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Associated Students of Eastern Washington University

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Rugby rumbles on the red turf

EWU beats Idaho 33-8
Sports, p. 10



THE EASTERNER

Eastern Washington University

February 15, 2012

Volume 63, Issue 16

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This week

DON'T MISS:

"I Love You... Me Neither" by assistant professor Sarah Lee Monroe of the Film program will premiere at the Magic Lantern Theater on Feb. 21 at 6 p.m. For more information, please contact Monroe at 509-359-6135.

Smiles for Veterans is March 3 at Riverpoint Campus. College students who are veterans and have no dental insurance can call the Dental Hygiene Clinic by Feb. 25. There are 75 spots and appointments are \$10 and include exams, x-rays, assessments and cleanings.

The Healthcare Management Conference 2012 is Feb. 24 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Riverpoint Campus, Phase 1 building. Registration is due by Feb. 18. Contact Rose Morgan at rmorgan@ewu.edu or 509-828-1218.

The Partnership in Employment Career Fair is Feb. 29, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Preregister for the event at <http://ewu-csm-symplicity.com/students/>.

Antony and Cleopatra will be performed by the Theatre program on March 9, 10, 16 and 17 at 7:30 p.m., March 11 at 2 p.m. and March 15 at 5 p.m.

Robert Tomlinson's **"Original Weather"** will be exhibited in the Art Gallery until March 15.

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Who was Martin Luther King Jr.? Opinion Editor Derek Brown shares about the man who had a dream.



Photo courtesy of Trent Reedy
Reedy and local kids show the peace sign in Farah, Afghanistan.

Afghan experience inspires instructor to write for voiceless

By Nicole Livingston
STAFF WRITER
nikkijane@live.com

Trent Reedy spends two days a week at Eastern's Writers' Center where he helps students, faculty and community members with various writing pieces through conversation.

Though Reedy describes his early life as a typical small-town guy from Iowa and appears to be an average looking male in his 30s, his life has been far from average since his return from deployment in Afghanistan as a member of the Iowa National Guard.

Reedy received the news about his deployment with what can be described as misguided anger.

"It's sort of difficult to talk about because I'm deeply ashamed of my attitudes when I was initially

deployed," he said.

He blamed all the Afghan people for the terrorist attacks on 9/11. He was angry that he had to leave his family, his wife and everything he knew behind. In addition to anger, he felt fear.

"If you're not scared going into a war situation, you're either extraordinarily brave or, more likely, very foolish," he said.

Contrary to his preconceived notions, he described the Afghan people as "welcoming." Reedy's turning point occurred while on guard duty. He described a scene with two children who were in dirty clothes playing with a box and some string and dragging them through the dirt. Seeing this display made him realize that these children were not the enemy.

He treated his mission and his rebuilding duties, which included assessing

the need for wells and school supplies, with more importance.

During the course of their deployment, Reedy and his fellow soldiers met a young girl with a cleft lip named Zulaikha. This facial deformity causes problems with drinking, eating and speech. Though their mission was to help the Afghan people, Reedy and his team made Zulaikha a top priority.

"Our mission was to help these people and if we couldn't at least try to help her, what good were we?" Reedy said.

Together, the soldiers pooled their money in order to pay for her transportation to their base and the surgery to fix her lip. When the girl returned, Reedy described it as if a miracle had happened.

REEDY-PAGE 8

Superfan Stratton stands alongside at Eagle games

By Brad Wall
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
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In the past 18 years, win or lose, Eastern alum Terry Stratton has been in the stands for the majority of Eastern Athletics' home games cheering on the teams and sporting his Eagle uniform.

Known for his signature "Eagle call" that he screams out at various points throughout competitions, Stratton started attending games in 1994 and has not looked back.

Stratton, 62, received his bachelor's in urban regional planning in 1974 and came back to EWU to get his master's in 1995. With his return to Eastern, he first gained interest in sports when he shared a Gospel of Matthew class with two Eagle women's basketball players.

"Being in the height of the basketball season, things gravitated during break time discussing basketball and [I started to admire them]," Stratton said.

Stratton felt it was God that put him in the position to inspire each athlete, help them perform better and show them that they can improve.

Stratton's involvement in athletics skyrocketed from there as he started assisting with practices, writing poems for players, performing pre-game rituals and keeping statistics. He primarily works with women's basketball and volleyball but attends every Eastern sport's home game.

"I get as much enjoyment [helping out] as the players get receiving it," he said.

Although he is unable to make it to away games,

Stratton tries to maintain his inspiration towards the athletes by meeting the teams at the buses and giving them words of encouragement.

Since moving to Cheney from Spokane in 2002, watching the Eagles has been a top priority for Stratton as he has only missed four basketball games in that time span, each for family related events.

"If I'm not there, [people will wonder,] 'Where's Terry?'" he said.

Head volleyball coach Miles Kydd has appreciated Stratton's contributions.

"He's always very selfless. He loves Eastern and is always looking to help out," Kydd said.

According to head women's basketball coach Wendy Schuller, Stratton's support has been one of the most impressive qualities about him.

"He's consistent in terms of winning or losing. He's always there and you appreciate people like that," she said.

Schuller also felt that he brings a level of enthusiasm that propels the athletes' drives and helps them recognize their love for the game.

At the 2009 EeeWoos, an annual Eastern Athletics awards gala, Stratton was honored by Schuller and Kydd with a customized Eastern basketball uniform featuring his name on the back, which he has proudly worn at Eagle games since.

Stratton has been witness to several different historic athletic events at Eastern but one of his most memorable moments came in the 2010 women's basketball season. Stratton knew it was going to be a special season when they defeated Memphis on Nov. 29.

"When I saw that

SUPERFAN-PAGE 8

Dining Services and WSU partner together to save students in the lunch line

By Trevor Parus
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Eastern Washington University and Washington State University are partnering together to help keep food costs for students from rising. This partnership started about a year and a half ago with their main goal being to keep food prices down.

"Food over the last three to four years has been going up at a rate of six to eight percent a year in cost," said David McKay, dining services director.

Eastern's Dining Services are examining the cost of food in partnership with Washington State University's Dining Services. According to McKay, Eastern purchases approximately \$3.2 million worth and Washington State purchases about \$6.8 million worth of food a year.

"Instead of the five and six percent price increases that most universities have had to put in over the last five years, we might be able to get that down in a lower spectrum closer to two or three percent," McKay said.

Justin Fila, ASEWU student services representative, said that the university will save money in food cost with the new contract, but is unaware of exactly how much money that will be. However, Fila is hopeful that the savings will help reduce the cost of food for students.

According to Fila, Eastern partnering with Washington State University allows the two schools to pull their purchasing power together and negotiate better prices with the manufacturers.

Eastern and Washington State are contracted with the same food provider, Food Services of America. The two schools decided to look at

ways in which the two could use their purchasing power to get better prices while maintaining quality.

"We're trying to barter down the actual cost of the product. We do have a high volume between us and Washington State," McKay said.

"We're trying to choose products that are not all about price. It's about quality, nutritional value."

According to McKay, within the past few weeks other schools such as Central Washington University are trying to get involved with the new contract. McKay said that a state contract could benefit all the schools. McKay said that Eastern and Washington State will pursue the new dining service contract, with or without additional schools.

The goal, according to McKay, is to get prices locked in for the next school year. This is due to ever-changing market prices due to fluctuating petroleum prices. Petroleum prices, according to McKay, are what alter the price of food so much. Three years ago, when oil prices surged to above \$4 a gallon, McKay

said he experienced the highest increase in food prices in his career.

"We saw in an 18 month period, almost an 18 percent increase in food cost. I've only been in this business 38 years, and it was the steepest increase in cost that I'd ever seen," McKay said.

"What we're seeing right now is a little bit of stabilization in the fuel market that we hope will help control some of the pricing. It also makes food suppliers more likely to lock in prices for a year."

While the contract will go into effect next year, McKay is unsure if students will notice any differences.

"We think it's a good move for us to do from a quality and value stand point for the students. ... We hope you like it, that's the bottom line."



Photo illustration by Amy Meyer
EWU and WSU team up to provide savings students can chew on.



Photo by Mikayla Napier

Homemade signage represents Domino Project facilities.

Funding reduced for autism center

By Trevor Parus
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Families from as far Grand Coulee, Wash. have moved to the Spokane area to be closer to the Domino Project to get the proper services needed to improve their children's autism, said Dr. Shira Ackerman, program director of Domino Project.

The Domino Project is partnered with Northwest Autism Center and focuses on individualized, early intervention for preschool children who are affected by autism. The Domino Project is located in Martin Hall and has been around since 2005.

Families from Cheney, Spokane, Spokane Valley, Mead and Medical Lake are bringing their children to Domino Project at Eastern.

"There aren't programs like ours on this side of the state that do specifically what we do. The effects really have a domino effect on the families and the community when we don't have the same number of work-study students."

The Domino Project joins the list of programs being affected by budget cuts coming from Washington state. The area primarily being affected is the number of work-study students that help operate the program.

"Originally, our work-study students got 12 to 13 hours and now I think the highest is 10. Even if we had the 15 work-study students like we used to, it's still not as many hours," Brundage said.

Domino Project used to have as many as 15 work-study students working for them at one time. Currently, their numbers are much lower.

"We have five work-study students and 20 volunteers," Ackerman said.

"We went from six kids for two hours and 12 kids for three hours, four days a week to 12 kids for five hours, five days a week, so we doubled our need and our staffing got cut significantly at the same time," Ackerman said.

"All of our staff with the exception of Gillian, our three educational aides, were all university work-study students with a minimum for three years," said Ackerman.

Graduate students get new representation

By Kristie Hsin
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Kelly Baker was appointed the new graduate affairs representative for ASEWU on Feb. 3 and took office Feb. 6.

As the graduate affairs representative, one of the main goals for the position is to work with the ASEWU President and other members of the council to secure more services at Riverpoint campus such as childcare, fitness facilities and transportation.

When making decisions

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"They worked in the program, learned how the program worked [and] operated and became our best staff. Then we hired them when they graduated."

Ackerman said that the program is valuable to the community and that many students have been coming back to volunteer.

"We have a student who worked with us two years ago as a work-study student. He has since left and went to the communication and speech program at Riverpoint. He comes back and volunteers any time he doesn't have class. ... The students that work with us really enjoy what they do," Ackerman said.

While Domino Project is located on campus, it is not directly overseen by the university but by Northwest Autism Center. This leads to the inability for institutional hires.

"Our budget all comes from Northwest Autism Center, so being a very small non-profit, our budget covers the costs of the services we give out, but there really isn't much more," Ackerman said.

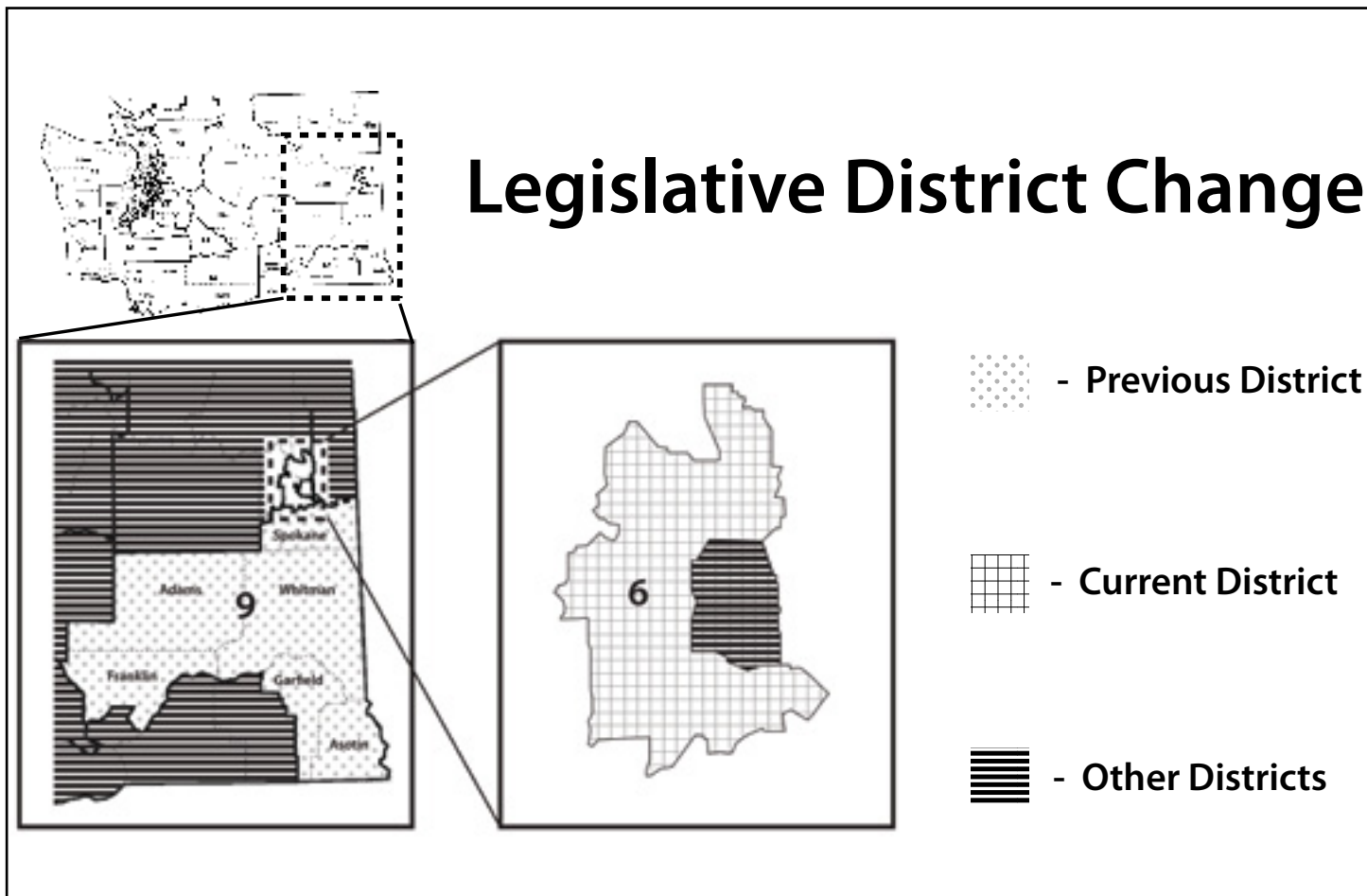
"We really have a barebones budget to have the program running smoothly year-round," Ackerman said.

While the number of work-study students has decreased, the number of volunteers has grown. However, this supplementation of students can be deceiving because the amount of hours dedicated by volunteers does not match that of the work-study students. In addition, Ackerman notes that the students who volunteer while active may not get the best training compared to a work-study student.

"The biggest problem with our big reliance on volunteers, interns and practicum students is that typically, they're only with us for maybe a quarter. So every quarter, I'm training new staff that have no idea what they're doing with our kids," Brundage said.

Brundage said that this creates a disservice to the kids because the training requires so much attention for the new staff that the kids lack the proper attention that is needed.

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Easterner Graphics

EWU joins smaller district

More localized legislative district may give students better representation

By Trevor Parus
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Eastern Washington's legislative district has changed and now students may notice that their voice in Olympia, Wash. will be different from what they knew before.

Legislative districts are going through what is known as redistricting, which redraws the boundary lines of districts. This redrawing of boundary lines may have a bigger impact than students think.

Along with Washington State adding a new congressional seat located around Olympia, it is also going through legislative district changes. According to David Buri, Eastern Washington University director of government relations, these changes will affect Eastern directly.

"Where it does have a little more direct effect on Eastern and the students at Eastern is they not only do the congressional districts but they do the legislative districts," Buri said.

"For at least 20 years, Cheney has been in the ninth district, and with this new redistricting we will be in the sixth legislative district. I think there are some important advantages for Eastern

in that particular area," Buri said.

According to Buri, the ninth district encompasses six counties. Generally, these counties represent a large portion of Washington state's agricultural community. Senator Michael Baumgartner believes that joining the sixth district will be helpful for Eastern.

"I'm delighted that EWU is part of the sixth district," Baumgartner said.

Baumgartner believes the ninth district did a great job representing Eastern, but the ninth district represents a large agricultural base as well as education. Baumgartner believes the sixth district can invest a larger interest in higher education.

"Legislators are prioritizing other things over higher education. ... Higher education is the biggest loser," Baumgartner said.

"The sixth district is entirely located within Spokane County, and within the county reside 30,000 alumni. The sixth district encompasses areas along the South Hill area, Medical Lake, Mead and downtown Spokane.

"Now we will be contained within Spokane County and we will have a lot more alumni within the sixth district. That ought to help us get our legislator's ear," Buri said.

Baumgartner said it is easy for legislators to not secure funding for higher education because the state can just shift the cost to the students. Baumgartner said that when he was in school the student paid about 33 percent of the costs. Students now pay 75 percent.

Baumgartner wants to lock in funding for higher education as the sixth district representative. He's proposing that the first penny taken out for sales tax be secured for higher education. As it stands, on a year-to-year basis funding for higher education is not secured, as opposed to K-12 education, which is secured in the budget.

"The sixth district is a true swing district. I think that gives Eastern a better chance no matter which party is [in] control of the house and the senate," Buri said.

"I think it will be easier for Eastern to have a stronger voice in the sixth district's legislative agenda. ... I don't want to take anything away from the ninth district, but as large as that district is and so agriculturally based, it just won't be diluted," Buri said.

Currently Eastern is located within the same district as Washington State University. Buri believes separating these two schools from the

same district will give the schools better representation.

"Right now with Eastern Washington University and Washington State University in the same district, that gives us three legislators that have two universities. What this will do is help the ninth legislators as well," Buri said.

Buri believes that now having the sixth district's three representatives will have a greater focus on one school rather than two schools as before.

"There's only six four-year universities in the state, so if you put two of those in the same district, it can have a diluting tendency," Buri said.

"In the coming years I think we will have more advocates for higher education," Buri said.

Buri thinks that whoever represents the sixth district would have an advantage if he or she were in the majority party. Historically, the ninth district is a Republican district while the sixth district is a true swing district. Currently, Democrats hold the house and the senate.

"Higher education is, and should be a non-partisan issue. It's not a Republican issue, it's not a Democrat issue. It's really a state issue," Buri said.

Revisions made to student elections and media jobs

By Kristie Hsin
SENIOR REPORTER
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The ASEWU director of elections position is in the process of being eliminated.

"What's happening is that we're restricting part of our job duties so we're no longer going to have a director of elections," ASEWU Media Relations Specialist Maria Christianson said.

The ASEWU is not eliminating the job position entirely, but rather renaming and reworking the position.

Instead of having a director of elections position, four new positions will be implemented, including a public relations specialist, a graphic designer and a social media specialist.

The three positions will be under the supervision of the media coordinator, the fourth added position.

Still on the table for discussion is when the new positions will be open for applicants. Since these new positions will be part of the president's staff, they will be appointed rather than elected.

According to Christianson, nothing is set in stone.

Junior Russell Miller said, "It makes sense. This is more beneficial to them and to us because if we have questions, they have answers [ready]."

The transition is not the result of budget cuts or financing issues. The current position of director of elections is rarely utilized and only really needed during the spring elections, according to Christianson.

"We are definitely in more need of the other positions," she said.

Duties of the new positions will continue and further the duties of the director of elections. For instance, the graphic designer will make posters for the election while the social media specialist will keep the public updated by means of Facebook and other media outlets.

"It's going to be huge because then we'll be able to delegate all of the duties—we're going to be able to inform people better," Christianson said of the benefits to students.

These new positions will enable the student government to get things uploaded and updated faster on the ASEWU website. Events, news and information regarding student government are just a few of the many items.

When the positions do open for applicants, it will be an application and interviewing process.

"Having someone who will be able to answer questions [about events] directly will be helpful," said senior Michelle Kim. "This is a good thing because now it will be easier to navigate their website and communicate with them."

Kim, who has most of her classes at Riverpoint, added, "Even though I'm not on campus a lot, I still like to know what's going on with our student government and what they're doing to help us. I was really interested in their last philanthropy. I found out about it through their Facebook page."

The ASEWU awaits budget approval from the students and activities fee committee. According to ASEWU President Oscar Ocaña, the approval won't come until next quarter.

Faculty senate mulls math cut

By Trevor Parus
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President Arévalo and Provost Rex Fuller were present at the senate faculty meeting on Feb. 13 to discuss the future of the graduate math program. Also present were professors Dr. Ronald Gentle and Dr. Keith Adolphson from the math department.

The Senate discussed reinstating the program for an additional two years. The committee brought a motion to order, but time constraints forced the group to wait until their next meeting to continue with the issue.

The president recently cut the program due to fiscal reasons as well as low graduation rates. However, this decision was made against the Program Audit Committee's recommendation of continuance, according to Adolphson.

Faculty members, such as Adolphson, had strong feelings towards these cuts.

"I'm ex-military and it was an ethic in my previous organization and it's part of my ethic now that when you have bad news to bring to somebody, you do it face-to-face or at least you have a discussion before you make a decision," Adolphson said.

Adolphson claims that the decision to cut the program was made before even discussing the possibility with the math department.

Many faculty members were concerned about the fairness of the president's choice to cut the program, especially because the Program Audit Committee did not recommend it.

"Discontinuance of an academic program ... should be regulated by the senate," said biology professor Dr. Allen Scholz.

As it stands, the graduate math program is still cut, however the discussion of cutting the program is on the senate's next agenda.



Photo by Dylan Paulus

Replacing Tully's, The Brickhouse Deli sits on the bottom floor of Brewster Hall located on the corner of F and 2nd Street in Cheney.

Sub shop opens next quarter

Brickhouse Deli becomes the newest edition to Dining Services

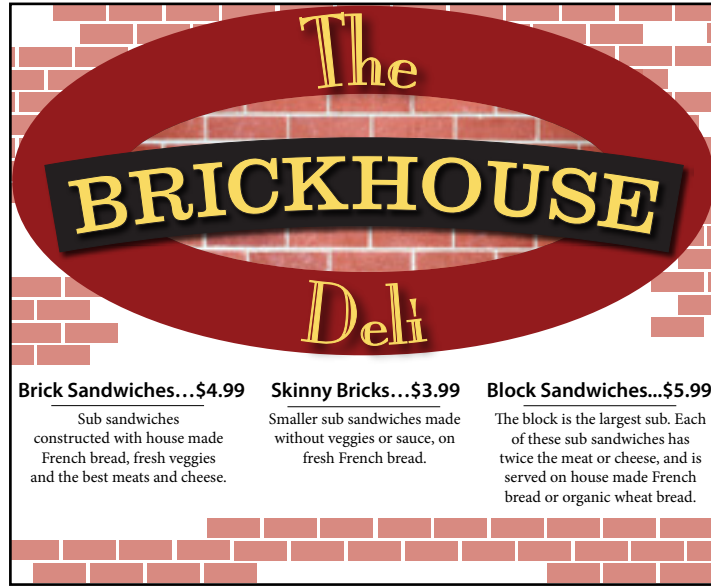
By Fedor Gaponenko
STAFF WRITER
fgaponenko76@gmail.com

EWU Dining Services is two months away from starting business at the Brickhouse Deli in Brewster Hall for students and community members of Cheney. According to Dining Services Director Dave McKay, the plan is to have the grand opening on April 2, 2012, the first day of spring quarter.

There have previously been two coffee shops on the ground floor of Brewster Hall, the most recent being Tully's. When Tully's was pulled out, Dining Services was asked to consider using the space, according to McKay.

"We talked with students on our Food Service Committee last year. We asked them how important is it for it to be a coffee shop," McKay said. "They said as a place to hang out yes, but as a place to get coffee, it was OK, but not a priority. They would much rather see food down there."

Dining Services took action. Examining the space, they found that there was not a lot of room for cooking. Also, the floors were peeling



Easterner Graphics

Logo and information courtesy of Matt Louie of Dining Services.

and the plumbing was leaking.

"We put in a work order earlier and the shops did an evaluation and the more they dug in, the more [things] they found wrong," McKay said.

Eastern's construction teams began working on the space in November and are done with the majority of the remodeling. Right now, they are currently finishing the painting. Starting in March, the plan is to get set up with

the furniture and equipment, said Supervisor of Operations Matt Louie.

The cost of renovations will be well over \$50,000 with all the shop work and equipment. A lot of Eastern's shops are participating in the project to keep the cost down.

All of the funding is coming from Dining Services revenue. According to McKay, there will be no student cost toward the project.

"It's just another operation for them," Loui said. "Another service we're providing for the students to enjoy."

The Brickhouse Deli will serve 19 signature sandwiches called "bricks" and "blocks." The majority of these will be priced around \$5. According to Loui, all the favorites will be on the menu, such as Italian-style, turkey, roast beef and ham sandwiches.

"It's a little different than Subway where it's all customizable," McKay said. "We're taking the no-nonsense sandwich approach. We're ready. We'll do these really well, but we're not trying to be everything to everybody."

Although the deli will be in Brewster Hall and aimed toward students, it is going to be a public business open to all customers.

"Anything that we can do public, the revenue from that will help offset some of the costs on campus," McKay said.

The Brickhouse Deli will be open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday. The deli will be closed on Saturday and on Sunday it will be open from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"We are moving as quickly as we can," Wilson said. "Some things are already happening, such as the tech desk is already in the library."

According to Wilson, by fall quarter next year, most of the services should be moved to the library. The installation of new equipment and technologies and the reorganization of space will be an ongoing process.

"What we suspect is some things will be fairly easy and low cost," Wilson said. "If it's more structural, such as moving fire alarms or ventilations, that may increase the time line considerably. The organizational things we can do much more quickly."

Exercise science major Miriam Verbag does most of her studying on campus. She had not heard of the Writers' Center, but said that when she is in writing-intensive classes, she feels like it would be helpful to have someone read over her work and give feedback.

"I would like to see tutors in different subjects, especially the sciences," Verbag said, referring to the learning commons.

"If you had that all in one area, that would be good."

ASEWU is open to ideas about the services and accommodations to be included. Feedback is welcome at the ASEWU office or emailed to Eric Palomino at asewuacadaff@ewu.edu.

Centralized support comes to JFK Library

By Fedor Gaponenko
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Headed by the Dean of Libraries Richard Wilson, EWU administrators and students are collaborating on the idea of installing a Learning Commons to increase student success.

The purpose of the Learning Commons, according to Wilson, is to centralize all the academic services available to students into one area—the library.

"One thing we know is learning doesn't only happen in the classroom," Wilson said. "Learning happens all over campus."

These services include the writers' center, which will be moved to the library, math lab, technology, software labs and PLUS groups, among other services.

"In the past, tutoring programs have become remediation programs," Wilson said. "If you're flunking, [you] go get help. And what we recognized is there are students who want to go from a 'B' to an 'A.' They don't need remediation. They just need some help."

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As far as funding for the project is concerned, Wilson said that they will rely heavily on donations.

"We think a project like this might be very appealing to donors who are interested in the academic side of Eastern," Wilson said.

ASEWU Academic Affairs Council Representative Eric Palomino is in charge of getting student input for this project.

"Dr. Fuller and Dr. Wilson decided they will need student input because eventually, it will affect all students," Palomino said.

"Students see the library as a place to only read books and do intensive research," Palomino said. "As new technology comes in, we want to incorporate that and make it more of a fun environment where people want to go and study."

Palomino currently speaks to the students at the different residence halls as well as students who are a part of different clubs or the Greek community. He is looking to get feedback on what they would like to see in the learning commons.

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Dean of business to fill two positions

Stationed at Riverpoint, position has widespread influence and improves the cost and efficiency of university

By Kristie Hsin
SENIOR REPORTER
k.hsin@yahoo.com

The search committee for the Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration and Executive Dean of EWU's Riverpoint campus has narrowed their search to three final candidates.

The two roles are combined into one position due to cost and efficiency measures. According to the interim Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration/ Executive Dean Niel Zimmerman,

there was not enough work to occupy one person full-time and it was too expensive.

"I didn't get the chance to meet with any of the candidates, but I'm sure the university will make the right decision. I spend a lot of my time here, so it's good knowing they're in the process of finding someone," said junior Melissa Eatons, a business and computer science major.

The search committee has completed their work and has sent their information to Provost Rex Fuller. He is the one, in conjunction with President

Arévalo, who will make the final decision.

The three finalists, Howard Smith, Martine Duchatelet and Paula King, were invited to Eastern for final interviews. Due to a family emergency, King had to cancel. She has yet to reschedule. The information was sent Monday, Feb. 6 and they have not heard back. A decision should be made within a few weeks, according to Zimmerman.

"The search process is the typical one in higher education. ... And then, since the College of Business and Public

"The search process is the typical one in higher education. ...

And then, since the College of Business and Public Administration typically has a lot more outside contact, we

Administration typically has a lot of outside contact, we include community members who can give us input," Zimmerman said.

Faculty representatives from the college as well as undergraduate and graduate students were also involved with the search committee.

Working closely with stu-

dents and faculty and the different departments hangs under the umbrella of the executive dean.

"I think it's important that the new person understands what different student needs are," said senior business major Mark Anderson.

Anderson, who has half of his classes at Riverpoint, says

student needs include good advisers and individuals who will help students manage their goals.

According to Zimmerman, they are looking for someone with exceptional experience in the academic area and someone who has had management experience with the programs he or she will be working with.

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García examines drug trafficking in book

Professor used first-hand interviews with traffickers to analyze theories

By **Desirée Hood**
STAFF WRITER
d.hood28@gmail.com

Dr. Martín Meráz García, assistant professor in the Chicano education program and EWU alumnus, wrote "Ordinary Individuals Who Become Narcotraffickers: A Theoretical and Interdisciplinary Approach to Drug Trafficking" to humanize the many different aspects of the drug traffickers that live in American cities.

The book focuses on drug traffickers in the U.S. who live in our neighborhoods. They went to prison for their crime and completed their sentences.

García uses theories to analyze the additional psychological wants of drug traffickers.

"I take the approach of, 'These people live in our communities,' and essentially, I wanted to get to know them as a person, not as a criminal," García said.

Throughout his childhood, García paid attention to his surroundings and that attention to detail turned into a fascination with drug traffickers.

García spent the first 12 years of his life in Mexico. He interacted with drug traffickers as part of his everyday social setting. Running into a drug trafficker at the store was not uncommon in his old neighborhood. "I saw drug traffickers as members of the community," García said.

He moved to Tri-Cities, Wash., and noticed many similarities with Mexico in regards to drug traffickers being a part of that community as well.

According to García, the communities he lived in knew who the drug traffickers were because of their nice cars and houses.

"I was always interested in knowing what drove them, knowing why they did what they did," García said.

García enrolled at Eastern while still interested in drug traffickers and the lives they lead. He continued to research the topic through undergraduate courses and graduated in 1999 with a Bachelor of Arts in government and pre-law.

Graduate school came next. According to García, when you go to graduate school, the professors are always telling students to complete their dissertation

on "something you are really passionate about." For García, that was an obvious choice: drug trafficking.

Taking on one of the only lifestyles that ever interested him, García dissected the different aspects of drug trafficking to learn the answer to the all-important question of why they do what they do. He wrote his dissertation on the theoretical aspects of drug trafficking.

In 2005, he decided to turn his dissertation into a book. He added a couple of chapters, edited the content, refined it and finally published it in January 2012.

"I took sort of a holistic approach by getting the perspective, not just of drug traffickers, but of law enforcement officials as well," García said.

Throughout the chapters, he analyzes four theories: social learning theory, how drug traffickers learn to commit crime; social identity theory, the psychological aspect of why they do what they do; group theory, how these groups are formed; and image theory, how the drug traffickers see law enforcement and vice versa.

In order to properly research the book, he wanted to talk to drug traffickers. García knew this came with a few complications. He looked into how he could talk with them and keep all parties protected legally.

There were also ground rules for these interviews where the drug traffickers could not admit guilt to a crime that they had not already served a sentence for.

Taking the holistic approach also meant talking to law enforcement officials. This included DEA, local police, probation officers, attorneys, judges and community members.

García had to get most of these sources approved by the institutional review board, a process that took six months.

García found that drug traffickers "don't just engage in it for material wealth ... they have additional psychological wants."

"They struggle to make a living," said García.

He discusses current drug cartels in the last chapter of the book. García writes about the 35,000-45,000 people that have died since 2006 because of drug violence.

According to García, the main reason that people engage in criminal activities, like drug trafficking and violence, is socioeconomic.

"If we created policies that, for example, wouldn't criminalize the simple possession of marijuana, then you wouldn't have drug cartels in Mexico benefiting so much," said García. "We have been fixated on criminalizing people for using marijuana, when, let's face it, what do people do when they smoke pot? They are relaxing, being joyful."

The state of Washington pays about \$37,000 to jail an inmate for one year.

In comparison, EWU students pay \$16,433 in tuition for Washington residents and \$26,121 for non-residents.

It costs more to jail a pot smoker for a year than it costs to attend Eastern for the same amount of time.

"My philosophy has been, 'Don't put people in jail who commit minor crimes like marijuana possession. ... Instead, use [the money] to fund education,'" said García. "The way we allocate resources is not the way we should be doing it, period."

García is selling his novel, "Ordinary Individuals Who Become Narcotraffickers: A Theoretical & Interdisciplinary Approach to Drug Trafficking" for \$40, available through him or the publisher.

All of his royalties from the sale of the book will go to benefit the McNair Scholars Program at EWU.

Future plans for García may include writing a book that is not academic to make a profit for his hard work.

"Any faculty [member] who has written a book will tell you that you don't become wealthy writing academic books," García said.

He did it because of his fascination with why drug traffickers are the way they are and to help other people answer these questions as well.

"It's a tremendous joy," said García. "That is what we get when we write and publish a book, the benefit from the joy of seeing your work out there."

To purchase a copy of the book, contact García at 359-6148.

Media portrayal of LGBT community can be inaccurate

By **Nicole Livingston**
STAFF WRITER
nikkijane@live.com

People are saturated in media. Whether it is networking socially, reading magazines or walking down the street, media is available in a multitude of places. Not only are they exposed to misrepresented ads, but recent television shows are misrepresenting groups of people as well.

In recent years, the appearance of lesbian and gay people on television has grown. Typically, they are represented as the hysterical, goofy friend or sidekick, according to Dr. Elizabeth Kissling, a professor in communications studies.

In addition to the panel, Karen Wanjico, violence prevention advocate, was invited to share her "Keepers or Creepers?" workshop. Williams and other staff volunteers will drop in just to chat with the students about anything they are struggling with or questions they might have.

The Pride Center is not the only place students can go if they need somebody to talk to. Several staff and faculty members are trained allies and are willing to open their doors to LGBTQA students if they need somebody to talk to.

They have stickers that say "Ally" on their doors to help students recognize who they are.

The Pride Center is a safe place for LGBTQA students to hang out, do homework, read or watch movies. The center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Anderson was a local to Spokane. He was born on Dec. 25, 1959 in Plattsburgh, New York. His father, who was in the Air Force, eventually brought his family, including a young Anderson, to Spokane.

Anderson had always considered Spokane his home thereafter. Anderson wanted to be an astronaut from an early age.

"At that time, we were going to the moon and doing some really fantastic things with the space program," Anderson said in an interview with NASA. He graduated from Cheney High School in 1977. Afterward, he joined the

the images portrayed by the media.

Williams held a "Lavender Love" panel that featured speakers from the LGBTQA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Ally) community that had been in a relationship for 10 years or longer. According to Williams, some of the students did not know that relationships could last that long.

Williams put this panel together by calling her friends and eventually had more couples willing to speak than she had time and room for.

"There are a lot of healthy relationships out there, you just don't know about it," Williams said.

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Photo courtesy of Rachael Everson
Howard Holcomb and Rainee Palmer rehearse a scene together.

Students audition to win prestigious acting award

Irene Ryan Scholarship offers cash prize, networking opportunities

By **Davis Hill and Jane Martin**
FOR THE EASTERNER
easterner.eaglelife@gmail.com

Three students from the EWU Theatre program will audition for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship at the Region VII Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival this week in Fort Collins, Colo.

Chaltee Friant, Howard Holcomb and Justin Schlabach were invited to audition after representatives from the festival saw their performances in "The Things They Carried."

The Irene Ryan Scholarship offers students the chance to audition for a cash prize and the possibility of making professional contacts.

Nominees prepare several short pieces with a partner who is not eligible for the award.

"The award is] an opportunity to share your work and hopefully get a job," said Kelly Quinnett, vice chair of Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region VII and coordinator for the Region VII Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship.

Quinnett, who teaches in the acting department at the University of Idaho, won the award in 1990.

She explained that many top television and film producers are in attendance at the festival hoping to recruit talented young actors.

She said that after winning the award, she was offered a contract with ABC and worked on several television shows.

The other 1990 winner was Jeff

Lieber, who went on to become the creator of the hit television series "Lost."

"This is] a pretty great opportunity," Quinnett said. "For me, it was my break, you know?"

According to Quinnett, nominees go through three rounds of auditions. At the end of the week, two regional finalists are selected to compete at the national competition in New York April 16 - 21.

"We have over 200 nominees [from Region VII]," she said. "There is so much going on. We have over 1,200 student and faculty volunteers working to make this happen. It's just a blast."

"It's pretty daunting," said Justin Schlabach, who was invited for his role as the young Tim O'Brien. "I'm very nervous. It's kind of a big dream."

Schlabach estimated that he spent between 25 to 35 hours preparing his six-minute audition.

"We've been rehearsing ... every day," he said. "Just running it every day ... so that it's fresh in Colorado."

"This is a great opportunity for the three of us to go and compete," said Howard Holcomb, who played Lt. Jimmy Cross. "We're really excited to go and hopefully do well and maybe get the chance to go to Washington D.C. and perform."

"We are very fortunate at EWU to have Sara [Goff] and Jeff [Sanders], who are very hard working and caring professors," he said. "We have great support that other students in other universities aren't gonna have."

"Goff is really wonderful. 'The Things They Carried' is a beautiful piece of work," said Quinnett. "I'm excited to see what we get from Eastern's program and the leadership there."

"We might be able to do this," said Schlabach. "I am feeling pretty confident, honestly. We've worked very hard, my partner and I. ... I do feel that we have a shot. Even if we don't win, just having the opportunity [is exciting]."

Holcomb agreed. "The prize is great, but what's just as great is the opportunity to be seen on a national stage and to make the contacts that we'll be making."

"It's good for people to be aware of what we have at Eastern," Holcomb said. "What we have here, you don't have that everywhere."

Friant, Holcomb and Schlabach will audition this week in Fort Collins, Colo. Their partners are Blaine Nichols, Rainee Palmer and Christopher Rounsvile.

To learn more about the Kennedy Festival, visit <http://www.kcaactf.org/KCACTF.ORG>

To see a slideshow of pictures from the rehearsals, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/theeasterner/sets/72157629264748673/show/>

Highway 904: Michael P. Anderson Memorial

Cheney High School graduate, mission specialist passed away nine years ago this month in Columbia tragedy

By **Derek Brown**
OPINION EDITOR
easterner.opinion@gmail.com

Nine years ago on Feb. 1, 2003, the space shuttle Columbia tragically disintegrated upon re-entry over Texas. All seven crew members, including Lt. Col. Michael P. Anderson, perished.

During the launch, a small piece of insulation broke off, which resulted in the space shuttle's ultimate demise. It was the second and last disaster of its kind after the Challenger accident of 1986, which resulted in the deaths of its seven crew members as well.

Film students looking for student actors for spring quarter projects

By **Frank McNeilly**
STAFF WRITER
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Film students at Eastern are holding an open casting call for film projects that have a wide range of roles and genres available to those interested in acting on film.

Logan Stoodley, a junior, is a student director looking for anyone who is interested in acting and participating in his film project.

"[The open casting call] is for our second project for this quarter," Stoodley said. "We're supposed to put together five to seven minutes of a narrative film."

According to Stoodley, students came up with the idea to hold an open casting call for the film projects.

Some of the film students have projects that require a lot of extras. Stoodley feels that this casting call will help bring

in people to audition who he would not have found otherwise.

"I didn't start at Eastern; I transferred here from another school," Stoodley said. "I [didn't] know anybody. ... [We decided to post] fliers, so it was all student-driven."

Krystal Alexander, a junior, is a student director who is determined to get the word out about the open casting call.

"I want to get fliers [in] pretty much every building," Alexander said. "I want the whole demographic of the population [because] there are some people who are actors ... and others who want to be in a movie."

People who are auditioning will have different choices in projects because of the variety of genres.

"[The genres] vary from comedy to serious drama," Stoodley said. "Some of them are silly, ... bizarre or experimental. We have a wide gamut."

According to Stoodley, the roles that require sensitive tasks — like kissing someone — will be pointed out before the part is cast.

Experience is sometimes taken into consideration when casting parts for stage plays or film.

However, not every director thinks experience is the most important factor to look for.

"I think some people will [consider experience]," Stoodley said. "I know for me personally, I am more concerned about how well a person can portray a character than whether or not they have performed on the stage or in film."

Devon Mahdi, a junior, is a film student helping out with the casting call and feels like it is a good experience for the film students directing the film projects.

"For film majors, it gives them an opportunity to get out and get their names out on campus locally," Mahdi said. "That's the first step to getting them [known] statewide and into the [film] industry ultimately."

The audition will be held for two nights, Feb. 15 and 16 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the RTV building, room 113.

He went on to earn his Bachelor of Science in physics and astronomy from the University of Washington in 1981. In 1990, he earned a Master of Science in physics from Creighton University in Omaha, Neb.

After graduation, Anderson went to Randolph Air Force Base near San Antonio where he moved up through the ranks flying jets.

He piloted planes and even became an instructor, eventually logging over 3,000 hours.

According to NASA, in December of 1994, Anderson

was selected to train as a mission specialist.

In 1998, he fulfilled his lifelong dream of becoming an astronaut after he started his space flights, which consisted of transferring scientific equipment, hardware and water from the space shuttle to the International Space Station.

"You just sort of pursue your interests," Anderson said in a preflight interview. "And you pray about it, and hopefully one day all things will kind of fall into place. And you'll have a chance to make those dreams come true."

He went on to log over 593 hours in space.

On July 31, 2003, a few months after his death, state Route 904, which runs from Interstate 90 south through Cheney, was renamed the "Lt. Col. Michael P. Anderson Memorial Highway," in honor of the local hero.

President Bush said of Anderson, "[H]e became a role model—especially for his two daughters and for the many children he spoke to in schools. He said to them, 'Whatever you want to be in life, you're training

western Mutual, spoke to students about being a better person once students have gotten their careers started.

"I think our generation, the generation in college, sometimes we expect things to be handed to us, but we forget to realize that it is a competitive market and we have to work really hard to get to where we want to be," said Pearson. "The kids that come to these events are the ones that the recruiters and the companies are looking at."

Local businesses, such as

Work It!-PAGE 8

Work It! for post-graduation jobs

By **Desirée Hood**
STAFF WRITER
d.hood28@gmail.com

EWU Career Services held their fourth annual Work It! Career Conference Friday, Feb. 10, giving students advice about the future job hunt.

Career Services brought in an array of local business people to talk to students during three hour-long sessions, lunch and a networking afternoon.

Michael C. Ormsby, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Washington, was the keynote speaker. He discussed the struggles many

people have balancing work and family.

"I was glad to be able to share a perspective with them about how to try to balance their commitment to community and their commitment to family," Ormsby said.

The different sessions had panels of speakers that discussed a variety of topics.

They included "Thinking even bigger: tips on how to create a business and be your own boss," and "Getting that cool internship: talk to students who have done them."

Nicole Pearson, director of development for North-

western Mutual, spoke to students about being a better person once students have gotten their careers started.

"I think our generation, the generation in college, sometimes we expect things to be handed to us, but we forget to realize that it is a competitive market and we have to work really hard to get to where we want to be," said Pearson. "The kids that come to these events are the ones that the recruiters and the companies are looking at."

Local businesses, such as

Work It!-PAGE 8

Condomania teaches safe sex

By **Al Stover**
SPORTS EDITOR
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Standing next to her three guy friends, Britannie Davis cringes her shoulders and laughs as Ashlyn Nicole slips a condom over a visual aid shaped like a phallus.

Davis was one of hundreds of students who attended the 2012 Kissed on the Rink Condomania event in the University Recreation Center on Feb. 9.

For Davis, watching a condom being put onto

the wooden aid was a little weird.

"It was kind of foreign looking," Davis said. "Not very human. You usually don't see that in public."

Davis came to the event after hearing about it from some of her other friends.

Scott Grambo was invited by Davis two hours before the event. He believes that an event like Kissed on the Rink means that people are more comfortable with talking about safe sex.

"Instead of stopping sex, they are just trying to promote [safe sex]," Grambo said.

CONDOMANIA-PAGE 8



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Black history month: Martin Luther King

By Derek Brown
OPINION EDITOR
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Perhaps the most prominent figure in black history is Martin Luther King Jr. More than mere black history, King is American history. He rose to power in a tumultuous era and became a world-famous figure for his non-violent tactics that helped bring racial segregation in America to an end. King was born on Jan. 15, 1929 in Atlanta, Ga. He saw the worst of racial segregation throughout his life living in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. However, that did not stop him from getting his Bache-

lor of Arts. from Morehouse College in 1948. In 1955 King received his doctorate. Spirituality played an important role in King's life. In 1954 he became the pastor of Dexter Ave. Baptist Church in Montgomery, Ala. During this time he had already become one of the executive members of the NAACP. In 1955, Rosa Parks helped to spark the Civil Rights Movement by refusing to give up her seat on a bus. This prompted King, and others, to boycott the Montgomery buses. After being arrested, threatened, and having his house bombed, King and members of the community

"We will appeal to your heart and conscience that we will win you in the process and our victory will be a double victory."

Martin Luther King

finally won. The supreme court found segregation to be unconstitutional in 1956 over a year after the boycott began. In 1963, King, in front of a quarter million people, delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. This would be the tipping point in the 1960s, and cemented King as a world figure. Through thick and thin, King fought for justice ev-

erywhere he saw a need. In 1964 he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in the Civil Rights Movement. In 1964, the Civil Rights Bill banned segregation in the workplace and public accommodations. In 1968, housing segregation came to an end. On April 4, 1968, King was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn. He was 39 years old. Since his death, King

has inspired numerous movements around the world, including The Black Consciousness Movement in South Africa, which would eventually put an end to Apartheid there. Ronald Reagan, in 1983, signed a bill that effectively created Martin Luther King Jr. Day, which was observed for the first time on Jan. 20, 1968. King inspired a generation of people, black and white, to work together to solve problems. King faced numerous assaults in his life but kept fighting for equality because he believed in it. "But be assured that we'll wear you down by our ca-

capacity to suffer," King said in 1967. "And one day we will win our freedom. We will not only win freedom for ourselves; we will appeal to your heart and conscience that we will win you in the process and our victory will be a double victory." King believed in freeing both sides of oppression, not just one. King also worked on more than civil rights. He was also an advocate in the fight against poverty. Before his death, King was planning more marches on D.C. in an attempt to end poverty, not just for blacks, but for all Americans, proving that, once again, King is more than black history: He is American history.

Police Beat

Feb. 7

Theft 1 p.m.
An iPad was stolen in Isle Hall room 213. The iPad belonged to a disabled student who needed the device in order to read. The device contained textbooks, study notes from the past two years and various other programs that are important to the student. A reward is being offered. Anyone with information regarding the theft is asked to contact the police department.

Feb. 11

Residence hall regulations 12:30 a.m.
Officers received a report that there was a young child staying in a room in Dressler Hall. Contact was made with the resident and the child was found to be OK. The resident was informed of residential hall regulations regarding guests.

Alcohol violation 1 a.m.
Officers responded to the fifth floor of Pearce Hall after receiving a report about a highly intoxicated student. The Cheney fire department did an assessment and the student was not transported to the hospital. The incident is being forwarded to OSRR.

Malicious mischief
Bullet holes were discovered in the windows of the lounge on the first floor of Dressler Hall. The windows were damaged sometime between Jan. 20 and Feb. 7. Two panes will need to be replaced, costing an estimated \$1,600.

Feb. 8

Fraud 2:20 p.m.
A student in Pearce Hall reported that she placed an online order and had not received what she paid for. The student claims to have ordered two teacup Yorkshire Terrier puppies from Europe and that they were not at the airport to be picked up. The money was transferred using Western Union and the student is now out approximately \$1,100.

Collision 12:30 p.m.
A blue VW Beetle and a Pontiac Grand Am collided in parking lot 12 near the football stadium. Officers attributed the accident to inattentive driving as both drivers came around a corner.

Feb. 9

Malicious mischief 8:41 p.m.
A custodian found stab marks caused by a knife on the toilet paper dispenser in the men's restroom behind the Roost. The damage will cost approximately \$80 to repair.

Feb. 10

Alcohol violation 1:30 a.m.
Officers received a call

stating that a highly intoxicated male was harassing residents on the eighth floor of Pearce Hall. The student was contacted and found to be of age. He was told to go to his room, or else face the possibility of arrest. The incident is being referred to OSRR.

Informational report
A student at Riverpoint campus reported that a classmate was giving unwanted attention to her in an attempt to pursue a relationship.

Feb. 11

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Officers responded to the fifth floor of Pearce Hall after receiving a report about a highly intoxicated student. The Cheney fire department did an assessment and the student was not transported to the hospital. The incident is being forwarded to OSRR.

Alcohol violation 1:35 a.m.
Officers observed a group of individuals near the bus stop in parking lot 10. When they moved to make contact, the majority of the group fled, leaving one highly intoxicated student and his sober friend. The student was escorted to his room and the friend was instructed to keep watch and report any further problems or need for assistance. The incident is being forwarded to OSRR.

Alcohol violation 2:13 a.m.
Community advisers reported a possible drug violation in Pearce Hall. Officers made contact with three individuals in a room and one student was arrested for marijuana possession.

Vehicle prowl 5:30 p.m.
A black Chevy Tahoe was broken into near the corner of Washington and Elm street. Approximately \$1,900 worth of stereo equipment was stolen.

Alcohol violation
Three students were given MIPs after officers made contact with a group of individuals in the lobby on the seventh floor of Pearce Hall.

Feb. 12

Informational report
A recreational vehicle used by the hockey club on their trip to Montana had a window shattered sometime during the trip. So far, the only suspect is a rock.

HISTORY OF EASTERN IN PICTURES



Photo courtesy of EWU Libraries, Archives and Special Collections



Photo by Evan Sykes

The cast for a play assembled in costume on the lawn in front of the new administration building in 1916. It wouldn't be named Showalter Hall until 1940.

A photo of the front of Showalter Hall taken in the fall of 2011. The trees have grown and light posts have been added, but the building remains almost identical.

The Green Dot Spot:

By Lisa D. Olson, M.S.
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ldolson@ewu.edu

The Green Dot Strategy is designed to educate and motivate bystanders to make choices that contribute to positive culture change. Any action, behavior, choice, word or attitude that expresses intolerance for power based personal violence or decreases the likelihood that violence will occur is a Green Dot. Our hope is that with so many motivated bystanders on campus, fewer students will have to live with the effects of sexual violence, partner violence, stalking, and abuse. But what about the friends,

family, roommates, partners and peers that have already been impacted by power based personal violence? Do you know how to respond? Survivors often report that although many people are initially supportive, others frequently make the mistake of forgetting that such an experience can contribute to prolonged fears and ongoing symptoms. Friends and family often imply, "It's time to get over it." They may not understand why weeks or even months after an assault, a survivor may still experience fear when going out of the house or fear when being alone. It is important to realize that fears concerning personal safety

are rational and understandable from a survivor's point of view. Regaining a sense of safety takes time. Green Dots are important to preventing violence from occurring, but they can also be important to helping people heal. How can you help? Be patient and attentive. A Green Dot might include taking the time to check in with someone you know has experienced power based personal violence. You don't have to inquire directly about the traumatic event but let them know you haven't forgotten about them. A Green Dot might include an offer to hang out or eat dinner together. If you invite the person to join a social activity, be mindful of

the environment. Will they feel safe? Is there something that might improve their sense of safety? It's not uncommon for survivors to feel left behind when those around them seem to be "moving on" and living "life as usual." Show your support by attending violence prevention events. Put Green Dot information on your Facebook page. Do a paper or class assignment on violence prevention. You don't have to put your own life on hold to be supportive. In the quiet moments of your day, remember that healing takes time and your ongoing support may be needed for that healing to occur, one thoughtful Green Dot at a time.

Through the Eagle's Eye

Interviews by Derek Brown, photos by Aaron Malmoe

"What is the next step for equality in this country?"

"Gay marriage, because it's getting passed everywhere. ... The public sentiment is getting stronger for it." Dallin Jaensen	"I wish we could make it more known on campus. ... It would show that Eastern supports it." Jake Schroeder	"I'm doing Chicano studies this quarter, and we've been abusing them a lot. Maybe we need a Chicano rights movement." Conner Stock	"I think one thing we should be doing is educating more people on [equality]." Catherine Kelly	"Our history is founded on the exploitation of other people and people need to be able to realize that and admit that." Carly Stuart

Letters to the Editor

Financial aid affected by poor planning and poor departmental communication

There seems to be a lack of communication between the individual academic departments and their upper-level students about the availability of upcoming classes offered at EWU. Juniors and seniors are being forced to take filler classes or only take one class per quarter, which could possibly disqualify them from receiving

financial aid. Upper-level students run into difficulties when planning their educational goals because many classes lack annotation about when they will be offered. Specific examples are CMST 451: Argument and Persuasion, ECON 417: Political Economy, and PSYC 340: Emotion and Emotional Intelligence,

just to name a few. If a class is not regularly scheduled for a specific term, the student has to find out when the class will be held, if at all. We cannot effectively plan our degrees without the proper information. Many students turn to self-advising; this tends to leave them playing catch-up in order to graduate on time.

To solve this problem, the first thing we would like to see is an easily accessible list of the classes being offered and what term they will be offered in for the next two years. By providing more long range planning tools such as listing the courses being offered will not only benefit upper-level students on their road to

graduation. This is a benefit all current and potential EWU students can utilize. Our solution would mean more work for the individual academic departments and Registrar's office, but, at the same time, it could potentially increase EWU's graduation rate, which is currently at 21 percent, according to US News. Our low

graduation rate does not do us any favors with the state legislature when it comes to budget cuts or recruiting future students. This could be our opportunity to prove to Washington State that EWU is the place to "Start Something BIG!"
**Joseph D. Jackson
Rachel A. Snelling
Katie Wilbur**

Library hours insufficient for academic performance

Jill is studying for her anatomy test Thursday night when over the speaker, she hears, "The library will be closing in 15 minutes." She gathers up her books and heads home to find that her roommates have decided to partake in "Thirsty Thursday" along with 10 of their friends. She tries to study in her room, but the noise makes it nearly impossible. If only the library was still open.

Library hours on the Eastern Washington University campus end at 10 p.m. on Sunday through Thursday. This negatively affects

the academic performance of EWU students. For some students, the library is the only place they can go to focus and get their studying done. The economic state of the country has limited most universities, resulting in budget cuts in many departments. The library shouldn't be one of those cuts because the academic performance of the students is a crucial part of their success and, therefore, of the school.

When discussing solutions, there are several possibilities to consider. Some hall buildings could stay open for students to use after the library shuts down; however, the students might not get the resources they need. Another possible solution would be to have the entire library stay open later on all days of the week. Although, week, although this would not be very cost efficient for the university. The solution that we feel would work best for everyone is keeping the main level of the library open until midnight from Sunday-Thursday. The upper level and basement would be shut down at 10 p.m. to save on costs.

Yes, I'm almost certain Professor's emails have been blowing up due to the inconsistent messages that have been sent from the Campus Alert System about snow days. Emails are sent to some students and text messages to others. Some students though who have signed up for both notification processes have not always received them. Message information is also very inconsistent. What is said in one message is not always said in the other. Texts for example say: "EWU is open. Classes are scheduled to resume at both Cheney/RPT campuses on Friday, Jan. 20." While emails say: "Friday, Jan. 20, 2012 - As of 5 a.m., classes are scheduled to resume at both Cheney and Riverpoint. If you have concerns about getting to class or work, please contact your professor or supervisor." One professor responded to me about the email saying: "This, to me, gives students an excuse for not coming to class, but requires faculty and staff to risk their necks to get to campus." This makes it very difficult for professors who grade on attendance because that day's records cannot be used against or towards a student's grade. I've contacted the Director of Public Safety and he explained to me that the system allows him to write a

message through his phone or computer and send it to the system program which then disperses the message to all the subscribers. This shows that there is an error within the software seeing as how the message isn't the same for both medium. It would be greatly appreciated by both students and staff if the issue could be resolved. New software could easily solve the problem by sending out consistent and clear messages for students and faculty. Professors will no longer have their inbox overflowing with student's questions as to whether or not there is class, or whether or not they will be there. Students as well can better prepare themselves for transportation with a clear understanding of campus situations. Of course nothing is free, so the purchase of the software could be pricey, but considering the amount of students and faculty who use the system, tuition could easily cover the price. In the end, everyone as a whole will be better prepared for snow days. Professors won't have to consume large amounts of time answering student's questions and concerns about class and student attendance would be better during the winter season.
**Cystalena R. Balderas
Diego F. Gutierrez**

Graduate math adds up to success for everyone

In response to the article "On the chopping block: graduate math." Dr. Fuller's calculations for the cost of running the MS grad program in mathematics are erroneous because he has included the cost of the Master of Arts K-9 Mathematics grad program. These are independent programs. In the Masters of Science math program, 6 1/2 courses are taught per academic year along with thesis direction. Discontinuing the program, frees up graduate faculty to teach seven or eight undergraduate courses per year. The cost of instructors and tuition waivers is roughly

\$200,000 (this number is agreed upon by Dr. Fuller). Graduate instructors teach about 70 sections per year. These include both Developmental Math (Math 103, 104 non-credit) and Pre-Calculus courses (Math 105, 106). Removal of the graduate program would require funding and then finding about seven full time lecturers to cover the shortfall in overall instruction. This would cost (including benefits) EWU about \$385,000. Where will these lecturers come from? Where will the funds come from? It is often overheard that it is better to complete the developmental math courses

at SFCC or SCC. Currently the majority of math instructors at SFCC, SCC and NIC are graduates of our MS program. When our graduates walk out our door, they walk straight into full-time positions at community colleges (if that's the direction they choose). Six of the current lecturers at EWU are also graduates of the program. This past fall, SFCC/SCC had failed searches for a full time lecturer for developmental mathematics (and their salaries and benefits are superior to EWU). So again, where will EWU, Whitworth, Gonzaga and the regional community col-

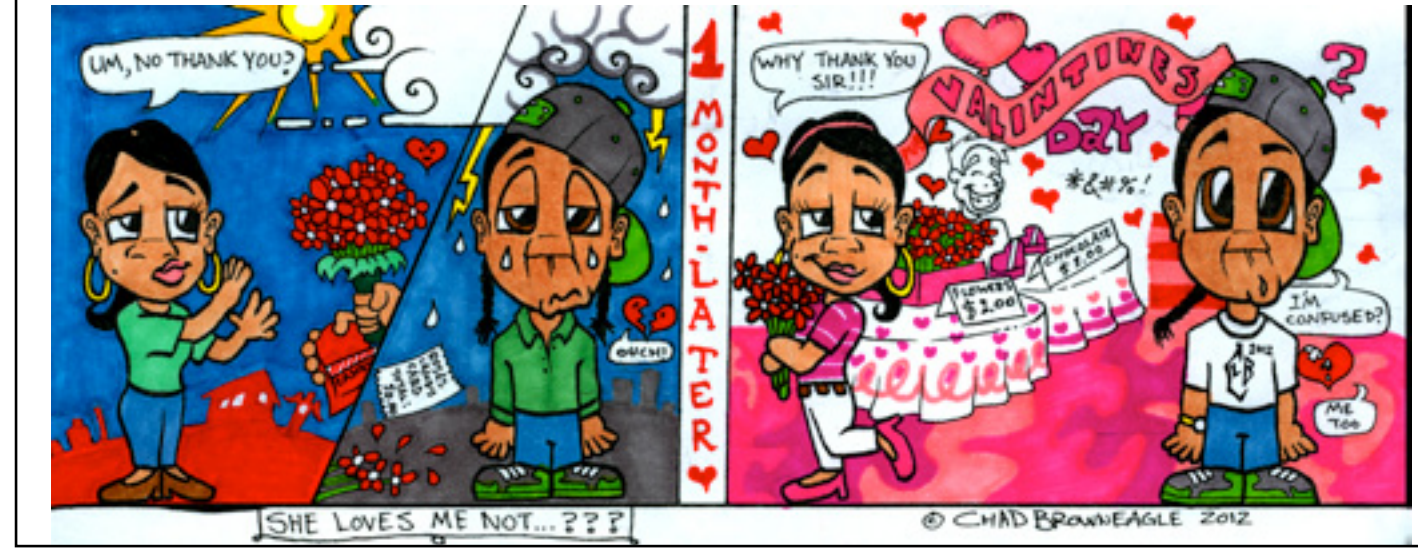
leges find qualified math instructors? Instruction in developmental mathematics in this region will deteriorate dramatically now that the MS program is cut. Dr. Fuller continues to refer to the fact that we don't graduate more than the magic number 10 per year. We are on track for eight graduates this year and eight next year and had already implemented realistic plans to reach that exalted 10. The decision to terminate the program was short-sighted, not well thought out and it will cost EWU (and in turn the students).
Ron Gentle

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GIVING BUT NOT RECEIVING



By Chad BrownEagle

Reedy:

continued from front page

“Only a small scar betrayed the fact that anything had ever been different about her and she smiled ... for the first time ... in her whole life. She smiled and seeing that was amazing,” Reedy said.

After Zulaika was taken home, he promised to tell her story and in January 2011, he released his own book that did just that. “Words in the Dust” is based off of Reedy’s encounter with the young girl and told from her point of view.

Though he admits that the story of a 13-year-old Afghan girl is best told by such, the education system cannot provide them with the means to. He felt that this story could not wait for that kind of a change.

Not only is he fulfilling a promise, but he is also giving back. A portion of the book’s sales go to the organization

Women for Afghan Women, which provides educational and vocational opportunities for girls and women in Afghanistan.

With happy moments, there were tragic ones. Reedy shared his experience of providing security to a group of medics responding to an incident where a girl was severely burned.

“I went into the hospital and saw this girl and at first, I thought she was wearing this beautiful pink and purple dress. When I looked closer I realized ... the pink and purple was just her burned skin.”

He was advised not to put this scene into his book due to its graphic nature. He did it anyway, not only to show that horrible things do happen in times of war, but to carry on the legacy of the girl.

“I knew I had to include it because that girl that was burned in Afghanistan deserves better than to be forgotten.”

After the book’s release in January, Reedy’s book was chosen as “Al’s Book Club for Kids” pick for the TODAY show in May 2011. Reedy flew to New York City and was faced with a panel of children asking questions about the book and what inspired him to write it. Reedy had never been to New York and when his book was released, he went three times.

“Being on the TODAY show was a once in a lifetime sort of amazing experience.” Reedy is currently working on his second book, “Stealing Air.” The book follows three small-town sixth grade boys as they work on a flying machine in a secret shop. The release date is set for October 2012.

Before writing books, Reedy taught high school English. He would encourage his students to keep reaching for big dreams and enjoyed watching them grow up and go out into the world. If he could, he would teach again. Currently, his writ-

ing schedule will not allow for the time required to be a teacher.

Reedy’s co-workers say that he is enthusiastic, passionate and funny.

Kristina Pfelegor, graduate assistant for the Writers’ Center, has worked with Reedy for a little over a year. One of her most memorable situations with Reedy was when a few people were talking about “alien transmissions” that turned out to only be bounced back signals that originated on Earth. Reedy thought that it was a possibility that these transmissions were lost “Doctor Who” episodes.

“He gets so excited about stuff and he’s really passionate about everything,” Pfelegor said.

Tara Weldon, a responder at the Writers’ Center, has been around Reedy for about 9 months recalled her first impression of him.

“I noticed that he was really articulate, that he was able to express what he was

thinking and feeling both in a humorous way and in a serious way at the same time, and that was really impressive,” Weldon said.

Weldon also says that Reedy has a special skill for detecting different points of view.

“He picks up the obscure part of somebody’s story or opinion on something and runs with a viewpoint that maybe ... the average person wouldn’t think about and elaborates on that and that’s really refreshing.”

Fortunately for him, writing is not a labor, but a pleasure. “You hear people complain about Mondays and how sad they are that Monday has arrived because they have to go back to work,” Reedy said. “When Monday rolls around for me and I know that I have an entire day of writing, creating, and imagining and revising ahead of me. I’m up early in the morning and I’m a happy guy because I am going to have fun all day.”

Condomania:

continued from page 5

Students were given sheets where they had to obtain signatures from various stations on both floors of the URC.

Different stations included a table teaching how to maintain healthy relationships, sexually transmitted diseases, abstinence and alternative dating ideas to having sex. There were also booths where students played “Sex-Tac-Toe” and had their picture taken with condom hats.

Eagle Pride Club was one of the clubs that participated in the event. According to member Whitney Huskey, the club gave information on safe sex for same-sex couples.

“We’re very interested in helping kids who don’t know how to have safe sex in ways that aren’t heterosexual,” Huskey said.

EPIC was involved in the event, allowing students to scale the climbing wall in order to get a con-

dom and having students dress up like a human condom.

Kelly agrees that the event is a fun way to have a conversation with students that would normally be uncomfortable.

“We can’t make the assumption they have gotten that before coming to college,” Kelly said. “They do walk out of here with information and not just free condoms. The educator side of me likes [this].”

According to Angelica Hill, a senior and a member of the Don’t Cancel Your Class program, students who approached her table were having a good time.

“They were joking around with us, which makes it easier to talk about these kinds of subjects,” Hill said.

Although part of her motivation was to get free stuff, Davis believes that it is important for other students to learn about safe sex.

“It’s surprising that people don’t know this stuff,” Davis said.

Superfan:

continued from front page

Memphis score, I knew that was the season,” he said.

Stratton predicted correctly, as the team went on to win the Big Sky League title that year.

Football:

continued from page 10

Kupp’s grandfather, Jake Kupp, played 14 years in the league and is a member of the New Orleans Saints Hall of Fame.

“I’ve learned that it takes hard work to get to where you want to go,” said Kupp. “It’s been good to go out and have them be there for me.” All-State defensive end Joe Hunt from Kamiakin High School in Kennewick, Wash. is red-shirting his first year. He feels like he brings a lot to the table and can become a standout defensive end throughout his collegiate career.

“Hopefully, I can bring speed off the edge and help the pass rush,” Hunt said. “I’m usually one of the first people to the ball.”

According to Hunt, he was the sack leader in the Columbia Basin League. He prides himself on being able to get to the opposing quar-

terback.

“Knowing that you own the guy in front of you, ... it’s a very satisfying feeling,” Hunt said.

Hunt feels like EWU has a lot of tradition and he wants to be a part of it.

“Being an Eagle seems pretty sweet, so I’m definitely excited,” Hunt said.

EWU opens its season at Idaho State followed by Washington State, has a bye week and then begins conference play at Weber State. The Eagles do not play at home until nearly a month after the season starts. One might say this is a tough stretch, but wide receiver Nicholas Edwards does not think so.

“The outsiders think our schedule is tough, but we know what kind of talent we have,” Edwards said. “We don’t think our schedule’s that tough.”

Due to the games being in Pullman, Wash. and Moscow, Idaho, Edwards

expects a big turnout of Eastern fans and the Spokane community. On Sept. 8, EWU goes into Pullman to play Washington State in the Cougar’s home opener. It will be their first home game with new head coach Mike Leach at the helm. Edwards hopes that they will have to silence the home crowd because of the amount of Eagles fans in the stands.

“Hopefully, they can come down and support us, so it will be a split type of crowd,” Edwards said.

Herd’s mentality is that the football team has a lot to work on next season to correct mistakes that hindered them last season.

“We would start out games kind of slow and come out a little bit sluggish,” Herd said. “Our goal this year is to come out ready from that first whistle. ... The emphasis is starting fast and finishing strong.”

Work It:

continued from page 5

the Dress Barn, attended Work It! to educate students on proper interviewing attire.

“Be yourself in an interview. ... When in doubt, call the company and ask what a proper dress code is so that you can stay within the guidelines even before you get your foot in the door,” Heather Jaeger, senior manager at Dress Barn, said.

Katie Schaefer, agency field recruiter with State Farm Insurance, is a big fan of career fairs. She gives this

piece of advice to the graduating class of 2012: “They need to find an organization to really get their foot in the door. If you hold out for your absolute dream job, then you are never going to find it because dream jobs change.”

Throughout the day, the students shook hands, met future contacts and networked with the hopes that the advice given would be beneficial in the future.

“Put in the commitment and time and it will reciprocate what you give to it,” Lakeisha Jones, a senior criminal justice major, said. “It’s worth it.”

Track:

continued from page 9

Like Coombs, junior Whitney Leavitt is in her first year as a captain.

When Leavitt thinks back to the captains who influenced her, what stuck out the most is how hard they worked.

Today, Leavitt said she is only fulfilling the role of

captain when giving full effort in practice.

This season, Leavitt’s dedication paid off, providing an example of how hard work leads to results when she double qualified for the Big Sky Conference Indoor Championships in the 60-meter and the 200-meter dash.

Leavitt’s 24.82 seconds in the 200 is the second best time in the Big Sky Conference this season.

Jones attended the session titled “So you want to be a lawyer, huh? Here’s what you can do now to be ready.” She appreciated talking to an attorney and a third-year law student from Gonzaga University. The speakers explained what the first year of law school would be like and gave out contact information to the students.

Ormsby offers this piece of advice for the students at EWU: “Think big, and think about doing with your whole life, not just your career but your whole life, what is going to make you the happiest in the long term.”

According to Kerr, Leavitt’s work ethic and commitment to getting better spurred the performance. Similar traits can be found in all eight track and field captains.

“[They] appreciate the process,” said Hill, “and want to get from A to B, not just necessarily stay where they’re at. It’s somebody who wants to pursue a higher level.

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Couple on the fast track of love

Engaged pair share college experience

By Fedor Gaponenko

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Photo by Mikayla Napier

Keresee Lind and Angelica Rodriguez attended Hermiston High School in Hermiston, Ore.

In the summer, the trails on the outskirts of Hermiston, Ore., are surrounded by an array of luscious greenery and ripe blackberry bushes. In December, the bushes dry up and the trees fade into a frosty green, making for dramatic photography.

Kersey Lind enjoys shooting photographs, but on this day, his camera and the camera bag laying a few paces away next to his girlfriend, Angelica Rodriguez, are just a cover up.

“Hey Angelica, can you grab my bag? I have an extra roll of film in the side pocket,” he asked.

She reached in the pocket and pulled out a velvet box. She knew what it was, thinking she just messed up his plan, she quickly put it back in the bag.

“I saw this take place out of the corner of my eye,” Lind said.

After a couple of minutes of letting her fumble with the camera bag and pretending nothing happened, Lind asked her if she saw what was inside.

“I took it out again and I opened it. I felt like my heart was beating really, really fast,” said Rodriguez. “I just felt like, ‘Wow, this is really happening to me right now.’ He took it and read me a letter, which was really thoughtful, just reflecting on our journey and a lot of things that I really appreciated hearing. He proposed and I said ‘Yes.’ At that point, I teared up a little bit because it was beautiful.”

Officially engaged as of Dec. 27, 2011, Lind and Rodriguez glance back at the starting line to this fast track of love that they are on.

Both are on EWU’s track teams and are majoring in education. Lind is graduating this spring and hopes to be a history teacher, while Rodriguez needs two more years to finish her education major and start teaching either math or Spanish.

They grew up in Hermiston, Ore., where they both attended Hermiston High School and ran for their school’s track team. Lind was a senior when Rodriguez was a freshman, so other than occasionally seeing each other around school, they never got a chance to talk.

It was not until the winter of 2009 when Rodriguez was a senior that she met her fiancé.

“The day after Christmas, our coach was like, ‘Hey, we have a practice in the evening if you want to come,’” Rodriguez said. “I ended up being the only one to show up.”

That is, the only one other than Keresee Lind, Coach Brandt Lind’s son.

“It was really fun. It should’ve been a simple 45-minute workout,” Rodriguez said. “But it ended up being two hours, just talking and laughing. That was the first time we actually talked.”

With Lind off at college and Rodriguez finishing high school, they remained friends for over half of a year before admitting interest in each other.

“The first practice when we hung

out and from that point, I was like, ‘Oh dang, I really want to pursue this girl,’” Lind said.

“She tried to delay reality a little bit,” he added with a smile.

“I’m just a stubborn person, in general,” said Rodriguez. “For me to have someone pursue me was new. I never really experienced that. For me, it was like, ‘Well, this is really neat. He’s really putting an effort to get to know me,’ but at the same time, I wasn’t giving in or showing him that I was interested.”

Their first quarter together at Eastern, which was the fall of 2010, is when they officially became a couple. Living on campus was really convenient according to Lind.

Even with a busy schedule, they could always go out and find ways to make time for each other.

“We like keeping it simple sometimes,” Lind said. “Watch a movie on Netflix or make dinner together.”

This past summer, they went on a

mission trip to Honduras for two weeks. The trip helped them grow together and mature as a couple.

“We had a lot of tough conversations that came up that really helped us,” said Rodriguez. “They taught us a lot about each other.”

Lind and Rodriguez have always had the support of their family and friends.

“My friends, they’re funny,” said Rodriguez. “The ones that are the closest to me, the ones I knew since sixth grade. Once we started talking, not even dating, a couple of my friends would be like, ‘You’re going to be dating soon.’ I was like, ‘Whatever.’ Then once we started dating, they started saying, ‘You guys are going to get married.’”

Their families are very excited about them. Lind jokes around that his grandparents love her more than him.

“They just love Angelica,” Lind said. “The first thing they ask — they won’t even ask about me — the first thing is, ‘Oh, how’s Angelica doing?’”

Here at Eastern, head coach of men’s track and field Stan Kerr has only great things to say about Lind and Rodriguez as a couple.

“I enjoyed all the time spent with them,” Kerr said. “Academically and athletically, they are the kind of people who set high goals and standards and then reach them and exceed them.”

“What a lucky and blessed community to get those two people,” Kerr said, referring to them as future teachers. “I’m a superintendent or principal and I see those two names come across my desk, those are the people who are going to be an asset not only to the school, but to that community.”

Lind and Rodriguez acknowledge that it has not been a complete fairytale, but the struggles they overcame together made them love each other more.

“We can’t let our emotions be the steering wheel,” Rodriguez said. “As we look back, we go, ‘Wow, we’ve been through some hard times,’ but we are learning through them, learning more about each other.”

Lind believes he and Rodriguez’s future will have those rough patches.

“We made this choice to love each other and we will be able to work past those times,” Lind said.

Captains essential in their team roles

Leaders focus on setting an example for their teammates

By Kyle Franko

STAFF WRITER
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Walk into the middle of track practice for the first time and you might be a little disoriented. Who would not when there is heavy implements being tossed around, sprinters are whizzing by and jumpers are soaring through the air?

Five coaches strive to orchestrate the seemingly endless activity of 97 EWU men’s and women’s track athletes spread across four disciplines.

However, coaches cannot be everywhere and see everything. There is not enough time in the day to plan practice schedules, workouts, recruiting trips, travel plans and the emotional ups-and-downs of 18 to 22-year-olds. Luckily, they do not have to.

Every year, the distance runners, the jumpers, the throwers and the sprinters elect two captains from each discipline: one male and one female.

The eight captains fill in the gaps coaches are unable to account for. They are an intermediary between coaches and players.

“A lot of the athletes or other teammates will come to you and ask questions,” senior captain

Shene Davis said. “You kind of deal with some stuff that coaches may not want to. A lot of the time, it’s the captains that are like, ‘I know this sucks guys, but come on. Let’s keep it up.’ We keep pushing the team.”

Davis, in her second season as jumps captain, adjusted her style from the initial go-round.

“The first year, I was very vocal,” Davis said. “This time, I just hang out. I’m here if you need me. For the most part, it’s just by example. I work hard and I expect the team to, too.”

According to the head men’s track and field coach Stan Kerr, captains are chosen by their teammates based on their work ethic and how they emulate the behaviors required to be successful at the Division I level.

Assistant coach Jon Hill believes many of the captains are identified early in their careers.

“Our kids realize who’s buying in and who’s fully on board,” Hill said. “They vote for people that are bringer-togethers, not separators.”

Many of this year’s captains may have been obvious choices for the team, but the players tabbed for the added responsibility still stopped to consider how they would be perceived by their teammates.

“It makes me think a little more about my decisions,” said throwers captain Michelle Coombs. “I’m a whiner sometimes about my workouts, but

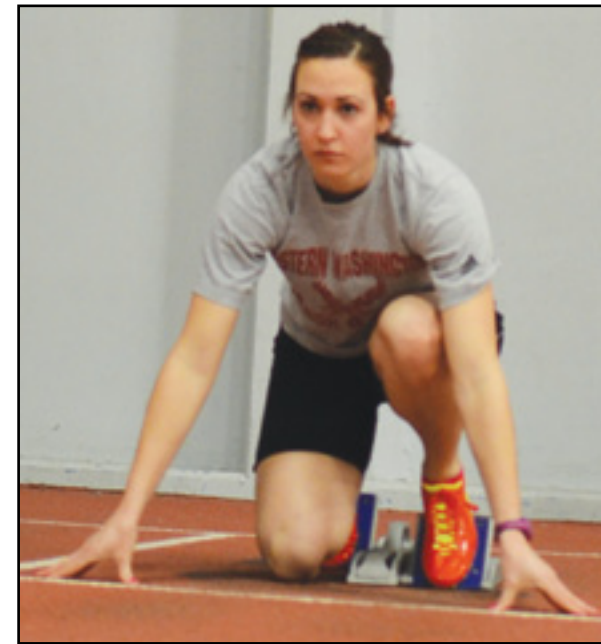


Photo by Casey Picha

Whitney Leavitt is in her first year as a track captain now ... I want to think positive so they think positive.”

TRACK-PAGE 8

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DUTCH'S INTERSPACE

EWU Sports in Brief



Koetje

Men's tennis shuts out Idaho State — The men's tennis team clinched another win as they defeated the Idaho State Bengals, 7-0 on Feb. 11. The team swept the Bengals in both singles and doubles competition. The duo of sophomore Ilija Cuic and junior Kyle Koetje continued their winning ways as they defeated Idaho States' Charles Norman and Austin Miller, 8-3. Both Cuic and Koetje would go on to win their singles matches. Sophomore James Russell extended his singles winning streak to four, defeating Krzysztof Stempien 6-3, 6-4. This win brings the team's overall record to 5-2.

Eastern loses road game to Weber State — The Eagles' mens basketball team endured another loss as they went up against the No. 1 ranked Weber State Wildcats, 84-75, Feb. 11. Although the Wildcats were ahead from the start, the Eagles were able to keep the Wildcats' lead under 10. Senior Cliff Colimon led Eastern in scoring with 20 points in the second half while freshman Parker Kelly scored a career-high 17 points. This puts Eastern at No. 6 in the Big Sky Conference standings.

Basketball players earn Scholar Athlete honors — Senior forward Cliff Ederaine and junior center Carrie Ojeda were named February's Scholar Athletes. Ederaine is a communications major who currently has a 3.2 cumulative GPA. He was also selected as the Big Sky Conference men's basketball Player of the Week for Nov. 29 and is second in the conference for rebounding. Ojeda is a criminal justice major with a 3.57 GPA. She currently leads the Big Sky Conference with blocked shots and ranks in the top ten in rebounding and field goal percentage.

Women's tennis loses two matches in Idaho — The Eastern women's tennis team extended their losing streak to five as they dropped two more matches against the Boise State Broncos, 7-0, Feb. 10, and the Idaho Vandals, 6-1, Feb. 11. Junior Ryann Warner won the only duel in the women's match against the Vandals, defeating sophomore Alejandra Lozano 6-4, 6-0.

Men's rugby bowls over Vandals

Eagles capture first conference win

By Kyle Franko
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Zac Hearron took a pass from Eric Populous and sprinted 25 yards down the left sideline to score the decisive try in a 33-8 victory over Idaho.

That score was the third of four tries in the second half dominated by the EWU men's rugby club (1-1-1). It was Eastern's first conference win of the season in front of 85 people at Roos Field Feb. 11.

"Coming out here and just smacking around somebody," said club president Brendon Rannow. "It feels good to finally get that win."

Since joining the Northwest Collegiate Rugby Conference two seasons ago, EWU has never lost at home.

Idaho scored the match's first three points off of a penalty goal 17 minutes into the game, but Eastern went on to score 28 unanswered points to take a commanding lead.

EWU first got on the board at the 35-minute mark when Brandon Murphy crashed over the goal line carrying three Vandal defenders.

Populous converted the ensuing two-point conversion, giving the Eagles a 7-3 half-time lead.

In a first half character-

ized by sloppy play, neither side built any continuity offensively.

However, in the final 40 minutes, EWU overwhelmed the Vandals.

"[The] second half was a lot better," said head coach Ian Martin. "In the first half, everyone was still playing a little like headless chickens."

In the first 15 minutes after halftime, Idaho never had possession on EWU's side of the field.

Eastern's Jacob Christensen took advantage of the good field position and rumbled in for the Eagle's second try.

It was 12 minutes later when Jake Hammon scored off a breakaway from 20 yards out.

The lead increased to 21-3 after Populous chipped in the conversion kick.

"Our defense was good all around," Martin said. "Our defense has been really solid all year. We just need to click on offense a little better."

To cap off the win in the final minute, Shawn Fenton intercepted an Idaho pass at the 40-yard line and coasted untouched to Eastern's fifth and final try of the game.

"It happened pretty fast," Fenton said. "They were moving guys, trying to get the ball to the outside. I saw it from pretty far away."

On a misty afternoon, both teams struggled to maintain possession in



Photo by Aaron Malmoe

After their win against Idaho, the men's rugby team is No. 3 in the Northwest Collegiate Rugby Conference.

the slippery and wet conditions, but Eastern's physical forwards applied constant pressure on the smaller Vandal defense.

"Our forwards solidified

the possession and the win for us," Martin said.

Populous, the forwards captain, was 4-of-5 on two-point conversions.

Eastern is third in the

league with seven total points following the victory.

They will travel next to play the University of Washington on Feb. 18.

Johnson returns to help guide new recruits

NCAA grants senior another year of play

By Josh Friesen
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After appealing to the NCAA, linebacker and defensive captain Zach Johnson has been allowed to play football for another year after missing a total of 19 games due to a knee injury. 2012 will mark Johnson's sixth year in an Eagle uniform.

"I was told I had a pretty good opportunity of returning," Johnson said. "It was a no-brainer to try to come back."

Johnson's knee injury stems from an injury sustained in high school. According to Johnson, he was able to play his first two years at EWU. However, after his sophomore season, it began bothering him.

After undergoing surgery to repair his knee, Johnson developed blood clots that kept him out of action for his entire junior year.

Johnson was healthy during his fourth season where he helped guide EWU to a national championship.

He underwent knee surgery a second time the following spring.

FOOTBALL FALL 2012 NEW RECRUITS	
Will Boule (OL)	Cooper Kupp (WR)
Dalis Bruce (WR)	Anthony Lira (DL)
Cedric Gonzalez (LB)	Bowe Merin (QB)
Benjamin Gossmeier (DL)	Jalen Moore (RB)
Austin Griffin (OG)	Jordan Pulu (LB)
Cam Hemmings (S)	Charles Redd II (CB)
Joe Hunt (DL)	Jordan Thompson (S)
Jude Isbell (S)	Diamonte Wiggins (CB)
DeAndre Johnson (LB)	Jabari Wilson (RB)
Jerrod Jones (OG)	Miquiyah Zamora (S)

Easterner Graphics

The EWU football program signed 20 letters of intent from incoming freshmen.

He was expected to remain healthy for his 2011 season but was sidelined by a third surgery three weeks into the season.

After learning of his return, his teammates were excited to have him back.

Wide receiver Greg Herd, who

will be entering his senior year in 2012, believes that Johnson's leadership qualities are invaluable.

"The guy works his butt off every day in the gym. He plays his butt off every snap," Herd said. "He sets a precedent for that type of character."

Wide receiver Brandon Kaufman, who was also sidelined by injury last season, was able to talk with Johnson about next season as they recovered from their injuries.

"We tried to focus amongst each other on this year," Kaufman said. "We're both on the same page."

A group of 20 high school athletes signed letters of intent to join EWU's football team next fall on Feb. 1.

All-State wide receiver Cooper Kupp from Yakima, Wash. is excited to see what EWU has to offer. He believes he can learn a lot from Eastern's players as well as their coaches.

"[Wide receivers coach Junior] Adams has done a great job coaching those receivers that have come through," Kupp said. "I want to try to become an All-American."

Kupp feels like he has learned a lot from his father and grandfather, who both played in the NFL.

FOOTBALL-PAGE 8

Williams stands tall among upperclassmen

Freshman adapts to role on starting line up

By Al Stover
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Melissa Williams steps onto Reese Court, making her way to the Weber State junior forward, Amanda Hughes, seconds before the start of the game. After Hughes gets the ball, she dashes down the court with Williams one step behind her.

Williams is a freshman on the No. 2 ranked EWU women's basketball team who has started for the 24 games of her first season.

According to head coach Wendy Schul-

ler, Williams came to Eastern both physically and mentally prepared to play Division I women's basketball.

"You got to have the right kind of head on your shoulders," Schuller said. "She's been a typical freshman in a lot of ways. Certain things have taken longer for her to absorb. A lot of other things she naturally did. We thought she was a perfect compliment to the other players."

Although Williams has not scored as many points as the other starters, she has made her presence known playing defense on the post. She currently has 92 defensive rebounds, averaging 3.8 a game.

"Melissa [Williams] has embraced her role," Schuller said. "She's really gotten better as the year has gone on. She does a little bit of everything."

For Williams, starting every game of the season has been a blessing and a surprise.

"I didn't know how much I was going to play coming in," Williams said. "I take advantage of every game I get to go and play in."

Although her father was a basketball coach, Williams wanted to be a professional soccer player and hated basketball as a kid.

It would not be until middle school that she became serious about basketball.

"By the time I got to high school, I was able to make varsity and play with my sister who is three years older than me," Williams said.

Williams was a four-year varsity player for Camas High School in Camas, Wash. During this time, she was selected as the 2010 Greater St. Helens Player of the Year, the

2010 Columbian All-Region Player of the Year and helped her team to the Class 3A District Championship.

According to Eastern's athletic website, Williams had a knee injury that interrupted her senior year.

However, she was able to rehabilitate her knee to get ready to play for Eastern in Fall 2011.

Williams has improved on several aspects of her game over the years, including her shooting.

During her first season in college, Williams has had to adapt to how quickly players move and shoot on the court. She has also had to memorize a lot of plays and communication on the court.

"In high school, you go from everyone for themselves to coming together as a team in order to pull these games off," Williams said.

Freshman point guard Kylie Huerta has played in every game this season. She is currently working with senior point guard Chene Cooper to get ready to step up for next year after Cooper graduates.

Huerta has watched Williams progress throughout the season.

"Starting as a freshman is always tough," Huerta said. "You are always going to be a little nervous. Sometimes, she's having to go in there and guard the big post or one of the best players [on the opposing team]. As each game has gone on, she has gotten a little better at everything."

Despite going up against more experienced players, Williams feels like she has nothing to lose.

"I can't go wrong if I am trying my hardest," Williams said. "If I screw up, at least I'm still playing hard."



Williams