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Associated Students of Eastern Washington University

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# THE EASTERNER

## Preventing sexual assaults are 'on us'

**By KATIE DUNN**  
*staff writer*

Sexual assault is a national issue, the Washington Post reported. The Eastern Washington University police Clery Act shows that in 2013 there was one report of forced sexual offense on campus. That is a decrease from 2012, which had three reported cases, and 2011, which had 11. A decrease in reported cases does not mean a decrease in the number of unreported assaults.

On Sept. 19, President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden announced their public awareness campaign "It's On Us." This campaign aims to prevent sexual assault on university campuses by increasing bystander intervention.

According to the White House's official list, a total of 10 community colleges and universities from Washington state have committed to the program.

However, Eastern Washington University is not on the list.

"I think it's something we'll absolutely work on doing," said Tricia Hughes, director for Health, Wellness and Prevent Services.

According to Hughes, Eastern was having staff training when the campaign was launched, so they have not had time to look into it.

The White House reported that "It's On Us" supports the idea that everyone has a role in preventing sexual assault by

means of creating a safe environment, no matter the location. The goal is educating and training the public to establish new social norms, to decrease misconceptions about sexual assault and to provide skills that promote confidence to intervene.

The United States Department of Justice defines sexual assault as "any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without consent of the recipient."

The Washington state criminal code, under section 9A definitions, asserts that consent cannot be given if a person is mentally incapacitated. This can be a result of illness, defect, drugs or alcohol.

"An estimated one in five women has been sexually assaulted during her college years. One in five," said Obama. "Of those assaults, only 12 percent are reported, and of those reported assaults, only a fraction of the offenders are punished. And while these assaults overwhelmingly happen to women, we know that men are assaulted too."

According to the "It's On Us" website, the program directors are collaborating with the Center for American Progress' Generation Progress Internship, the American Association of University Women, organizations like the National Collegiate Athletic Association and private companies like iHeartRadio and Tumblr.

Obama and Biden said they want the campaign to strive for bystander



Graphic by Lauren Campbell

involvement, especially from men, because men influence how women are treated by other men.

According to Hughes, Eastern is already advocating the "It's On Us" message through other programs like "Think About It" and "Start by Believing."

Hughes said Eastern now requires all new students to participate in "Think About It," an online education program offered through

the website Campus Clarity. This program covers bystander intervention, sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence, high risk drinking, healthy relationships and resources for receiving help at Eastern.

Hughes reported that the two hour class should open the week of Oct. 13.

"The reason we have them take it so early in their time here at Eastern is that we are trying to share

our norms as an Eastern community and our expectations for students around this issue," said Hughes. "We want them to understand that we take it very seriously but that we also would like them, if something like this were to happen to them, to report it and know that we have resources available to help in those situations."

IT'S ON US-PAGE 2

## Sports snag international students

**By MIKE HANTHO**  
*staff writer*

Eastern Washington University is the host to many international student-athletes who have come a long way from home to be a part of our sports programs.

In recent years, a small group of students have come to Eastern from around the world seeking a better education through sports.

Melissa Waelter, from Arn-sberg, Germany, is a senior volleyball player majoring in psychology. Waelter said that her time here in America has been great and that it is great to see a group of people who love sports so much.

"I love it here," said Waelter. "I have spent two years in Alabama and loved it down there too, but it is a lot different than up here. I love both areas, both schools, and I love how the sport is such a huge deal in America. It is different here than it is back home, as you don't invest as much into the athletes. It's nice to get supported."

INTERNATIONAL-PAGE 10

## EWU alumnus awarded PEN/Bingham honor



Photo by Jessica Hawley

Shawn Vestal, author of fiction, is an adjunct professor at EWU.

### Short stories in "Godforsaken Idaho" recognized

**By AARON BOCOOK**  
*staff writer*

Eastern Washington University alumnus and adjunct faculty member Shawn Vestal won the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize for debut fiction at a New York ceremony Sept. 29 for his collection of short stories, "Godforsaken Idaho."

Vestal, best known in Spokane for his thrice weekly column in the Spokesman-Review, said winning the prize was not something he had really looked for, but described the experience as "wonderful and strange."

"Publishing a book at all was a dream come true," Vestal said. "Anything on top of that is just insane and unexpected and great."

The PEN/Bingham Prize, which comes with an award of \$25,000, is great exposure for Eastern, according to Samuel Ligon, a professor who worked closely with Vestal while he was a student in Eastern's master of fine arts program for creative writing.

Vestal said even though he had been writing for a long time, his experience at Eastern gave him the

motivation to work harder than ever on his fiction.

"I needed what that program provides," he said. "The expectation that you will work harder, and [receive] a lot of really intense, focused feedback."

According to Ligon, when Vestal arrived in the program, he came ready to take the next step with his writing and took advantage of what Eastern had to offer. Vestal is now an adjunct faculty member at the university and teaches a creative writing workshop.

"It's really cool to be able to have a former student who can work in the program with us," Ligon said. "We love having him. He's a great teacher and a friend."

Ligon said he is happy to see a writer from his program work hard and make the national scene.

"Even though [Vestal] is a naturally gifted writer, he benefitted from his time as a student in the MFA Creative Writing program," Ligon said. "I think a lot of students get what they put in. He had a real perseverance and dedication with the work. That's just kind of fundamental. But he also has talent and vision, and that doesn't hurt either."

Vestal said he plans to use the prize money to pay off his car and take some time off work to finish the novel he is currently working on.

"My son thinks he gets a Lego set," Vestal said. "And that may happen, I suppose."

## Coming Out Day celebrated

**By JACLYN ARCHER**  
*eagle life editor*

On Oct. 9, the EWU Pride Center sponsored several campus events to celebrate National Coming Out Day (NCOD), a day which honors the decision of LGBTQ individuals to "come out of the closet" and share their sexual orientation and LGBTQ gender identity with family and friends.

Joining the EWU Pride Center in sponsorship were several university and local organizations: Eagle Entertainment, ASEWU, Student Activities Involvement and Leadership (SAIL), EWU Women's Studies Center, Counseling and Psychological Services, Students United for LGBTQIA Empowerment and the WSU Spokane Diversity Events Subcommittee.

The first event, a panel discussion with LGBTQ community members, took place in PUB 261. Panelists shared their coming-out experiences and fielded questions from the audience afterwards.

COMING OUT-PAGE 5

## INSIDE:

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## Upcoming Events:

**October**

Oct 18: The EWU Office of Alumni will host **Treats 2 Troops**. This event is collecting materials for care packages to be sent to active-duty military men and women.

Oct. 19: **Kenny Rogers**, country music and crossover artist, will perform at the Northern Quest Resort & Casino.

Oct. 22: **Jason Mraz and Raining Jane** will perform live at the INB Performing Arts Center. Mraz wrote and recorded with Raining Jane for his new album "Yes!"

Oct. 25: EWU Libraries is hosting their annual **Oktoberfest** with the theme being "Eastern Stampede." The fundraising event proceeds go toward the EWU Libraries Collection Endowment Fund.

Oct. 25: **Under The Streetlamp** will perform at the INB Performing Arts Center. The group combines the talents of Michael Cunio, Shonn Wiley, Michael Ingersoll and Christopher Kale Jones.

Oct. 31: **Halloween!** Be responsible.



Illustration by Lauren Campbell

**Eagle Life**

How technology and gadgets construe our social ideals and mentality.

**Page 4**



 @EasternerNews • Do you recycle in Cheney? Have any suggestions for improvement of the system? Tell us on Twitter.

# Cheney recycling center looking to the future with public awareness, usability

**By ALEX MILLER**  
*staff writer*

Cheney recycles between 600 and 700 tons of materials per year, a little over 10 percent of all waste; but the city wants the program to become even bigger according to Todd Ableman, Cheney's Public Works director.

"10 percent is a fairly good range and I know that ecology would like to see that even greater, expanding their recyclables; they would like to push it up to somewhere around 50 percent," said Ableman.

EWU and Cheney School District are on board as well, as EWU is preparing construction for a new recycling facility on campus in the P12 lot.

"In the back of the new lot, P12, is a recycle facility being constructed," said Ableman.

"EWU has really gone and started their recycling program, as well as the Cheney School District," said Ableman "Cheney School District is also starting to implement an education on the recycling and doing their own self-recycling programs, too."

Recycling is important because it keeps materials out of landfills where they

can contaminate groundwater systems and produce greenhouse gases. It also conserves resources and stimulates job growth as well, according to the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Located on 100 Anderson Road is Cheney's recycling center which recycles a variety of materials from cardboard, glass, plastic, paper, aluminum and tin to magazines, yard waste and motor oil. The recycling center is open Tuesdays through Fridays from noon to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cheney's recycling center operates on a "source separate" system, according to Ableman, which allows people to take all their materials to the recycling center for free and take each different material to its station. Source separation is possible through a "Smart Center," which Ableman said was an idea proposed by Waste Management.

There are those in Cheney who are not aware of Cheney's recycling program, but would take advantage of it if the word was out more, like EWU sophomore Geoffery Lucas, who said, "Advertise it. Get the word out about it. I think just that alone could



Repositories labeled for ease of organization at The Cheney Recycling Center on Anderson Road.

Photo by Alex Miller

influence people more to recycle if they know there's a place that's free."

According to Ableman, there are not enough residents of Cheney in support of introducing a curbside recycling pickup; that is why residents of Cheney need to bring their recyclables to the recycling center.

"To kind of grab on that operational expense, it would have to be an 'all in' to really pay for it, and I don't know if there's enough interest to do that," he said.

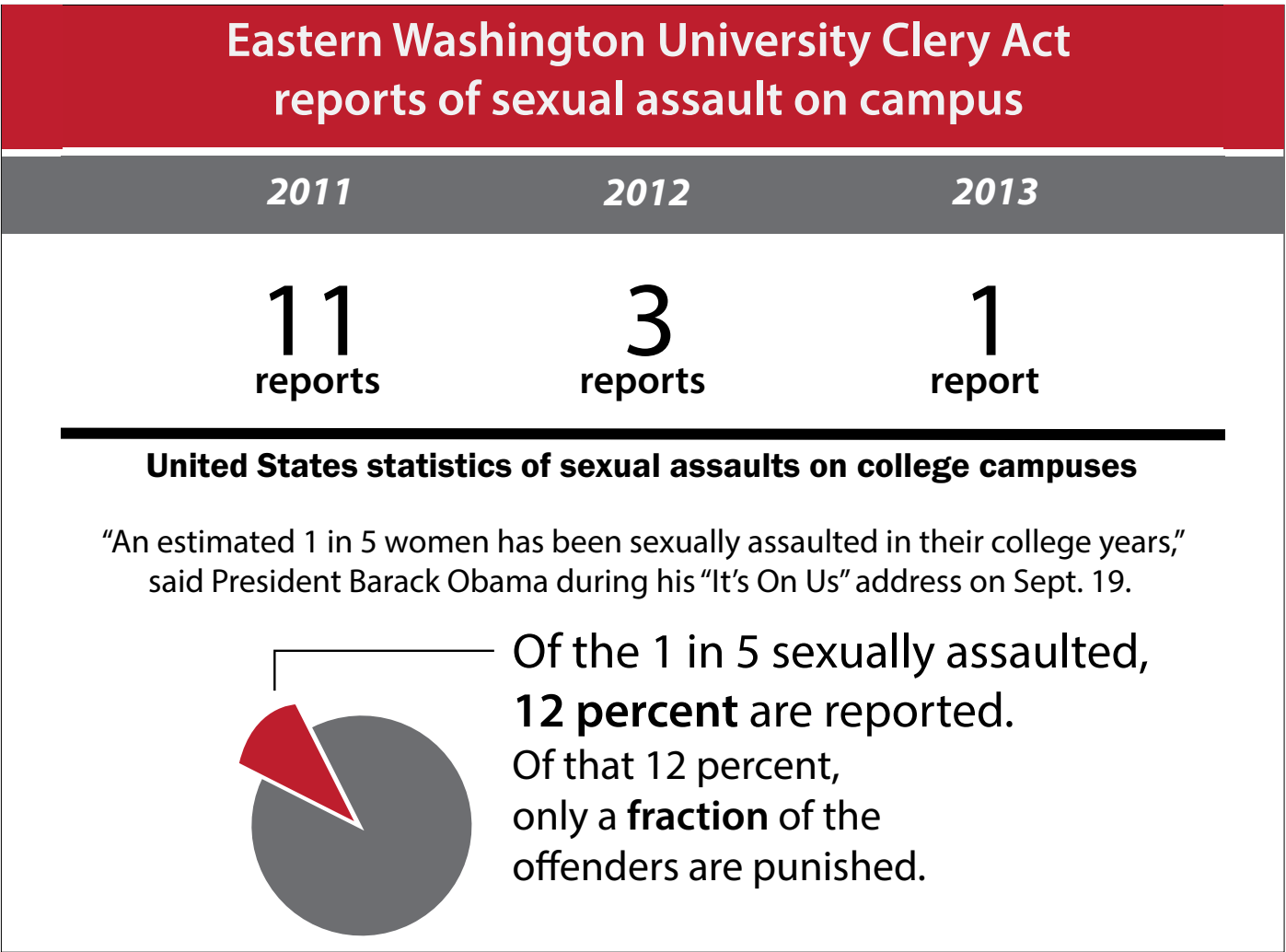
Ableman noted a drawback to curbside pickup, though: "Sometimes it's not source separated. You get a lot of glass that gets broken and gets into the cardboard so it's really not a real clean product."

"I think Cheney takes pride in continuing to source separate all their materials right there, and having a cleaner product," Ableman said. "We do have a fairly robust program and also the availability to take a look at future programs."



Photo by Alex Miller

Cheney recycling center bins help sort recyclable items.



**IT'S ON US:**  
**CONTINUED FROM FRONT**

According to Hughes, she and the Student Support and Advocacy manager Michelle Helmerick were awarded the Board of Trustees Diversity Grant, allowing them to implement the

"Start by Believing" campaign later this fall.

She said the goal for this campaign is to stop victim blaming by speaking up and believing someone when they say they were assaulted.

Hughes also said the program will focus on new

student athletes, but the classes will also be open to sorority and fraternity members. The program's leaders plan to work with staff members and students who live in the residence halls and have open education opportunities for students who are interested.

"Our message is that the best outcome that's going to happen for these students is if the first person they confide in believes them," said Hughes. "If they are believed when they first tell their story, then they are more likely to report and get the help they need."

## Eastern TRiO Program supports underrepresented student groups

**By NATHAN PETERS**  
*managing editor*

Eastern's TRiO Program is one of 59 programs in Washington state funded under the federal Higher Education Act of 1965. The program serves students who either have disabilities, are first generation or are claimed as low-income, with academic support while at EWU.

"We work hard to ensure students are served to [the] best of our abilities and that our level of support is exceptional and individualized," said Carmen Perez-Frayne, EWU director of TRiO Student Support Services in an email.

The TRiO Programs of Washington State website said U.S. Congress created the TRiO Program "to help low-income Americans enter college, graduate and move on to participate more fully in America's economic and social life." Data in 2014 shows the Eastern TRiO Program was awarded \$376,585 in grant funds.

The federal grant runs in five-year cycles. Perez-Frayne said her team is working with various student services departments preparing for the 2015 grant renewal process. The new grant cycle "presents an opportunity to be innovative and make some adjustments to the program to better serve our students," Perez-Frayne said.

The Eastern TRiO SSS provides three services: Focus First Year, STEM Scholars and the TRiO Transfer Program.

The EWU TRiO SSS webpage lists each program as being focused on a specific demographic of students. Focus First Year works with freshmen transitioning from high school to college; STEM Scholars is focused on freshmen specifically studying science, technology, engineering and math; and the TRiO Transfer Program serves Eastern transfer students.

TRiO helped employee and Eastern student Isabel Bahena by "having a steady adviser ... most students don't get to connect with their adviser because they get a new one each quarter." Bahena said her favorite part of working for TRiO is "interacting with the students and feeling more involved."

TRiO student Sarai Rios said, "They're basically there to help you with resources." Rios said her TRiO adviser helped plan her social work courses and supports her when she is stressed with classes.

"I feel like TRiO gives you a family away from home," said Chantel Ramirez, TRiO staff member.

*"We work hard to ensure students are served to [the] best of our abilities and that our level of support is exceptional and individualized."*

**Carmen Perez-Frayne**  
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**THE EASTERNER**  
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Grant connects Eastern to community

Budget increase prospers

By ALEX MILLER staff writer

Since the early 2000s, the Start Something Big Grant at EWU helped faculty and staff with funding when the state could not, but it is gearing up to help in the coming years as the grant prepares for an increased budget.

“The program is a grant program that the foundation board of directors offers to faculty and staff of the university,” said Michael J. Westfall, University Advancement vice president and EWU Foundation executive director.

The program also has a committee, which reviews the applications submitted for funding.

“It’s our favorite committee,” said Westfall. “And that’s because they are reviewing proposals and allocating funds to do good on campus.”

Funds were tight when he first started working at Eastern, but that has changed in recent years, according to Westfall.

“We had to reduce the overall funds that we were able to allow due to the budget issues,” said Westfall. “So we were about \$20,000 per year that we were able to offer, but it is a pet project, if you will, of the board, so this next year we’re going to be allocating upwards of \$60,000.”

EWU’s website stated,

# Start Something Big

## Research

Projects that will enhance instruction



## Instructional

Innovative opportunities for instructional design and delivery



## Community

Enhance the university commitment to the community or demonstrate future benefit to EWU



Graphic by Tanner Striecher

“Proposals should enhance the university and provide opportunities for development and research support.”

“It’s a myriad of research projects,” said Lenore Stark, University Advancement executive assistant to the vice president.

In spring quarter 2014, the foundation provided grants to the computer science, English, music, Africana studies, engineering and design, geology and information technology departments at Eastern, according to the Start Something Big Grant summary sheet.

“We tend to fund those things for which there aren’t state funds available and so we’re able to sort of fill that gap,” said Westfall. “The average award is in the \$1,000 range, so it’s enough to make a difference, but we want to try and spread that around and try to impact as many programs and initiatives on campus that we can.”

Start Something Big Grant applications are due on Oct. 15 at 5 p.m. Applications will be accepted again on the third Wednesday of winter and spring quarter 2015.

For more information, visit the EWU Foundation website at ewufoundation.com or contact Lenore Stark at mstark3@ewu.edu.

New chair for EWU Department of Geography and Anthropology digs up old inventory

By AARON BOCOOK staff writer

When the new chair of EWU’s Department of Geography and Anthropology, Robert Sauders, Ph.D., traded offices with outgoing chair Stacy Warren, Ph.D., this summer, they found some strange stuff.

“I feel like I’m telling on someone,” said LeAnn Knoles, the Department of Geography and Anthropology secretary. Although Warren occupied the chairperson’s office for the last nine years, according to Knoles, the room itself had not been seriously cleaned in over 30 years since geography and anthropology joined as one department in 1979.

Obsolete policies and procedures dating back decades, a hand-made wood bound book on sweat lodges etched with “1982” and evidence of Isle Hall’s infamous squirrel population in the form of miniature, petrified meadow muffins were all found in the process of trading spaces.

After elections for the position were held in May, Sauders said he and Warren negotiated the handoff of the office, which he officially took over Sept. 1.

The term for department chair is

four years, with a limit of two terms. Warren, a geography professor in the department, said she served two consecutive terms and an additional year due to the unavailability of a qualified new chairperson to take over.

“We don’t want to take a new assistant professor and pile all of that work on top of them, so for humane reasons, we require them to have tenure, or at least strongly suggest,” said Warren. “And the other qualification is they can’t be too busy doing other things. Or be willing to do it.”

According to Sauders, the way that it works in the dual department is this: Whatever department holds the chair, either geography or anthropology, that program deals with undergraduate advising of its own and the other will have what is called a “program director” to deal with the administrative issues specific to that program.

Like Warren, Sauders now not only serves as department chair but also as director of the anthropology program.

“[Sauders] is an excellent teacher, and so far, he has been a brilliant administrator,” said Sarah Keller, Ph.D., who, according to Sauders, has been teaching at Eastern “since Lucy, [the early human ancestor,] was an anthropology student.”

Keller said she has either been program director of anthropology or chairperson since the two departments joined in 1979. Keller actually founded EWU’s anthropology department in 1966, as a part of sociology, anthropology and social work. She served two terms as chair from 1997 to 2005, just before Warren’s terms began. This will be the first time since 1966 that Keller has not been the person to sign off on her students’ graduation forms.

Jeff Johnson, an Eastern graduate student, said he thinks Sauders is ready for the task of making the department noticed university wide and hopes in time the department will be recognized regionally as well.

“The guy practically got me into grad school and is working with others to do the same,” said Johnson.

As much as learning should be for students, Warren said in her nine years as chair, she learned a lot about the tedious job of an administrator and she knows Sauders will as well.

“I got to see a lot of change in the university over those nine years,” said Warren.

GEOGRAPHY-PAGE 7

Plethora of graduate degrees offered

By RONNI TAYLOR staff writer

Eastern offers students over 30 graduate programs to choose from, both at the Cheney and Riverpoint campuses.

In regards to the students applying and enrolling in EWU graduate programs each year, Colin Ormsby, Ph.D., vice provost of Academic Planning, Graduate Programs, Grants and Institutional Research, said the numbers have “increased by a couple hundred applicants,” but the enrollments have “declined and are now flat.” These enrolled graduate students still make up 10 percent of the university population.

According to Ormsby, Eastern is the third largest Washington public institution granting graduate degrees.

EWU’s more popular programs have been the Health Sciences, according to Ormsby, “But biology, physical therapy, occupational therapy and creative writing are all very popular.”

Some programs require taking an extensive exam, such as the Graduate Record Examinations, students must meet a minimum 3.0 GPA and satisfy all undergraduate requirements to be considered, according to Ormsby.

Ormsby said the different programs draw students from around the nation. “Creative writing draws from around the country and the physical therapy and occupational therapy draw from several neighboring states,” said Ormsby.

According to the Council of Graduate

Schools, the 2011-2012 academic year saw an increase in graduate school enrollments within the U.S.

“Total graduate enrollment was nearly 1.74 million students in fall 2012,” according to the Council of Graduate Schools.

The council goes on to say, “Among survey respondents, first-time graduate enrollment rose 7.4 percent for Hispanic/Latinos, 5.7 percent for American Indians/Alaska Natives and 4.6 percent for Blacks/African Americans between fall 2011 and fall 2012.”

Ormsby said, “With the economy improving, it will be interesting to see if the enrollments increase.”

While some students pursue another degree in the hopes of gaining a career, such as the health science students or Master’s of Business Administration students, some students pursue them for enjoyment, according to Ormsby.

Ormsby said graduate students on campus also have the ability to instruct courses, given that they are qualified. These are for specific subject-based programs such as the English rhetoric degree.

Other graduate students have the opportunities of conducting research for specific departments or other work in alignment with their programs.

“Do your research based on your interests, rather than what you think you will get a job in.”

“Do your research based on your interests, rather than what you think you will get a job in, reach out to the programs you are interested in, connect with them, visit them and see which will accommodate your needs and make you feel at home,” said Ormsby.

For more information about Eastern's graduate programs, visit ewu.edu/grad.

### Classified

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#EWUHomecoming

What Homecoming events will you be attending? • Tweet us your responses @EasternerOnline

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Monday, Oct. 20	Tuesday, Oct. 21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Tea with Graham Kerr</b>, English chef and host of “The Galloping Gourmet.” Kerr will be visiting classes and EWU Dining Services’ farmers market. 3 p.m.   Hargreaves Hall</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Protest Songs that Changed History” presentation by local children’s author Claire Rudolf Murphy. Sponsored by the EWU Women’s and Gender Studies Department. 12 p.m.   JFK Library Atrium</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ASEWU Council Meeting 3 p.m.   Fireside lounge</li><li>• <b>Real Beauty Week:</b> Be Your Own Kind of #bEWUtiful 10 a.m.   PUB lower level</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Treats 2 Troops</b>, sponsored by the Office of Alumni, is collecting items for care packages to send to citizens serving overseas during the holidays. All donations can be dropped off at the Red Zone Tailgate. 11 a.m.   Roos Field</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EWU Gallery of Art presents <b>Marvin Smith: Untitled</b>. The gallery is ongoing, from Monday through Friday, until Nov. 26. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.   EWU Art Building</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “English, Tourism and Communities in Nicaragua: Some Concerns” presentation by Gina Petrie, Ph.D., sponsored by the EWU Women’s and Gender Studies department. 12 p.m.   207 Monroe Hall</li></ul>

FEATURE



Illustration by Lauren Campbell

How technology construes our social ideals and mentality

**BY REBEKAH FRANK**  
*staff writer*

With technology becoming more intertwined with everyday life, many people believe that technology can become an obsession and cause problems with people’s psyches, according to EWU associate professor of psychology Kurt Stellwagen.

According to Division 46 of the American Psychological Association, it states that 90 percent of communication is screen-based and 77 percent of people use multiple devices simultaneously.

EWU senior James McKee said his 22-year-old son purchased a new iPhone 6 with his credit card for the sole purpose of playing a game.

McKee said he feels his son is obsessed with playing games

on his iPhone.

“It’s obsessive. I think he is so caught up in the fact of bigger, better, faster than actually being able to [think] ‘Do I need this?’ If you have to put it on a credit card, you can’t afford it. ... [Technology] has always been there, it will always be there,” said McKee.

Author Larry Rosen wrote a book about dependency on technology titled, “iDisorder: Understanding Our Obsession with Technology and Overcoming Its Hold on Us,” in which he describes the effect that technology can have on its users.

“The argument that I will make is that overreliance on gadgets and websites has created an enmeshed relationship with technology and that this relationship can cause significant problems in our psyche, what I call an iDisorder,” Rosen

Technology by the Numbers

1.

90 percent of communication is screen-based, such as using a smartphone or tablet (APA).

2.

77 percent of people use multiple devices simultaneously (APA).

3.

829 million people log onto Facebook daily, according to Facebook as of June 23, 2014.

4.

Twitter posts about iPhone 6 topped over 4 million on Sept. 19 (Forbes).

5.

About 130 million iPhones have been sold globally in 2014 so far (Statista).

6.

29 percent of cell owners describe their phone as “something they can’t imagine living without” (PEW Research).

said in his book. “I will also argue that we are being compelled to use technologies that are so user friendly that the very use fosters our obsessions, dependence and stress reactions.”

As one walks around the Eastern campus it is obvious the feelings for technology. Students sitting in the campus mall talking with friends can not resist the urge to check their phone. Some students text while visiting with peers

and engage in numerous conversations at one time.

Stellwagen said he thinks that technology can have negative impacts on its users’ psyches. He said there are some risks that come with having technology.

“I think the risk would be that we have a generation of people who can’t slow down

TECHNOLOGY-PAGE 6

Same-sex marriage ban lifted by Supreme Court

**BY ALLA DROKINA**  
*staff writer*

When Sandra Williams, EWU Pride Center coordinator, heard her daughter express a desire to see her mom be able to get married too, it really struck a chord with Williams.

According to Williams, she already had a commitment ceremony with her partner, but when she saw her daughter want the validity that a marriage gives a relationship and a family, Williams realized she had not thought about that perspective before.

Now others like Williams are able to legally marry in over half the states in the U.S. because the Supreme Court refused to hear seven different petitions from circuit courts banning same-sex marriage on Oct. 6.

“It was a net victory for marriage equality even though the Supreme Court actually didn’t do anything,” said Thomas Hawley, associate professor and chairman of the Department of Government at EWU.

David May, an EWU professor of government, said there are three major level of courts in the United States. Every state has at least one district court. District courts in the states themselves are grouped into what are called circuits. Circuit courts cover between three and nine states.

“The Supreme Court sits at the very top. It’s a hierarchal system, so district courts have to do what the circuit courts tell them and circuit courts have to do what the Supreme Court tells them,” said May.

According to May, currently all but three circuits have ruled in favor of marriage equality. The only circuits left are the 5th circuit and the 11th circuit, which are very conservative southern circuits, and the 6th circuit which is a fairly conservative



Williams

MARRIAGE-PAGE 6

REVIEW

‘Gotham’ lacks character traits



CHRIS MUDD

Fox has made another bad decision in the form of “Gotham,” which in itself is a blemish on the Batman franchise.

The story follows a young James Gordon of the Gotham City Police Department in an era before Batman starts reaping justice in their jurisdiction.

“Gotham” is essentially “Muppet Babies” with characters from the Batman mythos. It’s a melting pot of people from the franchise, but they are presented in such an in-your-face way that it loses all of its appeal. Name dropping does not equate to character development.

The fact is, if you’re watching this show, you’re likely familiar that it takes place in the Batman universe. Therefore, the writers had no need to hand-hold the viewer and beat them over the head with character references.

Also, let’s not pretend that having young Bruce Wayne featured so prominently is a good idea. While he grows up to be Batman, you completely rid him of any interesting traits when he is immediately training right after his parents’ death. Spoilers, by the way.

GOTHAM-PAGE 7



Photo by Laura Lango

Marvin Smith addresses the audience at the EWU Gallery of Art on Oct. 8.

‘Untitled’ gallery poetic in nature

EWU retiree Marvin Smith inspired by the Bible, idea of the creation of the universe

**BY AYANNA FERNANDEZ**  
*staff writer*

After retiring as chair of the Department of Theatre and Film from Eastern Washington University in 2013, Marvin Smith returned to campus to showcase his artwork “Untitled.”

A crowd gathered around the gallery as Smith spoke about the inspiration behind his work and the methods he used in his paintings.

Smith said he was inspired by the book of Genesis in the Bible and how it explains the creation of the universe.

Smith said the story and its poetic nature intrigued him.

“God is described as a wind. It talks

about the wind on the water and later on the Garden of Eden,” Smith said. “It talks about the wind going through the afternoon, so I said, ‘Okay,’ [I] took that idea and wanted to create something with it.”

Smith’s “Untitled” paintings had a common structure: lines. He also used color and light to illustrate peace and serenity.

Barbara Miller, Eastern’s Art historian professor was in attendance at the gallery and said she could not help but view Smith’s work as a critic and not just a viewer.

Miller said she thought Smith’s work was rich. Overall, she was impressed.

“Art is personal,” Miller said. “It is about what the viewer feels, sees and thinks after viewing a piece.”

EWU Junior William Song, a studio art major, felt a connection to the art.

GALLERY-PAGE 6



EWU Libraries  
announce talent  
contest finalists

By NICOLE RUSE  
editor-in-chief

EWU Libraries announced the three finalists for their annual Star Search Talent Contest on Oct. 12.

The first finalist is Cameron Brow, a nursing major, whose talent is performing magic tricks.

“I perform because I love being able to give people that experience where it takes them out of their day-to-day and gives them that fraction of a second where they’ve witnessed the impossible and the world isn’t solid all the way through. I love that,” said Brow.

The second finalist is Khalid Alreshaid who performed an original song titled “Tell me Now” on acoustic guitar.

The third finalist is Jacob Wardell, a theatre major, whose talent is rapping and creating music.

The winner of the contest will be selected by the EWU community via Facebook. The video with the most ‘Likes’ on the EWU Library Facebook page by 5 p.m. on Oct. 15 will be proclaimed the winner, according to the EWU Libraries official Facebook page.

The committee asked students to vote based on who “best exhibits talent, creativity, adherence to the theme of ‘reaching for the stars’ and a positive representation of Eastern Washington University,” as said on their Facebook page.

The winner will win \$500 and perform at the EWU Libraries’ annual Oktoberfest on Oct. 25 at JFK Library on the EWU Cheney campus. This year’s Oktoberfest theme is “Eastern Stampede.”

Vote for your favorite at  
[bit.ly/1u2bpLv](http://bit.ly/1u2bpLv)

Atheist club goes national

By ALLA DROKINA  
staff writer

Previously known as the Eastern Atheists, the Secular Student Alliance (SSA) at EWU transitioned from a private club to becoming a chapter of a national secular organization.

SSA provides students with a safe place for open discussion that may not fit into the predominant beliefs on campus.

“The sensation of being isolated within a community as large as EWU is very disheartening,” said Ben McGrew, club president of SSA, in an email. “It is often unthinkable to interact with any random group of people in a meaningful way due to fears of being publicly and aggressively ostracized.”

According to McGrew, EWU lacks religious diversity in its established clubs.

“Our student body is painfully underrepresented. Situations like this are very serious for those who don’t share the mindset of the apparent supermajority,” said McGrew.

EWU’s SSA goals and mission align themselves with the national secular organization.

The national organization’s site states: “The mission of the Secular Student Alliance is to organize, unite, educate, and serve students and student communities that promote the ideals of scientific and critical inquiry, democracy, secularism, and human-based ethics. We envision a future in which nontheistic students are respected voices in public discourse and vital partners in the secular movement’s charge



Graphic contributed by secularstudents.org

against irrationality and dogma.”

This quarter, meetings are held every Friday at 4 p.m. in the Honor’s Lounge of Hargreaves. SSA also regularly updates its Facebook page: EWU Secular Student Alliance.

McGrew wants to dispel the misconception that the group only discusses their unbelief when together.

“We largely already agreed with one another on the topic of religion, so we happily chatted about more contending matters like relationships, martial arts, social and political issues, environmentalism, how we could help the community despite the stigma surrounding our affiliation and anything else that piqued our interest,” said McGrew.

Thomas Hawley, adviser to the group and chairman of the govern-

ment department, emphasized the importance of the group on campus, having personally gone through a crisis of faith in college, causing him to move away from a prevalent religious belief. He believes it also serves as sort of a support group for like-minded students.

“We’re here, we play an undeniably significant role politically, socially, and culturally, our ideals are overwhelmingly consistent with academia, and yet we’re regularly ostracized, vilified, and marginalized,” said McGrew. “This group needs to be on campus because every quarter we have a fresh wave of new members who need to share their stories and a place where they can be accepted while being true to themselves.”

COMING OUT:  
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Following the panel was a lecture by Gaye Adegbalola, blues artist and activist, and two NCOD celebration concerts featuring Gaye Adegbalola and the Wild Rutz. One took place in Showalter Auditorium, the other was in the Phase 1 Building Auditorium at the Riverpoint Campus.

The significance of NCOD lies in the history of the LGBTQ civil rights movement, specifically the Second National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

The decade preceding the Second National March was a difficult one for the LGBTQ community. Harvey Milk, one of the United States’ first openly gay elected officials, was assassinated in his office in 1978. CDC statistics reveal the AIDS epidemic disproportionately ravaged the LGBTQ community in the 1980s. In 1986, the Supreme Court upheld a Georgia statute that criminalized sodomy in private between consenting adult males (Bowers v. Hardwick, 1986), a decision that would not be reversed until 2003 (Lawrence v. Texas, 2003).

These are just some of the events that inspired half a million people to march on the capitol on Oct. 11, 1987.

According to the Human Rights Campaign, a national organization that promotes equality for the LGBTQ community, “The momentum continued four months ... as more than 100 lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender activists from around the country gathered in Manassas, [Virginia].”

These activists decided the LGBTQ community needed a day to proactively celebrate the moments when LGBTQ people choose to openly acknowledge their



Photo by Sylvia De Voss

Gaye Adegbalola and the Wild Rutz performing.

orientation to their friends, families and communities. The activists chose the anniversary of the Second National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights to be this day, now commonly known as National Coming Out Day.

Twenty-seven years later, NCOD is celebrated all over the nation, including here at EWU.

“If I hadn’t [come out] I would still be hiding and living a lie,” said Fira Hedlund, adult education master’s student.

“For those who come out ... it is a very important step towards self-acceptance, and

self-acceptance is essential in order to live a happy, healthy and fulfilled life,” said Sandra Williams, EWU Pride Center coordinator, in an email interview.

“Coming out is also important to the larger community because it helps people understand that LGBTQ people are real people like their mothers, fathers, sisters, brother[s], friends, neighbors, teachers, church members, political representatives. ... and not some anonymous others. ... [T] his helps reduce fear and increases understanding,” said Williams.

“I’ve mainly had to come out as third gender. I never saw being asexual or aromantic as something I had to hide,” said Hedlund, who went on to explain that many people lack the mental framework to comprehend genders other than male and female.

“When I was a kid ... I took a hard look at the world and realized there were no representations of people who were not male and not female ... so I assumed that if I told anyone what my gender was they would think I was insane.”

Hedlund would not come out to her mother until she was 23. “[S]he pretty much just looked me in the eye and said, ‘No, duh.’” She always knew she was her “little queer kid,” she just didn’t have the words to [express] that.”

Williams emphasized that coming out is a highly personal decision.

“I do not believe that anybody has the right to decide for another person when the right time is for them to come out or to pressure them in any way. ... Because there is an assumption of heterosexuality in our society,

coming out is something that happens over and over and over again, for example when you meet new people, get a new job, start a new class, get a new roommate [or] find a new doctor. ... Some people are out in one part of their life and not in others.”

The EWU Pride Center, located in Showalter 105, and the Human Rights Campaign provide resources for people who are thinking of coming out, grappling with the aftermath of coming out or who have had a friend or family member come out to them.



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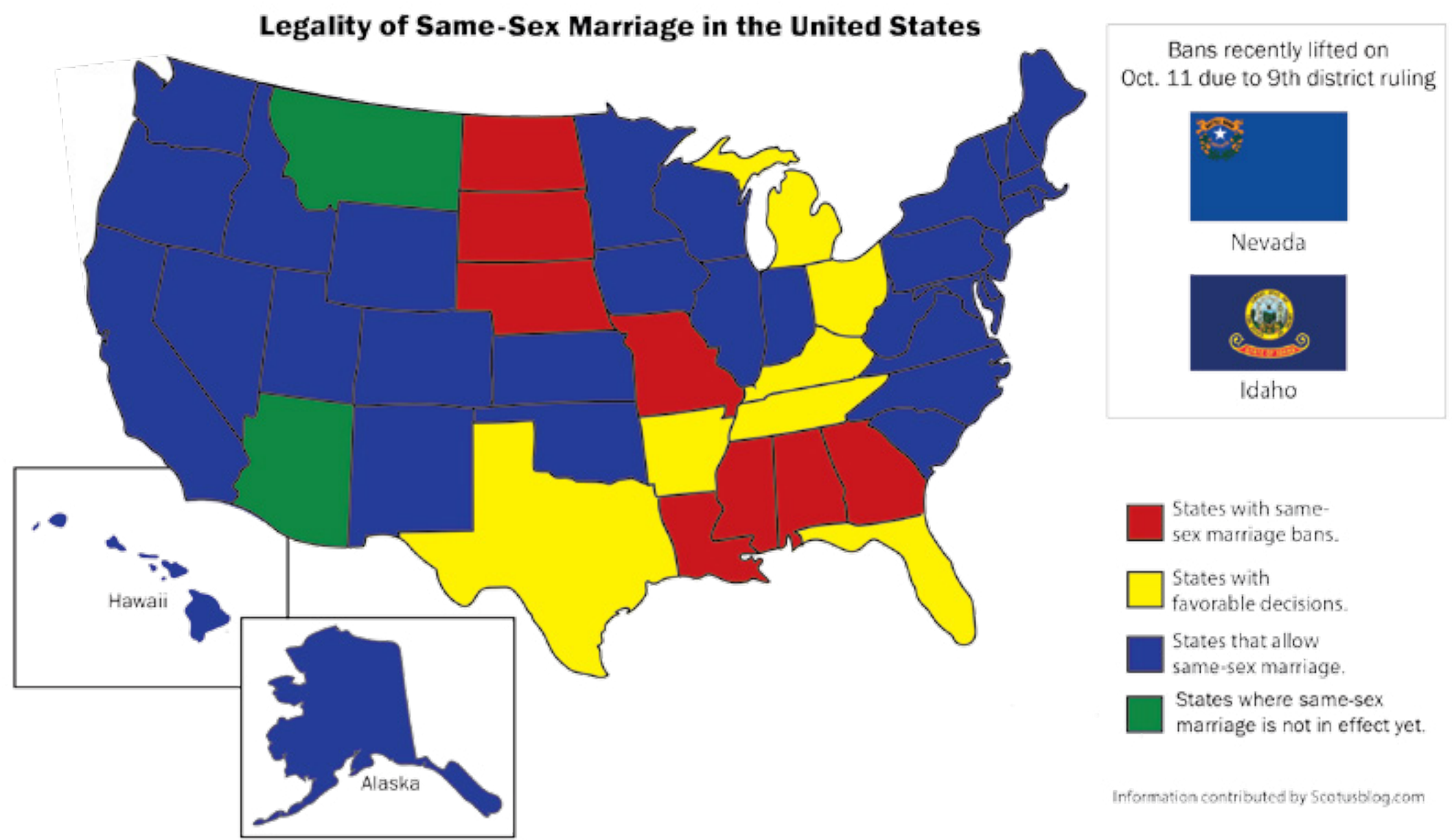
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Graphic by Tanner Streicher

**MARRIAGE:**  
**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4**

southern circuits, and the 6th circuit which is a fairly conservative circuit.

“I think there’s some logic behind sort of letting the country sort of work it out for itself, and that seems to be happening, because a while back the big argument was that no state would vote it in. So when that happened, that’s when

you saw the tide change,” said Williams. “It did happen and multiple states voted to support marriage equality. ... There is something about having the country incrementally work it out on a local level. I think that makes it more powerful than if there was a mandate that was handed down. Some people would disagree with that, but I think it’s kind of exciting.”

Hawley’s stance on the Supreme Court’s action, or inaction in this case, varies from Williams’.

“I don’t trust all of the circuit court systems in this

country to come to rational decisions about things. I would like to see marriage equality be the law of the land, and so leaving it up to sort of this patchwork arrangement of circuits that we’ve got in this country probably slows that process down a little bit,” said Hawley.

May said that the answer could be that passivity is part of the Supreme Court’s strategy.

To have a case heard in the Supreme Court, four of the judges have to agree to hear it; it is called the rule of four, according to May. To

win a case in the Supreme Court, you have to have five justices. May said that maybe each side was pretty sure it had four votes, but neither one of them was sure they could get five votes.

“If you decide to take that case and you lose, you’re done,” said May.

Hawley said that the Supreme Court is playing it safe.

“The court is really sensitive to accusations that they’re meddling in political matters,” said Hawley. “Everytime they have to meddle in a political matter then they get accused of either being liberal

or conservative or crazy or you name it and they are not typically fond of that.”

According to Williams, either way, change will occur.

“There’s still other laws pending to appeals court, but I think it will expedite the process to hopefully all of the U.S. recognizing gay marriage,” said Sally Winkle, EWU director of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program.

Williams draws a parallel with the past ban in the U.S. on interracial marriage and the current ban in some states on same-sex marriage.

“My brother is in an interracial marriage and just 30, 40 years ago he wouldn’t have been able to marry his current wife. ... It’s just wrong. We look at that and think that’s crazy that we had a country that thought that way. Well, this is sort of like that,” said Williams.

“My brother’s love for his wife isn’t any more valid than the love that I feel for a person that I choose to marry and so I think it’s time for the country to recognize that,—that you can’t create different categories of love. That love is what it is.”

**TECHNOLOGY:**  
**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4**

enough to have deep conversations, read books or watch a slow movie. They almost show ADD behavior. I think that is the risk,” said Stellwagen.

Stellwagen said this obsession to have the newest and coolest is not exactly forming with technology.

“I do feel like it’s human nature to want the bright, shiny new thing. Americans used to trade in their car once a year when that was economically viable and cars didn’t last as long,” said Stellwagen. “I do think we have this desire to always have the bigger and the best thing, and I think part of it is it makes us feel complete.”

Stellwagen said he knows a few people who try to elevate their happiness through their purchases. He said buying something new does peak one’s happiness, but it is only for a moment.

Stellwagen said it is important to maintain happiness without buying new gadgets. He said one of his friends tried to justify buying a new phone but instead just confirmed to Stellwagen that the purchase was based solely off of the desire to have more.

After his son bought the iPhone 6, McKee said things have gone too far. He believes that technology, although useful, should not be so much a part of the lives of their users. He said people are putting too much information into their gadgets and way too much time.

“I think it has gone overboard. I think the gadgets are taking over our world, and people aren’t even realizing it,” said McKee.

Stellwagen said he believes that technology is a great resource but that it needs to have limits.

If people become too attached to their technology and games, it could lead to superficial processing.

“What I mean is that when people multitask, which people do more of now that they have smart phones and because multitasking is now the norm, they don’t fully attend to any one thing they are doing,” said Stellwagen.

“So when they are trying to read their textbook while the radio is on and while receiving texts, they are only absorbing, (processing), the material using 1/2 of their attention, (superficially).”

“I probably do think the pros outweigh the cons,” said Stellwagen. “I think technology has brought us so much, just from an educational standpoint. I do think the benefits outweigh the negatives, and there is all this wonderful technology for people who have handicaps. But again, I do think the risk is we can’t turn education into a sound byte.”

Stellwagen said technology users should try to minimize the risks involved in becoming too attached to their gadgets. Otherwise, he fears no one will be attracted to anything that does not involve a screen.

McKee, who just recently upgraded his phone, said that was enough for him.

“I probably won’t update anymore. I won’t do an iPhone, and I don’t need a bigger phone,” said McKee.

In a summary of the problems and the solution that Rosen provides in his book, he said, “We can’t do seemingly simple activities without first consulting the Internet. We can’t tear ourselves away from the highly addictive, highly compelling world of cyberspace. I am not proposing that you give up all technology and media, ... but it’s not too late to recognize the craziness that technology can promote and discover new ways to stay sane in a world that encourages — and even promotes — insanity.”



Photo by Laura Lango

Jade Raymond reading a program at the Marvin Smith gallery.

**GALLERY:**  
**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4**

Song said the art he liked most were the ones centered around that concept. He said he felt at peace and calm while viewing them.

“It was really interesting when he talked about the

Buddhist aspect of it,” said Song. “It seems like a lot of it was revolved about that aspect, the whole relaxation: breathing in, breathing out.”

Smith’s artwork, “Untitled,” will be showcased until Nov. 25 in the EWU Art Building gallery.

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Photo by Laura Lango

Robert Sanders is the new chair of EWU's Department of Geography and Anthropology.

GEOGRAPHY:  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Paperwork, which had once gone through various financial offices and records and registration, has been decentralized to the departments; she also saw the shift from “paper” paperwork to its online version. Though a lot of the learning process goes a long way to help the department run more smoothly, Warren said it bears little resemblance to what a professor would hope for; research and teaching is often traded for new software systems and balancing budgets, and she said she wishes Sauders good luck for what the future may hold.

Sauders is now settled into the new office, his Ph.D. robes hang on the freshly-painted wall next to the shelf with the old wooden chairman’s gavel, and the windows are closed to keep the squirrels out. Warren said she does not know of any other department where the chair’s office has been left untouched for that long. “For anthropologists, it was beautiful,” Warren said. “It’s almost like archaeology. We’re finding things from like [the 1970s] that fell back behind filing cabinets. We joked that they should call the archivist to come over and help catalogue what we have. Just, like, old stuff.”

Easterner Reviews: Gotham



Photo contributed by Fox

★ ★ ★

“After watching the pilot episode of “Gotham,” I will say that there were some interesting parts. I felt that some of the acting was overdone but the set design was pretty great. I also felt lost about what era the show was supposed to be based in, but after Nicole gave me a general time frame, the setting made sense. I did love Penguin, or who he was before he became Penguin and may watch other episodes to see his progression. Also, Bruce’s scream when his parents were shot and killed was obnoxious. As I said, I may watch other episodes, but this is not a show that I will be devastated about if I miss an episode or all. I will give the show a 3 out of 5.”  
*Eric Long*  
Chief Copy Editor

★ ★ ★

“I was pleased with a lot of the back stories that are taking place, such as Penguin and the introduction of Selina Kyle as a teenager. I’m intrigued by the stories, yet the concept is not being evoked in the best way possible. I would watch it again, however.”  
*Nicole Ruse*  
Editor-in-Chief

- ★ I’d rather study on a Friday   ★ ★ No second date for this one   ★ ★ ★ Better than my morning coffee  
★ ★ ★ ★ I can’t stop watching this show   ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ This show is my life now

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Corrections for Issue 3:

On page 3, the Cheney Liquor Store advertisement was not intentionally placed on the same page as the “Drunkorexia: Alcoholism and eating disorders combined” article. We apologize to anyone who felt offended by the advertisement in relation to the article. If you have any questions, please email [easterner.me@gmail.com](mailto:easterner.me@gmail.com).





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Rugby superior to football

By LARRY TY HOLMES  
opinion editor

Football is extremely popular in the United States and has a following across the world, but rugby is the opposite.

Both sports have professional competitions, but rugby will be returning to the 2016 summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro after almost 100 years, according to the official Olympics website.

An argument for why rugby is superior to football is simple field dimensions. A rugby field is considerably larger than a football field, most notably in width. This is an argument for rugby players being more athletic.

Rugby's 15 players on the field compared to football's 11 shows a greater adaptability and team cohesiveness while strategizing.

In football, the ball has several ways of being passed to transport it as far as possible. Rugby makes it more difficult than just throwing it forewards because it's illegal to do so. The closest play that might mimic football's throw is punting it as precise as possible while hoping that your own teammate will catch it or grab and run.

Another element of moving the ball is that your teammates can't pass the person running the ball. There's no blocking for the runner, only rucking after he gets tackled or drops the ball. In this way the game can keep progressing until there is a fowl play or a call to restart another scrum.

Without any evidence, there's the concept that rugby is more arduous and intense. Without armor, the game might be more painful. Watching both sports it appears that both hit hard and and create the same injuries. There are technical ways to tackle in rugby and it's meant to limit the risk of injury, but while in the heat of the game those rules tend to go out the proverbial window.

Eastern's male and female rugby teams are welcoming to anyone that wants to try out the sport and to answer any questions.

Rugby is fresh to those who want something different than the American pastime.

Look up both sports at [www.dsr.va.gov.au](http://www.dsr.va.gov.au) and [www.nfl.com/rulebook](http://www.nfl.com/rulebook).

Are you an EWU football or rugby player? Why do you think your sport is better? Let us know on Twitter.

@EasternerOnline

“A” is for annoyed: Straight privilege strikes again



By ZOË COLBURN  
copy editor

It's that time of year again: Ally Week. An entire week dedicated to those who make the brave sacrifice of not hating LGBTQIA folks. At least not in the obvious and usual ways.

As ridiculous as Ally Week is, there's something more damaging due to its prevalence: the misconception that “A” stands for “ally.”

Now, I'm sure most people who are familiar with the acronym and the community have heard the acronym defined as “Lesbian, Gay,



Colburn

Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex and Allies.”

Honestly, that is some grade-A bull honky.

Not just because it assumes allies deserve a place in the acronym and are, therefore, a part of the community without ever having truly experienced any of the discrimination, explanation or flat-out rejection that is par for the course of being any form of queer-identified.

But it also allows allies and allosexuals (persons who experience sexual attraction) to push out asexual and aromantic-identified individuals.

While I will concede that folks have become better at recognizing asexuality and aromanticism, the mere fact that a search for “Ally Week” on the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network's (GLSEN) website yields over 20 results while a search

for “Asexual Awareness Week” yields exactly zero results is not exactly encouraging. GLSEN is one of the top resources for LGBTQIA youth, parents and educators.

If they won't recognize Asexuality Awareness Week, but will recognize Ally Week, what does that say about their priorities?

What is it exactly that makes allies believe they have enough of a place in the community to have a letter in the acronym? Sure, some allies may face minor problems from people, but they do not in any way share an experience with LGBTQIA folks. The problems experienced by allies are so far from what LGBTQIA folks experience.

When was the last time you heard of an ally committing suicide due to bullying specifically related to their being an ally? When was the last time you heard of an ally needing a support group to feel normal? When

was the last time you heard an ally use the words, “So there's a name for what I'm feeling?” followed by the immense sigh of relief that so often accompanies that phrase?

Oh, was it almost never? Shocking.

Allies are a big part of the fight for equal rights, but that doesn't mean they are a part of the community. In fact, the word “ally” implies a person removed from the community but who is a friend of the cause. You can still help us without needing to be in our acronym.

Allies: You don't share our experience, get out of our acronym. And for God's sake, get over yourself long enough to realize you do not belong far enough in the forefront to get your own week.

Especially when it comes at the expense of queer folks.

Face your problems, do not ‘Facebook’ them

By REBEKAH FRANK  
staff writer

Facebook is like everyone's diary. When did “Likes” become more meaningful than a hug from a best friend? When did it become more special to share your feelings about your loved ones on Facebook instead of in person?

I am a little old-fashioned and believe life is about more than social media.

I have less than 200 friends on my Facebook and only a handful of them I actually enjoy seeing in my news feed. The majority of my friends post the most annoying, dramatic and negative things, like how much they hate Starbucks or how they're having a bad hair day.

My first complaint is about the “beggars.” The people who are so desperate for attention



Frank

that they post a million selfies with statuses about how bad their day is going. They go on and on about it, but when someone asks what is wrong they say, “I don't want to talk about it.”

Really? Because you were sure talking a lot about it before someone asked.

Beggars also normally have an insane number of friends, probably over 1,000, in case it improves their chances of receiving attention. They could make it a lot easier, though, and change the hashtag from #selfie to #needsattention.

I refer to other friends on my Facebook as the “lovers.” They are the ones who are in a relationship for two weeks and are already “fighting” with their boyfriend or girlfriends, on Facebook, over who loves the other one more.

The other lover friends post a novel about how amazing their significant other is. I am glad you guys are happy, but your post took 30 minutes to read. That is a half hour of my life I will never get back.

I have a close-friends list of about 15

people. These are the people who have keep their Facebook posts consistent and rational. The posts have one thing in common: they are not about themselves.

Everytime I see one of these friends on my news feed, my Facebook gets a little brighter. Their posts either inspire me, educate me or make me laugh. They make their Facebook posts about their friends, and that is why I am proud to call them my friends.

I propose that anyone who feels like they need to post their feelings on Facebook should get a close-friends list too. Next time you want to tell someone about your bad hair day, message someone in your close-friends list and maybe make plans to meet up with them.

Meeting with one or two close friends can offer more attention and affection than Facebook can.

THE EASTERNER

Serving the EWU community since 1916

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LARRY TY HOLMES

Opinion Editor

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Requirements:

- Letters should be 300 words or less and typed, or legibly handwritten.
- Include your full name, signature, telephone number and email address for verification.
- We reserve the right not to publish letters; furthermore, all letters are subject to editing.
- Letters must be received no later than Monday at 10 a.m. in order to be considered for publication the following Wednesday.
- If your letter is in response to a specific article, please list the title and date of the article.

Editorial policy

We encourage the EWU community to submit letters and opinion pieces that conform to the requirements listed above. Opinion articles and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Easterner, its staff members or Eastern Washington University.

Protests in Missouri unfair to local businesses

By TANNER STREICHER  
art director

St. Louis, Missouri, is becoming the center of discussion and protests about the police overreach in recent weeks due to the shooting of Vonderdit Deondre Myers.

While the protests in St. Louis have been peaceful, the protests in Ferguson, Missouri, were anything but.

The protests in Ferguson over the death of Michael Brown were destructive and damaging to local businesses and police forces in the area as protesters looted and damaged local shops and even assaulted police officers, sometimes throwing bricks at them.

When I look at how violent these protests were, I wonder what they were fighting against. Sure, they say it's against the police, but why would protesters, who were fighting against police overreach, attack local businesses?

This is because the protesters in Ferguson were not fighting against the police, but what their leaders call ‘white supremacy.’

African-Americans around the United States believe they're

being oppressed and are being treated poorly compared to white people. Leaders like Al Sharpton push this view onto the African-American community, as well as their democratic agendas of more civil rights for the oppressed African-American communities. As Al Sharpton said in his eulogy of Michael Brown, “No other community in the country has to deal with what we [the black community] have to deal with.”

Why is it that the black community has its own set of problems? Wouldn't the white, or any other, community have the same concerns or problems if one of their own was killed?

In reality, they are treated the same — or even better in most cases — as white Americans. In the past 20 years African-Americans have been treated very well in the United States.

Just because a white officer killed an unarmed African-American, all hell broke loose in Ferguson. Local businesses mainly owned by white Americans do not deserve to be burned out and their property destroyed because the African-American community feels they are being wronged.

What if it was a white unarmed man? Would the reaction be the same in the white community? Would the media coverage on the shooting be as extensive?

No, because there would be no agenda for this this type of tragedy to happen.

These events in Ferguson eventually became so violent that the local police stopped responding to calls for help by local businesses. Owners began to come out armed and ready to protect their property. The media on the left condemned these people because they decided to come out against the protesters, to protect their livelihoods, who the media thought were in the right to protest as they were.

Imagine being one of the shop owners who watched the news and saw these protests happening and hearing reports of police not responding to these violent, looting attacks. Would you just sit around as protesters were heading to the area that your shop was located, with the threat of being damaged? Many would be out there with the rest of the shop owners to protect their livelihood, not sit and watch it be burned down or looted by protesters.

The shooting in Ferguson is a tragedy and no unarmed man should be killed, white or black. The way that this tragedy has been used to push an agenda for the leaders in the African-American community is wrong.

Look at all aspects of the tragedy and figure out a way to change the community for the better and not play the blame game as if we are children.

Easterner Asks: If you had to choose between rugby and football, which one would it be and why?



“Football because it is a fun community sport.”

Britanie Davis  
Graduate



“Football because coming to America, was the first time I saw the game and I was enthusiastic about it.”

Shinya Omata  
Sophomore



“Football because I grew up watching it and I understand the rules of the game.”

Kendra Fields  
Freshman



“Football because it is more well known.”

Jose Diaz  
Freshman





Follow EasternSports on Instagram for live pictures of games, as well as athlete photos and fan posts.

Mario Brown focuses on football and family

By AYANNA FERNANDEZ  
staff writer

When the Eagles won the 2010 NCAA Division I Football Championship, now senior running back Mario Brown was able to help win a national title.

Brown, a Berkeley, California, native, has always played football.

Brown said he was excited to play in an important game as a freshman.

"I didn't even realize the magnitude of actually being a freshman in such a big game and being able to take advantage of the opportunity," said Brown. "Not many people get to do that so, as I look back now, it hits me even more because I'm just like, 'I was young and I got an opportunity that most people don't get.'"

It has been a roller coaster road, but Brown said he has matured as a person on and off the field, which has shaped him into who he is.

Having witnessed the journey Brown experienced during his time at Eastern, running back coach Kiel McDonald said he understands why the younger guys on the team look up to Brown.

"Absolutely he's a leader," said McDonald. "He's been through a lot, so [Brown] gets the chance to pull from those experiences to show these other young cats what's going on."

According to senior line-backer John Goldwire, Brown is a leader to the team.

"The players, especially younger players, look up to him with a lot of respect," said Goldwire. "They clash heads, but they show a lot of respect towards him. He works hard. Grinds all the time and takes it seriously."

Senior Nicholas Washburn, a former teammate, said Brown's work ethic and talent are shown in the plays he is in.

"[Brown] if I had to say one word, probably dynamic," said Washburn. "He has light feet. He's one of those guys who make it look easy. He makes everything look smooth. That's why we call him Suavy."

Brown graduated in the summer of 2014 with a degree in communications and has his final year to focus on football and planning his next step.

"I'm going to see where football takes me, if not, graduate school," said Brown. "Either furthering my education in communications or psychology."

Friends and coaches say Brown has not changed a bit off the field.

"[Brown] is always [Brown]," said Washburn. "[Brown] is a laid-back guy. You never know what you're going to get with him. He's a goofy guy. Great friend and worth keeping around. He's a sound character. He's a pops now. [Brown's] going to be a great dad."

Due to Brown finishing school during the summer, Brown said he only has time to focus on family and football.

"I'm able to be at home until football starts, so I'm able to spend time with my son and girlfriend and help out around the house," said Brown. "Then when it's time to go to football, I turn on football mode. When I leave the facility, then I go to father mode. Which I'm still getting use to saying, which has been cool."

McDonald said although he was not coaching at Eastern during the 2010 football season, from what he has heard and from what he has come to know is Brown has grown incredibly.

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Lady Eagles lose to Vandals in soccer match



Photo by Laura Lango

Savannah Hoekstra dribbles the ball downfield in the Oct. 12 conference game.

Eastern team working hard to round out their performance

By ELOHINO THEODORE  
senior reporter

The EWU soccer team came back home after a conference road trip to face the University of Idaho on Oct. 12 where they lost, 1-0.

Head coach Chad Bodnar said Eastern was not able to get the victory due to team issues. "We just haven't dealt with teams that play direct at all very well," said Bodnar. "We're missing our center back, and we made one mistake in the back [on Oct. 12]. We obviously weren't sharp in front of [the] goal and I thought we were reacting a lot instead of anticipating."

Senior midfielder Haley Stading mentioned the challenges the Eagles were not able to overcome. "They're a lot bigger and taller," said Stading. "They're quick up front and they were just pressing us and their tempo is definitely quicker

and we kind [of] got caught on our heels a few times."

The Eagles also ended their streak of goals by going scoreless the entire game against the Vandals. During the first half, Idaho outshot Eastern, 10-5. The Vandals had two corner kicks along with four saves.

The Eagles had one save and one corner kick for the first half. Freshman forward Savannah Hoekstra led Eastern in shots with two. The first half ended with both teams scoreless.

In the 47th minute of the second half, Idaho scored the leading and only goal for the game. The Vandals' sophomore midfielder Gabby Leong scored from a pass by sophomore forward Kavita Batan who recorded the assist.

Bodnar said the Eagles can improve and learn from this game. "We got to create better shots and be more dangerous," said Bodnar. "We got to get out to the edges

to get in and we didn't. We kept pounding balls down the middle."

Eastern continued to try to tie the game; the Eagles had a total of six shots in the second half compared to the Vandals' five. Eastern also had four corner kicks to Idaho's two.

Stading talked about the few good things the Eagles were able to do during the game. "I definitely thought we did well at responding after they got the goal," Stading said. According to Stading, the team needs to be at the right spots at the right time in order to finish plays.

Also in the second half, Eastern finished with one save and four corner kicks. Idaho had three saves and two corner kicks.

For the entire match Hoekstra led Eastern with three shots. Senior forward Cassie Black, freshman midfielder Sydney Shintaffer and Stading all finished with two shots.

Eastern finished the match with seven shots on target compared to Idaho's three. The Eagles had zero offsides calls against them, the Vandals had five.

Eastern falls to a record of 5-6 overall and 2-3 in conference play. They are currently 1-2 at home. The Vandals improve to an overall record of 4-10-1 and 4-1-1 in conference play, they are now 1-6-1 on the road.

Bodnar and Stading gave their outlook on the rest of the season.

"We're trying to get to five games in conference and have a chance to make the conference tournament," said Bodnar. "It's doable, but we've got to be better and I thought today we were not very sharp."

"I think we can go far," said Stading. "Anybody can get a roll in this conference, we just have to take it game by game."

The Eagles will be back on the road to face Southern Utah University on Oct. 17.

Football team prevails after losing starters

By SAM DEAL  
sports editor

The Eastern Eagles used a balanced offensive attack to help first-time starter Jordan West earn a win over Southern Utah University, 43-20.

West threw for 288 yards and three touchdowns, but it was the running gain that carried the Eagles', offense. The team rushed for 280 yards against just 79 yards by SUU, according to goeags.com.

"We had guys stepping up all over the place, whether it was offense, defense or special teams. Players that are younger and haven't played a lot of football for us stepped up," said head coach Beau Baldwin. "Jalen [Moore] hasn't played a ton of football, but he was out there scrapping and fighting."

The team headed into the

game missing multiple starters including quarterback Vernon Adams, who broke two bones in his foot playing against Idaho State on Oct. 4.

In his first career start, West targeted a familiar face; fellow sophomore and practice mate wide receiver Kendrick Bourne.

"Usually in practice, I go behind Shaq Hill and Cooper Kupp. So me and Jordan West have good timing, because in practices he goes second behind Vern and I go third," said Bourne.

The two players connected five times, totaling 90 yards and two touchdowns.

Mario Brown and Moore joined Bourne as the offensive leaders. Both running backs rushed for over 100 yards, setting career marks.

The Eagles defense had a bounce-back game after giving up 50 points in four of their last

five contests. The team pressured SUU all game and eventually forced opposing quarterback Ammon Olsen out of the game with an injury. Freshman cornerback Victor Gamboa added two interceptions for the Eagles.

"[Gamboa] became a starter, but he's still a redshirt freshman making big plays," said Baldwin.

The Eagles victory was their sixth of the season and it showed their ability to win without their top playmakers on the field.

"The list goes on and, in terms of the players who stepped up, it was just a mentality. There was something about their mentality during the week and down here. We lost Vernon [Adams], but we lost a lot of other players too," said Baldwin. "When you lose a player like Vernon you want to see how your players respond. They just picked each other up and went from there."



Photo by Ron Swords

Quarterback Jordan West with the ball.



# Hockey and cancer take center ice



Puck drop ceremony during the Pink in the Rink game on Oct. 10.

Photo by Anna Mills

## Team brings awareness with annual Pink in the Rink game

By SAM DEAL  
sports editor

Eastern men’s varsity hockey team played their annual Pink in the Rink game Oct. 10 against the University of Victoria Vikes.

The festivities included players wearing pink laces, using pink athletic tape and fans dressed in all pink to support breast cancer awareness while cheering on the Eagles’ hockey team.

“It’s a good atmosphere,” said defenceman Chase Wharton. “Everybody enjoys the opportunity to wear pink. It is a cool thing for players and fans to support [breast cancer awareness].”

Carol Golden, senior secretary of the school of social work, dropped the puck to begin the game. This was the fourth consecutive year a cancer survivor performed the ceremonial puck drop.

Golden has worked at EWU for 26 years and was diagnosed with two separate forms of breast cancer: once in 2000 and again in 2011. She wanted to be a part of this event to let people battling cancer know they are not alone.

“It is really important, because not only am I a one-time survivor but a two-time survivor. It was really rough for me the first time, not having anyone to talk to. The second time I knew what to expect and now I’m here to help other people,” said Golden. “It is

a matter of being there to answer peoples’ questions and keep them positive.”

Due to a lack of funding, the team was not able to paint the rink with pink ribbons, as they have done in the past, but they did have a full crowd of pink cheering for the home squad.

The Eagles would go on to lose the game after allowing a last minute goal to Victoria, 4-3. The loss moved the Eagles to a record of 2-2 in a 3-way tie for the division lead with four points.

First-year player Beau Walker continued his recent scoring hot streak, recording three points to add to his team lead of 10.

The Pink in the Rink hockey game symbolized more than just sport.

“This makes it fun; it isn’t all just scary negative,” said Golden.

She said fundraisers and awareness events like Pink in the Rink help to give people hope, which is one of the most important things people battling cancer can have.

“It is all about the positive attitude. You have to get through and survive, this is not a death sentence anymore. Stay positive, it is a scary thing to go through, to think you have to make yourself sick to get better with all the poisons put in your system, but you have to do that. It is a journey, a journey to survive.”



Photo by Anna Mills

Chase Wharton and Josh Rolfe celebrate a goal made during the Pink in the Rink game.

### INTERNATIONAL: CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Waelter also commented on how it is great to see different cultures playing volleyball.

“I really like how much energy and money is put into sports,” said Waelter. “Here, volleyball is played faster and more focused on defense, while back home it is slower and more focused on technique.”

Felix Von Hofe, a junior playing basketball and majoring in marketing, who is from Melvin, Australia.

“It is a family atmosphere, both on the team and on campus. There are no outsiders on the team, which will help our team a lot this year,” said Hofe. “The transition was tough. As time went on, we started to settle and call this place home.”

Hofe also commented on his perspective of America after settling in and living here for a few years.

“The greatest culture shock was the up-tempo pace of life over here as opposed to back home,” said Hofe. “Here it is

work oriented, ... which also reflects the way college basketball works.”

Milica Nisavic, a native of Novi Sad, Serbia, is a redshirt junior playing volleyball. She transferred last year from Casper College in Wyoming and is majoring in communications. Nisavic commented that her time here in America has also been great, but not without hardships.

“I really had a hard time when I came here,” said Nisavic. “I was really close to giving up and [going] back to my family because I missed them, but since I’m getting older and have been here for four years, I’m used to it.”

For many who have come to EWU, including both international and domestic students, there have been sacrifices.

Coming to America was “the best decision I’ve ever made, and I would do it again,” said Waelter. “It was the best time and the worst time of my life, and that I met so many people, and it has also let me get closer to my family on the other side of the globe.”

### MARIO BROWN: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

“I wasn’t here Brown’s freshman year, but I heard stories,” said McDonald. “I heard he was a young cat from the [San Francisco Bay Area, California,] and I have a little tender spot for that because I’m from the [San Francisco Bay Area, California]. He’s matured. He’s a family man now and he’s just grown up.”

Goldwire said Brown has always remained humble.

“He’s grown a lot,” said Goldwire. “[He’s] not one of those guys who was big-headed. He obvi-

ously played as a freshman and did very well. His role has changed from then to now, but he still hasn’t changed who he is. He’s a great guy. I can depend on him for anything. I call him, he’s down for anything.”

Although he may be known to the fans as “Super Mario,” Brown is a regular guy.

“Sometimes I feel like we are judged as athletes, but at the end of the day we are regular students,” said Brown.

“[We go] to school like everyone else, but the only thing is we play football. I’m a goofy guy. I’m approachable. Come talk to me, I won’t bite. I just be chilling.”

For more feature sports stories, visit

**EasternerOnline.com**



**ATTENTION**

**All Students,  
Faculty & Staff**

**SURVEY TIME!**

**All EWU campus community members will be invited to provide their feedback in the Noel-Levitz Survey(s):**

- (SSI) Student Satisfaction Inventory Survey for students 24 years of age and younger
- (ASPS) Adult Student Priorities Survey for students 25 years of age and older
- (IPS) Institutional Priorities Survey for Faculty and Staff members

**Watch for your e-mail invitation coming Fall Quarter 2014!**

**Noel-Levitz**

The Office of Institutional Research, Demography & Assessment, 220 Showalter Hall  
The Office of Equal Opportunity, 215 Showalter Hall

The Fall Study Abroad Fair is quickly approaching. This Fair welcomes individuals of the EWU faculty staff and student body to attend this event. Participants are encouraged to inquire about study abroad, while different programs offer information about multiple study abroad options including overseas destinations, international internships, study abroad funding and much more! This event will be held in Hargreaves 201 on Thursday, October 23rd from 9 AM until 2 PM. Persons with special needs may make arrangements for accommodations by calling Elena Axton at 509-359-6275

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