	6-4	280	St. Louis, Mo.

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VIEWS



Rob Mortell

Consistent teams win more games

Eastern's men's basketball team has a record of 8-13 overall and 4-7 in the Ohio Valley Conference, while also riding a three-game losing streak.

The Panthers are entering the most important part of their schedule this season, with just seven OVC games remaining until the conference tournament. They are currently ranked seventh in the standings, four games behind the leader, Austin Peay.

The top eight teams make the end of the season tournament, with the winner getting an automatic bid into the NCAA tournament.

The last time Eastern was in the NCAA tournament was 2001. The Panthers have only had one other tournament appearance in their history and that was in 1992.

If the Panthers are going to make their third trip in school history, they are going to have to play more consistently.

Eastern has won big games against pre-season favorites Murray State and Morehead State; however, it has had some bad losses against Jacksonville State and Tennessee Martin.

The loss of senior guard Tyler Laser does not help the Panthers cause, as he is out for the season with a back injury. Laser was one of the best three-point shooters in the OVC.

Junior guard Jeremy Granger has done a fantastic job of becoming the team leader and taking on the scoring load.

The emergence of freshman guard Issac Smith and freshman forward Alfonzo McKinnie is encouraging for the Panthers. Smith does not provide much scoring, but he is solid defensively and his quickness and athleticism give the team a nice boost.

I could see McKinnie becoming one of the best forwards in the OVC in a few years. He is easily the best athlete on the Eastern roster right now.

If he can develop a few post moves and a 15-foot jump shot he would be nearly impossible to guard. Of course he also needs to put a few pounds of muscle on over the summer to be a true post player.

If the Panthers can finally gel and play consistent basketball, they have the potential to win the OVC tournament and make the NCAA's. It will be really tough to get past TyShawn Edmunson and Austin Peay.

The Governors are a really well coached team that has historically done well in the post season.

I think right now they are easily the favorite to win the OVC; however, the defending champs Murray State is finally starting to play well, winning 11 of its last 13 games.

There is still a chance for the Panthers, but unless they start playing with more urgency, they will miss the NCAA tournament for the tenth year in a row.

Rob Mortell can be reached at 581-7944 or rdmortell@eiu.edu.



Top Cat

with junior guard Jeremy Granger

Can we get much higher?

Mick Viken looks to take down school record

By Dominic Renzetti
Assistant Sports Editor

Red-shirt freshman Mick Viken is one of many new faces to the Eastern track and field team this season and has already made a major impact on the team so far this season. Viken, who transferred to Eastern from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, has competed in four meets as a Panther and has already tied the school's all-time record.

Viken decided to transfer to Eastern after a few disagreements with his pole vaulting coach at Wisconsin.

"I didn't see myself getting much better there (at Wisconsin). Pole vault is a pretty big deal to me," Viken said.

A pretty big deal indeed, as Viken was a state champion pole vaulter at Rolling Meadows High School.

Viken said a big factor that attracted him to Eastern was the knowledge of pole vault coach Kyle Ellis.

"I really liked Coach Ellis here. He's a big pole vault nerd. That's all he does," Viken said.

Coach Kyle Ellis graduated from Eastern in 2009, and currently holds the same school record that Viken tied over the weekend at the



KENJI OHSEKI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Red-shirt freshman pole vaulter Mick Viken tied Eastern's record of 17 feet after competing in only four meets as a Panther.

Illinois Intercollegiate.

"Getting the school record was certainly something that I had wanted to do," Viken said.

Viken also said that breaking the 17-foot mark was something he had looked forward to doing all year long. Viken had back surgery

a year ago after an injury he sustained in high school and said he was really excited to compete again.

With the Eastern campus buried under snow and ice, Viken says that the two days of cancelled classes did not affect his training schedule at all.

"It's actually helped, I've gotten more sleep. In terms of practice, my training has been longer and my practice has been just as long as hard as it was last week. Without school, I feel like I can focus more on track," Viken said.

HIGHER, page 9

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Looking for more improvement

Building on previous win is key vs. SIU-E

By Alex McNamee
Staff Reporter

The Eastern women's basketball team will play host to Southern Illinois-Edwardsville Thursday with tip-off set for 7 p.m.

The Panthers and Cougars will be meeting for the second time this season, the first game being the Jan. 6 overtime win for the Panthers.

In the Jan. 6 game, sophomore guards Ta'Kenya Nixon and Kelsey Wyss led the way, scoring 24 and 19 points, respectively.

Sophomore forward Sydney Mitchell was the only other Panther to score in double figures, notching 17 points.

The Panthers are coming off of

their first win in five games, with a 77-61 win over Jacksonville State Saturday.

After Saturday's game, Nixon said the team understands it still is not perfect, despite picking up the win.

Eastern head coach Brady Sallee said the Panthers did a lot of good things in Saturday's game, including shooting 88 percent from the free throw line, shooting 22-of-25 from the stripe.

The Cougars are 7-13 this season, but have a better record against Ohio Valley Conference teams than Eastern does. The Cougars are 5-3 against OVC teams, while the Panthers are 6-5; however, the Cougars are currently in transition to the OVC, so the games against OVC teams do not count.

In the teams' two previous meetings, the Cougars were led by Raven Berry and Jazmin Hill. Both players scored over 20 points in the



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Taryn Olson, a freshman forward, tries to make her way around Jacksonville State's Zenobia Pitts Saturday afternoon in Lantz Arena. The Panthers take on SIUE today at 7 p.m. in Lantz Arena.

game. Berry scored a team-high 24 points.

Along with her 24 points, Ber-

ry grabbed 13 rebounds for a double-double in the previous meeting.

IMPROVEMENT, page 9

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

M&W Swimming
Saturday vs. Saint Louis
11 a.m. - Padovan Pool

M&W Cross Country
Friday - Notre Dame Meyo Invite
TBA - South Bend, Ind.

M&W Cross Country
Saturday - Notre Dame Meyo Invite
TBA - South Bend, Ind.

Men's Basketball
Saturday vs. Southeast Missouri
6 p.m. - Lantz Arena

Women's Basketball
Thursday vs. SIU Edwardsville
7 p.m. - Lantz Arena

For more please see eipanthers.com

NATIONAL SPORTS

College Basketball
Michigan at Ohio State
7 p.m. on ESPN

College Basketball
Georgia Tech at Miami
7 p.m. on ESPN2

College Basketball
Wofford at College of Charleston
7 p.m. on ESPNU

NBA
Heat at Magic
8 p.m. on TNT

PGA
Phoenix Open
8:30 p.m. on GOLF