

2007

2007 Warbler

Eastern Illinois University

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Eastern
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LIFE

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8-5

Football Team
Takes Home The
OVC Gold

Loser
WINS!

Students shed pounds in contest

Eastern Students
Save Lives

Nursing program at EIU

WARBLER YEARBOOK
VOLUME 88



Warbler 2006-2007

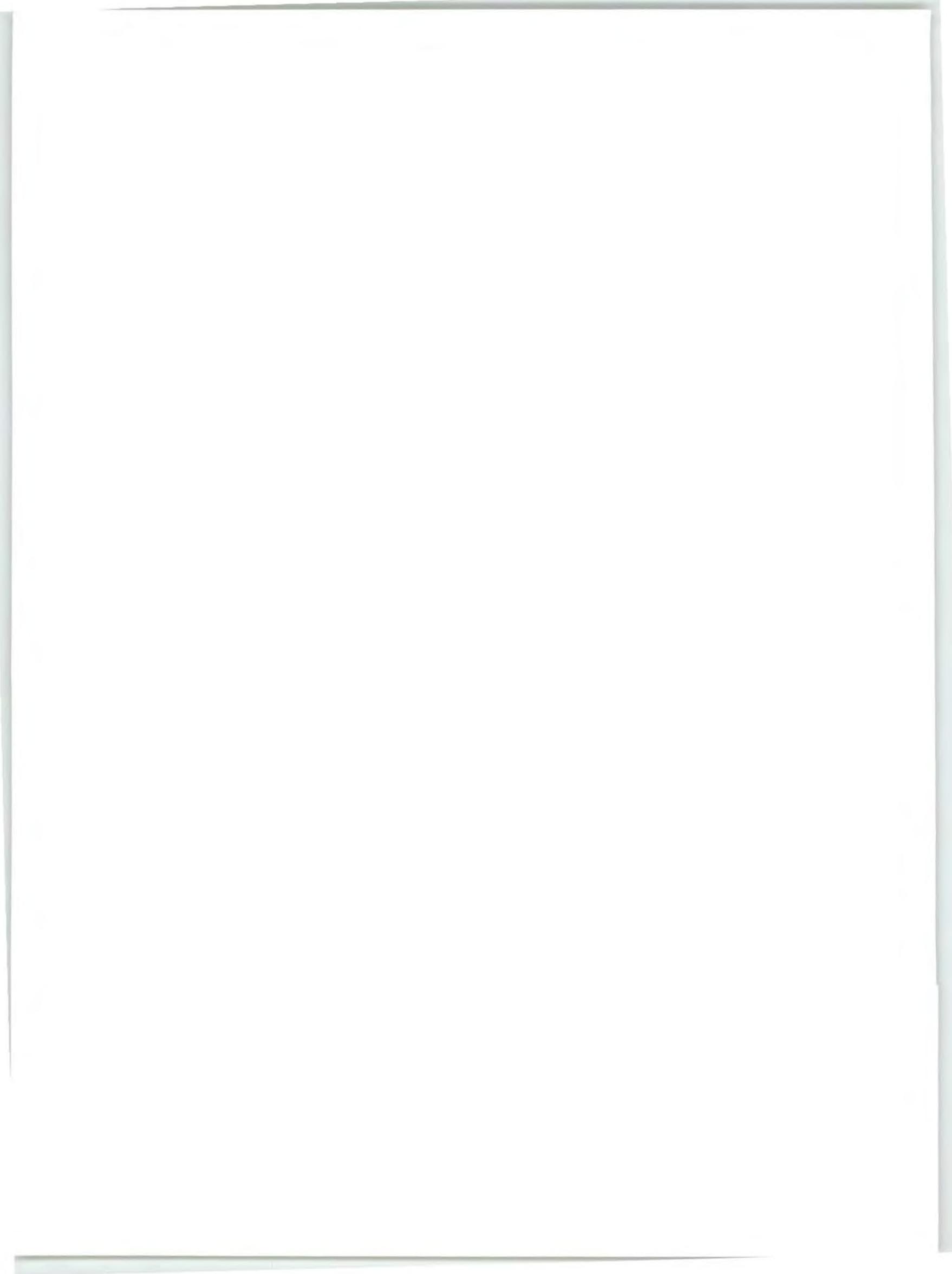
Volume 88
2007

LIFE @eiu

Eastern Illinois University

Warbler Yearbook | Volume 88 | Fall 2006 | Spring 2007

Student Publications | Buzzard Hall | 600 Lincoln Avenue Charleston, Illinois | 217.581.2812



LIFE @ eiu

Welcome to the 2006-2007 Warbler yearbook. We wanted to celebrate and document "LIFE at EIU" and the many facets of a student's time at our school. This included the sports teams we supported, the classes we attended, the Greek houses we were a part of, and all the activities we enjoyed at Eastern.

This year, "LIFE at EIU" meant continued construction around campus, football conference co-champions and meeting our favorite TV principal, Mr. Belding. We spent our days laughing with friends and mourning the loss of those we laughed with in the past. We dreaded some classes and looked forward to others. We met new people and cherished those we've known for years. Some of us graduated, and some were just beginning their journey.

Amid our triumphs and failures, our missteps and successes and the different highlights of our years, we will all remember what it was like to be an Eastern student. We will remember our "LIFE at EIU."

-- The Warbler Staff



PEOPLE



STUDENT LIFE



ACADEMICS



GREEK LIFE



SPORTS

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People

"Get a job, obviously. In what? I don't know yet!"

--Ben Courshon, senior finance major, on his plans for after graduation.



"TV, because then it wouldn't distract me!"

--Amanda Brockman, senior English major, about the one thing she could live without.



"Cheap!"

--Brian McGuigan, junior industrial technology major, on why he chose to come to EIU.



"Study and have fun!"

--Christine Blankenstein, senior school psychology major, with her advice for freshmen.



LIFE

@eim

PEOPLE

Tribute

“President Hencken has been such an effective President due in large part to his people skills, approachability, sense of humor, and love for students and Eastern.”

-office staff of Lou Hencken

After 41 years, Lou Hencken will finally say his goodbyes to the faculty and students he has dedicated his career to.

During his time at Eastern he could be seen cheering at almost every sporting event, playing tour guide on move-in days and serving on multiple boards.

Hencken is the 10th president at Eastern Illinois University. Hencken has been at the university for 41 years. For the last six years he has been the president of the university.

He plans to retire at the year's end. Hencken, 62, has served in a variety of positions at the university.

He began his career at Eastern in Student Affairs as a graduate assistant. There he advanced through the housing ranks as assistant and associate director before being named director in 1975.

He got a good break in 1989 when he was named associate vice president for Student Affairs taking over three new Student Affairs areas besides housing.

In 1992 he was named vice president for Student Affairs.

Hencken was also a man who was very involved in sports at Eastern as he served as interim director of athletics (1996-1997). He is also a former NCAA official who worked the 1989 NCAA Division III game.

Hencken has made a big impact on the university. In the fall of 2005 Eastern saw its enrollment increase for the fourth consecutive year reaching a new record 12,129 students enrolled on and off campus classes. Enrollment management was a big focus for Hencken, who promised to maintain the academic quality of the institution and to ensure that classes are available so that students will be able to graduate on time.

Hencken was a big part in some of the new completions that have happen at the university, including the Booth Library renovation, Blair Hall and an addition to Lantz Arena. Hencken still has plans for the university before he leaves. He would like to see a new building for the textbook rental office as well.

Hencken has brought a lot of prowess and success to the university making it a school that students want to attend. He is somebody this area will have a tough time replacing and someone who is well respected for his duties as a good person.



to Lou Hencken

STORY BY MICAH RUCKER



BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOS PROVIDED BY DIGITAL ARCHIVES; COLOR PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

“I was an undergrad student when he was director of housing. He hired me as an RA, then as a grad student and then 18 years later as the director of housing and dining ... I owe all my jobs to Lou.”

-Mark Hudson, director of Housing and Dining

A Day in the Life of • • • Jason Grabiec

STORY BY BOB ROUBIK

Imagine you had to be at work at 8 a.m. every morning. This does not sound fun. Now imagine you are a full-time student as well. This is just one of the many strenuous aspects of being the photo editor for The Daily Eastern News. Every day the DEN's photo editor, Jason Grabiec, is in the newsroom at 8 a.m. doing his job.

When Grabiec gets to the newsroom every morning he has to plan out his entire day. He usually has many photos that need to be shot and has to schedule times to shoot them around his classes.

Eric Hiltner is another photographer for the paper who usually helps Grabiec get all the photographs needed for the day.

"Hiltner and I usually can cover everything, but sometimes we need help from other staff members willing to go and take photos for us," Grabiec says.

Grabiec became the DEN's photo editor over the summer. He had actually applied for the fall '06 semester, but they needed someone in the summer and he was one of the few people available and ended up getting the job unexpectedly.

Being the photo editor of the DEN and being a full-time student can be very hectic. He has to prioritize and a lot of the time work wins over school, said Grabiec.

As a photo editor he is responsible for all the photos that come in and has to design all the layouts. Also, he has to come up with ideas of what to photograph and how his ideas should be photographed

He also needs to keep himself available because ideas come in all the time and he needs to be able to take photographs at any time. If he cannot he needs to have people he can ask to do something for him in order to get the photos in.

This is Grabiec's first time holding an editor's position. After he is done he would prefer being a staff photographer. This would give him more time to work on some personal ideas he has and to get some really good shots.

"It's a lot of pressure and stress. There's something different every day. I do get to meet a lot of people though and be on a first-name basis with members of EIU's administration, athletes and a lot of students," Grabiec says.

Grabiec was not even interested in journalism until the end of his sophomore year at Eastern. When he attended Marian Catholic High School journalism was not on his mind.

As if being the DEN's photo editor was not enough to keep Grabiec busy he is currently a member of Eastern's Haiti Connection. This is a student organization that helps Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. In June, the group went to Haiti to help develop more potable water.

His passion for social justice brought him to journalism because he feels it is the best outlet for what he wants to accomplish.

"I want to tell stories I think people need to hear," Grabiec said.



PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

Grabiec is also a member of the Phi Kappa Theta fraternity at Eastern. Every year he has been a member of the fraternity, he has been on their executive board.

"I get to know a lot of people. I really appreciate the ideals our fraternity upholds," Grabiec said.

Grabiec is also the fraternity's head philanthropy chair member. The philanthropy chair is in charge of the events the fraternity holds to raise money.

"This year will be a big wheels race. All the money we collect will go to the Children's Miracle Network," Grabiec said.

If it was not for his family, especially his parents, Grabiec feels he would not be where he is today. He has a 17-year-old sister, Jenna, and a 19-year-old brother, Corey, who is a sophomore at Eastern.

"Corey is also a member of the fraternity and I have grown closer to him through Greek life," Grabiec

said.

Grabiec credits his adviser, Brian Poulter, with helping him learn how to be a photo editor. "Through Poulter's experience I have learned a lot," Grabiec said.

He admires Vicki Goldberg, a photographer who has shot all over the world. Grabiec feels she understands how powerful photography is and how it can tell a story. She is also someone with a great work ethic, he said.

Once the evening approaches in Grabiec's day he is either out shooting photographs or in the newsroom editing. Also, he has to plan out what he wants to accomplish for the next day's paper.

"I'm usually out of there by 8 or 9 p.m., but some nights I won't get out of there until midnight," Grabiec said.

Fit to teach:

Fern Delima instructs aerobics

STORY BY ANDREW NICKS

PHOTOS BY LIZA BISHTON

“Exercise makes you happy,” Fern Delima said.

Delima is an aerobics instructor at the Student REC Center. She is a senior from Gurnee IL and is completing her last semester at Eastern. She has taught a wide variety of aerobic classes at the REC center including water aerobics, totally toning, abs, rock bottom and, her favorite, pilates.

Aside from her busy aerobic instructor position, Delima is working toward her physical education major with a focus on exercise science. After school, she is planning on interning at President Towers Health Club in downtown Chicago. Once she graduates, she plans on continuing her education by going to graduate school.

“I’m excited to go to Chicago and start working but I’m going to miss Eastern,” Delima said.

Delima started teaching aerobics her sophomore year in the spring of 2004.

“For anyone in the exercise science field, (aerobics) will help, whether teaching it or attending a class. It

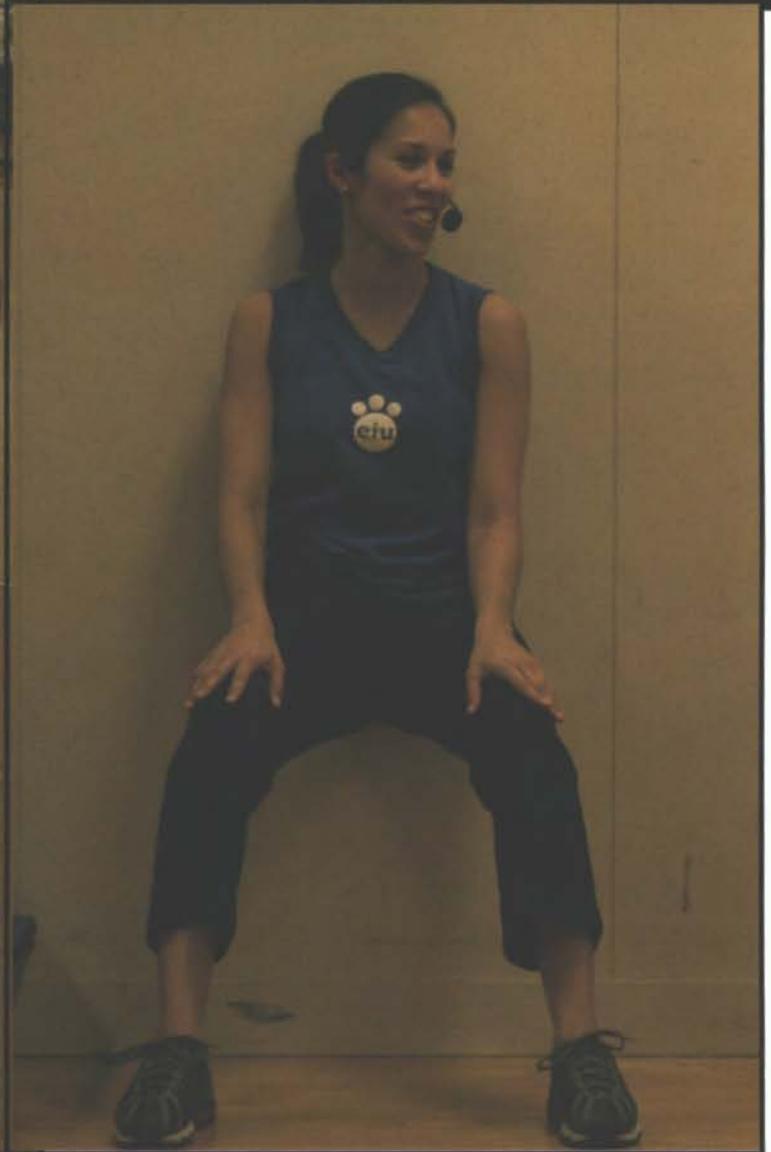
will make you more marketable,” Delima said.

Teaching an aerobics class is tough, since you have to workout and lead an entire group of students as well. Delima recalls teaching abs class and trying to get the people who attended to talk but they are too tired.

“It’s a tough class; you look at the class and try to talk to them and no one responds... That’s why you have to say silly things,” Delima said.

She has kept a positive attitude throughout her classes, but soon she will be training a new instructor to take her place. Once applicants are hired as a fitness instructor, they are paired up with a current instructor, and are taught how to teach the class through teamwork, Delima explained. As a senior she looks forward to teaching a new instructor the way she was taught.

“Use the REC Center while you’re here. It makes you feel better and out in the real world people pay a lot of money to get access to a gym, and workout programs that we have at Eastern,” she said.



She crouches down in ready position, eyes open wide, paddle in one hand, ball in the other. She announces the score and then serves the ball gracefully. It dances faster and faster, diagonally across the olive-green colored table. Her unique style of coordinating a royal blue baseball hat, snow-white sleeveless sweater with fuchsia turtleneck underneath, black elastic sweatpants and black and white tennis shoes draw attention to anyone passing by.

Her name is Yevgenya Movshovich. She can be found in the mathematics department teaching calculus throughout the day and challenging opponents at ping-pong in the Student Recreation Center at night.

Movshovich grew up in St. Petersburg, Russia, where she received her master's degree in computer science and taught from 1975 to 1979. However, she was not happy.

In her thick accent, she describes the harsh environment she wanted to escape from.

"I got my master's degree, but wasn't making any money," she said. "Russia is a very unhealthy place to live."

With frustration from limited resources and a struggle to survive, Movshovich decided she wanted to move to the United States. She was told she would ruin her life by coming to the U.S. But she told herself if she were going to ruin her life it would not be because of the Russian government.

In 1991 she immigrated with her mother to the U.S. Movshovich received a temporary job in 1996 as a two-year visiting professor at different universities across the country. She taught business calculus at the University of Vermont, North Dakota State University, Oneonta College (State University of New York) and Monmouth College of Illinois.

"The whole point of teaching at these colleges is to check if you want to stay there for different reasons, and I didn't."

Finally, Movshovich moved to Urbana to receive her doctorate at the University of Illinois. She decided to live in Champaign to be close to her friends. Since

2003, she has taught calculus in the mathematics department of Eastern. Although she finds great satisfaction in teaching, she sometimes gets frustrated with her students.

She finds it difficult to teach when students don't come to class. She tries methods to motivate students by giving them extra points for class attendance.

Teaching in America is different from teaching in Russia because students in Russia don't find C's acceptable. If a student fails in Russia he is removed from the school.

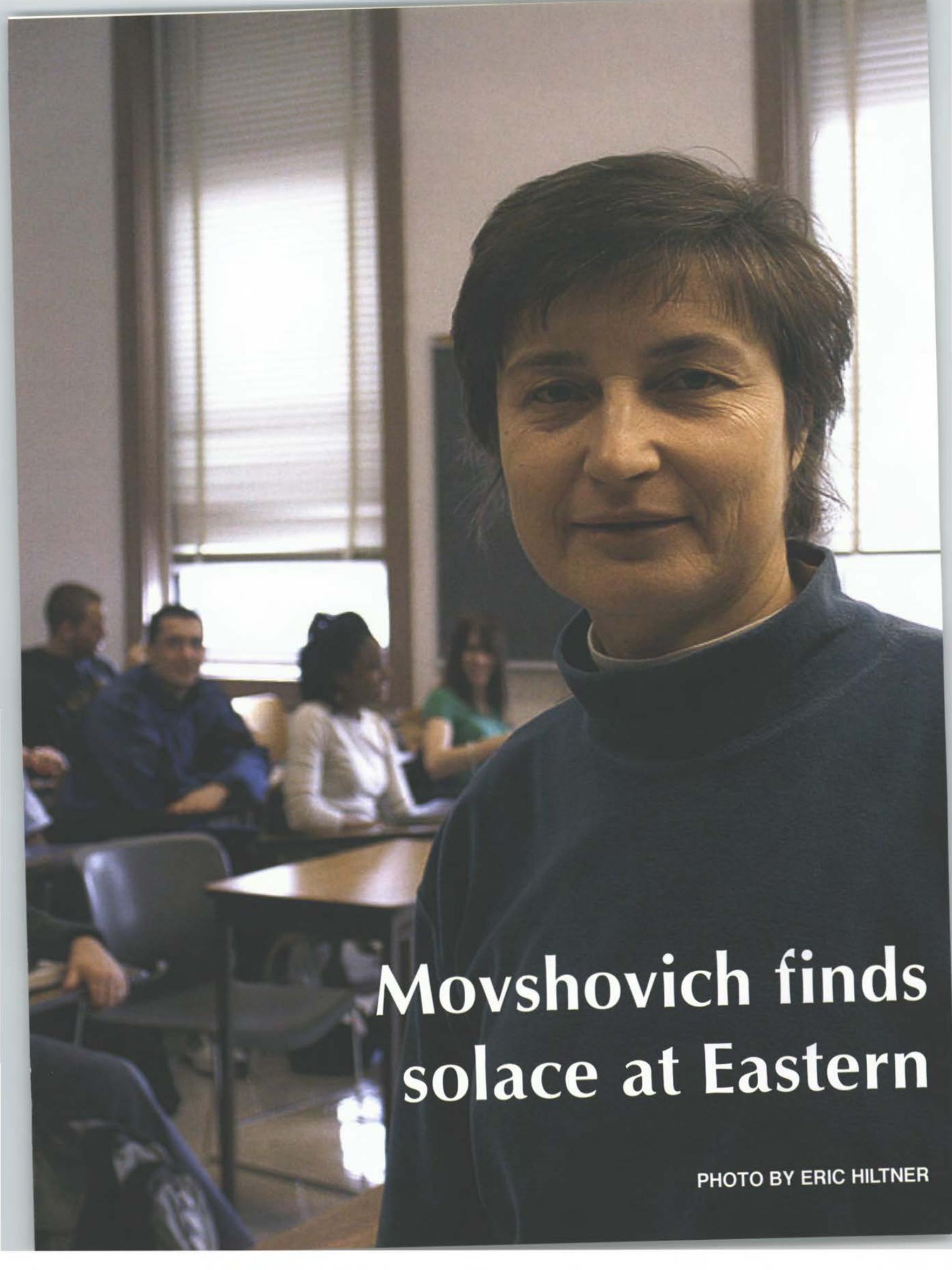
"In Russia students don't drop out," she said. "Students are more ambitious because they don't want C's, only A's and B's, and they work for it."

Movshovich starts teaching by discussing problems in the homework and solving them on the chalkboard. She speaks with her back turned to the class, vigorously writing out problems to solve. She reviews homework problems then progresses into new material.

Tired of the 45-minute drive five days a week, Movshovich invested in an apartment in Charleston. She spends her salary paying for her two apartments, supporting her sister and nephew. She lives a simple life in the U.S. and sacrifices the small luxuries most people take for granted to make sure she has enough money for her family to survive. For instance, she does not own a phone, yet uses the one work provides her with.

"Life is so easy here compared to Europe," she said. "You can eat anything, live in your own place, find a job and play any sport you like."

Movshovich discovered the happiness she was missing in her life after immigrating to the United States. Her fearlessness, compassion for others and hard work led her to pursue the life she always dreamed of. As she bounces on her tiptoes in ready position waiting for the ping-pong ball to come dancing her way, she knows she wouldn't rather be anywhere else than here.

A photograph of a woman with short dark hair, wearing a blue turtleneck sweater, sitting in a classroom. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. In the background, several other students are seated at desks, some looking towards the camera and others looking away. The room has large windows with blinds, and the lighting is soft and natural.

Movshovich finds solace at Eastern

PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

STORY BY LETISHA OWENS

A slim figure, with deep dark brown eyes, olive colored skin and salt and pepper hair, sits back in his office chair, relaxes his arms behind his head and closes his eyes. He is brain storming and going into character for his next project, a total reconstruction of mind, body and voice. Every move the characters make is created by author David Radavich.

Will the character be a doctor, child, thief, white, black or Asian? Will they have simple or complex problems? Who will be the protagonist, antagonist and arbitrator? There is so much information to figure out and too little time to stay in character without becoming distracted.

Dr. Radavich is a professor at Eastern Illinois University, he teaches play writing and drama in the English department.

Radavich was born in Boston. As a child of two military parents, he moved from state to state including Oklahoma and Idaho. It seemed everywhere his parents lived they were surrounded by Indian reservations, giving him a different sense of culture.

Radavich never took a class to teach him how to write plays, but he performed in plays in grade school and wrote scripts for his high school homecoming.

He got interested in writing when he read an opera by Vivaldi.

"That's why I got into teaching play writing, I wished I had taken some classes, maybe I would have had more knowledge," he said.

Radavich has written 17 full plays and more than a handful of short one-act plays. His plays range from 30 to 120 pages. He loves writing non-traditional tragedy. It's not so much a comic tragedy because not everyone dies or no one may die.

One of Dr. Radavich's theatrical play's, "Fragments of the Third Planet," was performed in Germany for four months in 2000. It is set in the future

with two aliens coming to earth.

This play is the only one Radavich has written that has stayed in the theater so long. He even played one of the aliens, even though he does not like to perform in his plays. He prefers to sit in the audience and get a feel of the performance and the directing of a play he has written.

Radavich has also performed in numerous other plays. One character he portrayed was the Duke of Albany in Shakespeare's "King Lear."

One of the main things he enjoys to do is go to the theater in St. Louis. That's where new playwrights can go and have their plays performed, receiving feedback on what works and doesn't. If they like your play they will snatch it up to be performed in the theater.

He is a very patient and calm speaking man. His deep brown eyes show his love for his work and the thrill he gets out of watching his students stand up in class and act out or read other students' plays.

As he sits back in his chair biting his nails, you can see in his eyes and actions how he is trying to comprehend his student's play. He listens for the conflicts, the characters' images and where the climax comes in.

He makes sure everyone in the class involves themselves by giving feedback or even by being a character in the play.

Back at home, in his oak covered office, looking out at the woods, watching the deer, foxes and birds Radavich gets great inspiration for his next project.

"It's not hard to get so caught up in your writing, forgetting what you have written, going back and rereading your work, you could almost amaze yourself," Radavich said.

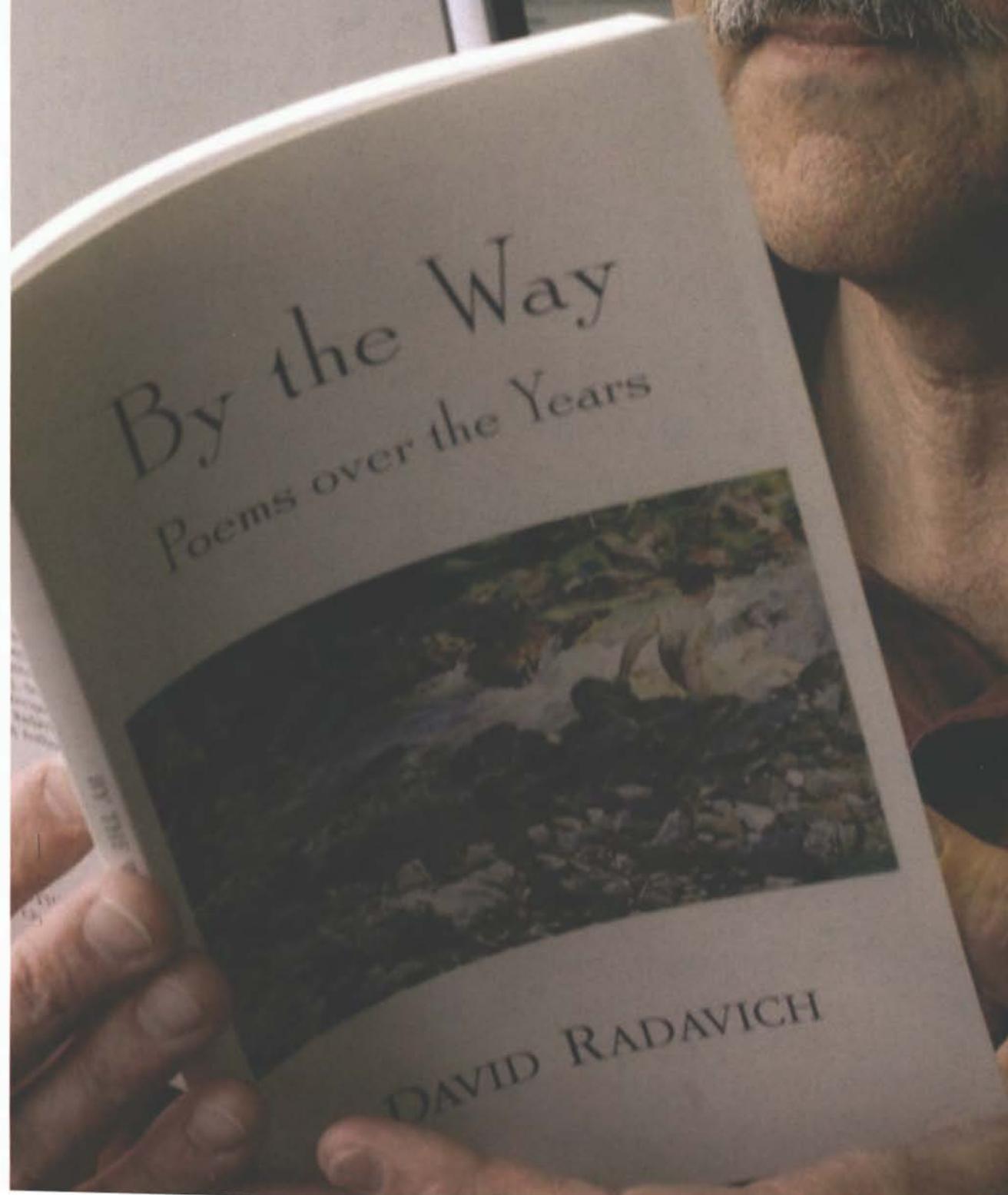
Radavich is a playwright with the talent not only of patience, but also the love to teach what he has found to be his own talents.

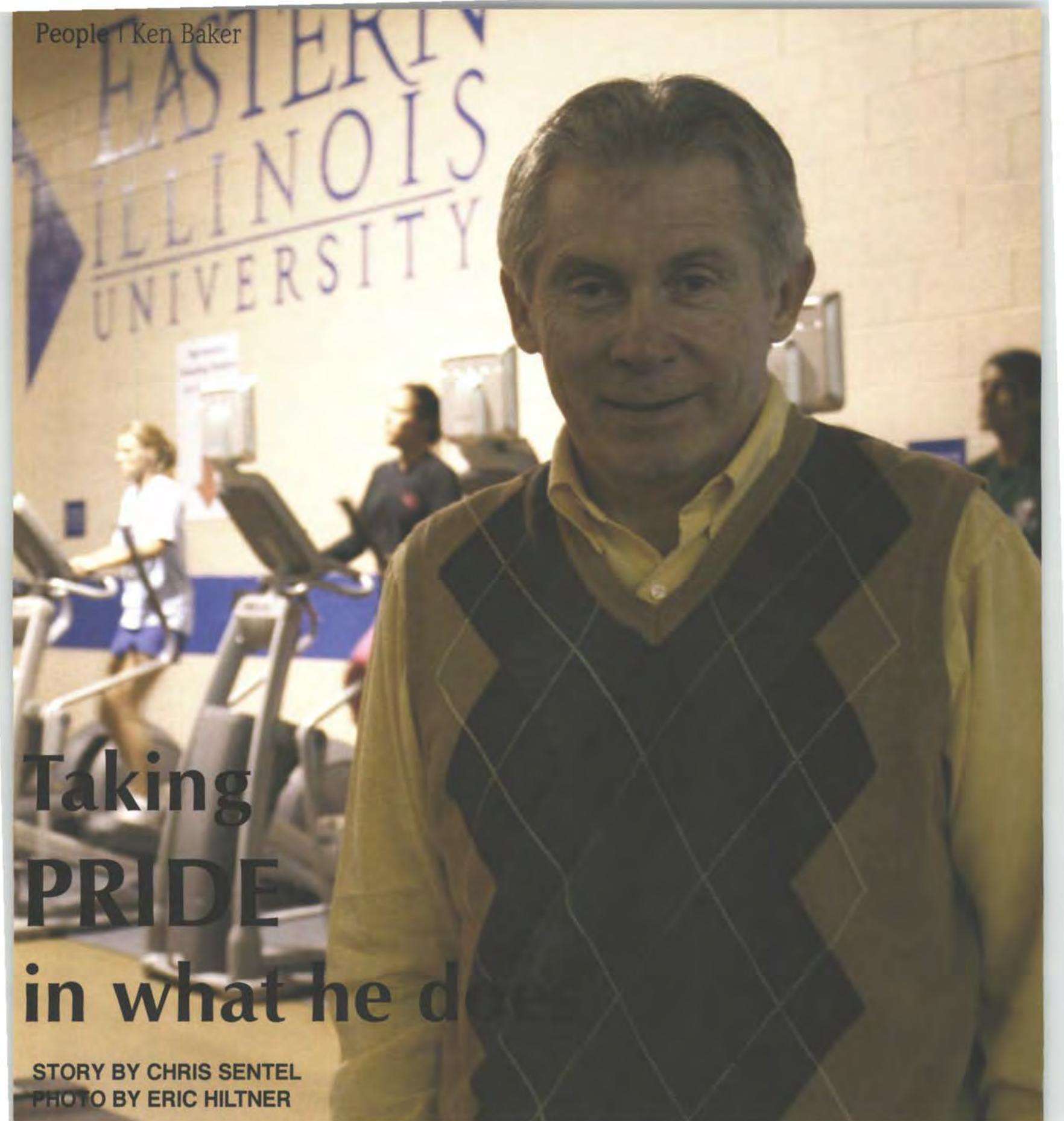
A Playwright's Life

...

Dr. David Radavich

PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER





Taking PRIDE in what he does

STORY BY CHRIS SENTEL
PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

From Ken Baker's kind eyes and quick smile, few people would guess that he makes decisions on a weekly basis that affect thousands, maybe even millions of people.

No, Baker isn't a world leader.

He's not a famous speaker for world peace.

He's a National Football League referee.

16 Baker currently works as a replay official. If there is a questionable call within two minutes of the end

of either half, he reviews the play in a booth upstairs and makes the decision whether the ruling on the field stands or is overturned.

End of the game decisions can easily cause a little mayhem. Because of this, Baker is no stranger to angry fans, players or even coaches. Baker says that despite the occasional outburst, NFL players and coaches are some of the most professional people around.

"People are usually disappointed when they hear that we don't really get yelled at. They expect us to be called every name under the sun, but the truth is I get called 'sir' more than anything else," Baker said.

Baker is also the director of Campus Recreation at Eastern. He takes a lot of pride in the work he does on campus. He takes so much pride in his work that when someone refers to him as a NFL referee he is quick to correct them. With a stern look and slight shake of his head, he tells them that he is the director of Campus Recreation. Being a referee is only a small part of who Baker is.

Baker greets everyone he sees at the campus recreation center, from a brand new acquaintance to a long time friend, with a smile and a handshake.

Baker runs a program that includes formal programs such as intramurals and aerobics, as well as activities available at the recreation center such as weight lifting, basketball and using the exercise equipment. Baker is also in charge of managing the employees at the recreation center and the center itself.

Baker believes the most important factor in keeping the recreational center going is the students who use the center and work there.

"We get a lot of student help; our student payroll last year was over \$165,000," said Baker. "So when we say Student Rec. Center, they play in it, they work in it, they help run it. The students are very much involved in the Rec. Center."

Baker often listens to advice offered by students on how he can improve the recreational center; in fact he even goes to lunch with students on occasion to pick their brain about the best ways to make the recreational center more enjoyable.

Baker attended Eastern and received his undergraduate degree in 1972 and his master's degree in 1973. Baker then taught for two years before going back to school to become an optician. He worked as an optician for 17 years. Baker came back to Eastern as a physical education teacher from 1994 to 2000. Then in 2000 Baker became director of campus recreation.

Being away from students and sports for so long didn't suit Baker, so he started officiating while still working as an optician. Baker's weekend hobby as a National Football League referee makes him unique

among his co-workers in the recreation center.

Baker started at the bottom, officiating high school games as he made his way up. After officiating high school games, he moved up to the college level. Baker had experience officiating for college Big Ten football when the NFL first showed interest in him. When Baker went into the Big Ten he was the youngest referee; four years later when he left he was still the youngest. He joined the Big Ten staff at the age of 34 or 35; he also worked off of the staff for about two years before that.

"The NFL has scouts all over the country, and they had a scout at the Notre Dame game looking at another official who had applied," Baker said. "They got to the game and saw me, they liked what they saw, and when the game was over they followed me to see who I left with, and then they started investigating my background."

After learning of the NFL's interest in him, Baker applied for a position.

Baker is completely professional on the field. He forgets that he is surrounded by world famous athletes while he is on the field.

"It's just a day at the office for them and us," Baker said. "By the time you get there you are used to it. If you are in awe of them then you are not ready to be there."

Baker has worked many of the referee positions including side judge, field judge, back judge and even referee. Baker currently works as the replay official, which means that if the play clock is under two minutes left in the half, the only way a play can be challenged and reviewed is if Baker makes the call to review the play.

Baker says that he has studied the rules of the game over and over and over again until they have become second nature to him. He believes that the NFL puts on a great show and it expects the officials to be prepared for every game.

The recreational center on campus is open 18 and a half hours a day, 114 and a half hours a week. Baker's hours are flexible due to his officiating commitment, but he still spends more than his share of time at the recreational center. Baker says he prefers to lead the other employees by example, so he is always on time for work. Baker is from the Charleston area and therefore feels a connection to the campus.

"I'm not just professionally committed to Eastern. I'm personally committed to," Baker said.

People | Portraits

Candice J. Aaron
James M. Aikman
Nitasha Ali
Michelle R. Arnold



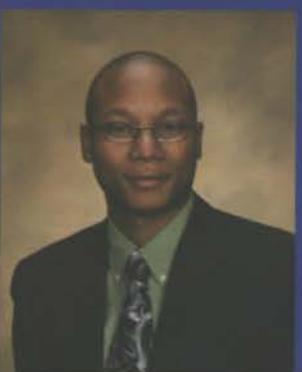
Samantha A. Avery
Adam M. Bachta
Shannon L. Bailey
Tricia M. Bailey



Misty M. Baker
Jessica M. Bangura
Thomas L. Battle
Courtney A. Becherer



Terrell J. Binford
Elizabeth M. Bishton
Carey L. Blando
Amy L. Blankenbeker



Kristin E. Born
Evelyn J. Buford
Erica S. Buntun
Michelle L. Byrne





Michael A. Calgaro
Eric J. Carmaney
Jessica R. Chapman
Tereasa M. Christmon



Abbie L. Clapp
Phillip A. Clemmer
Sherry S. Cribbet
Michael J. Crowley



Ira Daniel Cruson
Barbara A. Dakuras
Christopher H. Daly
Ross J. Deardorff



Matthew T. Debrates
Jacob A. Dement
Nicole M. Detoye
Kristin Susan Duncan



Jennifer Ether
Scott D. Falli
Denise R. Fletcher
Hannah F. Flowers Cook

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Kathryn A. Freitag
Anthony A. Gagliano



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Christine A. Gatto
Alicia L. Gillingham



Archie D. Gosnell
Angela Renee Green
Joshua A. Guibault
Amy Jo Hall



Hilary A. Hancock
David V. Hanley
Melanie R. Haroian
Lisa Lea Hartman

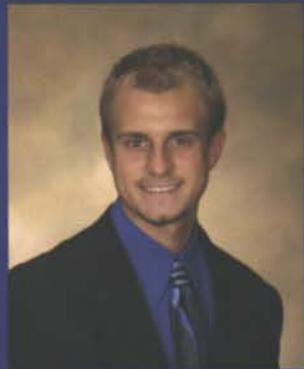


Deborah J. Hasik
Kelsey Hedlund
Tara L. Helderman
George C. Hickman





Sharon Hickman
Megan R. Hoffman
Zhenghong Hou
George Hovorka



Christopher Jablonski
Faye Johnson-wilson
Megan M. Jurinek
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Melissa Ann Kelley
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Kelly A. Luka



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Nicole M. Marczewski
Jessica S. Matthews

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Jessica M. Meyer
Zebulon J. Miller
Courtney M. Monroe



Chris J. Moody
Trevor J. Moore
Jacinta R. Morgan
Courtney A. Morr



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Nichole J. Myers
Brian G. Mysker
Michael E. Nadler



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Kevin J. O'Leary
Brian P. O'Malley



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Sara E. Onnen
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Ashley Pagano





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 Lisa K. Pendola



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 Kelly M. Putlak



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 Meagan C. Scaggs

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Beth A. Schumacher
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Sarah A. Walsh
Tracey D. Wayne



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Jayson A. Whitlatch
Brittany F. Whyte
Paul Wikoff



Rachel Wikoff
Monica L. Will
Rebecca J. Wisecup
Courtney R. Wolff



Michael P. Wollney
Jesse E. Wu
Angela M. Zartuche



Sitting in class, Angie Einhorn is usually the only student who is the same age as the professor teaching her. In fact, it is hard not to notice that the majority of her classmates are a generation younger than her.

This year the school of continuing education saw a 6 percent increase in

the number of
this included 184
nontraditional st
older, who also m
obligations and
students, nontrad
in class schedulin

Eastern sup
organizations suc
students, and by
week," Nov. 6-10
the commuter lou
night classes.

Einhorn is o
forty minutes to cl
an elementary ed
but never comple
wasn't a main pri
and working a n
became "burnt ou
totaling her car, s

Although she didn't complete s
working with children. She has taught
years and was also a title I substitute f
Starting her college career again

Going back to school...

Non-traditional students balance more than just classwork

campus students. In the fall of 2005 students ages 30 to 64. Eastern defines students as students who are 25 years or older, work a fulltime job, have other social commitments, or perhaps a family. Unlike traditional students look for more flexibility in their schedules on or off campus.

Eastern supports non-traditional students through programs such as OASIS, a support group for adult students, celebrating "non-traditional student success" with events such as an open house in the library and snacks for adult students taking classes.

One of these students, commuting almost 100 miles to class. Einhorn was enrolled at Eastern as an education major when she was a teenager and completed her degree. She said, "school just wasn't a priority then." Between attending classes and working a full-time job to pay for those classes she was "tired" and once even fell asleep at the wheel, she said.

Her return to school, that didn't stop Einhorn from attending religion pre-school for two and a half years or seven years.

In January as a senior, she faces even

more obstacles to attaining her degree. Einhorn has two young children she must get a babysitter for when she goes to class and also does not live near campus like most students so she relies greatly on dependable transportation.

If she wasn't raising a family, Einhorn says she could graduate in two to three semesters, but because she is juggling her family life as well she realistically sees herself "student teaching in the fall of 2008."

Victoria Goudy, age 42, is another non-traditional student new to Eastern's campus. Goudy transferred in from Parkland College, taking two semesters there and then using her other classes from Madison Hat College and Mt. Royal College located in Canada, to help her enter the Eastern program as a junior student.

Goudy is hoping to take two to two and a half years to finish her degree in elementary education. She explains her life after school as starting all over again, almost like being 23, with only having a house and children already.

Goudy's main job and priority for 13 years was maintaining her home, raising her children, Myles, Kristin and Carlin, getting them off to school, music classes, sports events, along with all other social events.

Goudy has already accomplished getting a degree in early childhood and worked in interior design before taking a break to take care of the home. She explains her decision to return to college as maybe a midlife crisis, wanting more out of life now her children are older.

Goudy is looking forward to the end result of all the energy she is putting into her school and family, and preparing for the calm season to come once she walks the stage with her bachelor's degree in education.

STORY BY KATE KONIECZNY
PHOTO SUBMITTED

Confessions of a Shopaholic

PHOTO BY BRANDON CAMPBELL

STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH

"I love to look good," says senior communications student Brett Porter as he stands in front of his overstuffed closet filled to the brim with clothing from Lacoste, Dolce and Gabbana, Abercrombie & Fitch and Prada. Not to worry, he also occupies his hallway closet in the brand new duplex he shares with two roommates. Even though his roommates are both girls, he has more clothing than both – combined. He alone has 24 pairs of shoes at school. It's estimated he has 20 more waiting for him at home.

Slung carelessly on the back of his vintage green desk chair is a \$180 Lacoste track jacket (the matching pants, \$100 and never worn, are shoved into a dresser) and \$85 Lacoste shoes are scattered on the floor of his bedroom. Designer sunglasses can also be found lying on his desk next to the Jack Spade messenger bag he carries to classes.

"My favorite shirt would have to be... wait, long-sleeved or short-sleeved?" Porter jokes when asked what his favorite items were. After a minute of debating, he holds up two: a long-sleeved Juicy Couture rugby shirt (\$95) and a short-sleeved Lacoste striped polo (\$80). In case you couldn't tell, this guy is addicted to Lacoste, no matter the price.

"It pays to look good!" he says, and he means it: he was voted best-dressed boy in his 2003 graduating high school class.

Next to his bedroom closet is a DVD stand completely filled with both new and older releases, complete seasons of TV shows and movies he buys "for fun." Once he opens the bottom two drawers of his bureau, even more DVDs are exposed.

"I have about 75 DVDs and 30 seasons of various TV shows," says Porter. "My friends call me 'Brettbuster'. I rent everything out!"

On a stroll into his living room, one will at first notice how spotless the duplex is. Porter certainly does not live up to the stereotype of messy boy. Next, hallway walls are adorned with posters and larger-than-life banners: some



concert memorabilia featured on the walls are even autographed by the stars themselves.

"I do a lot of my shopping online, especially with the lack of places to shop around here in Charleston," Porter explains. "We take trips to Tusculum for the outlet mall or to stores in Champaign, but I am a definite regular online at Amazon.com, Ebay, Neiman Marcus, Urban Outfitters, Saks, Nordstroms...I could name more. It's a wide variety, actually."

His choice payment? "Credit."

This small plastic card often brings him pleasure, but has also caused him to owe money in the form of numerous bills.

"At one time, I owed so much on bills it was just out-of-hand," he says, sitting on his suede couch in the not-so-college like living room. "I've calmed down a bit since then."

When asked what he would do with \$1000, he was quick to answer.

"I would put it towards my credit card bill!" he laughed. "But I would still owe over \$4000 after that."

Money situations have recently gotten better for him as well as with his parents (who occasionally had to cover his spending spree), since he has gotten a job on campus working at the bank in the Union.

"I didn't really get the job for money, I got it because I had some time to kill. My parents will still buy me anything I want, though," said Porter. Aside from the gifts his parents shower upon him, he is also given spending money every time he goes home to visit, usually in the range of \$50-\$100.

"I've learned some hard lessons about spending money," he said. "But with my new job I've taken responsibility. I don't ask my parents to pay for my bills. I know when I overspend. I just like to look good and have the best toys."

Porter slipped on his Ugg boots (one of three pairs he owns). "And plus Christmas is coming up...it's the perfect time to spend!"

Pawing her way to the TOP



STORY BY JANE RUPPERT

The EIU Pink Panthers recently welcomed back a former member onto their team. Among other new additions, head coach Lisa Dallas looks forward to allowing more space in her office to accommodate awards the team earns in her next years.

Dallas, originally from Indianapolis, has danced since the age of 3. In the fifth grade, her family moved to northern Illinois where she continued her dance training through college.

In spring of 1981, she moved to Charleston as a student to attend EIU from 1981-1984. She was a member of the Pink Panthers during the 1983-1984 academic year.

Since 1980, Dallas also taught fitness classes and later added Teen & Adult tap classes. She is often asked to judge high school dance auditions.

In 1988, she accepted a computer programming position at EIU with the Information Technology Services department. Dallas earned her master of science degree in 1996 from EIU in physical education with an emphasis in exercise physiology and adult fitness.

During 1998, Lisa accepted the position of assistant to the dean for Academic Computing in the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences where she assists faculty, staff and administrators with technology.

In 2003, she began working on her PhD from Indiana State University in Curriculum Instruction and Media Technology and is currently ABD status. Married since 1985, Lisa also has three children and helps teach and coordinate Catholic High School religious education classes along with the junior and senior high youth group activities and functions.

This is Lisa's first head coaching position for a dance team. She replaced a coach of five years with new ideas and direction. Dallas has made many changes to the team, making it more structured in both dance technique and performance expectations.

"We have very talented dancers and I wanted to give them the opportunity to showcase their dance ability and skill during each performance." One change is the encouragement of the team to become involved with community service projects.

During the fall of 2006, the team painted the kitchen and bathroom and donated ladders and painting equipment for the Hope

Homes Foundation, sorted clothing at Catholic Charities and collected items for the animal shelter and Crisis Pregnancy center. "I think it is important as team to look for ways to give back to the community that supports us all year." The team has welcomed the new transitions.

The EIU Pink Panthers began in 1964 and started performing during the men's basketball season in the fall of 1965. With a current team of 15 girls, the Pink Panthers practice two hours everyday Monday through Friday and some weekends. They perform at all football and men's and women's basketball games, as well as other EIU campus events such as First Night.

All members are required to audition every year to earn a position on the team regardless if they were on the team the previous year. The team captains are Allie Grotts and Jacqueline Corres.

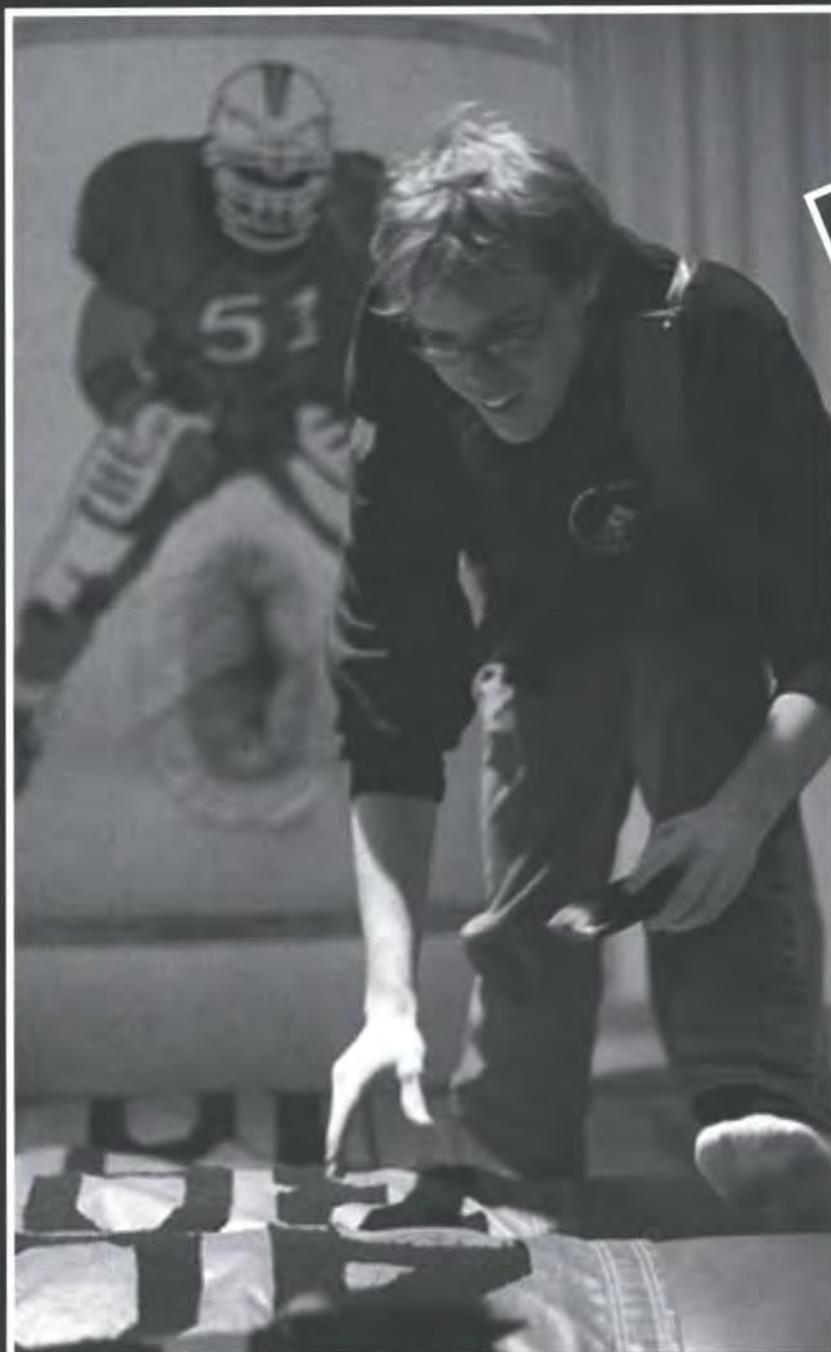
The team received a trophy in August of 2006 for their superior effort at the UDA/UCA college camp. The team earned 43 out of 45 ribbons for their routines they learned and performed with other Big 10 school dancers.

The 2006-2007 Pink Panthers are Nicole Adami, Liza Baumgartner, Audrey Beeson, Paige Cavalieri, Jacqueline Corres, Sarita DeSai, Allie Grotts, Amanda Johnson, Brittany MacGibbon, Lauren Meyer, Amanda Powers, Bethany Simms, Ashley St. Peter, Erin Supple, Ashley Wallace and Dani Wingo.



University Board sponsors game
for students in the CyberLounge

Up ALL NIGHT



Freshman Paul Krzus reaches to pick up a velcro beanbag while competing on the "Equalizer."



Dave Diaz, a senior communication studies major, and Laura Osborn, a junior elementary education major, sing the B-52's "Love Shack" in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.



Joe Mabus, a junior communications major, plays "Burnout" on an Xbox 360 in the Cyber Lounge of 7th Street Underground.

PHOTOS BY ERIC HILTNER

"Off campus because you can prepare your own meals and it's a taste of the real world!"

--Mallory Kinley, junior family and consumer sciences major, about where she prefers to live at school.



"Go to all your classes. Try to only go out on the weekends. Eat healthy. Use the resources our university provides, like the library and rec center and just have a fun safe time!"

--Monica Arbetman, junior family and consumer sciences major, with advice for freshmen.



"On campus because (there's) free food!"

--Erica James, sophomore elementary education major, on whether she prefers living on campus or off campus.



"Spend money wisely!"

--Alix Bernhardt, freshman recreation administration major, with advice for freshmen.



LIFE

at eiu



STUDENT LIFE

A “Celebration” of the End and th

STORY BY ASHLEY MEFFORD

The end of the school year is a time for everyone to celebrate. On April 28-30, the annual Celebration, A Festival of the Arts, was held in the library quad with over 40 vendors in attendance.

Each year people look forward to seeing the unique booths that the vendors bring to Celebration. They come from all over Illinois and even a few vendors travel in from out of state.

Susan Eisenhour, a retired librarian from Booth Library, has been a vendor at Celebration for the past six years. Eisenhour turned her hobby of creating pottery into buyable pieces of art. The pottery Eisenhour creates comes in a variety of sizes and colors.

She is a native of Charleston and enjoys participating in Celebration because of its closeness and convenience.

Not only does she like showing off her hard work she likes seeing what other people have to offer. She said she enjoys “looking at others’ work and having people look at her work.”

Vendor William Baer sold Native

American items as part of his job, not just a hobby.

Baer travels to places all over with activities much like Celebration where he sells Native American paraphernalia.

For Charleston native Karen Peterson, Celebration in the spring is an event she can remember participating in since she was a child.

Though an admirer of Celebration for years, this was the first year Petersen was a vendor.

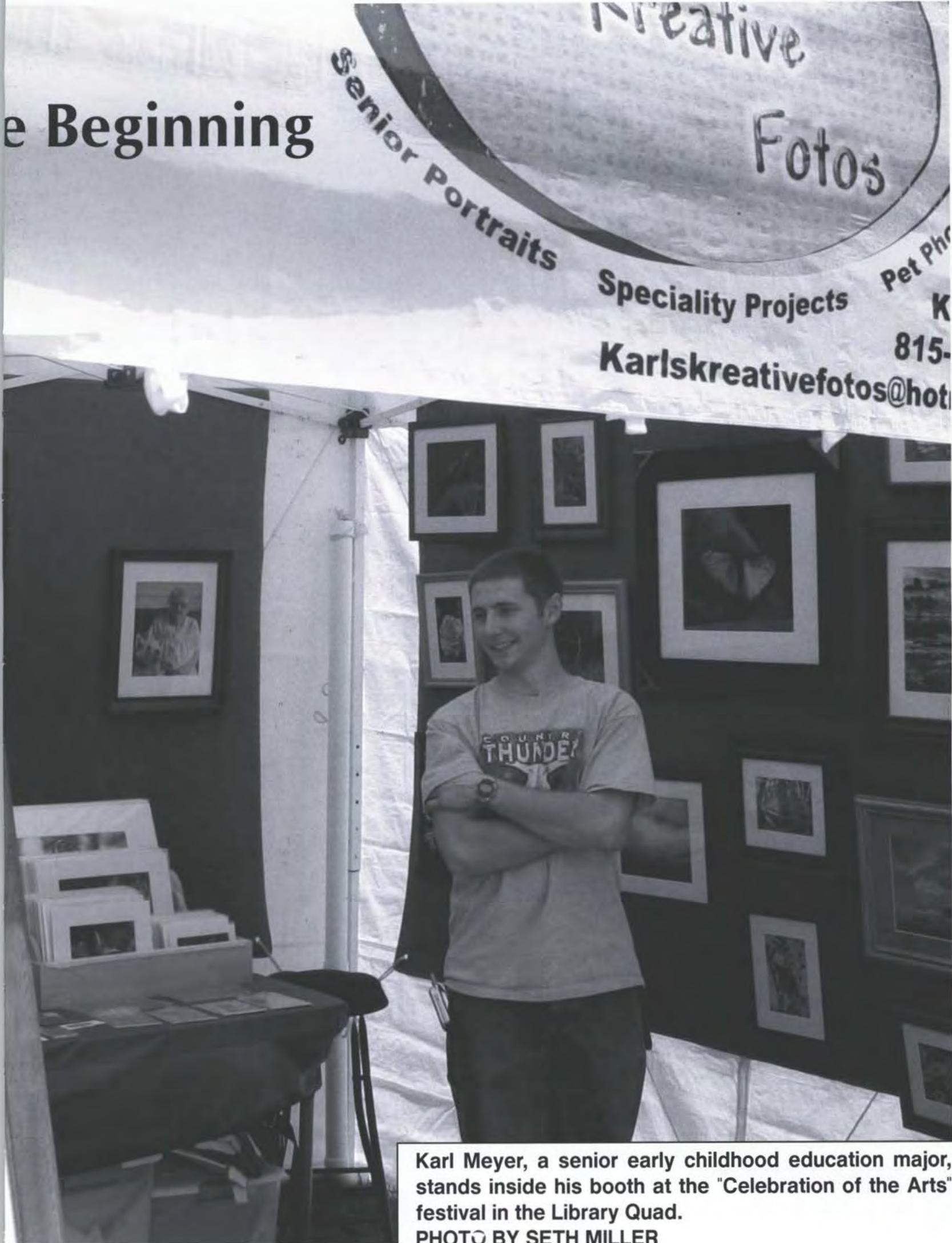
Along with vendors, Celebration had many other activities and events.

There was an array of musical talent showcased such as 9th & Cleveland and the EIU Jazz ensemble. There were also food booths serving popular carnival food such as funnel cakes and corndogs, which proved to be a hit.

Celebration was a great time for both the students to celebrate the end of their school year and the residents of Charleston to celebrate the beginning of summer.



e Beginning



Karl Meyer, a senior early childhood education major, stands inside his booth at the "Celebration of the Arts" festival in the Library Quad. PHOTO BY SETH MILLER

Distance Makes the Heart Grow Fonder

STORY BY JEN AUCHINCLOSS

Junior Amanda Cook reads a letter from her boyfriend, who attends Penn State. The letter was part of a care package which contained a teddy bear and a Penn State t-shirt.

PHOTO BY SETH MILLER

Many college students find it extremely difficult to be so far away from family and friends while getting their education. But there are also those students who have to deal with the added stress of enduring a long-distance relationship with a boyfriend or girlfriend.

As individuals and adults, we choose our own way and have to decide what is best for our future. That journey does not always directly include a significant other.

Junior Joey Howard has been with girlfriend Tegan, a junior at DePauw, for four and a half years. The different choice in schools hasn't created many problems for the couple.

"It's hard sometimes because we only get to see each other about once a month," Howard said. "But in a way the distance has made us better because we value our time together and we don't fight as much."

Stephanie Harken, a counselor in the Counseling Department, adds that frequent phone calls helps to ease the stress of living so far apart.

"Communication is number one in sustaining a long-distance relationship," Harken said. "Being open and honest about your feelings and keeping things 50/50 is also important."

A lot of couples run into trouble because of the distance and the lack of trust as a result of new surroundings. Harken urges that trust

has to be maintained in order to be happy in the relationship.

"It's crucial to keep your independence, too," Harken said.

Some couples have to sustain a few hours apart while others have to endure being states away from each other.

Amanda Cook, a junior at Eastern, has been with her boyfriend, a senior at Penn State for a year and a half. She says the distance is hard but if two people care for each other enough, they will sacrifice a lot.

"Things get complicated sometimes because of the distance," Cook said. "In the beginning we had some trust issues but we have definitely worked through everything. Being far from each other has made us stronger and appreciate what we have."

Another important aspect of living apart is compromise. Howard thinks it is important for both people to sacrifice some, and Cook agrees that compromise is only fair.

Both Howard and Cook believe that if the love is there, then distance doesn't hinder a relationship but can make it grow and make it stronger. Both students urge others having a hard time to hang in there because everyday is a day closer to seeing one another.

Finding a Home at the Campus House

STORY BY ASHLEY MEFFORD

Eleven years ago, Danah Himes was a freshman living in Carman Hall, the designated freshman dormitory. Someone in Carman had told her about the Christian Campus House. Campus House is unlike the traditional church because it is made up mostly of college students.

According to its Web site, Christian Campus House is a “non-denominational campus ministry that offers a wide range of activities to help students.” She went the first Sunday of the school year and fell in love with it.

“That first Sunday, something awakened in my heart and I knew that this was where I needed to be to grow in God,” Himes said.

Seven years later, Christian Campus was searching for a new a female minister. Himes had previously gone to seminary and was well qualified for the position.

“By this point I had completed seminary and already worked on another campus, and I truly felt that if I was the best fit person for the job then I definitely wanted to serve this ministry that God had used to change my life,” Himes

said.

This has been Himes's fifth year working at Christian Campus House and she still feels that strong passion for what she does.

“I work with a great staff and get to share in so many amazing students' lives,” she said.

“We know that all of our work efforts, whether up front or behind the scenes, are working towards that one goal: people coming to know God, learning to walk in his ways and growing in Christian maturity,” Himes said.

During Himes' fifth year at Christian Campus House, there have been a lot of great additions. There are Wednesday night Bible studies and family groups, which are small groups that discuss either the Bible or another book. There also are some events the Campus House has annually including a barnyard dance, Super Bowl parties, Fall Retreat, Semi-Formal and Spring Fling.

The dances and the parties are the fun side, but what makes Christian Campus House so successful are the friendships that are made. The friendships created at Campus House are the reason for its continuing success.

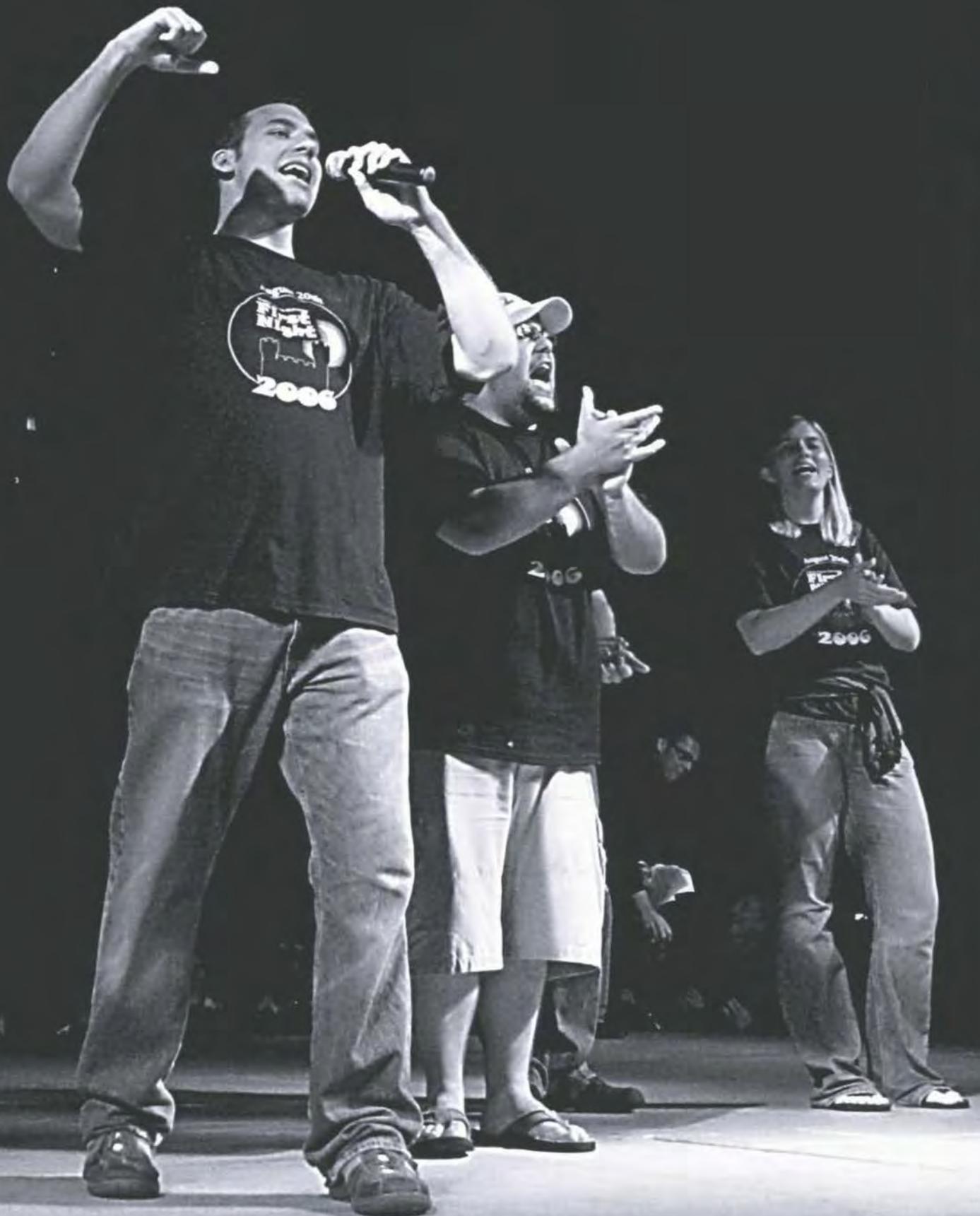


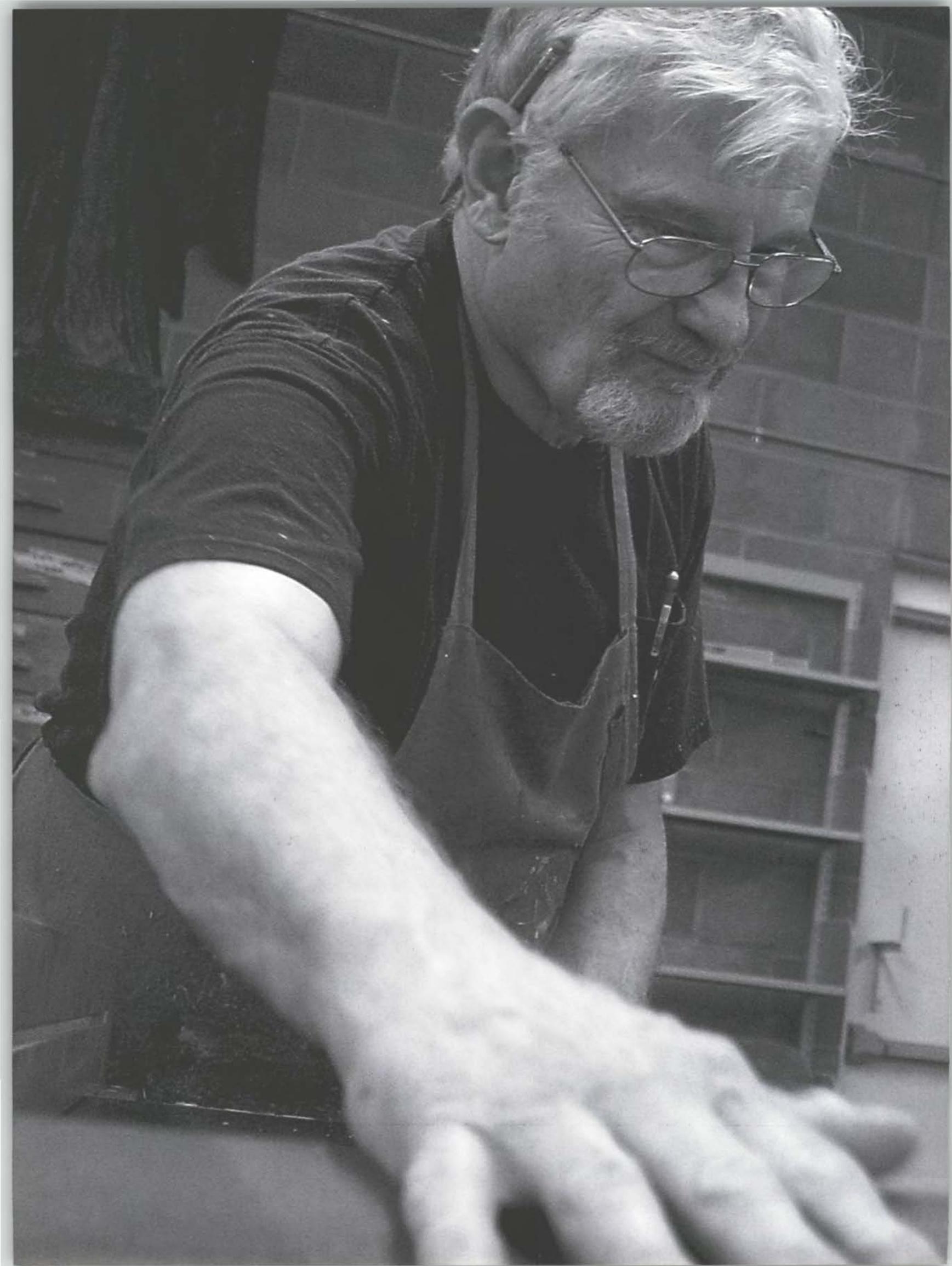
Senior campus minister Roger Songer speaks with members of his congregation after giving his sermon.
PHOTO BY SETH MILLER



Members of the Students Senate executive board, Dave Keyes, Cole Rogers, Sean Anderson, Levi Bulgar and Amanda Raz, open the First Night celebration in the South Quad.

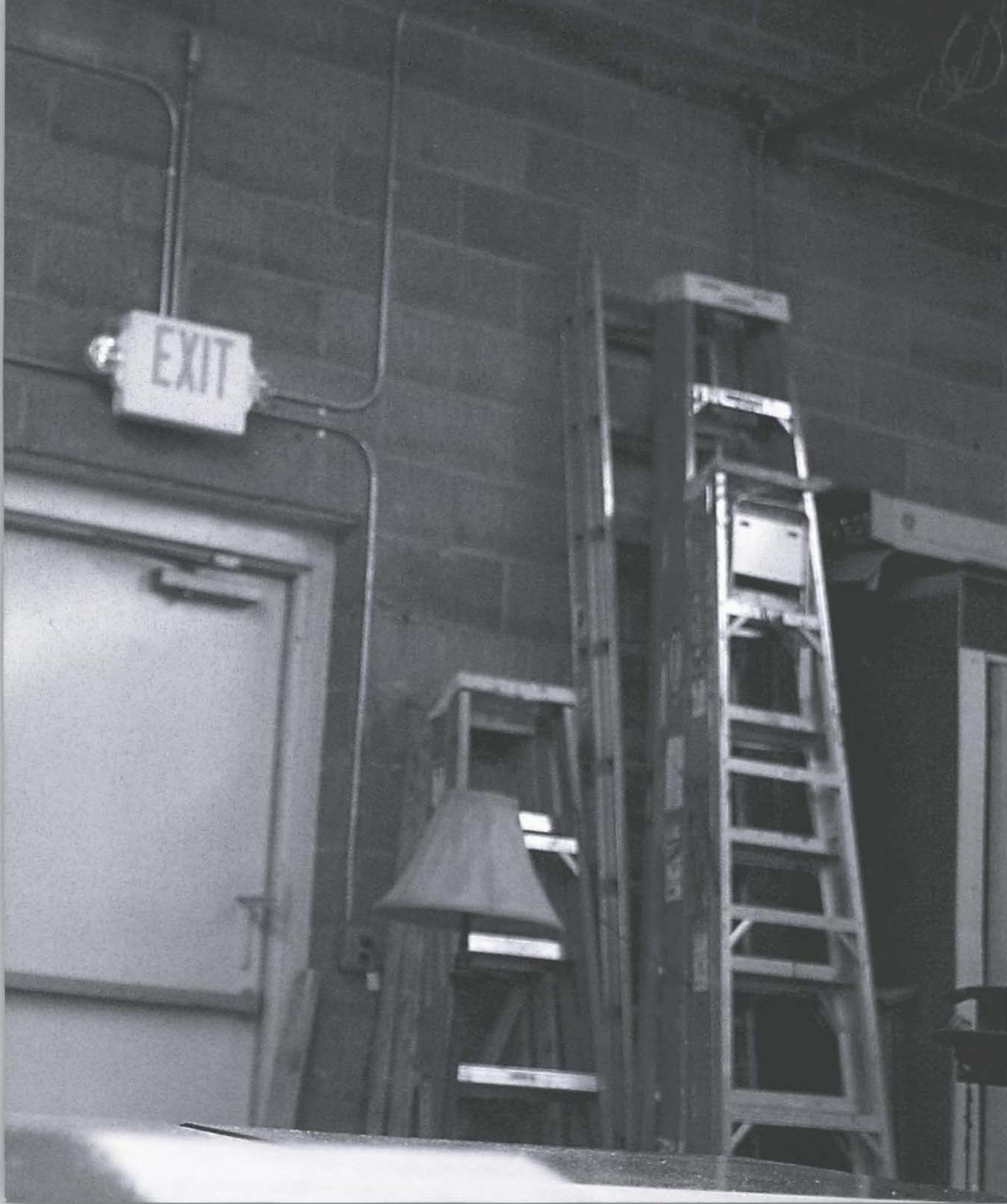
PHOTO BY SETH MILLER



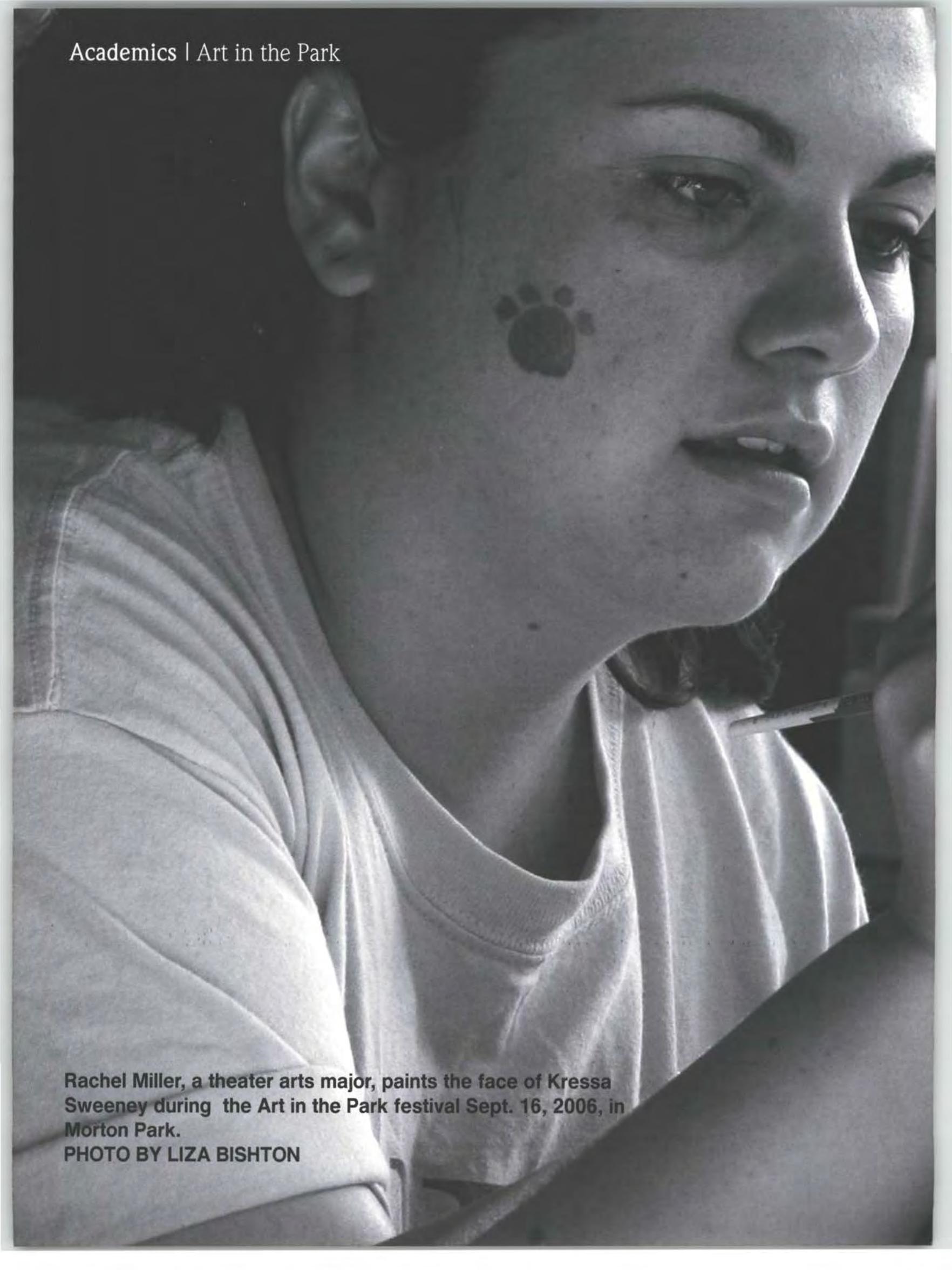


Tom Hawk, a member of the set design crew for Aladdin, cuts through some boards to make set pieces for the upcoming production.

PHOTO BY SETH MILLER



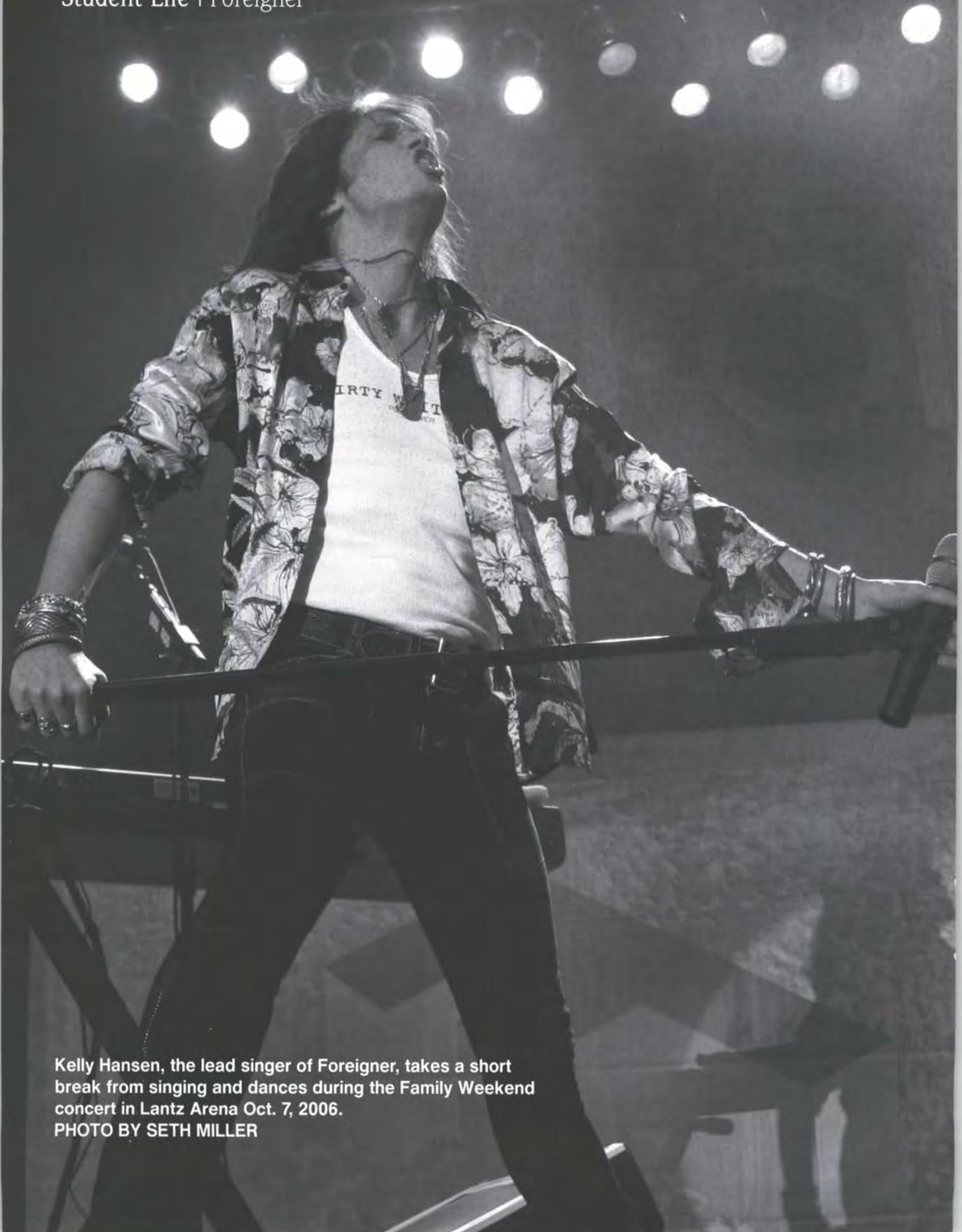
Academics | Art in the Park



Rachel Miller, a theater arts major, paints the face of Kressa Sweeney during the Art in the Park festival Sept. 16, 2006, in Morton Park.

PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON





Kelly Hansen, the lead singer of Foreigner, takes a short break from singing and dances during the Family Weekend concert in Lantz Arena Oct. 7, 2006.
PHOTO BY SETH MILLER

Foreigner Rocks Parents Weekend



Mick Jones, the only remaining original member of Foreigner, performs in Lantz Arena during their 13-song set.
PHOTO BY SETH MILLER

STORY BY ANDREW NICKS

During Parents Weekend the University Board presents a wide variety of entertainment. Comedians, such as Jeff Foxworthy and Wayne Brady, and musicians, like Credence Clearwater Revival and James Brown, have held center stage at Eastern. The 2006 Parents Weekend took off when the rock band Foreigner performed. They lit up the stage and played some of their greatest hits.

Foreigner was created in 1976 by Mick Jones. Since their beginning, Foreigner has written numerous top-10 songs, including “Cold as Ice,” “Hot Blooded” and “Jukebox Hero.”

Foreigner was perfect for the weekend since they were able to play for a multi-generational audience. The bass player, Jeff Pilsen said “I see people from 8 to 80” when asked about the average age of the audience. Both parents and students were able to enjoy astounding performance.

Kelly Hansen, vocalist, interacted with the crowd through the entire show. He addressed the age difference among audience members in a joking manner.

“We know were playing for a multi-generational crowd, (but) nobody’s going to have a “Blue Morning,”” said Hansen as the band started playing the song “Blue

Morning, Blue Day.”

Hansen kept the crowd involved through the entire show by asking the audience to be the choir for “I Want to Know What Love Is.” Then later in the show, Hansen asked all the “dirty moms” and “dirty daughters” to get up and cheer as they began playing “Dirty White Boy.”

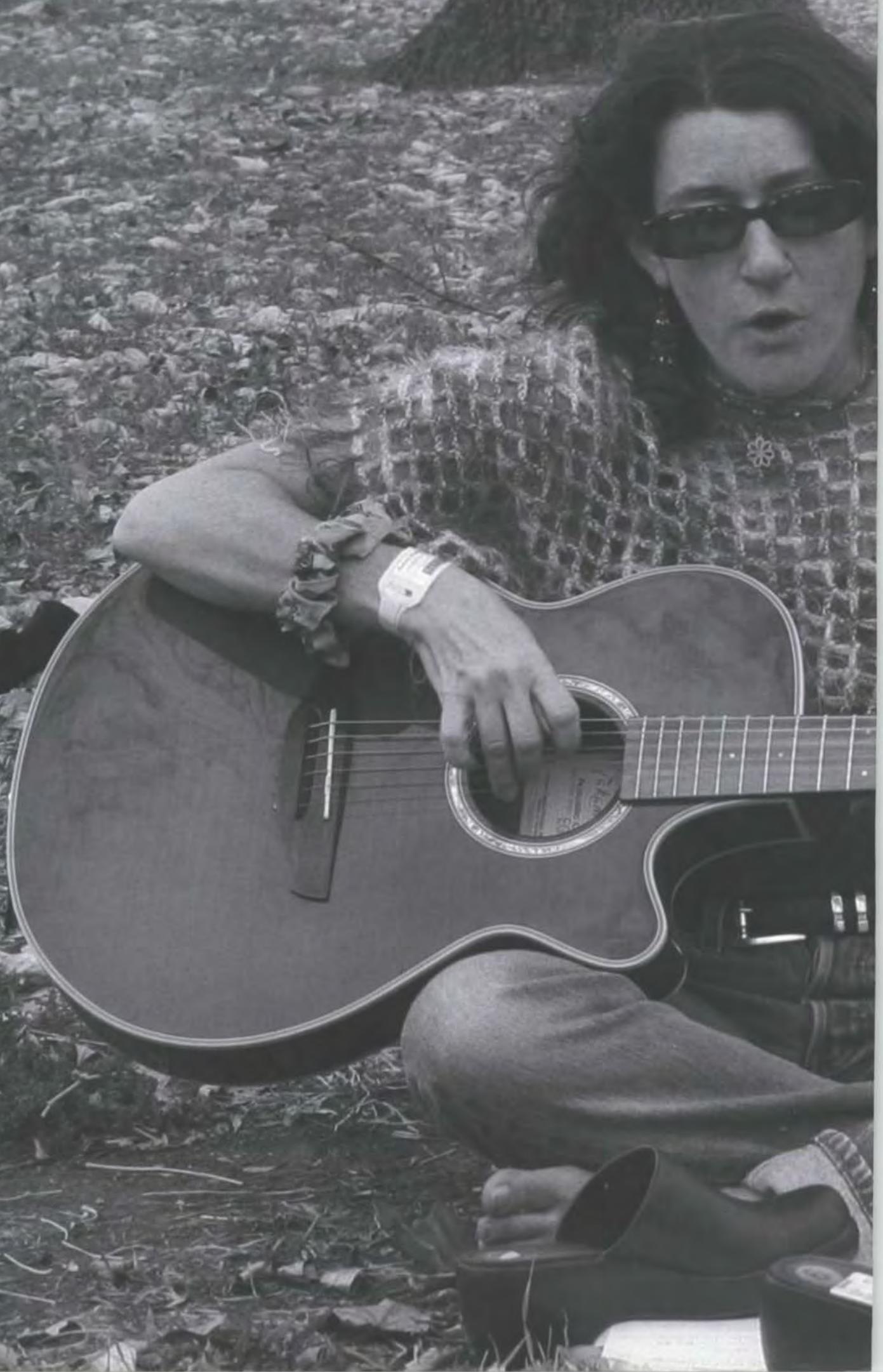
Tyler Meyer, a senior foreign language major, enjoyed the show with his mother, Penny, and brother, Justin. “They put on an amazing show,” said Meyer. “My mom was really into it, she was happy that she got to see them for the first time.”

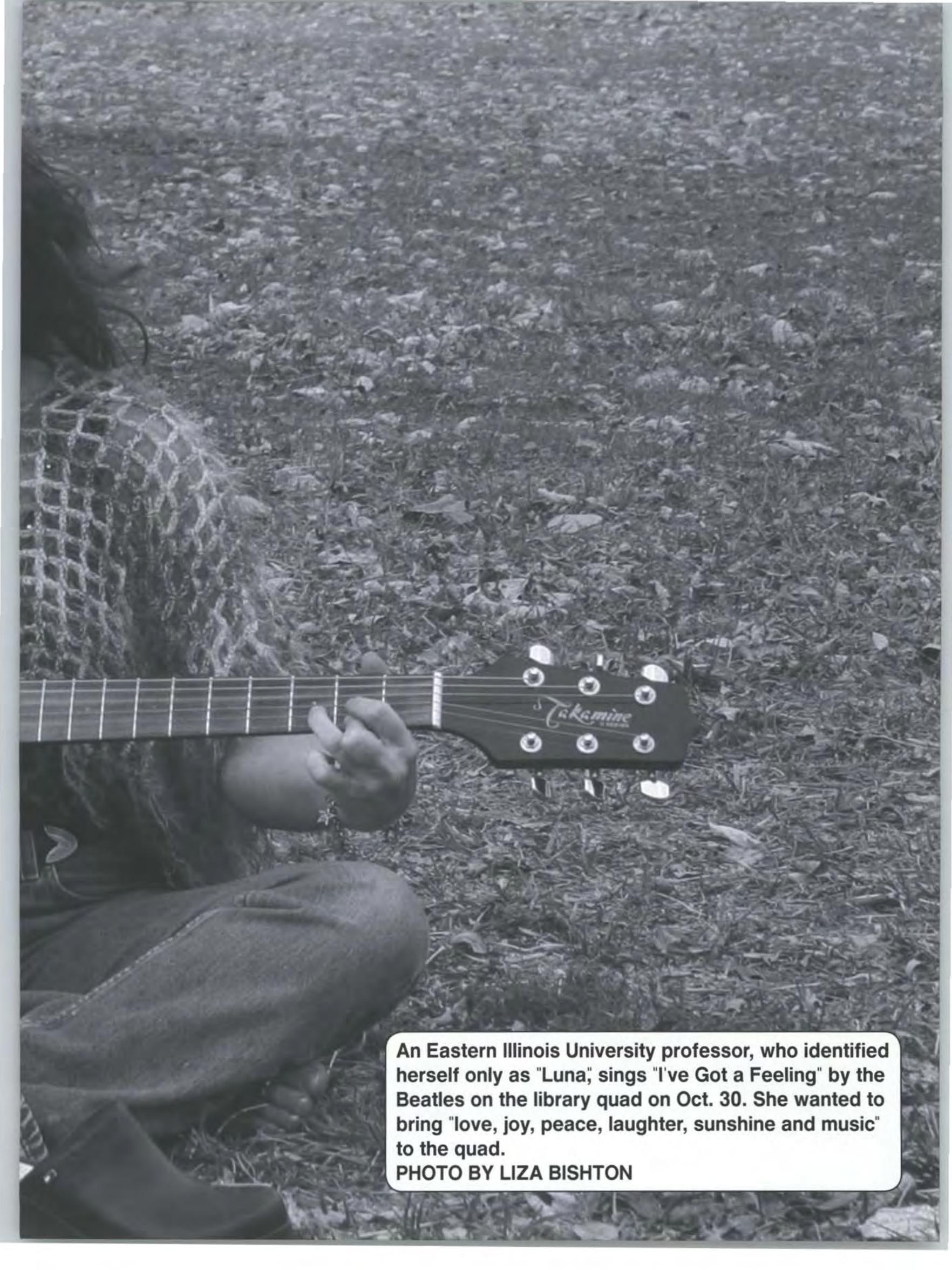
“This was my first time to EIU and didn’t expect them (University Board) to put on a show like this,” said Penny Meyer.

The concert lasted close to two hours and covered Foreigner’s greatest hits. Songs from the albums Foreigner, Double Vision and Headgames could be heard. Even though these songs were written in the mid ‘70s to early ‘80s, they still gather a large following.

“A good song is a good song, no matter how old,” said Meyer. “We’re gonna give it what we usually do.”

Foreigner played a concert EIU won’t soon forget.





An Eastern Illinois University professor, who identified herself only as "Luna," sings "I've Got a Feeling" by the Beatles on the library quad on Oct. 30. She wanted to bring "love, joy, peace, laughter, sunshine and music" to the quad.

PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON

Completely Bowled Over

STORY BY BOB ROUBIK

“Let’s make some noise!” says Eastern Illinois University’s Bowling class instructor Rob Doyle.

The class then proceeds to start bowling and a plethora of falling pins surrounds me. The carpet on the floor is black with neon colored stars, bowling balls and other designs. When the black lights are on it is time for Cosmic Bowling, and it is almost as if you are in a different world.

Doyle walks up and down the alley observing each of the 12 lanes to see how everyone is doing.

“I’ve been teaching this class for 25 plus years,” says Doyle. “The class teaches basic skills, technique, courtesy, the rules, the language and how to score the game.”

This bowling alley is not just for bowling, however. There are three rugged pool tables covered in a greenish-blue felt just beyond the lanes. Also, when you first arrive there is another area with four more pool tables, a jukebox and a few arcade games.

As the bowlers continue their games, up on the TV screens are little animated cartoons showing how they did on their last throw.

“I’ve worked here since January of 2002,” says Steve Newell, a student in his final semester at Eastern. “I’ve taken the bowling class once. It’s a one-credit hour class that students can take four times before graduating.”

The bowling alley is a great place for a bowler to work. It is also a great place to just come and have fun.

“I got lucky with this job. When I was a freshman, my neighbor was a bowler and worked here and got me the job. I’ve been working here ever since,” Newell says.

As far as prices go, students with an Eastern ID bowl for \$1.75 a game, others \$2.25 a game. Cosmic bowling is \$2 a game for everyone. Shoes are \$1 a pair for everyone. Also, extra frames are 25 cents each.

“Red Pin Bowling is a lot of fun and usually attracts the most students,” Newell says.

Red Pin Bowling is when students have the chance to win free games by bowling strikes when there is a red pin in the set of pins. This runs from 4 p.m. -11 p.m. every Sunday.

“Red Pin Bowling
is a lot of fun and
usually attracts the most students.”

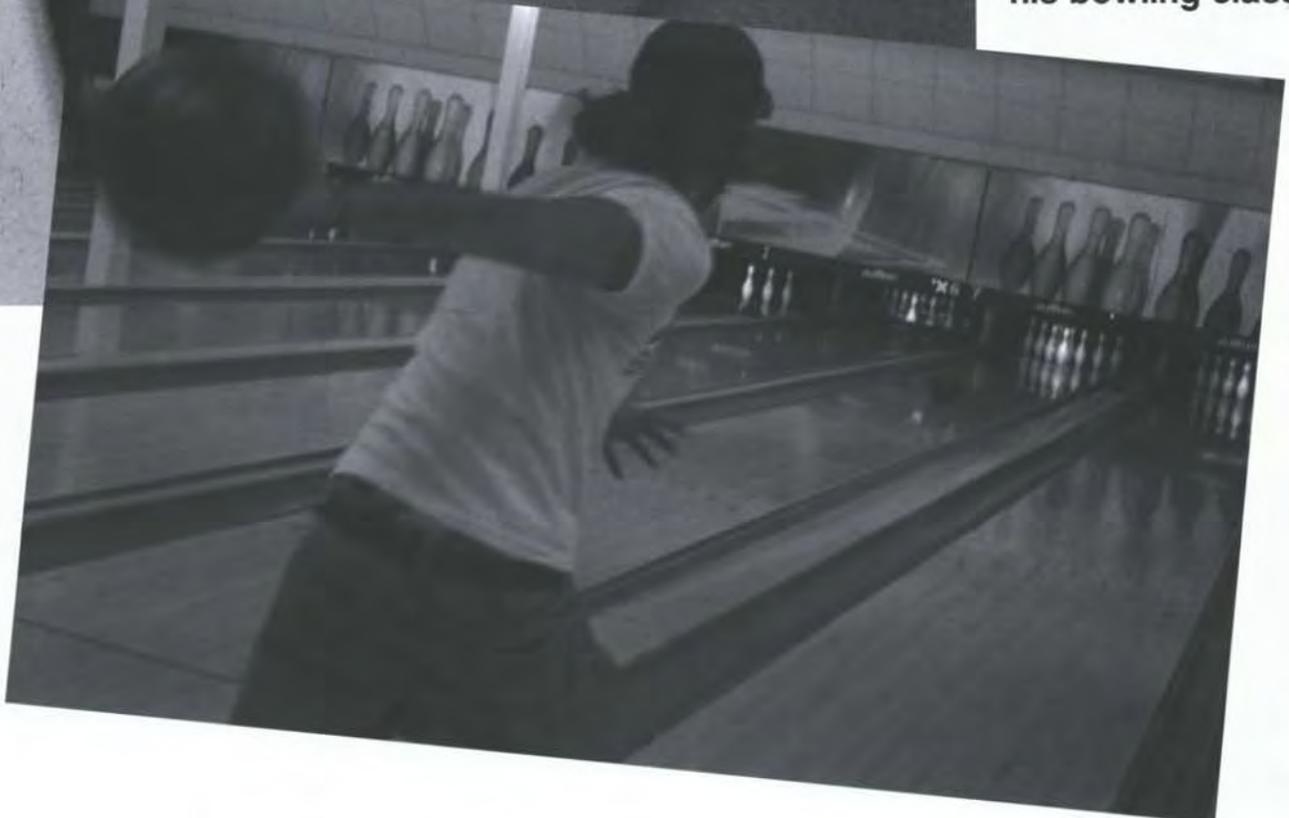
-- Steve Newell





Ashley Ehnle, a senior business management major, readies herself before her turn while bowling at bowling alley in the Martin Luther King J University Union.

Jacques Brouillette, senior psychology major, practices during his bowling class.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

201



You're Welcome

ES CENTER

Ceci Brinker, left, director of student life, waves from the Student Activities Center with Chad Quinones, a graduate assistant from the College of Student Affairs, and Eric Glenn, sophomore communications major, in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union on Nov. 11.

PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON

Walking past you can see a collage of colorful posters and fliers of upcoming events on campus on the door.

Once inside, to the left of you is an information table filled with brochures and pamphlets for various services offered on campus and applications for positions within organizations.

The Student Activities Center is home to different Recognized Student Organizations on campus such as Student Government, University Board, Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council and the Black Student Union.

It holds the offices of those RSOs on the second floor of the Martin Luther King, Jr., University Union just across the way from Copy Express. Each RSO has its own mailboxes and work cubicle equipped with a computer.

The Student Activities Center on a normal day is a high traffic area, filled with people talking, laughing, holding meetings and conducting business as usual. But today is not one of those days.

Today is fairly quiet with just the student worker in front answering phones and doing work on the computer. Only two RSO members are in their offices, one quietly working on the computer and another chatting with a friend.

Walking past the reception desk, around the conference table, past mailboxes bolted on the wall to the right, to the left five Gateway computers and straight ahead you see an open door.

University Board vice-chair Melissa Schaefer is in her office, which she shares with the chair of UB, working on something on the computer.

The office is small with a red couch,

bookshelf, computer and desk. The walls look like an explosion at a poster factory, hosting countless posters of past events put on by UB. One poster dates back to 1986.

Schaefer says the Student Activities Center is like a big resource center for the RSOs.

"It's where the RSOs can come and hold meetings, the computers are free to use and it just a place where we can come to do the business we have to do," she says.

Kenneth Ohms, speaker of the Student Senate, has his own personal office not shared with anyone.

His office is modest, also with a red couch, bookshelf, computer and desk. Although his walls have only a picture of dogs playing poker and John F. Kennedy.

Kent, how he introduces himself, says he feels the Student Activities Center is fully utilized by the RSOs.

"I feel they appreciate having a centralized location, you know just one place where they can come to do business. They usually hold meetings here or around this area," he says.

Kent describes the Student Activities Center as a "branch" of the Student Life Office.

"The Student Life Office is the administration and the Student Activities Center is more student ran, this office is for us, the students, but both offices coincide," he says.

Leaving Kent's office you can't help but see the American Flag to the left on the wall above two red couches and an artificial plant.

As you walk out you can't help but grab one pamphlet and read at least one of the fliers on the door, maybe it's something you might be interested in.

STORY BY TIEARRA STEELE

University Food Court

Neon lights glow above the entrance, “Food Court” they buzz. The noisy hustle and bustle of students, staff, and faculty as they converge on the first floor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Union to eat nearly drowns “Let the good times roll” as it blasts from the speakers overhead. The click as people enter through the turnstile to view the vast amount of food choices awaiting them, is similar to a subway station.

A hunter green “cage” houses the University Food Court consisting of Panther Grille, Greek Odyssey Café, Chick-fil-A, Charleston Market, Connie’s Pizza and Subway. This brightly painted, busy location was not always like this.

When the building opened Dec. 3, 1958, it included a cafeteria, simple meals at long tables with bench seating. However, over time things changed.

The food court was named Panther Lair and was run by Eastern. At one time, McDonalds was the only food service available in the Union, says Cathy Engelkes, director of the student union.

“Around 1999, prior to the opening of the University Food Court as it is today, we had a temporary

operation that included Chic-fil-A and Subway,” says Sandy Black, assistant director of University Food Court.

In 2002, after bids were put out and those interested began contract negotiations with Eastern, the food operations became a part of Panther Dining, making it the current food court, Black says.

Once food is piled onto trays, hungry food court visitors line up waiting to pay for their meals.

Student employee Kimberly Wagy, junior elementary education major, works 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday at one of three registers. Beginning her second year as a food court employee, she tunes out the sounds and salivates over the smells as she cashes people out.

She sits on the stool touching the computer screen; her blonde hair in a messy bun supported by a black visor. Wagy enjoys her job and especially likes to watch people.

“It’s just right!” she says, her contagious smile spreads to nearly every person who comes through her line.

STORY BY MEAGAN MORGAN

Find Common Ground

People
Find Common
Grounds at Eastern

PHOTO BY KRISTIN BORN

The Agency Works for a Greater Cause

STORY BY ASHLEY MEFFORD

Mary Kelly-Durkin taught classes at Eastern longer than most of her students had been alive. She taught classes at EIU for over 20 years and has been honored with a scholarship given in her name.

A scholarship was named after Kelly-Durkin when she retired from teaching. Her colleagues and students wanted something at EIU to remember her by.

"I do remember how honored and pleased I was because this scholarship was developed through students. Students on The Agency are learning about and practicing fundraising – a really nice skill to have – and the money helps out some student. What could be more perfect?" said Kelly-Durkin.

The Agency is a student-run public relations firm. They meet once a week to go over articles that need to be written, research articles and also plan events such as fundraisers.

The Agency, which sponsors this scholarship, writes and designs two newsletters, the Journalist, the journalism department newsletter for its majors, and The Relay, a newsletter for public relations minors.

One of their newest projects is helping the biological science department with writing articles for their newsletter

that will come out a few times during the school year.

The scholarship was started in 2004, and has had two recipients so far. In 2005, Jessica Caudle received it; and in 2006 Megan Frejlich was awarded it.

"I was excited to be given such an award as the Mary Kelly-Durkin Scholarship. Working for The Agency gave me great experience with a Public Relations Newsletter. I am very thankful to Professor Terri Lynn Johnson for attributing me with such an honor, in the name of a great PR person, Mary Kelly-Durkin. I intend on using this award as a stepping-stone to continue great work in whatever area of journalism I choose to pursue," Frejlich said.

The scholarship requirements are that the student has to be a junior journalism major who goes to EIU. The recipient of this scholarship also has to be involved with The Agency.

Kelly-Durkin was the previous adviser to The Agency. Now it is journalism Professor Johnson.

The Agency has fundraisers such as the Pizza Hut fundraiser to raise money for the Kelly-Durkin scholarship.

"I have felt very proud that my name is attached to this scholarship. I love Eastern students and the Journalism department," said Kelly-Durkin.

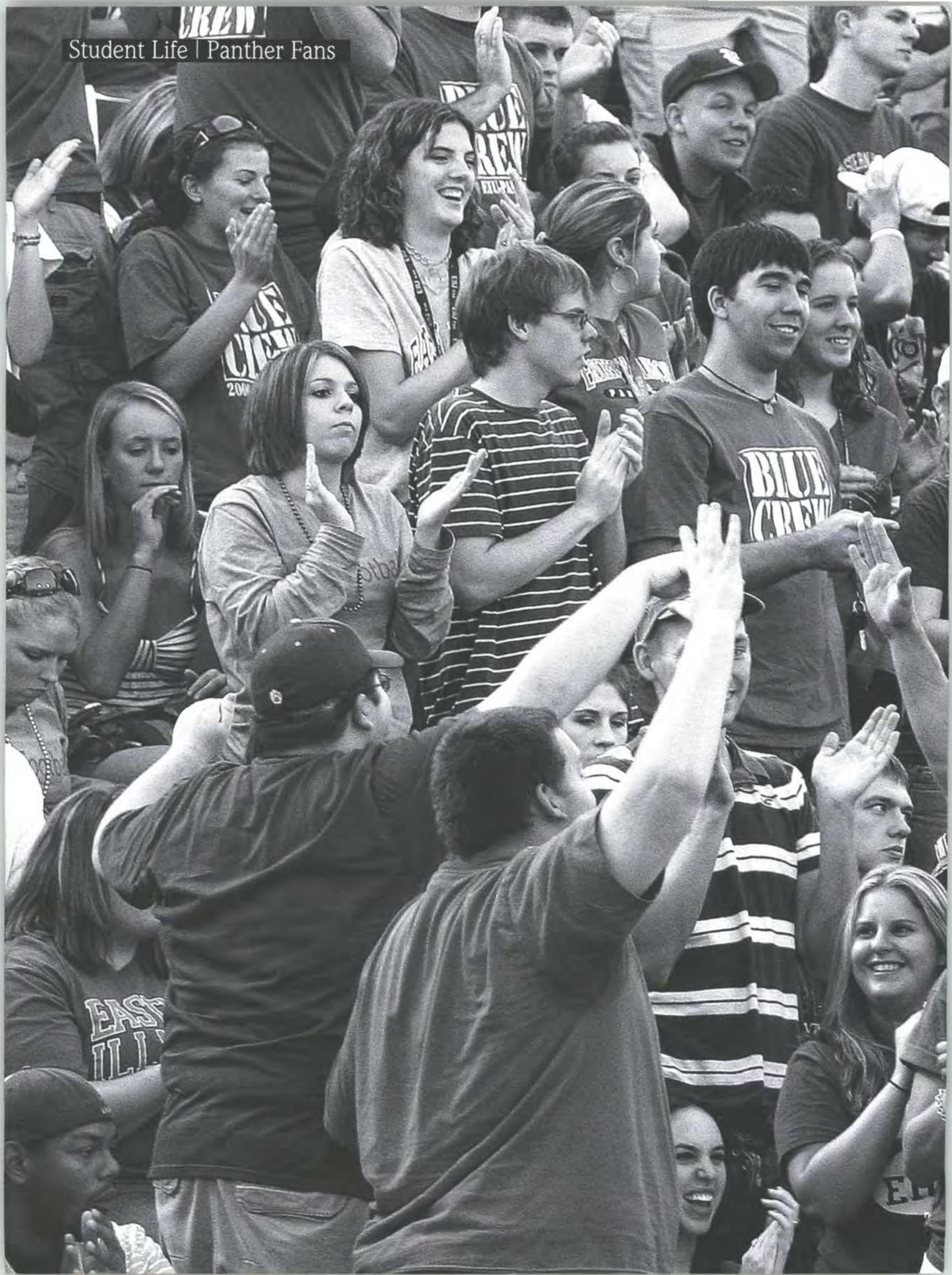


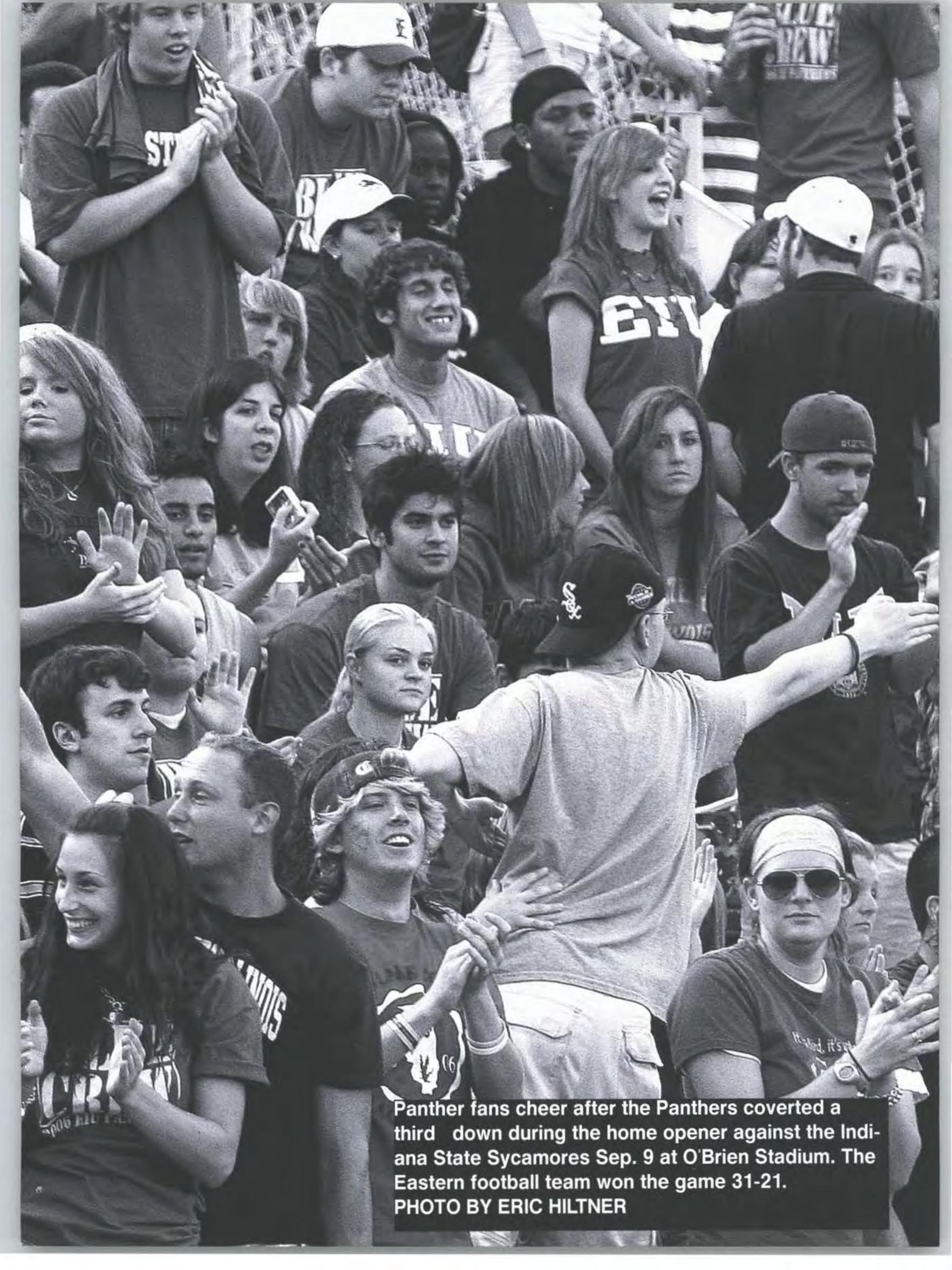


**Angela Pham edits an article for the upcoming edition of the Agency's publication The Journalist.
PHOTO BY SAM WILLIAMS**

**Members of The Agency: (front) Katrina Zaret, Deirdre Sheanhan, Terrah Graves, Danielle Neal, Angela Pham (back) Terri Lynn Johnson, Cory Dimitrakopoulos, Matt Kelly, Derrick Johnson III, Sheree Patterson, Ashley Mefford, and Jessica Gysin.
PHOTO BY SAM WILLIAMS**







Panther fans cheer after the Panthers covered a third down during the home opener against the Indiana State Sycamores Sep. 9 at O'Brien Stadium. The Eastern football team won the game 31-21.
PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

Tucked Away, Legal Services Aid Students

STORY BY BRANDON CAMPBELL

Neatly hidden away atop the third floor of the Union is a thin balcony study area that overlooks the cafeteria on the floor below. Red carpeting adds some much needed color; comfortable easy chairs line the wall. This study area is a much welcome hideaway from the hustle of the Union and serves as a gateway to the Student Legal Services office.

The Student Legal Services office seems as though it is a world a part from the rest of the Union. As you walk through the door into the cramped, stuffy office the clamor of dining students fades into near silence. The thick carpeting and rows of bookshelves filled with legal documents and massive binders absorb any noise that might leak through.

Sitting at his desk piled high with a mess of papers Stephen Davis, director of Student Legal Services, sifts through a mound of documents and barely lifts his head to acknowledge your presence.

"Come on in," Davis said.

Davis has been the students' sole legal counsel at Eastern for the past 27 years. His chief duty is to

give legal advice to full-time Eastern students.

Sifting through an average of six to 10 student contacts a day, Davis dutifully dispenses guidance on common legal issues facing young students such as underage drinking and DUIs.

"Drinking problems are the most common that I see," Davis says.

"When a student comes in sometimes they don't know what to do, especially as a first time offender. I have to work things out and I sit down and go through the whole process with them."

According to Davis, most of his legal counsel meetings with students typically last from 10 to 15 minutes.

Craig Nerger, a junior marketing major, stopped in for one of those quick meetings.

"This was my first time coming here," Nerger says. "I was a little intimidated at first, I mean the place is covered in papers; it looks like a legal office," he said with a grin.

Nerger spoke positively of Davis.

"He's a nice friendly guy; he's down to earth, logical and analytical," Nerger said.

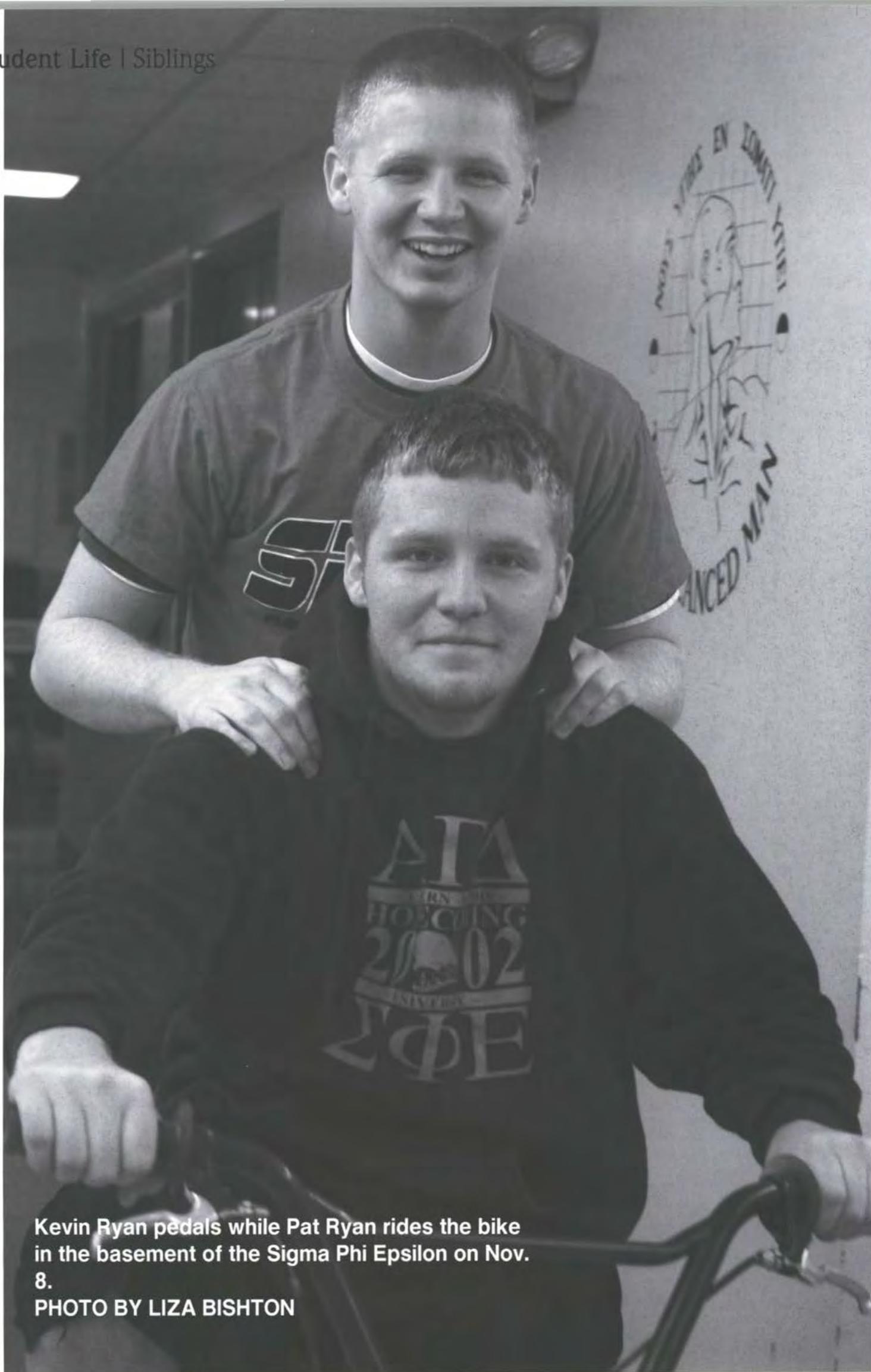
“He's a nice friendly guy; he's down to earth, logical and analytical.”

-Craig Nerger



Stephen Davis, director of Eastern's Legal Services for 27 years, looks over a student's paperwork while providing him legal counsel. "Drinking problems are the most common that I see," said Davis, of the student legal concerns he deals with.

PHOTO BY KRISTIN BORN



Kevin Ryan pedals while Pat Ryan rides the bike in the basement of the Sigma Phi Epsilon on Nov. 8.

PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON

Blood Brothers

STORY BY ALEX OCHOA

Most students come to college not knowing anyone and are completely naïve as to how things at college and their new home actually work. However, believe it or not, many first-year students have a head start. Either their older siblings or another relative already attends Eastern, giving them a trustworthy friend who can ease them into the transition of college.

This was exactly the case for junior athletic training major Rich Kopca. Kopca transferred this year while his brother, Joe Kopca, a senior physical education major, has already been here for three years. On top of having his brother here, Kopca's sister, Jen Kopca, is starting her freshman year at Eastern as well.

Rich says, "There are definitely more advantages than disadvantages. It's a home away from home, and you know you will always have someone that will be there for you if you need them."

Why do students follow in the footsteps of a relative? There are numerous reasons, differing for each individual. Younger siblings usually had the chance to visit their relative throughout the school year and see what the school is like. Then, because of their familiarity with that school, when it comes time to choose a college the decision is made simple.

According to Cara Pschirrer, counselor for the EIU Counseling Center, "Students who come to the same college as their sibling or relative already have an established support system. It eases the transition of high school to college when they come to a place where they already have bonds."

This was the case for freshman undecided major Kevin Ryan who chose to come to Eastern because his older brother Pat is a senior and Tom is a graduate student.

Kevin said it "is a major advantage going to school with siblings." He knew he made the right choice because "splitting up the family would be lonely and I know they have always got my back if I need them."

Parents of siblings also see the advantages. Joe said, "They feel safer sending their only daughter off to college when they know that her older brothers are there and will protect her."

Another plus for the parents of siblings is they can make one visit to see all of their children.

"My parents think it's a great opportunity for us at the same school. They like it on family weekend because they only have to travel to one school," Kevin said.

Financially, it makes things easier for the Kopca's parents as well, especially since the boys live in the same apartment. They are able to purchase one set of furniture for both boys, rather than having to buy dual items if they were living separately.

Carpooling is another money saver and when siblings attend the same college, a ride home is almost always guaranteed. Overall, it seems that going to the same college as a sibling or relative makes the college transition easier because it is almost like having a guide to help you through everything from course scheduling, how to get involved in extra curricular activities, parties, meeting people, good places to eat and more. No matter what though, whether you have a sibling or not, the counseling center and other on-campus sources are always available to ease the transition into college.



Old School Meets Nu Skool

A member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. dances off the stage through a cloud of fog during Black Student Reunion Step Show in the Student Recreation Center.

PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

STORY BY AMANDA DUGAN

In a crowded room the sense of unity and lasting traditions filled the air. Around a hundred people of different ages and races filled the Student Rec Center for the second Black Student Reunion.

The money raised from the main event of the Black Student Reunion, the step show, was donated to a minority affairs scholarship.

"The importance of this event was to showcase the heritage and history of step shows through the fraternities and sororities of the Divine 9 on Eastern's campus," said Jessica Thornton, junior communications studies major.

Groups interested in participating in the event needed to sign up a month early in order to organize the schedule for the weekend. Thornton knows the effort it takes in order to prepare for the step show.

"Since I was on my high school's step team, I know how exhausting practices can be. It takes certain self-discipline to train your body to remember each movement and step at the right time," Thornton said.

Many alums look forward to returning to Eastern and having sponsored events, such as the step show, gives the alums a great way to get in touch with sorority sisters or fraternity brothers they haven't seen in years.

It appeared that as people walked into the Rec they saw someone they knew and you quickly heard "Oh my god, how are you?"

Shawn D. Peoples kicked off the show with introductions followed by the Black National Anthem by Amanda

Henderson. After the chilling performance by Henderson judges were introduced and the prime event of the show began.

Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity started the step show with a well-synchronized performance and roars of applause. Delta Sigma Theta sorority followed with an intense sequence of step and dance. "Bringing Sexyback" by Justin Timberlake was the highlight of their performance, and it had the audience singing and dancing along.

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity followed and made quite the impression with their matching blue and white uniforms. Zeta Phi Beta sorority and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority rounded out the five performances.

Phi Beta Sigma fraternity and Delta Sigma Theta sorority won the step show in their respective divisions. Each Greek organization won \$1000 for their chapter.

Jolie and rhythm & x-tacy also provided additional dance entertainment during the judge's deliberation with a dance off battle of various music over the past years.

It was chilling to see the bonds still formed from Greek sisters and brothers over the years and how they have developed and grown. Alums of various organizations supported the new members of their sorority or fraternity and that kind of camaraderie tends to get lost in the scuffle of life.

The night was memorable and will always be an event students and alumni should look forward to every year, said Thornton.



A Studio Away From Home

STORY BY JESSICA CAMPBELL

Dancing means more than your body's movement to a catchy beat. Performing is a more breath-taking experience than twirling around your room or grabbing your best friend and hitting up the dance floor. To many, dancing is an art, a way of life. Performing on stage under the bright lights is the greatest high they will ever feel. For dancers, the music speaks to them, they feel it in their blood and every movement of their body is an expression of emotion.

Melissa Pritzl is the epitome of a dedicated dancer. As a junior elementary education major, Pritzl's proudest accomplishment is president of the Eastern Illinois University Dancers, more commonly referred to as the EIU Dancers. She has been tapping her toes since she was 3 years old and began taking dance classes.

Pritzl's credentials also include 10 years of competition dance and four years as a member of the Morris Varsity high school Pom Squad. As Melissa reflects on her decision of joining the EIU Dancers she sighed and stated, "I just don't know what I'd do without it."

The EIU dancers pride themselves on being set apart from the other dance teams on campus. Their motivation for the squad is simply for "the love of dance." The squad is consisted of 15 unique and talented dancers and amazing officers: Vice President Krystle Gravitt, Secretary Kelly Maher and Treasurer Stephanie Nair. The squad perfects a wide variety of styles and dancing including numbers from tap, ballet, jazz, modern, pointe, hip hop and their newest, salsa. Pritzl describes their team as "a studio away from home."

Their season runs from September to March with practices Tuesday and Thursday. The dancers have performed in the pep assembly on Friday evening during Homecoming week, where they performed a jazz dance the theme from "Charlie's Angels."

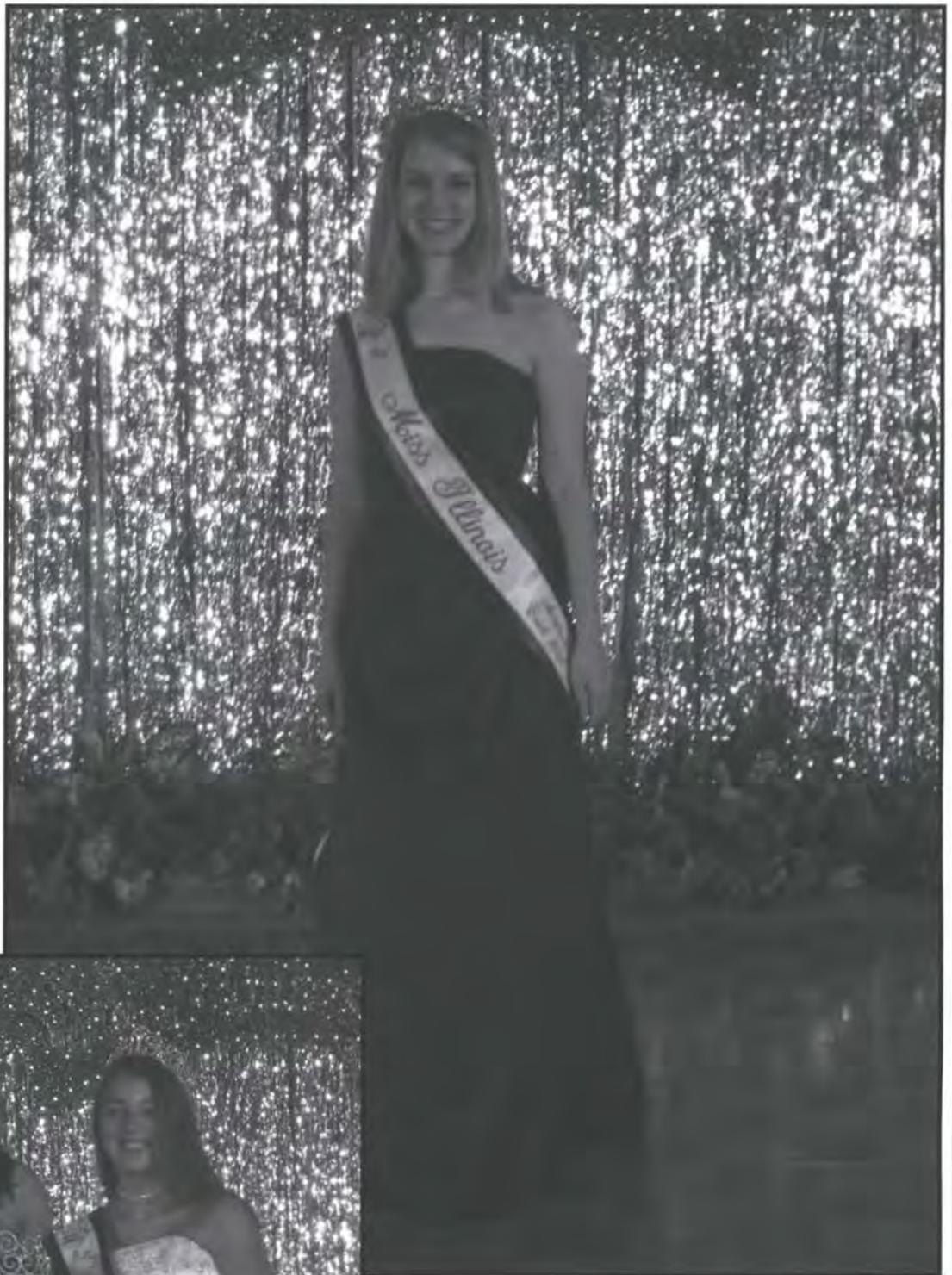
The team also gathered together for the parade that Saturday and danced through the streets with the floats. Some other performances include different benefits and functions around the Eastern campus. All practices and dances lead up to an unbelievable show that is performed to conclude their season in March. This year they will be performing 24 dances. Pritzl says, "If you love all types and styles of dances- EIU dancers is it!"



Nicole Fuentes, accounting major, shows off her moves in Lantz Auditorium during a performance by the EIU Dancers.

Ravi Faith Appleby performs with the EIU Dancers during one of their shows in Lantz Auditorium. The EIU Dancers put on several shows throughout their season from September to March.

Sara Cuadrado proudly displays her crown and banner. After the competition there was a chance for family and friends to take photos of her against the backdrop of the pageant stage



Sara Cuadrado stands with fellow Miss Illinois winners of different divisions.



Pageant Queen's Dream Just Beginning

Sara Cuadrado, sophomore journalism major, stands with the 2005 Miss Illinois Coed before being crowned her successor.

STORY BY JESS CAMPBELL

At one time in every girl's life, she imagines herself in a beautiful, sparkling evening gown with her hair in curls, under the bright lights of a beauty pageant.

Practicing a graceful walk down the runway, she envisions all eyes fixated on her unruffled composure and breathtaking beauty. In reality, the runway is the hallway leading to her bedroom and the flowers consist of two hairbrushes.

For most women the dream ends here, but for Sara Cuadrado, sophomore journalism major, the reality is just beginning. On July 3, 2006, Cuadrado was crowned Miss Illinois American Coed 2006. The competition was judged part on eveningwear, part interview and on personal introduction. Cuadrado amazed the judges and those around her with the sincerity and modesty that came along with her crown.

Alyssa Obradovich, junior communication studies major, said, "I've known Sara for a year now and never heard mention of her participating in a pageant, let alone

being crowned. It's amazing how humble she has remained about the whole thing."

Cuadrado's next move is Orlando, Fla. to Walt Disney World. She will spend her Thanksgiving vacation competing for the noble title of National Miss American Coed 2007. However, this competition has a few more stipulations than the last. Cuadrado has indulged herself into some volunteer work to give back to the community.

She spent an afternoon giving back to the DuPage Sheriff Office by handing out items for children at the DuPage County Fair.

Cuadrado also worked at the Glendale Heights Fest, which was one of the most rewarding experiences of her life. Sara and Illinois Teen Queen helped raise money for a 30-year old police officer that has been diagnosed with cancer. The two sold pins, Live Strong bracelets with the officer's name on them, and also walked around with baskets collecting money for the officer, which added up to \$500.00.

Cuadrado said, "The Glendale Heights Fest was the most rewarding and exciting part of the experience by far. It was such an incredible feeling to make a difference in someone's life that needed it most."

Along with volunteering, Cuadrado met with community leaders that were uplifted by her win. Some included Eastern President Lou Hencken, Rep. Lee Daniels, Sen. Dick Durbin and mayor of Addison Ill., her hometown, Larry Hartwig.

Cuadrado is still the same person now than she was the moment she was crowned. Her first thoughts were not of a typical beauty queen relishing in her victory. Instead, her thoughts immediately generated toward Nationals.

"My nerves began to kick in and I thought of what kind of appearance I wanted to make so to ensure that everyone could see the real me," she said.

Andrews Hall Council: Philanthropy and Fun

STORY BY ARIELLE HUGHES

On Oct. 2, 2006, Andrews Hall Council held the program "I Am Aware." The event promoted awareness of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

At the event Hall Council Executive Board members provided pink ribbons and puffy paints to decorate them with. (Pink is the color used to represent breast cancer.)

To start off the event, Executive Board member Irene Martens read a passage written by the sister of breast cancer victim Susan G. Komen on why she decided to start the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation

The Foundation has relevance to Andrews Hall residents because Komen was very similar to many of them and their families: she was raised in Peoria, Ill., and was only 33 years old when she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Freshman Jessica Blumm said she participated because "I know someone who suffered from breast cancer. My favorite part of the event was that all of us came together to show our support for those who have had to experience the disease."

When they were finished decorating, participants were encouraged to wear their stylish new ribbons around campus on their bags or jackets in order to raise awareness.

Andrews Hall Council also ran fundraisers to support the Susan G. Komen Foundation, including a root beer float sale that featured delivery right to residents' rooms, a pink donation box kept at the front desk and candy bars that were also sold at the front desk.

Andrews Resident Assistant Hilary Hancock was proud of "making people aware of the seriousness of breast cancer and increasing support for its victims and research."



Members of Andrews Hall Council take a vote during a meeting. The AHC meets every Monday at 8:30 p.m. in the lobby of Andrews Hall.



President of Andrews Hall Council Erin Kearfott, a sophomore hospitality major, speaks to the hall council during one of the meetings.

Far left: During an Andrews Hall Council meeting, members watch while a speech is made.

Lawson Ladies: Ushering in the Class of 2010

STORY BY ARIELLE HUGHES

“I chose Lawson Hall because it begins with an L, and you know, Lawson, Megan - L, M - it goes!” joked freshman Megan Folkerts on her choice of residence hall.

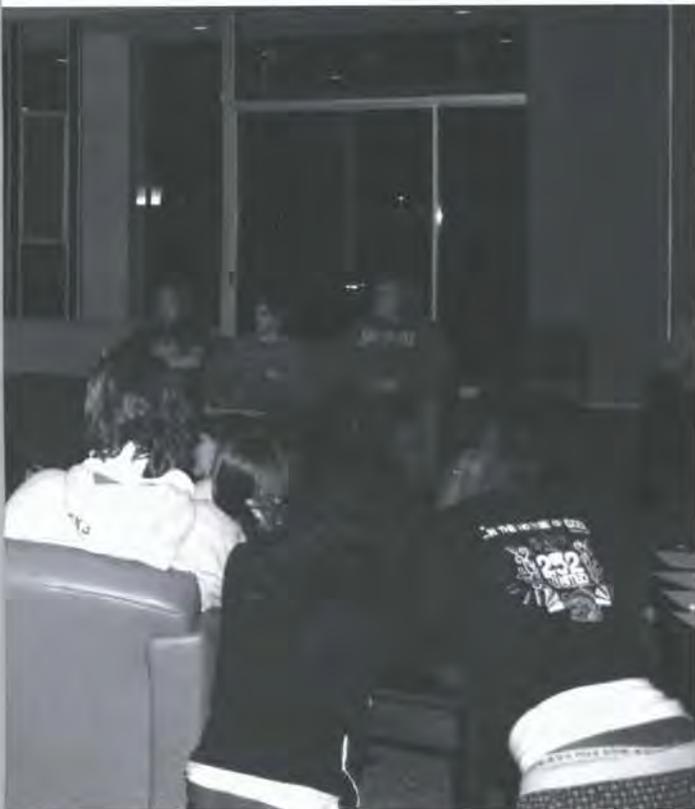
All incoming freshman are required to live in a residence hall their first semester. Most students consider Carman Hall the “freshman dorm,” but freshmen can and do live in nearly all of the other residence halls with the exception of Stevenson.

Most Lawson residents chose to live there; however, freshman Megan Cruz did not. “Lawson wasn’t one of my choices, but now I’m glad that I live here,” she said. Among the characteristics that make Lawson enjoyable, nice, helpful people and convenient location were some of the most common responses.

“Taylor is connected to Lawson, and they serve breakfast, my favorite meal” Folkerts said.

Like most halls, Lawson offers a hall council, which they call Lawson, Inc., which runs fun social programs in addition to regular business meetings. One of the more popular programs consisted of decorating cookies, which the residents were then able to eat.

“I like to eat cookies, and I like to decorate them, too. How much more fun can I have?” Cruz said.



Students learn about **Marketing** in the Real World



**Ryan Spatz gives the American Marketing Association a lesson on
Pharmaceutical Sales**

PHOTO BY SAMANTHA WILLIAMS

STORY BY JACLYN GORSKI

Eastern's chapter of the American Marketing Association gives opportunities to students to learn more about the marketing field outside of the classroom.

Members of AMA do not have to be marketing majors, all majors are welcome, said Kerry Kroscher, president of Eastern's chapter of the American Marketing Association.

The purpose of AMA is to provide EIU students with the opportunity to expand their knowledge of marketing activities and career opportunities, gain real world insight and information about careers related to marketing, facilitate their personal development through participation in chapter activities, demonstrate their interest in and commitment to marketing as a career, encourage personal interaction between students, business faculty, and marketing practitioners, as well as, contribute to the well-being of the University and Community, said Kroscher.

AMA holds meetings, conferences, fundraisers, community service activities such as blood drives and student workshops such as interview and resume workshops, Kroscher said.

AMA helps to give insight of the marketing field to members. During general meetings, professionals from the marketing field talk to AMA's members.

"He or she will give a presentation about marketing and how it relates to their job, what he or she does from day-to-day, what he or she likes about the job, possibly give students career advice and other useful information," Kroscher said.

After that, the presenter will open his or her presentation up for a question and answer session.

In order to provide this to members, AMA's executive board and adviser meet weekly and Kroscher meets with AMA's adviser once a week separately from the executive board meeting.

"Our general membership meets for speaker meetings, membership meeting, community service activities and student workshops, several times a month, depending on the activities planned," she said.



Kelasia Karmikal Carrington does a little dance and gets down during a disco remix.



Aurora Lamont Carrington collects "Buttons" by the Pussycat Dolls sponsored by EIU Pride.



ts tips dancing to
uring the drag show



Amaya Mann, Miss International 2006, was one of two emcees the "Saddle up!" drag show which brought in nearly 400 spectators.

What a Loser!

Members of the Eastern community race to lose weight the healthy way.

By Jen Auchincloss

These days, it seems that everyone is becoming, or wants to become, more health conscious. It is certainly noticed in the media with TV shows like "The Biggest Loser." Eastern Illinois has adopted this method for weight loss and has made it their own. The program was started on campus in the spring of 2006 and was limited to only students at the time.

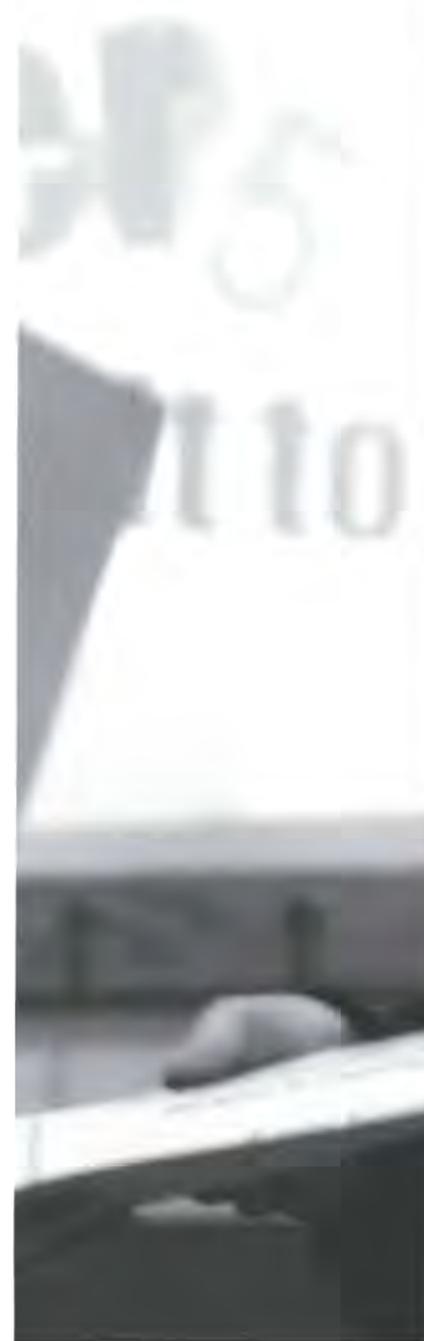
Now, Megan McCallister, nutrition education coordinator at the Health Education Resource Center, has taken the weight loss program to the next level. **Biggest Loser: You Gotta Lose it to Win It**, is now available not only to students but faculty and staff as well.

Eastern's version of the get-healthy program was inspired by the television program but has been changed a bit.

"The television show is focusing on losing a mass amount of weight in a short amount of time, which is unhealthy," McCallister said. "Thus, I am focusing the program on making a change to become nutritionally and physically healthier."

While the focus is the same as the show, lose weight, the regimen does have its own rules and regulations.

"The **Biggest Loser: You Gotta Lose it to Win It**, is a 10-week program and each participant needs to attend a minimum of 10 presentations or programs. During these times, the participants learn about various health and nutrition related topics to help become nutritionally and physically healthier," McCallister said.



Biggest Loser Results

Female winner: Kami Kimmell

Female team winners: Caitlyn Doyle
Ashley Gordon

Male winner: Steven King

During the spring semester The Biggest Loser will hold bi-weekly meetings and include challenges, both mental and physical. They will also focus on more intense personal physical activity, with the help of a trainer. A Web site and Myspace page are currently in the works.



Kami Kimmell, a gerontology graduate student, receives her award after placing first in the Biggest Loser overall category.
PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

Lincoln, Stevenson, Douglas



STORY BY STACY SMITH

The Student Recreation Center and Martin Luther King Jr. Union are only minutes away from Lincoln, Stevenson and Douglas halls.

Douglas and Lincoln halls were completed in 1952 and named after Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln. After World War II a large male increase occurred throughout college campuses. With an overwhelming male population, males were forced to live in trailers until Lincoln and Douglas halls were built.

As the population continued to grow, Stevenson Tower was built in 1968 between Douglas and Lincoln.

Being the highest building in Coles County, Stevenson Tower was named in honor of Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois and Ambassador to the United Nations.

The 370 residents of Stevenson Tower are required to have 60 or more credit hours or be at least 21 years of age because of its suite style of living. There are three types of suites on each floor two person, four person or six person.

Each floor is provided a living room, bathroom and hallway leading into the bedrooms.

"It's an alternative to living off-campus," said Doug Howell, director of student housing. "Students get to stay close on campus and don't have to pay for rent each month, but get an opportunity to live in an environment like they would in a house or apartment."

The non-smoking tower is co-educational and has 24-hour visitation. A laundry facility can be found in the basement. The tenth floor has a large study lounge, kitchenette and conference room for all on-campus students to utilize.

Lincoln is located west of Stevenson Tower. The four floored, air-conditioned, non-smoking building consists of 200 female residents.



It also provides a recreation room and laundry facility in the basement with a kitchenette and piano lounge on the first floor and study lounges on the second and third floors.

Mary Galis, a freshman broadcasting major, enjoys living in Lincoln Hall because she feels it is a safe environment and a strong sense of community brought by the diversity in the building.

"It's very diverse because of the wide range of students living there," she said. "Everyone is accepting because they just want to meet new people and have a good time."

Galis also says she feels safe because there are two other resident halls next door. Douglas hall can be found just east of Stevenson.

The non-smoking, air-conditioned residence hall offers four different lounges. In the lower level the 200 male residents can enjoy the recreation room that provides a big-screen TV and pool tables. A piano lounge is on the first floor and laundry facilities are located in the lower level.

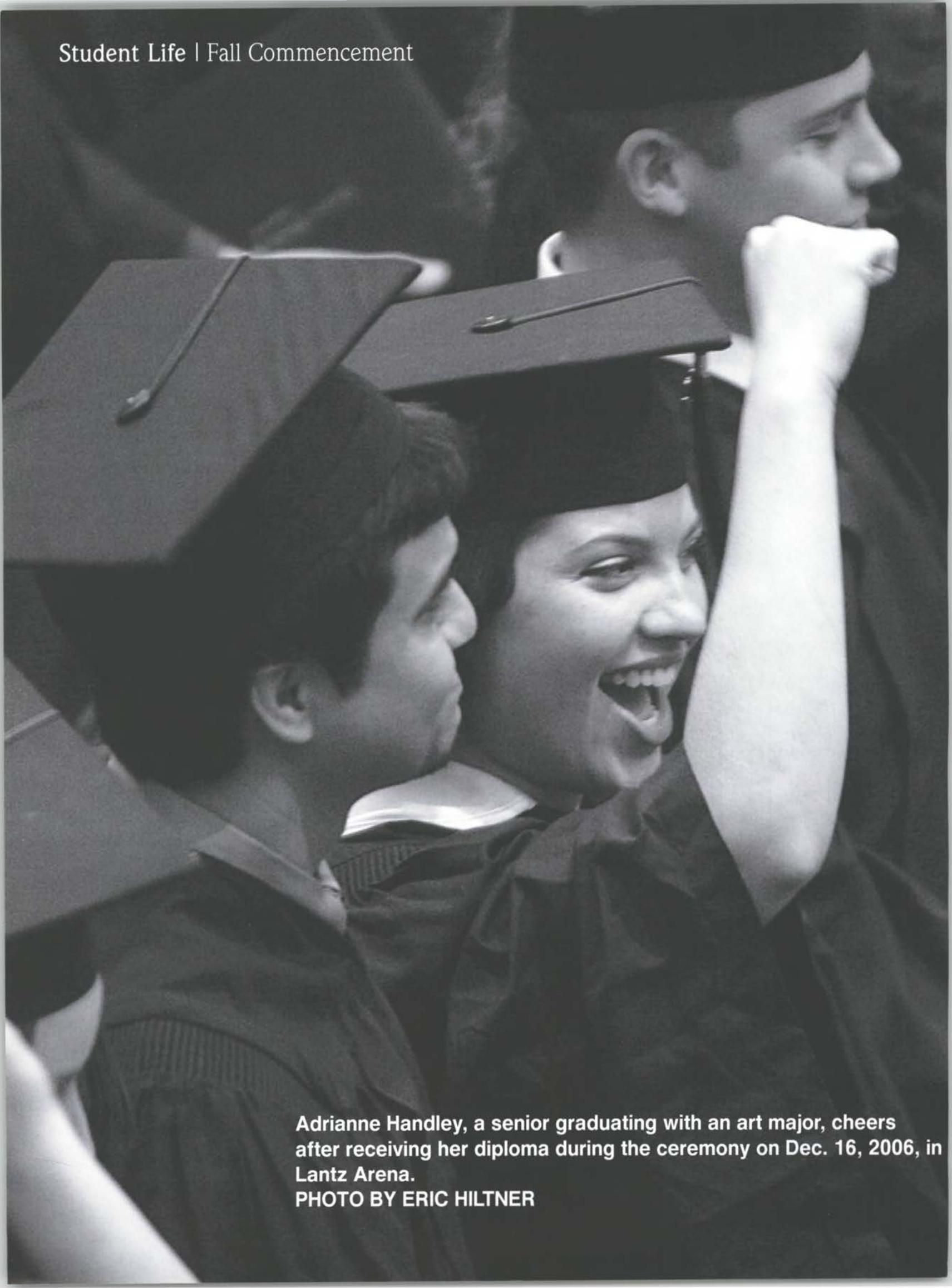
Omelets and deli sandwiches are provided daily in the Panther Dining Center located on the ground level of Stevenson Hall. A computer lab is available for all university housing students to use.

Many non-traditional students and athletes live in Stevenson, Lincoln or Douglas halls because those buildings are open through breaks.

"Students that need to stay at school longer because of sports or don't have a place to go for holidays can pay a little extra to live in the complex," said Michelle Hopper, complex director. "However, there is a diverse amount of residents because of the location and atmosphere."

More information about the complex can be found at www.eiu.edu or any questions can be directed toward Hopper at (217) 581-7696.

PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER



Adrienne Handley, a senior graduating with an art major, cheers after receiving her diploma during the ceremony on Dec. 16, 2006, in Lantz Arena.

PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER



"Be like Lou."

STORY BY KATE KONIECZNY

"Be like Lou." This was the advice commencement speaker Randy Bailey gave to the fall graduating class of 2006. Bailey graduated from Eastern in 1978 with an accounting degree and now has real estate investment holdings in two high-growth companies. This year's fall graduates were one of the last classes to have Lou Hencken as their university president, and Bailey not only encouraged the new alumni to consider, "what would Lou do?" but also gave every graduate a "Be Like Lou" pin to remind them.

Jim Weber, a chemistry major with teacher's certification, received his degree in the afternoon ceremony after being at Eastern for five and a half years. Still, he had no regrets, and encouraged other students to "take your time...enjoy the process while it lasts." Over his years at Eastern, Weber said, he has noticed the campus become more populated. Weber viewed this as positive growth for Eastern because "more people equals more competition," and this allows Eastern to compete with the bigger schools.

Although Weber said he would repeat his entire college career over again in a heartbeat, he said his favorite moment of the ceremony was "finally walking across the stage with all my friends."

Hencken, in his speech, thanked not only the students and parents, but also famous Eastern graduates such as Tony Romo, Dallas Cowboys' quarterback, and Cameron Shilling, an artist who drew portraits of men and women in the armed forces, for the publicity they have provided to Eastern.

The major theme all the speakers had in common was that Eastern provides its students with much more than a degree. Leo Welch of the Board of Trustees said every student left with integrity and therefore had "a debt to society to pass on to others." Dr. Jill F. Nilsen, vice president for external relations, challenged everyone to "live a life of high moral purpose." But as for after the ceremony, Hencken, Bailey and Weber could all be found at Eastern's landmark bar, Marty's, enjoying their success.

Students inspire community to help local P.A.D.S shelter



Eric Saxton, Chris Sobut, Ann Beauchane, Heather Smith, Danielle Neal, Lindsey Borelli collected over a months worth of food for the Mattoon area P.A.D.S shelter this October.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

STORY BY HEATHER SMITH

The traditional Halloween theme consists of ghouls and goblins and things that go bump in the night. However, this year for a group of Eastern students, Halloween meant more than just candy and costumes.

What first began as a class project evolved into a campaign dedicated to helping those in need and provided those in need of a meal a chance to fill their stomachs.

This past Halloween, a group of six Eastern students worked together for a month for the nonprofit organization P.A.D.S to create what was known as "Trick or Treat for a Cause."

Public Action to Deliver Shelter, or P.A.D.S., is a nonprofit group in the Mattoon area that works to fight hunger and provide a safe place to sleep for those who are in need of the facility.

P.A.D.S. has only been established for three years, so director John Heldman said any help the group could provide the shelter would be greatly appreciated.

At the time of the event, each student was currently enrolled in the class Advanced Public Relations Techniques. The class required the students to work with a nonprofit group and implement a public relations campaign that would help to better the group in some form.

The group of students spent three days prior to the event, distributing a total of 500 bags in the Charleston area that each family would fill with donated non-perishable items. Attached to each bag was a flier that contained information about the cause and explained how the event would work.

On Oct. 30, the group of students, along with a few members from Alpha Kappa Delta, an honors fraternity on campus, set out into the community to collect the bags

Mattoon Area P.A.D.S.



Trick Or Treat For A Cause

Trick Or Treat For A Cause is an effort to collect donations for Mattoon Area P.A.D.S. (Public Action to Deliver Shelter). The Shelter accepts donations of:



Non-perishable food items



Paper products



from families who chose to participate.

Each donated bag was left on the front porch and those who participated in the event were very generous in their offerings and filled each bag, which was equivalent to the size of a large brown grocery sack.

By the end of the night the students had collected 10 percent of the bags that had been distributed. According to John Heldman, the food collected from the drive would feed the people who came to the shelter for a month.

"It makes my job much more worthwhile when I know that I am part of a cause that helps so many in need, and these students have helped in so many ways that will end up helping so many others," Heldman said.

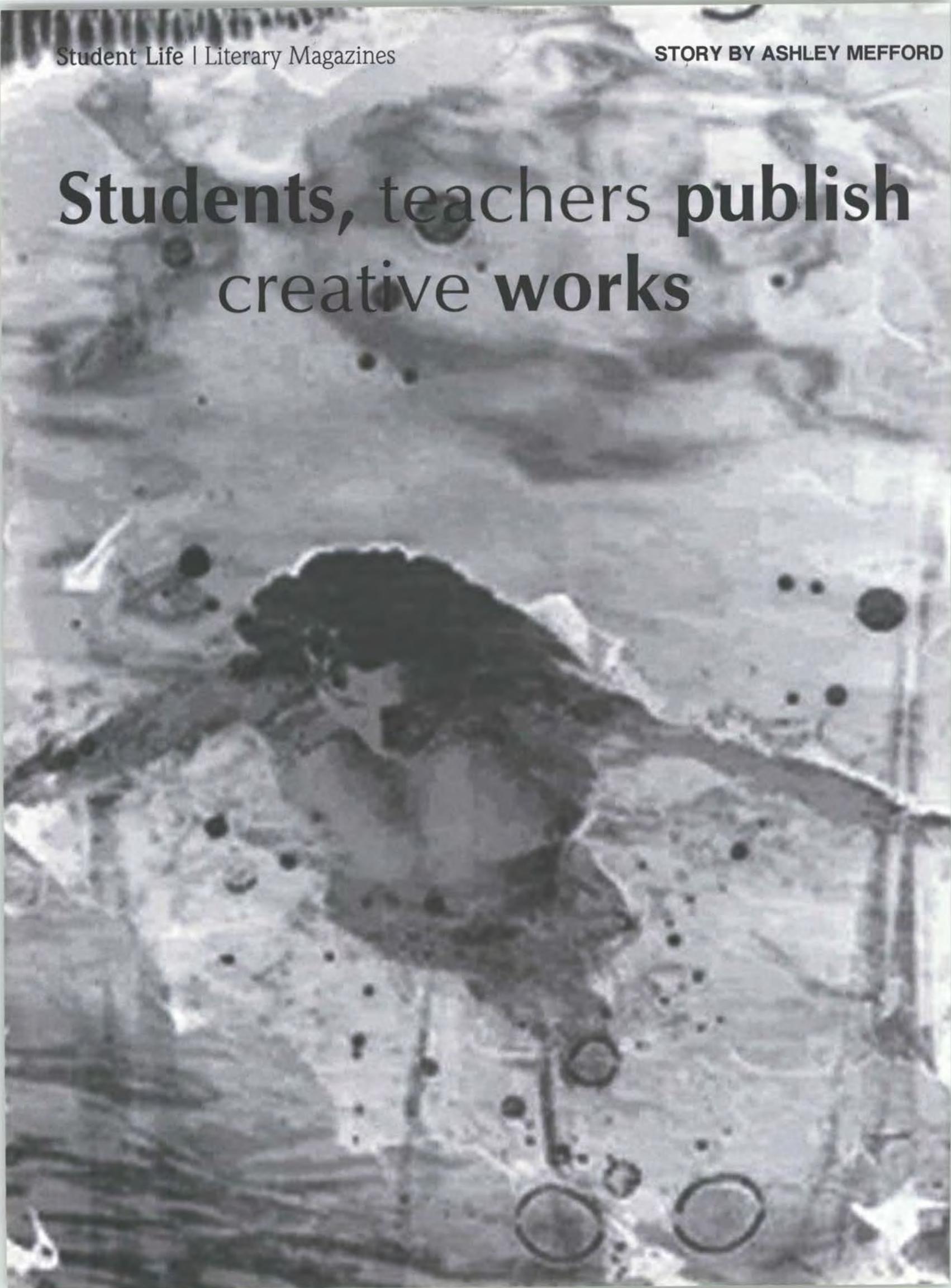
Each member of the group realized while this project took place, more was at stake than just their grades, and this time the lives they affected belonged to more than just themselves.

"There just a satisfaction you get that comes from knowing that you did something to help someone else, and I'm glad I could be a part of it," Lindsey Borrelli said.

Student Life | Literary Magazines

STORY BY ASHLEY MEFFORD

Students, teachers publish creative works



There are three literary magazines at Eastern that publish writings from local students and staff to renowned authors from all over the world. *The Vehicle* is written by EIU students, *Agora* is written by members of the English department, and *Karamu* is a professional literary journal.

The Vehicle has been a student publication since 1959. *The Vehicle* is a true student publication because students both write and publish it, said adviser Tim Engles. "It's currently put together by student members of the Sigma Tau Delta Honorary English Organization," said Engles. There are between 300-500 copies printed each semester.

Karamu is open to Eastern and non-Eastern writers and was founded in 1966. It is published once a year during the spring semester and accepts poems, fiction and nonfiction from "writers not associated with the university whose writing is of high quality and does not preach or philosophize," said English adviser Dr. Olga Abella.

Karamu is carried by some bookstores and libraries and writers published in *Karamu* have a chance to be nominated for an Illinois Arts Council Award. "In the last 10 years, it has become an internationally recognized, professional literary journal that publishes poems, stories, and essays by writers from all over the

United States as well as from other countries," said Abella.

Agora has been an English faculty publication since 1978. This publication used to exist in hard copies; however, in December 2001, it started to publish issues online.

"The main importance is the audience – faculty in and out of the English Department, students, prospective students, and in principle anyone else who is out there browsing the Web. They gain what you gain from any good piece of writing: pleasure and edification. Plus some sort of insight into Eastern," said *Agora* editor John Kilgore.

The current issue of *Agora* is themed beginnings. This is because of new faculty in the English department this year. Professor David Radavich has a poem titled "On Beginnings" in the September issue of *Agora*. Ravavich writes "knowing all the while that true beginnings terrorize every thrill-seeking heart."

When speaking of his work Radavich said "On Beginnings" deals with the simultaneous thrill and horror of new starts.

"We wish for them, and strive for them, but they are also frightening: a test of our ability to adapt and change direction. At the same time, there's a joy in confronting and responding to newness," said Radavich.

"Persephone Rising," the art for *Agora's* home page and the first issue of 2006-07, was created by Joanne Warfield, a photographer and artist living in Venice, Calif. The dreamy image of a woman rising through mists and waters was inspired by Greek and Roman mythology and symbolizes Persephone's rise from Hades to welcome spring. The image was created through an "alternative" Polaroid process Warfield developed which entails separating the negative from the developing film, floating it on water and "recapturing" it through scanning. The results are always unpredictable, becoming somewhat of a myth in the process.

2nd Annual Juried Photo Contest

Sponsored by University Bookstore

Eligible Entrants:

Current students of Eastern Illinois University. Any major, any status (grad/undergrad/part-time, etc.) Subject matter was "open," but should have related to EIU or Coles County in some way.

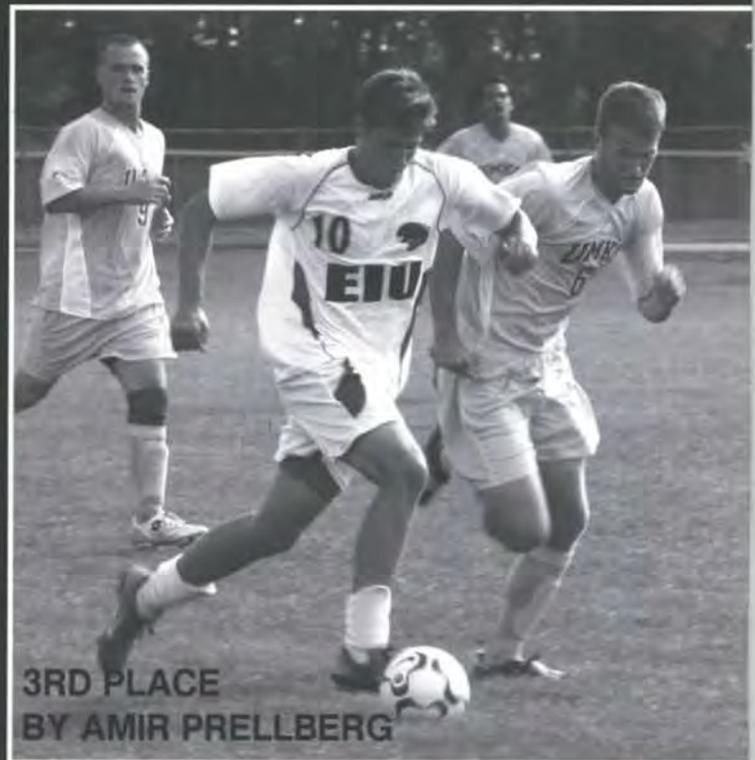
Judging Criteria included:

Positive school image
Clarity/quality of image
School spirit
Creativity

Prizes awarded were:

- *Best of Show \$ 50 gift certificate/print/award certificate
- *Peoples Choice \$ 50 gift certificate/print/award certificate
- *2nd Place - \$30 gift certificate/award certificate
- *3rd Place - \$ 25 gift certificate/award certificate

2ND PLACE
BY JAY GRABIEC



3RD PLACE
BY AMIR PRELLBERG

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD
BY ANTHONY BURKERT





BEST IN SHOW
BY KATE EDWARDS

"We Shall Overcome": Student

In his death there is hope."

These words spoken by Corretta Scott King are the ideal representation of the 30th annual Martin Luther King candlelight vigil.

The event was sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. Alpha Phi Alpha sponsors the tribute at every college campus they are a part of. In fact, members from Millikin, whose school was still on winter break, came to Eastern to participate in the march.

Merrick Brady, Alpha Phi Alpha angel, said since she has been at Eastern she has noticed a drastic change in the march: "in 2004 there were only about 10 people marching; this year there were 300!" Brady noticed that not only students supported the march, but also alumni and community members with their families. Vice President of Student Affairs, Dan Nadler attended the event as well as Bob Dudolski, director of Greek life, and Mona Davenport, minority affairs director. Even the student recreation center closed during the program out of respect.

Marchers carried candles and a large picture of King and sang "We Shall Overcome." Once the march reached the union the Rev. William George Bumphus III, an Eastern alumnus and member of Alpha Phi Alpha spoke to the crowd about King's vision. Then, members of the Unity Gospel Choir sang their rendition of "Lift Every Voice" with the inspired audience joining in.

STORY BY KATE KONIECZNY



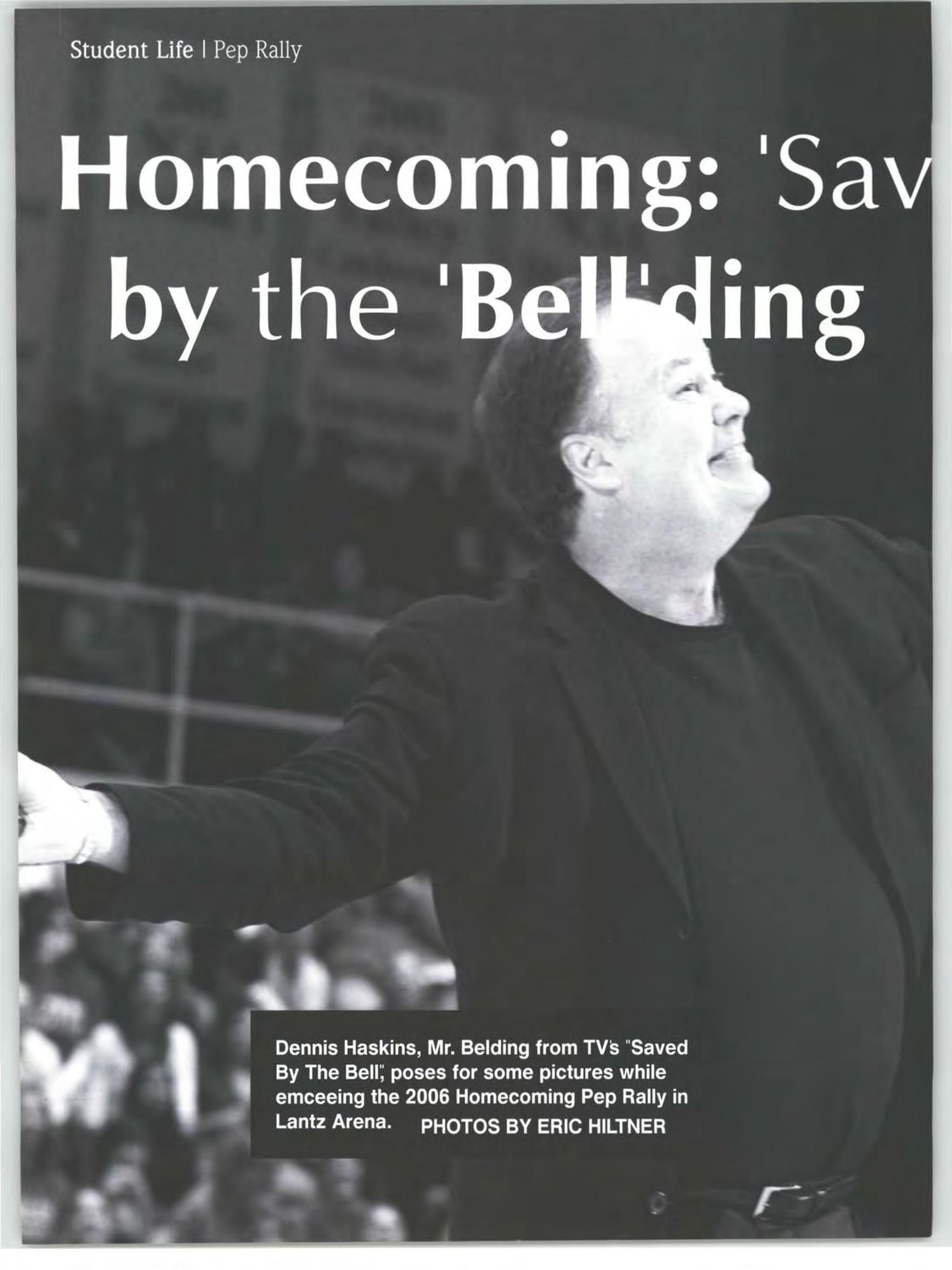
Students pay tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King



The Rev. William George Bumphus III, an alumnus of Eastern, and Marcell Morgan, a senior sports management major, sing "We Shall Overcome" as they led the Dr. Martin Luther King candlelight vigil and tribute to the MLK Union on Jan. 15, 2007.

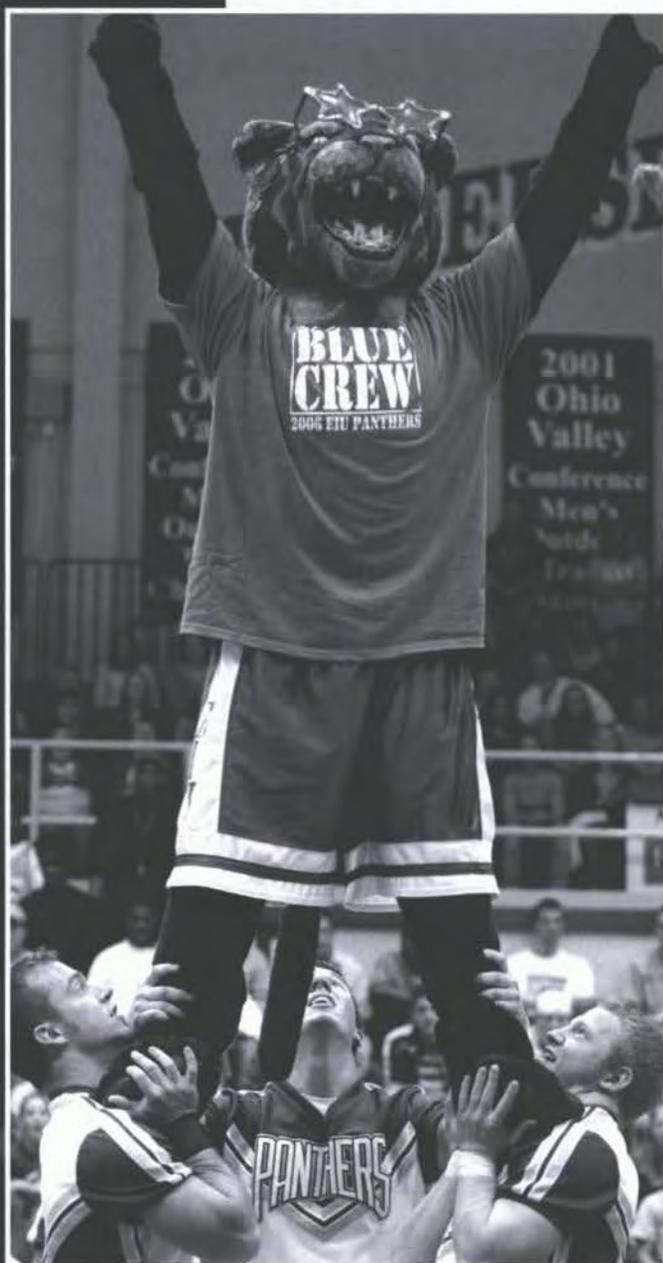
PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

Homecoming: 'Sav by the 'Bell'ding

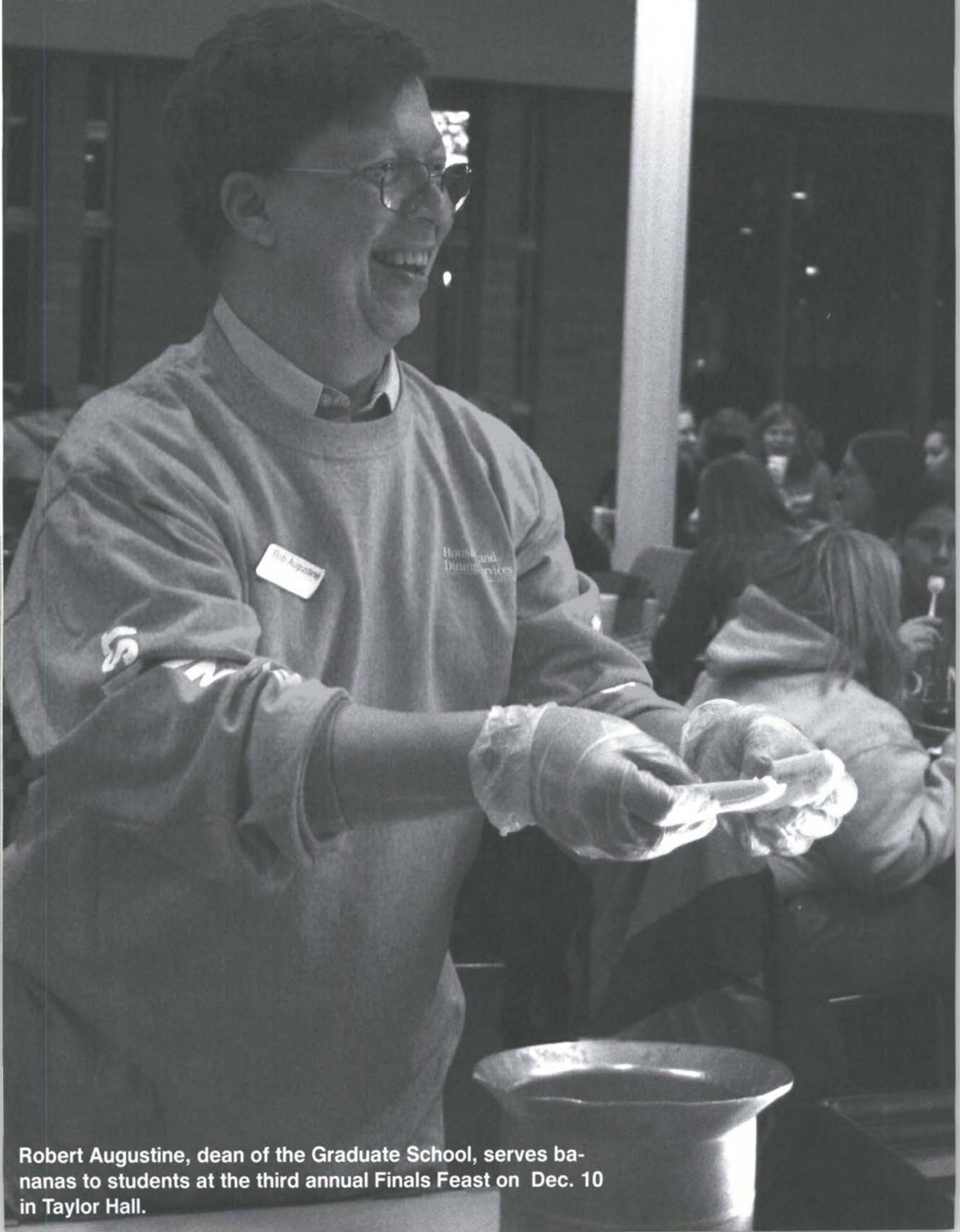


Dennis Haskins, Mr. Belding from TV's "Saved By The Bell", poses for some pictures while emceeing the 2006 Homecoming Pep Rally in Lantz Arena. PHOTOS BY ERIC HILTNER

ed'



Prowler is hoisted up by cheerleaders during the homecoming pep rally in Lantz Arena.



Robert Augustine, dean of the Graduate School, serves bananas to students at the third annual Finals Feast on Dec. 10 in Taylor Hall.

Free food for students during finals

The third free finals feast was held on Sunday, Dec. 10 in the Taylor Hall Dining Center. Students waited in a long line through the lobby and past the front desk to feast on eggs, pancakes and banana splits. The food was served by school administrators, including Blair Lord, vice president for academic affairs. All administrators wore bright orange shirts stating the night's theme: "Food for Thought- Don't Flip over Finals Pancake feast." President Lou Hencken normally slices bananas at the feast, but was unable to attend this year. He was at a football game: the Dallas Cowboys vs. the New Orleans Saints, which gave him a chance to see two Eastern alums, Tony Romo and Sean Payton.



Left: Kelsey Depew, freshman communication disorder sciences, pours chocolate on her ice cream sundae

Right: Ana Cordova, freshman business major, serves up some ketchup.

PHOTOS BY LIZA BISHTON

Student Life | In Memory of Mark Apa

There is an old saying that people in your life are seasons. They come and they go. Well, if that is the case then Mark Apa would definitely have been summer. The kind of summer that provides a person with memories that they will cherish forever.

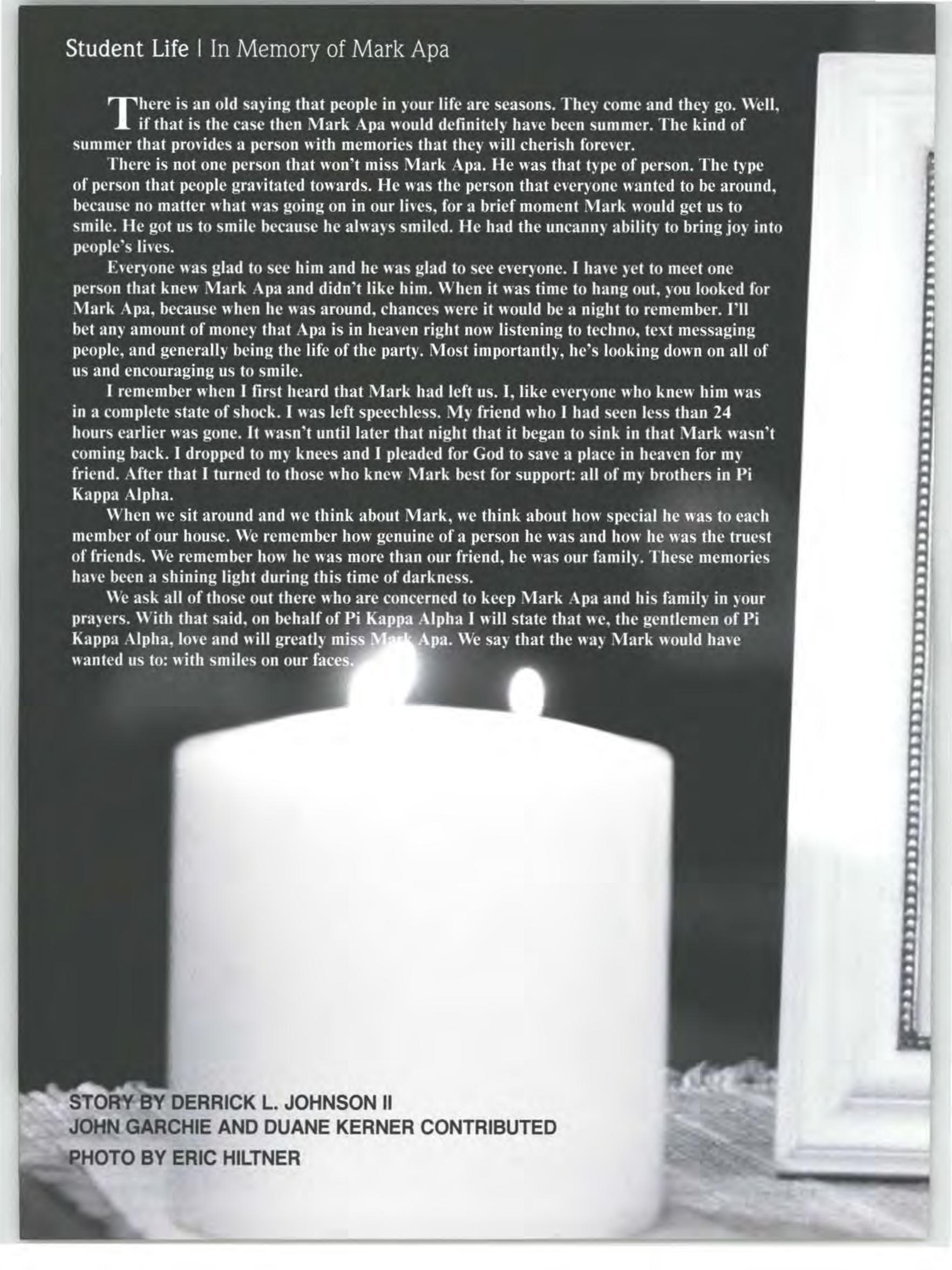
There is not one person that won't miss Mark Apa. He was that type of person. The type of person that people gravitated towards. He was the person that everyone wanted to be around, because no matter what was going on in our lives, for a brief moment Mark would get us to smile. He got us to smile because he always smiled. He had the uncanny ability to bring joy into people's lives.

Everyone was glad to see him and he was glad to see everyone. I have yet to meet one person that knew Mark Apa and didn't like him. When it was time to hang out, you looked for Mark Apa, because when he was around, chances were it would be a night to remember. I'll bet any amount of money that Apa is in heaven right now listening to techno, text messaging people, and generally being the life of the party. Most importantly, he's looking down on all of us and encouraging us to smile.

I remember when I first heard that Mark had left us. I, like everyone who knew him was in a complete state of shock. I was left speechless. My friend who I had seen less than 24 hours earlier was gone. It wasn't until later that night that it began to sink in that Mark wasn't coming back. I dropped to my knees and I pleaded for God to save a place in heaven for my friend. After that I turned to those who knew Mark best for support: all of my brothers in Pi Kappa Alpha.

When we sit around and we think about Mark, we think about how special he was to each member of our house. We remember how genuine of a person he was and how he was the truest of friends. We remember how he was more than our friend, he was our family. These memories have been a shining light during this time of darkness.

We ask all of those out there who are concerned to keep Mark Apa and his family in your prayers. With that said, on behalf of Pi Kappa Alpha I will state that we, the gentlemen of Pi Kappa Alpha, love and will greatly miss Mark Apa. We say that the way Mark would have wanted us to: with smiles on our faces.



STORY BY DERRICK L. JOHNSON II
JOHN GARCHIE AND DUANE KERNER CONTRIBUTED
PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER



**We'll miss you,
Mark Ápa**

Academics

"I'm gonna have to say John Pommier. I have never met a teacher with more enthusiasm. It doesn't matter what the subject is, he makes it interesting and makes you want to learn about it!"

--Jim Galeno, senior recreation administration major, on his favorite Eastern professor.



"I enjoyed all the business classes I had taken so marketing seemed like a good choice!"

--Matt Reynolds, junior marketing major, on why he chose his major.



"Dr. Shonk because he is extremely knowledgeable and I learned the most out of that class (rhetorical grammar)!"

--Dustin Herbert, junior English major, on his favorite teacher.



"I picked recreation administration because I enjoy helping others and love the outdoors!"

--Lewis Dickinson, senior recreation administration major, on why he chose his major.



LIFE

eiw

Academics

Bonding over books

STORY BY CORY DIMITRAKOPOULOS

Often times, the reason students choose education as their major is because they have a genuine desire to reach out and touch people's lives in some way. The Adopt-a-Student Program here at Eastern, also known as the After School Program, offers students the opportunity to do just that.

The education-based program has been around for about five years, said Gail Shepard, coordinator of the After School Program. Shepard has been in charge of this program since 2004.

Two to three days a week, education majors, as well as anyone interested in working with children, travel to Jefferson Elementary School and Carl Sandburg Elementary School, both located in Charleston.

"Many Eastern students may not have younger brothers or sisters, so this allows them to get a deeper understanding of what it is like to work with young children," Shepard said.

Eastern students take an hour or so out of their afternoon a couple of times a week to meet and interact with the children. They participate in activities such as reading aloud to the young students and aiding them in

learning to read themselves.

"We go over the homework that they completed and we finish what they didn't finish already. Then if there is time, we take turns reading to each other. The kids really enjoy that," said Melissa Fandl, an education major.

Fandl partook in the After School Program last semester, and is planning on continuing to participate this year.

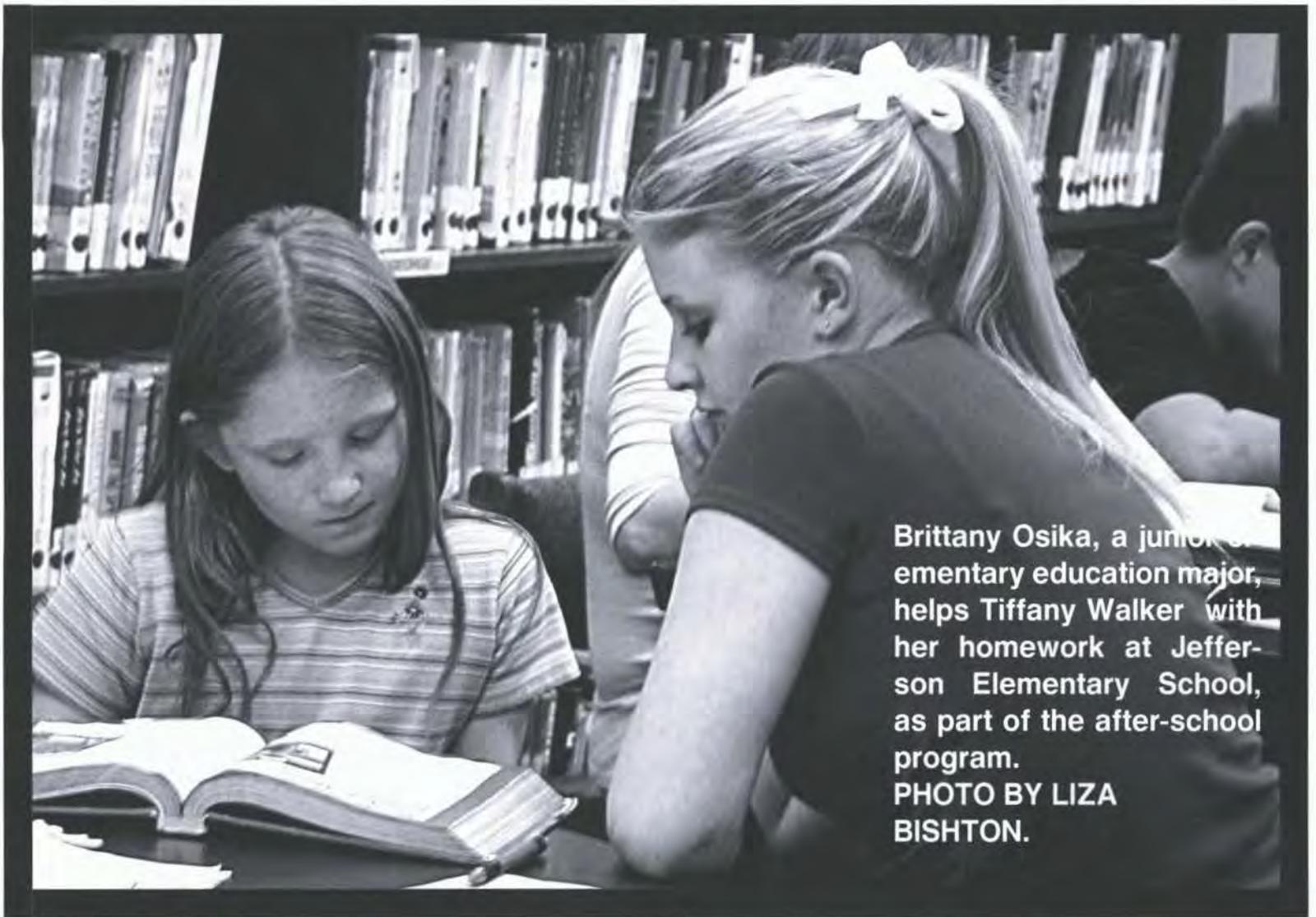
The students participating in the program find themselves forming special bonds with the children.

"The kids really become attached. They look forward to the time spent together," said David Kerry, principal of Carl Sandburg Elementary, a first through third grade school.

Not only do the visits help the children succeed in reading and other academic departments, but they also encourage the children to keep progressing with their schoolwork.

"It is motivating [for the children] to know that college students want to work with them," Shepard said.

The After School Program gives the students who want to teach someday the opportunity to get their feet



Brittany Osika, a junior elementary education major, helps Tiffany Walker with her homework at Jefferson Elementary School, as part of the after-school program.
PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON.

wet when it comes to interacting with children in an educational environment.

Both the college and elementary students benefit greatly from the After School Program.

“It feels great to know that you’re helping these students and that they look up to you. It’s very rewarding to see their progress and that you had something to do with helping them grow,” Fandl said.

While not required, the After School Program does fulfill professional development requirements for education majors.

However, the program is not limited to education majors only. Anyone who would like to get some hands-on experience working with children is welcome. Anyone interested can sign up for particular dates in the Reading Center located in room 1320 of Buzzard Hall. Once students sign up for a date, they are not required to commit for the entire school year—the length the After School Program runs.

“After a student has participated four times, they then receive a certificate [for their contribution]. This will look good on portfolios by portraying one’s willingness to serve,” Shepard said.



Kaitlyn Ryan inspects the disk belonging to a book at Textbook Rentals during the first week of fall semester classes. PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON.

linger in lines for textbooks

STORY BY BRANDON NETIUK



Megan Sparks, the assistant coach for the women's basketball team, poses for her new Panther Card in the vending lounge of the MLK Jr. Union during the first week of classes of the fall semester. Every student, faculty and staff member was issued a new identification card at the start of the semester. PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON.

Finals week plays out as a stressful and busy week for students all over campus. Students, however, aren't the only ones affected by the end-of-semester rush.

As the line of students fills up the entire building and wraps around outside as far as the Physical Science Building, the employees of textbook rental, as well as students, agree that finals week is the time of year they least look forward to.

Amy Jones, off-campus coordinator at textbook rental, said that Tuesday through Thursday of finals week are generally 12-hour workdays with Friday being close to a 16-hour day.

Jones has worked at textbook rental for over five years now after being a stay-at-home mom for seven years. Her job is to find out what textbooks instructors want for Continuing Education courses and then get the textbooks ready for students. She is also in charge of the hiring and scheduling of students that work at textbook rental during the school year.

Her favorite part of the job is getting to work with the students and her least favorite part is around Christmas time.

"Probably the least favorite thing is the short amount of time between returns at Christmas and handouts in January," Jones said.

She said she has very good relationships with the student workers, and some of them have been working there since they were in high school. Those students were hired as temps to work during busy times, like finals week, and when they came to Eastern they were hired as student workers.

"We are very close to several of them, kind of like a family," Jones said.

Textbook rental handed out its first book in 1899. Textbooks now regularly come equipped with CDs as technology has changed the way textbooks can be used. The cost of textbook rental is \$7.95 per credit hour for each student.

Eastern home to a garden variety

STORY BY KRISTY MELLENDORF

There is one area of campus that is a little more fragrant and colorful than the rest. Students can escape into to the peacefulness of our campus' Thut Greenhouse whether they linger in the area or just pass through. With over 309 species of plants outside, the greenhouse gives students something to admire at as they walk to class.

It is home to 671 species, bringing the total number of plants to 980.

Thut Greenhouse was given to the Botany Club in the early 1970s from the grounds department.

Steve Malehorn has been with the greenhouse since its beginnings with the Botany Club. In 1998, Malehorn took the place of Dr. Steve Becker, who ran the greenhouse alongside

Dr. Terry Widener and David Murphy in Becker's retirement. Malehorn took full responsibility for maintaining the greenhouse in 2000.

Malehorn has taken care to design and organize the garden so that all the plants are organized by water and sunlight conditions.

"A faculty member will plant an example in the place we are thinking about to see if it works," Malehorn said.

Some new plants this year include the introduction of agriculture crops such as soybeans, corn and broomcorn.

"It's interesting to see people who don't recognize corn," Malehorn said. "I hear 'My, isn't the bamboo getting tall?'"

The garden outside took about a year for Malehorn to design. Then,

in his second year he began to put his plans into effect. Only last year, nine years after his original design, Malehorn started moving things to change it.

"I wanted to find something very accessible, an immersive experience that is more personal," Malehorn said.

This idea called for the addition of mulch to aid in the inviting atmosphere and round slabs of concrete to create suggested ways to walk through the garden.

"Gardening is a process rather than a product," Malehorn said.

Malehorn is solely responsible for maintaining both the greenhouse and the garden. He often works late into the evening or early in the morning watering the plants at least twice a week in the

summer.

The construction being performed throughout campus has aided in more students seeing the garden because they walk through during their detours around the fences.

Malehorn sees many things for the future of the garden and greenhouse. For starters, he would like to create a Zen garden in the area by the Biological Sciences Building with the sand. One of his bigger projects is to create a bronze panther by the biology annex and sidewalk. This would include a female panther and three female kittens.

"The sculpture would be called 'Venus del Meadow,'" Malehorn said.

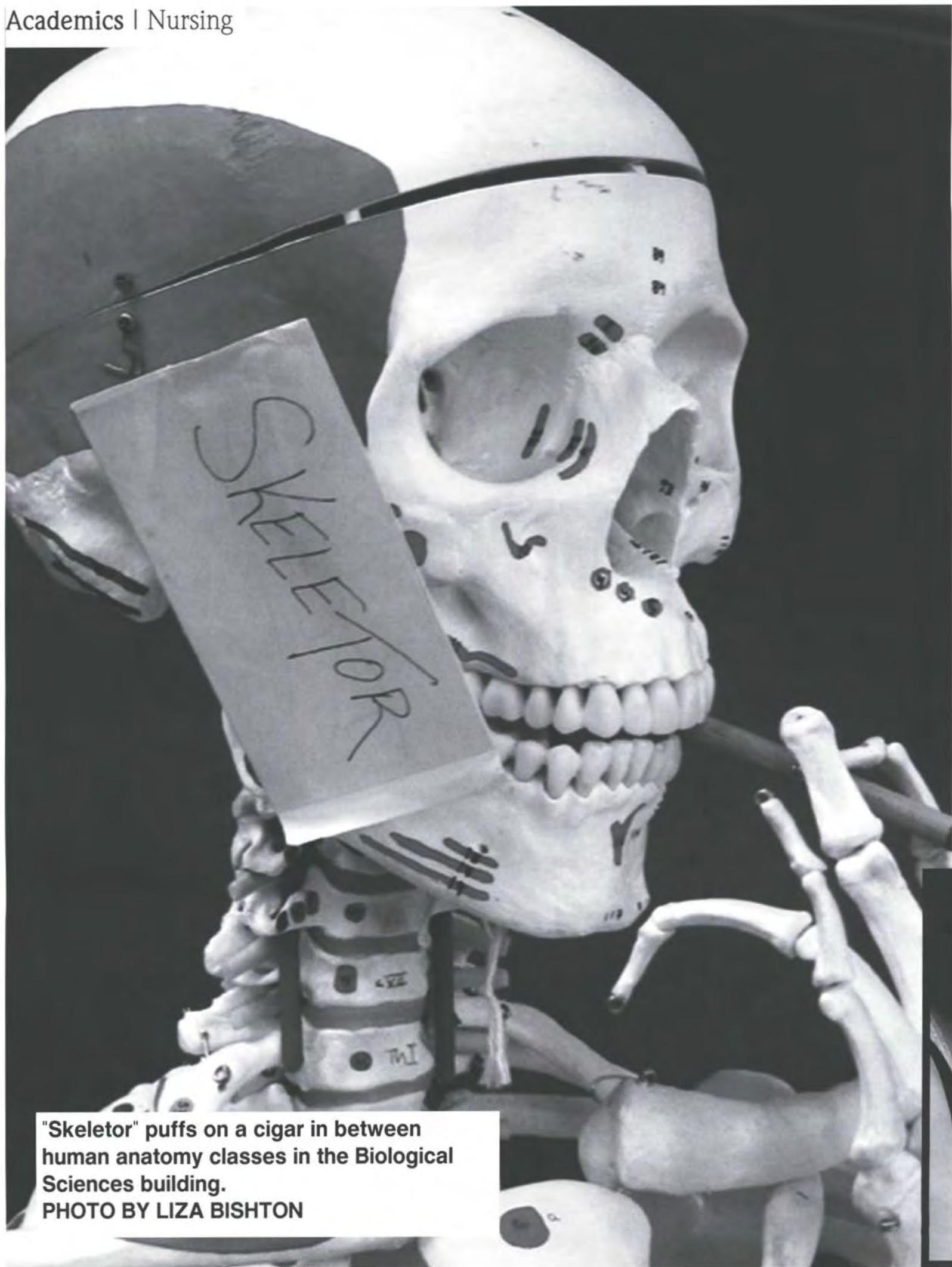
Malehorn receives private funding for the greenhouse and garden.

Impatiens, scientifically named *Impatiens walleriana*, basks in a ray of light in the garden near H.F. Thut greenhouse.



***Solenostemon scutellarioides*, or more commonly known as a Coleus, is known for its multi-colored, sharply contrasting leaves, resides near H.F. Thut greenhouse.**

PHOTOS BY LIZA BISHTON



"Skeletor" puffs on a cigar in between human anatomy classes in the Biological Sciences building.

PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON

Nursing program flourishes

STORY BY JESSICA CAMPBELL

The 2006 school year was full of preparation and anxiousness as Eastern designed its newest addition, the nursing program. It had been 18 years since the university added a new degree program, and more than just the campus has gotten involved.

Dianne Nelson, the new director of the program, was hired in July 2006. Immediately, she began focus groups with nurses from Sara Bush Hospital to center the curriculum specifically for the population. Nelson also worked diligently on a web site to primarily get the word out."

"It's exciting; I love to hear from people 'I talked to someone who has spoken to you,'" she said.

Lou Hencken, president of Eastern, was intrigued by the idea of the university being able to give back to the area while helping students earn a degree.

"A positive change for the campus will be to bring more students into a field where there is a tremendous demand for graduates," he said.

Provost Blair Lord and Dean of the College of Sciences Mary Ann Hanner played a vital role in hiring Nelson. Her past experience, self-motivation and ability to work with people are the qualities that made her perfect for the position. Nelson was also involved in two other associate's degree nursing programs and developed a nursing program at Arkansas Tech University.

Hencken said he was happy with Nelson's motivation to get the program "up and running."

"We couldn't have designed anyone better; she discovers ideas to for us to implement, not the other way around," he said.

Nelson set a goal to be as responsive as possible to any inquiries about the program. Finding the answers to every question is important. She realized that conversing with others and receiving feedback was a great way to design an ideal program.

"It is a thrill to be able to develop something new and get input from stakeholders in the program," she said.

The nursing program is designed for nursing majors that have finished their associate's degree and are looking for a bachelor's degree program.

Prior to this addition, Eastern had been a partner campus of the LakeView College of Nursing. Applications have been reviewed and 30 students will be accepted for the fall 2007 semester. The goal of 2006 was to find the best faculty and students possible.

"The hardest part is declining. The first year we must set a limit and expand from there to be careful not to dilute the program," Hencken said.

He believes the program will continue to grow as the years progress, and that Eastern's key is "starting slow to do it the right way."

Margaret Lejcar, a sophomore pre-nursing major, marveled at the idea of the new program and planned to apply for the fall semester. She believes the program to be beneficial to pre-nursing majors because of Eastern's.

"(It) will open a lot of people's minds to becoming a nurse. More consideration will be taken because of the ability to apply on camp," Lejcar said.

The development of the nursing program will bind the community, provide proximity to the program and enhance the interests of nursing to students.



Jessica Natale, a senior therapeutic recreation major, and sophomore pre-nursing major Morgan Carstens, use models to learn about the facial muscles during their human anatomy class.

PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON

“The idea of feminism is not to push men out, but to pull women in,” said Penka Skachkova, program coordinator of the *Bitch* magazine reading club. The group met in the Women’s Resource Center in the basement of Stevenson Hall Oct. 3, 2006.



Liz Cosbey, a Women’s Studies minor, holds her baby during the first meeting of the *Bitch* magazine reading club in the Women’s Resource Center in the Stevenson Hall basement.



President of the *Bitch* magazine reading club Carly Riley, a senior English major, leads a discussion about the Rachel Fudge article “Everything you always wanted to know about feminism,” during the first meeting of the group Oct. 3, 2006. PHOTOS BY LIZA BISHTON.

Eastern women learn how to "Bitch"

STORY BY JESSICA CAMPBELL

Feminist knowledge is active knowledge."

These words were spoken by Women's Studies Coordinator Penka Skachkova. In the short time Skachkova has spent on Eastern's campus, she has tried to instill basic principles to the students: one should have a diverse experience on women's issues; there is much importance in having a vast knowledge of women and gender, and hopes of a raised awareness of these issues.

"I've learned through the program that men and women are capable of co-constructing an environment where both sexes can be acknowledged equally for their contributions and eventually reverse the roles and stereotypes that are embedded in our society," said Alyssa Obradovich, a junior Women's Studies minor.

The program is designed to give students hands-on practice with feminine obstacles and to help students relate with the community. The

women's studies project discusses the history of the organization, interviews members, provides information on activities and contact information and provides pictures of the organization in action.

Another perk of the minor is the opportunity to hear members from local organizations give speeches during class. Although Skachkova realizes it is an academic program, there are many opportunities to make it local.

Eventually, she hopes to discuss issues such as human trafficking to make the program more international than local. A study abroad program could also be on the horizon, which could connect students with feminine racisms around the world. Skachkova believes it to be a "password for future development" and anticipates attracting more students and helping them to become competitive in the job market.

The Women's Studies minor is not a one-person effort. The program consists of 35 faculty members across 13 different departments. "It's a disciplinary minor

with a variety of expertise from many different fields," Skachkova said.

A common misconception is the male role in the program. Many believe that the program solely attracts women, although many men play an active role as well. In fact, the minor receives a great response from male

"Knowing about women and gender is necessary, not a luxury!"

--Penka Skachkova,
Women's Studies
Coordinator

students on the campus.

"We enjoy that we continually receive great reviews from male students, and the male faculty members teach some of our most successful classes," Skachkova said.

Throughout her studies with the program, Obradovich recognized that much of the curriculum is built around the male perspective.

"Women's Studies offers a different view of the world. Most coursework unknowingly focuses on a male point of view because that is what society has come to accept," she said. "This minor gives a voice to the other half of the population, making men and women equal, as they should be."

The newest edition to the program involves a student club. This group includes the organizing and reading of BITCH magazine. Another is a film festival that has a series on women and focuses on the strength of immigrant women.

"Knowing about women/gender is necessary, not a luxury. We would all be dead as citizens without knowing our history and our problems, that's why we're hoping to make the program visible and a priority here," Skachkova said.

When asked what has been one of the funniest stories during her driver's education class this semester, one story immediately came to the mind of Geri Kizor, a student driver education teacher.

"I had this one student from Bulgaria, and she liked to see a lot when she drove," said Kizor. "Well, we were driving up this hill and she looks in the rearview mirror at this car coming up behind us and says, 'Ha Ha! Can't catch me now!'"

While many American students take their driver's license for granted, international students at Eastern often have a difficult time learning the rules of the road.

Eastern offers driver's education courses for international students in the fall, spring and summer semesters. Kizor was assigned to an international student who volunteers to go through the course after passing a driver's education class of her own taught by an Eastern professor. The international students are taught in both a classroom setting and behind the wheel and after they pass

the course they can get their driver's license. According to Dr. Robert Bates, a driver's education instructor at Eastern, it's much cheaper for international students to get their license in the United States.

"In some countries it will cost the student thousands of dollars to go through training in order to get a license," said Bates. "Here it is n charge if they take the course."

Bates also thinks that the course is a good learning experience for the student as well as the teacher. "It allows students to meet individuals from other countries and lets them learn about their background," said Bates. "It's really interesting to watch a student teach another a life skill."

Bates said once after an international students received their license they were so ecstatic they wanted to drive to New York.

Kizor said the toughest area for international students is simply putting all the information together during driving. "It's kind of easy for them to get confused a little bit," said Kizor.

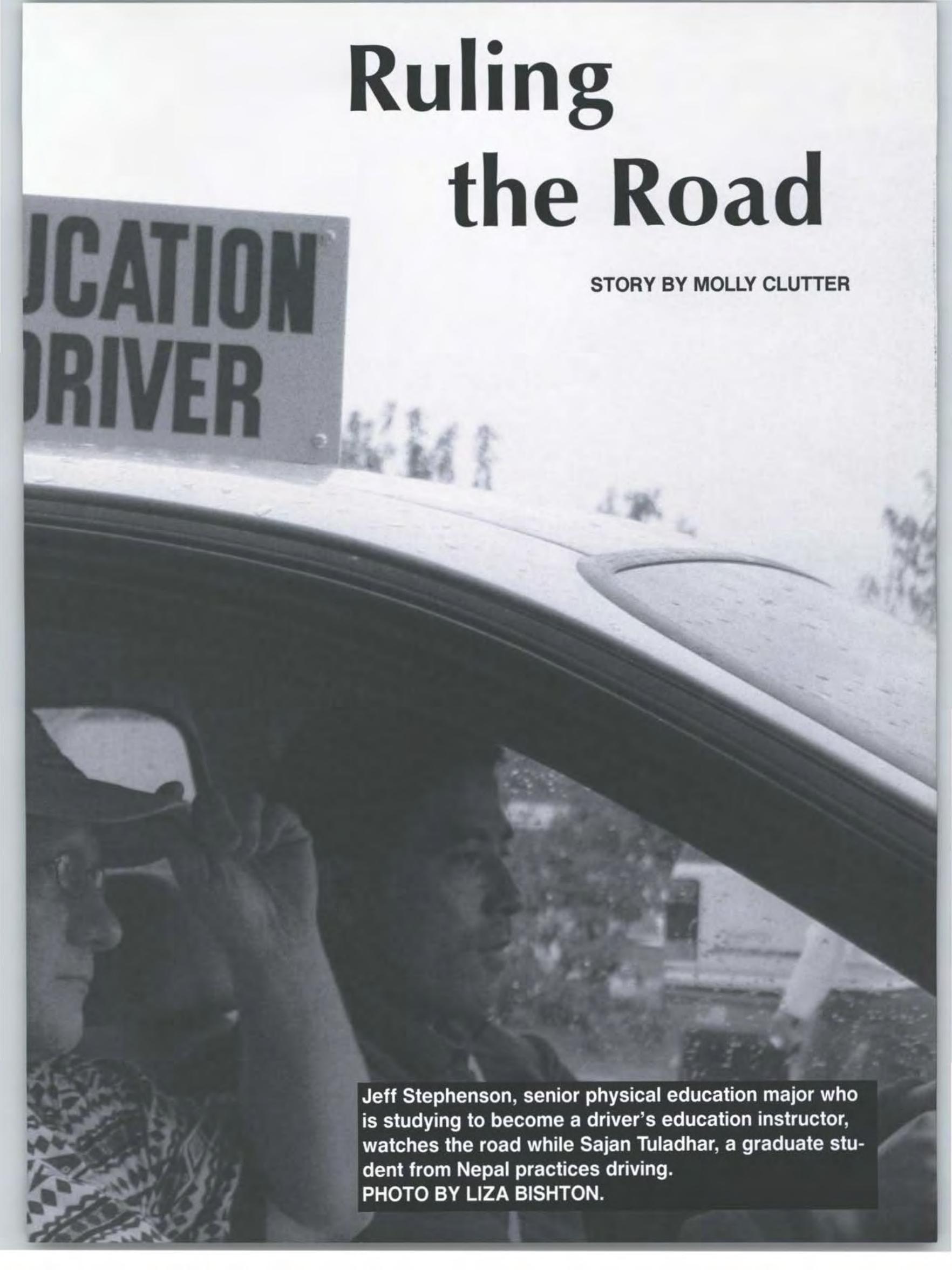


DRIVER ED
STUDENT

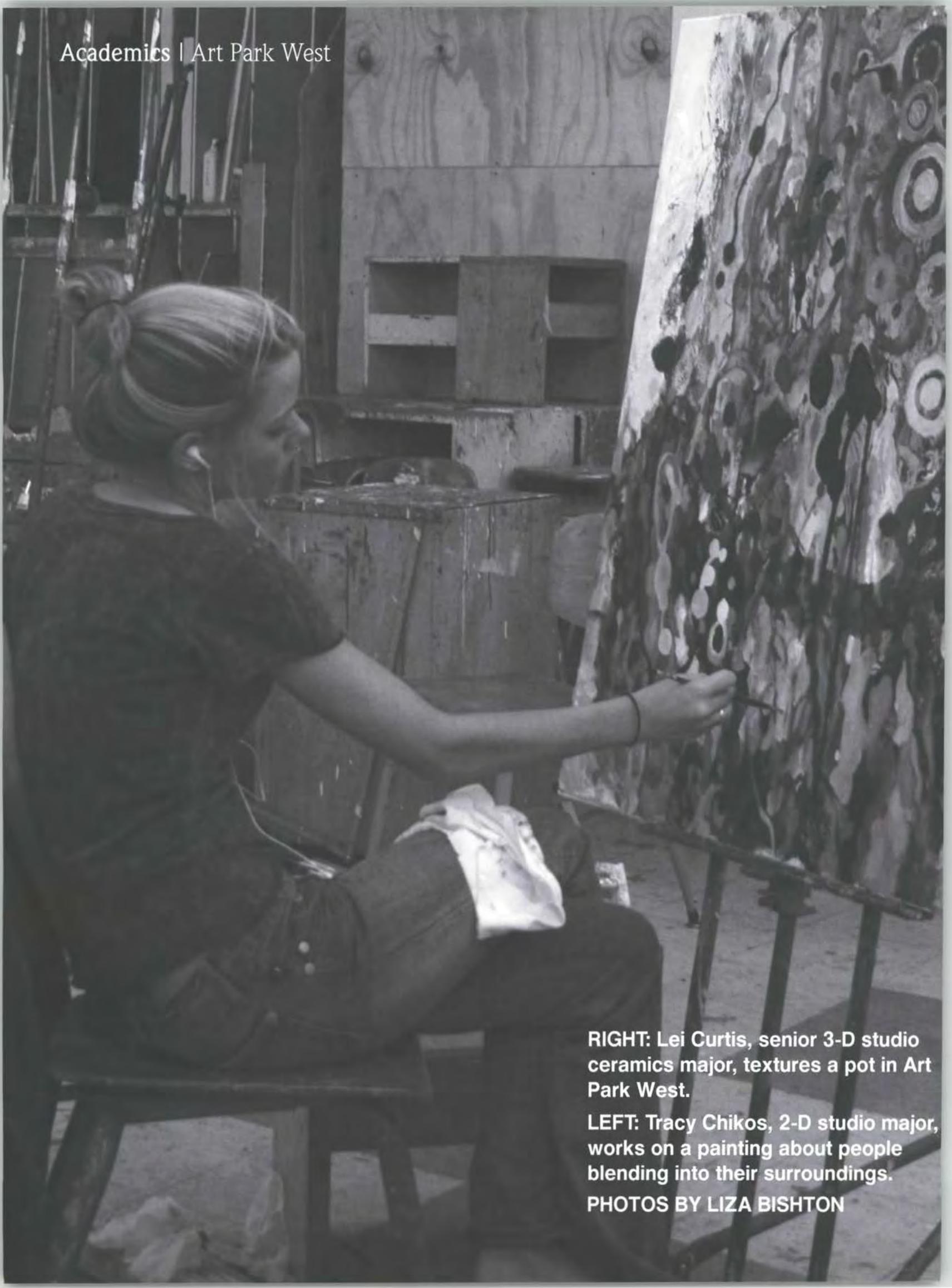
Ruling the Road

STORY BY MOLLY CLUTTER

EDUCATION
DRIVER



Jeff Stephenson, senior physical education major who is studying to become a driver's education instructor, watches the road while Sajan Tuladhar, a graduate student from Nepal practices driving.
PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON.



RIGHT: Lei Curtis, senior 3-D studio ceramics major, textures a pot in Art Park West.

LEFT: Tracy Chikos, 2-D studio major, works on a painting about people blending into their surroundings.

PHOTOS BY LIZA BISHTON

Temporary Never Sounded So Good



STORY BY MIKE UKLEJA

Just think of it as walking through a grocery store, walk as if you are going to the deli section. That's how Dwain Naragon, art professor and teacher of ceramics at Art Park West, gives directions to visitors on how to find his office. Naragon has been teaching for a total of 15 years, 11 of which were at Eastern.

Art Park West has been holding classes in the CVS shopping center for the last four years while the new Doudna Fine Arts building on campus is being renovated.

"We hope to be in the new building by next December or January," Naragon said.

When you walk into the building it looks like an office. The classrooms are set up like cubicles, each room separated by large white divider walls. The building is silent as the students concentrate hard on every project they are working on.

Because it's located off-campus, Art Park has a few obstacles that teachers and students face that they won't have to face once the building on campus opens.

"Transportation is by far the biggest problem that we have with the set-up here," Naragon said. "Many times students signed up for their first fine arts classes end up calling the day of class because they can't find what building we are in and didn't know we are off campus."

David Griffin, art professor and teacher of jewelry and metal making, also acknowledges the problem students face with transportation to and from classes.

"Many times student are writing emails or calling saying they missed the shuttle and therefore had no other ride to class," Griffin said.

You just have to realize these things happen and

give them a break, he said.

The classrooms were filled with eager students participating in a variety of classes. Classes that are offered at Art Park include ceramics, jewelry and metal making, drawing, graphic design, weaving, painting and print making to name a few.

But these aren't your normal classrooms filled with desks for students and blackboards for teachers. The classrooms are filled with large work tables, large machines for handling clay or metals and many designs or sculptures.

You also won't see students here dressed in black pants or a shirt and tie as in some classes you see on campus. Here many students are in comfortable clothing and ready to get dirty. Many of their clothing is covered with projects, whether it is dried paint or dried clay. Here the students wear their homework.

But Art Park only has a few more semesters before being moved back on campus. "We are all so excited," Griffin said. "We kind of lose the sense of community by being off-campus."

Naragon agrees the move will only mean new and improved advancements for the fine arts department.

"The technology will be so much better and up to date, and we will have much more space to work," he said.

Not only will the move to the new building help the professors, but it will also help students.

"We expect an increase in enrollment with the move on campus," Griffin said. "Now that we are centrally located with a new building, we are hoping it will attract more students to take some classes."

“Death, Demonology and Hell in Beowulf”

STORY BY KATE KONIECZNY

This year the English department and the Illinois Humanities Council hosted its 18th annual literature conference “Paet waes God Cyning!” focusing on the epic poem Beowulf. The first conference was in 1988 and the subject was “The Canterbury Tales.” Following years focused on classic stories such as “The Catcher in the Rye,” “Huckleberry Finn” and “Frankenstein.”

This year’s conference opened with a screening of the new movie, “Beowulf and Grendel,” by Sturla Gunnarson. According to English professor Robin Murray who introduced the film, the movie leads the viewer through a labyrinth of history and cultures and shows us that “War is merely a lazy solution to a problem better addressed by examining our own psyches.” Beowulf and Grendel was a treat for viewers because it was never released in theaters in the United States and the screening at Eastern was the first downstate showing.

English professor and a member of the planning committee David Raybin said the theme of Beowulf was chosen because “it is widely taught in high schools, EIU

has a strong group of medievalists, and because it is a fabulous book everyone should read.” Murray said Beowulf “complicates definitions of the hero and critiques the construction of the monster.”

The conference attracts a lot of teachers because “unlike most of the events to which they are invited, which focus on pedagogy, the principal focus of this conference is on the literary texts themselves,” said Raybin. A small fee allows schoolteachers to attend a series of workshops concentrating on different approaches to the text. The conferences focused on how to teach Beowulf, women in Anglo-Saxon poetry, and Beowulf and oral tradition to name a few.

Students and members of the community are also invited to attend the two-day event to listen to the visiting scholars’ presentations. This year the Beowulf conference featured Allen Frantzen of Loyola University, author of “Before the Closet: Same Sex Love from Beowulf to Angels in America,” and Charles Wright of The University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, a specialist in Anglo-Saxon language and literature.

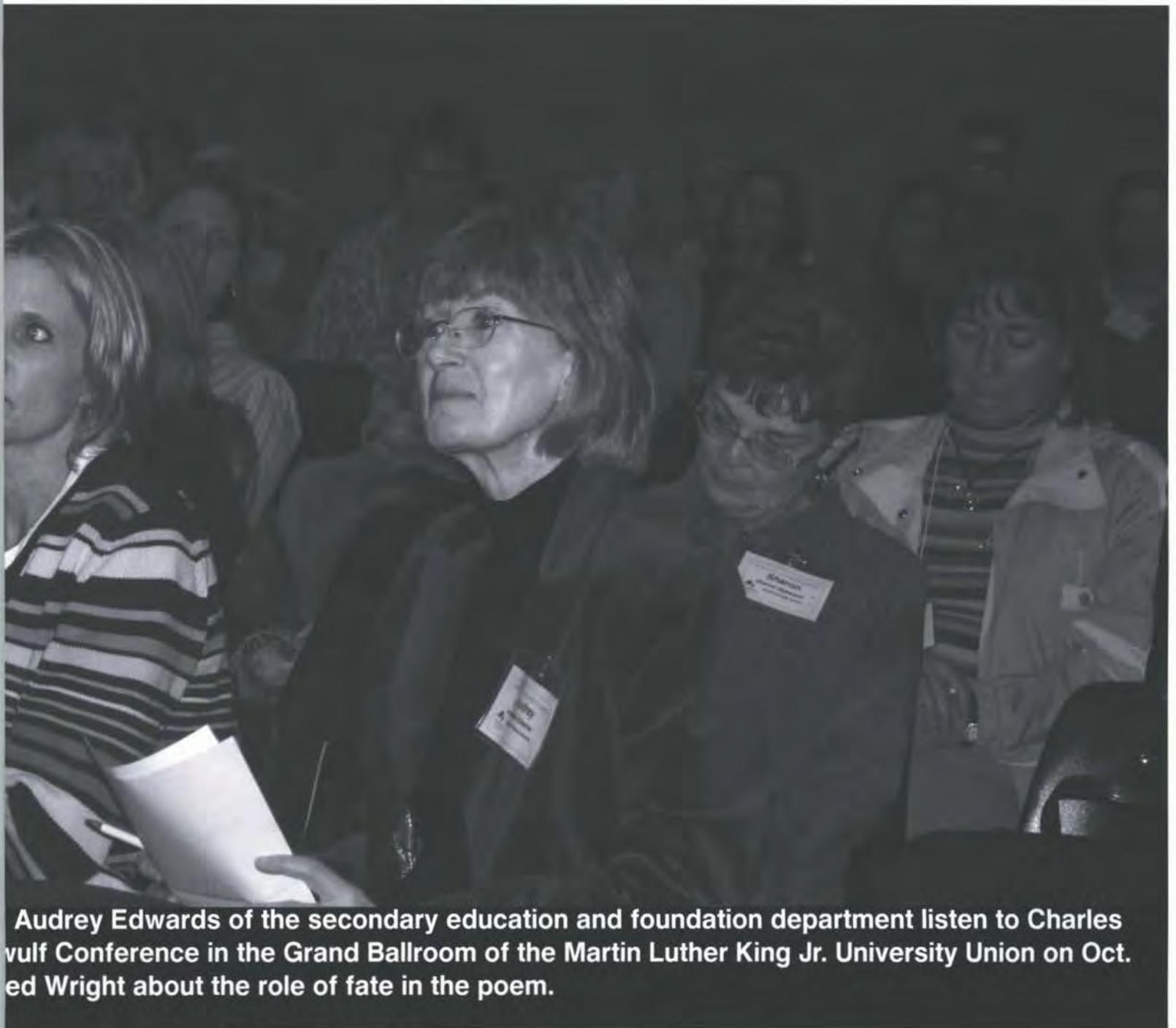


Theresa Chapman and Charles Wright during the Beowulf conference on Nov. 27. Edwards questioned



Charles Wright, a professor of medieval studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, speaks during his lecture titled "Death, Demonology and Hell in Beowulf" on Oct. 27. "Beowulf is a morbid poem about death," he said. "It is also known for boring students to death."

PHOTOS BY LIZA BISHTON



Audrey Edwards of the secondary education and foundation department listen to Charles vulf Conference in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union on Oct. ed Wright about the role of fate in the poem.

Cutting the Cake... out of your Diet

STORY BY JEN AUCHINCLOSS

Preparing for life at a university is never easy. Several factors go into planning for the next stage in a student's life. Things like dealing with distance from friends and family, picking and finalizing a major, finances and starting new relationships become increasingly important. But one thing that seems to get overlooked is maintaining health. Many students make personal promises to avoid the well-known "freshman 15." However, most of those promises get lost and forgotten when the new environment and culture shock start to settle into a student's new life away from home.

The Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Department at Eastern Illinois University knows how important it is for a student to make sure his health is a top priority. They are working on getting the word out to students to make sure they maintain a balanced life.

Dr. James Painter, chairperson of the FCS department on campus, feels that so many students lack the proper knowledge in prioritizing and remembering what is really important. "Students miss out on keeping nutrition and healthy dieting important in their daily lives," Painter says. "It is important for students to take care of their mind and body and also maintain spirituality. Keeping a balanced lifestyle is ideal."

Not only is it important for students on campus to sustain good health, Eastern also wants to spread the word to community members. Working with the United Way, volunteers deliver about half a million Peacemeals per year to the elderly around Charleston. "The way society treats the elderly is important," Painter adds. A college student's life never seems to settle down or become easier. Painter advises students to remember why they are at school and to stay on track with all aspects of life.

He suggests watching portion sizes during meals as well, and to pick healthier fast food choices such as Subway. For females, he warns, "Bone mass stops at around 25 for females, so it is important during these college years to have a healthy diet and stay active."

Mallory Kinley, a junior dietetics and nutrition major, believes it is important to keep health in mind while away at school. "We're on our own for the first time and it's essential to take care of ourselves," she says. "I am really happy with the nutrition department, I feel like I have a lot of opportunities here, as well as when I am ready to leave and find a job in the field."

With 65 percent of the country's population obese, it is no wonder that starting at an early age it is becoming increasingly important. Staying mindful of the things we eat and remaining active shouldn't be another added stress to a college student's



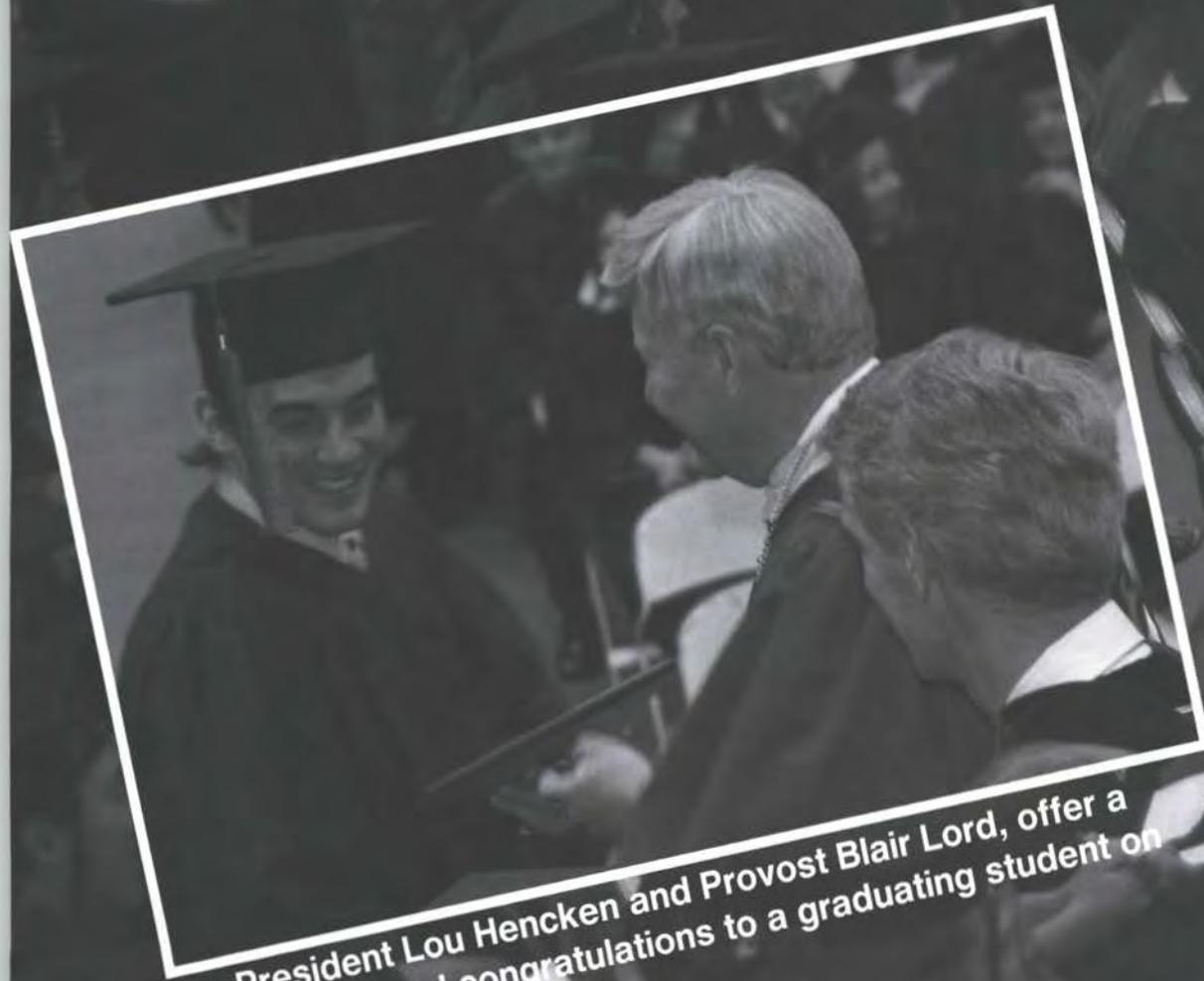


Christina Patchett, junior hospitality major, slices brownies in the Klehm Hall kitchens. She is catering the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference.

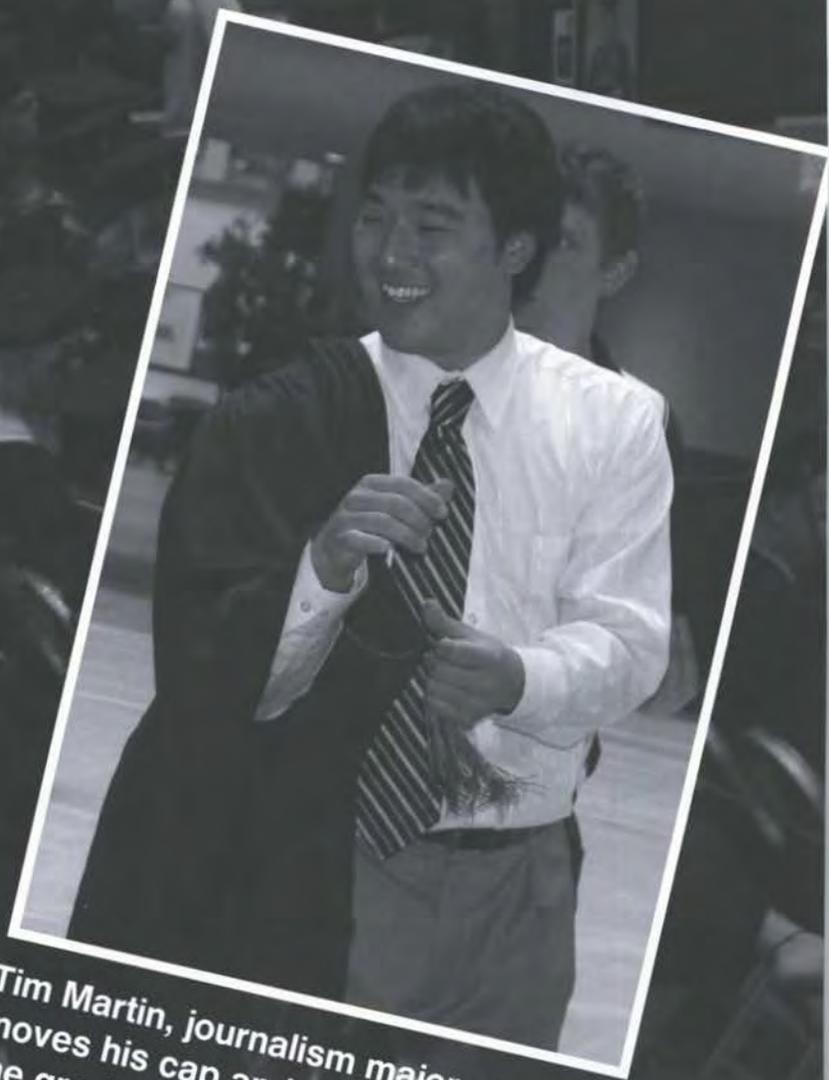


Marissa Correa, a junior hospitality major, prepares pumpkin squares in the Klehm Hall kitchens for an event she is catering.

PHOTOS BY LIZA BISHTON



President Lou Hencken and Provost Blair Lord, offer a diploma and congratulations to a graduating student on May 6, 2006



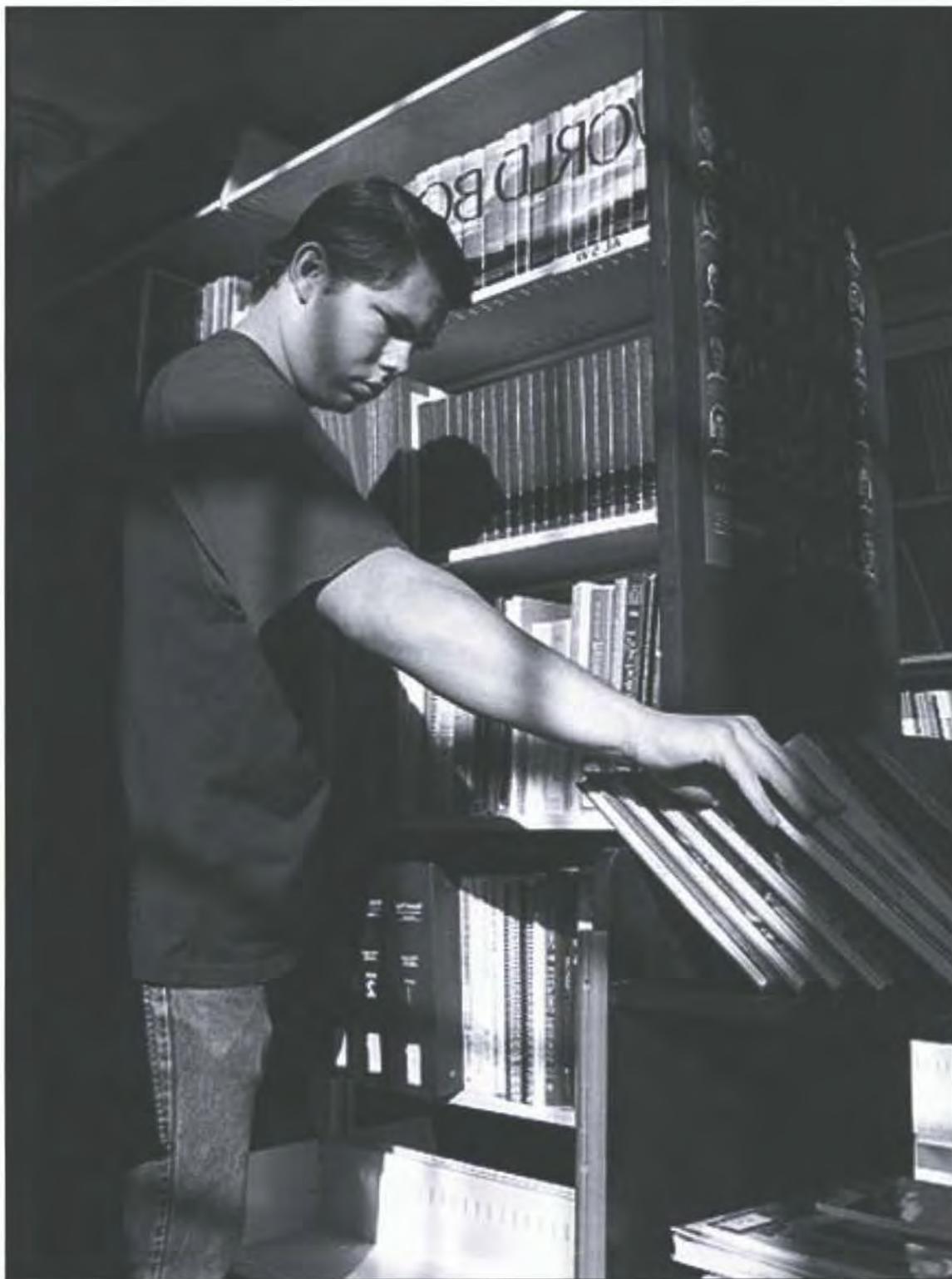
Tim Martin, journalism major, removes his cap and gown following the graduation ceremony on May 6, 2006

Lines of students in graduation caps and gowns wait patiently to receive their diplomas

PHOTO BY JESSICA CANTERELLI



Carolynn Beal and Brittany Osika, junior elementary education majors, browse through a book in the Ballenger Teacher Center in Booth Library.



Andy Decker, a student employee of the Booth Library, reshelves books in the Ballinger Teacher's Center.

PHOTO BY KATE KONIECZNY

Students study abroad: Interact with new, familiar faces

STORY BY JOSHUA VAN DYKE

The Study Abroad program can take students to new places and help them achieve things they never thought possible before. It is that desire for a new perspective and an expanded worldview that is at the heart of the program, according to Dean Robert Augustine.

One locale in particular that has caught his attention is Cape Town, South Africa. With it being the third most populated city in South Africa, students are sure to find new experiences.

“I believe that the choice of South Africa was to give a real contrast,” Augustine said, adding that the differences would be greater than with most places in Europe.

Students who went there through the Family and Consumer Science department’s program explored just how different other societies can be from America’s. Their focus was family life and what services are

available to families in crisis, for example, how health-care is dealt with compared to America’s competitive version.

The travelers got to visit different places along their journey toward becoming more aware humans of the society around them. They visited Cape Town’s Parliament, a slave-house museum and even the homes of private citizens who were kind enough to open their doors.

Some of what they saw hit close to home; they met Illinois Sen. Barack Obama while he was on his trip to his ancestral homeland.

All of the excitement doesn’t mean the visitors won’t have work to do, of course. They will still have tests and papers to deal with. The main difference compared to other programs is that it is focused on one specialization.

That is actually part of why the Study Abroad



Sen. Barak Obama (center) is pictured with a contingent of students from EIU at a Cape Town, South Africa, speaking engagement sponsored by South African Institute of International Affairs. The students are participating in the School of Family and Consumer Sciences' Fall 2006 Semester of Study in Cape Town. Pictures from left to right: Dr. Frances Murphy, Rachel Callaway, Sarah Maurer, Bri Adrias, Stephen Murphy, Krystin Conboy, Obama, Amy Fink, Nikki Smart, Danielle Trezek, Amanda Krzystofiak, Amie McClane and Dr. Dagni Brede-sen.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

program has increased in popularity. Classes that can be taken through the Study Abroad program are now easy to figure out, and there have been efforts to find affordable trips for students. As a result, the process is simpler and often cheaper, making the idea of taking classes in another country much more appealing and the student still receives credits for one full semester.

"You miss out on some things here," Brueseke

said. "But you gain a lot more."

Students who wish to expand their horizons through Study Abroad make arrangements a semester ahead of time to ensure there is room on a trip and there are no last-minute problems. If you ask Augustine, the effort is definitely worth it.

"You are never the same after you have a Study Abroad experience," he said.

Tip your cap for Mortar Board

STORY BY KATE KONIECZNY

With more than 53 registered student organizations on campus there are bound to be certain clubs with less acknowledgment despite their contributions to the school. Nevertheless, on a national level, according to its Web site, Mortar Board has over 200 chapters from coast to coast.

Beginning in 1918, it originally only honored women and it wasn't until 1975 that men were welcome to join. The mortarboard is the cap graduates wear at commencement and to the organization it is a symbol of "devoting their lives to the profession of learning."

According to President Katie Keech, Mortar Board is "the only honors organization that recognizes seniors for their achievements in scholarship, leadership and service." The Eastern Illinois University Tassels Chapter was founded in 1992 and this year currently has 21 members.

To become a member of Mortar Board, a senior level student needs to be in the upper 35 percentile of this class, maintain a good GPA and display leadership and service on campus and in the community. Current member and FCS major Lindsey Markle had volunteered with Big Brothers and Big Sisters and Special Olympics before she even joined Mortar Board.

"Mortar Board isn't just about good grades. It pushes me to become involved and help the Charleston community," Markle said.

Megan Gabor, theater major, said she joined Mortar Board, "to get more involved my last year at Eastern."

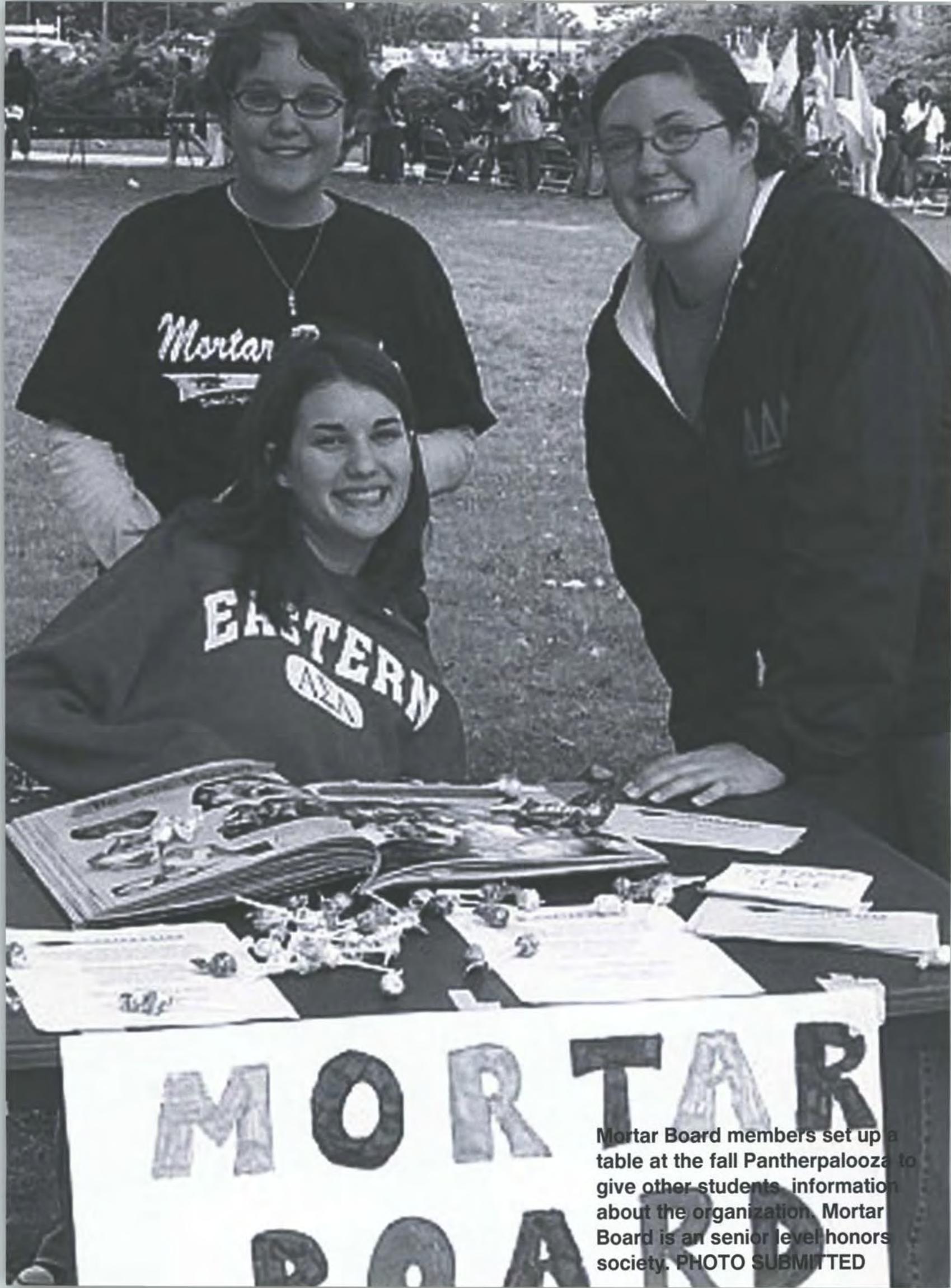
Keech said in past years Mortar Board members have helped with blood drives, made Thanksgiving baskets for University Apartment single-family households and collected books for the national philanthropy, "Reading is Leading."

"Reading is Leading" was adopted as the permanent national project in 2002 and its goal is to "get people back into books by advocating reading," according to their Web site.

Since the project began Mortar Board has paired up with CVS pharmacy to give \$1,500 worth of Braille books to families. On a local level, Eastern's Mortar Board has collected books from the Charleston community to donate to local schools with little to no library resources.

During the 2005-2006 academic year, Eastern's Mortar Board received the Silver Torch Award at the national conference for their community service projects. This year Keech wants to push even more service throughout the community by participating in the Adopt-a-Family program during the holidays, Big Brothers and Big Sisters and Christmas in the Square.





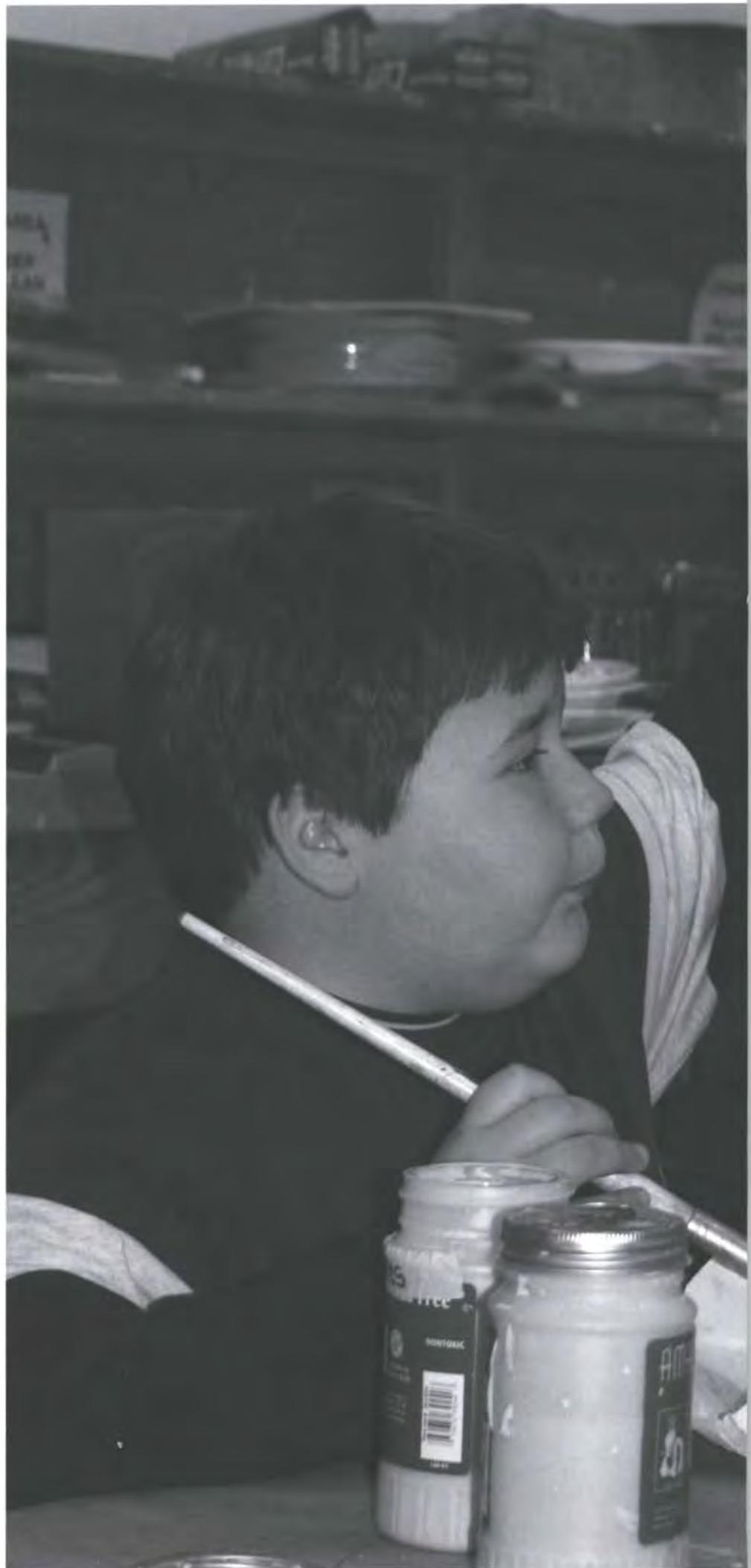
Mortar Board members set up a table at the fall Pantherpalooza to give other students information about the organization. Mortar Board is an senior level honors society. PHOTO SUBMITTED



TOP: Lauren Metzger paints maroon glaze on her pinch pot during the Young Peoples Ceramics class in the Tarble Arts Center on Nov. 4 , 2006.

BOTTOM: Jennifer Dunavan, senior art education major, pries the lid off a jar of glaze. She taught the Young Peoples Ceramics course on Saturday mornings for seven weeks during the fall.

PHOTOS BY LIZA BISHTON





Tarble Arts Classes

STORY BY KAYLA CROW

Eastern's Tarble Arts Center is setting out to help the community's children find their inner artist.

The center offers classes taught by local and area artists and teachers who are experienced in different areas of art and have experience working with children, said Kit Morice, Curator of Education at the center.

Morice said the center has been offering classes since it opened in 1982 and has had pretty good involvement from the community.

"Most classes are well received, but we do end up canceling some each session due to lack of enrollment," Morice said.

The different courses the center offers varies each session but usually includes things such as watercolors, painting and beadwork.

Morice said the center offers the classes because the people that work there enjoy giving back to the community.

"The (center) offers community members a unique opportunity to study art in a museum setting," he said. "Many classes are scheduled to coincide with special exhibitions. And we have a staff of highly qualified instructors and a well-equipped classroom."

Michele Merriam, junior elementary education major, said she thinks classes like those that Tarble offers are a good idea for children, especially since many schools no longer have extensive art programs.

"I don't see how it could be a bad thing," she said. "What if a child is a really good artist and they didn't get to take classes, they would never know."

The classes at Tarble aim to expose children to art and help them discover any talents they might have. The center tries to keep class costs as low as possible so that everyone can afford to attend, said Morice.

"There is a fee for each class, which covers the cost of instruction and supplies," he said. "Fees vary depending on the number of sessions and duration of each class. (They) are kept as low as possible, and any profits go directly in support of the program classroom equipment and supplies, etc. The Tarble is a not-for-profit institution."

Jay Sullivan takes a break from glazing his plate "parakeet green" to ask a question during the Young People's Ceramics course at the Tarble Arts Center on Nov. 4, 2006.

Forecast **good** for physical science **students**

STORY BY JACLYN GORSKI

Since January of 2006, Eastern has been home to one of hundreds of weather centers in central Illinois after the geology/geography department installed a digital weather station on top of the Physical Science building.

"The digital weather station helps to enhance students' understanding of atmospheric processes," said Cameron Craig, instructor of the geology/geography department. "The technology provides students (the education to know) how to collect, analyze, interpret and communicate weather."

Students learn to recognize specific meteorological patterns, which helps students have a greater understanding of how the atmosphere works, said Craig.

The geology/geography department funded the weather station in order to provide students with an enhanced learning experience in courses offered by the department, said Craig.

Students are able to learn about the weather through dealing with actual information.

"The EIU Weather Center not only acquires its own weather information from the digital station, but we acquire other information in the forms of maps, radar and satellite images, and severe weather updates from NOAA/NWS," Craig said. "The station also submits weather data to NOAA/NWS for their use."

The EIU Weather Center has a few capabilities.

"The EIU Weather Center has real-time weather information, severe weather information, special weather features, a data archive for anyone

interested in researching weather and climate, a photo gallery featuring student and public-submitted photographs, daily weather broadcasts created by broadcast meteorology students, video documentaries by broadcast meteorology students and a newsletter written by students published six times a year with valuable weather information and stories," Craig said.

Students that are enrolled in Broadcast Meteorology Practicum use the station to collect, analyze, interpret and forecast via webcasting.

"Students in Broadcast Meteorology Practicum course offered through the department are required to keep the website updated with several special weather features, forecasts and webcasts," Craig said.

That is not where the project ends however.

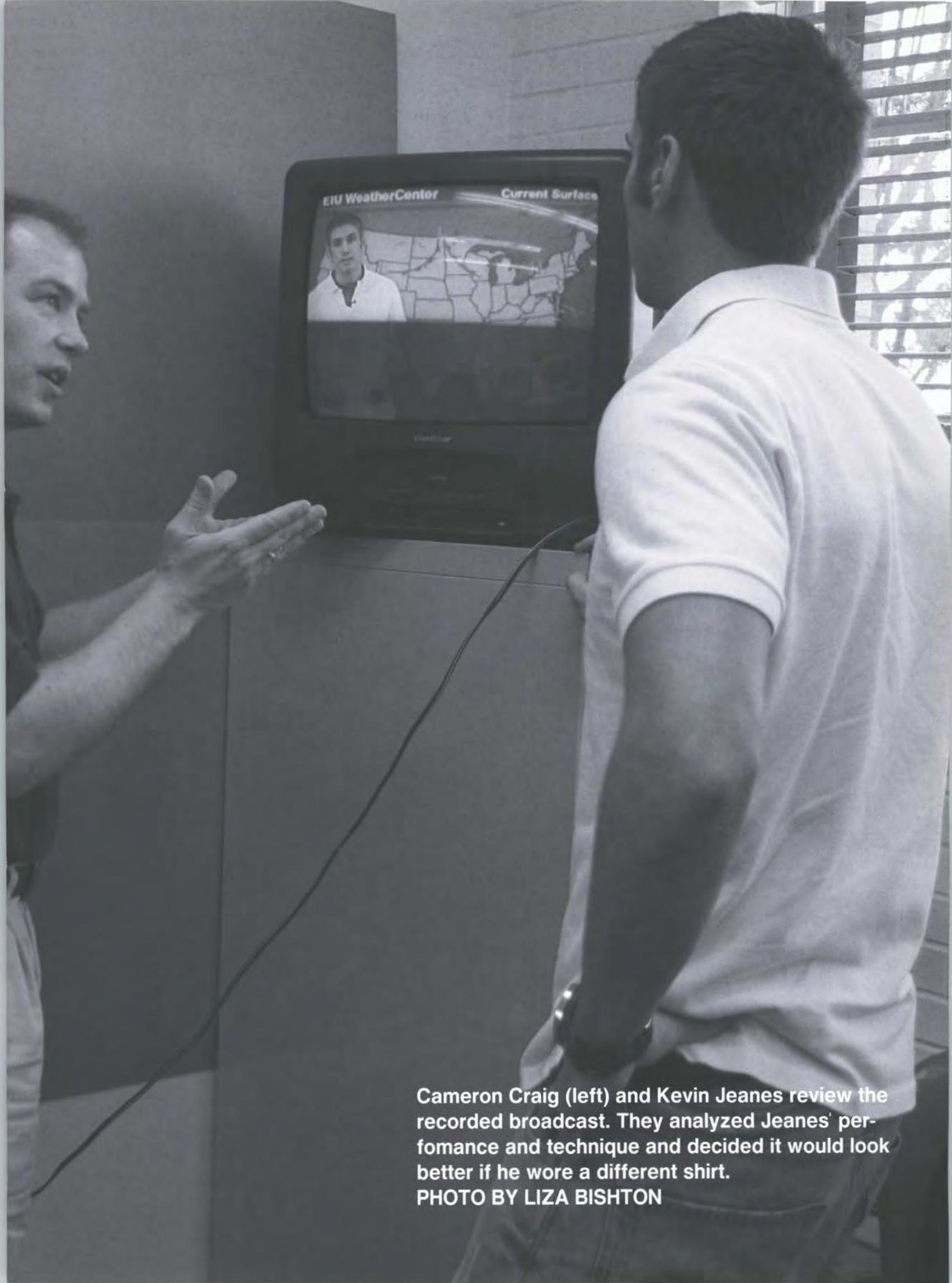
John Stimac and Craig received a grant from the Redden fund to purchase an additional station for the southern end of the Eastern campus, said Craig.

The grant was for a project called the Eastern Illinois University Campus Learning Initiative for Meteorologists, Academicians, Teachers and Environmentalists, or EIU CLIMATE, said Craig.

EIU CLIMATE will help students, faculty, and staff to help in understanding our physical-cultural world.

"The ultimate idea behind this project is to provide students with additional resources to learn outside the box – a true hands-on approach to learning," Craig said.





**Cameron Craig (left) and Kevin Jeanes review the recorded broadcast. They analyzed Jeanes' performance and technique and decided it would look better if he wore a different shirt.
PHOTO BY LIZA BISHTON**

“The coolest place on campus”

STORY BY KRISTY MELLENDORF

The community uses it, from church people to teachers to moms. Faculty uses it. Students use it. It's the ITC, or Instructional Technology Center. A row of six Apple computers surrounds the back wall of the lab. The center of the room is filled by an elongated work table with chairs. Large rolls of paper and various computers and projectors surround the right area of the lab. Behind a counter on the left are the people that can help out if needed.

Terry Hyder, Communications Specialist II, has been in charge of the ITC for 11 years. She first took charge in 1995, after spending time teaching preschool. When Hyder arrived, the location of the ITC was in the special education and 'quite small,' remembers Hyder.

In 1997, the ITC moved into 1420 Buzzard, a bigger area for all of their services. They were able to order more die-cuts, which enable users to make shapes and letters like one would with a stencil, although the work is done for them. The paper just needs to be put in the selected shape or letter, and then the die cut pressed down. The end result is the intended shape.

The individual die cuts resemble wooden blocks, of about three inches by three inches. The piece of paper is placed on top of the die cut, which is then led into the final step. The final step is to use the contraption that presses the paper against the die cut, which then heralds the paper shape intended.

In the previous office, only two different sets of letters were present. After ordering more to fill space and fulfill need, 400 various shapes and letters are available.

“The die cuts are, by far, the most popular service we have,” Hyder said.

The ITC also has lamination available, tri-fold presentations, big rolls of paper and other bulletin board projects, computers for student use, digital cameras and projectors.

Hyder has worked with all the products and is

proficient on them.

“I just picked it up, I guess,” Hyder said. “I learn by the seat of my pants.”

A gradual learning process takes place upon the arrival of new equipment to the ITC. Tom Grissom, director of the Instructional Technology Center, is usually the first to learn how to work with the new equipment. He teaches Hyder, who then teaches the student workers.

The ITC employs its student workers through the work study government program, provided through Financial Aid. Student workers are expected to handle money, help with computer problems and check in and out the equipment. They also help the students in making their projects.

“The students are constantly learning and picking up new things,” Hyder said.

She sees the student workers as viable entities to the ITC, and the students are taking away skills too. Students regularly deal with answering the phone, operating equipment and harassment from the users of the ITC.

Hyder has enjoyed her work with the ITC, and it has brought her much joy.

“I wouldn't want to work anywhere else on campus,” Hyder said. “I can laugh, help and be me.”

Hyder has gone the extra step to help students. Staples has received phone calls from her, as she has helped students to get what they need.

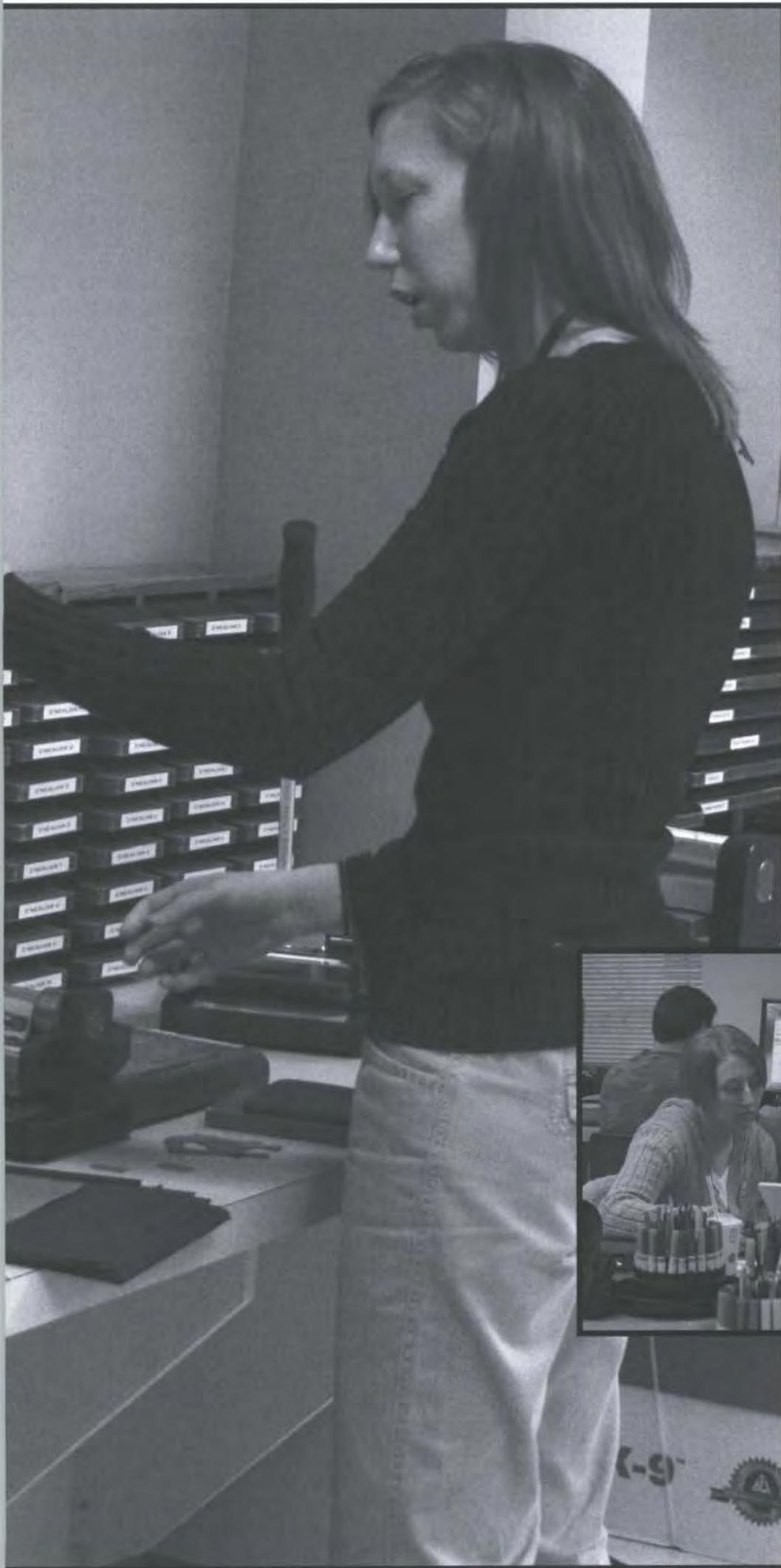
She has seen a wide variety of things in her time with the ITC. One time, she saw someone cut his finger with the paper cutter.

“He went to Health Services, got stitches then came back and finished his project,” Hyder said.

The ITC is usually busy, with the exceptions of weekends. During the semester, the busiest times tend to be around mid-terms and finals.

“Everyone is just trying to get things ready,” Hyder said.





Julie Templin, senior special education major, uses the die press in the ITC lab.

Senior elementary education majors Stephanie Pipher and Michelle Byrne take a break from creating a lesson plan to make party invitations in the ITC lab.

PHOTOS BY LIZA BISHTON



Upon walking into the Florence Coles Ballenger Teachers' Center, one will find shelf upon shelf of children's books, a variety of colorful posters, stuffed animals and puppets, decorations and comfortable lounge areas throughout the room. The 4,750 square foot center is located just off the main foyer at the north end of the renovated Booth Library.

The center, formerly called the Read & Relax Room, began in 1994 with just a few curricular materials and pre-K-12 textbooks. That was just the beginning of what is now known as the Florence Coles Ballenger Teachers' Center, a collection of teaching and learning materials and services available to students and faculty members of the College of Education and Professional Studies and to regional elementary and secondary school teachers and administrators.

Florence Coles Ballenger was a 1925 alumna of Eastern Illinois State Teachers College who grew up in Decatur. After graduating from the two year diploma program, she taught in Oak Park at Chicago City Junior College (now called Kennedy-King College), and then went on to teach at St. Petersburg Junior College in Florida.

She did not retire until the age of 70, after which time she continued to volunteer extensively as an English tutor through the school's Learning Support Center. She always felt that education was the key to everything.

For this reason, when Florence died at the age of 92 in April 1999, she left one third of her \$3.6 million estate to Eastern Illinois University. This money is now being used to help provide materials and services to a new generation of teachers, and the reason the University named The Florence Coles Ballenger Teachers' Center in her honor.

The Ballenger Teachers' Center includes Eastern's juvenile and preK-12 curriculum collections of more than 40,000 volumes. It offers access to electronic databases related to education and teaching, accommodates seating and networked table space for up

to 44 visitors, provides comfortable group seating areas for 11 visitors.

It also makes available 4 computers, video and CD equipment, affords a staffed service desk, maintains a variety of shelving and display areas for education materials, and plans programming and special activities for area teachers and education students. The center is very large compared to most other Teacher Centers in the State.

Ann Brownson is the library's faculty member in charge of the Ballenger Teachers' Center.

"The amount of space and the number of items the center has make it far more extensive than the average teachers' resource center," Brownson said.

One of the main events the library offers is children's story time. Ann is the one who prepares and runs story time during both fall and spring sessions. The program runs for about 6 weeks and is on specified Saturday's for about an hour. Children of students, faculty, or local Charleston residents aged three to six years old are the main focus audience for story time.

Carol Winkleblack is a Library Specialist for Eastern's Booth Library. She has worked here for many years and works in the Ballenger teachers' center five days a week.

"We are trying to get the word out more about story time so that it will draw in an even bigger crowd. It's hard to pick out the right time in the day that will be convenient for families to come in for an hour, and parking on campus can be another problem," Winkleblack said.

Ballenger Teacher's Center is a great source for teachers and is something education students should take advantage of.

Helen Gilbert, longtime friend of Ballenger and trustee of her estate, said that Mrs. Ballenger had high expectations of her students and that education outside the classroom was as important to Ballenger as what was within. Florence Ballenger would have been proud to see how much her contribution has aided in making this learning center what it is today.

STORY BY ALEX OCHOA

Technology in the Classroom

In today's generation, many students are struggling with school because of the way the teacher's information is presented. Not many students enjoy sitting through lectures. They are hard to pay attention to and some students are more visual learners. This is why some teachers are now employing podcasts and vodcasts to aid in teaching.

The name podcast is a combination of Apple's "Ipod" and "broadcasting." It is a method of publishing files on the Internet. A podcast is audio and a vodcast is audio and visual.

"Our generation is very digital-visual oriented. We feel at home with technology," journalism professor Doug Lawhead said.

This is Lawhead's first semester using podcasts and vodcasts in his classroom. The vodcast he uses in his photography class is a tutorial on how to use different tools in Photoshop. The tutorial is an actual captioned video of him explaining and showing students how to use Photoshop.

If students have a question about how to use something in Photoshop out of class, they can resort back to Lawhead's tutorial.

"The tutorial is the first vodcast on campus, and is also captioned for deaf students," Lawhead said.

The vodcast is not just for Eastern students, though. Anyone connected to the Internet can access them from home once the proper software is installed on their computer.

"All a student needs is a podcast compliant tool, such as I-tunes. I-tunes is free, which is why we recommend it. The first time you do it, it might take 10 minutes to set up, but after that it'll be automatic," said campus podcast tech support worker, Ryan Gibson.

Podcasts are also useful for studying. If students are at home and their professor is not around to answer their questions they can access the podcasts for information.

"The students seem to like to be able to go back and hear lectures," Gibson said. Currently, about 20-25 teachers use podcasts on campus, which is a high number compared to other universities, Gibson said. The Daily Eastern News also began using podcasts in its web version.

Podcasts are here as another form of presenting information. Students can choose to acknowledge podcasts or not, but teachers are utilizing them for the students' benefit. Professors realize that lectures do not get through to every student, which is why they create the podcasts.

STORY BY BOB ROUBIK

Greek Life

"Barn dance because we all get dressed up and go to a farm and dance the night away!"

--Dan Klosowski; senior corporate communications major, on his favorite Sigma Phi Epsilon function.



"It will help me network and it looks good on my resume!"

--Ali Stephans, senior health and physical education major, about one of the best parts of our Greek system.



"I wanted to get into a group organization, and it is a very diverse house with a lot of great guys!"

--Nate Reynolds, junior biology major about why he decided to join Lambda Chi Alpha.



"The best part of Greek Week would have to be the team spirit. Each house has a chance to show everyone else what they are made of, and it really unifies the house!"

--Erica Stotts, senior English major, on Greek Week.

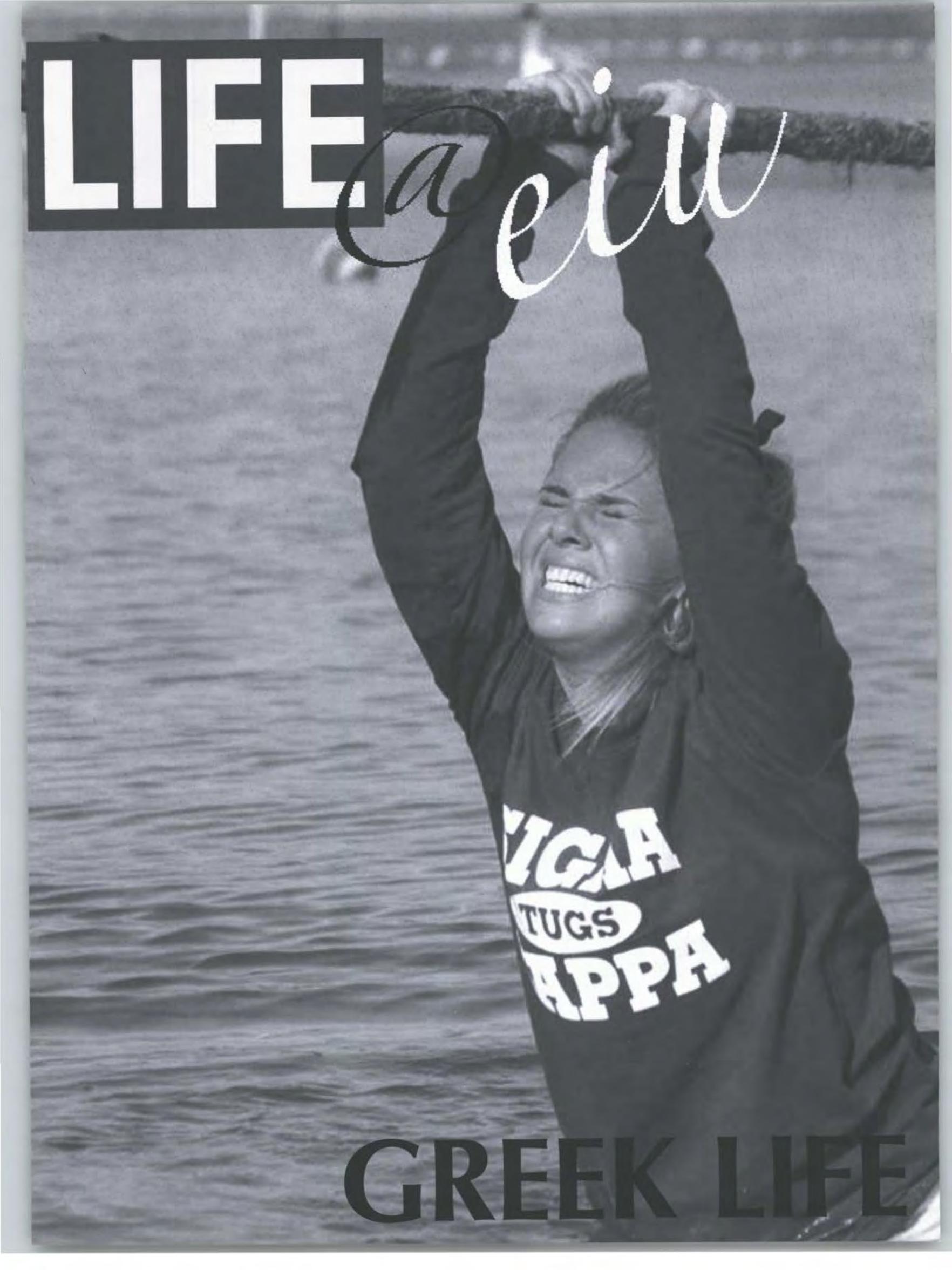


LIFE

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GREEK LIFE

**ΣΙΓΑΑ
TUGS
ΧΑΡΑ**

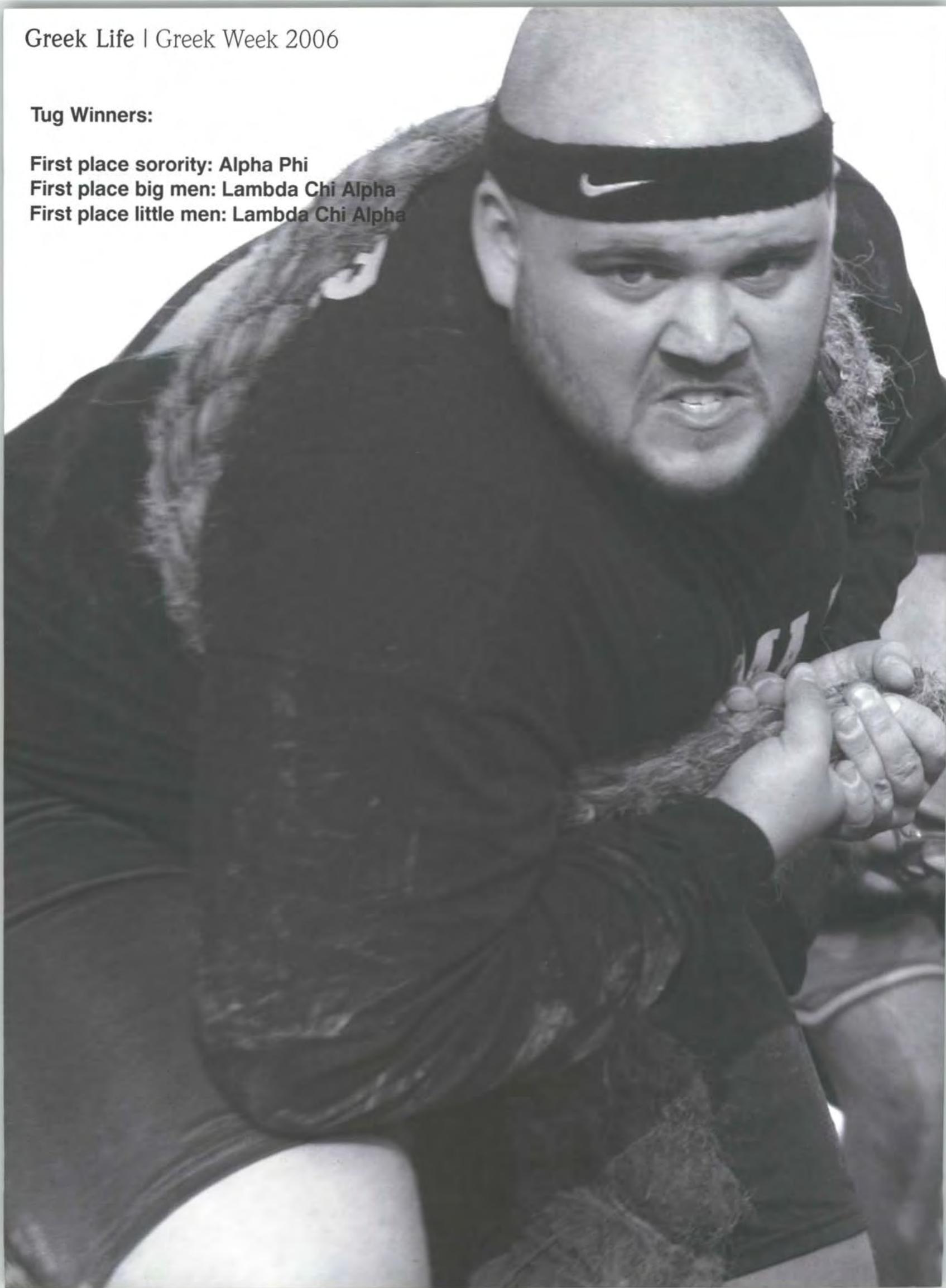


Tug Winners:

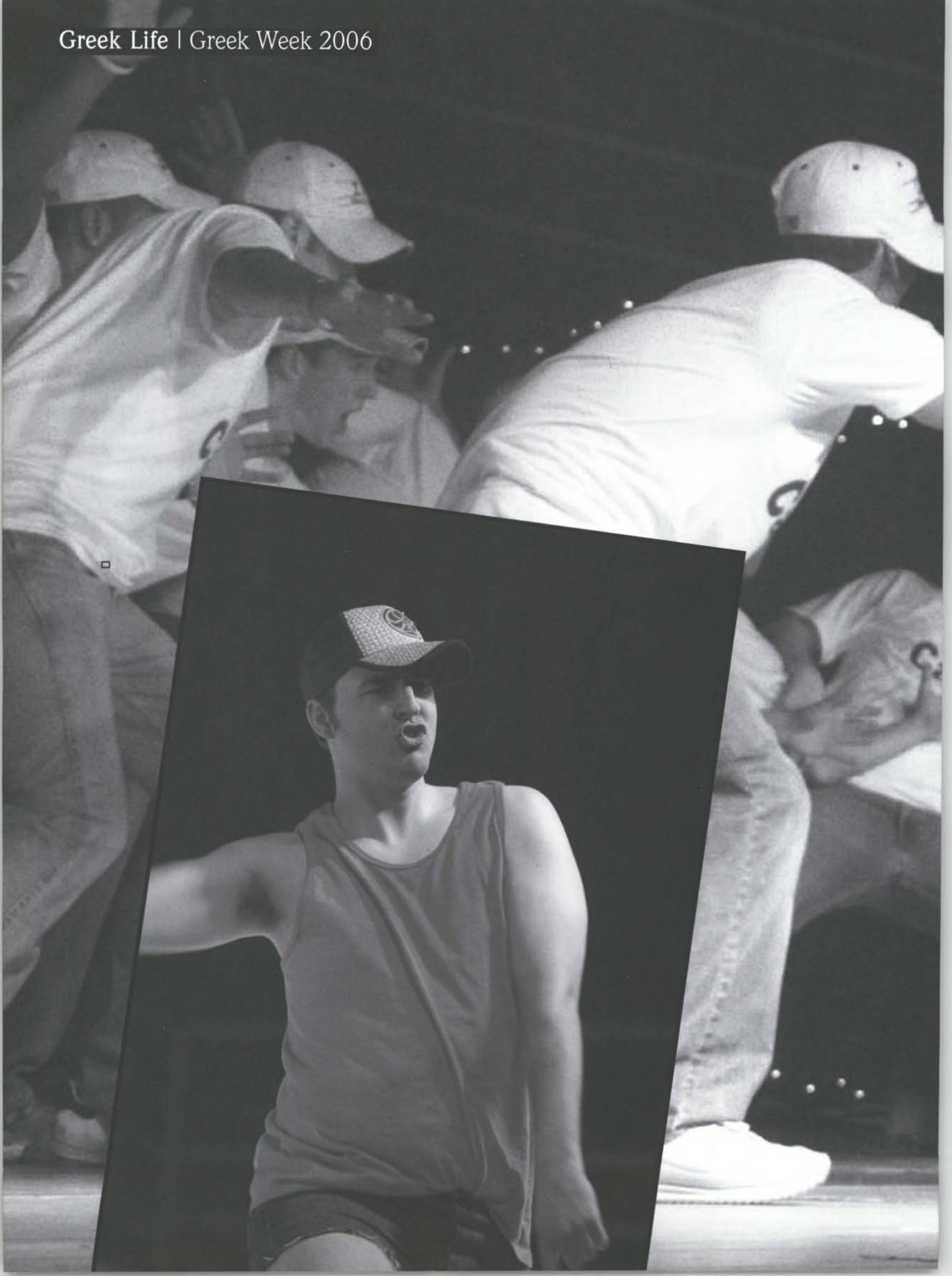
First place sorority: Alpha Phi

First place big men: Lambda Chi Alpha

First place little men: Lambda Chi Alpha







Sigma Pi members break dance during their routine in Lantz Auditorium for Greek Week.

Airband results:

Sorority

1st Place - Sigma Kappa

2nd Place - Alpha Gamma Delta

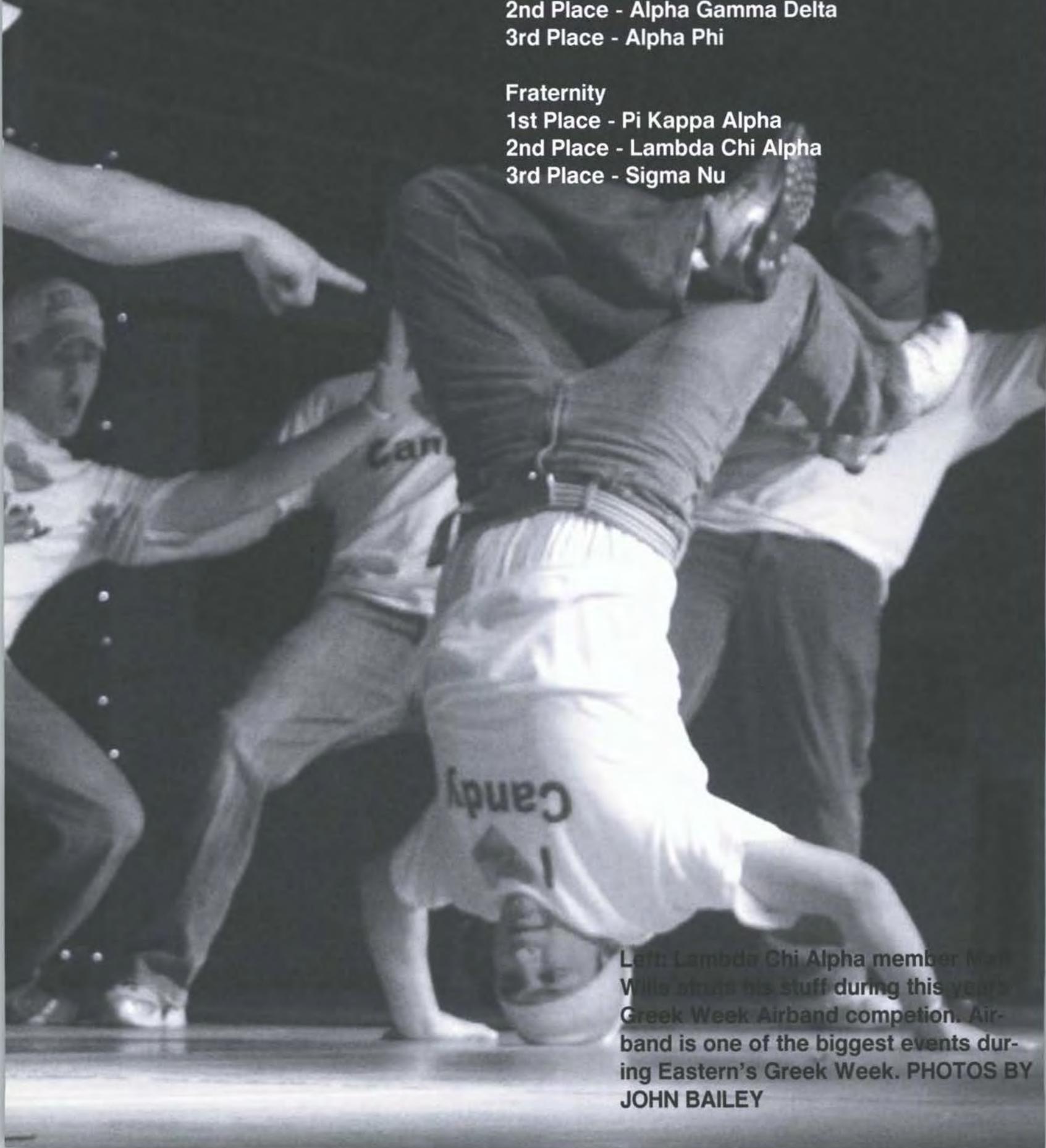
3rd Place - Alpha Phi

Fraternity

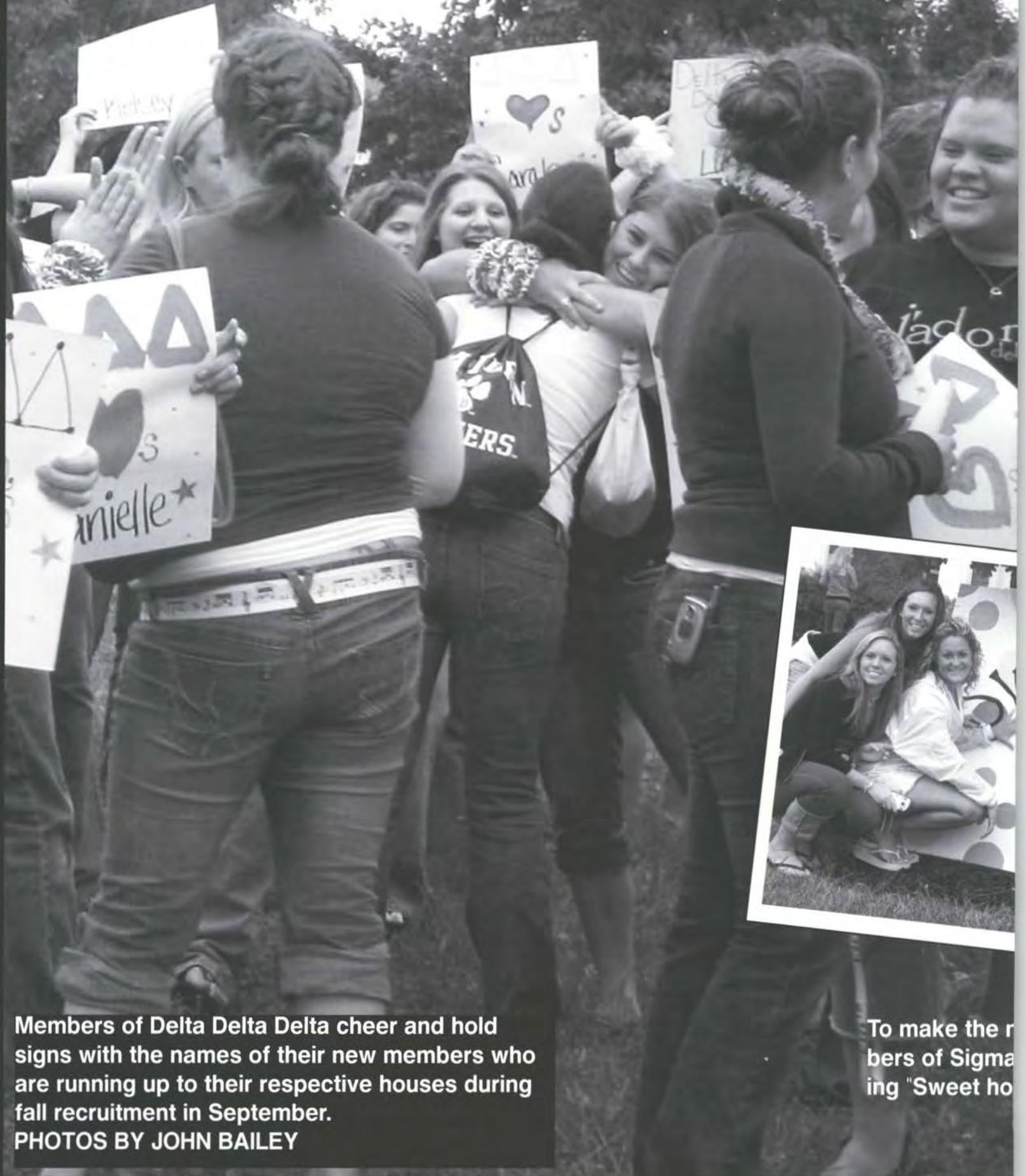
1st Place - Pi Kappa Alpha

2nd Place - Lambda Chi Alpha

3rd Place - Sigma Nu



Left: Lambda Chi Alpha member Matt Wille strains his stuff during this year's Greek Week Airband competition. Airband is one of the biggest events during Eastern's Greek Week. PHOTOS BY JOHN BAILEY



Members of Delta Delta Delta cheer and hold signs with the names of their new members who are running up to their respective houses during fall recruitment in September.
PHOTOS BY JOHN BAILEY

To make the members of Sigma
ing "Sweet ho



Lu Veseli, an undeclared sophomore (left) is greeted by an ecstatic Delta Zeta member senior, Karoline Robziewski after bid day in Greek Court.

STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH

“Recruitment used to be a lot different. It used to be more informal and houses could show their personalities through skits that they planned prior to recruitment,” said Jackie Helminski, vice president membership of Kappa Delta sorority.

In the past, sororities would show their personalities through themes, such as Sigmas and the City (for Sigma Sigma Sigma) and the Alpha Gamma Delta chapter house being decorated entirely with Victoria’s Secret bags. Once inside the decorated, themed houses during recruitment, girls were treated with skits and songs sororities created to impress the potential new members.

However, it was brought to the attention of Panhellenic Council that this form of recruitment, while more fun and makes the houses stand out in their own ways, was turning into a sort of popularity contest.

“Girls were choosing houses based on how good their skits were or how cute their chapter house was decorated. Now that formal recruitment has done away with those things, girls are picking sororities based on the conversation, and whether or not they can see themselves fitting in,” said Helminski.

Jessica Fleming, an EIU freshman, recently went through recruitment herself. Some of her fears going through recruitment were not receiving the houses she wanted, feeling nervous (as recruitment had record-high numbers), and being forgotten in the masses of girls rushing.

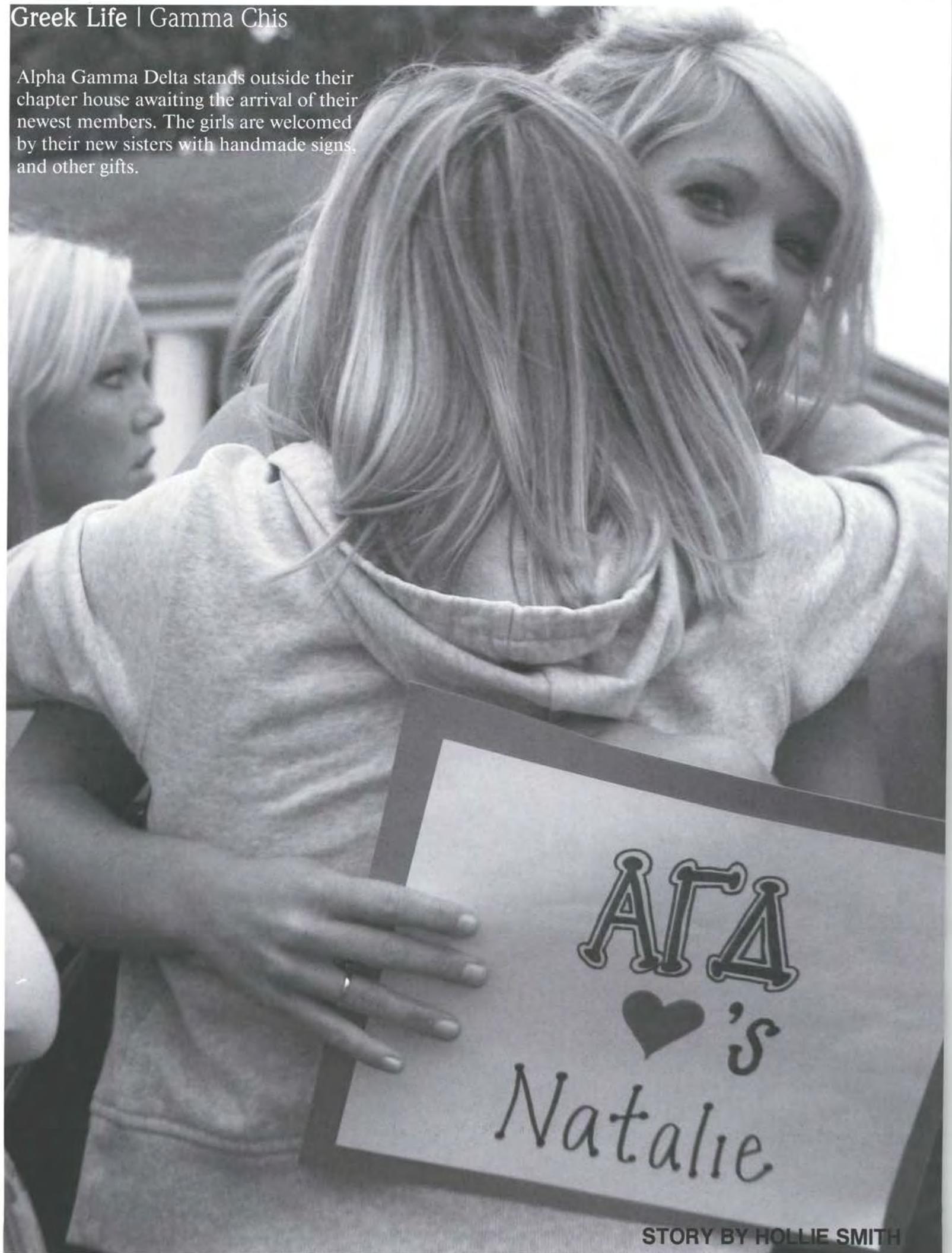
“I’m glad there are no skits anymore. I was so scared I would be forgotten, but because we had to make conversation the entire time during each round, personalities could show through and you could see the genuine connections.”



**members feel at home, the mem-
ppa bring out a welcome sign stat-
Sigma Kappa.”**

Greek Life | Gamma Chis

Alpha Gamma Delta stands outside their chapter house awaiting the arrival of their newest members. The girls are welcomed by their new sisters with handmade signs, and other gifts.



STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH

Gamma Chis: Life After Recruitment

“It was the best thing I’ve ever done!” says

Ashlee Geiss, senior education major. “Being a Gamma Chi was beyond words.”

Geiss sits on a bed in her sorority house, wearing a lettered T-shirt, eating candy and relaxing before rigorous evening classes. She was a Gamma Chi for sorority recruitment 2006 and now recommends it to everyone in her house.

A Gamma Chi is a sorority woman who disaffiliates from her house starting in April, the school year before rush. Each of the nine houses on campus are represented by various women, who are selected after a series of interviews.

She can only wear the Gamma Chi letters and cannot openly associate with any members of her own house. She has to live in a hotel during recruitment, along with the other Gamma Chis, for fear of being seen entering and leaving their true house.

During recruitment, each Gamma Chi helps groups of girls who are going through the process with advice and a listening ear, something Geiss looked forward to.

“I didn’t have a good Gamma Chi,” she says, “and I wanted to be there for the girls in my group, unlike mine.” Geiss’s group consisted of 10 of the 400 girls going through recruitment, an all-time high number.

“By the end of the process, they were even calling me ‘Mom’! I still see them on campus and they yell to me,” she said.

She has nothing negative to say about her experience, and it also made her adore her house even more. As she made friends with other Gamma Chis from the eight other sorority houses on campus, she noticed a trend: many other women bad-talked their very own houses.

“I found pride in the fact I had nothing bad to say about my house or the women in it,” she says. “Other sorority houses were saying terrible things about their own sisters. I was nothing but happy about the success of mine.”

As for the women going through recruitment, Geiss saw a trend: Many of the girls went in with their minds set, knowing which house they ultimately wanted to pledge. However, after each round, their opinions were changed for the most part. It also surprised her how formal recruitment actually was, how five seconds mattered as to how long the women spent in each house, etc. It was all

on schedule, and the Gamma Chi women were to thank for it.

As for the programming of the process, Geiss mentioned stopwatches timed to the very second and flags being waved as an indication of when girls could move from house to house. She said it was extremely fine-tuned and organized.

If Geiss had one more year at EIU she would still be a Gamma Chi.

“Both sides are hard – it’s hard to rush the girls and make personality judgments, but it’s also hard to see girls you love going to other houses and not yours.”

In the end, Geiss says, sorority women end up in the houses where they belong: Everything happens for a reason.

As Geiss tells stories about her trials and tribulations of being a Gamma Chi for this year’s recruitment, she tells stories of women and their heartbreak: not being asked back to their favorite houses.

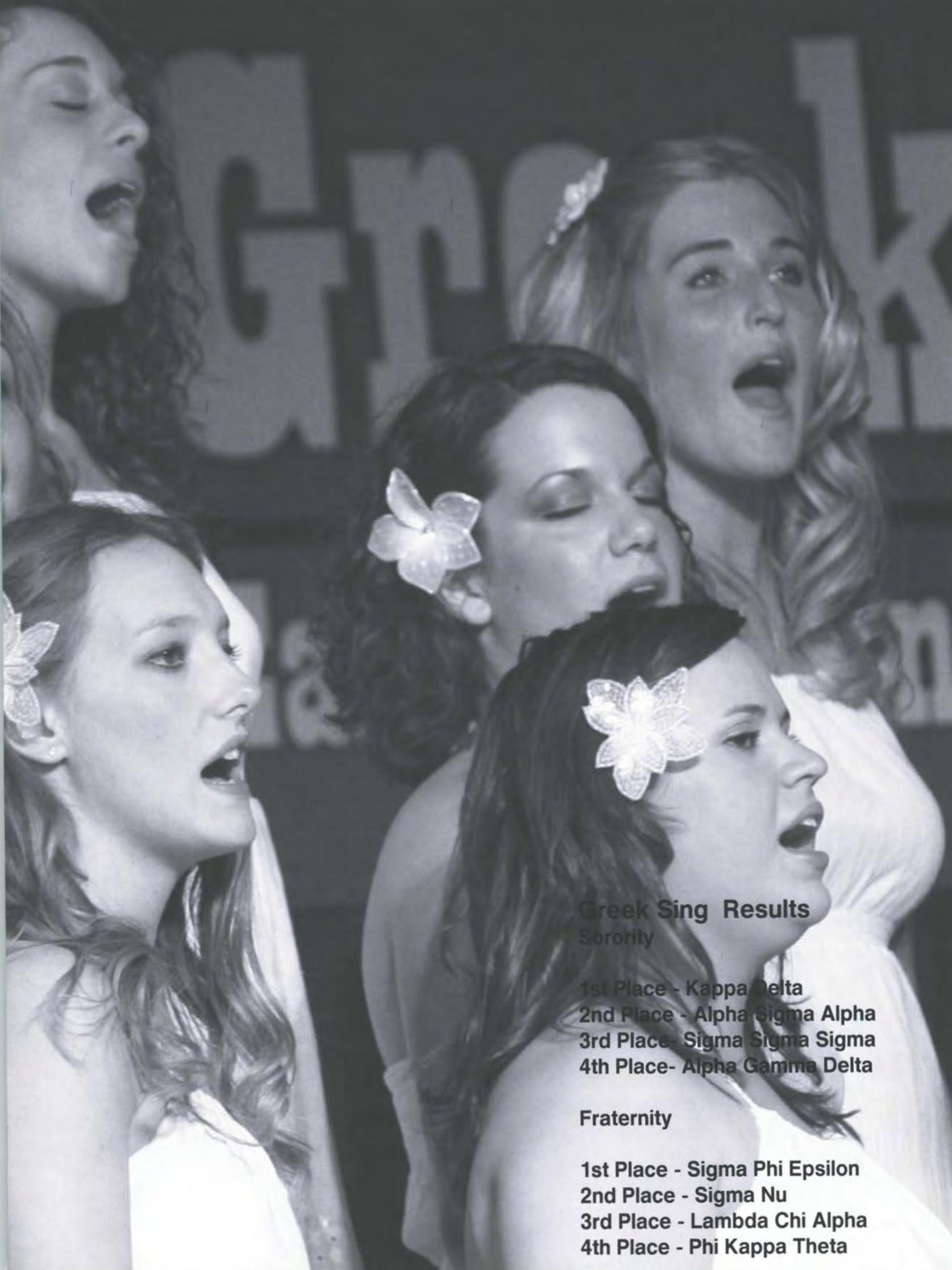
“I was relatively lucky. My girls found homes and sisters, but other gamma Chis had to help girls when they weren’t asked back to houses,” she says. “Some girls weren’t even asked back to any.”

Breaking the news to women going through recruitment that they weren’t asked back to any houses is hard for any Gamma Chi, and many girls drop after recruitment after they learn this news. At the end of round one, 15 women had dropped altogether, and even more dropped before preference night because their “dream houses” did not ask them back for one reason or another.

“Being a Gamma Chi really gave me so much,” Geiss says. “It’s more than house pride and it’s more than knowing my sisters did well in recruitment, because I saw the numbers. It’s meeting other Greek sisters from all houses on campus as well as getting this huge sense of Greek pride on Eastern’s campus. I’ve never been more proud!”

As for being able to reveal her true letters, Kappa Delta, after six months? “I am so happy to be able to show my letters and even be able to go into my house without sneaking around! It was amazing on campus after recruitment – I wanted to hug all of my sisters openly because I finally could!”





Greek Sing Results
Sorority

- 1st Place - Kappa Delta
- 2nd Place - Alpha Sigma Alpha
- 3rd Place - Sigma Sigma Sigma
- 4th Place - Alpha Gamma Delta

Fraternity

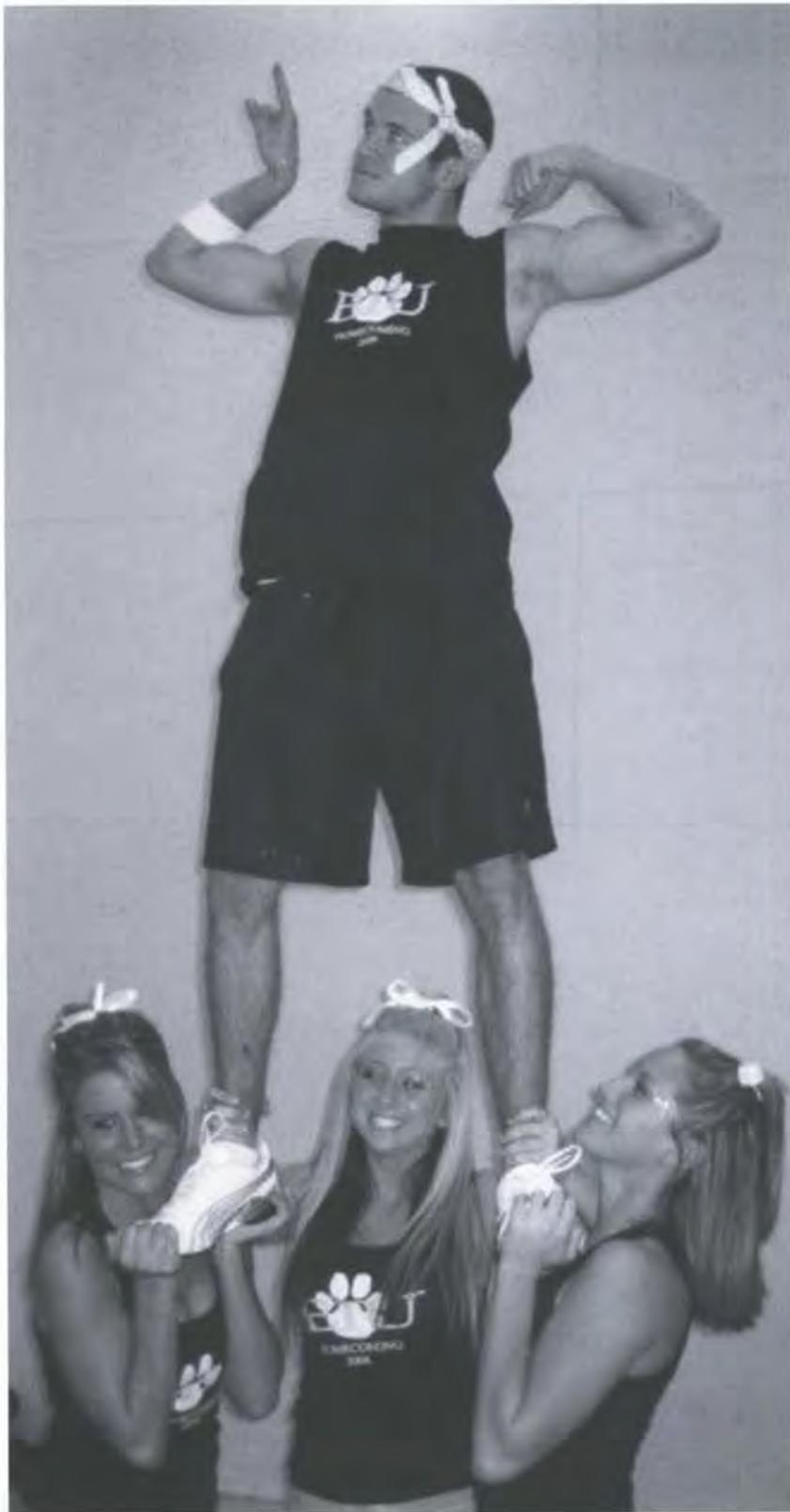
- 1st Place - Sigma Phi Epsilon
- 2nd Place - Sigma Nu
- 3rd Place - Lambda Chi Alpha
- 4th Place - Phi Kappa Theta



TOP: Members of Eastern Illinois University's PRIDE marched in the Homecoming parade with signs, banners, and t-shirts expressing their views.



ABOVE: Eastern Illinois University's ROTC rode along in the Homecoming parade to support school spirit.



ABOVE: During Homecoming week RSO's and greek organizations participated in activities. One of these was "Yell Like Hell." Here the sororities teamed up with their fraternity homecoming counterparts and created a cheer routine before performing on stage at Lantz Arena. Leann Brown, Jessica Serpico and Cristina Lockwald hold up Lambda Chi member Scott Eichberger in a mount. They received second place in the competition.

E I U H O M E C O M M I N G 2006



Alpha Phi

Sells House

STORY BY KAYLA CROW

The members of Alpha Phi are missing something year, their sorority house on Ninth Street. They had owned the house since their establishment in 1976.

The sorority agreed to sell the house to the university last year and plan to use the money they made to start a scholarship fund. The site of the house will become a parking lot to add spaces around the Doudna Fine Arts Center after its renovations are complete.

The money they received in the sale will be used to create a scholarship fund for members of the sorority, said Alpha Phi president Kelly O'Malley to the Daily Eastern News in an August 30, 2006 article.

"We still haven't decided exactly how much money we have and how much money we want to give," she told the DEN. "We also have to figure out what type of scholarships we want to give. We still have a lot to think about."

Though Alpha Phi is looking forward to creating the scholarship, many members are sad to see the house go. The members that lived in the house in the last few years said they really loved living there.

The house was typically a home to around 11 members a year, said Amy Urbanowski, an Alpha Phi

member who lived in the house during the 2006 school year.

She said she is thankful to have been able to have the opportunity to live in the house, which was frequently a fathering place for many of the members because of its close proximity to campus.

"We had so much fun and it was awesome because we were pretty much right on campus," said Urbanowski. "It had such an at-home feel to it."

Though the house will be missed, especially by the few who had the chance to live there, the sorority won't change. It still has its house in Greek Court where they meet and hold their activities including rush and initiation. Many of these activities, which involved some of their rituals and routines, were held in the Ninth Street house.

Urbanowski said that while the location of some events will be different and not as many girls will be able to live together, she does not think it will change the dynamics of the organization.

"Alpha Phi won't be changed by it," she said. "but was such a unique aspect to our sorority and we will miss it."

Alpha Tau Omega

Their First Year

“Looking around at this group of men with the same purpose and values as myself was just an unreal experience!”

-Shaun Patrick, ATO president

STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH

The new kids on the block plan to make a name for themselves.

Alpha Tau Omega has been an established national fraternity since 1865, but it has only been present on Eastern Illinois University’s campus since last fall.

This now 40-member fraternity has been in the EIU Greek Life’s agenda for awhile now with director Robert Dudolski in contact with national ATO, said Shaun Patrick, Eastern’s current ATO president.

The process began when several ATO national correspondents, including associate for expansion Steve Silcock, visited EIU in the fall semester and formed an interest group on campus composed of 14 students. Silcock promoted ATO with the use of tables around campus, and visited the sorority chapter houses to get recommendations of men to contact about the prospect of joining.

When ATO membership at EIU reached 24 men, the interest group formed a colony – the final step before it becomes a recognized fraternity on campus. To Patrick, this was the most memorable experience to date.

“Looking around at this group of men with the same purpose and values as myself was just an unreal experience.

“The most rewarding part about the whole process is being able to be selective – we look at quality and have the freedom to not settle for anything less than

exceptional,” Patrick said.

Senior ATO member and founding brother JJ Horvath says the most rewarding part is meeting new people.

“The founders of the ATO chapter here were all my friends – that’s how it was formed, a group of friends.”

ATO has also had its fair share of hardships. For starters, the idea to bring ATO to EIU came after the other fraternities went through recruitment.

“A lot of guys that wanted to rush a fraternity already had, but we just had to find the ones that had not,” said Patrick.

Another obstacle has been the lack of alumni support. Since ATO is new on campus, alums have not been established and cannot support the chapter by means of networking or funds.

Silcock and other members of national ATO had to teach the chapter about the fraternity firsthand. All dues collected go toward the chapter directly and give it something to work with.

“It was very difficult to start out a brand-new chapter not only because we had to get our name out there, but because we didn’t have the money or alumni support in the beginning,” said Patrick. “We have found support now through other fraternities, such as Lambda Chi Alpha, as well as EIU’s Greek Life System.”

Horvath agrees it was difficult to get their name out on campus, but they conquered that by being as involved as possible and do everything offered to them.



Members of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity Matt Preskar (left), Dan Maurizi, and Rob Kennedy overlook the blood drive in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Student Union on Nov. 14.

PHOTO BY JOHN BAILEY

“We were pretty clueless at first. Everything was informal and we had to play a lot by ear. Now we’re working with rituals and getting everything formal, it was just hard because we wondered ““where do we even begin?”” said Horvath.

However, ATO has an extremely bright future that began in the spring 2006 semester with their colonization. This included functions such as a Crush Dance (where members anonymously invite girls to a dance) as well as an ongoing recruitment that went well into the summer. Formal recruitment for this year will begin for ATO by means of a barbeque once the women’s recruitment is completed.

The men of ATO are also looking forward to a three-way homecoming partnership with the women of Delta Delta Delta and the men of Phi Kappa Theta. Patrick says their philanthropy is also in the works this semester.

“ATO doesn’t have a national philanthropy, but

we are working on setting something up with St. Jude,” said Patrick.

Horvath also notes their involvement with sorority philanthropies, saying their participation in them has made up for some of the chapter’s most memorable experiences.

“It’s so great to get involved and really help out their causes,” he said.

Motivating the chapter is a strong executive board made up of President Patrick, Vice President Ryan Snow, Chaplin Danny Elchert, Secretary Nate Rawley, Treasurer Mark Heck, Recruitment Chair Chris McGarel and Social Chair Clayton Heitz.

Many members are expected to be added after their recruitment, and according to student buzz around campus, ATO’s hard work and obvious dedication are making them a strong contender and big name in EIU Greek Life.



Phi Kappa Theta

Phi Kappa Theta is currently in its first full year after receiving its charter in March of 2006. They have just finished the first two pledge classes of this academic year and are looking forward to more recruits in the spring.

In addition, they had a successful blood drive during the beginning of the school year and also had their first philanthropy of the year, the new Phi Kap 500, that they hope will become an annual event—which is a big-wheel race between the sororities on campus that raises money for the Children's Miracle Network.

They are also looking to expand more in the spring as graduating seniors leave in December.

**INFORMATION SUBMITTED
PHOTO BY JOHN BAILEY**



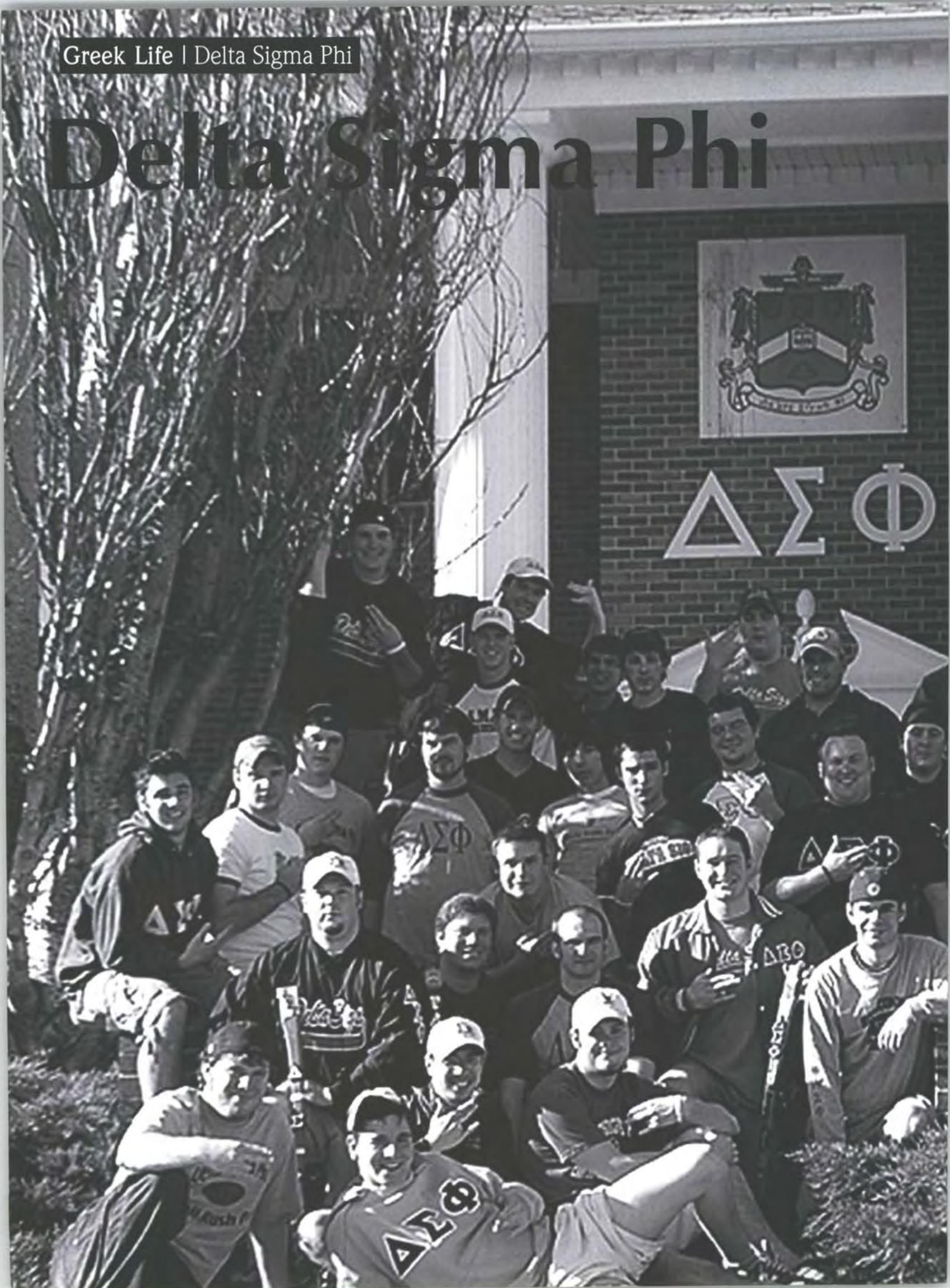
President: Matt McDonagh
Vice President: Eric Rusk
Treasurer: Steve Patterson
Secretary: Kyle Hatton

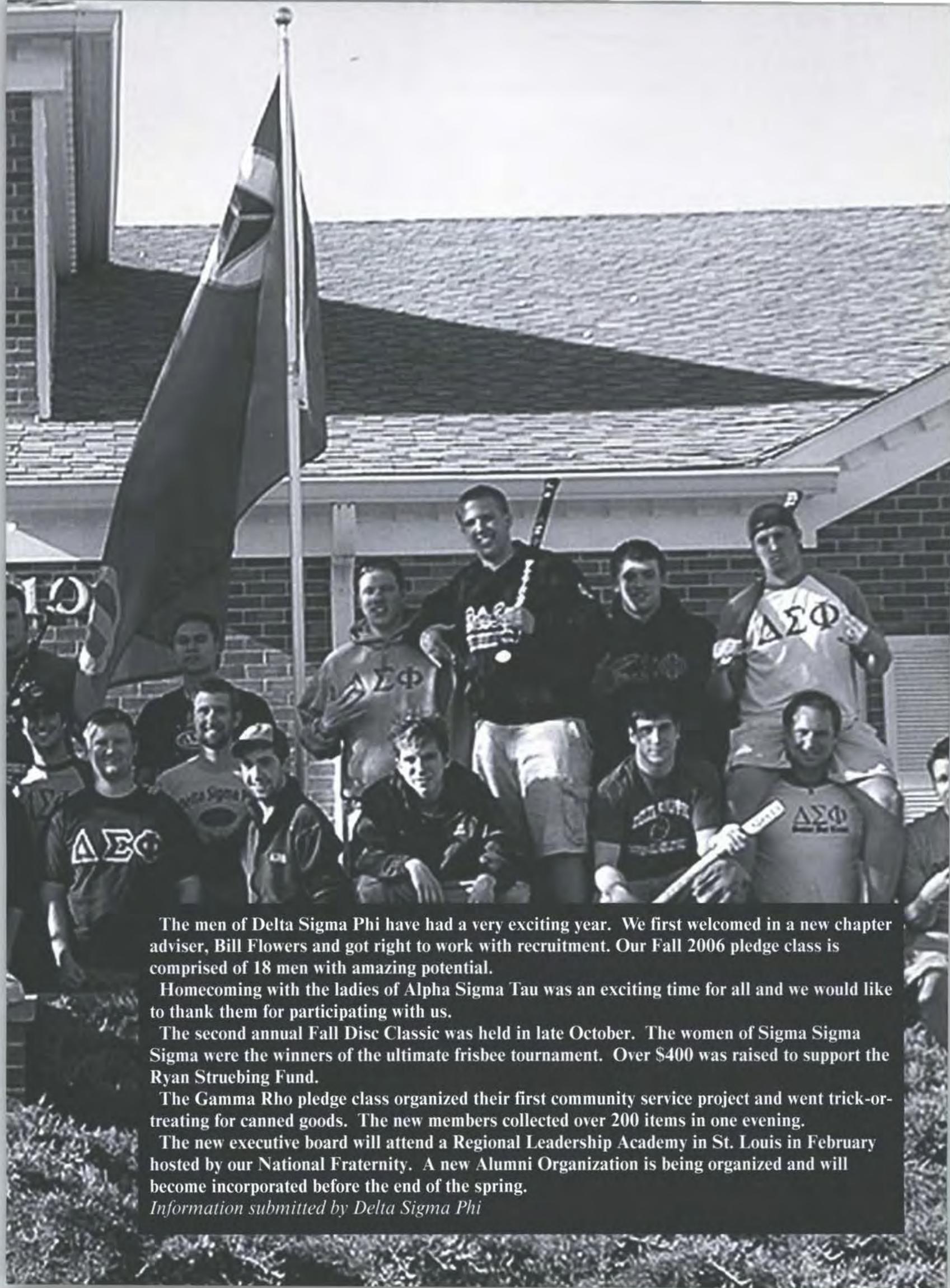


Pat Nelson, Matt Jones, Tom Wysoki, Andrew Jacobs, Joe Kassem, Pete Himplemann, Ben Delost, Chris Cachor, Corey Graibec, Jason Graibec, Chris Eitel, Darrel Penrod, Josh Twellman, Andrew Enhle, Ryan Georgas, Gwui Ho Kim, Jong Hun Sung, Kevin Schnoor, Allen Rotert, Hongsang Jeon

Greek Life | Delta Sigma Phi

Delta Sigma Phi





The men of Delta Sigma Phi have had a very exciting year. We first welcomed in a new chapter adviser, Bill Flowers and got right to work with recruitment. Our Fall 2006 pledge class is comprised of 18 men with amazing potential.

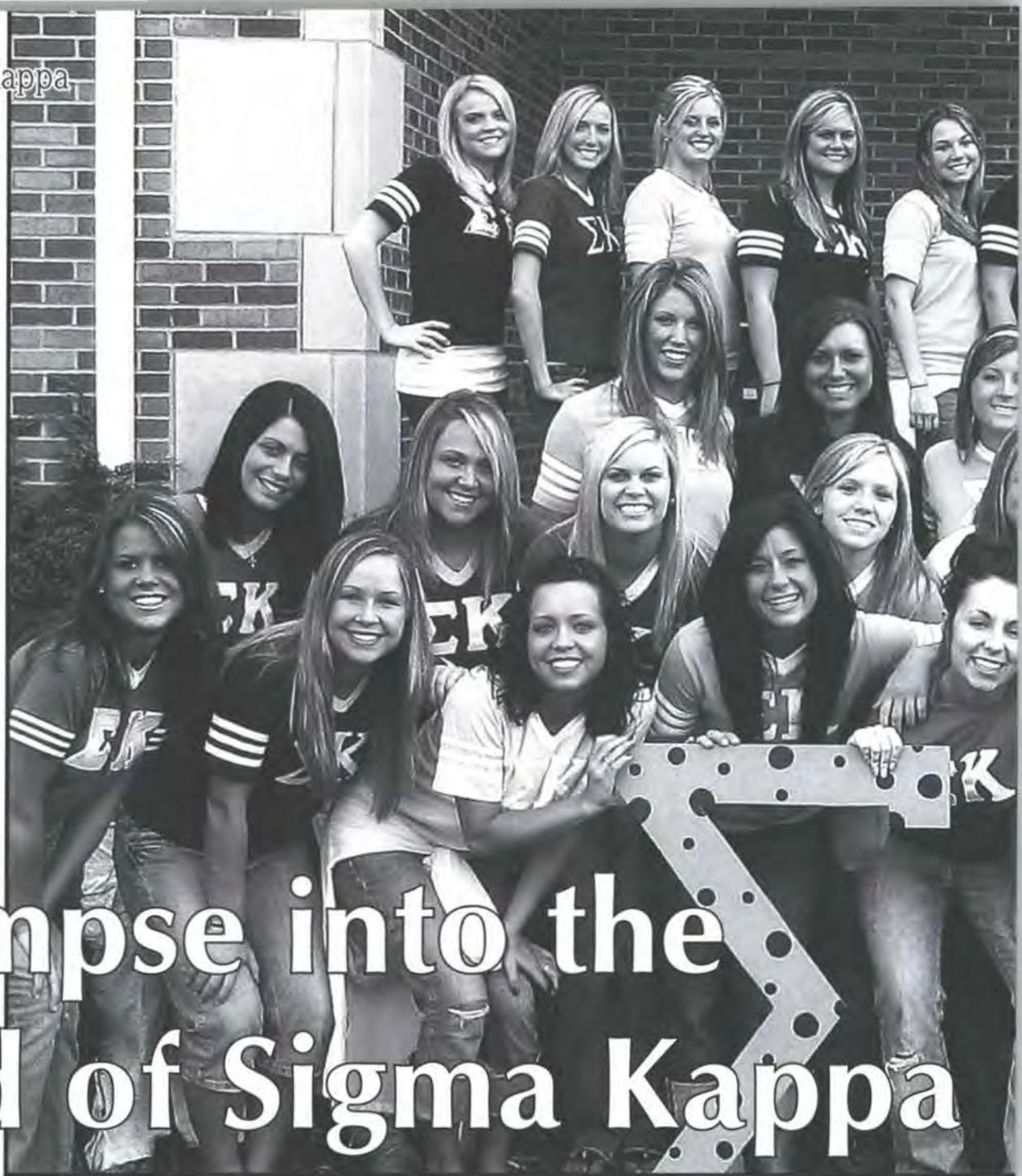
Homecoming with the ladies of Alpha Sigma Tau was an exciting time for all and we would like to thank them for participating with us.

The second annual Fall Disc Classic was held in late October. The women of Sigma Sigma Sigma were the winners of the ultimate frisbee tournament. Over \$400 was raised to support the Ryan Struebing Fund.

The Gamma Rho pledge class organized their first community service project and went trick-or-treating for canned goods. The new members collected over 200 items in one evening.

The new executive board will attend a Regional Leadership Academy in St. Louis in February hosted by our National Fraternity. A new Alumni Organization is being organized and will become incorporated before the end of the spring.

Information submitted by Delta Sigma Phi



A Glimpse into the World of Sigma Kappa

Motto: One Heart, One Way | **Founded:** November 9, 1874 at Colby College in Waterville, Maine | **Members:** Approximately 142,000 worldwide | **Symbol:** The Dove | **Main Philanthropies:** Gerontology, Alzheimer's Disease and the Maine Sea Coast

Sigma Kappa Foundation:

The Sigma Kappa Foundation has been an important part of Sigma Kappa for over 40 years. With its spirit, vision and direction, the Foundation plays a vital role in the continuing growth and success of Sigma Kappa.

The Sigma Kappa Foundation was established in 1962 to support the Sigma Kappa Sorority's philanthropic endeavors and to provide scholarships, educational activities, and materials for Sigma Kappa Sorority members.

Information provided by Sigma Kappa President Cara Snyder.



The purpose of Sigma Kappa is to provide women lifelong opportunities and support for social, intellectual, and spiritual development by bringing women together to positively impact our communities.

“When we are not hard at work reaching our challenging goal, we have recently completed our annual Sandblast philanthropy (volleyball tournament) to raise money for the Alzheimer’s association. We will also be working with Gowin Parc’s Alzheimer patients by becoming pen pals. We are really excited to find new and exciting ways to service our community and our philanthropies.”
- Cara Snyder Sigma Kappa President

Sigma Kappa Contributions:

RESP Σ KT is a movement. It is Sigma Kappa’s way of honoring one another and honoring the promise we have made to Sigma Kappa. Sigma Kappa chapters across the country are celebrating the benefits of sorority membership and condemning the idea of hazing with the RESP Σ KT program.

With daily activities, a complete facilitator’s guide, and promotional items, Sigma Kappa members honor the values and ideals we were founded upon: bettering ourselves while providing support to one another.



Sigma Nu at Eastern creates an atmosphere of men who not only want to work hard to build a strong chapter of leaders, but who also support each other's individual values by working together to share Sigma Nu's common vision of "Excelling With Honor."

Fall 2006 has been an exciting and productive semester for the chapter as we kicked off the year with our new Game Ball Run philanthropy which was a huge success. We teamed up with another Sigma Nu chapter at Indiana State University and collected donations and sponsors to run the ceremonial game ball over 50 miles from ISU to Eastern. When it was all said and done we raised nearly \$5,000 to benefit the patients of St. Jude Children's Hospital.

We are not interested in merely organizing a social club or an otherwise random group of students just to perpetuate the common stereotypes of greek life. Rather, we want men who can develop themselves as leaders by challenging the rest of their student community while simultaneously building lifelong friendships.

Sigma Nu takes a lot of pride in everything the chapter does, be it homecoming, greek week, philanthropy and especially brotherhood. The greek experience is a wonderful chance to build skills that will help you transition into many life situations after college.

The men of Sigma Nu practice year-round recruitment and are constantly looking for dedicated men willing to work hard for the values of love, truth, and honor.

Information submitted from Sigma Nu



Sigma Nu

Founded: May 3, 1986

Members: 52 men

Fall Philanthropy: Sigma Nu Summer Nights

Spring Philanthropy: Sigma Nu Kickball

Charity: St. Jude's Children Hospital

Information compiled from <http://www.eiu.edu/~sigmanu>.

Kappa Delta

STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH

Members of Alpha Sigma Alpha and Kappa Delta have a sisterhood gathering during a November night to watch "Greys Anatomy." PHOTO BY JOHN BAILEY



Driving around Greek Court on Eastern's campus, one may notice a similarity between the very diverse sororities. The connection is a white sheet hanging from the large, wooden signs in the front yard of the sorority houses. These signs usually display the letters of the different houses, but in November, they were covered with a sheet displaying every sorority's letters and a slogan for "Stand Up! Stand Out! (SUSO)," a program sponsored by Kappa Delta sorority and Panhellenic Council.

The motto for SUSO is "Why settle for fitting in when you were meant to stand out?" and encourages women on campuses across America to make a



difference. Women are also encouraged to stand up against negative stereotypes facing them today.

Eastern's Kappa Delta decided to expand this idea into an entire month, making November "Real Beauty Month" with ties to the other sororities on campus as well as PHC.

"This is an amazing thing we're doing," said Meghan Bell, junior elementary education major and vice president of standards of Kappa Delta. "It's very sad to see how girls' view of real beauty is so distorted. We have so much potential to do wonderful things at EIU thanks to the support we're getting."

Kappa Delta held a kick-off party in its chapter house for members of each sorority, influential women on campus and women from the Women's Resource Center. There, the program was explained and issues girls faced were addressed such as alcohol abuse, self-esteem problems, sexual stereotypes, hazing and everyday pressures.

In addition to the banners and kick-off party, Kappa Delta set up tables in the Martin Luther King Jr. Student Union filled with information on Real Beauty.

The week after students returned from Thanksgiving break, SUSO water bottles with all sorority letters were handed out to students in the rec center to remind everyone of their real beauty.

"When Stand Up! Stand Out! was created, we hoped that it would become a women's movement, a nationwide opportunity for college women to become empowered and stand up against negative peer pressure," said Melanie Schild, executive director of Kappa Delta National. "Now with 24 national sororities banding together with a combined collegiate membership of over a quarter of a million women, the campus culture can be changed."

In addition to SUSO programming in November, Kappa Delta has also established ties with Dove's Campaign for Real Beauty. The motto simply states, "Be yourself. Be beautiful."

"Working with Dove has been a really great experience," said Kappa Delta President Stephanie Habenicht. "It shows women of all ages and sizes that inner beauty is much more important than outside appearance alone."

PHOTO SUBMITTED





Delta Delta Delta

PHOTO BY ELYSE KETTER
STORY BY KAYLA CROW

As the year comes to an end, many of the founding members of Delta Delta Delta sorority are planning to leave the group they helped get started on campus.

Many members of the sorority are leaving with heavy hearts, hoping the girls who are following them will be able to continue what they started.

Since Tri-Delta was formed just three years ago, the founding members have helped form the sorority, increase its membership, begin participating in formal rush and Greek Week and establish a chapter house in Greek Court.

Jessica Cantarelli, a senior journalism major and founding member, said she is not worried about the chapter continuing after her class graduates.

"Already, as a senior, I have seen this chapter bring in so many new women to help lead and carry on our traditions," she said. "I have faith that the chapter is in good hands, even though it will be a very bittersweet goodbye."

Tri-Delta President Kelly Putlak, also a founding member, said she also believes the sorority is in good hands and knows that the younger members will work hard to make the sorority great.

"For the (remaining) members of the chapter, when the founding members graduate it will give them the opportunity to make the chapter their own," she said. "They will have seen the founding members work to build the chapter and now they will feel able to build it the way they want it."

Even though they are not worried about the future of Tri-Delta, both members said they know it will be difficult to leave the sorority behind.

"I expect leaving (the) chapter that I helped found will be a very surreal experience," Cantarelli said.

Putlak said she knows it will be very difficult for all of the founding members to leave behind something they were so involved with.

"Leaving will be very bittersweet for the founding members, because for the past three years they have built a chapter and now they do not have control over what happens to it," she said. "However, it will be so exciting to come back and see the wonderful work they have done."

At the end of the year, Tri-Delta will have a party for the sorority to say goodbye to the founding members and for those graduating to leave a little something behind, which is an event Putlak said the founding members hope will continue.

"Our chapter will have our senior send off where we will leave memorable objects behind," she said. "Hopefully these become tradition."





Bringing in the **BEST**

Alpha Sigma Alpha focuses on new members' values to build a strong house.



STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH

“We really concentrated on being able to answer questions that were asked of us,” said Colleen Karrigan, junior Alpha Sigma Alpha member. “We needed to be prepared for what any potential new member was going to ask.”

This year, for their successful fall recruitment 2006, ASA worked long and hard on their techniques. During each round of formal recruitment, they used a system called “bumping” so all of the potential new members going through recruitment could meet more than one

ASA member and really get a feel of the house and the

sisters involved.

“Not bumping in the past did not help us at all. Trying it this year really benefited us because the girls rushing did not just base their opinion of the house on one girl alone,” said Karrigan.

ASA also strongly emphasized a values-based recruitment this year. They looked at each girl individually how she was involved in high school, if she would be a good leader in the house, etc, and made decisions based on that.

Junior ASA member Tanya Thomas firmly believe



n value-based recruitment and thinks more houses should look to that in the future.

"We knew these girls were going to be the future of our house so we were really looking for the ones that would be great assets to our already growing membership. Granted, we try to do that every year, but this year we emphasized it so much. It really helped because we got really wonderful women," said Thomas.

ASA looked at the potential new members and at their own values to really get a feel of which girls belonged in their house. They also wanted to get a feel for which

girls wanted to be in their house as well.

"Alpha Sigma Alpha has really grown as a chapter. Last year we had a real problem with low membership, retention and interest. This year we made quota by getting 36 new members...it was the first time in a very long time that has happened!" said Karrigan excitedly.

Judging from Alpha Sigma Alpha's strong recruitment, Karrigan and Thomas are sure they have a bright future on Eastern's campus.

"We love ASA and we just love our new members," the girls said. "Our house is definitely getting strong."

Alpha Sigma Tau

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Sorority celebrates 25 years
at Eastern Illinois University

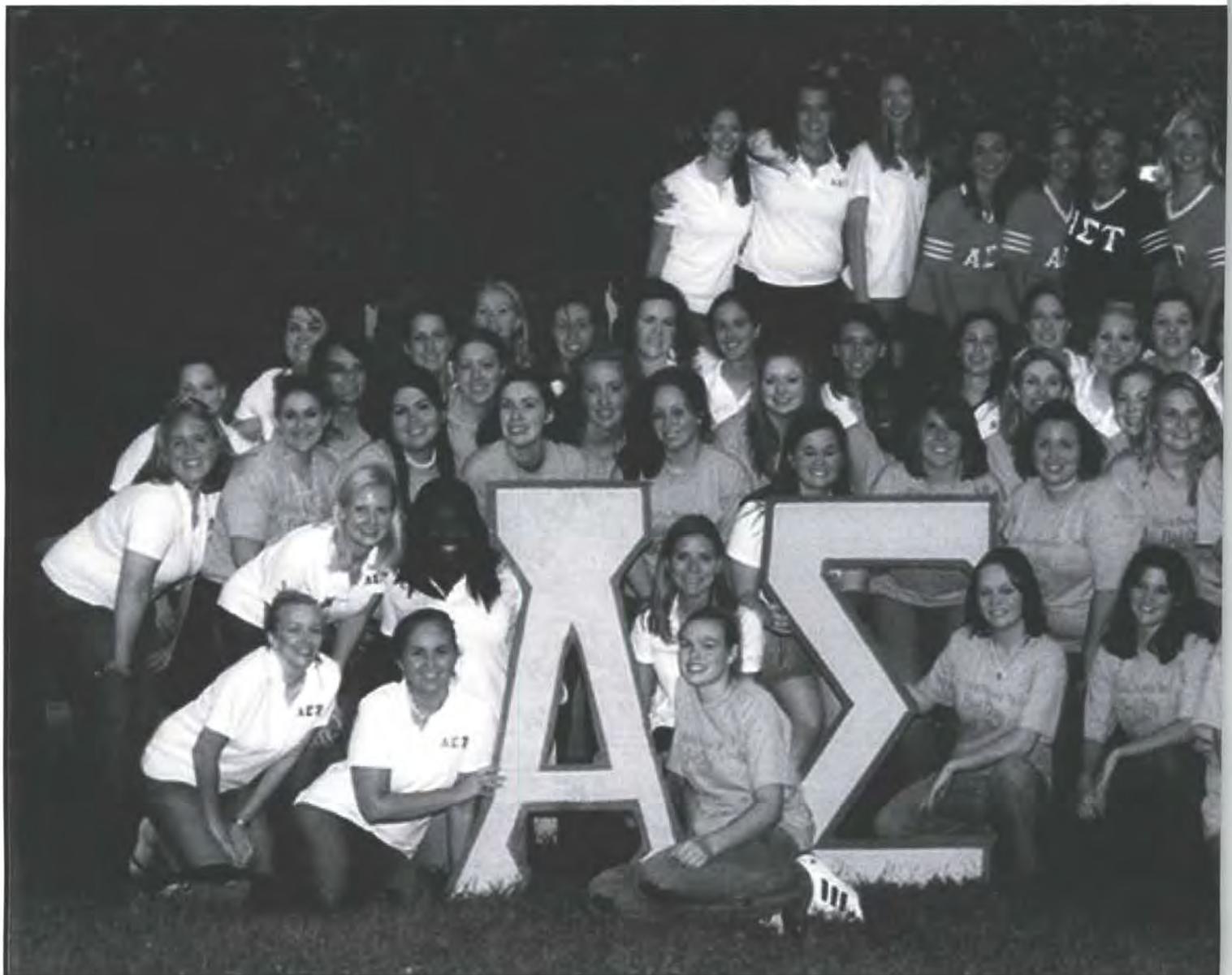


PHOTO SUBMITTED

Alpha Sigma Tau sorority celebrated 25 years on Eastern's campus with alumni and national members. "It was fun to talk to founding members about what they remember from college..." said AST President Lori Lienhop.

Their banquet, held in the University Ballroom, catered to their sorority members and about 70 guests, including alumnae.

This summer they will have even more to celebrate. AST is working with the university to redesign its chapter room.

They will be painting and hiring an interior designer to help them decorate, said Lienhop. The room will be ready for fall and recruitment.

This fall they welcomed 20 new members, and they have an additional 10 members who have just been given bids during spring recruitment.

"They are a group of girls who won't abandon you when you need them the most, more like a family," said new member Kirstin Brill of her sisters.

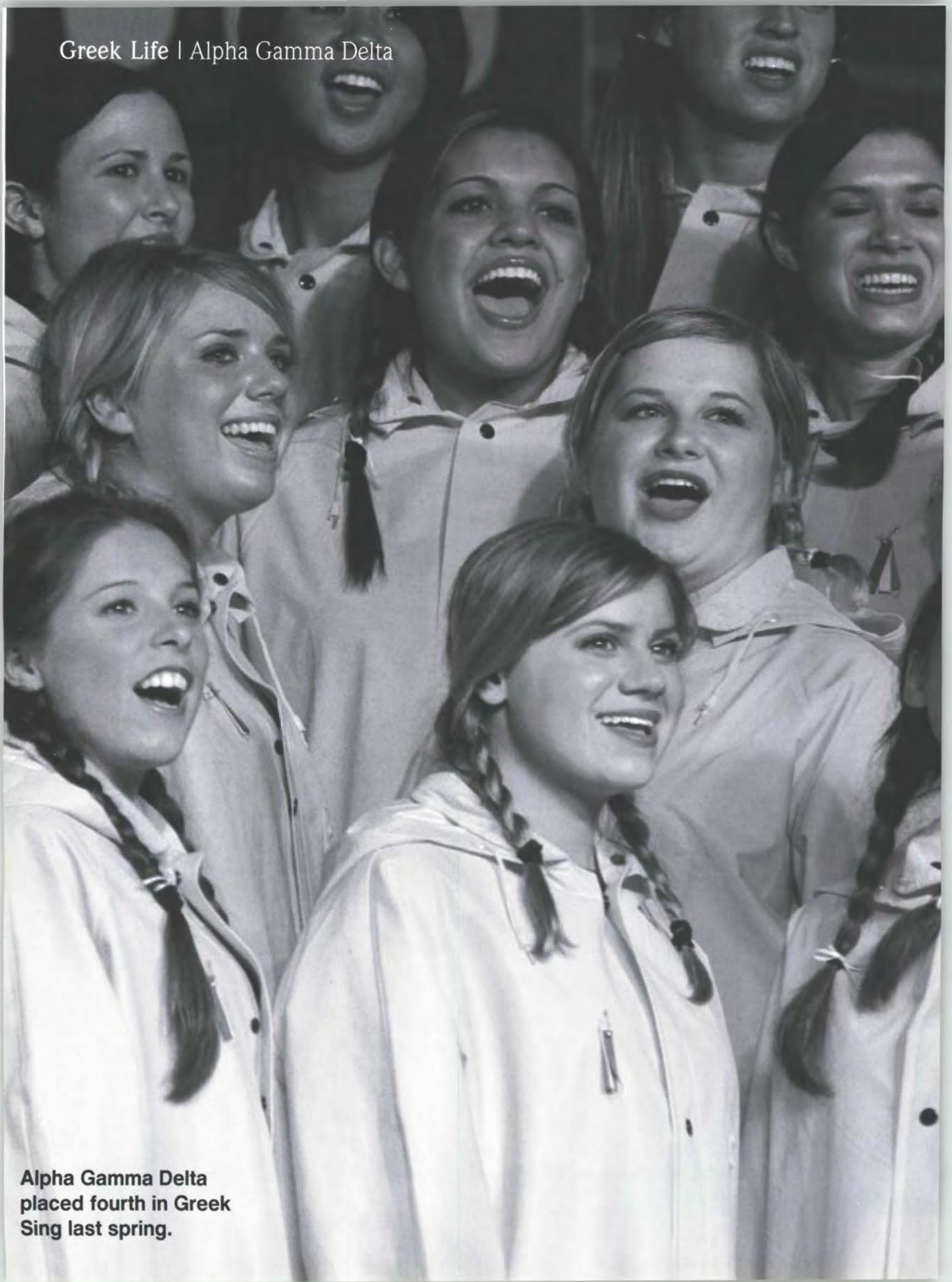
For the second year in a row they will be participating in Relay for Life, where they expect two thirds of their house to walk in, said Lienhop.

They will also be donating their time to Habitat for Humanity. A couple of years ago they helped build a house in Charleston, and this year they will help to begin building another.

STORY BY KRISTIN HITTNER



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Alpha Gamma Delta placed fourth in Greek Sing last spring.

Alpha Gamma Delta

"It was the place that
I fit in the best, the
girls were just like me!"

Victoria Potempa

Each year, many students make the decision to go Greek. This is accomplished through the variety of fraternities and sororities on Eastern's campus. Alpha Gamma Delta has been on campus since 1959. Victoria Potempa, a junior elementary education major, made the decision to join her freshman year.

"It was the place that I fit in the best, the girls were just like me," Potempa said.

The sorority regularly inducts approximately 40 new members each year. The sorority holds no formal recruitment in the spring; the recruitment is done every fall.

"I think we just want girls that will add to the sorority; we can see them here getting along with us," Potempa said.

Since 2004, Potempa has been an active part of the Alpha Gamma Delta philanthropy, the Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation. This foundation works toward research and educational programs for the American Diabetes Association.

Each fall, the organization has a teeter-totter-athon to raise money for the foundation. This year they were awarded the title of Jewel Chapter for raising over \$2,000 during this event.

"It was really great, we were glad that our efforts paid off," Potempa said.

During Greek Week, in mid-April, the organization has many things to look forward to. The Alpha Gamma Deltas regularly participate in air band and greek sing.

Air Band is a choreographed dance competition held between the sororities and fraternities. Greek Sing is a vocal competition for the respective groups.

Last year, the organization placed second in air band and fourth in greek sing.

"I'm glad we did well, but there's always a hope to get top ranking," Potempa said.

The sorority was first named Psi Omega when it was founded by Barbara Buck, Judith Langley and Gwen Gibson. After several location changes and decisions, the sorority was able to move to its current location in Greek Court.

The house in Greek Court has enough room for approximately 40 girls, Potempa said.

"The bad thing is that it is so far from campus, Potempa said.

STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH
PHOTO BY JOHN BAILEY



Pi Kappa Alpha

STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH

Pi Kappa Alpha men are always trying to think of new ideas to further develop their house.

“We were the first house to use the idea of a walking float in the homecoming parade,” said Pike member Jacob Kuester. “Instead of using the money to build a float, we donated the money to charity.”

During spring recruitment, Pikes are planning various activities and informational sessions to educate interested men. They are hosting poker games, having a college sports game night as well as video game tournaments.

The qualities they look for in new recruits?

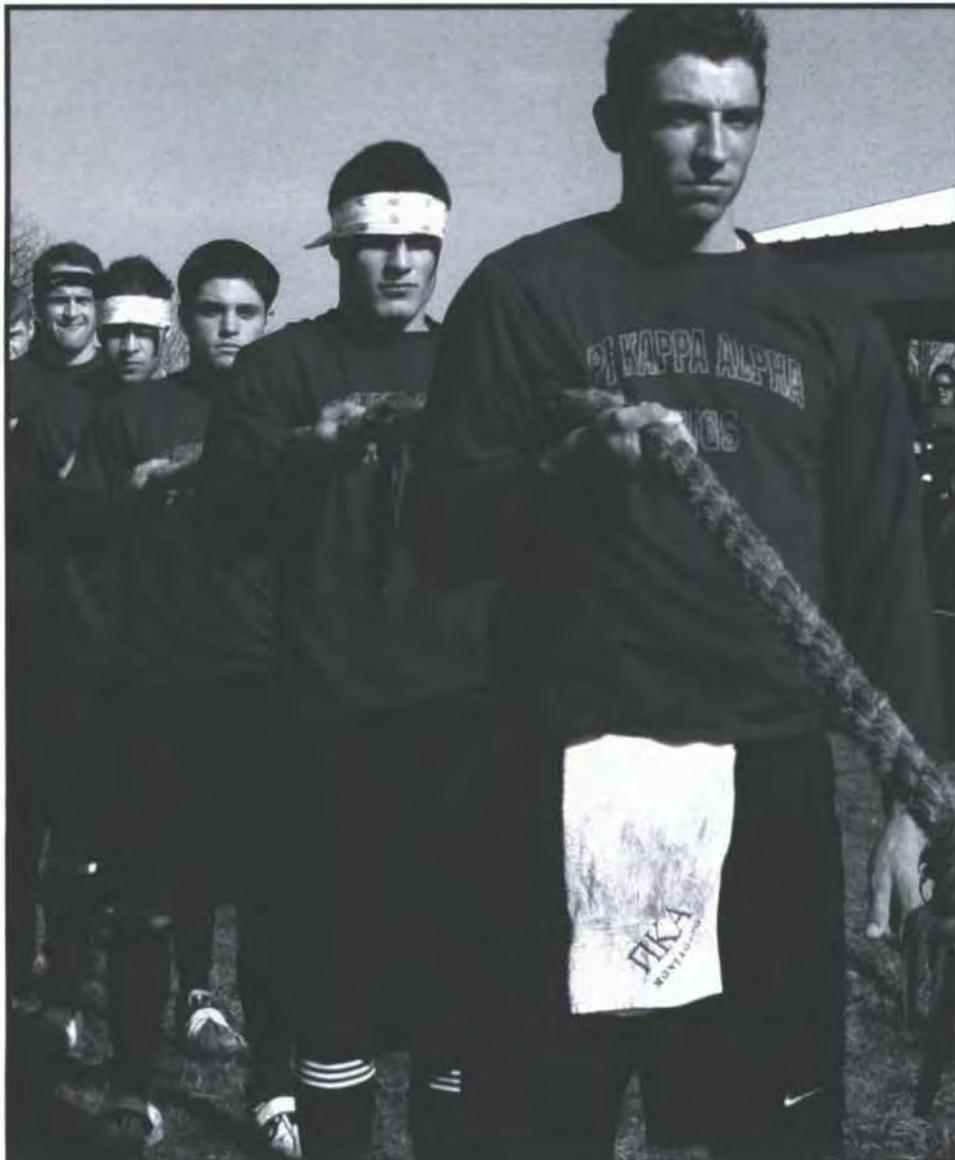
“We make sure that all of our possible pledges are gentlemen, scholars and athletes,” said Kuester. “It is important to find new recruits that are willing to work after they become initiated.

The annual Pike Powder Puff Football Tournament usually takes place in the fall – this year there were six teams with all proceeds being donated to the Big Brother/Big Sister charity. In March the Pikes are hosting a concert for their spring philanthropy featuring Chicago band Stellar Road. All proceeds from the concert are going toward a scholarship in honor of brother Mark Apa, who recently passed away.

They also recently opened up their chapter room to local children for the Big Brother/Big Sister program by treating kids to pizza and a movie.



PHOTOS BY JOHN BAILEY



The Pike men stand focused, awaiting the gun shot to begin the tugs competition during Greek Week.

Sigma $\Sigma\Phi\epsilon$ Epsilon



PHOTO SUBMITTED

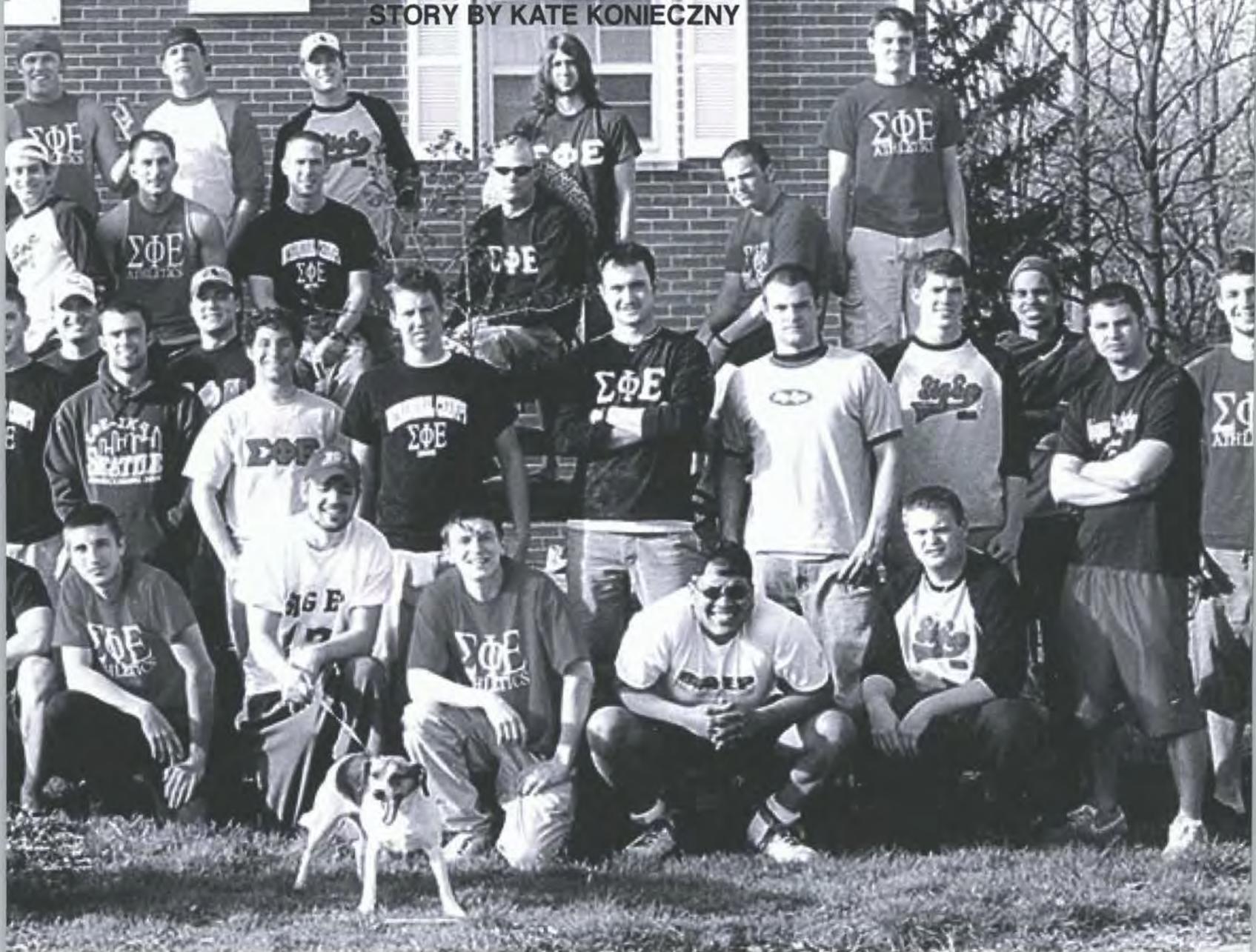
There are 260 chapters of Sigma Phi Epsilon throughout the United States, and this year Eastern's chapter welcomed 32 new members. Sig Ep was founded at Richmond College on Nov. 1, 1901 and since then has grown to the largest fraternity in the United States in terms of undergrad enrollment.

Patrick Ryan, IFC delegate for Sig Ep and senior history major, said their fraternity looks for candidates who promote "virtue, diligence and brotherly love."

For homecoming, Sig Ep paired up with Kappa Delta gaining 14 points in the different TV land themed events. As of January, Sig Ep was in first place in points in intramural sports, last year taking a close second to Sigma Pi. Sig Ep is also hoping to come first in grades again this semester, carrying on their winning streak of 13 consecutive semesters.

Ryan said he has noticed Sig Ep evolve this year as a chapter, "more guys are stepping up and really becoming stronger leaders." This has pushed them to attempt to win Greek Week overall in the spring and complete the most community service hours for the second year in a row.

STORY BY KATE KONIECZNY





Sigma Sigma Sigma

A year of celebrations

“This year we are celebrating our 65th year on Eastern’s Campus,” said Sigma Sigma Sigma President Amie Adams. “This makes us the first and oldest sorority here!”

Tri-Sigma has a lot to be happy about: They boast five-star awards and first places in both Greek Week and Homecoming. With their 65th anniversary and their Founder’s Day coming up during this year’s Greek Week, they will be inviting many alumni to celebrate along with the chapter.

“One thing that I think our chapter prides itself on is the fact that we were the first sorority and are still going strong. We have a very stable organization and sisterhood and one big reason is that we support each other,” said Adams. “We all have different cliques within the house but when we all are together, we come together as a whole. It never fails to walk into a room full of girls to a chorus of ‘Heys!’”





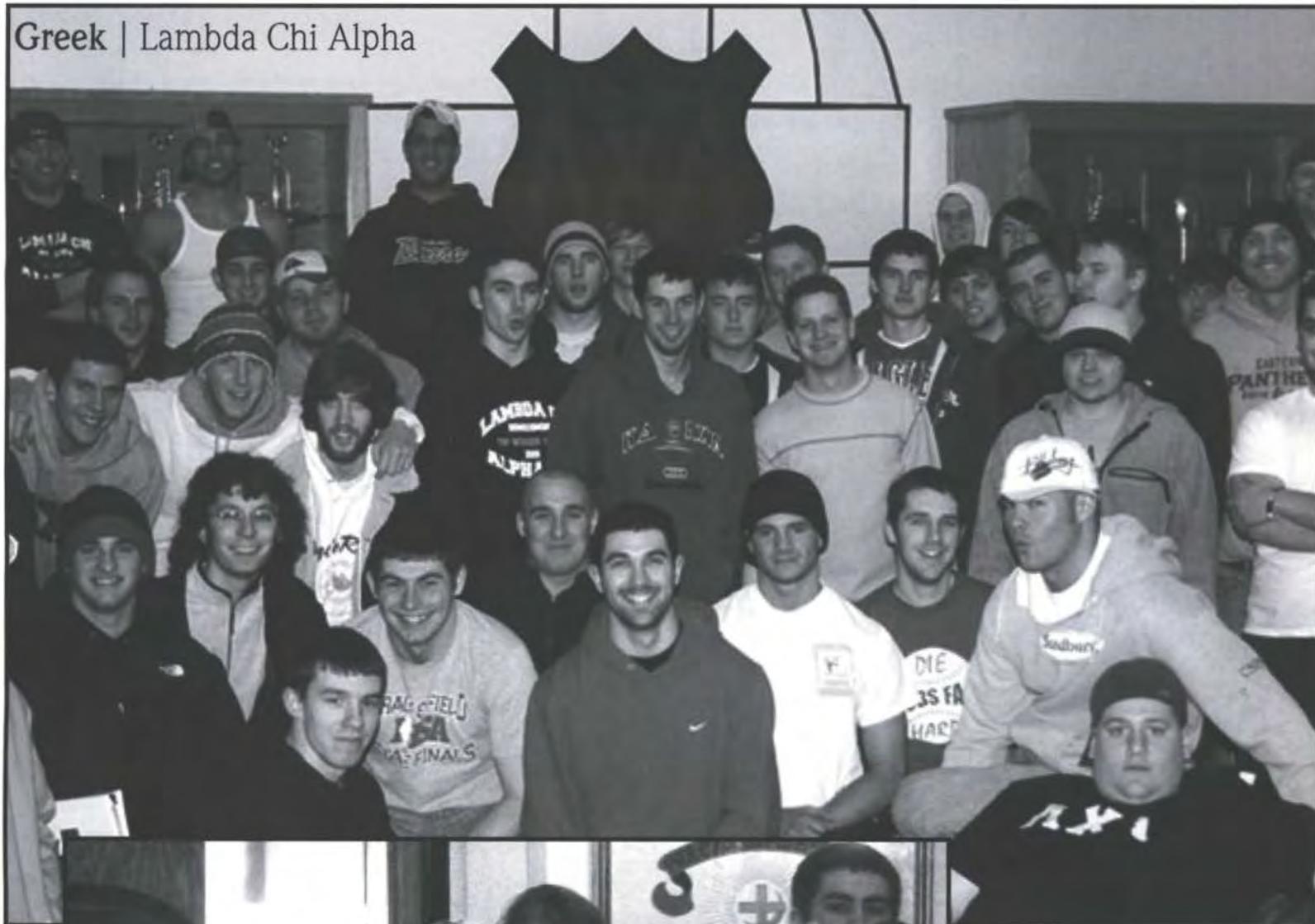
The Tri-Sigma philanthropy is the Sigma Sigma Sigma Foundation, geared toward play-therapy for terminally ill children. Each year, Eastern's chapter donates block sets and craft projects to local hospitals as well as raising money with various fun events.

The events, popular with Greek houses on campus, are Sigma Slam 'n' Jam, a 3-on-3 springtime basketball tournament, and Sigma Dodgeball in the fall. An event they hold for the community is Longaberger Bingo, which is one of the biggest and most popular fundraisers for the Tri-Sigas.

The Sigma ladies stay busy throughout the year to raise money and awareness for their foundation and philanthropy causes – last year, their chapter donated more than \$7,000 to the cause.

**STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH
PHOTO SUBMITTED**





The fall 2007
men of Lamda
Chi Alpha



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Playing off their strengths

STORY BY KRISTIN HITTNER
PHOTOS BY KATE KONIECZNY

Last spring the brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha brought home the gold after winning first place overall in Greek Week. They placed in all the events and won both little and big men tug titles.

What new member Ryan Roth likes about his fraternity is that they don't focus on one strength. They are strong across the board, which is what made Lambda Chi the house he chose to join, said Roth.

Roth was one of 28 new members that joined the house after fall recruitment. This year the new members took part in Adopt-a-Highway, said Vice President Richard Schumacher.

During the fall they won the football and placed second in volleyball intramurals that the Student Recreation Center holds.

Recently they began taking part in Adopt-a-Student where they go to local schools and read to students, said Roth. They will also participate in Relay for Life and hold a blood drive this spring.

Lambda Chi also values getting involved outside of the house. One of their members, Richard Higginbotham, was awarded "Senator of the year" for his work with the student government. Another member was elected as speaker of the house for student government.

ΔΤΔ



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Putting their heads together:

The Delts prepare for a great year

STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH



Sitting proudly in front of the Delta Tau Delta house is a rush sign made by art major Kyle Kuzmich

He and his Delt brothers are busy advertising and preparing for their spring rush. Their first event is a get-together with possible recruits that boasts chicken wings and some good guy-conversation.

“We’re looking for good guys that can represent us in a positive way,” said Kuzmich. “They should be easy to talk to, nice guys...easygoing. And they have to treat girls with respect.”

Kuzmich rushed Delt last year, making his final choice because of their reputation on campus.

“We are known as the nice guys around here...plus we hold a lot of leadership positions,” he said.

As far as philanthropies go, the Delts are a bit disorganized as of late. They recently picked new chairs for projects and upcoming events and are just brainstorming.

“We aren’t really doing a lot of things yet, but the new chairs are thinking up a lot of things. With their ideas, we’re going to have a lot going on,” said Kuzmich.

"We try to develop boys into men by showing support toward every aspect of their lives," said Sigma Chi President Shane Davis.

During the spring semester, the Sigma Chi men are extremely busy – not only are they renovating their chapter room with house corporation funds (they recently got a pool table, big screen TV as well as new kitchen materials), but they are also busy organizing the first Sigma Chi Alumni Picnic, which they hope will become an annual event.

"Typically, when people under the title of alumni, they tend to think that they aren't part of the house anymore," said Davis. "In reality, the bond with them needs to become stronger. We stress to all Alumni that they are the core of our chapter's success and we want to thank them by throwing the Alumni Picnic in late April."

Another goal the men of Sigma Chi are working toward is the development of skills within their brotherhood. By showing constant support toward every brother, Davis is confident they are not only bettering the fraternity, but also the community by sending out men who are ready to face the real world.

In addition to their projects and close-knit brotherhood, Sigma Chi has several other accomplishments to be proud of: in 2005, they raised over \$3,000 for the Children's Miracle Network, they have been in the top three in intramural sports for the past 20 years and have previously boasted highest new member GPA as well as largest fall pledge classes.

PHOTO SUBMITTED
STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH

Working
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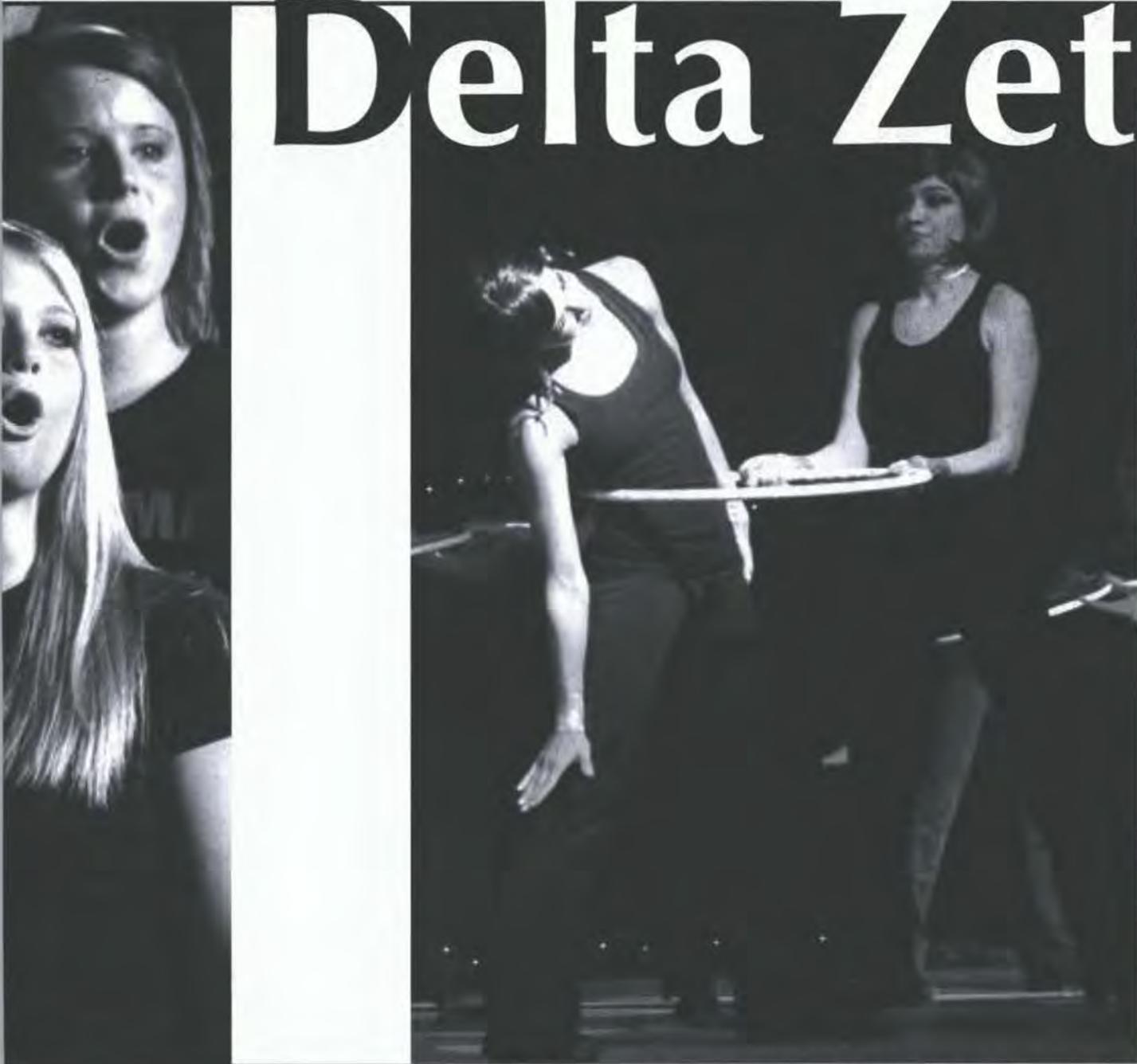
STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH

“Our house is really diverse, filled with every kind of girl,” said Jenna Games, a senior member of Delta Zeta Sorority. “We are dedicated to helping people and always try to be positive role models.”

Delta Zeta women are some of the busiest Greek ladies on campus – annually, they work on their bowling philanthropy, named Turtle Bowl after their mascot, which raises money for their speech and hearing philanthropy and Gallaudet University.

“It’s a really popular philanthropy project for the sororities and fraternities on campus, we always have a really great turnout!” said Games. Incidentally, Turtle Bowl shirts can indeed be seen on many Greek leaders throughout campus.

Delta Zeta



**Left: Delta Zeta sings a medly of songs from the musical "Mamma Mia."
Right: Delta Zeta incorporates props such as hoola hoops into their routine for Air Band.**

In addition to their speech and hearing philanthropy, the women of Delta Zeta raise money for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital by means of various fundraisers as well as volunteering in after school programs at Jefferson Elementary School right here in Charleston.

"We're always very busy," said Games. "Right now we're finishing up the organization for Turtle Bowl and getting really excited for Greek Week!"

Delta Zeta has always had success in Greek Week and they really incorporate it with their love of philanthropies...in addition to various Greek Week event wins, their chapter won the first place philanthropy trophy for raising over \$5,300 for St. Jude.



"Our
brotherhood
makes us
stand out from
the other
houses on
campus!"

--Mike Sheets,
junior

Sigma Pi shows off their skills with a kick line at the Airband competition during Greek Week in Spring 2006.

Sigma Pi

Building Brotherhood

STORY BY HOLLIE SMITH
PHOTOS BY JOHN BAILEY



Sigma Pi's big men tugs team participates in the tug of rope competition held annually during Greek Week.

"Our brotherhood makes us stand out from the other houses on campus," said Mike Sheets, a junior member of Sigma Pi fraternity. "There is nothing that even compares to it."

Sigma Pi rushed men in the fall and are currently rushing men for the spring semester. To do so, they are hosting informational meetings in men's residence halls that feature food, conversation, and Guitar Hero tournaments.

"A Sigma Pi guy is a lot of things...we look for a good GPA, someone good in sports...but mainly, we look for sincere gentlemen," said Sheets.

Sigma Pi fraternity won the intramural championship in 2006 – and also won the same honor six times before. They also pride themselves in grades and have been recognized widely in the Greek community for their outstanding GPA.

Spring semester for the Sigma Pi men has been busy;

they hosted Sigma Pi Syllabus, a week-long function for sororities that featured dress-up days, enforced relations between houses and strengthened their brotherhood. Next on their agenda is upcoming Greek Week, where the men will try to defend their reputation as masters of the float competition.

In addition to this, the men do cleanup on their adopted stretch of highway for the Adopt-A-Highway program.

They are also dedicated in getting the word out about women's defense as they sponsored Erin Weed, EIU alumna and founder of the Girls Fight Back program, to come inform sorority women about self-defense.

"We have been busy, but we're working on a lot... we have some really great things to look forward to!" said Sheets optimistically.

Sports

"I would play softball cause my sisters played and they were really good and I always wished I was too!"

-Jen Auchincloss, junior journalism major, on what sports she would like to play.



"Well, I root for my friends on the girls' soccer team if that counts!"

-Kevin Ryan, freshman undecided major, on what EIU sports he supports.



"Volleyball because it requires the most teamwork and communication!"

--Amy Urbanowski, senior communications disorders major, about her favorite sport.



"Volleyball—love it, but I'm not good"

--Monica Will, senior elementary education major, on the sport she'd like to play.



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SPORTS

Back to School

STORY BY BRANDON NETIUK

Eastern named Rich Moser the new sports information director effective June 15, 2006.

Moser, 34, comes from Gonzaga where he was the assistant sports information director for seven years. He replaces David Kidwell, who retired after 34 years, and will direct media relations for Eastern's 22 sport intercollegiate program.

Moser, journalism professor, was hired after a search committee headed by James Tidwell narrowed the initial applicants from approximately 40 down to 10. The 10 remaining applicants then went through full interview process where the committee narrowed those 10 down to three.

Tidwell said Moser's experience with big time media coverage at Gonzaga, along with his strong background in technology was what the committee really liked about Moser.

"One area we really wanted to focus on was technology," Tidwell said.

Moser gained experience working with ESPN, CBS and the NCAA tournament as the Gonzaga men's basketball team has been in the national spotlight for the duration of Moser's time there.

The move to become the sports information director brings Moser closer to family that he has in western

Kentucky as well as fulfills a career goal of running media relations for a Division I program.

"It should be a great opportunity," Moser said. Athletic Director Rich McDuffie is happy with the hiring of Moser and is looking forward to the potential changes that Moser may bring.

Moser has already started making plans on how to upgrade the Eastern athletics Web site.

"He seems to be up-to-date with new technology with the Internet," McDuffie said. "He is very experienced."

Aside from Gonzaga, Moser was the sports information director at Millsaps College for one and a half years. Also, when he was a graduate assistant at Delta State, Moser was the media relations director for the NCAA Division II South Regional in softball.

Moser has worked with a couple of minor league baseball teams, the Port City Roosters and the Spokane Indians, as well as produced a nightly sports talk radio show for the Baltimore Orioles.

Moser was the media relations director for the 1995 Grey Cup champion Baltimore Stallions of the Canadian Football League, and is a member of the College Sports Information Directors of America and National Collegiate Baseball Writers of America.



Kidwell makes a name for EIU athletics

STORY BY BRANDON NETIUK

David Kidwell retired last week after 34 years of working at Eastern. Kidwell, 58, was an Eastern graduate in 1970, and was hired as the sports information director in 1972. He held that position until 1997 when he was promoted to assistant athletic director for sports information and marketing.

During his tenure, Kidwell was in charge of numerous things regarding the media for all 22 Eastern sports. Included in those responsibilities are putting out press releases, media guides and updating the Eastern sports Web site.

"The challenge we face is trying to get our athletes the attention they deserve," Kidwell said.

Ben Turner, assistant sports information director, was hired by Kidwell three years ago and considers him a mentor.

"He brought me in here, I really owe him a lot," Turner said. Turner said that it has been a real joy to work with Kidwell and that the amount of knowledge Kidwell has about Eastern athletics is unparalleled.

Kidwell has made an impression on people off this campus as well. Kim Melcher, Ohio Valley Conference assistant commissioner for media relations, has worked with Kidwell for nine years on different daily reporting activities for Eastern and the OVC.

"We will miss working with him

on a day-to-day basis," Melcher said. "He was an outstanding professional."

Director of Athletics Rich McDuffie talked about how Kidwell has a great sense of humor and was never worried about the number of hours he was spending at work, but instead was only worried about getting the job done.

"He's just been a great asset to this university," McDuffie said. Kidwell has helped publicize numerous athletic accomplishments

"The challenge we face is trying to get our athletes the attention they deserve."

--David Kidwell

during his time here.

Among the team accomplishments was a division II national championship for football in 1978, women's basketball hosting a first round game of the NCAA tournament in 1988 and the 2001 men's basketball team being featured in Sports Illustrated

and also making the cover of USA Today.

Approximately 25 Eastern athletes have gone onto the NBA, NFL or Major League Baseball during Kidwell's time here, most recently Tony Romo. Kidwell helped publicize Romo's accomplishments in 2002 when the Panthers' quarterback won the Walter Payton Award before landing with the Dallas Cowboys.

Kidwell will still be at Eastern quite a bit as he will be working on special projects for athletics on a part-time basis. Some of those special projects include working with the Eastern Hall of Fame and IHSA Track.

The main focus for Kidwell will be on the EI Club for former Panther athletes. He hopes to get those athletes more involved with the university as he thinks Eastern has not done enough with former athletes in the past.

Kidwell has given a lot to Eastern and has no regrets from his time here. He still plans on coming in just about every day for the special projects, only this time "maybe leave a little earlier."

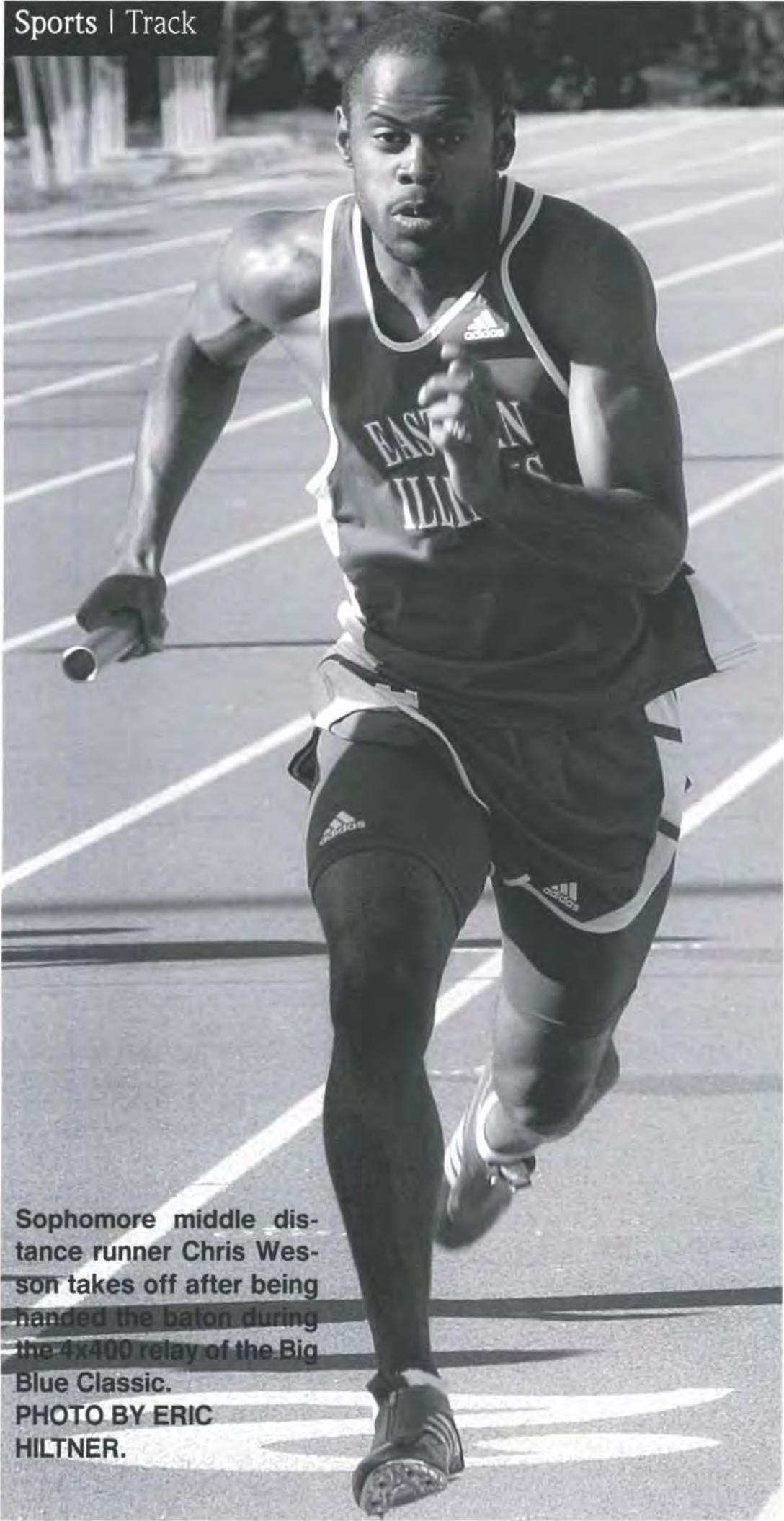
Regardless of whether he leaves at 11 a.m. or 7 p.m., Kidwell will enjoy coming to work here as he has for the past 34 years.

"It's been a great place to work with a lot of great people," Kidwell said.



Leaps

The EIU men's outdoor track team, led by senior Austin Hogue, finished second at the Ohio Valley Conference championship. Hogue, who was previously named the OVC Male Outdoor Track and Field "Athlete of the Week" for the second time in the 2006 season, won both the discus and the javelin throws for the Panthers, adding to their 205 points. Distance runner Dan Strackeljahn was named to the Academic All-District V team by a national vote of the College Sports Information Directors of America. He also earned the OVC's Scholar-Athlete Award for 2005-2006. Another highlight of the men's track season came from Chris Wesson, who was the only Panther to place at the Indiana State Pacesetter Invite, winning the 800m run in 1:51.19.



Sophomore middle distance runner Chris Wesson takes off after being handed the baton during the 4x400 relay of the Big Blue Classic.

PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER.

And Bounds



Junior Nicolene Galas vaults over the pole during the Big Blue Classic. PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER.

Eastern's women's track team, with standout performances from Denise Jones and Angie Simone, finished third out of 10 teams in the spring Ohio Valley Conference outdoor championship. Simone won the 10,000 run and Jones placed first in the high jump, which made her a qualifier for the NCAA regional. Other season highlights included Kim Archer's "Athlete of the Week" honor for the OVC, which she received twice throughout the season. Jones also won the high jump at the Indiana Pacesetter Invitational with a jump of 5-8 $\frac{3}{4}$.

Information provided by the EIU Sports Information Center

Rounding the bases

The Eastern Illinois Panthers baseball team made a comeback in spring 2006, taking home 30 wins and a third-place finish in the Ohio Valley Conference.

The wins can be contributed to the Panthers good offense, the league's top defense and one of the league's best pitching staff.

Mark Chagnon, junior outfielder, earned the reputation of the toughest player to strikeout in the OVC . After collecting 22 of his team-high 43 RBI, and becoming the player to strike out the fewest amount of times, Changnon was named Rawlings Second Team All-Mideast Region by the American Baseball Coaches Association.

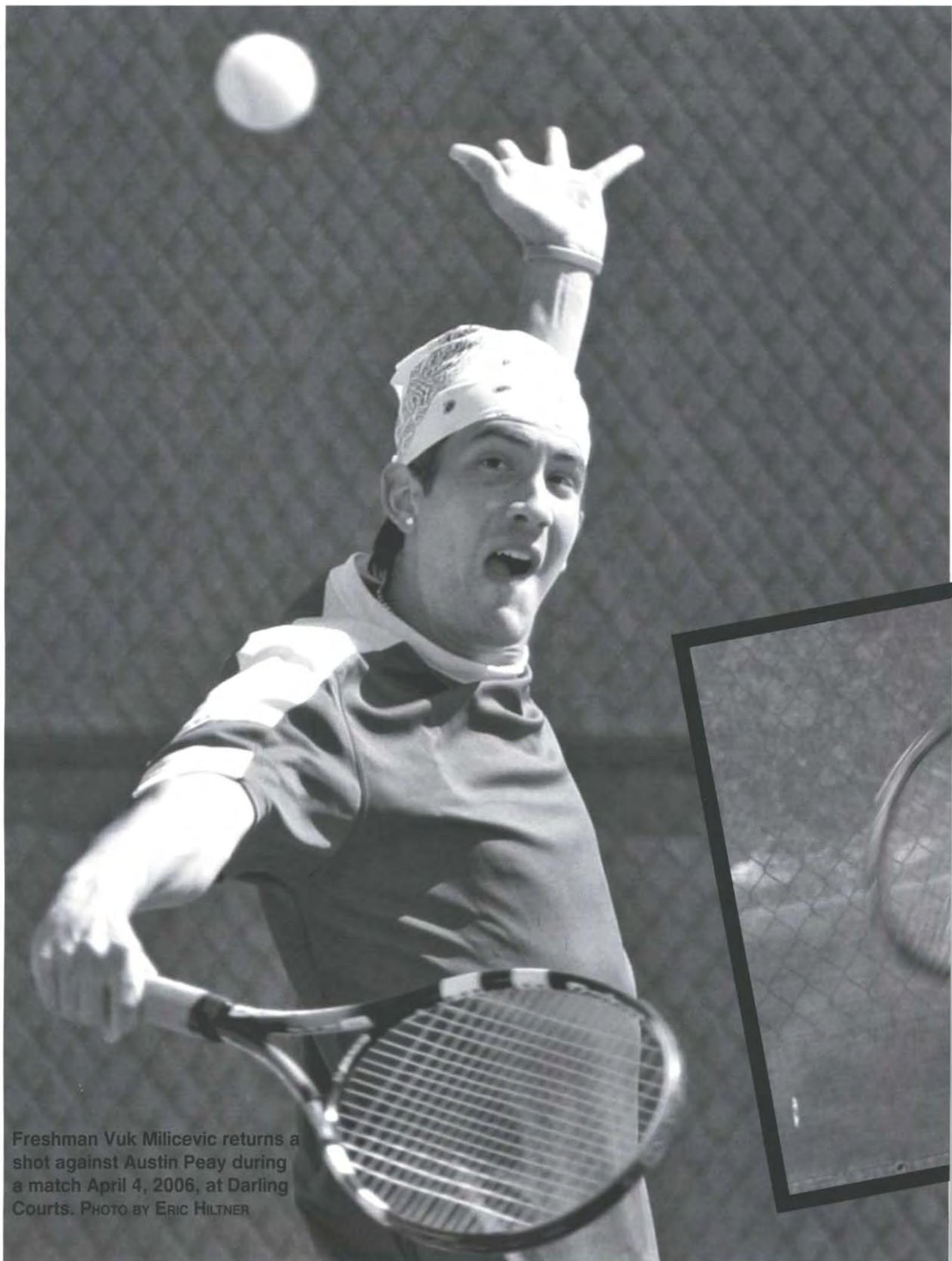
In addition, three rising seniors Erik Huber, Ryan Campbell and Chris Vaculik, were named to their respective summer league's All-Star Teams, headlining the successful summers for a number of Panthers at the midpoint of the annual wood-bat leagues.

Information provided by the EIU Sports Information Center



Junior center fielder Casey Spears is congratulated by senior designated hitter Keiji Salzo after being the first Panther to cross homeplate during the game.
PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER.





Freshman Vuk Milicevic returns a shot against Austin Peay during a match April 4, 2006, at Darling Courts. PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

Two more for the court

Eastern tennis welcomed two standout athletes to both the men's and women's teams in the spring. The men's team signed Jeff Rutherford from Richmond, Ken., to an athletic scholarship and the women's team signed Hayley Homburg from Monona, Wis., to a scholarship. Both players will begin their careers with the Panthers in 2007. Chuck Levaque, for the third year in a row, was named Second Team All-Ohio Valley Conference as Eastern's No. 1 singles player. He finished the season 13-6 overall and 6-3 in the OVC.



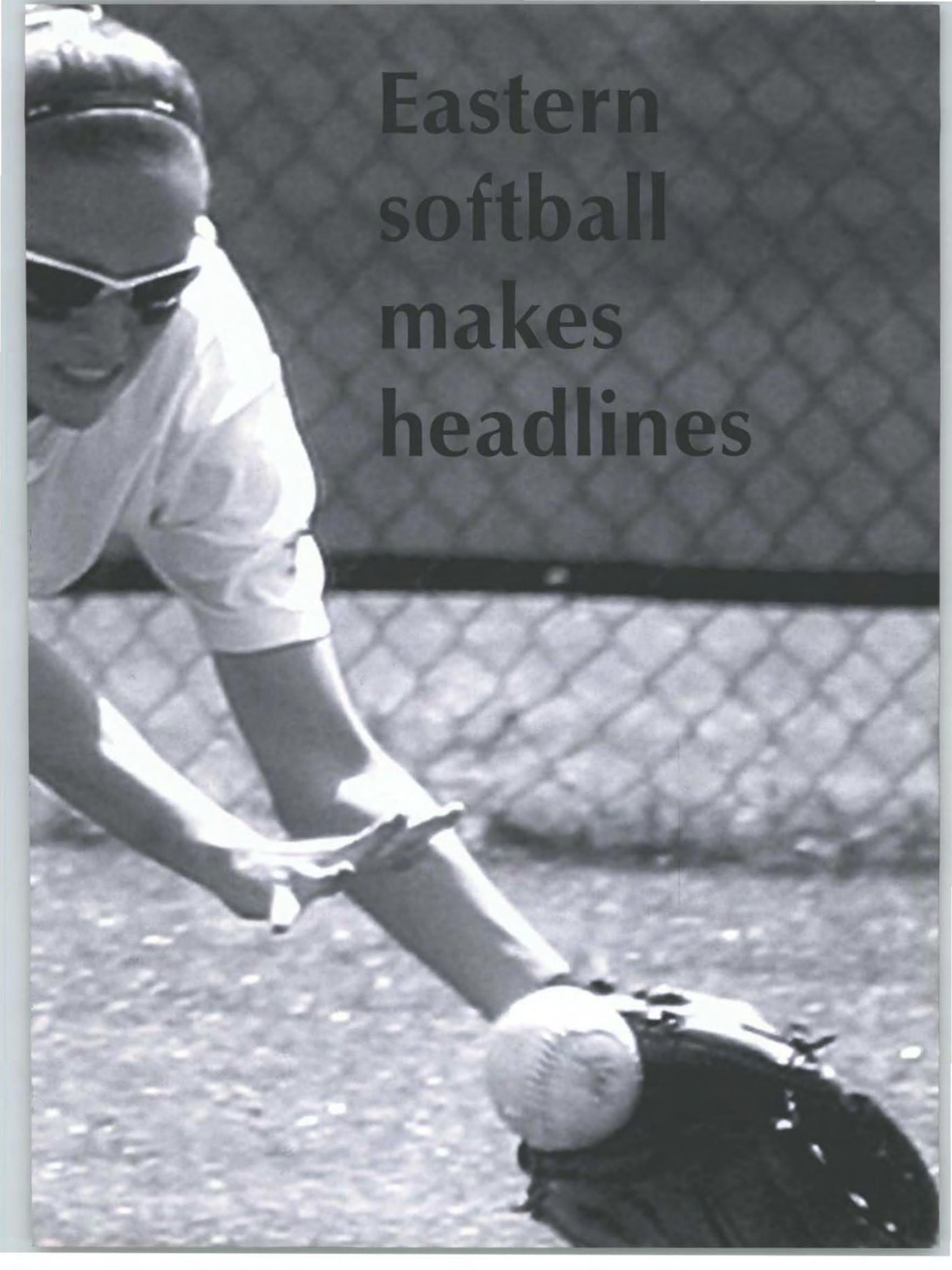
Sophomore No. 3 singles player, Stephanie Harmazy, reaches for a volley during a March 25, 2006, match against Tennessee Tech University at Darling Courts. PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

Eastern softball had its best regular-season finish since 2000 with a late season winning streak. The third-place regular-season finish and Ohio Valley Conference appearance highlighted the 2006 school year. Under first-year coach Kim Schutte, the Panthers won nine games in a row during spring break, all against OVC rivals. Standout player Katy Steele was also recognized with ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District V honors. Junior college transfer Allyson Nolte and two freshmen, Lauren Brackett and Kelly Coleman, all joined the softball team and will begin play in 2007.

Information provided by the EIU Sports Information Center

Freshman left fielder Angela Danca makes a diving catch during a doubleheader against Tennessee Tech at Williams Field.
PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER.





**Eastern
softball
makes
headlines**

Good Sports on and off The Field

STORY BY JOSHUA VAN DYKE

The sun beats down on the young men as they do laps around the field. When they finally stop and start stretching—their training for the day has only just begun—they are covered in sweat and breathing heavily. One rugby player is actually dry-heaving at the sidelines, which is actually normal for their intense workouts.

They are the Hornets, Eastern Illinois University's Rugby Club, and are named as such because they are not officially supported by Eastern.

"That doesn't take away from what we do," says John Lydon, the team's vice president. In fact he says there isn't any movement to get re-sanctioned at all. He and the other players didn't enter rugby for money or for fame anyway, which is good because playing rugby in America doesn't bring much of either.

Instead they play for the game itself. Rugby players must always keep moving and greatness requires mental ability as much as physical power, making the sport a thrill to play even without tangible rewards. The fun of the game itself is partnered with a culture that conflicts with the misconception of rugby players as violent hotheads.

When asked about a memorable experience, he talks about a victory that almost wasn't a win. Illinois State University was leading 22-5 when Hornet fullback Ryan Wiegand got to the goal with literally no time left.

The fun of the game itself is partnered with a culture that conflicts with the misconception of rugby players as violent hotheads. After games it is standard for the Hornets to take the opposing team to a small party, treating them to meal and even a place to stay for a while. But while this culture of hospitality between teams is a great draw for many, there is definitely a sense of competition as well.

"What motivates me is knowing that the other teams in our conference are feeling the same way, but are out there practicing anyway," he says, adding that conflict on the field usually stays on the field.

Like the others on his team Mikaitis isn't overly concerned with being sanctioned, though support from the fans is appreciated and newcomers are welcome.

Anyone who wants to see what the team is about is encouraged to check out their practice sessions, which will be held on Tuesday through Thursday from 4-6 pm.

A schedule for their games can be found at the Hornets' website, <http://www.eiu.edu/~eiurugby/>.

RIGHT: Sophomore wing Samantha Mant runs for a try during the 77-0 against Indiana University.



The women's rugby team plowed over opponents all season long, and ended the year with a 9-1 record. They broke scoring records constantly and won most games by at least 50 points, some by as many as 100 points.

Senese swims his last laps



Sophomore Kevin Boyle competes in the 200-yard freestyle event in Lantz Natatorium.

STORY BY BOB ROUBIK

In the ninth grade Michael Jordan was cut from the basketball team. Arguably the best basketball player ever, was cut from his ninth grade team. Senior swimmer here at Eastern Illinois University, Bill Senese, was cut from Hickory Willow, a club swim team based out of Palos Hills, Ill., in the first grade, but ended up making the team in second grade and then swam for Hickory Willow until his freshman year, when he began his swimming career for Amos Alonzo Stagg High School.

Bill Senese is no Michael Jordan, but he is definitely one of the best swimmers in EIU's history.

"Right now he's probably our top swimmer. He's been tremendous for us over the last three years, setting records in his specialties. He's a real natural talent," EIU men's swim coach, Ray Padovan, said.

This is Senese's senior year at EIU. He has set records in his last three swim seasons.

In his freshman year, Senese set the record for 100-yard backstroke, 200-yard back and was a member of two record breaking relay teams. In his sophomore year, he set the record again for 100 yd back; 200 yd back, broke the 50-yard freestyle record and also broke the 100 yd freestyle record. As a junior, he again set the record for 100-yard back, 50-yard free.

"There's no question that he's a person that things revolve around. He's our best freestyle swimmer and a very good relayer.

He's a very flexible swimmer, he can go from 50-200 yards. He's definitely one of the team's strong points," Padovan said.

This year is his final year and his goals are to break even more records.

"I'm hoping to break all my current records and a few more including some relay records that I think this year's team has a good shot at," Senese said.

Swimming is a team effort and with his efforts he hopes he can help the team win a few more meets this year.

"He leads by demonstration. If you're someone at the top, you lead by example," Padovan said.

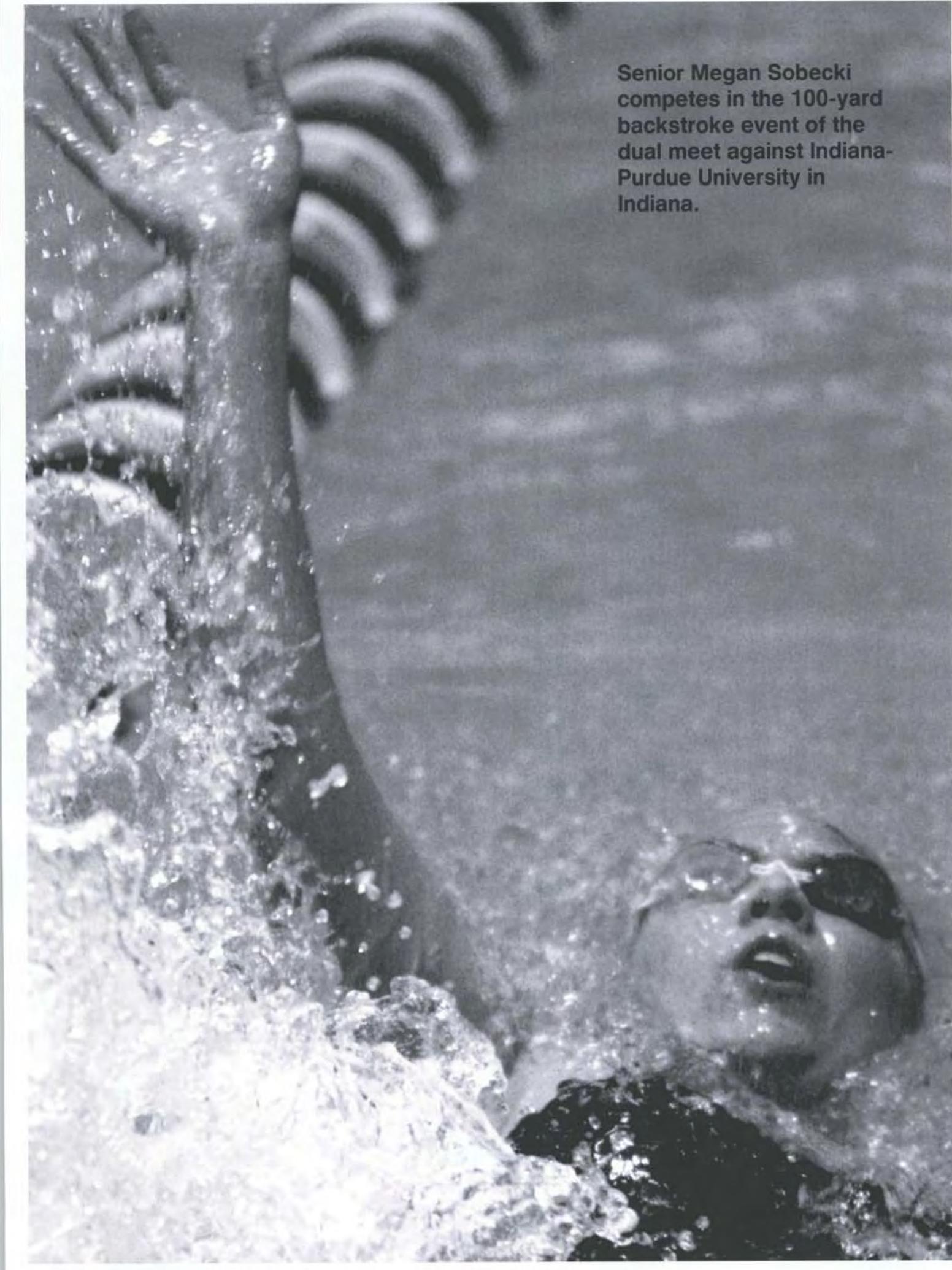
Throughout high school Senese became better and better, but here at EIU he has had his best performances.

"I'm going to miss swimming very much. It's been a part of my life for 15 years," Senese said.

Even though this will be his last year as a swimmer Senese wants to continue to be involved with swimming. He was an assistant coach over the summer for the same team that cut him, Hickory Willow. The team ended up taking ninth in state out of every club team in Illinois.

"I want to be a swim coach, doesn't matter what level," Senese said.

This year Senese hopes the team can improve from last year. The team had a losing record last year, but this year he feels it has a good chance of ending the season with a winning record and a much improved finish at conference.



Senior Megan Sobecki competes in the 100-yard backstroke event of the dual meet against Indiana-Purdue University in Indiana.

PHOTOS BY ERIC HILTNER

Soccer players inspire future student athletes

STORY BY KRISTAN CUNNINGHAM

Once in awhile students at Charleston Middle School are treated to something special. The students are thrilled with their guests, almost as if celebrities are coming to town.

Through the Extend-a-Paw program, Eastern's athletes take time away from classes and practices to visit with students in Charleston schools. Cindy Tozer, the director of Academic Services for Athletics, and defensive back football coach Noah Joseph started this program three years ago.

"Our goal was to create a partnership between EIU and the Charleston School District," Tozer said.

The partnership is positive for everyone involved. The students in Charleston schools learn about leadership and time management, and the athletes become better citizens while building their self esteem.

Tozer has seen freshmen who have been scared to give speeches, but after talking in front of kids they get over their fear and ask to go to the schools again.

On this special day, seven women from Eastern's women's soccer team visited seventh and eight graders at Charleston Middle School. Rachel Hamilton, Cassie Shear, AJ Brewer, Samantha Kohen, Kellie Floyd, Meghan Ryon and Jenny Williams arrive at the school. They are wearing matching blue jackets that proudly displayed the team they are part of.

They walked down the hallways filled with colorful artwork and admired the pictures as much as the students who made them admire them.

One boy walked by the women and held his hand up for high-fives. They arrived at the office and met up with principal, Sandy Wilson. She knows how important their visit is to the students.

"It provides a connection for our students with Eastern Illinois University as many of their families have a connection, but others do not. The athletes provide an opportunity for our students to hear from students that have set goals and achieved accomplishments through their goals," Wilson said.

She escorted the women to the classrooms and the group split up. Kellie Floyd, junior forward, and Cassie Shear, freshman defense, visit Patti Murphy's class. The time was 2:50 p.m. and some of the students were itching to go home for the day. Others give the women their full attention.

Floyd and Shear began by telling the students about their busy schedules. Their days are filled with multiple practices and early morning classes. Even with their grueling schedules they stress how important it is to keep their grades up.

"You guys are getting to the age where grades matter," Shear said.

The women tell the students how different college is from junior high and high school. Shear explained how they have to let their teachers know in advance before they miss class for a game. Floyd adds that teachers do not remind her about turning in homework, she just has to do it.

Even though the women juggle school with soccer they both have a true love for being part of

a team.

"Having a team helps a lot with fitting in at school," Shear said.

"We're like a family," Floyd said. "It's like a home away from home."

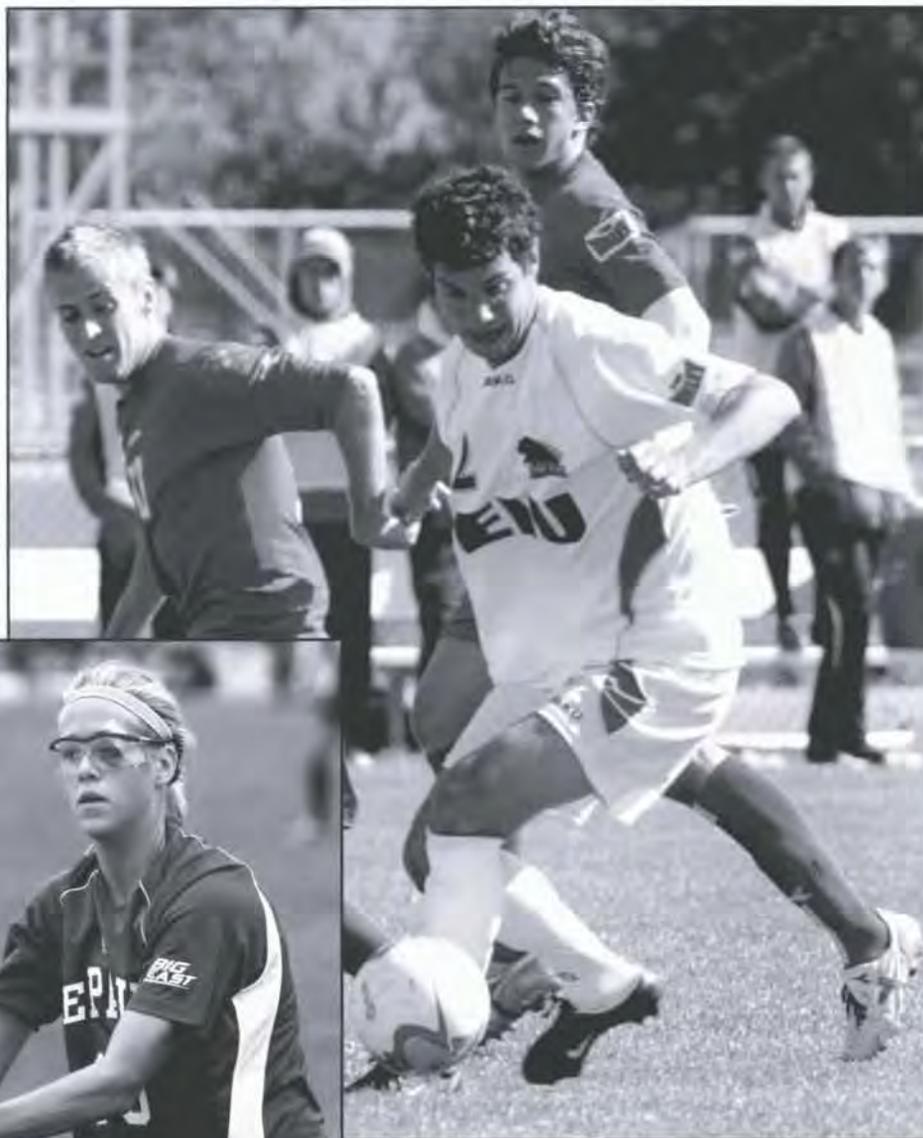
Mrs. Murphy asked her class if anyone had thought about playing collegiate sports. The students suddenly became silent and confused looks appear on their faces.

One brave boy asked, "What's collegiate mean?" After a brief explanation from their teacher the conversation between the students and the athletes quickly started back up.

Mrs. Murphy then asked the women to talk about how important good behavior is. Shear explained no matter where they go they are always representing their school.



Defender Phil Clemmer moves the ball up the field.



Freshman defender AJ Brewer kicks the ball away from Depaul's senior midfielder Kelly DeBaene.

"We are the face for Eastern when we travel," she said..

When their time was up in the classroom, Shear and Floyd caught up with two of their teammates who were visiting Kim Sherwood's class. Samantha Kohen, freshman forward, and AJ Brewer, freshman defense, were busy talking to more students about life as an athlete. The women discussed sacrifices and

staying focused.

"When the time comes, you'll be ready for that next step in your life," Kohen said.

The women made sure not to skip over the topic of how important good grades are. Brewer said they depend on each other to make good grades and stay eligible.

"I hold Sam accountable for her grades. I want her on the field with me," Brewer said.

The students listened intently and were not afraid to ask questions. One boy asked if you have to go to school if you want to play on a team. The women burst his bubble by telling him they have to be full-time students to play on a team.

"You don't like school?" the women asked.

"No, it's boring, you just sit here for eight hours!" the boy said.

The women made sure

to end their time with the students by reinforcing how important school is and also staying focused.

"If you work hard enough and focus, everything is possible."

With those last messages of encouragement, the women leave the building hoping to have made an impression on the students.

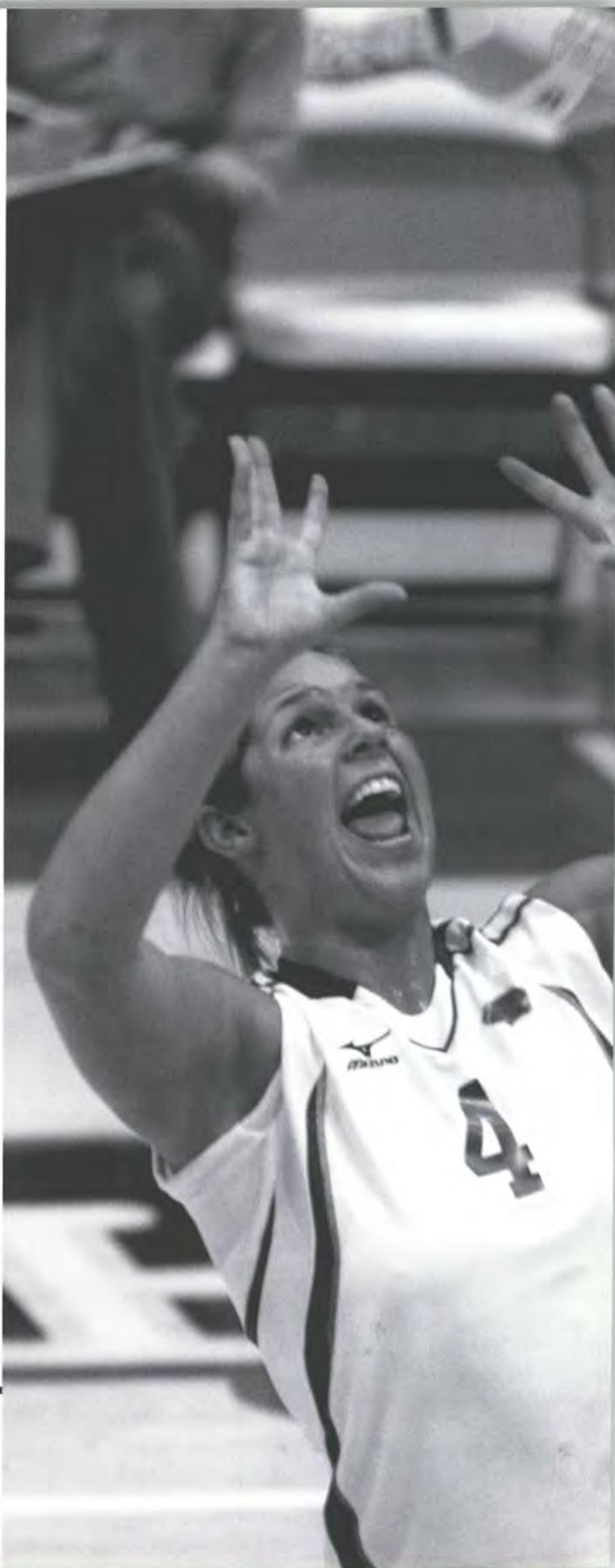
Panthers end with a hit

Eastern volleyball went out on a high note for the 2006 season. In their last game of the year, the Panthers came from behind, in a five-game (21-30, 21-30, 31-29, 30-18, 15-7) victory over Samford with double-doubles from Eliza Zwettler and Maren Crabtree.

Crabtree also reached the 1,000 mark for kills during her junior year. She became the 21st in Eastern history to accomplish the feat, in addition to already being third among EIU's all-time assist leaders.

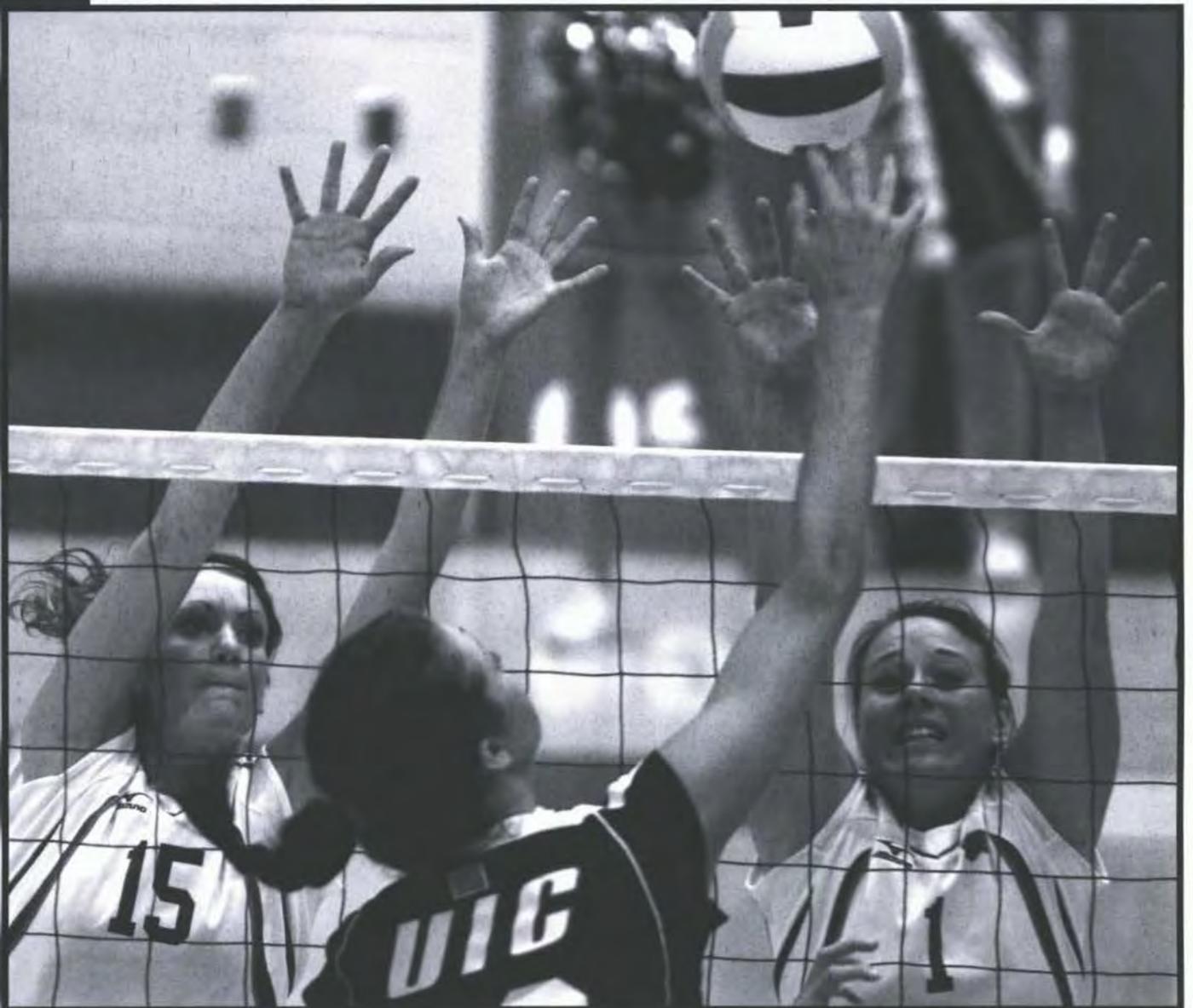
Earlier in the season Eliza Zwettler earned Ohio Valley Conference Offensive Player of the Week honors after she made 20 kills in Eastern's sweep against Austin Peay and 22 kills in their loss to Tennessee State all within 24 hours.

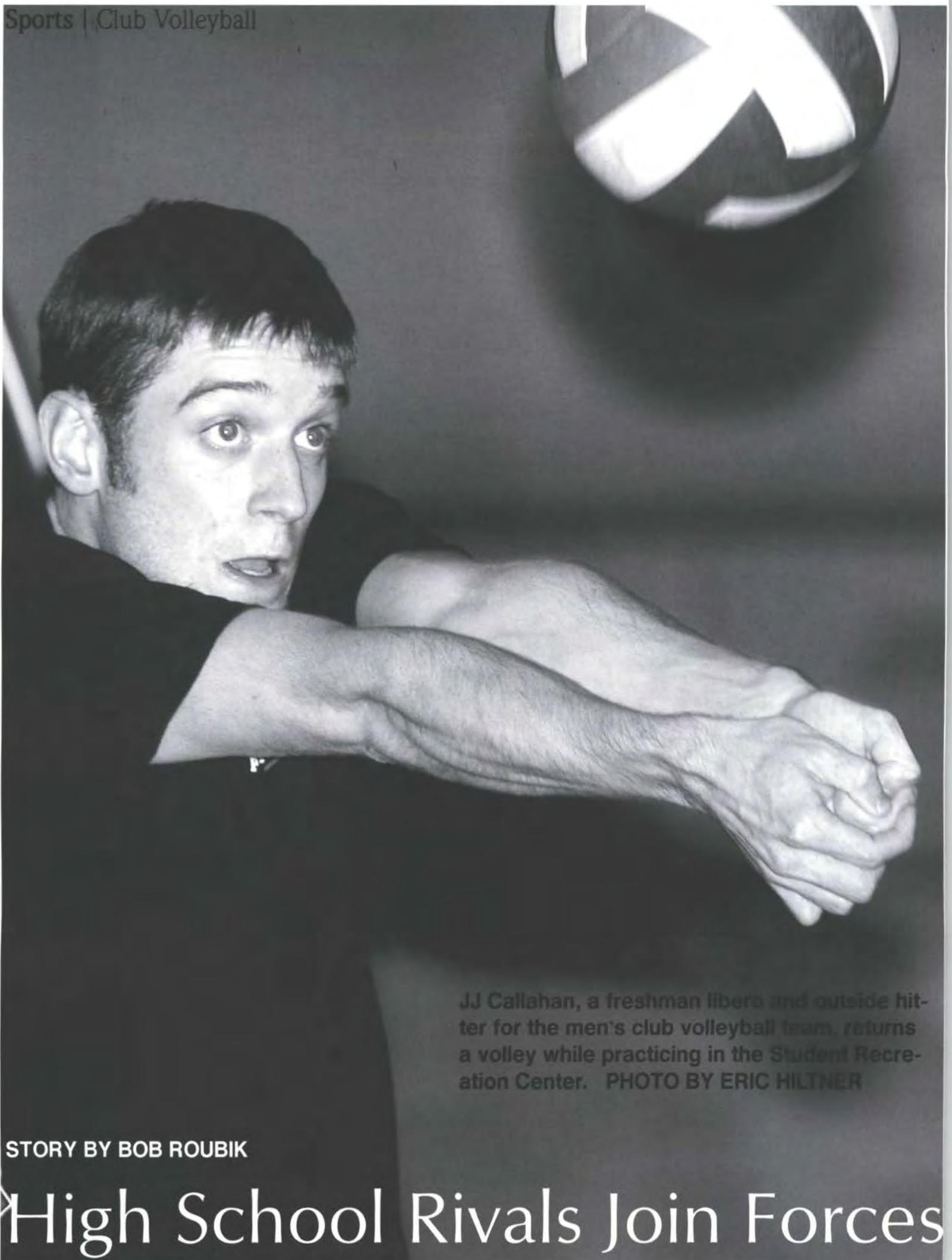
For the 2007 season, Eastern has signed two new recruits. Erin Hake from Marion, Iowa and Kelsey Orr from Forest, Ind. Hake is a four-year varsity letter winner and two time All-Conference honoree. Orr was also a four-year varsity letter winner and set records in her high school for kills, digs and blocks.



Left: Junior setter Maren Crabtree puts the ball up during a match against the University of Illinois-Chicago in Lantz Arena.

Bottom: Junior middle hitter Kera Griffin (left) and junior outside hitter Eliza Zwetler go up for a block against a University of Illinois-Chicago attack Sept. 19, in Lantz Arena. PHOTOS BY ERIC HILTNER





JJ Callahan, a freshman libero and outside hitter for the men's club volleyball team, returns a volley while practicing in the Student Recreation Center. PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

STORY BY BOB ROUBIK

High School Rivals Join Forces

Seeing athletes compete against rival opponents has to be one of the most exciting things a sports fan can witness. There is just something about these matchups that brings out a side of athletes that we love to see, a side where they will do anything to win and play their hearts out. But what do the athletes do when they are put side by side to compete with their rivals? Some excel and some cannot cooperate. At Eastern Illinois University we have a similar situation: Former rivals are now teammates.

On the men's club volleyball team at EIU the captain and outside hitter, Chris Schulte, was a high school rival of other team members, Joe Wuchter, the setter, and Ryan Halleran, the middle hitter. Schulte will be a fourth-year player this season.

Schulte played for Sandburg High School; Wuchter and Halleran for Stagg High School.

Both schools were part of the IHSA and were South Inter-Athletic Association Conference (SICA) opponents. Throughout their years in high school they had some intense matches.

"The Stagg-Sandburg games were always the biggest matches of the year. Everyone played their hearts out because both teams wanted to beat their rivals," Halleran said.

"Whenever you play a team in the same conference it's always a big match. We lost my senior year to them. Playing against familiar faces is a big deal and we become pretty competitive," Schulte said.

Currently, Wuchter is thrilled to still play with Halleran because he has played volleyball with him since the sixth grade. But he also notices that he and Schulte seem to have good chemistry.

This will be Wuchter's second year as a starter for the team and he is psyched. Their chemistry shows. Last year they were ranked eighth in the nation for IAA at one point for men's club volleyball.

"I didn't think I would be playing with Joe after I graduated high school, but this is awesome," Halleran said.

Halleran ended up joining the team last year because Schulte would always say how much fun it was, and that he should join. Even though their high schools were rivals, Halleran and Schulte played club volleyball together in high school as well.

"They're great players. It's a wonderful opportunity to be playing with guys I played against in high school," Schulte said.

Last year the team played tournaments at Michigan State, University of Indiana, University of Iowa, University of Kentucky where they took second, and they played in Nationals at Salt Lake City. They also played a tourney at Bradley where they took first.

It is not guaranteed that there will be a team every year, however. Each year they must raise their own money and everyone has to pay his own share. Last year Panther Paw donated some money, and they also received money from some family friends. Also, before they could go to Nationals they hosted a tournament in Lantz and the Rec in order to raise money for Nationals.

They ended up winning the tournament.

Anyone who thinks he is good at volleyball can make the team-if he is good enough that is. This is a walk-on team. Practices start in October in the Rec at night during the week so there is no conflict with classes. This can be an inconvenience to them, however. Since they are not funded by the school; they can only use the courts if they are open. They do not have any time designated for their practices; they must take the courts as they are available. It is usually not a problem to get a court and practice.

The Practice

"Every practice starts with stretching, then a few laps," Wuchter says, wearing his bright blue EIU intramural Volleyball Championship t-shirt from last year, his blue jeans and his untied white, green and yellow striped Umbro shoes.

When comparing intramural volleyball to club volleyball Wuchter feels the level of competitiveness is the difference.

"Club is definitely more competitive, but there definitely are some talented players on the intramural teams," he says while sitting atop his bench in his backyard with his legs folded Indian-style.

"Peppering is next. Peppering is when you and your partner or small group hit the ball back and forth to each other. We swing and follow through pretty hard so the passer can work on their passing and digging."

"After peppering we form three hitting lines; middle, left and right," he says as his short brown hair is blown by the wind.

"At first nobody is on the other side of the net when we do this, but later we sometimes put up blockers to practice with a blocker in our face," Wuchter says.

One of his roommates lets his dog outside and Wuchter begins to play fetch with the golden brown, well-groomed female dog wearing a blue collar.

"What's her name?" I ask.

"Munson. We found her here last year," he says.

"Next we run some passing drills. Then after that we run the butterfly drill which is where one side serves and the other side receives and passes the ball to where the setter is to practice passing. After you pass you run to the other side of the net and you serve to the people who just served to you. It's an all-in-one drill," he says. He explains all this without hesitation; he knows what he is talking about.

"After that we run a full-team drill which is when I, the setter, call out plays and the other players act them out after I tell the hitters where to hit and be. This is done without a receiving team so we can just get down our plays," he says.

"The last thing we do in practice is scrimmage to close out the practice. The best form of practice is in-game situations and what better way to create an in-game situation than with a scrimmage?"

"There is no better way." He says.

Who knew that playing on the same team as a former high school rival could be such a great experience? "It feels great to be playing with a former rival. We know how we play since we played with each other in club through high school. It's a lot of fun in college." Halleran said.

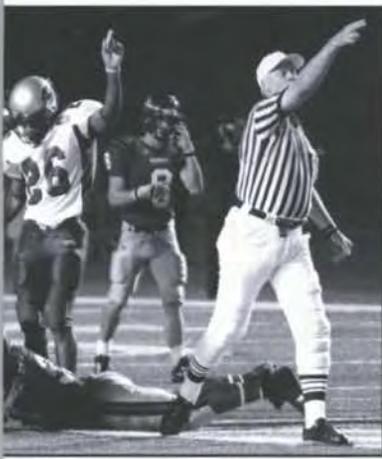
Panthers share OVC title



The Panther's defense indicated during a game against Sam Alabama.

The EIU Panther Football team took home the Ohio Valley Conference title for the second year in a row this fall. They had an overall regular-season record of 8-5, and a 7-1 record in the OVC. The Panthers were OVC co-champions with Tennessee-Martin who beat Murray State to clinch an automatic playoff spot. The game featured standout performances by many of Eastern's athletes including Cole Stinson, junior quarterback, Norris Smith, sophomore running back Donald Thomas, junior linebacker, and Tristan Burge, senior strong safety. The OVC title was the fourth for the Panthers in the last six seasons. After the OVC win, the Panthers dominated the All-Conference awards that were handed out in November. IU had seven first team selections while winning both the OVC Offensive and Defensive Player of the Year Awards. Vincent Webb was named the OVC co-Offensive Player of the Year and Thomas became the third EIU linebacker in the last five seasons to be named the OVC Defensive Player of the Year. Next year, head coach Bob Spoo will return to his duties after missing the entire 2006 season due to a medical procedure. Spoo has coached five National Football League quarterbacks during his 20 plus years at Eastern.





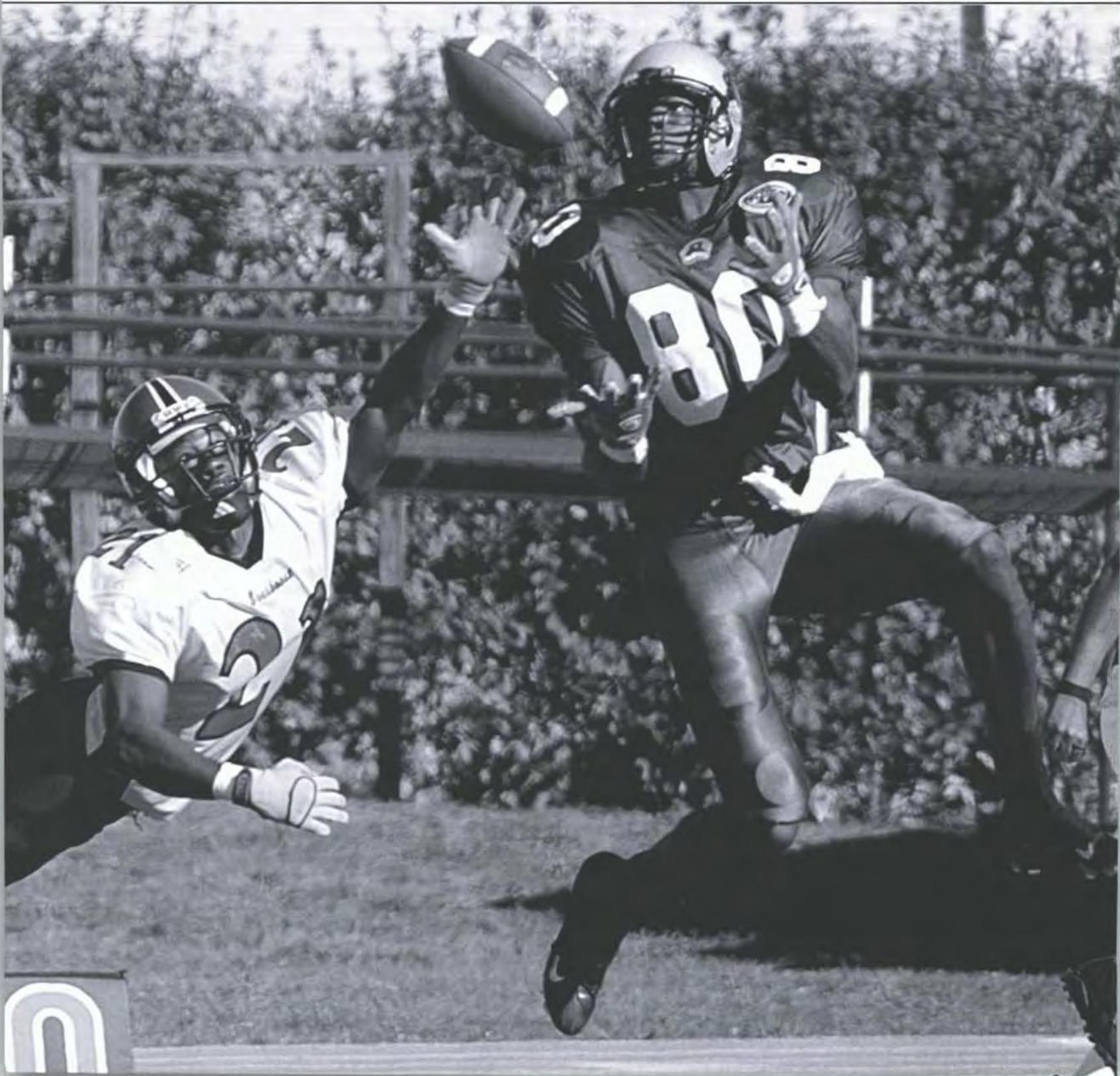
they recovered a fumble
University in Birmingham,



Senior runningback Vincent Webb Jr leaves
a pack of Samford's Bulldogs in his dust
after breaking through the offensive line.



Sophomore running back Norris Smith rushes
around the outside during the home opener against
Indiana State University September 9, in O'Brien
Stadium.



STORY BY RYAN GAYNOR AND KATE KONIECZNY

Wrestling coach of 23 years, Ralph McCausland, has a true admiration for the sport.

“It’s a pure sport, it’s one versus one,” McCausland said, “It’s something where after a couple of matches you can start to get it.”

He also has an admiration for his wrestlers;

“The fact that they go to school and train is huge,” McCausland said.

Kile O’Toole, a sophomore member of the team, said that he dedicates “on a given day, probably about two hours” to wrestling.

“The off-season becomes more weights and strength program along with drill work,” McCausland said. “Then we get into the season and conditioning comes into play in with cardiovascular training.”

The wrestlers also have to constantly watch their weight to make sure they remain in their class. But O’Toole said everyone on the team is “smart about cutting weight,” cutting down on eating and “running outside in their free time.”

Because the current team is made up of a majority of freshmen, McCausland relies on upper-classman leadership to pull the team through the season.

“Kenny Robertson and Greg Perz are the upperclassman that have performed well both athletically and academically over last several years,” said Coach McCausland. “So I expect them to lead by example but by verbal instruction as well.”

The team also depends on a year-round training plan to keep up with other schools.

McCausland knows there is a “huge transition” from high school both mentally and physically.

“They may have good partners below and above them here, but in high school you may not have had those good partners,” he said. “So what we try to do is make it a progression and as the season goes along we continue to pick up the tempo.”

Although the team is young, O’Toole said, “In a few years we will be really good.”

McCausland finished with saying about wrestling, he said.



The wrestling team starts its their work at Lantz Fieldhouse with a 2-mile timed run.

PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

The definition of dedication



Western Illinois University

6:30 a.m. in

"Our goal is to raise school spirit!"

—Sean Anderson, Student Body President



PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER

"Bleed Blue"

Blue Crew Promotes School Spirit

STORY BY BOB ROUBIK

We always hear about the crazy super fans on college campuses, but until recently we have not seen any at Eastern. Now at the football games and sporting events members of Blue Crew liven up the stands. What are these students trying to accomplish with their blue shirts, crazy attitudes and blue wigs?

"Our goal is to raise school spirit," Student Body President, Sean Anderson, said.

It is very easy to become a member of Blue Crew. All a student has to do is go to one of the sign up areas and put your name down. Sign up areas are located all around campus, including every dormitory hall. Students can also join through the Facebook group.

"985 people signed up to join this year and around 700 of them are on-campus," Anderson said.

The Blue Crew tries to attend at least two home sporting events.

Members have gone to football, basketball, volleyball, soccer and cross-country this semester and hope to eventually attend every kind of sporting event held at Eastern.

Eastern is very appreciative for the Blue Crew's efforts to boost school spirit and show support for the athletes.

"For football we have our own area roped off, except during family weekend. Also we have our own section for basketball games," Anderson says.

But where does all the funding come from?

"The money comes from marketing funds, but there isn't a really strict figure to it," director of marketing for athletics and adviser of Blue Crew, Amy Reise, said.

Reise's job with the Blue Crew is to lend some leadership, offer organization and oversee decisions made by the Blue Crew.

One has to wonder if we will ever see an excited faculty member sporting a Blue Crew t-shirt and blue wig.

"There are no active faculty members, but it is a faculty supported group," Reise said.

Many of the athletes have showed their support for Blue Crew. The captains of the football team came to one of the meetings and said they needed the Blue Crew at their games.

Blue Crew is going to try and be more active in future semesters, attending all sporting events.

"I think they're too focused on the biggest sports. They need to focus more on sports that are less popular. I think they would appreciate Blue Crew's support as well," Katie Dzielski says.

Dzielski, a math major looking to go into secondary education, is also member of Blue Crew.

"At the same time you have to start somewhere. We're making great impact, but now we need to make a bigger impact with all sports," Dzielski added.



Chelsea Sheets, senior shows her Bears' pride at a Super Bowl party off-campus.
PHOTO BY JOHN BAILEY

Bears vs. Colts

Colts rained on Bears' parade, 29-17, but fans stay dedicated

Eastern Illinois University may be in central Illinois but the majority of students stayed true to their roots as Chicago Bears fans. Super Bowl XLI featured the Indianapolis Colts and the Chicago Bears.

Paul Krzus, a freshman from Antioch, is a Bears fan. He believed the Bears would finally win this Super Bowl, "cause the Colts can't stop the run."

But, the results turned out to not be in favor of Eastern students. The Colts took the championship title 29-17.

Although the Bears defeat determined many students' moods the following Monday, their love for their team did not falter.

The Super Bowl, however, is not just about football. Students got a chance to sit back and relax with friends, consuming mass amounts of wings, chili and beer.

Eastern's campus offered many opportunities for students to get out of their rooms and mingle with fellow football fanatics.

For anyone wanting to watch the Super Bowl on the big screen Taylor Hall Dining, for only a meal swipe, students got unlimited servings of chili, nachos, brats, breaded mushrooms and a sundae bar.

Other options were available at Ford Hall and Stevenson Hall. Cody Czmyr, a Bears fan from Park Forest, a southern suburb of Chicago, attended Stevenson Hall's party.

"My friends and I always fight about which team will win the game, but it's really just all in fun," he said.

Fraternities on campus such as Phi Beta Sigma, also held a Super Bowl parties.

But if watching the big game on campus didn't sound appealing there were several other places to hang out.

For the 21-and-over crowd, Marty's Bar on Fourth Street was open from 4 to 11 pm. They sold Chicago Bears collectible glasses filled with the customer's beverage of choice.

At The Panther Paw, more than 200 people, both Bears and Colts fans, crammed in to watch the game.

Nevertheless, if Charleston wasn't hitting your sweet spot for football fun, many traveled to Buffalo Wild Wings in Champaign.

Krzus and his friends took the hour drive to watch the game and enjoy hot wings simply because "it's more fun."

This NFL Championship game held many firsts in its midst. It was the first Super Bowl to have the opening kickoff returned for a touchdown. It was also the first Super Bowl to be won by an African-American head coach, Tony Dungy.

Super Bowl XLI will always be remembered by EIU students and the nation.

STORY BY JANE RUPPERT

Super Bowl XLI

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Christine Doheny- Staff Writer

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Hallie Sinkovitz, University Board editor

Jandi Ludin, graphic designer

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Casey Marburger, creative director,
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Teacher Association**

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Marcella Cadena- Treasurer

Not Pictured:

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Jerrica Smith,



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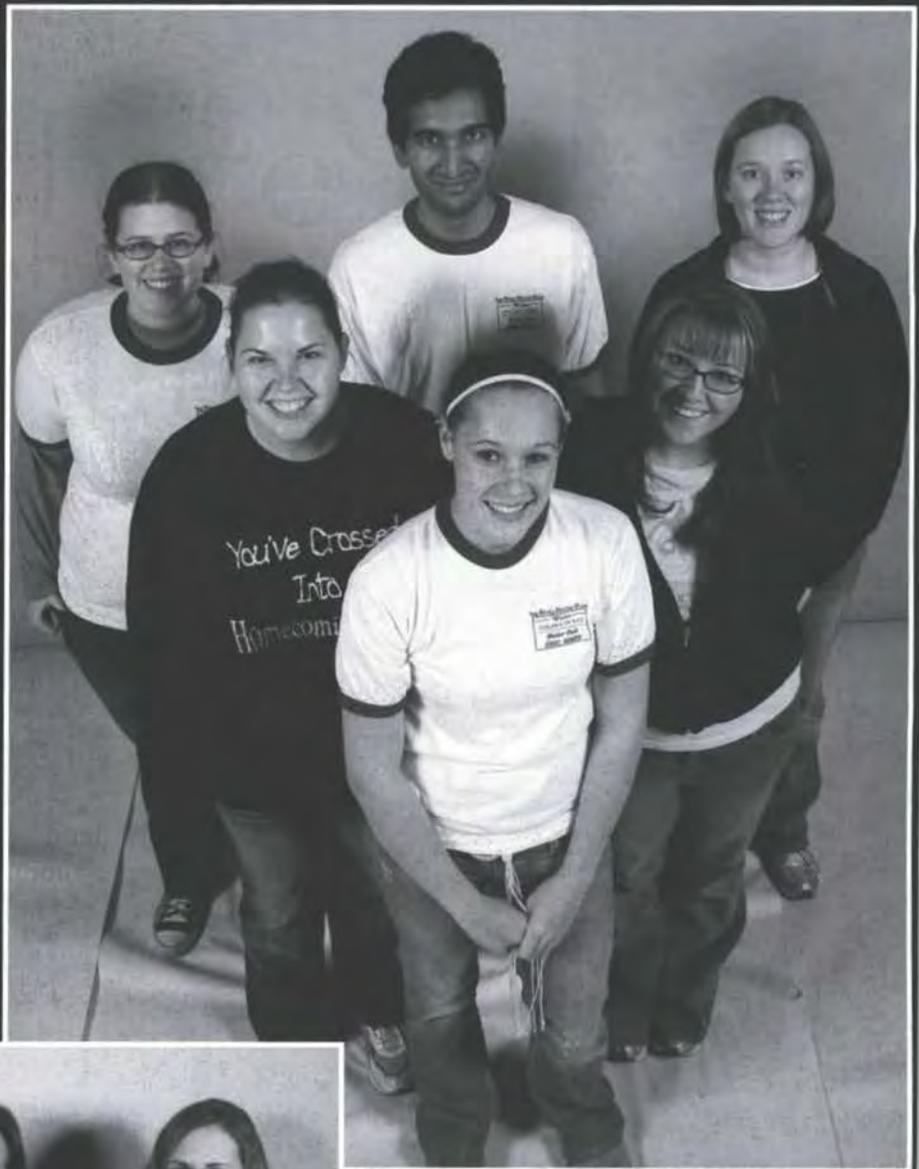


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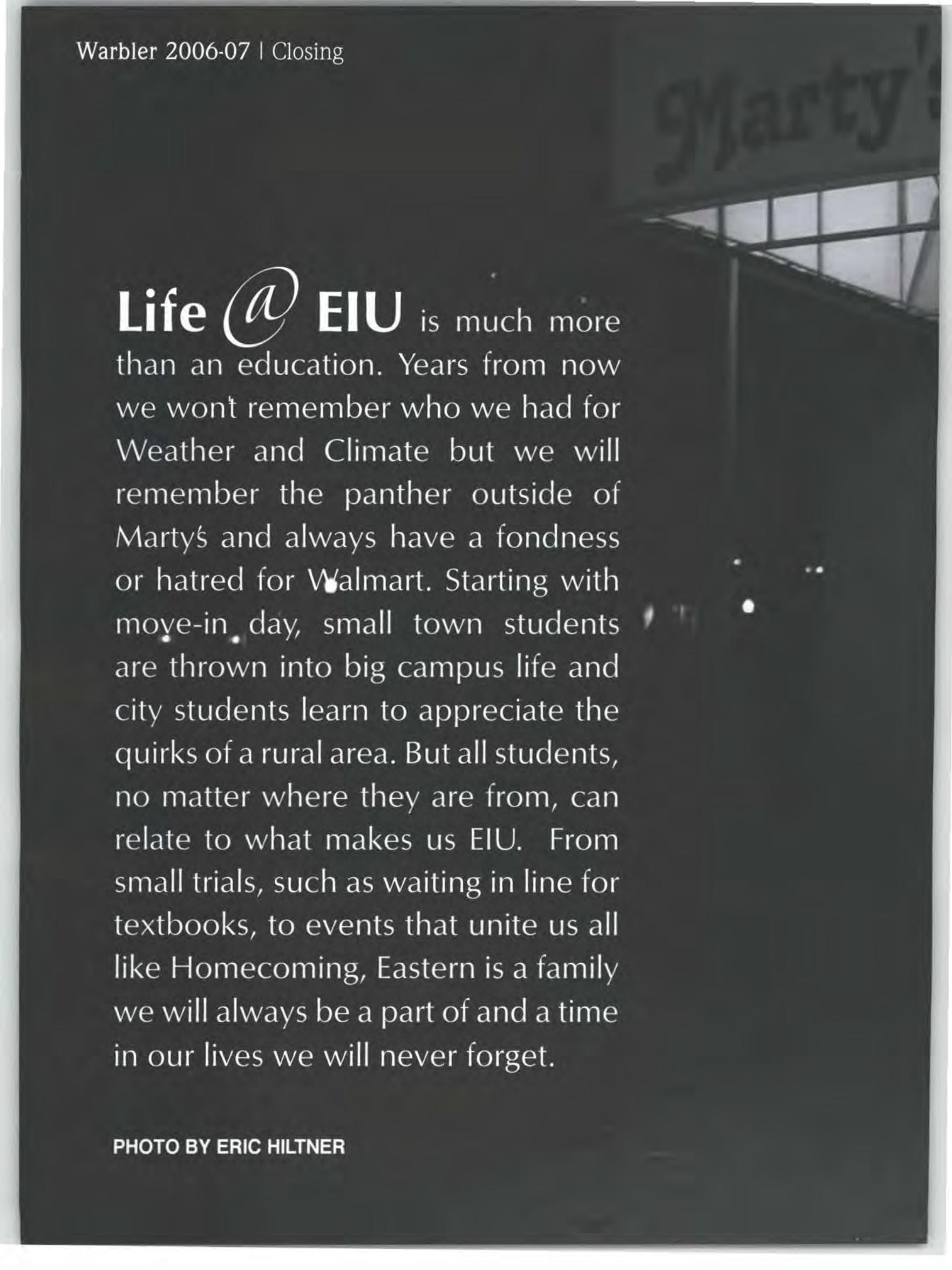
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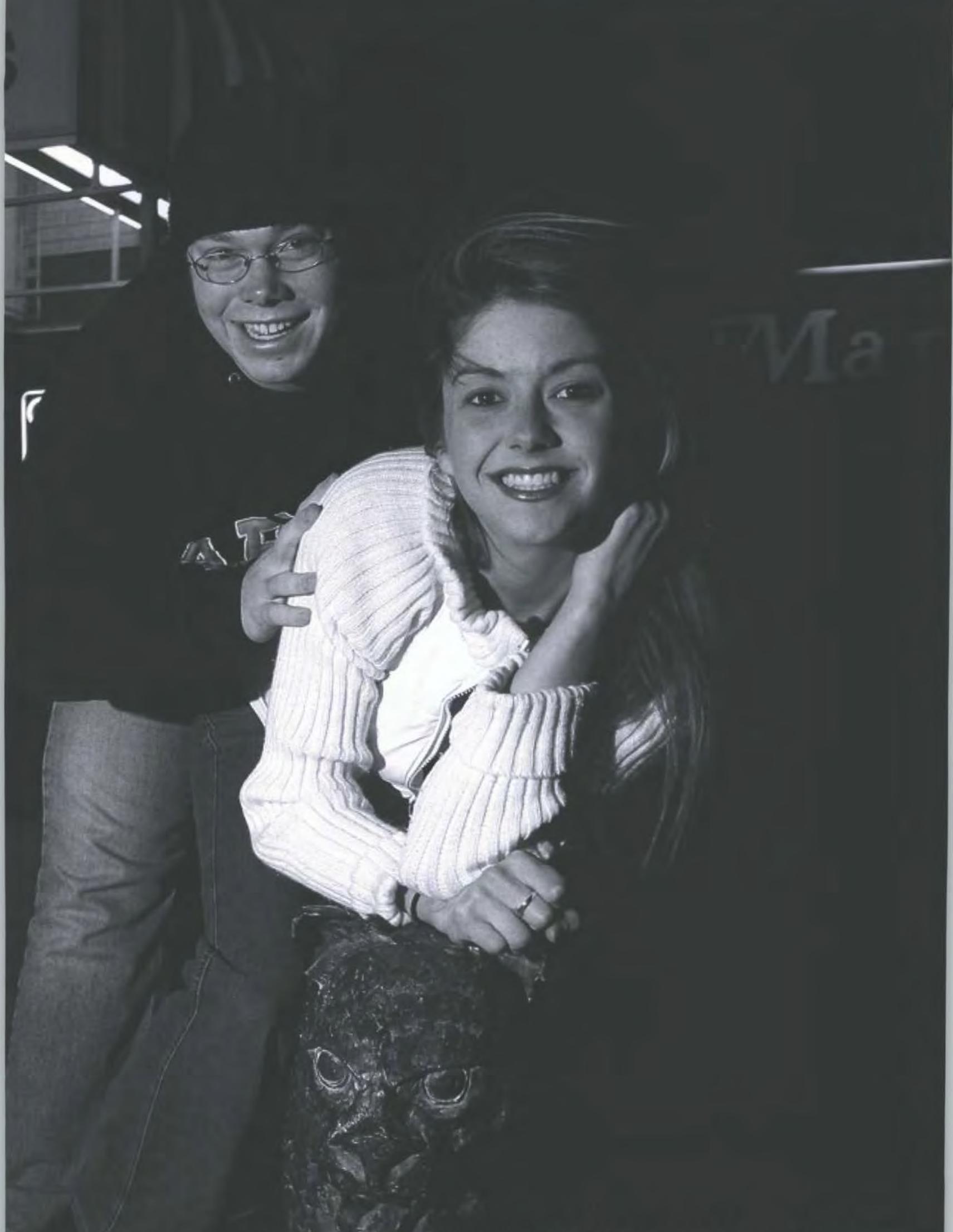
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A dark, grainy photograph of a building at night. A sign on the building reads "Marty's". The building has a glass facade and a metal frame. The lighting is low, with some bright spots reflecting off the glass.

Life @ EIU is much more than an education. Years from now we won't remember who we had for Weather and Climate but we will remember the panther outside of Marty's and always have a fondness or hatred for Walmart. Starting with move-in day, small town students are thrown into big campus life and city students learn to appreciate the quirks of a rural area. But all students, no matter where they are from, can relate to what makes us EIU. From small trials, such as waiting in line for textbooks, to events that unite us all like Homecoming, Eastern is a family we will always be a part of and a time in our lives we will never forget.

PHOTO BY ERIC HILTNER



Andrew Collier and Danielle Schmidt lean on Marty's landmark panther.

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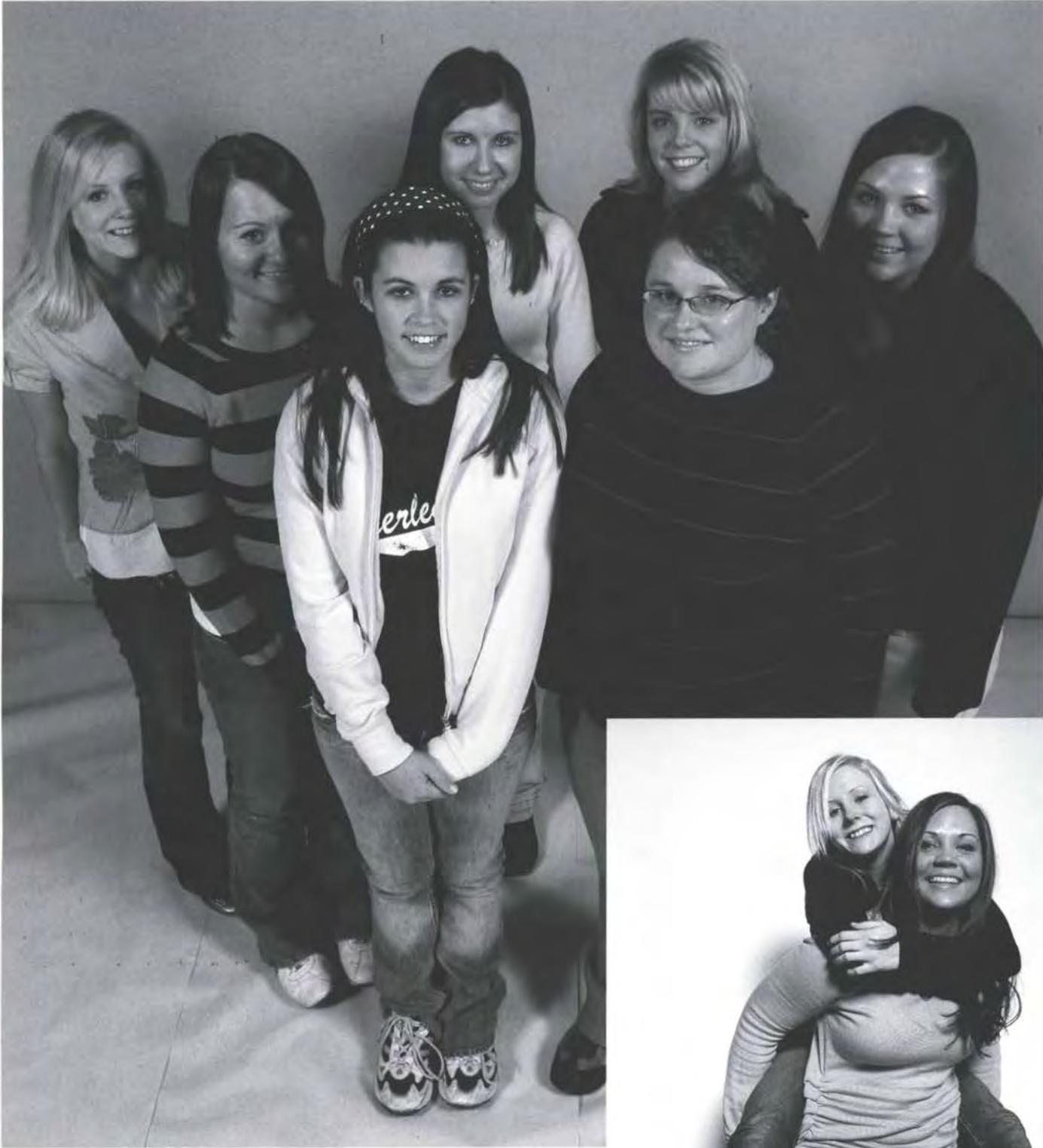
Corrections:

In the 2005/2006 Warbler, the Muslim Student Association story should have stated group members pray North toward Mecca.

In the 2006/2007 Warbler, the Greek divider page photo is by John Bailey. The Academics divider page photo is by Liza Bishton. All other divider page photos are by Eric Hiltner.



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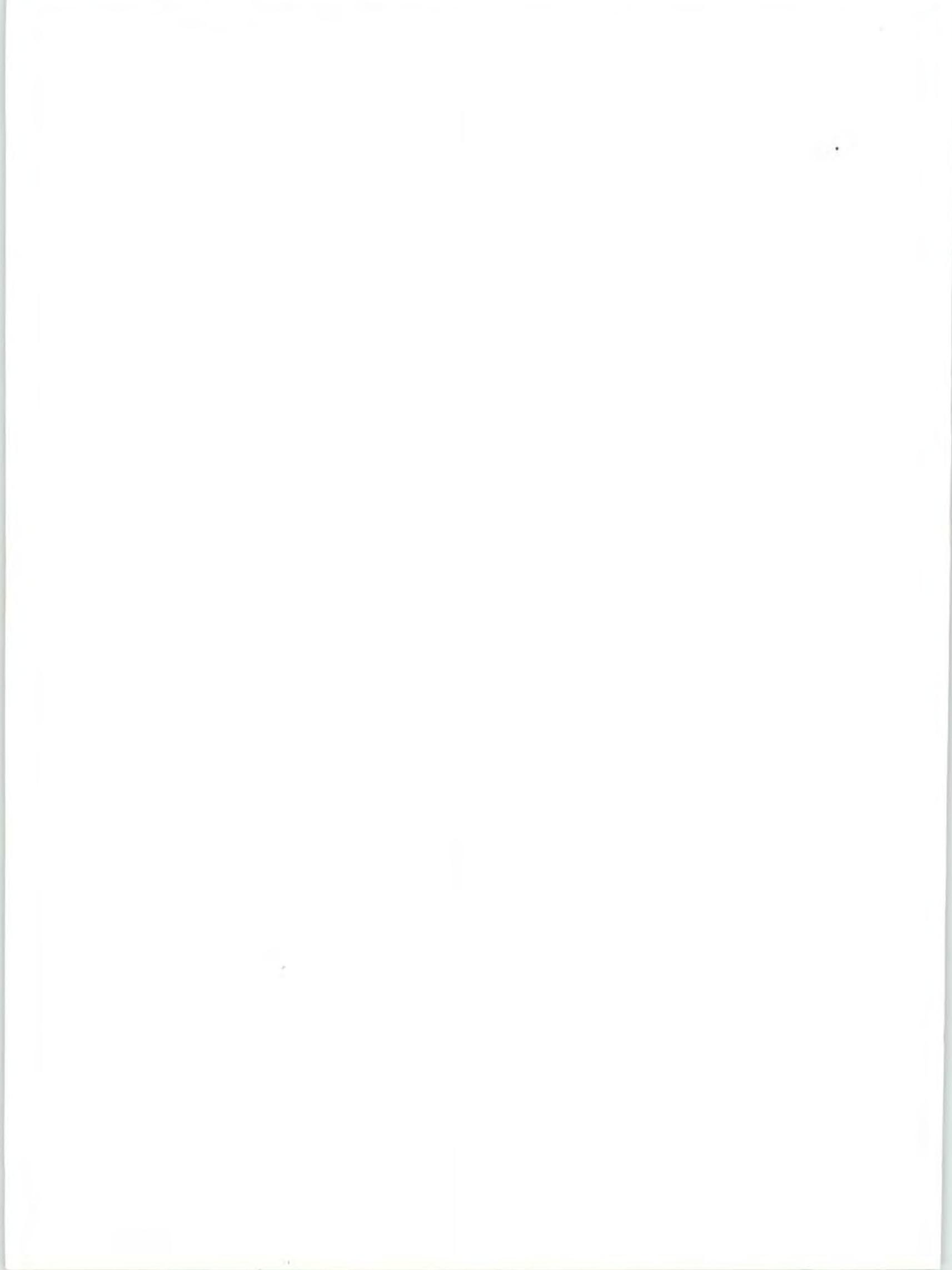
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