and 27, those dates are not feasible, and we’re looking at alternatives in the first week of May,” said Dave Stingley of Eagle Entertainment. The conflict is that the tour is booked elsewhere on the dates Eastern has proposed to host the event.

The current tour schedule has Bush and Moby booked for La Jolla, Calif., on April 25, according to Bush’s website. Bush has already come close to playing in Las Vegas on April 26 for a non-tour related show. The tour resumes April 29 in Santa Barbara, Calif., before finishing in Fresno, Calif., on April 30.

Baldwin confirmed the tour is only traveling with only one set, which would make it nearly impossible for the tour to appear at Eastern for April 29 and then back to Santa Barbara for April 29. There has been an official rejection of Eastern’s request to host the event for the proposed dates, however that appears to just be a formality.

Mad Booking Company, the agency booking the tour for MTV, refused to comment directly on Eastern’s current proposal, other than saying the offer is still being reviewed.

As of now, an offer for May 1, 2 or 3 to host the event has not been officially sent to Mad Booking, but the bid is expected to be sent either today or tomorrow, said Stingley.

The current bid submitted to Mad Booking, from Stephanie Ennis of Eagle Entertainment, calls for 20 percent of the merchandise sales for the event to go to EWU student activities. Also, contained in the bid, as a radius clause limiting the MTV Campus Invasion Tour to no additional campuses within 100 miles of Eastern. This would prevent the tour from appearing at Washington State University.

Ticket prices for the event would be $15 for EWU students, and $22 for the general public.

Since the EWU board of trustees has already approved these dates for the event, no further BOT involvement is necessary.

That is fine with Ennis to negotiate bringing the tour to Eastern, providing there are no scheduling conflicts on campus at the time.

By the time spring quarter starts, there should be definitive word, one way or the other, on whether the MTV Campus Invasion Tour will be coming to Eastern said Stingley.

### EWU to review health contract with Rockwood Health center provides best student health care in state, experts say

The contract with Rockwood Cherry Health Center, the current health service provider for EWU students, will be fulfilled on September 15, and then be either renewed or replaced.

Michelle Pingree, Health, Wellness and Prevention Program Coordinator for EWU, said the university may look into other health service providers, but may also review and renew the contract with Rockwood.

"It may be a situation where we entertain other proposals or may be a situation where we negotiate with Rockwood," said Pingree.

Pingree said that "there has been some informal checking around, but as of yet the university has not found another health service provider.

Pingree also said the university will be submitting a "legal document" to the Spokane Review, possibly other publications, soliciting a contract with the university for a student health service.

Connie Langford, the student health representative at the Rockwood clinic, said she doesn’t think there are any other likely candidates for a health service provider.

"There’s nobody that could come close to being able to offer what we’re able to offer," said Langford.

Langford said the Rockwood clinic is ideal because of its location and the variety of services it can provide students.

The Rockwood clinic is the only medical center in Cheney, and has one center in Medical Lake and three in Spokane, all of which are open to EWU students.

Pingree said that EWU students looking for health services in state in 1999 after a good ten years, and the only time since then there has been no student health care at the 7007 campus year, after the student health department dropped the contract with Rockwood.

The termination of the contract resulted in over 50 percent of the student body having no health care. At all in 1997, the current contract with Rockwood was signed.

Langford said that a lack of university provided health care in ‘97 resulted in students neglecting to take care of health problems or choosing the least expensive treatments instead of the best treatments.

"It’s a lot more difficult to serve students when they have to pay cash up front," said Langford.

Universities provide the health coverage provided by the Rockwood clinic along with the other student university health care plans, and in many cases, any other university health clinic in the state.

A misconception among students that the university forces students to purchase a health care policy. Pingree said that it’s a problem when the only college in the state and one of only a few non-profit hospitals that gives students the option to purchase other coverage besides their plan in the same place.

The Rockwood Clinic provides affordable health care for students at the Cheney Medical Center near campus, as well as at a medical center located in Medical Lake and several located in Spokane.

### There’s definitely not anything special inside this issue!
In this week’s council meeting, marking the last week of winter, Shane Hart was appointed to fill the vacated ASEWU legis­lative affairs seat, held by Tracy Williams who resigned last month due to personal problems. Hart, unsuccessfully ran against Dee Dee Keys for the legis­lative affairs position in the last ASEWU elections. He will hold the post, until Keys takes over in the position in her term.

The results from the last ASEWU elections have fi­nally been validated. The delay for the validation was due to the special run-off election between Ryan Kroum and Kim Wise, on an election board grievance hearing.

Many of the ASEWU by­laws concerning election policy and election griev­ance procedures are being re-written by the council. The current by-laws provide for an ample amount of ambiguity as to how the by­laws are to be interpreted, and hopefully by amending them the ambiguity will be cleared up.

President-elect Bree Holsing, is trying to spear­head a campaign to convince students who are not good in math, to wait until fall to take Math 104. To sign up early, as she anticipates the Math 104 classes will fill up quickly. Holsing asked for the council’s support in this en­deavor, which the council unanimously supported.

It was announced that Governor Locke has been chosen to be the key speaker at this year’s commencement ceremony.

Finally, in an ASEWU council special session held March 2, a proposal was pre­sent­ed to send three indi­viduals to Washington D.C. to represent EWU at the Grassroots Conference on March 10. The council ap­proved a budget of $2,500 to be used for the trip. The money will be allocated from unused funds in the legis­lative affairs budget. The three individuals chosen for the trip are: President Danny Caldwell, ASEWU pres­i­dent-elect Bree Holsing, and ASEWU legislative af­fairs-elect Dee Dee Keys. If Keys is unable to attend, ASEWU executive vice pres­i­dent-elect Heather Ann Ruley will attend the confer­ence. The confer­ence is for training purposes on how is­sues are dealt with on both the state and federal levels of government. Any unused money after the confer­ence will be put into a reserve fund.

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\section*{Letters to the Editor}

\section*{Easterner editor needs to grow up}

Dear Easterner,

When I read something that illustrates shallow thinking, I feel compelled to respond. If it’s unclear to what I’m referring, please reread. When all else fails, blame a man” by editor Allen Moody. The title is a misnomer—his article is blaming women, not men. I’d like to respond to some of his complaints, going a little deeper in thought than he obviously had time for:

Courts give women custody of children most of the time because “they” are better parents. If we arrange a nerve, then look at the statistics of child abuse and/or death (or even for that matter) and you will see males drastically outwitting females as perpetrators. Besides that, studies show that many more women are sexually involved in their children’s lives than the male parent. Doubt me? Go to any school meeting, event or volunteer in the classroom.

Closer to home: How many of our students’ Studies? I don’t recall that only “women” can get one. Where’s the discrimination towards men?

Did his date “force” him to pay? To refuse to pay her half?

Mr. Moody is solely responsible, regardless of how many he raises. His choice for choosing to spring for the bill. (And who’s counting? On the average, men make much more than women.)

Please quit whining. I bet the woman who had the date with Mr. Moody will think twice about dating him again after he foolishly exposed his one inch thinking.

Renee Roehl

\section*{Stranger Days}

Dave Humphreys
G配 Abate

A silent breath of relief can be heard now, gradually increasing in intensity as the Eastern enters the last week of the quarter. Finals taken, term projects completed (well, sometimes), and classes, at last, completed. Most everyone has devoted the campus by next Thursday, leaving behind only the aura of lessons learned, stresses endured and without a doubt, some experiences worth repeating. Most students will now be taking off for home, vacation or anywhere other than Cherry. Echoes of the past will now fade, and we will set upon the grand assignment of entertaining ourselves in the brief respite of spring break.

But perhaps focus should be shifted. Perhaps the importance of entertaining ourselves should be set back in light of some recent film releases. Take for example, some members of the Eastern editorial staff. Editor Allen Moody. He will be spending his time off in the warmth of southern California with his grandson Blake and his daughter cham, even though he could be recreating in Vegas, contributing to the gambling industry. Darren Beall will begin his break by taking a few hours to visit some friends at a Walla Walla tavern, and spend the rest of his break with his sister’s family and his German Shepherd Jezzy, even though he could be recreating in Vegas, contributing to the gambling industry. Finally, Copy Editor Dave Humphreys could be spending his spring break in Mexico, enjoying the calm shade of a palm tree and the brisk wind coming off the Pacific. Instead, he will be going home to the Tri-Cities to bury a friend who died in a car wreck this past weekend.

So have a nice spring break, enjoy yourselves, but just remember to keep in mind those closest and dearest to you. They can teach you more than any Phd. ever could.

Cigarettes are an anomaly of human nature. I am not here to condemn those who smoke them nor am I here to promote them to those who don’t. Instead, let’s take an intelligent look at where the enigma originated and how they fit into our society in the year 2000.

Human beings have always found stuff to burn and smoke since the early days of Native American shamans and Asian medicine men. Perhaps our fascination with smoking things lies in the power to possess and harness fire. Perhaps, too, it is no surprise that modern humans love the ability to take a little bit of fire and carry it with them in their mouths, as a status symbol, as a method to relax and also as a tool.

Now fast forward to 2000 where politicians use cigarettes as a tool to jump start their ailing political careers, tax us beyond belief and aid others to sue the cigarette companies for health problems inflicted upon their families by the products that state clearly on the box (nowadays at least) what they can do to you. But that is a whole political debate over the evil that is the American “legal” system. What I want to know is: What is so great, or alternately, horrible about cigarettes?

Recent studies show that many, many people still smoke despite the clearly established risks to one’s health. Yes, modern day cigarettes do contain carbon monoxide, traces of fiber glass, tar and hundreds of other things that will most likely cause your cells to mutate into highly dangerous ones. There are many 70-80, hell even 90-year-old people out there who smoke for countless decades and have never been afflicted with cancer. So simply stating that “cigarettes will kill you” is an easy way out for some to segregate cigarette smokers from their “healthy circles of people.” Too bad the same “health” freaks who condemn cigarette smokers are the same morons who go and bake their flesh under the ultraviolet rays of the sun in order to get a tan. That causes cancer too, everybody! And then the same “health nuts” who guzzle down diet drinks and eat processed foods containing saccharin and Nutrasweet which, again, cause cancer.

More and more teenagers — up to 30 percent — are beginning to smoke cigarettes and recent studies have found that cigarette smoking is increasing at alarming rates around college campuses throughout the country. Why is this? Does that old myth that cigarettes are cool, the same one that made the Marlboro Man a staple among American “coolness” in the forties and fifties, have some truth to it?

Perhaps. Hollywood has been criticized as of late for “glamorizing” cigarettes among the previous two “evils” of sex and violence. This is true. Hollywood definitely without a shadow of a doubt has glamorized the smoking of cigarettes, especially if you watch any action film made between 1970 and 1995. But why not? A cigarette can be a great prop to work with. They convey emotion, temperament, and attitude, and some film maker can find any use for it. The message of recent film releases, “The Insider”, doesn’t seem to have broken through the barrier of cool just yet, although it managed to be a three-hour film on cigarettes without ever actually showing someone smoking one.

Plus it goes without saying that nicotine is the most addictive legal substance out there. Yes, that’s right, and many will tell you that for some people, quiting: cigarettes unequal to liquor harder than heroin and crack-coke! It’s a fact. Cigarette companies know this and bend the FDA’s allowance of nicotine to the limits so that they can hook as many people as possible, (young people preferably because they live longer and thus buy more cigarettes. Sick, but true).

If you’ve never smoked a cigarette before, you may not be able to relax. However, most people have indeed smoked at least one cigarette before the age of 25 and if you ask them, they will tell you how “cool” and “unique” they feel when those first puffs of nicotine enter their bloodstream, sending signals to their brains telling them they want more of it.

If you are lucky enough to have averted the temptation to smoke even one cigarette in your youth, then yes, I will applaud you. However, you’re the minority. And if the main reason for staying clear of them, again, I can name a dozen other things you do every single day that have the potential to limit your life span: drinking alcohol, driving a car, having unprotected sex, playing full contact sports, etc.

The bottom line is this: Cigarettes are cool, cigarettes are addictive, cigarettes are unhealthy, cigarettes are relaxing, cigarettes are hated, bought and taxed. Do not condemn someone for smoking, do not pity them, do not start if you don’t already, unless you really want to and are willing to take the risk to your health and your wallet and do not vote for a politician based on his or her views about the cigarette conglomerates residing in this country. And if all of this seems confusing, well that is why cigarettes are such an anomaly of human nature.

\section*{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 of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

“A nation that does not educate in freedom will not survive in freedom, and will not even know when it has lost it.”

Alan Charles Kors and Harley Silvergate, authors, 1998
St. Patrick's Day - Not just green beer
Anne Summers - The Easterner

Spiritual reflection, communism with God, homage to the saints and green beer — oddly, all these things represent St. Patrick's Day to different people. Somewhere amongst the green-leafed lakes of New York and the green beer served throughout the world March 17, the true origins of the holiday, which pay tribute to St. Patrick reside, often unacknowledged.

Despite a modern leprechaun-skeletov, the real pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is that St. Patrick's Day is a religious holiday. Not intending sacrilege, but green beer doesn't exactly strike me as a beverage a church pew would serve. So what is the deal? How did we get from saint-praise to pinching non-wearers of green each year?

One Irish legend about St. Patrick speaks of the amazing day he drove all the snakes from Ireland. Delivering a sermon, perchod atop a hill in Ireland's rolling countryside, he denounced the snake and with God's power, cast them all into the sea. Many view this amazing day as an event to paganism in Ireland, as snakes have traditionally been revered as symbols of sin and deception.

Celebrations of St. Patrick's Day began as solemn days of power and mass, celebrating the life of the patron saint of Ireland. As the Irish migrated, celebrations spread across the globe. The first St. Patrick's Day celebration in the United States was in Boston in 1737.

In a matter of years, the deeply religious reflection of March 17 lost its meaning for the Irish-American populace who seem to commercialize everything and make any holiday an excuse to drink. The United States bestows the holiday with little to no religious or page writer summarized St. Patrick's Day as "essentially a time to put on a Kiss Me I'm Irish" button and parade drunkens through the streets singing a mangled version of 'Danny Boy' in celebration of one's real or imagined Irish ancestry.

So in the fun of pinching, drinking and parading this St. Patrick's Day, realize there exists religious roots to this holiday. While we hit the bars of 'Danny Boy' in celebration of one's real or imagined Irish ancestry, realize there exists religious roots to this holiday.

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Area residents run and gamble in 3.1-mile fun run

Jeff Thaxton
Easterner reporter

The third and final event of Family Weekend at EWU was the Eagle Poker Fun Run. The race took place Sunday morning and saw a turnout of about 50 people. The ROTC program organized the event with the help of Student Activities, Morrison Hall, ASEWU and Eagle Entertainment. Participants had the choice of walking 1.5 miles or running 3.1 miles.

"About half of the people chose to walk and about half of them ran," said Lieutenant Amy Dirsham, a Goldbar Recruiter for the program.

Each person who wanted to receive a poker card at the beginning of the race. They were given additional cards at various points throughout the course until they had five cards total. There was an additional station at which participants could exchange up to two cards to better their hands.

Prizes were given to the top male and female in each age category. The winners were given a poker playing set, a jewel crown, or a puzzle key ring. Trophies and ribbons were also presented to the people who had the fastest times. The fastest this was the first year of the Poker Run, but members of the ROTC program hope to make this an annual event.

"We'd like to see more people turn out," said Dirsham. The race was conducted in conjunction with the theme of Club Vegas, which took place Saturday evening.

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Ensuring the future for those who shape it.
Depression group lightens mood on campus

They've been involved in everything from food drives, to teaching Crosswalk kids how to use checkbooks, to educating senior citizens about computers, to developing a summer camp for abused children. SIFE has teamed up with Junior Achievement, Consumer Credit, Partners in Health, and the list just goes on and on. They also offer business consulting, which involves donating 1000 man hours per business and providing practical improvement ideas.

SIFE is "not like any other club," Theil said. "We are an active organization...run like a business." SIFE's mission is: "To provide college students the best opportunity to make a difference practicing, and teaching the principles of free enterprise." According to the "What is SIFE" document, "SIFE teams establish a variety of community outreach programs that teach free enterprise.

"What isn't free enterprise?" Doug Theil, EWU's Chief Executive Officer of SIFE said. Theil's enthusiasm for the group is outweighed only by the extensive achievements of the group's other 54 members.

"Depression is a very common problem among college students, and sometimes they don't even know that they are suffering from it," said Squires. "As counselors, we are trained to look for signs of depression and to make referrals for appropriate treatment.

According to Eastern's counseling center, the signs of depression are: sad or irritable mood, difficulty enjoying life, feeling hopeless or worthless, thought of suicide, poor appetite or overeating, difficulty sleeping or oversleeping, trouble concentrating, and low energy or decreased motivation.

It is expected that the group will involve 8-10 members, although there is room for more if an interest is shown. The therapy sessions are strictly confidential and based on the most effective approach for the treatment of depression.

Screenings for the nine-week group can be scheduled anytime from now until the end of the 1st week of Spring quarter. Each screening will entail discussing the symptoms of depression and certain elements that apply to life of the individual. According to Squires, each person taking part in the screening should meet three or more of the before mentioned symptoms of depression as well as show interest in attending group sessions and completing all exercises. For more information or to schedule a screening call Melissa at 359-2266.

"Our hope is to give those suffering from depression the guidance and awareness that they need," said Squires.
Hersch to provide pre-finals stress relief

Seth Swift
Eastern Reporter

Singer, songwriter, and guitarist James Hersch will be playing in the PUB today from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., courtesy of ASEG and Eagle Entertainment.

As a recipient of the 1997 Harry Chapin Award for Contributions to Humanity for his outreach program, ‘Reach, Hersch has traveled nationwide to put on informal concerts in the style of story-songwriter Harry Chapin for over nineteen years. Hersch has played at colleges, and universities nationwide, Hersch has recorded four albums of original songs, guitar instrumental pieces, and a recording and songbook of original songs, guitar instrumental pieces, and a recording and songbook of original songs, guitar

In addition to playing for a variety of audiences nationwide, Hersch has recorded four albums of original songs, guitar instrumental pieces, and a recording and songbook of original songs, guitar instrumental pieces, and a recording and songbook of original songs, guitar instrumental pieces, and a recording and songbook of original songs, guitar

Seth Swift
Eastern Reporter

James Hersch will be singing about family, friendship and struggle today in the PUB MPR at 2 p.m.

Hersch, “plays to his audience.” In addition to playing for a variety of audiences nationwide, Hersch has recorded four albums of original songs, guitar instrumental pieces, and a recording and songbook of original songs, guitar instrumental pieces, and a recording and songbook of original songs, guitar instrumental pieces, and a recording and songbook of original songs, guitar instrumental pieces, and a recording and songbook of original songs, guitar

Hersch played at EWU and in the community last year. Griel says that, though there wasn’t much response on campus, “the kids loved him. He played guitar and they sat on his lap and sang.” The subject matter of Hersch’s songs center around family, friendship, and struggle, and while he spices things up with his own twists on a few older but familiar tunes.

As a means of pre-finals stress relief, additional activities have been planned to go with Hersch’s performance by EWU’s SEAL. SEAL will provide sumo-wrestling suit matches and a wacky trike-riding event for students. As an added incentive for Eastern students to attend Hersch’s concert, Griel emphasized, “It’s energetic, he cares about people, and he takes the time to show it.” All events are free to EWU students, and the Cheney Campus performance is open to everyone.

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Club Vegas Recap: “It was a blast.”

Andrea Laguardia
Eastern Reporter

Being new to EWU this year, this reporter had never been to the annual Club Vegas event. To anyone else who didn’t go, it was a blast. It was definitely worth the time and the $3 entrance fee.

The evening started with Mentalist Chris Carter who bought one girl on stage and guessed her car make, model, color and it’s license plate number. After he had guessed these things, he brought her up on stage and told her to open a sealed envelope. This envelope contained a letter he had written in his hotel room before the show. It said that that evening at Club Vegas he would meet a girl with a certain car that had a certain make, model, color and license plate, and much to the girl’s surprise it was her exact car. The crowd gasped in amazement and burst out into wild applause.

Afterwards started the gambling with funny money. They had tables set up for different types of gambling. The tables included several tables for blackjack, bingo, roulette, craps, and many other games. You started out with $5,000 in funny money to try to multiply to win prizes. The prizes ranged in price from about $450,000 for a ski lift tickets for two, to $7,000 for candy. Everywhere you looked there were people laughing, having fun, eating, and gambling. There were chips, cheese and salsa as well as popcorn to munch on and cans of soda to drink.

At 10:00 p.m., people started lining up to redeem their money for prizes. The hotel rooms and skiing was the first to go, and all of the smaller stuff followed. People were allowed to get as many prizes as they could with their money if they went back to the end of the line after they got their prize.

After that was over Stephanie Ennis raffled three big prizes, a night at a hotel, a restaurant gift certificate and some luggage, then proceeded to raffle off some tee shirts. Then the hypnotist performed at about 11:30 p.m., and the seats were packed, and people were ready to be called out of the crowd to participate. Fifteen people volunteered to participate in the evening’s events, and the hypnotist was able to do his work.

He singled out those who had only pretended to fall asleep and were not hypnotized, and then proceeded to make the people on stage do things like think that their neighbors stank. At one point he made a boy act like Ricky Martin. At the end of the show he brought people out of the hypnotized state and had certain words that triggered reactions in people. He had people standing up and yelling specific things. For an hour and a half he had people transformed.

Club Vegas was a huge success for everyone involved.

In a Graduate Degree from Eastern Washington University

Being accepted to Eastern was the best thing that could have happened to me. Teaching in another degree program, I sought to get a higher degree to enhance my teaching profession. Eastern’s Master of Science in Christian Ministry degree program met my needs.

I am graduate with nothing to worry about now - nothing to wonder about it.

-Jon Billman

Eastern Washington University offers 24 degree programs in diverse fields. Many of these programs are convenient and flexible for working professionals. Courses are offered on the main campus as well as at EWU's two Spokane locations during evenings and weekends.

For more information about specific EWU graduate programs, please contact the graduate studies office at 509-359-4540, or e-mail at gradprograms@mail.ewu.edu
Grizzlies claw their way past Eagles

Eastern shares Big Sky Conference title

Ian Kerr
Eastern Staff Reporter

With two games remaining in regular season play, the Eastern Washington University
Men’s Basketball team knew the importance of the weekend.

Two wins would mean clinching the Big Sky Conference
Title, something never before done before at EWU, but two losses would most cer-
tainly put them out of the title hunt. The weekend is now over and the Eagles have
done neither of the before mentioned. Instead they finished off the regular season
with a 10-10 win and one loss, and a share of the championship.

Nine weeks and 19 games, and we win the league title, that’s the way we have to look at it. Head coach Steve Aggers. He also added the fact that even though the team is “all-disap-
pointed” in the loss to the University of Montana Saturday night, “the kids were mature enough to win.”

This week started the weekend with a win Thursday night against Montana State. A slow start by the Eagles had them trailing 41-36 at the half, but a very strong change in tempo after half time pushed them to 15 point win and a final score of 111-93.

Chris White, who seemed to be having trouble early in the game settled down enough to earn himself a double-double with 19 points and 12 rebounds. Also adding 3 blocks. The game’s leading scorer was Ryan Hansen with 22 points. Eastern Hunter had 11 points and 9 rebounds, and Deon Williams added 12 points.

The win clinched the league championship for Eastern, however, to be the undisputed champs, the Eagles had to beat second place University of Montana Saturday night. A close game the whole way, Eastern found themselves again trailing at halftime, 42-36. However, the Eagles mounted another after halftime comeback and were able to build up a 10 point lead at one point. However, the Grizzlies combined several different aspects of their game and mounted a comeback, which resulted in a 77-75 loss for EWU.

“[Montana] played well and we were disappointed in the loss,” said Aggers. They missed 5 shots from the three-point-line, plus we didn’t rebound very well. So you combine those factors with us missing our free throws and that was our undoing.” Eastern was out-rebounded 45-33 and shot only 47 percent from the free-throw line.

Not everything about the game was negative however, the Eagles had four players in double figures. Deon Williams led Eastern with 18 points. Jaimie Jones had 15. Dennis Fitzgerald added 12 and Aaron Olson had 10.

“We can’t let the disappointment of one loss take away from this team and what this group of kids has accomplished,” said Aggers.

“This is a great group of players, they’ve worked extremely hard, they’ve got great chemistry and they really like each other. We’re putting a deck of season.

Coach Aggers would once again like to thank all of the fans who came out to support the team this past weekend. We had standing room only, great environment, great crowd. Win or lose, it just shows what can be done with our program here at Eastern, that we can get the support.”

He would also like to encourage everyone to come to Montana and cheer on the Eagles as they play for a berth in the NCAA tournament. Game time is March 10th at 7 p.m. For ticket information, contact the Univer-
sity of Montana ticket office by calling 1-888-MONTANA. Also, if anyone is interested in riding or organizing a rooter bus that will travel to Montana to watch the game, contact the EWU office, Dan Clark or Jamie Nichols as soon as possible.

Aaron Olson
Lady Eagles qualify for Big Sky Tournament

Tom Fox
Associated Press

For the first time in four years, the Eastern Washington women's basketball team is competing in the Big Sky Tournament, despite having a losing record on the season, 11-15 overall and 7-9 in conference play.

The Eagles finished the season tied for fifth with Northern Arizona and Portland State in the Big Sky and placed with the sixth seed in the tournament.

Northern Arizona was placed with the fifth seed because they were the only of the three tied teams to defeat the conference champions, the Montana Grizzlies (20-7, 13-3).

Eastern was given the nod over Portland State for the final playoff spot because they had defeated the second best team, Cal State Northridge (17-9, 11-5), earlier in the year.

Even though the Eagles made the tournament on technicalities, coach Jocelyn Pfeifer and the Eagles are thrilled to be in the six-team loser-out tournament. "I am just really happy for our seniors, really wanted them to go to the tournament. It's hard when you've been playing your own destiny," said Pfeifer. "After we lost to Montana we were waiting to see what Northridge and Portland State did." Cal State Northridge defeated Cal State Sacramento 70-67 on March 4, and in effect, the Eagles benefited from the second-seeded Matadors victory.

If Northridge would have lost their final regular season game, the Matadors would have dropped down to the third seed in the tournament behind Weber State (11-6, 13-11), and since Portland State swept Weber State this season, the Vikings would have landed in the tournament over Eastern, who split with the Wildcats.

After the 72-62 defeat to the Grizzlies March 4, the Eagles waited in Missoula to hear if they would be back for the tournament. "It was kind of stressful around 11:00 o'clock," said Pfeifer.

In the loss to the Grizzlies, Eastern was forced to play catch-up for the entire game. Eastern was yet again dapped by a 15-2 scoring run in the first half by the Lady Griz.

With the large 35-26 lead at halftime, Montana continued to dominate the Eagles for the remainder of the game.

Eastern did, however, show signs of rejuvenation when they got within nine (68-59) with about four minutes left in the game.

Eastern's sophomore guard Jennifer Pulicic tied her career high with 28 points, while senior Emily Burgos added 14 points in the losing effort.

The last win on the season for the Eagles came on March 2, when Eastern defeated Montana State 74-67.

First team all-conference selection Tracy Ford-Phillips dominated the robots, when she scored a career-high 31 points for the victorious Eagles. Ford-Phillips' performance was the highest output from a Montana player since Lori Nater's 37 points against Montana on March 2, 1995.

The win for the Eagles was the first at Worthington Arena in Bozeman, Mont. since the 1989-90 season.

After Montana St. posed a threat to the game at 58, Ford-Phillips and Eastern Ignited on a 13-0 run that put the game to rest.

In the game of her illustrious career, Ford-Phillips drained five three pointers and was a perfect eight for eight at the line.

The accurate Julie Moore posted good numbers on the night as well, with 11 points and nine rebounds. Freshman guard Michelle Demetruck scored in double figures as well with 10 points in the much needed win.

Women's Big Sky Conference Tournament First Round Results

Idaho State Bengals 55
Eastern Washington 46
Weber State Wildcats 62
Northern Arizona 60

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Three Eagles named to All-Big Sky Team

Senior guards Deon Williams and Ryan Hansen have been selected to the All-Big Sky Conference first team, while junior center Chris White has earned honorable mention honors. Williams also earned All-Big Sky honors as a sophomore when he was named to the first team, and last season when he earned honorable mention accolades.

That trio helped lead the Eagles to a 12-4 record in the Big Sky Conference and a No. 3 seed into this week’s Big Sky conference Tournament in Missoula, Mont. The Eagles receive a bye to Friday’s semifinals, with the winner of the tournament advancing to the NCAA Tournament. The Eagles are 15-11 overall.

Not surprisingly, Hansen and Williams spoke of the team’s accomplishments and goals instead of the individual accolades they received.

“It’s exciting, but right now our focus is winning the Big Sky Conference tournament,” Hansen said. “It’s a nice personal achievement, but without my teammates and how balanced we were, I probably would have never received it.”

“I mean it a lot, but I couldn’t do it if I didn’t have great teammates around me,” Williams said. “We’ve had success in winning, and they recognized me as being a big part of this team.”

Lady Eagles place three on conference honor roll

Senior Tracy Ford-Phelps earned first-team All Big Sky Conference honors heading a list of three Eagle players that were honored by the Big Sky. Senior Julie Moore and sophomore Alii Bailey earned All-Big Sky honorable mention honors. It was the first Big Sky honors for each player.

Ford-Phelps became the 13th player in Eastern Washington history to score over 1,000 career points when she reached the milestone on Feb. 2 at Weber State.

Moore is tied for first in the Big Sky Conference shooting 50.9 percent (119-of-234) from the field and she is averaging 10.7 points and 6.7 rebounds a game, which ranks her 15th and ninth in the conference, respectively. With 11 points at Montana State, Moore finished the regular season with 13 games scoring in double digits. In addition, she posted five games with double digit rebounds and three double-doubles in point and rebounds.

Moore closed out her Eagle career at Reese Court in style averaging 15.5 points and 10.5 rebounds in leading Eastern to win over Cal State Northridge and Northern Arizona two weeks ago.

Before her season-ending injury, Bailey had recorded double figures in points nine times while recording double digit in rebounds 11 times this season. She lead the team and second in the conference averaging 9.3 rebounds a game and recorded six double-doubles in points and rebounds this season. Bailey has earned two Big Sky Player of the Week awards this season, on Jan. 24 and Nov. 29. Bailey’s 19 rebounds against Northwest College on Nov. 20 was a career high and also a conference high this season.

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