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Associated Students of Eastern Washington University

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Police apprehend alleged car thieves

Joshua Harp
Eastern Reporter

So it begins. Following a very overwhelming vote to approve Initiative 695 (the reduction of the motor vehicle excise taxes) last November, the state and city governments are left finding ways to cut expenses from their budgets. Spokane has started with, among other things, the Spokane Transit Authority.

With the passing of I-695, the STA has been left to make reductions in service that will range from 40 to 60 percent of current bus lines over the next six years. What this means to Eastern students was the topic of conversation at a meeting held January 4, in PUB 223.

Those in attendance heard the proposed changes the STA is putting forth. The STA wanted input from students here at Eastern and students attending Spokane Community College, because routes 65 and 29 are two of the bus lines that are reducing service. The changes, summarized below, are drastic, but extensive.

A 24-hour route: Route 65 ( Cheney / EWU) would be reduced from every 4½ hours to every hour during the 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. period. Thirty-minute service would still run from 3:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. and after 10 p.m. the service would revert to hourly. No service is provided at 10:30 a.m.

On Saturday and Sunday, route 65 would be reduced to every two hours.

The service changes for SCC are basically the same with a few minor adjustments for being downtown. The STA is actively looking for opinions on the changes and decided to circulate a survey during which asks students for the impacts it will have on them, and any ideas they have on how to make an easier transition into the new reductions.

The heated debate over Initiative 695 saw opponents calling for doomsday if it was passed, and advocates saying the best decision voters could possibly make in November was to effectively take tax decisions out of the hands of state government. With the initiative's validity going before the court, neither doomsayers nor anarchists have occurred. But the first effects are being felt.

And while waiting an extra half-hour for the bus ride home isn't the worst that could happen, it seems those without cars may feel they are getting the short end of the stick.
EWU police department hires new officer

Mike Foster, a full time student at EWU, is the newest member of the EWU Police Department, to be officially hired on January 16.

Foster will be hired as a Part Time Officer (PTO) to replace former EWU police officer Matt Mumpfries, recently hired by the Cheney Police department.

Foster has a total of eight years of experience in law enforcement; three years as a Military Policeman (MP) in the Army, three years as a police officer at a VA hospital, and two years as a deputy for both the Ferry and Stevens County Sheriff Departments.

Foster joined the Army in 1987 and was stationed at the Schoefield Barracks in Hawaii. After serving three years, he returned to the mainland U.S. Foster served eight years, and is the father of two children.

EWU gains new degree program

Eastern began offering a program this quarter whose graduates can look forward to both high employment and good pay.

The new occupational therapy program will lead to a bachelor of science degree and good pay.

Occupational therapists teach challenged individuals of all ages, such as people with diseases or injuries, to become more independent at home and at work.

Kohler can be reached at kohler elk@ewu.edu. The Web site may be found at www.csmt.ewu.edu/csmt/

EWU police force.

Choose to serve in one of the Army's top-priority occupational skills, and you could receive a cash bonus of up to $20,000, if you qualify. Plus, earn up to $50,000 in money for college through the Montgomery G.I. Bill and the Army College Fund, if you qualify.

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So take control. Get the service that combines
your phone and messaging needs.

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www.ThinkLink.com

Too many accidents are caused by drivers who didn’t see the motorcyclists.
That’s why reflective vests, bright clothing, and reflectorized tape are so important.
They help you be seen. And standing out on a dark, crowded
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PLEASE CALL YOUR LOCAL CRISIS LINE
Dave Humphreys
Copy Editor

The ASEWU Council had a busy day last Tuesday, as they listened to a guest speaker, voted on four sections of appointments, heard seven reports and voted on two issues to begin the winter quarter.

Guest speaker Linda Ishiguro from the current student situation and announced that this week marks the beginning of community advisor selection. Those interested can pick up applications in residential hall offices, the student life office, or from the housing department. The deadline for applicants is Feb. 3.

Individual appointments included:
Jen Hussey and Patricia Wailette-Johnson to the student publications board.

Brandon Moen to the honors advisory board.

Deb Jones to the position of Speaker Pro Tern.

Standing committee appointments include:
Ryan Kroum, Whitney Waad and Tony Curtis to the student union board committee.

Brenda Heising, Chad McDonald and Kyle Hash to the finance committee.

Todd Moses, Tracy Williams and Deb Jones to the reviews and proposals committee.

This week the AS financing committee, led by Finance Vice President Roxie Arnold will begin working on the budget for next year. Arnold announced during her office report that plans for a yearbook have been indefinitely shelved.

"The benefits would not exceed the liabilities," said Arnold. Ryan Kroum, the council member for student services, called for the other members to increase their support for the women's basketball team.

"I really believe that as council members should support our lady eagles as much as our male eagles," said Kroum.

Kyle Hash announced the installation of two more "blue lights." The lights, which are direct lines to the Eastern police department, will be installed, one each, near Kington I Hall and the theatre buildings.

Hash said that it was his hope that one of the fraternities would "adopt-a-light."

"Maybe they could take care of it and clean it sometime," said Hash.

Finally, the council approved AS office hours for the winter quarter and the locations of the polling stations for the ASEWU winter quarter, 2000 elections.

Eastern Washington University's English Language Institute (ELI) this week became one of just three intensive English language programs in the nation ever to receive national accreditation.

At a meeting in Washington, D.C., this week, the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation granted accreditation to Eastern's ELI along with the intensive English language programs at Georgetown University and the University of South Carolina.

This is the first time a national accrediting body has formed for the purpose of accrediting programs which historically prepare non-English speakers to enter American colleges and universities through intensive study of English.

Edmund Yarwood, executive director of Eastern's ELI, said this accreditation will have a large impact on overseas recruitment, as students seeking intensive language education will be drawn to sanctioned and accredited programs. Also, it provides prestige within our own country.

"Even though we have a quality program, being an inland regional university, we have to work harder to be noticed," said Mary Brooks, director of Eastern's ELI. "International students tend to flock to institutions in large coastal cities. This accreditation will help our visibility greatly."

Brooks said there has been a growing desire in most of the nation's 1,000 intensive English language programs, as well as the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service, to establish a standardized quality assurance program that would provide accreditation when those criteria are met.

Eastern began its accreditation application nearly two years ago and, through a year-long process which involved all faculty in the program, provided documentation for 14 standards and received an on-site visit from the accrediting committee last winter.

In fact, the accreditation committee that visited Eastern's ELI called the program "exemplary," said Yarwood.

Speakers to bring diversity to leadership conference

January 13, 2000

AS begins busy quarter

Josh Ashcroft
Contributor

The "New View to Leadership" student leadership conference sponsored by Eastern's Student Life Department will be taking place next week on Jan. 22. The conference will feature three guest speakers with diverse leadership backgrounds.

Speaking at the conference will be Tim McMahon, director of special projects for Western Illinois University. He currently teaches undergraduate leadership and diversity classes and presents at conferences such as Eastern's.

Director of Student Activities Stephanie Ennis attended the 1999 National Leadership Symposium at which she heard a presentation by McMahon.

"The thing that impressed me was his ability to connect with all ages of people," said Ennis.

"He was extremely dynamic." Ed Dennis is a "grass roots" activist who has been effective in teaching students how to have a stronger political voice. He organized the Oregon Student Association (similar to the Washington Student Lobby) into one of the strongest student lobby organizations in the Northwest. Now Dennis works with students in Idaho, Montana and Washington.

"He stresses servant leadership, which I feel is essential for student leaders to learn," said Chase.

As part of student affairs we feel that student leadership development/education is part of our duty. As a department of student life we encourage and offer students practical leadership education and give them skills to be more successful."

Chase explained the goals of the conference are to "give students the tools necessary to be effective leaders not only in the campus community, but also as citizens of communities down the road."

The "New View to Leadership" student leadership conference will be held in the PUB MPR at 9 a.m. on Jan. 22. The first 150 students to register will get in free, and registration forms can be obtained from the student life office in Pub 215 or the ASEWU office in Pub 303.

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Speaker memorializes Martin Luther King

by Seth Swift
Kernmar Royce

“If you want to know Martin Luther King Jr., this presentation is one that you don’t want to miss,” said Carl Mack in his rich, deep-toned voice. “We’ve decided, but I want you to get to know the real man and his prophetic message, the man wrapped in goodness.”

His excitement on the subject of Dr. King is easily discernable, even through the phone.

On Tuesday, January 18, Carl Mack, who is an accomplished speaker, will be giving a presentation in the Showalter auditorium. His presentation, which is the day after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday, will examine the great life that was cut short by assassination.

Mack is a Seattle chapter of Links award winning playwright who’s won the honor for three years running. He has also won awards for his many humanitarian acts. Among these awards, he has won the 1994 Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award and the 1996 Black Child Development Institute Spirit of Excellence Award. He resides in the city of Seattle and is employed as an engineer for King County.

“I would love to be a teacher,” he said, “but the pay isn’t as good, which is a shame. Teachers ought to be the highest paid profession.”

The Director of the African-American Studies Department, Nancy Nelson, says the department is excited to have Mack speak at EWU’s celebration of Dr. King’s birthday.

“He is a dynamic speaker and knowledgeable in the field of African-American history,” said Nelson.

Mack studied mechanical engineering at Mississippi State University, where he took it upon himself to study and learn more about the African-American culture and history.

“His message speaks to the world. King talks about the power of one to make a change.”

After a few years of studying, Mack wrote a black history desktop calendar that received national attention.

“Someone told me, ‘Hey, you know a lot about black history. Why don’t you speak about it?’” said Mack. “Shortly after that I did my first presentation on black history in a black church. I soon received calls from all over asking me to speak.”

He was soon presenting history lectures across the nation. He speaks in high schools, prisons, and grade schools, and to mention colleges. In the local area Mack is renowned for his presentations at Spokane schools. Although Mack has spoken for over seven years, he downplays this. “I never asked to be a speaker, it wasn’t something I actively pursued. In fact, I would ask to be at home on (Dr. King’s) birthday if EWU hadn’t called me.”

“People will enjoy his message.” Says Nelson, “It is very important for people to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday.”

Mack agrees. “(His birthday) represents the inessence of humanity. He’s a constant reminder of how bad things were, the strides we’ve taken, and how much more we need to do. His message speaks to the world. King talks about the power of one to make a change.”

In the presentation, Mack will also speak of how prophetic Dr. King was through the context of the events of today. Of how he is known and how he wanted to be known.

Admission to Mack’s presentation at noon on January the 18th is free and the public is invited to attend. After the presentation, the Afro-American Education Program will be serving refreshments in the Showalter Rotunda, where Mack will visit and speak with the audience.

For more information on Mack’s upcoming talk, students and community members (facility included) can call (509) 159-2205.

EWU couple harmonize for Spokane Symphony


by Ryan Paul
Kernmar Royce

Sharing a professional and personal life can be a unique and rewarding experience. This is true in the lives of Professors John Marshall and Lynn Feller-Marshall. John Marshall and Lynn Feller-Marshall are excited to be playing for the Spokane Symphony and to be teaching in the music program here at Eastern Washington University.

Between teaching at the university and playing with the Spokane Symphony, John and Lynn lead a very busy life. They are also parents of a 16-month-old son named James. In their spare time, the married couple enjoys venturing off into the wilderness on hikes and relaxing at the local coffee bars.

Lynn is an instructor in music theory, sight-reading, techniques and bassoon studio, while John is an instructor in cello studio, string techniques, piano and quite often guitar. John and Lynn have been playing in the Spokane Symphony since 1994 and are continuing on in their sixth season.

John and Lynn met at the result of their auditions for the Spokane Symphony in 1994, and were quite surprised to find that they shared many friends in common. “It was very unusual that we had never met until we did,” said Lynn.

The Marshalls have been married for two and a half years. “It has been a privilege to do almost the same thing as my husband,” said Lynn.

Growing up in a home where he was surrounded by music, John started playing the cello at age six. Inspired by his mother who plays the cello as well, he has been playing the cello for twenty-five years now. John knew since the age of eight that he would be playing music for the rest of his life. “It is something that I have always done,” said John.

Unlike her husband, Lynn fell into (music) by accident. Lynn always knew that she would be teaching music, but never imagined that she would be playing the bassoon for the Spokane Symphony.

John and Lynn will be performing with the Spokane Symphony at 7 p.m. on January 27 in Showalter Hall. The concert will include an eclectic variety of music, such as Dvorak’s New World, Vivaldi’s Dual Symphony and Mozart’s Eine Kleine Nachtmusik. Eastern Students will receive free admission, although free seating for students will be limited to the balcony.

Calling cards... with a Graduate Degree from Eastern Washington University

My experience at EWU taught me how to be a leader. It taught me how to communicate effectively, and gave me the tools I need to be successful in any arena. I learned that it is not how high your grades are that matters, but that you have something to say that makes an impact.

I am excited to share this newfound knowledge with other students. I am proud to be a part of this great university and know that I will be able to make a difference in the world.

-Lisa Gubbels-Neal
Adjunct Faculty
Eastern Washington University
UCLA study links marijuana use with cancer

by Charity Clay

Eastern's Director of Health Education, Jon Hammermeister, has moved away from working with paper than just correct papers. He also has the privilege of working with the U.S. Ski Team. Hammermeister deals with athletes who will stop at nothing to get better, working through the pain and agony in order to achieve their high goals. Hammermeister uses the skills that he learned in college to help with the mental part of these athletes' races.

In 1994, at Central Oregon Community College, he met the coach and was able to speak to the athletes about their racing. Later on he had a new position with The Oregonian newspaper, the largest sports psychologist.

Hammermeister not only works with the athletes in the U.S., but ventures with them to other countries such as Austria, and Finland.

Hammermeister works with the cross country skiing section of the team. Relating to the team is no problem for him. He has been in over one hundred triathlons, which makes it easier for him to connect with the athletes.

Hammermeister’s main purpose is to work with the athletes’ focus. He works with their thoughts to “improve their training through their mind.” There are times when he is expected to do more than what was initially required of him.

“I was asked to fill in for the free style sports psychologist. I didn’t know these guys at all, I was doing the camp as a favor. I had only been there one day when the team got word that their head coach was in the hospital in critical condition because he attempted to hang himself. I was concerned because I afraid that the team was going to come to me and that I would have to deal with all their problems. It turned out they weren’t that close with the coach so I reassured myself out for nothing.”

His words of wisdom for his team are something that Don Schlenderl once said: “The difference between the champions and the non-champions is that on race days, the champions could break through the pain barrier and go into sheer agony.”

“I love that quote because it’s all a mental process. An athlete needs to be a good sufferer,” said Hammermeister.

Hammermeister has chosen to give up much of his extracurricular activities as well as time with the ski team in order to cause his two year old daughter. He has cut back his workouts to running “fifty or sixty miles a week rather than seventy.”

Also, Hammermeister has not participated in a triathlon since his daughter’s birth.

Regional bands gather for unnamed blues festival

Carly Wainwright

What do Mumbo Jumbo, Paul Brash, Café Blue, and Junkyard Jane all have in common? They are just a few of the bands who are set to visit Eastern Washington University on June 3rd at the Eagle Entertainment sponsored Blues and Jazz Festival.

The predominantly blues concert will feature ten to twelve different bands from the northwest region, including our very own Eastern Jazz Band and many other award winning bands. The Festival will be held on Chisius Field and will last from noon to midnight. The cost of the concert will be $5 for students with ID and $12 for general admission.

Though this promises to be a spectacular event, it is still in the making, and is in need of “an impressive name.” Eagle Entertainment is currently holding a contest for anyone who submits a name for the festival. The person who enters the winning name will be awarded a pair of movie tickets to the Cheney Cinemas, and will have the opportunity to label the festival.

To enter the contest Eagle Entertainment’s office at 359-4837; leave your name, phone number and your idea for a title for the concert.

Eagle Entertainment is also looking for volunteers to help organize and run this event and corporate sponsors to assist with funding needs. Those interested should contact Roger Roberts by telephone or go to PUB Room 225. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

He posed three questions to 173 patients who had head and neck cancer and to 176 patients without cancer.

“Patients were asked if they had ever used marijuana, how many years they had used it, and how many times a day they would smoke it,” Zhang said.

The data was analyzed at UCLA in 1997, when Zhang and his team found that marijuana smoking is a risk factor for head and neck cancer.

Because head and neck cancers - cancers of the mouth, tongue, larynx and pharynx - take many years to develop, people who smoked large amounts of the substance in the 1960s may now just be contracting cancer.

Zhang said.

“We need to have a study with a large sample size to repeat and confirm these results,” Zhang said.

Zhang’s study has led to further research on the subject.

Hal Morgenstern, professor of public health and epidemiology at UCLA, is leading a five-year study which is now in its first year.

“The main purpose of the study is to assess if long-term marijuana use develops lung cancer and cancers in the upper digestive tract, esophageal cancer and laryngeal cancer,” Morgenstern said.

He plans to collect data from 1,200 people with cancer and 1,200 people without cancer.

While Zhang’s study relied heavily on hospitalized patients, Morgenstern’s study was set up for regular heavy marijuana smokers - individuals who smoked about 500 times in their life.

“We’re getting a control group from the community at risk in Los Angeles,” Morgenstern said.

Zhang offered some suggestions concerning the risk factors of marijuana use.

“For students, I suggest it’s better to quit because we are already seeing this kind of impact (from those who used to smoke marijuana in the 1960s),” Zhang said.

He said for long-term users, patients should take preventive measures such as seeing their dentist regularly to see if any unusual formations developed in the oral cavity.
Writer's Center Murder Mystery
Conclusion: Part Two

"I was in the science building when I passed your class-room and saw Bionca roughing you up for your money," Leslie began to Skip. "I can't begin to tell you how I felt when I saw her hurting you all over again. It was just like in high school, and nobody was doing anything to help you. Maybe they were afraid of Bionca themselves, or maybe they were afraid to get involved, but either way it made me angry. How could she get away with acting like that?

"There was a fire extinguisher on the wall," she continued. "I knew I had to do something, so when she came out, I took it and I killed her."

Leslie let out a shaky breath and turned to look at the other two.

"I don't regret that Bionca's death. Skip, did you know that she was still carrying around that elephant charm she stole from you last year? It was obsessive. But even if she didn't have you to abuse, there would always be somebody else to fill that place. I was sure of that then, and I'm sure of that now."

The hospital room was very quiet. Leslie spoke again, almost as if to herself. "I always promised myself that I'd never be like my mother — I'd never hurt anyone." She looked at Skip. "I wanted to tell you all this before you heard it from somebody else. I'm going to turn myself in to the police to clear this before you heard it from me."

Skip reached out and held Leslie's hand. Suddenly, Todd spoke up. "I'm not going to let you do that, Leslie," he said.

"Todd, I have something to tell you. Skip, I'm really sorry," Todd said. He was so serious again.

"Later on when we were all back at the dorm, I still wasn't sure if you had seen me doing anything. When I looked up, I saw you."

"Well, then, for what I'm about to tell you, Skip, I'm truly sorry," Todd said. He was so serious again.

"Ray was there, too. We'd been playing basketball, and we stopped in to get a pop from the vending machine. We saw you, he looked at Leslie, running from the scene of the crime. We did recognize you, but since you were my sister I convinced Ray not to tell anyone for the time being. He went to call the police, and while he was gone, I did some strategic cleaning up around the body. When the police check, still looking at Leslie, "I expect they'll find my fingerprints on the murder weapon instead of yours."

"Todd—"

"Stop it. I'm tired. I'm not doing this anymore. I'm not going to let you do it, Todd," Leslie said.

"I don't have a hand with her free one. I'm going to go sure of that now."

"They'll find out soon enough, Todd. You have," he said to Leslie. His eyes were dark as he relented his own story. He said, "I've always felt bad about the way I deserted you when Mom was drunk, Leslie."

She protested. "Todd, you know you couldn't have done anything to stop her, even if you were there."

"I could've gotten you away from there, though. At least Skip did that!" Todd continued. "Anyway, it just so happens that I was in the science building on the day of the murder as well."

"I followed you, I saw her do anything to stop her, even if you were there." Todd paused and looked at the other two.

"Ah, I know what you're thinking," he said. "Will the coincidence ever cease?"

"That was the moment when the hospital room descended into an even deeper silence. Eventually Leslie spoke. "Are you done, Todd?"

"Yeah," he said. "I'm finished. You do see, now that you can't turn yourself in, don't you?"

"Todd, I have to."

"Leslie, you can't. You think prison's a good way to come to terms with your conscience? There are other ways, and I'm offering you a way out. There are so many better things you could do with your life, so don't screw this up."

She was about to reply, but at that moment there was a knock on the door, and officer Keefe entered the room. "Are you Leslie?" he asked.

She nodded, and he said, "Good. I have a few questions for you. First of all, Who is Alistano Hobart?"

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Research Assistants needed to conduct observation surveys of carborundum seats used among children in the

Contact Rebecca, rlibba@uwashington.edu or (206) 521-1529
The Easterner

Opinion

Cohabitation socially destructive

Dave Humphreys
Copy Editor

There are some older people out there do it, but it’s mostly youngsters under 40. It’s been going on since the “Great Society” years, so it’s obviously not sex. But men (meaning males) have been trying to get accepted morally since the idea of responsibility lost its lustre.

No, it’s not polygamy, leaving the toilet seat up, or even converting the time period of a week into a 3-day, Friday, Saturday, Sunday format.

It’s cohabitation.

No, I don’t mean marriage, and I don’t mean absolutely no chance of romance, to reduce rent Specifically, I mean two people living together romantically, outside of marriage.

I’ll classify these cohabitations into two groups.

1. Those living together outside of marriage because they cannot get married legally (i.e., same-sex marriages. Due to space limitations, I will not address this issue.)
2. Those living together outside of marriage because they don’t want to get married.

People cohabitating because they don’t want to get married:

NOTICE: People who don’t want to get married because they don’t believe in the “relegiousness” of marriage can go to a justice of the piece and skip the “good stuff,” still becoming man and wife.

There are no excuses for cohabitation.

It has been my experience that these people are either:

1. Afraid of the responsibility of marriage – not wanting to make their relationships official and binding. (Why buy the cow when you can get the milk for free?)

2. Ignorant, naive, or annoyed by what the word “commitment” means.

For the sake of my audience, I will look at this from the perspective of two people considering living together before marriage.

What would your honeymoon be like? Just another hormonally inspired night? Just another time to go out and have a secluded vacation at a 4-5 star restaurant, but what else would you do together?

A new expectation, a new realization that your relationship now must succeed. Now it’s for real, not just a mere partnership, but something from which you can’t easily escape.

Then you can’t walk away, and all of the sudden, “ill die deah da part” seems like such a long time.

But then you can always divorce.

And divorce is just what you want to be thinking about once you start your honeymoon, right?

Other than the honey- moon, premarital cohabitation actually hampers the relationship by degrading the amount of trust the two people have for each other. The question, “Why didn’t she/he want to marry me?” may be a function of the fact that it is easier to be unfaithful when you are not married.

My cohabitation with a woman now for 13 years has showed that a relationship can work just fine with trust without marriage.

Letters to the Editor

Kudo’s to Mama Martino’s

Dear Editor,

Hate mail is being sent to universities, most recently to the southeastern part of the U.S. What should we do? Do we ignore this and just wishfully hope it means nothing? It means something. It means we need to extend our support to all universities; it means we need to make a statement against hate. Have we lost our emotions concerning hate mail? Apathy is not an answer.

We are seeking a higher education and should be concerned for the rights of all Americans. A college campus should be free of discrimi- nation, conflict and fear in order to obtain the enlightenment that education brings.

The Eastern Washington University Foundation office would like to thank one of our newest local busi- nesses in Cheney, Mama Martino’s. Recently Mama Martino’s gave the Foundation office a great deal on their delicious and filling sandwiches for our annual Christmas party. Mama Martino’s has set a great example for other local businesses here in Cheney and we appreciate them stepping up to the plate and becoming a great leader in Cheney.

Thanks again.

EWU Foundation Office

Letters to the Editor

Deb Jones, ASEWU

Campus row - dead of winter

College row - dead of winter

Letters to the Editor

Hate still running rampant on campus
campuses

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EWU Foundation Office
Strange Days

by Darren Beal

Indeed

Marriage: The leading cause of divorce

While it might surprise college students of the 21st century, the idea of men and women living together was, until very recently, not considered immoral by many, but even illegal, particularly in the states of the deep south. The sexual revolution of the sixties and seventies changed all that. While then-teenbopper college students argued for “co-ed” dorms in the sixties, in this century young men and women live together in the same buildings and on the same floors, and it is accepted.

But the sexual revolution went way beyond that. Those turbulent years saw large numbers of people — and not just the far left of college campuses — embrace and promote premarital sex, having multiple sex partners and, of course, the practice of co-habitation, or what we all now call “living together.”

Social critics have pointed out that the sharp increase in the divorce rate in this country coincided closely with the sexual revolution. Many studies have pointed out that couples who live together before marriage have a somewhat higher divorce rate than those who don’t. And recent studies indicate that fewer couples are living together before matrimony than during the peak years of cohabitation in the seventies and eighties.

They also point out the explosion in sexually transmitted diseases seems to have begun with the new mores of the sexual revolution, with extremes even going so far as to claim the AIDS epidemic is the direct result of “promiscuous” and, especially, “immoral” sexual behavior. And, they point out, the string of broken, one-parent families seems to lead directly to the, until recently, raging crime rate and the rise of drug abuse, gangs, violence, and virtually every other social ill troubling us today.

But can currently accepted sexual practices — as conservative leaders playing the “family values” card would have us believe — really be responsible for the current social quandary we find ourselves in?

And let’s be honest when we talk about what living together means. Socialists often refer to the way single, sexually active people today lead their lives as “serial monogamy,” meaning, at least, all the activities mentioned above: premarital sex, having more than one sex partner throughout one’s life, and living in a sexual or romantic relationship, none of which necessarily leads to marriage, but can, and sometimes do, lead to several marriages, and, of course, several divorces.

Does that mean that “living together,” already a slowly declining practice, or should be — dead in the water? And with more people choosing abstinence over sex, are we headed for happier, healthier relationships (as the family values gurus would have us believe) or merely returning to the sexually repressed and repressive fifties, when “shacking up” could get you jail time and divorce made people, especially females, social pariahs and loose women.?

The truth may be somewhere in between.

The advent of modern lifestyles, on the surface, seems to have created chaos in the marital world, especially given the divorce rate. But before divorce or living together was an option, how many marriages were really happy and healthy? That, of course, is a difficult thing to measure, especially since no one seems to have begun studying such issues until Masters and Johnson’s groundbreaking research in the late fifties. And, it must be remembered, that horrors such as child and spousal abuse were rarely reported at the time, and thus rarely used as grounds for a woman to end a relationship. Marriage was for life. One study has also shown, that the close daily contact living together brings might at least give couples some early indication of such problems.

It certainly seems true that, historically, women have had extremely narrow options in the one-marriage culture. Women, would you believe, have the Catholic church, until recently, granted divorces almost not at all. For most of its history, abuse victims were bound for life to spouses that now would be in prison for their crimes.

Much of this rigidity stems from narrow and repressive sexual doctrines which go back to the early church and which were later promulgated among Protestant denominations. And, ultimately, is what this is all about. Those who want you to abstain so you don’t become pregnant or contract an STD actually want you to abstain because it offends their moral code. And that moral code, dating back to the early church, held that the purpose of sex was procreation, not recreation. And certainly not an expression of love.

Given the one college age college age adults face, it seems only natural that the late teens and twenties should be a time of learning, of experimentation, of growth. Most of us do not reach an economic state where family life and children are feasible for quite a few years after college. Yet sexually, our bodies mature much sooner, and emotionally we yearn for intimacy, yet may not find “the one” until we have experience with many. To return to a situation where religious and political pressures force us to delay these necessary growth stages absurdly, into near-middle age seems unnatural and unhealthy. Let us hope that those who believe otherwise will not again make young lovers hide themselves away.

The First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

"Censorship is wrong across the board, even when it involves issues and subjects we strongly disapprove of."

Alex Penelas, Mayor of Miami-Dade, 1999
Eagles seek first conference victory

Tom Fox
Easterner Staff Writer

With the exception of last weekend’s two Big Sky Conference losses at Reno Court in Cheney, the Eastern Washington University women’s basketball team has been dominant at home and inadequate on the road. The Eagles (48-22) in conference play concluded a long and harsh road trip as they are coming off devastating defeats that saw opponents Idaho State University (39-13) and Portland State University (49-29) outscore them 152-113.

Despite the poor play in the last two games, head coach Joceilyn Pfeifer is optimistic about her team improving in areas that hurt them in those contests.

“Defense is the key [to winning],” said Pfeifer.

“We are better when we rebound well and when we are blocking out like we should be. That goes along with playing together as a team defense.”

Last Friday night the Eagles were outmatched under the basket by the visiting Bengals of Idaho State University. In the context, Eastern brought down a meager 28 rebounds, while their counterparts grabbed 52 boards on their way to a 69-62 conference win.

Prior to the win, Idaho State had lost eight of their last nine games. Eastern was 3-6 during the same span. Commenting on positives that came from the defeat, Pfeifer said Julie Moore played well at both ends of the court. She rebounded well and scored often. Also, Tracy Ford-Phillips returned to shoot the ball well for us.

Poor rebounding and shooting has tormented the Eagles in their losses this season. Pfeifer attributes the poor shooting to not sticking to their original game plan.

“It’s evident that we didn’t shoot well at home last weekend.”

Eagle head coach Joceilyn Pfeifer

The quick shots didn’t find the net often. In the second half of the Idaho State game, the Eagles shot a diminished 30-57 (.526) from the field opposed to the first half when they shot 15-32 (.468) from the floor. In the mean time Idaho State’s game plan worked just fine as they shot well enough (28-46, .424) to beat the eager Eagles 85-62.

On Saturday, Eastern played host to visiting Portland State University (4-9, 2-0) but they were again unsuccessful in getting their first conference win this season. Trailing by just eight points (42-34) with two minutes remaining in the second half, Eastern was then ball rushed by the Vikings, who went on a 20-4 scoring spree which left the Eagles out of reach trailing 62-38 with just over five minutes to play.

Poor shooting was again a shortcoming for Eastern, which shot only 4.81 (273) in the second half and 21-65 (.323) for the game, as opposed to Portland State which shot 25-58 (.446) on the night.

Despite the poor shooting, the Eagles held their ground against the Vikings under the basket, as both teams grabbed 40 rebounds. In the loss, Eastern’s 6-foot-1 sophomore Alle Bailey dominated with a game-high 15 rebounds to go along with her seven points.

Meanwhile, forward Tracy Ford-Phillips was among the scoring leaders again with her team high 18 points. Twelve of which were three-pointers.

Despite the individual efforts, the Eagles as a team were again unsuccessful as they were defeated 76-53. With the win, Portland State remains undefeated in conference play (2-0), while Eastern drops to the cellar of the conference (0-2).

Nothing but struggles seem to be ahead for the Eagles who have proven that they are not a comfortable team on the road. They are 1-5 away from home. Pfeifer said that she thinks a tough non-conference schedule on the road has been a part of the weary play.

Noticing the troubling scenario on the road and the tough opponents approaching on the next two-game road swing, Pfeifer said, “I hope that we can shoot better on the road.”

“It’s evident that we didn’t shoot well at home this last weekend.”

The Eagles will have to be on top of their game for the duration of both Thursday’s and Saturday’s games if they hope to stay competitive and have a chance to win.

The team will first travel to Flagstaff, Ariz. to meet up with Northern Arizona (5-9, 1-1) on Thursday, Jan. 13, at 6 p.m.

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The Eagles won their Big Sky Conference league opener when Ryan Hansen's 55-foot prayer was answered at the final buzzer to give EWU a 75-72 victory over the Idaho State Bengals last week in Pocatello, Id.

The Bengals got a 66-67 lead when Kevin Sweetwine scored on a tip-in with 9 seconds remaining in the contest. Eastern called a timeout which then lead to Hansen's game-winning hook shot.

"We had it designed to throw to Deon Williams to tie the game, and our second option was to Hansen," said Eagles head coach Steve Aggers. "He's a senior who stepped up for us."

Hansen was high scorer for the Eagles with 15 points, while Deon Williams, who missed Eastern's last game with an injured toe, paced the squad with eight assists.

"We had such a tough non-league schedule and our record wasn't what we wanted it to be," Aggers said. "We have two of the pre-season favorites at home, and I hope our students and fans will come out. We're looking to get a really good start in league play."

Cal State Northridge (10-3, 2-0) at EWU (4-7, 1-0)
Saturday, 7:05 p.m., Reese Court

CSN: The Matadors played a brutal non-conference schedule so their three losses may be slightly misleading. CSN sports a 4:3 record on the road, including victories at Oregon and Fresno State. Two of the better teams on the West Coast. The Matadors are paced by Brian Heimle (15.1 ppg), Andre Larry (13.3 ppg) and Jeff Carris (13.0 ppg). The only Big Sky Conference team with a lower FT shooting percentage (61.5%) than EWU, Northridge's poor performance at the charity stripe often allows teams to hang around as four of their 10 victories have been by three points or less.

EWU: To have a chance at winning, the Eagles will have to hit the glass hard, as CSN is second in the conference with a rebounding margin of +4.2, while EWU is last at -5.5 per game. A healthy Deon Williams is a must for Eastern to battle the up-tempo game favored by the Matadors. Eastern's depth should be a definite plus, as the Eagles have seven players who average seven or more points per contest.

Big Sky Conference Standings

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<th>Team</th>
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Indoor track and field springs into action this weekend

The 2000 indoor track and field season gets underway Saturday when Eastern Washington University hosts the Early Bird Open Indoor Track and Field Meet at Thorpe Fieldhouse in Cheney.

Besides Eastern, other schools expected to take part include Washington State University, Washington University of Idaho, Community Colleges of Spokane and Eastern Oregon, as well as competitors from other area colleges, clubs and high schools.

On Jan. 22, the same schools are expected to compete in the 17th annual Jerry Martin Invitational, also at Thorpe Fieldhouse. Field events in both meets begin at 9 a.m., with running events scheduled to start at 11:30.

Admission cost is $2, with children 12-and-under admitted free.

Returning champions, school record holders, depth, experience, talented transfers, young talent—you name it—and the first Eastern Washington University Track and Field team of the new millennium probably has it.

The Eagles feature 21 returning letterwinners on the men's team—including NCAA Championships participant Ryan Cole and Big Sky Champion Johnnie Williams. Another 18 letterwinners return to the women's squad, featuring NCAA Cross Country Championships participant Amber Johnson. That base, plus a large group of newcomers, has helped raise expectations in the Eagle program to a new level.

When the Big Sky Conference Championships roll around, the Eagles are hoping to record back-to-back performances as a team. The indoor meet takes place Feb. 25-26 in Flagstaff, Ariz., and the outdoor competition is May 17-20 in Sacramento, Calif., site of the 2000 Olympic Trials.

A year ago outdoors, both the men's and women's teams had their highest point totals ever as each finished sixth in the conference. The women's team also had its highest point total indoors in school history, placing fifth. The men were seventh indoors a year ago.

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