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Associated Students of Eastern Washington University

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SPORTS

Brandon Moore helps
Eagles win two in a row

PAGE 12

NEWS

Eagle Kid's Day helps bring
smiles to childrens' faces

PAGE 3

EAGLE LIFE

New laser tag
game powers up

PAGE 9



the EASTERNER

Volume 61, Issue 17

www.easterneronline.com

February 17, 2010

YOUR CAMPUS VOICE NEWS

A school sactioned

"I heard
[Ludacris]
is having a
concert at
eastern."

- Web comment

smear campaign

Gauging the students' reaction

An electronic bathroom stall

"Are they
really
going to
charge for
Facebook?"

- Web comment

BY ALINA SHAMIN
co-chief copy editor

Recent postings on a campus gossip Web site have shaken up the EWU campus, students and faculty alike. What started as frivolous gossip turned into hate speech filled with racist, homophobic and degrading comments that have the potential to damage reputations.

"Racism has penetrated the body and the spirit and the mind of the people," said Majid Sharifi, assistant professor of government, at the student and administrator meeting last week.

Nathan Lewis, student advocate to the dean of students, was the first to bring up the issue and advocate taking down the site and eliminating oppression on EWU's campus. He alerted the administration by e-mailing Al Thompson, dean of students.

"Sometimes, when you knock on the door and no one answers, you kick it in," said Lewis, referring to the struggle of getting the administrators' attention.

With sorority names, individuals' first and last names, phone numbers and groups like "Biggest Sluts on Campus" posted on that site, something had to be done, Lewis said.

Lewis himself is a victim of the gossip site but has taken it lightly, trying to defuse the situation. He finds it almost amusing that someone who doesn't know him takes the time out of his or her day to research his name and slander him.

Students pushed for the administration to look into any legal actions that can be taken to remove

EWU from the Web site, block the site from EWU servers, set up a concrete timeline, confirm victims' well-being, include students in decisions and publicizing the issue to raise awareness.

As an immediate response to the students' requests, a 10-day ban was put on the site. It is no longer accessible from EWU servers. The blocking will give the administration and ASEWU time to decide where to go next.

Lewis has compiled a two-page list of individuals from EWU who have been harassed on the Web site. It will be forwarded to Ron Dalla, vice president of student affairs, at an upcoming meeting on the subject.

Lewis mentioned a comment on the site where a student claimed to have not been racist prior to attending EWU. The student blames his new racist perspective on the way minority students have treated him.

According to Dalla, President Rodolfo Arévalo is drafting a letter which will go out to all faculty and be read in classrooms to raise awareness of the issue and explain why the Web site was blocked.

BY NICOLE ENCKSON
news editor

Last week, the EWU administration blocked an online gossip site from campus computers for 10 days.

Officials have contacted the site asking them to remove references to Eastern from their site, but as of Tuesday morning, the site has not complied.

"They [the administration] can't demand [the removal of Eastern from the site]. They can ask that, but they can't demand compliance from the site managers," said Gary Gasseling, deputy chief of the EWU Police Department. "Basically all this is, is an electronic version of a bathroom stall."

The ASEWU urged students not to participate in the gossip site and also discouraged the viewing of the Web site in general.

On Thursday, Feb. 2, a posting on the site shocked a diverse range of students and faculty. Eastern police were alerted to the Web site because of its hateful messages.

"There is a very distinct line on what is a hate crime. You have to physically harm someone or their property to be considered a hate crime," said Gassel-

ing. "Everything that was said in there is constitutionally protected by free speech."

A gossip site operator who goes by the alias "Lance Lohan" spoke in a phone interview. "Originally, we thought [the Web site] would be positive," Lohan said, "and there are still a lot of good things, but sometimes people take it to the next level, which is not what we intended to do."

"Lohan" said that his father and the father of his partner are both lawyers, and they heavily researched the legalities of the site to make sure no laws were broken.

"There are going to be some things people don't like. It's a gossip Web site, but if people are being too nitpicky about it, we will leave it up," Lohan said.

The current Web site is the production of two old sites called campus gossip and USA Gone Dirty. USA Gone Dirty solely posted only pictures and campus gossip strictly had gossip. The two sites merged, enabling users to not only see pictures of their fellow classmates, but gossip about them as well.

"For the most part, we like where the site is headed, but there is a lot of stuff on there that we don't like or agree with. But it's a user-based site. It's up to the students to put what's on there," Lohan said.

"The table
where all
the popular
ppl sit att
r hoers."

- Web comment

STUDENT REACTION | PAGE 6

TRASH TALK | PAGE 6

STA proposes route changes for Eastern

New draft would spread service across campus with routes bypassing the PUB

BY JAMES EK
editor-in-chief

Part of a restructure to their operation in Cheney, Spokane Transit Authority (STA) has put forward a draft proposal that would change routes 65 and 66, and eliminate service to the PUB.

In lieu of servicing the PUB, STA plans on distributing service across Washington Street and along 6th and 7th streets. The result will be intervals of 15-minute pickups from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and hourly pickups after 5 p.m., and on weekends when school is in session. Summer service would feature 30-minute interval pickups. Riders also traveling to and from Spokane would need to transfer to another bus at the K Street Station.

Met with mixed reaction, concerns addressed at the meeting included walking times between stops and the decentralization of the PUB. Revenues from sales at the

PUB would be affected by no longer utilizing the building as a bus stop.

Nearly 70 percent of STA operations are covered by sales tax, with less than 20 percent coming from rider fares. The economic recession has hurt revenues for the company specifically with sales tax, said Otterstrom.

"We are looking to streamline what we provide between Spokane and Cheney," Otterstrom said.

While there would be a decrease of actual service hours, students would also see an increase of service along their routes. Otterstrom emphasized that the new plan would feature "better flexibility in how we operate the service to Cheney," adding that the plan was a "positive change."

The proposal, presented at a meeting Feb. 10, is still in its early draft form, but is part of a 2 per-

ROUTE CHANGE | PAGE 6



The solid lines indicate new routes proposed by Spokane Transit Authority on a map distributed last week.

Traffic collision claims Eastern student's life

BY JAMES EK
editor-in-chief

A traffic collision in Spokane claimed the life of an Eastern student over the weekend.

Jacoby Bryant, 19, was in the passenger seat of a 1999 Pontiac Grand Am driven by a friend when the collision occurred on Hatch Road and 54th Avenue early Sunday morning.

According to a news release by the Spokane County Sheriff's Office, the two cars involved in the incident were racing each other. The other car, a 2005 BMW, tried to pass the Pontiac while the Pontiac attempted to turn left at a high speed, which resulted in a "T-bone" fashion collision.

The driver of the Pontiac

suffered minor lacerations and contusions and was treated at a local hospital. No occupants of the BMW were injured.

"Traffic investigators were told that the occupants of the vehicles had been drinking at an earlier party," according to the news release. Blood tests were sent to a state toxicology laboratory for testing; results will be sent back in approximately one month.

An autopsy was scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 16; there were no results available at the time of printing.

According to a story run on KXLY, Bryant was described as "a one-of-a-kind girl who wasn't a troublemaker, worked hard to get good grades, inspired her friends and whose presence will be missed by everyone she knew."

This Week...

Only ONLINE

Podcast
The Easterner Show
returns for another
intriguing episode

Game review
Taking a look at
"Bioshock 2"

Video
Touring the Phase
and playing some
laser tag

Blogs
easternerblog.
wordpress.com

Read the story behind
all the big headlines
on campus and across
the Northwest

EASTERN
BY THE

\$26,000

spent on the new
laser tag system
in the Field House

NUMBERS

60

children seen
at Eagle Kid's
Day

\$500,000

cost of the new video
board in Woodward
Field's Improvement

Say
WHAT!?

SEE THE WHOLE
STORY ON PAGE 4

"WHEN I FIRST FOUND OUT I HAD
AIDS, I WAS PISSED... IT WAS MY
FAULT"

- Johnny Vamer
SPEAKER AT HIV FORUM
PUT ON BY NAACP AND
SRHD



James Eik

WEEKLY WEATHER

Feb. 18 - Feb. 25

weekly weather reports are provided by accuweather.com



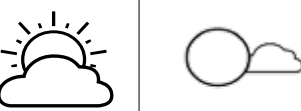
45° THURSDAY 28°



43° FRIDAY 25°



43° SATURDAY 25°



45° SUNDAY 27°



44° MONDAY 25°



43° TUESDAY 21°



35° WEDNESDAY 21°



35° THURSDAY 23°

green dot spot

your weekly guide to ending power-based personal violence

(The Green Dot strategy was created by Dorothy J. Edwards, Ph.D., University of Kentucky)

We need to understand sexual violence perpetrators in order to confront their behaviors and reduce the number of sexual assaults on campus. It is important to state from the beginning that most men are not perpetrators. Dr. Dorothy Edwards notes that only about 5 percent of men will rape or sexually assault. (Ending Violence One Green Dot at a Time, 2009) However, some of those who do are likely have multiple victims. (Women also commit sexual assaults, but their assaults differ from the sexual assaults that commonly occur on campus.) This article focuses on the typical college predator.

Here are some facts about perpetrators drawn from Stephan M. Thompson's work. These apply to perpetrators who rape someone known to them. As you read the list, keep in mind that this is only

about men who premeditate and target the women they will rape. He is well liked, usually athletic, and outwardly confident. He has no trouble attracting women. He has access to consensual sex, but does not enter into a committed relationship. He views women as objects. To women he is charming, but it is a tool of his manipulation. To his male peers, he expresses open hostility toward women. He brags about his conquests. He needs to be in "all male" groups like fraternities, sports teams or clubs. What he does is premeditated. He chooses women that are younger or less experienced. He does not accept rejection. He believes sex role stereotypes; he believes that he has the right to take what he wants from women. He may tell the victim,

"You knew what was going to happen" or "you owe me." He is rarely viewed as a predator. Other research on acquaintance predators notes that they refrain from violence that would produce injury. They test their target out by inappropriate touching or other boundary violations. They wait until their victim is too intoxicated to resist, often supplying alcohol and not giving the victim the opportunity to say no. During the assault, they often use threats and force. Their victims are less likely to report and are less likely to be taken seriously. As bystanders it is helpful to focus on the predator's behavior and understand how he operates. We may be able to interrupt a predator's plan.

POLICE BEAT

Feb. 8 - Feb. 14

BY JAMES EIK
editor-in-chief

2/8 11:45 p.m. – EWU Police assisted the Cheney Police Department with a collision on Washington Street. The incident occurred in front of the PHASE and involved two vehicles, including a university vehicle. A pedestrian was crossing the street using the crosswalk when a truck collided with the rear of a Dodge Caravan, which had stopped for the pedestrian. Witnesses of the collision say that there were no braking lights on the truck.

2/10 1:12 p.m. – Two students were trapped inside the elevator of Dressler Hall. Electricians forced the doors to the elevator open. Both students were able to leave the elevator without any problems.

2/10 9:29 p.m. – A student on the second floor of Pearce Hall reported that a

personal laptop had been stolen.

2/11 1:40 a.m. – EWU Police assisted the Cheney Police Department with a residential burglary on 5th Street.

2/12 10:41 p.m. – A resident in Pearce Hall left their door unlocked after leaving for a brief time. While the student was away, someone rifled through their room. Ultimately, the resident reported \$200 missing.

2/13 8:21 p.m. – In Pearce Hall, a student reported the theft of their Eagle Card.

2/14 3:32 p.m. – A Morrison Hall CA called EWU Police about a case of malicious mischief on their floor. When the officer arrived, there was an inappropriate message written on the wall next to the CA's door. The individual responsible for the message has not been identified.



Comic by Clancy Bundy

2/10 10:54 p.m. – In Morrison Hall, a fifth-floor resident returned to their room to find a condom placed on the door handle of their room. The resident contacted their CA about the situation, and EWU Police took a report.

Accuracy check

If you find any errors in your paper please contact the news editor at easterner.news@gmail.com.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS
1 Mesmerized
5 Medicinal amt.
8 Fenway Park city
14 "East of Eden" director Kazan
15 "Do You Love?" Bo Diddley classic
16 Concert bonus
17 "Stable storage enclosure
19 They save the day
20 Affliction
21 Be scared to
22 Bank acct. entry
23 Symbol on several keys
24 No ___ menu notice
27 Company featuring cavemen in its ads
29 Letter-shaped hardware
33 Chinese currency
35 Play thing
36 It's a wrap
37 Mrs. Peel of "The Avengers"
38 Arias, e.g.
40 Plastic surgeon's offering, for short
41 "Ghostbusters" co-writer Harold
43 Laugh from a Stoooge
44 In unfamiliar territory, maybe
45 Dandruff site
46 Commonly cluttered room
48 Maiden name lead-in
49 Reward for merit
51 Egg carton no.
53 Great Plains terrain
56 Motley Crue's two
60 Attach, perhaps with hardware that begins the answers to starred clues
61 "Benjamin Button" portrayer
62 Fellini's realm
63 Site of the smallest bone in the body
64 Lowly worker
65 Sleep apnea sufferer, often

66 The Hartford logo
67 Egyptian snakes

DOWN
1 Former gen.'s status
2 Jai
3 Cam's output
4 Sulu portrayer on "Star Trek"
5 Lively "Texas" dances
6 Cobbler's concern
7 Spitz-type dog, for short
8 Joy of "The View"
9 Burdensome
10 "Wacko"
11 Ren or Stimpzy, e.g.
12 Its creme may be eaten first
13 Homer's home
18 Toiled
21 Fail to finish school
23 Altar boy
24 Clinton press secretary Dee Dee
25 "Poison" shrub
26 Beta follower
28 Early metalworking period
50 Iraqi money
52 Rock artist Frank
53 Cpls.' underlings
54 Picnic spoiler
55 "It will come ___ surprise"
56 River through southern Russia
57 One-eighties
58 Corvette roof option
59 Train sched. list
61 Blossom visitor

Solution

R	A	P	T	T	S	P	B	O	S	T	O	N
E	L	I	A	W	H	O	E	N	C	O	R	E
T	A	C	K	R	O	O	M	H	E	R	O	E
D	I	S	E	A	S	E	D	A	R	E	N	O
I	N	T	A	R	R	O						
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P	R	A	I	R	I	E	U	M	L	A	U	T
F	A	S	T	E	N	B	R	A	D	P	I	T
C	I	N	E	M	A	E	A	R	P	E	O	N
S	N	O	R	E	R	E	L	K	A	S	P	S

The Easterner

Eastern Washington University's Student Newspaper

WRITERS' MEETINGS:

The Easterner is open for any EWU student or faculty wishing to write stories that could be published in the newspaper. Writers' meetings are Mondays at 3:30 p.m. in Isle Hall, room 102. The newspaper is also open for anyone wishing to copy-edit. Editing nights are on Tuesdays.

NEWS-LINE:

If you have an idea for a story, or are part of a campus club or organization that is holding an event, please call The Easterner tip line at (509) 359-6270. Also, if you have a comment about a story or a suggestion for the newspaper, please feel free to voice your opinion on the tip line as well.

ABOUT YOUR PAPER:

All content in The Easterner is either produced or chosen by students from Eastern Washington University. Our goal as employees of The Easterner is to provide interesting and relevant information to the students, faculty, staff and residents of EWU and the surrounding community of Cheney and Spokane.

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NEWS:

If you have a news tip, letter to the editor or press release, please call the newsroom at 359-6270 or the Editor-in-Chief at 359-6737. You can also contact The Easterner staff by e-mail or FAX at 359-4319.

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Elise Axel



news



Dental hygiene students provide oral care to children.

Allie Friese/Easterner

Eagle Kids' Day at Riverpoint

Annual event hosted by dental hygiene program promotes oral health

BY ALLIE FRIESE
staff writer

Thursday marked EWU's 29th annual "Eagle Kids Day" where low-income children, ages 18 and under, were provided with free dental care from dental hygiene students and faculty, as well as the Spokane District Dental Society.

The yearly event is always held in February, which is National Children's Dental Health Month and benefits low-income or uninsured families. This year, about 60 children were seen while last year the event boasted 119.

Dr. Janet Nord, senior lecturer at EWU, chalked the loss of participants up to a change in advertisement strategy. They relied on KHQ TV this year, she said.

The station hosted a chat room online as well as running advertisements on TV, but as Nord pointed out, the low-income families they were targeting may have less access to such outlets.

Dental health needs to be stressed to children at a young age since it may be overlooked if they have no access to dental care. According to the American Dental Association, "Developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums."

Students at the sophomore, junior and senior levels all helped with the program, gaining valuable experience while helping local families. In all, 100 students

were present throughout, performing dental X-rays, teeth cleanings, exams and sealants.

Aside from the students, 10 local dentists volunteered their time to assist the Cheney and Spokane communities.

Students who helped organized the event were paid by a grant that was awarded by the Higher Education Coordinating Board. The \$25,000 grant has been awarded three years in a row, but with budget cuts in Olympia and all of the grant money coming from the Legislature, it runs the risk of being affected and even cut completely next year.

On Saturday, Feb. 28, children will be called back for a follow-up day to have their cavities filled.

Children are not the only ones who can benefit from EWU's dental hygiene program. For two days each fall, the volunteers hold a "Senior Smile Day" for seniors who are on fixed incomes, are uninsured or, as Department Chair Rebecca Stolberg puts it, those who are "falling through the cracks." This program has only been running for four years, compared to the children's 29, but it's just as important to benefiting the Spokane community.

The clinic is open five days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., for everyone ages 5 and up. A fee is charged, but according to Stolberg it's 50 to 75 percent discount rate from private practices. "It's students working with students," said Stolberg. "It's a win-win."

To make an appointment or get more information call (509) 368-6510.

'Team' member needed

ASEWU committee searches for a dedicated student candidate

BY TOM LINNANE
staff writer

The ASEWU council will be accepting applications for the open Technology Advancement position in PUB 303 from Feb. 8 -19.

"Every position is important in the ASEWU, helping us keep our representation and helping us work as a team cohesively," said Stacey Butler, ASEWU executive vice president. "With one person missing, we are missing a part of our team."

All Eastern students are eligible to apply for the position as long as they are currently enrolled for at least 12 credits. Students interested in applying for the position can obtain applications at PUB 303 or on EagleNet. The process requires completing the application, providing a resumé and taking part in an interview.

Duties for the Technology Advancement position include 10 hours per week of office hours, responsibilities as chair of the Student Technology Fee Committee (STFC), attending the academic computing council and all ASEWU council meetings, and other job duty descriptions of council members.

"You have to be willing to give up your time," Butler said. "Although we are required 10 office hours, most of us do more than that, even though we only get paid for 10."

The Technology Advancement position is responsible for chairing the STFC, the committee that makes decisions on how to allocate funds from the Student Technology Fee (STF).

"We are looking forward to the [STFC] committee's continuing progress and will be filling the Technology Advancement position within the next few weeks."

-Ryan Eucker,
ASEWU president

Every student pays the STF through their tuition. The fee is then used to fund new technology proposals and projects at the university.

Earlier in the academic year, proposals were accepted from throughout the university to give the STFC ideas to improve technology programs with funds from the STF.

This year's proposals were requested from a wide range of areas at the university, including Campus Recreation, the JFK Library and even Support Services.

"As far as the STFC goes, the

hiring of the position should fit quite seamlessly into the committee and not disrupt its progress," said Ryan Eucker, ASEWU president.

An ASEWU hiring committee will decide who takes the open Technology Advancement position.

The hiring committee will consist of three volunteer ASEWU council representatives who will be appointed as the committee's voting body Friday.

The ASEWU president will chair the hiring committee. After conducting interviews, the president will recommend the committee's decision to the ASEWU council for final approval to fill the position.

The student who is chosen for the Technology Advancement position will hold the title until the end of the academic year.

The current process of finding a replacement for the Technology Advancement position will not stop students from being able to run for the position during elections in the spring.

ASEWU council representatives were unable to inform reporters of the details about why the Technology Advancement position is vacant in the first place.

"We are looking forward to the [STFC] committee's continuing progress and will be filling the Technology Advancement position within the next few weeks," Eucker said.

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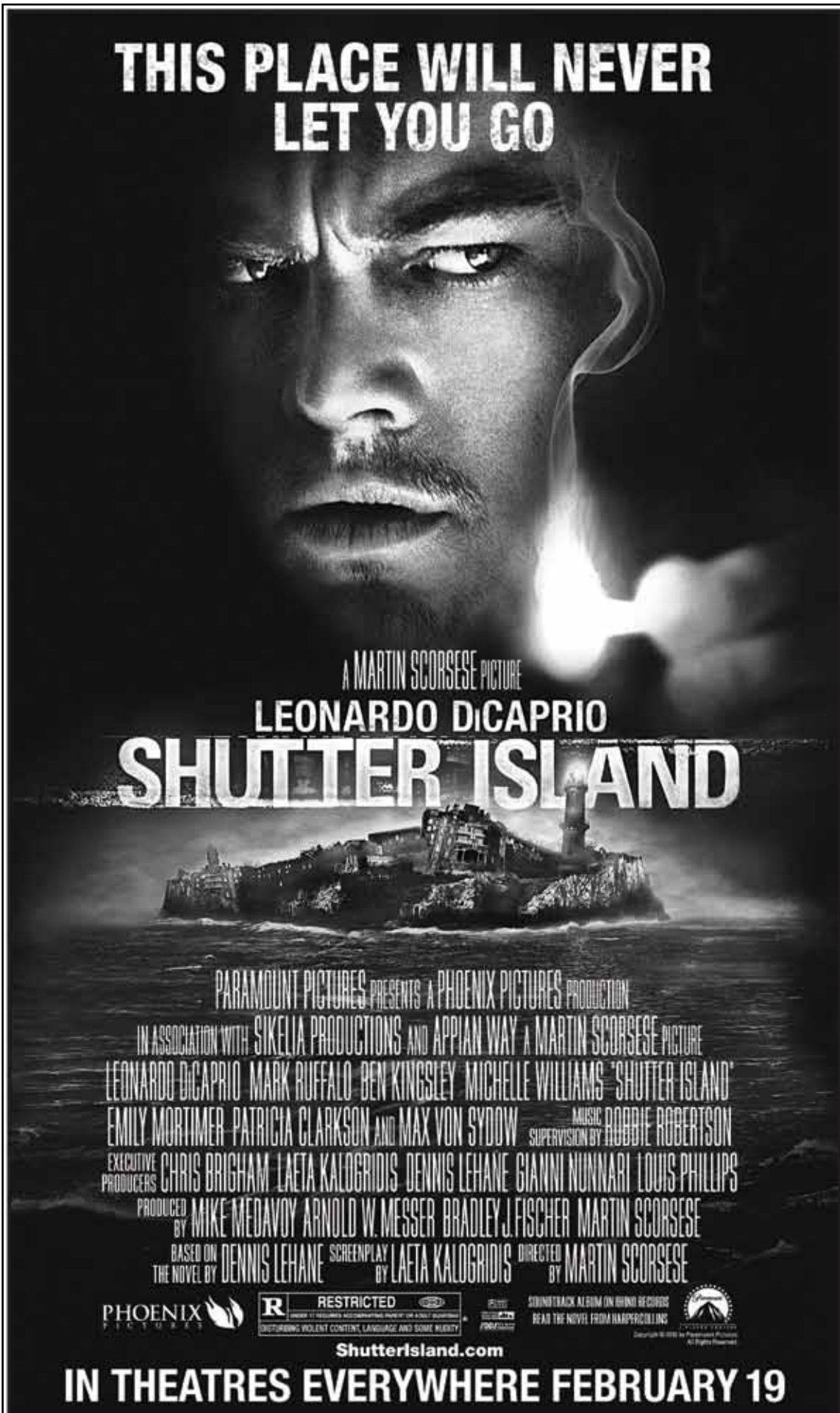


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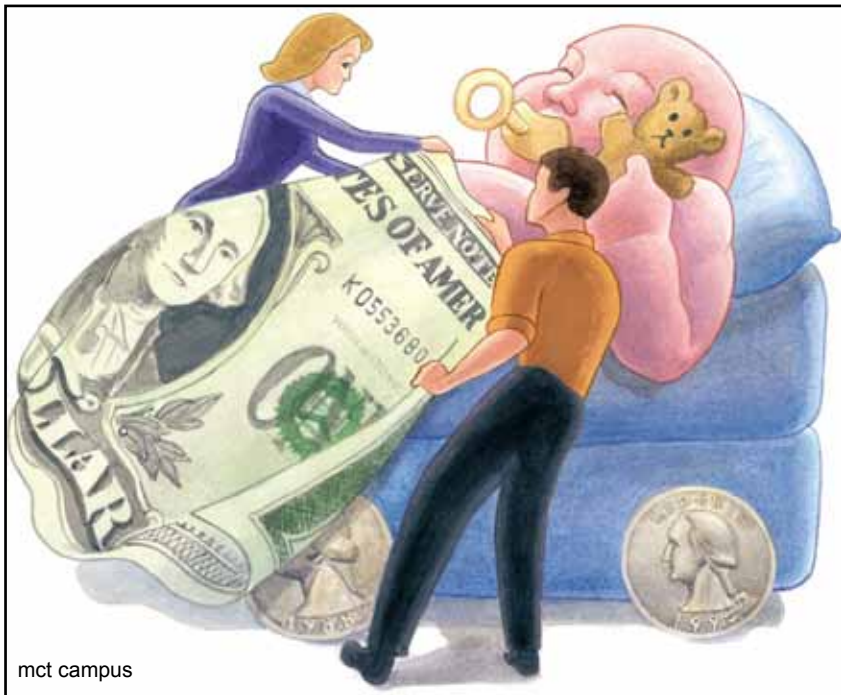
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Nicole Erickson



mct campus

Grant funds sick children's daycare

Care provided for parents' ill children so class won't be missed

BY MIKE BRAMBLEY
staff writer

EWU received a grant from the state Higher Education Board on Nov. 9, 2009, offering student parents new opportunities for when their child is sick and keeps the student from attending class.

"If their children are sick, they are normally not allowed to attend daycare because they don't want to pass the disease on to other kids," said Ted Carman, financial planning officer for Student Affairs. "Now, they can go to the Cuddles and Care program, which is in downtown Spokane, and their children will be covered for daycare by a program that has registered nurses."

The university grant will pay for the cost of childcare at the Cuddles and Care daycare program for up to three days and provides sick children with medical attention.

This grant will provide \$4,075 per year to support the childcare

program, for two years. Cost of childcare is \$35 a day at Cuddles and Care, and the university grant will cover these costs.

Cuddles and Care is run by the Sacred Heart Medical Center and is located in the St. Anne's Family Center at 25 W. Fifth Ave., in Spokane.

"If you are a student and you need to be attending classes, then it becomes a real problem. You could miss two or three days worth of class," Carmen said.

Student parents only need to call the EWU Children's Center to reserve a spot for their sick child at Cuddles and Care. When dropping off their children, parents will need to bring their student ID and their most current class schedule for proof of enrollment and coverage under the grant.

Trained medical personnel will make records of all medications and temperatures throughout the day, call parents when there is a problem, and advise them on medical issues when they

pick up their children at the end of the day, a Cuddles and Care nurse said.

Cuddles and Care may restrict daycare for highly contagious children. Highly contagious illnesses include chicken pox, measles, mumps, pink eye, unexplained rashes, strep throat and some parasites found in the hair, the nurse said.

"It is really important for us to offer this resource for students so that they can have their children somewhere safe and make sure that they are still attending classes," said Kasey Bates, program director of the EWU Children's Center.

The Student Affairs Department was responsible for obtaining the grant and developing the contract with Cuddles and Care.

"These are services that would not normally be available at any child care center," Carman said. "These services are part of a medical program."

Tickets issued for wearing seat belts

In an attempt to lower deaths and debilitating injuries, EWU Police will reward students who wear safety belts with a cash prize

BY ALLIE FRIESE
staff writer

This week was the start of the Click It and Ticket promotion on EWU's campus.

ASEWU and EWU Police are working together to try to raise awareness about seat belt use. According to officer Tom Barber, the Click It and Ticket program is a seat belt safety program that was developed for high schools.

EWU is actually the first university to participate. "It's funded by State Farm by a grant to the Spokane County Target Zero Task Force," Barber said.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, motor vehicle crashes are the eighth leading cause of death among Americans of all ages nationwide and claim the most lives of those aged 3 to 33. In Washington state alone, traffic collisions claim more lives from ages 1 to 44 than any other diseases or injuries.

Even though Washington state's primary seat belt law became effective in 2002, there are still many drivers who endanger themselves by not wearing their safety belt. Target Zero focuses on changing this trend and saving lives.

The idea of the program is to pull over students who are wearing seat belts and give them a mock ticket, which is then signed and turned into the PUB as a raffle ticket. The student whose ticket is drawn will be awarded \$124, the price of a real ticket.

The winning ticket will be drawn by EWU President Rodolfo Arévalo and announced Feb. 26 at the

men's basketball game. The award will be presented by Karen Wigen of the Target Zero Task Force and a State Farm representative.

Barber noted that they plan to give out between 300 and 400 tickets, hopefully more.

The desired outcome is a higher percentage of seatbelt usage in Cheney.

"Over 96 percent of people wear seat belts, but small communities aren't quite that good. [After this] we'll take a survey and hopefully usage will be higher," Barber said.

According to the Washington State Department of Transportation Web site, the goal of the Target Zero program is: "By the year 2030, Washington state will achieve zero traffic deaths and zero disabling injuries."

According to statistics, less than 1 percent of urban drivers involved in a crash who were wearing seat belts received disabling injuries; 8 percent of those without restraints received such injuries. When looking at county roads, however, the figure jumps to 12 percent of drivers. This statistic, among others, highlights the importance of utilizing safety belts whenever behind the wheel or in the passenger's seat.

The majority of crashes that result in death or debilitating injuries are an effect of driving under the influence, driving too fast for conditions or over the posted speed limit, and driving without a seatbelt.

"We are proud of our improvements, but we believe we can do better. We cannot prevent all traffic crashes, but most deaths and disabling injuries are preventable," the Target Zero safety plan states.



Web not yet the answer to college textbook costs

BY SUSAN SNYDER
mct campus

PHILADELPHIA — As a freshman at Temple University, Gian Hunjan shelled out \$500 per semester for textbooks at the bookstore, all new.

Now a senior, he buys most of his books used, or forgoes them altogether and looks up material on the Internet instead.

He wishes more books were available online.

"I think every student would, especially if they're cheaper," the finance major said.

But most students still prefer print to digital, and even if they didn't, textbook publishers and authors have made very few titles available online.

At the University of Pennsylvania, for example, only 31 of the 1,578 course titles registered with the bookstore were available digitally, eight of which were sold by the bookstore.

But that could change with the advent of the tablet-style Apple iPad and with students throughout the region buckling under heavy book expenses on top of pricey tuition. A small but growing number already are buying digital texts, many of which are half the price of books.

Experts expect students to have more choices as campuses, professors, and companies look for new ways to make texts available and more affordable.

Students spend more than \$1,100 a year on textbooks and supplies, says the College Board.

Textbook publishers and book authors are grappling to find a fair method that makes use of technology and satisfies students.

"It's like the Wild West. Everybody's trying something new," said Steven Bell, associate university librarian at Temple. "What's the pricing model that's going to work?"

Don't look yet for a groundswell toward digital books. According to the national Student Public Interest Research Groups, 75 percent of students still prefer print.

"The critical mass just isn't there yet," said Bell, who added it's also not clear whether students will buy the e-reading devices to make digital books more palatable.

CourseSmart, founded three years ago as a joint venture of five large college textbook publishers, hopes to change that. It offers about 9,000 book titles online at about 50 percent of the cost of print, said Frank Lyman, executive vice president.

Sales grew 400 percent from 2008 to 2009, he said, declining to release exact numbers.

"It is in the hundreds of thousands of students using it — not yet millions," he said.

He expects Apple's iPad to increase that interest.

"It will capture the imagination of yet

another group of students who will ask, 'Why aren't I using digital textbooks?'" he said.

Don't count on La Salle University sophomore Vinny Vella. He prefers holding a book in his hands.

"I really don't enjoy reading on the screen for too long. It hurts my eyes," said Vella, of Kresgeville, Monroe County.

The communication major began renting books this semester as an alternative. He rented a textbook for his art class, priced new at nearly \$200, for less than \$60.

At Princeton University, students this school year were given Kindle devices loaded with all material for three courses in a pilot project to lower paper usage. Some students found the devices difficult to use and slow, according to the Princetonian, the student newspaper.

Nicole Allen, textbook advocate for the Student Public Interest Research Groups, believes textbooks should be less expensive for students than the price CourseSmart offers. A 50 percent cut is barely below the cost of rentals or used books, she said. Her group is advocating for professors at campuses nationally to use "open textbooks" — free digital versions — whenever possible.

"We just want to make sure that open textbooks are on the table," she said.

At Rutgers University's New Brunswick campus, students last year got about a dozen professors to sign a pledge to use more affordable book sources, said Lindsey

Swoap, 19, a sophomore from southern Virginia.

The American Federation of Teachers passed a resolution in 2009 in support of open textbooks.

Allen's group pushed for legislation that will take effect July 1 requiring schools that receive federal funding to give students advance notice on books needed for the semester so they have time to shop around. It also prohibits book companies from "bundling" textbooks and supplemental materials, and requires price disclosure to faculty.

Professors say they hear concerns from students frequently about cost and are interested in helping address the issue.

Jean-Claude Bradley, a Drexel University chemistry professor and E-learning coordinator for the College of Arts and Sciences, said he avoids requiring a textbook when possible and makes as much material as possible — including tutorials, recorded lectures, readings, and games — available for free online.

Authors are sympathetic, too. "I have no desire to cost these kids one cent more than they need to pay," said Kate Nelson, an instructor in Temple's Fox School of Business, who recently completed the fifth edition of a textbook on business ethics. "I am for whatever gets knowledge out there as cheaply as we can get it out there."

At Temple, a committee of professors is looking at ways to make the best curriculum materials available at the most reason-

able cost. Several professors are planning a pilot project for open textbooks produced by the staff and available for updating.

Meanwhile, the rental market is growing.

Students can rent books for varying prices, depending on the length of the rentals. They can highlight and write in the books, which some renters actually like because someone else has already told them the most important elements, said Michael Geller, vice president of marketing for BookRenter.com.

The California company offers more than three million titles.

"If the textbook is priced over \$25, there's a 96 percent chance we have it," he said.

Among its customers in January were students at 572 schools in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey — Rutgers, Penn, Temple, and Penn State among the largest users, Geller said.

Other students use older methods.

Morgan Zalot, 20, a Temple senior from Northeast Philadelphia, purchases her texts from Amazon, then sells them back. Last semester, she put out \$150 to \$200 for books and got about \$100 back.

"I usually don't stick to the edition that the professors ask for," she said. "A lot of times they ask for the most recent, but you really don't need the most recent."

For a history course, she looked up material online instead of buying the book: "History never changes."

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President Arévalo selects vice president of Student Affairs

Taking office April 1, Stacey Morgan-Foster expresses her joy for being chosen for the position

BY MIKE BRAMBLEY
staff writer

President Rodolfo Arévalo informed Stacey Morgan-Foster on Feb. 8 that she had been chosen as the university's next vice president of Student Affairs in a personal phone call.

Morgan-Foster, currently the vice president of Student Affairs at California State University at Stanislaus, will officially take office on April 1.

"I believe that the campus was looking at my credentials and evaluating me as being the best fit, somebody who could lead the Student Affairs division and really continue the work that has been done related to student success," Morgan-Foster said. "The campus has a strong commitment to student success, access and diversity, and those are all very strong parts of my portfolio."

Morgan-Foster has worked in Student Affairs for more than 20 years in positions ranging from staff to midlevel management, to the executive level, she said.

The first project Morgan-Foster plans to start when she arrives at Eastern is to make an

"The campus is beautiful. The students are bright. The faculty and staff colleagues are very supportive. It is a great place, and I know that I will not be disappointed."

**-Stacey Morgan-Foster,
new vice president of Student Affairs**

assessment of the Student Affairs program's performance, policy and infrastructure in comparison to national benchmarks.

One of her major goals is to involve the entire campus, faculty, staff and students in addressing issues of diversity and outreach at the university, Morgan-Foster said. She also plans to enhance communication with parents and students at the Student Affairs office.

"I am really looking forward to working with the Student Affairs team, and one of my professional strengths is building a strong team," she said. "I really feel that the dynamics are there for us to build a very successful, strong team of committed professionals to help move the campus forward under Dr. Arévalo's vision."

Morgan-Foster seeks to increase opportunities at the university disability learning centers and to better prepare students in early start programs for college.

Other plans include improvements in online academic advising, and a strategic enrollment management plan to move the campus to a more student-centered environment.

Morgan-Foster said that she was intrigued when she saw an ad for the vice president of Student Affairs position because Eastern's campus is known for its wonderful location. Her portfolio was a perfect match to start the next step in her professional career.

"The campus is beautiful," she said. "The students are bright. The faculty and staff colleagues are very supportive. It is a great place, and I know that I will not be disappointed."



Eastern police concerned about vandalism. Lyz Pynsky/Easterner

Graffiti burdens campus' image

School-wide vandalism detracts from Eastern's appeal

BY NICOLE ERICKSON
news editor

Eastern's Police Department is working feverishly to catch the students who have been marking up campus since fall quarter.

"We had an issue similar to this one last year, and we caught that group and arrested four students," said Sgt. Lorraine Hill of the EWU Police Department.

The department does not believe there is any connection between the graffiti found this year and the graffiti found last year.

"Parents don't want to see their kids at a university with a bunch of graffiti, so we are ultimately losing students as a result of the graffiti," said Hill. "Students should be proud of their campus."

Graffiti is punishable in Washington by up to five years in jail and a fine to replace or repair what was vandalized. Currently, the offense is a misdemeanor; however, due to the amount of graffiti found last year, the individuals who were caught by an anonymous tip, were charged with felonies.

"We are looking for the community's help in catching these offenders," Hill said.

EWU police put up a surveillance system last year, and when combined with the damage done, the university is out roughly \$13,000. There have been about 15 buildings on campus hit with writing everywhere from bathroom stalls to hallway walls.

"We want to stop the problem before it is too overwhelming for the university," Hill said.

The police department hasn't found any reason to believe the offenses have been gang related, nor do they believe there is a connection to the recently talked about gossip Web site. They also stated that the graffiti problem, while it is a big problem, is not as out-of-hand as last year.

"The graffiti is a distraction to students who are trying to get an education," Hill said. "We urge anyone with any information to alert us immediately."

ASEWU finalizes first budget hearing

Eastern's council focuses on retaining staff positions in budget allocations while giving more than half to clubs and organizations

BY TOM LINNANE
staff writer

Amid heated discussions, the ASEWU council held the first reading of the proposed 2010-11 ASEWU fiscal budget Feb. 12, ultimately passing it on to a second reading.

Out of a total \$2.28 million requested by all clubs and organizations, the ASEWU finance committee has allocated \$1.9 million.

Clubs and student organizations were expected to submit a budget request to the finance committee in order to receive funding. The request was calculated by adding clubs refundable and non-refundable expenses together and then subtracting that number from their revenue.

"When the committee began, we set out kind of a priority list of what to fund," ASEWU Finance Vice President Patrick Spanner said. "We took apart last year's [budget] and saw where we could be more efficient."

Some programs were considered to be

"When the committee began, we set out kind of a priority list of what to fund. We took apart last year's [budget] and saw where we could be more efficient."

**-Patrick Spanner,
ASEWU finance vice president**

non-negotiable for budget changes, including contracted items like photo copiers, Eastern event insurance, continuing staff positions, auditors, the Tri-fund and free student planners for dorm students.

The finance committee decided to fund

what they felt took priority, Spanner said. Student jobs were among the first things mentioned, as well as homecoming, the free concert series and any events held in the campus mall.

ASEWU has been holding budget hearings and work sessions lately pertaining to the budget and how much to allocate to each club. While some clubs received more than requested, others weren't allocated any money at all. The Campus Readership Program requested \$30,356 and was allocated nothing, as were some other activities.

The Music Ensemble requested \$29,550 and were only allocated \$17,730. Intramurals club requested a total of \$122,652 and ended up receiving \$125,872.

Epic Adventures took one of the biggest hits, requesting \$203,897.56 but only received \$105,024.

A second reading of the budget is scheduled for next Friday during the ASEWU council meeting. More information can be found by visiting the ASEWU Web site, <http://studentweb.ewu.edu/asewu>.

Associated students deliberate at meeting about gossip problem

A 10-day ban has been imposed on a social gossip site on Eastern's campus network while the student government and the administration determine if further action should be taken on the matter

BY TOM LINNANE
staff writer

In an attempt to better serve the student population, the ASEWU council decided Friday to suspend EWU server access to a campus gossip Web site for the next 10 days until a final decision can be made.

The controversial Web site has attracted a lot of attention, especially from EWU President Dr. Rodolfo Arévalo whose letters and e-mails have warned students about the potential dangers of defamatory comments like those on the site.

"Some of the postings on this Web site have become an extreme concern on the basis of individual attacks on students," ASEWU President Ryan Eucker said. "It is by the request of the students and myself that we block access to campus gossip. [We] support the blocking of campus gossip from EWU server access."

The temporary ban has been enacted for further discussion on the Web site, including students' First Amendment rights. While many of the comments on the site are racially, sexually and emotionally abusive, the ASEWU has decided to review the matter in order to know if these comments are protected by freedom of speech.

"There is the First Amendment-type things we need to watch out for, and it's there for a reason. Our founding fathers put it there, and it has that sort of double edge to protect people [who were affected] as well as the other people [who run the Web site]," said Vice President of Legislative Affairs Kris Byrum.

Students are still able to access the Web site off campus on any server that isn't operated by EWU. The ban will not be lifted until the ASEWU council can decide whether the site impacts students negatively enough to discourage a safe learning environment.

"This is only a temporary restriction," Dr. Alfred Thompson of the dean of students office said. "Constitutional rights are going to have to be reviewed as well; a couple campuses have blocked it already."

Despite the content of the Web site, the ASEWU had originally chosen not to get involved with the issue. With students asking for the site to be blocked, however, the council has been compelled to take further action.

The ASEWU is expected to have a decision regarding access of the Web site at the end of the 10-day ban. The site will either be blocked indefinitely or be completely accessible on EWU servers, though many of the students on the council feel that the site has no educational benefits and students should not be able to gain access from the Eastern campus.

"This should have been done yesterday," said Vice President of Student Services Alex Kegel. "We have the opportunity to potentially do a lot of good here."

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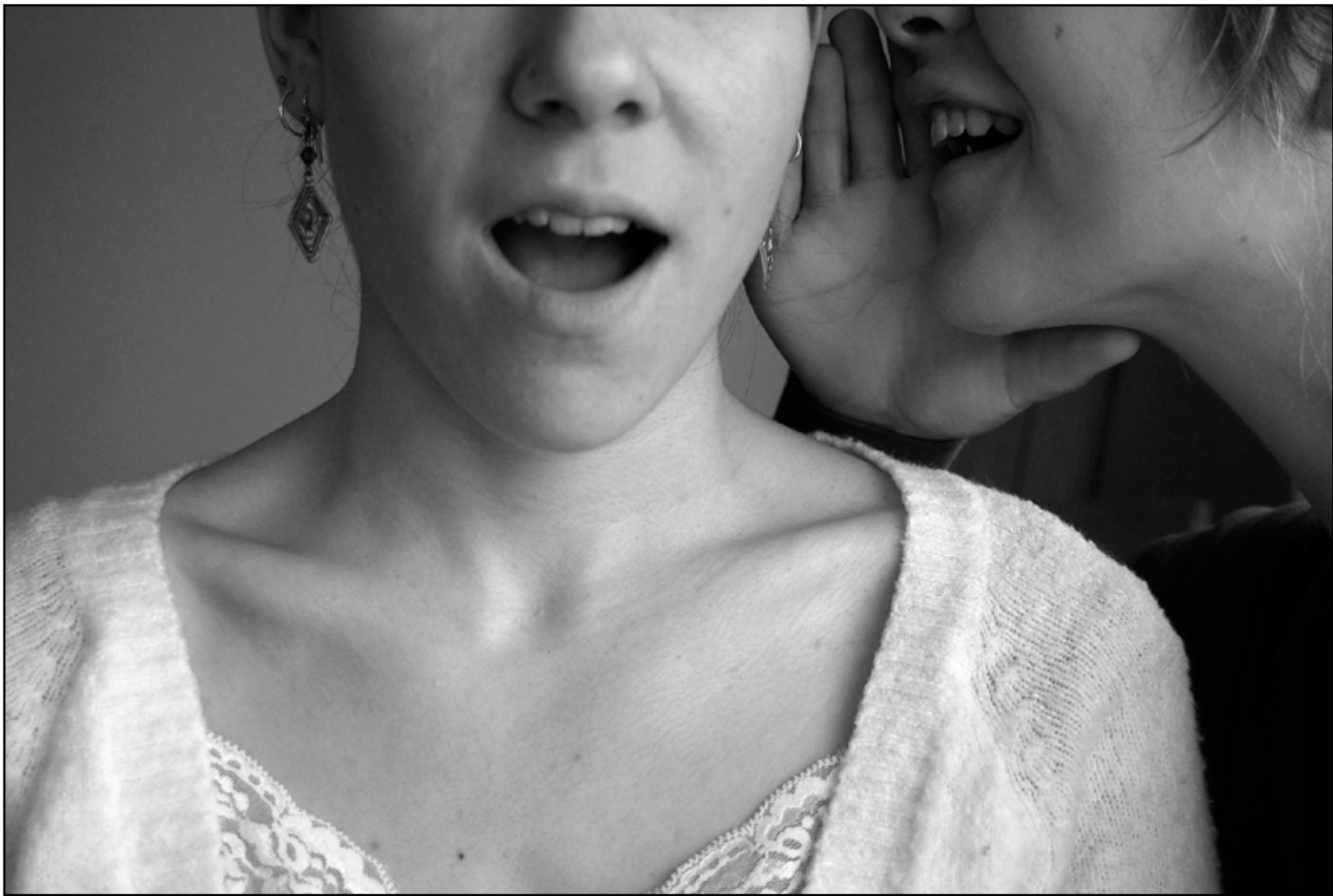
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The latest gossip site has prompted the reaction of administrators as well as students.

Megan Hopp/Easterner

TRASH TALK
from front page

han” said.
“We live in a time where we depend on technology, but it definitely has the potential to be dangerous,” said Dr. Robert Bartlett, interim director/visiting assistant professor in the Africana education program.
Students post anonymously, which increases the concern of the EWU Police Department.
“They have not done anything illegal as far as the law is concerned,” Gasseling said. “It’s protected free speech ... we just don’t want students to take matters into their own hands.”
Though the students posting the material on the site are protected by the First Amendment, consequences could potentially be brought through the Office of Student Rights and Responsibility.
According to the student conduct code, harassment, even on the Internet, is prohibited.
“Every student is entitled to a fair hearing, and regardless of the student,

The student conduct code reads:
WAC 172-121-200 Violations. The following are defined as offenses which are subject to disciplinary action by the university.
(c) Harassment. Harassment of any sort is prohibited. Conduct (physical, verbal, graphic, written, or electronic) that is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent to have the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual’s ability to work, study, or participate in his/her regular life or university activities. Examples of harassment include, but are not limited to the following:
(i) Cyberstalking;
(ii) Unwanted telephone calls;
(iii) Unwanted text messaging; and/or
(iv) Unwanted conversation.

they still have rights,” said Stacey Reece, director of the student rights office. She explained that this was a tricky situation for the university to handle since posts are submitted anonymously.
The site operator said he removes some posts. “But there are a lot of things up there that we feel people take too seriously and aren’t a big deal, so we leave it up,” “Lohan” said.
Due to the offensive nature of the postings, the administration has moved to block the site from EWU computers for 10 days while they collaborate with student government to create a more permanent solution.
“General discussion took place, and in large majority, the entire council felt as though the site was disruptive to the educational process while it does not contribute nor enhance any sort of academic based mission,” said Ryan Eucker, ASEWU president, “The Web site itself is severely detrimental to the well being and safety of the students of EWU.”
Many students have been adamant about a decision being made soon to better protect them.
“It’s not illegal. It’s surely very disrespectful and hateful, and it sure isn’t the kind of conduct we would like to see from our students,” Gasseling said.



Curtis Chandler/Easterner

Students might have to walk further because of the new change.

ROUTE CHANGE
from front page

cent service reduction for the STA. According to Karl Otterstrom, director of planning, the STA can restructure their routes up to three times each year.
Part of the restructuring will include a higher utilization of the K Street Station in Cheney. The station is a spot for drivers to take their breaks and an opportunity for the STA to avoid a parking lot along their route.
If approved, the STA will build shelters along the new route, according to Otterstrom. Cooperation with the Cheney city government would be necessary to build them on the side of the streets.
While the current route design poses problems for the STA, Otterstrom noted that they “make it work.” Recommendations toward the draft, public hearings and survey information will all be put toward a final plan for the routes.
Following a presentation to the STA board Feb. 17, the proposal will be posted on the STA Web site along with a survey to gauge reaction to the change.

STUDENT REACTION
from front page

Dalla said they’ve also requested that the site operators remove EWU and postings regarding the campus from their system.
For long-term solutions, Dalla said that students need to look to the president’s advisory committee on diversity.
“It’s further than the person writing and the person on the page,” said a female student who asked to remain anonymous. She went on to say that everyone is affected and some students have come forward and admitted to being scared to be on campus.
The gossip site is a “violation of civil rights of protected groups,” said Gayla Wright, director of equal opportunity and affirmation action and disability compliance.
“[The site is] a bunch of garbage that is ruining people’s lives,” said Angelica Galan, a student and member of the sorority Sigma Lambda Gamma. She supports keeping the site blocked.
While free speech is a possible issue with blocking the site, Wright said there is a line between harassment and hate crime; one leads to another. While EWU offers crisis centers, it lacks organizations that prevent the violence

“It’s very sad to me to see that the work I’ve done here as a student failed. I’m really dissatisfied.”

-Nicole DeVon, counselor and recruiter in the American Indian Studies Program and former ASEWU diversity outreach representative

from happening.
“Diversity is so much bigger than race,” Wright said. “It’s OK to be who you are as long as you respect other students’ differences.”
“It’s very sad to me to see that the work I’ve done here as a student failed,” Nicole DeVon, counselor and recruiter in the American Indian Studies Program and former ASEWU diversity outreach representative. “I’m really disappointed.”
If EWU takes steps in the right direction, it has the potential to be a model for the rest of the country. “Let’s be that institution that can be a model,” said DeVon.
Concerned students, like Luke Baughm were shocked to see what takes place at EWU. “I can’t believe what happens here,” said Baughm, referring to an incident where a student was labeled a “F***** f*****” in class and no one responded properly.
“[We] can’t have people feeling hate on this campus ... we need to make students feel welcomed,” Thompson said.
“The administration did take this very seriously and is anxious to work with the students to better prepare the campus. [EWU] needs to be a safe and welcoming environment for all students,” Dalla said.

JACK BAUER READS THE EASTERNER EVERY WEEK ... DO YOU?



What are your feelings on campus gossip?
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Students explore perspective careers at Riverfront Park Saturday, Feb. 13.

Tom Linnane/Easterner

Riverfront Park hosts annual career fair

Upward of 200 positions attract more than 1,000 applicants ranging from high school graduates to experienced professionals

BY TOM LINNANE
staff writer

Riverfront Park hosted an annual career fair Saturday, Feb. 13 for the upcoming spring and summer seasons.

Around 200 jobs are being offered, and interviews are set to begin in March. Positions ranging from security guard to ride attendant are currently being filled with no shortage of applicants in the hiring pool.

"This year in particular has been extremely busy,"

said Barbara Ackermann, the training supervisor. "This is a great process, though, as it actually gives us the chance to meet people rather than just wading through a stack of applications."

Applicants young and old turned out for the job fair, many of those in attendance were high school students about to graduate. Bogdan Pustovat, 18, is a recent high school graduate currently working for TJ Maxx, but is looking to supplement his income or replace his job entirely.

"You can barely find a job anywhere in Spokane," Pustovat said.

For some eager Spokanites, the fair began at 8

a.m., and continued until 2 p.m., with about 1,000 applications coming in. However, close to 60 percent of last year's work force have been "invited back to work with us again," Ackermann said.

Richard Gosselin is a 39-year-old sailor with the U.S. Navy and recently returned from a tour of duty in Afghanistan. Gosselin saw an ad on TV for the job fair and came to apply for a security position between now and his next deployment.

"I'm just taking some time off and relaxing, hoping to get a job here as well," said Gosselin. "The economy is just 'thriving' as usual and you just have to stay busy any way you can."

The hiring process continues March 13 when the applicants will be selected and trained. Employees will be ready to work by March 27.

Most of the positions that will be filled are ride operators and food service employees. Even with the initial interviewing process completed, there is still a lot left to do until the park will be ready for paying customers.

"I think that this is the easy part," Ackermann said. "Taking the time to go through all the applications and interviews is much more time consuming, but hopefully we'll get a good staff this year."



Keynote speaker Dr. Robert Weech-Maldonado speaks at diversity conference.

ewu.edu

Health Care Management Conference examines diversity topics

Local professionals and experts offer insight at the Riverpoint campus

BY JASON KEEDY
staff writer

With a "Focus on Diversity," the goal of EWU's 2010 Health Care Management Conference is to bring an understanding of how to develop and manage a work force that brings a wide array of talents and values to the workplace.

Sponsored by the Health Services Administration Student Organization (HSASO), the fourth annual event will take place Feb. 26 in the Phase One building on the EWU Riverpoint campus.

Bringing in speakers from a wide spectrum of disciplines, assistant professor of HSASO Dr. Marty Johnston said that it is a unique opportunity for students to gain insight from experts in the field.

"It's great because it brings experiences from pros in health care and provides a chance to share their stories, history and experiences," she said. "They will present what students can't learn from textbooks."

Johnston pointed to the students who put the conference together as doing a remarkable job. From fundraising to planning for the speakers and meals to setting up the venue, she discussed the hard work put forward by the student organization and their officers.

"This is a real challenging endeavor for students," Johnston said. She added that they have been meeting weekly since the beginning of fall quarter while carrying a full course load in the process.

Conference chairman, senior Alex Klimok, explained that despite a rough economic climate, his organization was successful in fundraising. Klimok said that health organizations "see the potential in doing these types of things because, in the future, it will pay off for them."

While acknowledging that putting the conference together took a lot of effort,

"There's a lot of talent locally here at EWU."

**-Dr. Marty Johnston,
professor of HSASO**

Klimok said that the end result made it worthwhile.

"That's what makes it not only so interesting, but also exciting and successful. Because how ever much effort you put into it, you get to see the results," Klimok said.

With an eye on the topic of diversity, the conference will offer a wide variety of speakers and subjects. Johnston explained that most of the speakers were chosen from the local pool of professionals and experts.

"There's a lot of talent locally and here at EWU," she said.

Dr. Wendy Eager will present a session on cross-cultural communication, which will seek to improve understanding and skills in interacting with individuals from various cultures.

Dr. Maria Hernandez-Peck will explore how cultural and personal beliefs, values and preferences may impact work with clients.

The conference will begin with professor and L.R. Jordan Chair at the University of Alabama, Dr. Robert Weech-Maldonado. His keynote address will seek to explore how health care organizations can benefit from the use of cultural competency practices and how these organizations can address the needs of diverse populations.

Previously, the conference focused on networking and education for women, but Johnston said that they sought to make it

more gender neutral this year.

Klimok explained that the topic of diversity was chosen to meet growing needs in the field. "We heard a lot about diversity and how it affects the work place — how it's a critical aspect for the organization," he said.

Johnston stressed the importance of the conference for both those in management and in all health care positions. "Those in the health care field will be caring for very diverse populations," she said. "It will help them to understand the care needs of diverse populations, including the access to care for minorities."

She explained that by listening to experts in the field, students and those already in the field will gain valuable tools to take with them to the workforce.

With professionals from the field attending the conference, Johnston said that it will present a great opportunity for students to network.

Klimok added that while it will be a great chance to meet people, the type of networking available for students will present an added incentive. "Students will meet people in the field that they might actually work in one day, in a position they may work in," he said.

Klimok added that this will be a rare opportunity for students to learn from other resources besides the typical professor or panel.

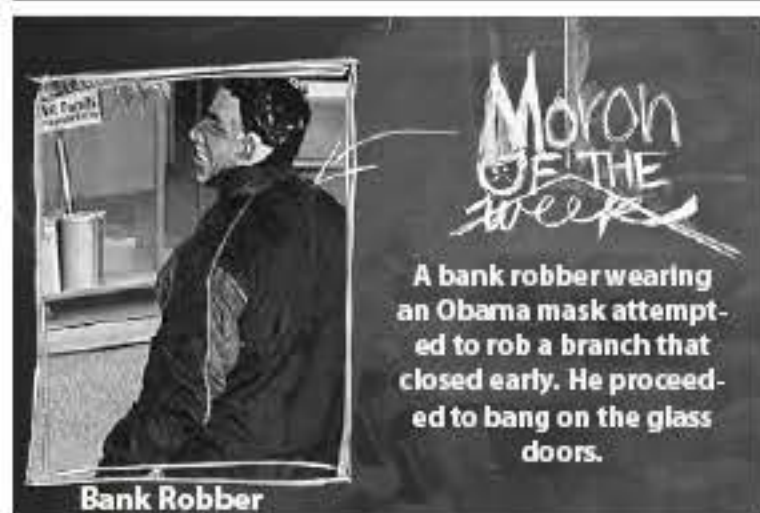
With registration beginning at 8:30 a.m., the conference will last until 4:30 p.m. Costs are \$49 for professionals and \$24 for students and faculty.

An additional \$20 will be added for those professionals seeking to add continuing education units through the university.

Those looking for further information can call Rose Morgan at (509)-358-2230. An information packet can be requested by e-mail at rmorgan@ewu.edu.



Alina Shanin



Bank Robber

Moron of the Week
A bank robber wearing an Obama mask attempted to rob a branch that closed early. He proceeded to bang on the glass doors.



Brookhaven physicists

Genius of the Week
Physicists in Brookhaven found new insights into the origins of the universe by experimenting with quark-gluon plasma.

[letters to the] editor

Dear Editor,
I really appreciated Jason Keedy's writing about Howard Zinn. Not only was this information about an important U.S. historian highly significant in our global society, Jason did an outstanding job of conveying his perspective. Thank you very much for your words, Jason, and I trust you will go far in a journalism career if you so choose.
Marilyn Irwin

through the EAGLE'S EYE

Nearly two weeks ago, President Rodolfo Arévalo and ASEWU President Ryan Eucker sent an e-mail to students regarding "hateful and potentially harassing comments and pictures" posted on a Web site. Since the e-mail was sent, postings on campus gossip have become a major factor in social areas across Eastern's campus.

The degrading material that has been posted, while not easily policed, is both unprofessional and immature. This editorial board concurs with both Arévalo and Eucker, being appalled by the rhetoric, and believes that the central issue surrounding the situation is one of personal responsibility.

We urge students to bring back the importance of education to the university instead of filling this institution with an extension of high school behavior. Part of that importance for students regarding the matter of Campus Gossip is to throw curiosity aside in order to prevent further escalation of the issue.

Web sites focusing on gossip will always be a part of the Internet; it's inevitable. The decision rests with students whether they wish to engage themselves in behavior that puts themselves and others at risk in the future.

Sites like People of Wal-Mart and College Humor utilize photos and videos of the general public for amusement. One large difference, however, is that these sites don't mention names of those involved, and the photos on those Web sites are not intended to humiliate those individuals. They're meant to poke fun at society as a whole.

Freedom of speech is an essential part of our society, and we urge the university not to allow one rotten apple to sully the whole tree.

The university, while needing to take a specific stance on the issue, should not hastily come to a conclusion that it may regret in the future. At the moment, access to the Web site has been removed from computers on campus, but the question will remain the same when the restriction is pulled: "What now?" The decision process will start all over again.

In the end, responsibility for the Web site falls upon the students of the university to think before they post anything online. Whether on Facebook, MySpace or even campus gossip, there is a consequence for posting photos and comments online. Think before you post; it might save a friend and yourself in the end.

BY COLIN SCHULER
contributing writer

In response to an article published by the Easterner called "Swinging both ways: a bipartisan nation," allow me to offer a rebuttal.

First off, the article claims that those losing faith in the Obama Administration do not actually turn more conservative. However, a poll released by Gallup in June 2009 revealed that more American voters identified themselves as conservative (40 percent), the largest percentage since 2004. This bump in conservatism was probably from the \$819 billion bail-out plan that Congress approved back in early 2009. The liberal ideology fell by 5 percent.

Second, to state that Scott Brown's win in Massachusetts was "not a big deal" is almost saying that Ronald Reagan's 1984 landslide presidential win was nothing spectacular. He carried all 49 states except for Minnesota. At this point, Democrats are reluctant to admit defeat, particularly when

they struck out three times in a row in three of the largest national elections. Also, the point is not that Scott Brown is a liberal or conservative Republican, though he remains conservative on an enormous amount of issues. Rather, it is focused on the fact that he ran a campaign that had one agenda: Stop Obama.

This brings us to our next point: bipartisanship.

The Obama Administration has constantly accused Republicans for failing to take bipartisan measures with his administration and Congressional Democrats. But the problem is he, along with key Democrats such as Pelosi (D-CA) and Reid (D-NV), has failed to accept Republican ideas and have no intention of reaching across the aisle.

Where was bipartisan measure on Feb. 1, 2009, when House Republicans stood united against the stimulus bill? Instead of getting just one Republican vote, Obama lost 11 Democrats. Where was bipartisan measure on Nov. 6, 2009, when House

Republicans refused the Chemical and Water Security Act of 2009? Instead, Democrats lost an additional 21 from their own party. Where was bipartisan measure on Dec. 24, 2009, when the Senate passed the health care bill without a single Republican vote?

Republicans can be stubborn, but this does not mean they have not engaged in true "bipartisan" efforts. In fact, back in early December, Mitch McConnell (R-KY) pleaded with the Democratically controlled Senate to not "end the debate" but rather "change the debate" for health care.

Change the debate? Is that even possible for right-wing politicians to do?

Surprisingly, yes. Most Republicans do, in fact, want health care reform. We can all agree that U.S. health care costs are outrageous, but Republicans, and a majority of Americans do not want a single based taxpayer system, especially when they believe spending is out of control and there is simply no proper way to fund the costs. Democrats also claim that a

single taxpayer system is the "fair" way to go. How is it fair when 49 states have to start paying for Nebraska's Medicare? On top of that, what makes anyone think that someone is going to easily interpret a 2,000-page bill when our country has enough problems interpreting our six-page Constitution?

Obama is too busy blasting Fox News for "right wing propaganda" and accusing the Bush Administration for the country's problems. But that blame game is going to end soon. If Obama wanted bipartisan measures, he would be asking Democrats to work with Republicans and not just solely for Republicans to work with Democrats. The first step he can take is by having open door, open party televised health care debate on C-SPAN, a promise that he made in Jan. 2008 but has not kept.

The question should not be "GOR can you give Obama a chance?" Rather, it should be "Obama, can you give Republicans a chance?"



Hateful Web site rejected by EWU students

BY SUMMER HESS
contributing writer

On Feb. 10, concerned students met with the EWU administration to discuss the racist, homophobic and sexist comments from an online gossip site. The discussion did not revolve around whether or not the comments on the Web site were offensive.

The comments are so obviously hateful and slanderous that even the gossippers call each other's posts "stupid racist bullshit" and "straight up evil."

The administration instead focused on the following question: Is this Web site the result of a few ignorant students who have taken their freedom of speech rights too far, or is it indicative of broader campus culture?

In my opinion, online gossip is indicative of campus culture and not just of EWU's campus. There are 1,674 schools across the nation registered with this campus gossip Web site.

The popularity must raise concerns about campus cultures all over the U.S. It should at least give us pause that when handed the opportunity to anonymously express themselves, thousands of students call each other f*gs, d*ts and n*gg*rs.

Their speech is hateful and demonstrates an alarming disregard for the emotional well-being and physical safety of their fellow students.

In an e-mail last week, President Rodolfo Arévalo said that "we are taking swift action to take a meaningful stand against this kind of behavior and to heighten awareness on important issues involving race, diversity and tolerance."

I am sure that the administration realizes that its public response to this site will confront campus culture to shape campus culture and that a "meaningful stand" will require more than a vague mass e-mail.

The EWU students who attended last Wednesday's meeting have bold, thoughtful ideas about how to communicate that hate speech and the attitudes that inspire it will not be accepted on this campus.

These students also have ideas about how to change campus culture. The administration has the opportunity to make EWU a model university, one that takes students' health and well-being seriously and incorporates the students' suggestions in its stand against online campus gossip, a disturbing nationwide trend.

the EASTERNER

The Easterner strives to provide EWU students and staff with the opportunity to comment or express their opinions and/or views on any topic relevant to our readers. We encourage the campus community to submit letters and opinion pieces that conform to the requirements listed below. Opinion articles and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Easterner, its staff members or Eastern Washington University.

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REQUIREMENTS:

- Letters should be 300 words or less, and typed or hand-written legibly.
- Include your full name, signature, telephone number and e-mail address for verification.
- We reserve the right not to publish letters; furthermore, all letters are subject to editing.
- Letters must be received by no later than Monday at 3 p.m. in order to be considered for publication the following Wednesday.
- If your letter is in response to a specific article, please list the title and date of the article.

CLOSE QUARTERS

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Clancy Bundy

Laser tag phases onto campus

EWU students now have a cheap on-campus laser tag option for those cold weekend nights

BY ALINA SHAHIN
co-chief copy editor

Campus Recreation and Housing and Residential Life jointly purchased a laser tag system to provide EWU students with more options for entertainment in Cheney.

"We're trying to do something more nontraditional," said Mike Campitelli, director of campus recreation programs. "We decided about six months ago to start laser tag."

The laser tag course is set up every Friday and Saturday in the field house of the PHASE building. Games start at 7 p.m. and last about a half hour. Campitelli said that the field house was the perfect location due to its size and poor lighting.

The 15-minute set up of the course includes old baseball infield screens, poll vault pads and trash cans, which provide players with adequate cover. All these items are being reused from previous sports, and only a few tarps were additionally purchased.

The system cost about \$26,000, according to Campitelli, who said, "it was paid for officially by the ASEWU funding ... through campus rec."

Students who live in the residential halls will pay a dollar to get in, while the rest of the EWU attendees will pay \$2. "It's a greatly reduced price from the downtown one," said Campitelli, adding that "you don't have to drive [to Spokane]."

The field house and system can be reserved in advance by contacting Campus Recreation at easternlaseritag.com. This will open up opportunities for Greek life, clubs, organizations and athletic and academic groups to hold challenges, as well as be used for summer camps, Campitelli said.

Off campus groups, however, will not be able to reserve time since "the students bought it, the students will play it," Campitelli said. Faculty and staff are welcomed as well, along with immediate family and occasional visitors of the EWU students.

Smoke machines will soon be added to the course to improve the "cool factor," Campitelli said. Participants will be able to see the actual beams of light going across the field.

As of now, EWU has 30 vests available, and during games, four are always kept as backups. Half of them are red and half are blue, so team plays can be set up as well as independent games. "Next year, we might buy an extra 10, so we'll have 40 all together," Campitelli said.

There would typically be snow outdoors during winter quarter, so students would be stuck inside with nowhere to go and nothing to do. Laser tag is "just another activity for students to do" on those dreary snowy days, Campitelli said.

Laser tag will not be running during non-academic weeks or during the summer, unless an on-campus group requests otherwise, Campitelli said.

Intramurals using the field house during weekdays prevents laser tag from running every day. However, the first week of each quarter and the week before finals are unoccupied, and laser tag will run. The schedule by spring quarter may also change to include Saturdays and Sundays.

While laser tag wasn't designed to dazzle and recruit more students, "it'll keep the ones we have here with having something to do," Campitelli said.



James Elk/Easterner

A student prepares to shoot friends during the opening night of laser tag.

Eagle laser tag now open on weekends:

Fri. Feb. 19, Sat. Feb. 20., Sat. Feb. 27, Fri. Mar. 5, Sat. Mar. 6, Tue. Mar. 9, Sat. Mar. 13, Fri. Mar. 12, Sat. Mar. 13; (7:30 p.m.; 8 p.m.; 8:30 p.m.; 9 p.m.; 9:30 p.m.; 10 p.m.)

Game Costs:

\$1 EWU Res Hall Students/Staff*
\$2 EWU Non-Res Hall Students, Faculty, Staff and Immediate Family Members*
\$50 Group Reservation - Any EWU group, up to 26 players. Must be pre-paid with credit card or Eagle Card, nonrefundable.

The 7:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. games are reserved for walk-in traffic. Games beginning at 8:30 p.m. or later are available for reservations. For additional information and game time availability, contact the Intramural Sports Office at 359-4836 or at mccampitelli@ewu.edu.

*Prices subject to change.

Easterner graphics

HIV education comes to Eastern

The NAACP and SRHD present students with facts about the threat of contraction

BY RACHEL PANTHER
contributing writer

With 34 million cases worldwide, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) continues to ravage human populations - especially young adults.

EWU's National Association for the Advancement of Colored People chapter invited two guest speakers involved with the Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) to give a presentation about the growing threat of HIV in America, especially among women and minority populations.

"The problem with HIV is that people are not doing what is necessary to get treated," said SRHD HIV caseworker John Arvin. "That's what is fueling the infection: unawareness of the disease."

Individuals between the ages of 19 and 24 are the fastest growing group affected by HIV in America today. Approximately 12,000 infected people live in Washington state and about 1,200 live in Spokane. Black women are at the highest risk for new infection.

HIV is a highly mutagenic organism that attacks white blood cell reproduction. First discovered in the 1940s, HIV is derived from a similar disease that crossed species from monkeys.

By lowering white blood cell count, HIV causes the immune system to function improperly. It is con-

tracted only through bodily fluids, which can be transmitted through syringes, sexual activity or from mother to child during birth and breast feeding.

Johnny Varner knows about AIDS firsthand. He was diagnosed with the disease in 2002.

"When I first found out I had AIDS, I was pissed, mainly because it wasn't the other person's fault. It was my fault," Varner said. "I feel OK today. I don't know about tomorrow - if I'll be in pain, I might not even make it there. I don't know."

According to Arvin, AIDS is an extremely costly disease to treat. The total cost of medication is nearly \$4,600 per month, or \$55,000 per year. Though expensive, treatment is necessary to slow the progression of the disease in the affected individual.

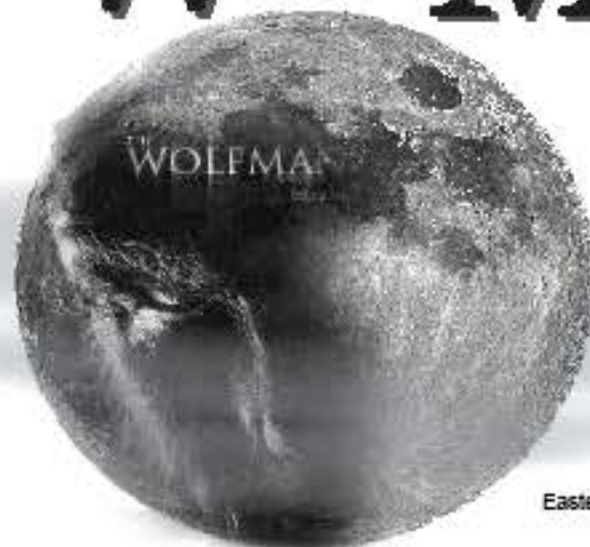
Varner started treatment about three years ago. His treatment is covered by Veterans Affairs because of his military service.

"I did seven years for my country, so I paid for my medication," Varner said.

HIV is rapidly spreading due to the lack of testing and resources for treatment. Arvin said that targeted prevention for groups of high risk is necessary. Medication is crucial to interrupt the replication of the virus so that it is less likely to spread.

"It is in society's interest to get people with HIV treated," Arvin said.

THE WOLFMAN



Easterner graphics

"The Wolfman" provides a break from vampire craze

BY MELISSA CARROLL
staff writer

Finally, another classic, blood-lusting monster attacks the big screen, coming as a relief from overdone vampire movies. "The Wolfman," starring Benicio Del Toro and Anthony Hopkins, opened in theaters Feb. 12.

Lawrence Talbot (Del Toro) returns to his home after many years of being away when he receives a distressing letter from his soon-to-be sister-in-law, Gwen Conliffe (Emily Blunt), saying that his brother has gone missing. But upon his return, he discovers his brother's body has already been found and his death was caused by a vicious

mutilation from some sort of ravenous beast.

While hunting down the beast with the townspeople, Talbot survives an attack but is cursed on every full moon. With this curse, he finally discovers the truth behind his mother's mysterious death, a secret that his father, Sir John Talbot (Anthony Hopkins), has been keeping from him for a long time.

This suspenseful thriller brought a refreshing change to the theaters as a classic horror monster was brought back to life. "The Wolfman," set in 1891, keeps to the true image of the werewolf, unlike the playful dogs depicted in "Twilight." The movie also had what cur-

rent monster movies are lacking: complete and utter terror. With every full moon, the wolf comes out to find his next meal as the town becomes littered with mutilated bodies, severed limbs and entrails.

The fast-paced movie begins with edge-of-your-seat suspense full of grotesque murders. With blood and guts being spilled in almost every scene, this movie may not be for the faint of heart. While the story unravels, there is never a shortage of nail-biting action as everyone fights to save themselves from the beast that terrorizes the town at night.

If you're looking for more than just blood and guts, the love story between Lawrence

and Gwen reveals itself in the midst of Lawrence's horrible fate. While falling in love with a werewolf might not be the smartest decision, Gwen proves to be a true heroine and risks her life to save the man she loves. The love story slows down the pace of the movie and counteracts the constant suspense.

There is no disappointment when it comes to the wide range of talent in the movie. Each actor delivers an outstanding performance, making the movie more enjoyable. Hopkins steals the show with his flawless acting in the role of the creepy father who holds many secrets.

With a great cast and non-stop horrific action, "The Wolfman" is a definite must-see.

“Avenue Q” finds success in Spokane

This puppet-filled Broadway musical brings on laughter from the moment the first words are uttered by the actors



Jacqueline Grabois and Brent Michael use their puppets to sing “Mixed Tape” during the national tours.

Photo courtesy of John Daughtry

BY CURTIS CHANDLER
photography editor

It's tough to control puppets in general; it's also tough to act. Now to control puppets while acting, that's a feat; a feat that the cast of “Avenue Q” pulled off with absolute splendor and ease at the INB Performing Arts Center this past weekend. The most amazing part was that these puppets didn't seem like they were being controlled, but rather they became extensions of the actors.

Hilarity ensued from the first note of music played to the last word spoken.

From the moment Brent Michael Di-Roma walked on stage with a graduation-outfit-clad puppet, he commanded the stage. Controlling the characters of Princeton, the college grad and Rod, the closeted homosexual Wall Street banker, Di-Roma shot charisma straight out into the audience and never once lost his energy. The different physical characterizations of his two characters was amazing. Princeton was always so full of joy and very bright eyed, and Rod seemed like that gay man that wants so badly to be open about who he is but just can't be.

Stepping up to the plate was Ashley Eileen Bucknam who, normally an Ensemble member, took over the roles of Kate Monster and Lucy the Slut for the night. All tensions brought on by hearing that a role would be played by an understudy

were quickly eased as Bucknam brought a cheeriness and naivety to Kate Monster, who made the audience instantly fall in love with her. Her other character, Lucy the Slut, Kate Monster's nemesis, didn't carry over any residue of Kate Monster. The characters were clearly distinguished between one another.

Jason Heymann played Nicky, the “Ernie”-esque character, Trekkie Monster, the local pervert and one of the Bad Idea Bears. The vast difference between his characters was amazing. The deep, gruff voice of Trekkie Monster, Nicky's strange nasal-guttural voice and the high-pitched voice of the Bad Idea Bear, who was only there to mess Princeton's life up, were so different that it was amazing that all of these voices came out of the same man.

The other cast members left nothing to be desired either. Nigel Jamaal Clark was wonderful as Gary Coleman, and Tim Kornblum had fantastic comedic timing as the failed comic Brian. Kerri Brackin was also extremely impressive as, while she played only minor characters, she was also the second person for the puppets that required more than one set of hands to operate. Her facial expressions matched that of the characters so well it was fantastic.

Crudeness aside, “Avenue Q” was amazing across the board. No one part was left wanting. This show is a must-see if it happens to travel through Spokane again, or at any other venue.

Seniors move one step closer to graduation day

Graduating class of 2010 prepares for spring ceremony by gathering for some final touches at the Grad Finale

BY DYLAN COIL
contributing writer

Eastern students planning on graduating this spring completed a series of final tasks last week in order to ensure a smooth transition into the workplace.

Feb. 9 and 10 in the PUB MPR, and Feb. 11 at the Riverpoint Campus gave Eastern seniors the opportunity to celebrate their hard work and tie up any loose ends before graduation day, June 11.

Students got fitted for caps and gowns, had their photos taken, bought class rings, ordered graduation announcements, conducted financial aid exit interviews and received financial advice. They also had places to get more information about various career paths, graduate studies and a place to sign their class banner.

Bob Anderson, manager of the University Bookstore, and Lynn Junge, marketing coordinator for

the bookstore, organized the 2010 Grad Finale that's now in its 10th year.

“It's a celebration of all the hard work students have done,” said Junge. “It allows them to get everything done in one place.”

One of the major parts of the Grad Finale was the financial aid exit interviews conducted by Lyssa Thaden, EdFund representative. EdFund is a student loan guarantee agency.

“It's a simple process. It's here to ensure you understand your rights and responsibilities,” Thaden said.

Students attending the Grad Finale didn't physically conduct the exit interviews, instead they received instructions on how to complete the interview online. Students did, however, receive information on different payment options, deferments and grace periods.

The online exit interview known as the EdTest is required

by the federal government and meets requirements for loans from Stafford, Grad PLUS and Perkins. Students who have loans will be asked to read through student information and take a short test.

Thaden said that a lot of students get out of school and suddenly realize, “Oh my god, I have to pay my loans.” [But] it's actually like a little game.”

Adam Darling, a senior majoring in construction management, attended the 2010 Grad Finale. “Having never done this before, it seems fairly easy,” he said.

The career studies booth and the graduate programs booth were also important for students to receive general information about where they see themselves being in the next few years.

With graduation day fast approaching, Eastern's Grad Finale was a fast and easy way for students to gain the knowledge necessary to experience their final moments in a stress-free manner.

Expect the unexpected at this year's Oscars

Easterner writer gets an exclusive look into the 82nd Academy Awards after speaking with insiders

BY DUSTIN TOMS
senior reporter

The 82nd Academy Awards are just around the corner.

This year's show will be slightly different than it has been in years past. The producers, Bill Mechanic and Adam Shankman, are hoping to make it more modern and a bit more sexy.

“You'll see a lot of sexy young talent [presenting awards],” said Shankman. “The way we use music and choreography has never been seen on the Oscars before.”

“Expect the unexpected,” said Mechanic. “The director is a younger, fresher director that has ever been on the show, he just did the Super Bowl halftime show and Victoria Secret fashion shows.”

Putting on such a prestigious event takes a lot of work. People line up to get the job to run the Oscars, but it was Tom Sherak who was given the job as Academy President.

“I've been on the job for six months and it has been the fastest six months of my life,” Sherak said.

Some of the challenges that Sherak has faced in those first six months have revolved around anything and everything. He isn't used to the attention he has been receiving and has compared it to being greeted as if you were the president. Sherak loves the line of work he is in, it is very special to him. So special, in fact, that he has accepted the job without pay.

“Sid Ganis [former Academy president] had the job for four years,” said Sherak. “I watched him be president and I thought he was made for the job, so I am doing my best to follow in his shoes.”

One of the biggest surprises about this year's award show is the main category: “Best Picture.” There are 10 nominations this year, up from the usual five, which is not as high as the 12 nominations once before. This year, most people believe that the winner of the award will either be “Avatar,” directed by James Cameron, or “The Hurt Locker,” directed by Kathryn Bigelow. Oddly enough, Bigelow is Cameron's ex-wife. Aside from the general consensus that one of those two films will win, Sherak doesn't think it is as clear-cut as the two movies.

“Last year, there was an overwhelming feeling that ‘Slumdog Millionaire’ had the making to become Best Picture,” he said. “Everybody believed it became the front runner. But this year, I don't know that you can say that.”

Sherak selected Mechanic and Shankman to be the producers of the show. It is a rare occasion that there are two producers, but Sherak believes this will be good for the show.

“We found that we both have different strengths and so far it has worked out incredibly well,” Shankman said.

“Right now, we're only 28 days from the show, so everything is full throttle on every front,” Mechanic said.



Easterner graphics

At the Academy Awards, it is the producers job to make everything work. The president selects the producers, then the producers select everyone else. They choose everything from the director to who is presenting which award. This year, they are taking it a step further by attempting to recreate the show with a modern look.

“The Best Picture presentation has never been done in the style we're doing it in,” Mechanic said.

Co-across from the film “It's Complicated,” Steve Martin and Alec Baldwin, will be hosting the show this year.

“Steve and Alec are very good friends,” said Sherak. “The idea of the two of them together will give it the sense of what is going to happen next.”

“They bring out so much ‘funny’ in each other,” said Shankman. “They bring out a very juvenile fun, kind of have a Dean Martin-Jerry Lewis thing going on.”

The Academy Awards are less than a month away and everyone is working their tails off to put on a great show.

“March 7, ABC, it's going to be a fun, unexpected night and I hope everyone has a great time,” Sherak said.

Photo of the week



Curtis Chandler/Easterner

Director Jeff Sanders watches intently during the rehearsal for EWU's upcoming production of “Romeo and Juliet.”



Online Editor
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Eagles ranked third in ACHA

After defeating Weber State during the weekend, the hockey team will start postseason play

BY TOM LINNAME
staff writer

EWU's men's hockey secured a place in the American College Hockey Association's (ACHA) regional tournament after defeating the Weber State University Wildcats 8-0 Friday and 6-1 Saturday.

With a record of 23-5-2, the Eagles sit third in the ACHA West Division II power rankings, guaranteeing them a spot in the regional tournament. A win against Colorado, Feb. 25, would help the team qualify for the national playoffs.

"We need to keep up the pressure while fore-checking and keep forcing those turnovers against Colorado and hopefully go on to nationals," said Head Coach Gary Braun.

Eastern came out shooting against a road-weary Weber State on Friday with left winger Alex Arnold picking up five goals, four of which were assisted by Captain Mike Truex.

Scoring continued to come from the first line as Arnold and Truex also set up Ryan Schank for his cannonade goal shot from just inside the point early on. Schank had three points and two assists in the game.

Thomas Heaney assisted Kris Boyce's shot into the net, finishing off the eighth and last goal that night.

"We had a lot of things we worked on over the weekend that went really well in this game," Braun said. "We tried to play as much of the game in their end as we could, and I think we did just that."

Hockey action continued Saturday as the senior game kicked off at 4 p.m. Players Heaney, Truex, Kenny Johnston, Mike Jensen and



ewuhockey.com

The hockey team huddles together to celebrate their victory.

Pat Murphy took to the ice for their last game in the rec center before the end of their final season at EWU.

"Playing for Eastern was an incredible experience," Heaney said. "I was able to compete in a national semifinal in the last two years and play in front of a sellout crowd almost every home game, which is a

pretty rare thing for a non-NCAA college student."

The Eagles took an early lead in the first period when Schank and Truex linked up with Arnold, who scored the early power-play goal. Five minutes later, Kevin Ogle dishd the puck to Arnold for his seventh goal of the two weekend games.

Eastern was unrelenting in the second period as Heaney set up Martin Elliot for his first goal of the night. Weber state was able to pull one back a minute later, cutting EWU's lead to just two goals.

Eastern's spirit seemed unaffected by the goal against them. In the third period, a shot from Truex was deflected off Schank into the net to put them up three. Scoring followed from Elliot and Boyce, raising EWU to a total of 14 goals during the weekend.

"We didn't prepare as well as we did on Friday, and as a result, the play was a little bit sloppy," Braun said. "We just have to remember that every game we play from now on is sudden death. The next game we lose means we're done for the season."

Braun was also thankful for the amount of effort put into hockey this season, both on and off the ice.

"I want to thank everyone who supported us this year; the fans, the club sports organization and everyone else involved," Braun said. "Every time I walk into the rink at The Roost, I thank Eastern for the great facility. We're truly blessed to be playing in such a nice arena."

The team's focus is now on the upcoming regional championship game with Colorado as the Eagles look toward national glory.

"Hopefully we can keep this momentum going and win the national championship," Braun said.

ACHA Rankings Div. 2 West Standings

1. Colorado
2. Colorado State
3. Eastern Washington
4. Utah State
5. Northern Colorado



Kyle King ranks third in EWU history in the 5,000-meter.

goeags.com

King of the track

More Eags make their way into the EWU record books as they approach the BSCC

BY ALLIE PRIESE
staff writer

Distance runner Kyle King is now third on Eastern's all-time record list for the 5,000-meter. King entered the position during the indoor UW Dempsey meet in Seattle.

"Kyle King posted one of the best 5,000-meter marks of the season," said men's Head Coach Stan Kerr. King finished the race with a time of 14:19.81 minutes, which marks the third fastest time in EWU history. He finished 39 out of 82 runners.

In the 60-meter hurdles, with a time of 8.48 seconds, freshman Steven Warner also made his mark in EWU history and now ranks fourth.

Kerr noted the performance of the men's 4x400 meter relay. The team consisted of Chad Butorac, Brad Wall, Josh Jones and Nick Olsson. They finished with a combined time of 3:21.21. Butorac also ran a solid individual 400 with a time of 49.36. The other men's 4x400 team finished with a time of 3:27.80.

For the throwers, Dave Howard and Brody Faire were both noted by Kerr, but he said they had reached a plateau, which is common in their events. Faire threw the shot put a

distance of 49-11, while Howard threw 53-6 1/2.

Pole vaulter Ben Cogdill, who jumped 15-11 3/4 this weekend, was also cited as having reached a plateau. "We're waiting for him to get a nice breakthrough as well," Kerr said.

On the women's side of the meet, sprinters Whitney Leavitt and Brianna Okoro stood out for the Eags in the 200-meter dash with times of 25.12 and 25.23, respectively.

Sarah Frey showed another noteworthy performance, pulling a 57.43 in the 400-meter dash and 25.69 in the 200.

Erica Chaney threw an impressive 48-0 3/4 in the shot put and 52-10 3/4 in the weight throw. Teammate Nicole Luckenback took third with a notable 60-3 1/4 in the weight throw and took over EWU's second place record.

So far, 24 men and 23 women have met Big Sky Championship qualifying marks.

On Feb. 19, the Eagles end the regular season in Moscow, Idaho, at the Vandals' Collegiate. The BSC Championships will be held Feb. 26 and 27 in Bozeman, Mont.

Eastern plans next steps to the 2010 stadium project

After the installation of the red Field Turf, officials want to install a state-of-the-art video scoreboard

BY DUSTIN TOMS
senior reporter

Looks like EWU doesn't want to stop at the red turf.

In what has become the "2010 Stadium Project," Eastern wants to continue upgrading Woodward Stadium after the red turf is put in. A state-of-the-art video scoreboard is next on the list of renovations.

"The video board gives us the ability to do two things: to replace a scoreboard that needs to be replaced and to get us into the video age where, hopefully, our Saturdays will go from a game to an event," Athletic Director Bill Chaves said.

Following suit with the red turf, fundings for the video board will also come from various donations. Not one dime will come out of any students' pockets, unless they want to donate. The cost for the video board will be around \$400,000 and \$500,000, depend-



A depiction of the new scoreboard soon to come. Photo courtesy of Davin Perry

ing on the specifics of the board and the location in the stadium.

"We're not going to stop fundraising knowing there are additional needs to the stadium," Chaves said.

The standing board in place now has been around for approximately 20 years, Chaves said. It has come to the point where finding

replacement parts to repair the current board is too hard, he said.

"For us to get to the next 21 century level to what fans expect at a game, having a video board to provide a message is crucial," Chaves said.

The board will be used in a variety of ways during football games. Replays will be shown along with

many other things one would see at any stadium with a video scoreboard. Team introductions, statistics, public service announcements, marketing and the ability to better display EWU's corporate sponsors are just a few of the perks mentioned by Chaves. He even hinted at a possible "kiss cam."

"The replay piece is very big. In football, it is very play, stop, play, stop. When it stops, it seems like everyone's attention is on the video board," Chaves said.

As of now, more than half of the Big Sky Conference teams have a video scoreboard: Weber State, Northern Arizona, Montana State, Montana and Idaho State.

From track meets to graduation, the board will be available for every event that is held in the stadium.

"I think [the video board] will really benefit that whole stadium when there is an event being run," Chaves said.

Pacific hands Eastern hard fought 7-0 loss

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The Eastern Washington University women's tennis team battled in each set but ultimately fell 7-0 to the Pacific Tigers Sunday (Feb. 14) at the Thorpe Fieldhouse in Cheney, Wash.

The Eagles lost all singles and doubles matches but battled throughout against Pacific. Nobody had a tougher challenge than No. 1 singles player Caitlin Bampton, who faced Pacific's Jenifer Wijdaja - the No. 60 singles player in the nation.

On the No. 2 singles court Marie Demerath fought back from a 5-0 deficit in the second set to tighten the score to 5-3 against Christina Gochl, but was unable to extend the match to a third set.

"The women played well today, both in singles and doubles," said associate head women's coach Dale Silha. "Although we didn't get the wins against a very good Pacific team, we played with heart and were competitive in every match."

The Eagles are now 4-6 on the season and continue their homestand on Feb. 20 when they host the Northern Colorado Bears. Match time is set for 9 a.m. It will be the second Big Sky match of the season for the Eagles, as they already hold a win over Portland State.

"I look forward to our next match against Northern Colorado and am hopeful we continue to have the great fan support," said Silha.

Rugby makes its national mark

EWU's club rugby team is taking advantage of their well-bonded team to rise above the competition

BY DUSTIN TOMS
senior reporter

Just five years after its inauguration, the rugby team has grown from being unknown to being ranked nationally after defeating their first Division I opponent, Washington State University.

Alex Goff, a longtime player and coach who is very well respected in the nationwide rugby community, does the rankings and has placed EWU 11th in the nation.

"When we first started, we were a bunch of ragtag idiots on the field," said club President Shawn Blaydes. "We've stepped it up and now have recruits coming to EWU just to play rugby."

"For a club to be in its fifth year and to be right outside of the top 10 is just a testament to our hard work," said Team Officer Miles Gardiner.

Unlike other club sports, rugby doesn't mind not being considered a team sport. There are only a few teams in Division I that are funded by their schools, but they still participate with other rugby clubs.

In the club's early years, committed players were a rare breed. During last year's playoff game, only 14 players showed up while 15 are needed to participate. Luckily, a final player showed up just a few minutes before the game started, but the issue was still present. Now there are around 20 players dedicated to attending practice and working out up to three times a week, all on their own time.

"We started gaining strength, numbers and commitment, and now this year, we're getting even more numbers," said Team Officer Alex Konicke. "We've come together, and we're really strong."

Not many people who join the rugby team have ever played rugby before college. Of the seven team officers, only one played rugby prior to attending EWU. Common

misconceptions about rugby is that it is football without pads, and that you're going to get seriously injured. Rugby has some similarities to football, but when playing smartly, athletes won't have anything more than a couple bruises the next day.

Overcoming obstacles has not been uncommon for the rugby team. When they first started, nobody knew how to play but were a very physical team.

"The biggest problem we had was that we were an overly physical team, and people would score on us with minor technical mistakes," said Team Officer Leland Modoc. "A couple guys got frustrated with that, and our demeanor at practice changed. Then we started putting up victories, and with the victories came camaraderie. [These] guys are really tight."

When the season started, the club's goals were simply to get people to show up and participate. Winning league was a secondary objective. Now with a national ranking, the team has set its sights much higher.

"The strides we've made in the past couple months are more than the strides we made all last year," said Gardiner. "Our goal right now is to go to the regional playoffs and win."

Though the team has finally shown commitment, they welcome anyone who wants to play to join them at practice. In about three weeks of practice, newcomers should see some action in a league game.

The rugby team practices three times a week at various times based on members' schedules. For more information, contact ewurugby@hotmail.com.





Krystal Deyo

Back in the hunt

Eastern sweeps Montana schools, sits a half game back from postseason

BY DUSTIN TOMS
senior reporter

EWU men's basketball team broke a seven-game skid, defeating both Montana State University and the University of Montana during Valentine's Day weekend.

Glen Dean scored seven of his 12 points in the final minute to put away MSU 74-69, including the go-ahead three pointer with just under a minute to play.

"Big players step up in big moments," Dean said.

Kevin Winford led the Eagles with 19 points, making three three-pointers and sinking all six of his free throw attempts. Jeffrey Forbes added 17 points and six rebounds. Mark Dunn had 10 points and Brandon Moore had 11 points and eight rebounds.

EWU held a 12-point lead with 10 minutes remaining in the game, but MSU fought back to take a five-point lead. Earlier in the season, EWU lost plenty of close games, giving up big leads in the process, but didn't lose their composure this time.

"I'm not only happy, I'm really proud of them," said Head Coach Kirk Earlywine. "We've had a lot of things go against us this year."

"It felt like we had a lot more confidence," said Winford. "I think it's just a sign of our maturity."

With Dean struggling in the first half, shooting 1-of-6, Benny Valentine provided a much-needed spark.

"I credit Valentine, he had four



Dustin Toms/Easterner
Brandon Moore is all smiles after winning two games in a row.

big assists for us," said Earlywine. "When Dean was struggling, he did a hell of a job stabilizing us."

Bobby Howard led MSU with 18 points, followed by Brandon Johnson who had 13 points and nine rebounds.

The second game of the weekend against UM, ended in similar fashion with EWU holding on for a 69-68 win.

EWU made 12-of-19 three pointers and shot 50 percent from the field. Dean and Forbes combined for 41 points, scoring 23 and 18, respectively.

"We shot the ball really well," said Earlywine. "Coming into the game, we talked about how impor-

tant it was to score a few baskets in the paint in order to help our guys on the perimeter. That gave us the opportunity to get some fairly clear looks from the arc."

Up by eight at the half, EWU blew another lead allowing UM to start the second half with a 9-0 run, missing eight shots of their own. UM's lead made it to eight until Dean hit three shots from beyond the arc, grabbing nine of his 15 second half points. Dean hit 4-of-5 three pointers and Forbes nailed 5-of-7.

EWU allowed 24 points off of 15 turnovers and were out-rebounded 25-30, but season-high 50 percent in field goal and 63.2 percent in three pointers were enough to win their second consecutive game.

UM's Anthony Johnson scored 28 points on an efficient 11-of-16 shooting.

With four games left in the regular season, the Eagles have put themselves in a position to sneak into the tournament. They now sit a half game behind Northern Arizona for the final BSC tournament birth.

"It feels amazing to get [wins], but there is a lot of work to do [to make the postseason]," Winford said.

EWU plays at the University of Northern Colorado tomorrow night, Feb. 18, and will be at NAU Saturday night in a game with serious postseason implications.



Laron Griffin, left, and Matt Brunell block a shot in the 74-69 win against MSU.

Dustin Toms/Easterner

MEN'S STANDINGS

	BSC	OVERALL
WEBER STATE	11-2	17-8
NORTHERN COLORADO	9-4	20-6
MONTANA	9-5	18-8
MONTANA STATE	8-6	13-12
PORTLAND STATE	5-7	10-15
NORTHERN ARIZONA	5-8	11-13
E. WASHINGTON	4-8	8-18
IDAHO STATE	4-9	7-19
SACRAMENTO STATE	3-9	9-17

WOMEN'S STANDINGS

	BSC	OVERALL
E. WASHINGTON	8-3	15-9
MONTANA	8-4	13-11
PORTLAND STATE	7-4	13-11
SACRAMENTO STATE	6-4	11-12
MONTANA STATE	6-6	13-12
IDAHO STATE	6-6	11-14
NORTHERN COLORADO	4-7	12-13
NORTHERN ARIZONA	3-8	5-19
WEBER STATE	3-8	9-16

Lady Eagles win one, lose one

Piper scores 20 in loss, Eags are still in first place position in the BSC

BY CHRIS NEWBERRY
contributing writer

EWU women's basketball team hit the road last weekend looking to bounce back from two straight conference losses. The Eagles started the roadtrip on a high note, beating Montana State 71-64 Feb. 11. The Montana Grizzlies, however, were too much for the Eags, as they lost Saturday's game 60-75.

EWU played MSU last Thursday night and led 38-29 going into the half.

MSU stormed back at the start of the second half using a 19-2 run to take a 48-40 lead.

MSU led the majority of the second half before free throws by Nicole Scott tied the game at 60. A two-point jump shot by Julie Piper got the lead back into the Eagles' favor as the game was tied for the sixth time before the Eagles took the lead over for good, winning 71-64.

"I was really proud of our effort tonight," said Head Coach Wendy Schuller. "It was a game that proved to be very physical, and a game of runs and I liked our resilience."

The Eagles dominated in rebounds during Thursday night's game as they grabbed 48.

"I was also happy to see us do a better job rebounding than we have in a few games," said Schuller. "Overall, a great team win."

Piper had 13 rebounds and Scott brought down seven of her own. Scott was the high scorer for the Eagles as she dropped in 13 points. Piper added 11, Tatjana Sparavalo had 12 and Brianne Ryan added 10.

During Saturday night's game, EWU fell to UM, losing 60-75. EWU went into halftime down three points, 31-34, but the Eags stayed with UM with their 7-of-16 three-point shooting performance for the first half. Kyla Evans led the Eagles with 13 points heading into the break, and was 3-for-4 from beyond the arc.

The Grizzlies came out firing in the second half and built their lead up to as many as 16 points, allowing them to easily cruise to victory.

Piper scored a team-high of 20 points and nine rebounds. Evans finished with 13 points, Scott had eight points and eight rebounds, and Jessica Huntington added nine points for the Eagles.

Montana shot 44 percent from the field compared to EWU's 34 percent. The Eagles were out-rebounded 42-37 and shot 3-of-15 from three-point range in the second half.



Julie Piper shoots over a defender.

goeags.com

Montana improves to 8-4 in conference play and Portland State drops to 7-4, which gives the Eagles a bit of a cushion from PSU. EWU still remains in first place in the conference and the Grizzlies moved up into second place. The Eagles and the Grizzlies split the season series at one game a piece.

The Eagles (15-9, 8-3) will be back in action at Reese Court on Feb. 19 against Northern Colorado and Feb. 20 against Northern Arizona. Both games are set to tip off at 7:05 p.m.



Sheinann Winkola, MAcc Alumnus, Staff Auditor at KPMG Federal Practice, Washington D.C. Recipient of the Elijah Watts Selis Award, 2008

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