



SETBACKS

Colonels lose first home game of season, fall to Tennessee State in double overtime **B6**



COLLECTORS

Campus roommates collect law enforcement badges from across Kentucky and the country **B1**

THE EASTERN PROGRESS

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Student publication of Eastern Kentucky University since 1922

12 pages, Thursday, February 2, 2012

Lack of on-campus apartments displaces international students

By JACQUELINE HINKLE
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Following the demolition of the Brockton apartments, many students have found themselves in need of new housing options either on or off campus; international students are having a particularly difficult time. Additionally, Student Government Association has passed a resolution in support of an apartment listing on its website to help students.

"The main problem that international students are having is finding housing with their own kitchen, which is what Brockton provided," said student senator Bong Han Lee, 19, environmental health science major from Seoul, South Korea. "International students have the need to cook their own foods because they have a different diet compared to other Americans and have a hard time adjusting

to American food."

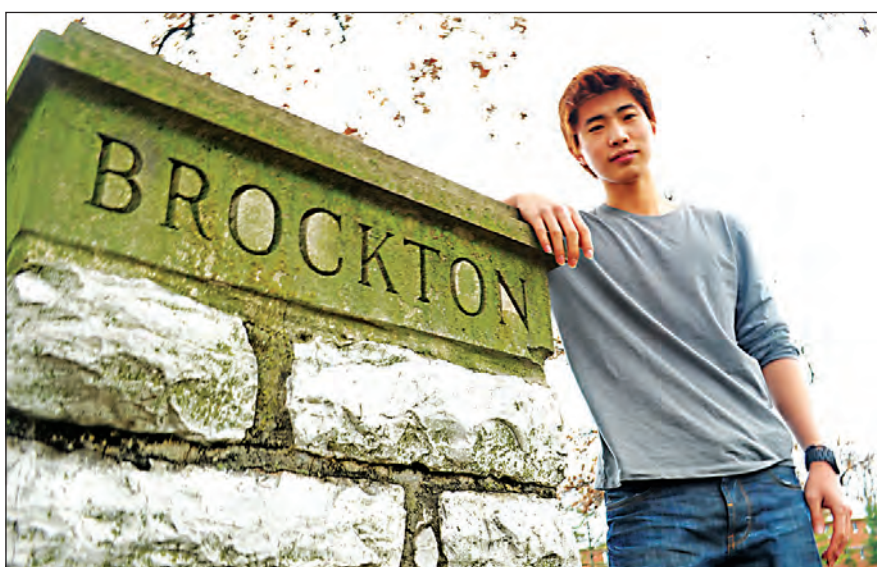
James Street, the acting executive vice president and administrator, said there are still options available on campus for students to live during the construction of the new dorm that he said will provide a desired residence for international students. He also said the school hosted an apartment fair prior to the evacuation of Brockton for the residents.

"The new dorm will be two to four bedroom suite style," Street said. "In the mean time there are still some units available in Brockton."

Kenna Middleton, director of housing, said all of Brockton is not torn down. There are 24 units remaining on the complex.

"The family units will also remain," Middleton said. "It's not all of Brockton being torn down."

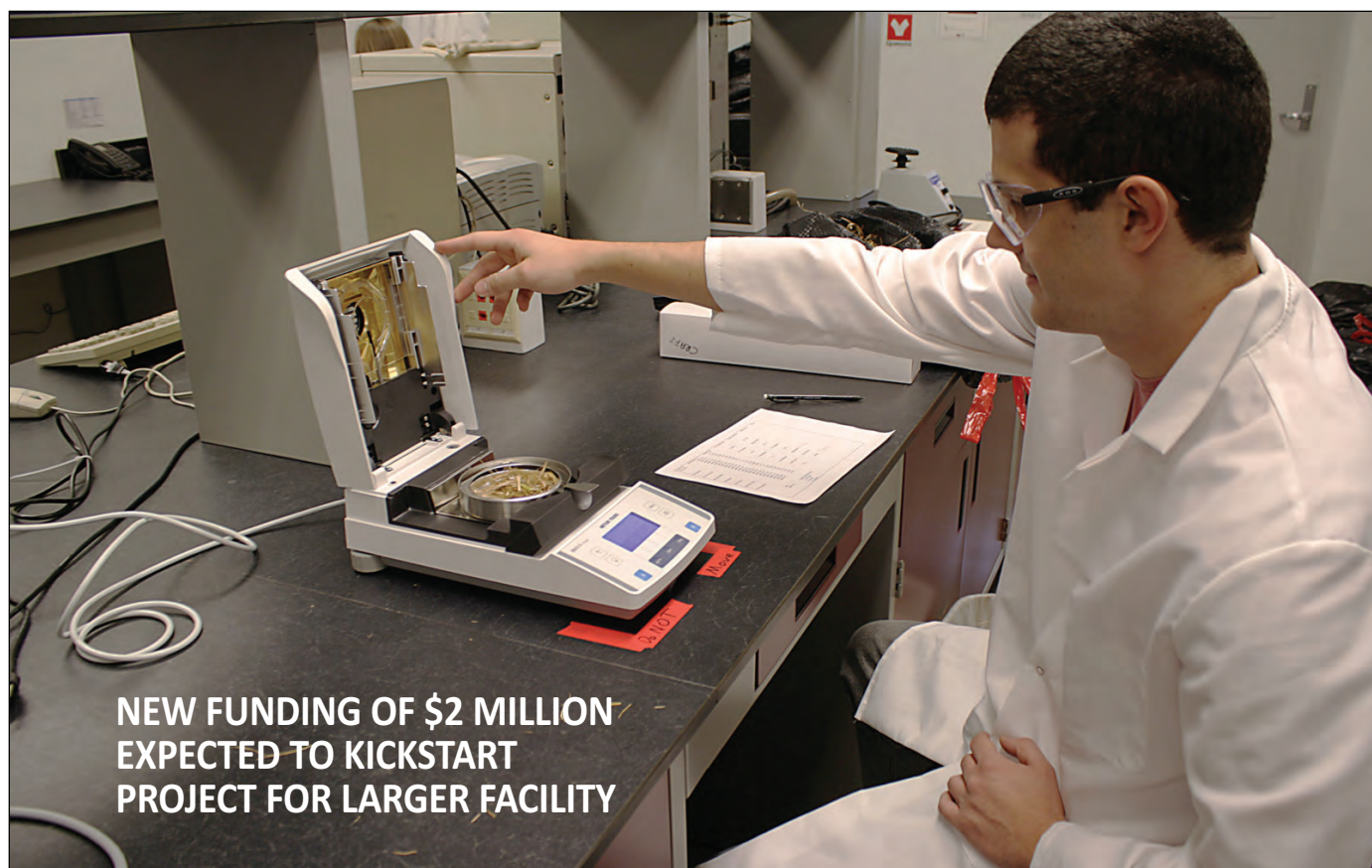
> SEE BROCKTON, PAGE A3



TAYLOR PETTIT/PROGRESS

International students who lived in Brockton Apartments must now find different housing. Student senator Bong Han Lee, 19, environmental health science major from Seoul, South Korea, said international students face different on-campus housing obstacles than local students including the need for a kitchen.

EKU CRAFT CENTER



NEW FUNDING OF \$2 MILLION EXPECTED TO KICKSTART PROJECT FOR LARGER FACILITY

SARAH STEWART/PROGRESS

At the Center for Renewable and Alternative Fuel Technologies [CRAFT], Luiz Reis, a research assistant from Brazil, extracts moisture out of an algae sample at the Craft Center, located on Roy and Sue Kidd Way.

By STEPHANIE COLLINS
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The future of Eastern's Center for Renewable and Alternative Fuel Technologies' (CRAFT) mission to create a local biofuel economy is progressing steadily, according to its director and students.

Emerging with an initial funding of \$3.7 million, followed by \$2.4 million in 2010, director Bruce Pratt said CRAFT

recently signed a new contract for \$2 million, an amount that will fund the research for one year and begin its next project to build a larger facility: a pilot plant in Winchester that will demonstrate Kentucky's ability to produce oils sustainable for creating diesel and jet fuels.

Pratt said CRAFT aims to take advantage of what the Bluegrass State's mild climate has to offer in growing bio-

mass, which can be converted into resources used in biofuels, the alternative to our current standard oil.

"50 percent of our [the U.S.] fuel is imported, compared to 62 percent three years ago," Pratt said.

He added that relying on foreign countries for fuel creates a problem with national security, and because of that,

> SEE CRAFT, PAGE A3

SGA OPENINGS

6,000 students lack representation within SAC

By KYLE WOOSLEY
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Eastern's Student Activities Council (SAC) is currently looking to fill 10 open positions. The appointed students will act as standard voting members and assist in the planning of events across campus.

Currently, SAC has 26 members, not including the leadership board, which makes it the largest branch of student government. It is responsible for planning, producing and staffing various activities, concerts and lectures on campus.

"SAC is such a diverse group," said Nicholas Brock, vice president for student activities. "Its like every group [of students] is represented."

For each 600 students on Eastern's campus, there's one representative. With SAC

> SEE SAC, PAGE A3

Housing reps needed for RLC

By KRISTIE HAMON
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There are currently 11 openings on the Residence Life Council (RLC) that need to be filled.

Ashley Salyer, vice president for residence life, said council members are needed to represent their residence hall at the weekly council meetings. Salyer said two members are allowed to be on the council from each residence hall.

She said usually a representative and a president from each hall council represent their hall at RLC meetings.

> SEE RLC, PAGE A3

Survey determines student body is unsure what SGA is, does

By KYLE WOOSLEY
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The results for the Eastern Diagnostics survey came back with respondents asking one big question: Who is SGA?

The survey was created to evaluate student satisfaction with parking, residence halls and other issues across Eastern's main campus and regional campuses. It also evaluated students overall satisfaction with Student Government Association.

Overall, 641 students responded and the majority rated SGA as a neutral. But several students left comments wondering who SGA is and what they do.

"My initial reaction to hearing that the majority of our survey-takers [did not

know who SGA was] was surprised, but not surprised," said Matthew White, executive vice president of SGA. "If students aren't involved on campus, they aren't going to know who we are."

Rachel Mollozzi, student body president, chooses to see the results as constructive criticism and is looking for more ways to get SGA's name out there.

"The reason I wanted to do the Eastern Diagnostics was to hear what students want," Mollozzi said. "Unfortunately, my administration doesn't have a lot of time left, but we're going to get our name out there."

Some members of SGA feel there is logical explanation for why students responded in this manner.

"I think it has to do with the fact that our campus is a major commuter campus," said Tasha Stanfield, cultural arts chair of SGA. "Maybe do other things with them [regional campuses] as a whole university. It's not

just for Richmond."

Ashley Salyer, vice president for the residence life branch, said the hardest part of reaching out to students to getting all of the information out.

"We need to emphasize how fun it is along with the work," Salyer said. "A lot of people say student government and think it's just about policies and administration, but it's not."

Mollozzi said SGA Night, the recent event held during the men's basketball game on Jan. 26, was an example of SGA making themselves more well known.

SGA Night allowed members of SGA to go up to people in the crowd and explain to who and what SGA represents.

"Our slogan is 'We ake stuff happen,' and that's what we want students to know," Mollozzi said. "Rather than students saying 'who is SGA?' we want them to ask how to get involved with student government."

The student body president is recog-

nized as a voting member of the Board of Regents in Kentucky statutes. Recently, legislation has been proposed to place the executive vice president of SGA on the Board of Regents as well.

"That's what gives SGA part of its authority," White said.

White said events coming up in February, such as the Rally for Higher Education and a public safety forum, will allow SGA to better communicate with the student body.

"There's a ton of explanations of why it could be, but there's no one given answer," White said. "We're out there to help students, and we want them to know who we are."

Salyer encourages all students to become more active within Eastern's student government.

"According to our constitution, every student is a member of SGA," Salyer said. "So I encourage them to use that active voice."



Rachel Mollozzi

POLICE BEAT

All information is taken from Eastern police reports.

Jan. 27

Police were dispatched to Alumni Coliseum on the report of a theft. A female non-student, claimed a commemorative plaque had been taken from in front of a tree on the building's west side. Police conducted a canvas of the area surrounding the tree, but were unsuccessful in locating the plaque. The commemorative plaque in honor of Coach Cahill was valued at \$350.

Michael Fritz, student, entered the lobby of Mattox Hall asking for information on the previous arrest of a friend. After police told him they could not disclose any information regarding the incident, he began to argue. Police then detected the odor of alcohol on his person. He was unsteady on his feet, had slurred speech and bloodshot eyes. After Fritz failed a field sobriety test, he was given the opportunity to leave with

a sober person, but he continued to argue. Fritz was arrested and jailed in the Madison County Detention Center for his own safety.

Jan. 28

Police were called to Clay Hall on the report of student Derek Ingram passed out on the second floor. Madison County Emergency Services arrived shortly after and used ammonia capsules to wake Ingram. He refused treatment and transport to the hospital. Police could detect the odor of alcohol on or about his person. Ingram had slurred speech, bloodshot eyes and was unsteady on his feet. After failing a field sobriety test, police determined it would be dangerous to attempt any more sobriety tests. Ingram was arrested and jailed in the Madison County Detention Center for his own safety.

Police witnessed Scarlett Sandels, student, speeding on Kit Carson Drive before running a stop sign at Daniel Boone Drive without stopping. Her vehicle was traveling at high speeds in a 20 mph zone. She is being charged with disregarding a stop sign and was sentenced a court date with a payable fine.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

need experience in judging, but Model is requesting students majoring in education and or science-related fields. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Anne Kipp at 622-3766 or via email at anne.kipp@eku.edu.

Phi Sigma Pi Rush

The co-ed honors fraternity of Phi Sigma Pi will be holding various rush events during the week of Feb. 6 to Feb. 9 from 6 to 10 p.m. To be eligible, students must have at least 12 credit hours and a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. An informational night will be held at 6 p.m. on Feb. 2 in the Jagers Room in Powell. For more information, contact Kyle Belcher at kyle_belcher6@mymail.eku.edu.

Judges needed for Model Lab Science Fair

The annual Model Lab Science Fair for fourth and fifth graders will be held at 8 a.m. on Feb. 9 and 10 at Model Lab School. Model is looking for college students to volunteer as judges of the students' science fair projects. Volunteers do not

CLARIFICATION

In the Jan. 26 issue, in the article *\$5.5 million Stratton Addition completed*, we stated the 25,000 square-foot addition was open when in fact it has yet to be open.



The Colonel's Calendar

Week of Feb. 2 - Feb. 8

| Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| <p>All Day Blood Drive, Central Kentucky Blood Center, middle Powell</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Bob Zellner lecture, Chautauqua Lecture Series, O'Donnell Hall SSB</p> <p>8 p.m. Men's basketball game at Eastern Illinois</p> | <p>11 a.m. Airbrush Beanie Hats, Student Life, Powell lobby</p> <p>2 p.m. Women's tennis match at Butler</p> <p>8 p.m. Here Come the Mummies!, Music Industry Organization, Busters Billiards & Backrooms</p> | <p>1 p.m. Men's tennis match vs. Abilene Christian, Greg Adams Tennis Complex</p> <p>2 p.m. Women's basketball game at Southern Illinois Edwardsville</p> <p>2 p.m. Men's basketball game at Southern Illinois Edwardsville</p> | <p>6 p.m. Super Bowl Party, Sullivan Hall event, Sullivan lobby</p> <p>9 p.m. February Munchies, Telford Hall event, Telford lobby</p> | <p>8 p.m. Women's basketball game at Eastern Illinois</p> <p>Dancing With the RAs, Telford Hall event, Moberly Gym</p> | <p>All Day Rally for Higher Education, Student Government Association, Kentucky Capitol Building</p> <p>7 p.m. Men's basketball game vs. Mid-Continent, Alumni Coliseum</p> | <p>6 p.m. Table Tennis Tournament, Intramural Sports, Fitness & Wellness Center</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Vagina Monologues, EKU Women and Gender Studies, O'Donnell Hall SSB</p> |

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BROCKTON

CONTINUED FROM A1

SGA is taking action to resolve the housing problem international students are facing by creating an apartment listing to help them find housing off campus.

At the student senate meeting Jan. 31, Student Senate passed a resolution stating its support for "the creation of a webpage on the Student Government Association's website with local renters and contact information."

"Another problem international students have is at Eastern, there is a rule that states for international students under 21 or under 60

credit hours must live on campus," Lee said. "Most students who are commuters that may live up to 50 miles away are exempt from this rule, while international students aren't because their homes are further in distance."

Lee added that amending the rule to match local commuters would be one option to resolve the housing issue.

"Giving international students the same exemption as some commuters would be really helpful for them in finding housing, instead of being limited to the housing on campus," Lee said.

Although Brockton has been demolished, the newly renovated section of Brockton is still open for housing options, as well as in Keene Hall.

"Though there is currently no apartment-style housing available, Keene Hall has been opened up year-round as an option for the international students," said Ashley Salyer, 23, communicative disorders major from Coeburn, Va. and vice president for Residence Life.

"The only problem with Keene Hall is that they only offer one community kitchen located on the 2nd floor, so that will be difficult for the international students to cook their own food," Lee said. "The apartment listing that SGA is working on will help international students find housing that is not on campus that has their own kitchen."

Ali Tawal, an international student from Saudi Arabia, said Brockton's unique housing

is hard to replace.

Although he has moved from the Brockton apartments, the 22-year-old undecided major said he feels that it would be hard for international students to find any other form of housing on campus that fits their needs like Brockton did.

Bong said he is happy with the progress that is being made to help international students.

"I think SGA is doing a great job," Bong said. "SGA has appraised what happened."

"International students can simply call or visit the housing office on the 5th floor of Student Services Building to inquire about housing options," said Salyer.



SARAH STEWART/PROGRESS

CRAFT research assistant Gary Selby, a graduate student, displays an experiment he conducted using a beer keg.

CRAFT

CONTINUED FROM A1

combined with a limited supply of standard oil, the demand for biofuel is on the rise.

Eastern has a number of students employed and working in the biomass and algae labs, as well as studying the chemistry involved in the conversion of biomass, Pratt said.

One student, Jackson Overton, is an undergraduate researcher for CRAFT and agreed with Pratt that the need to explore alternative fuel options is security purposes.

"For one thing, I think it's important for the future of energy security," said Overton, 22, microbiology major from Lexington. "I think if we perfect this biofuel option, we will secure that."

Overton said he began working with CRAFT Sept. 2011, after Rebekah Waikel, an assistant biology professor and good

friend of his, began allowing CRAFT to do research in her lab.

"She got me into it and I started working there [in her lab]," he said. "We are looking at right now a micro-algae and how under certain conditions it produces lipids."

Overton said those lipids can be transformed into bio-diesel, but right now there are not enough to be a viable resource.

"We are trying to produce more," he said.

Kendra Hargis, 24, forensic biology major from Lexington, is preparing for graduate school where she will study biomedical sciences and said CRAFT has provided her with the realistic research she can expect in her future.

"I could have never learned this in a classroom and have it make sense," Hargis said. "CRAFT has given me some research techniques I will use in grad school. It is helping me learn how to isolate certain genes in a mouse which will help me learn how to treat diseases and know more about their pathways."

Hargis became involved with CRAFT in

the summer of 2011 when she had a lab with a student doing a project on "enzyme stability." She joined in and was very pleased.

"I've loved it," Hargis said. "The people are great to work with. I feel comfortable going to them with questions."

Pratt said the pilot plant project is one step in a larger goal for CRAFT to eventually become a commercial biofuel plant.

"We're looking to move from beakers to barrels," Pratt said.

He said the commercial plant is a vision CRAFT expects to materialize in 15-20 years, but Overton said he is confident CRAFT will grow to be that large because the government will be forced to look at different resources.

Hargis agreed. "Honestly, I do think they will succeed in becoming commercial," Hargis said. "What we're currently using is not going to last forever. In order to sustain our current lifestyle, we need to find other ways, preferably ones that won't be toxic to our health."

SAC

CONTINUED FROM A1

currently without 10 representatives, there are 6,000 students being unrepresented.

"It's not hurt us that much, but we'd like to see participation from everybody else," said Tasha Stanfield, cultural arts chair on SAC.

Even without the proper numbers, SAC is still fulfilling its duties.

"We're still doing everything we can to do as much for students as possible," said Kristin Royster, associate vice president for student activities.

Royster said with these open positions, she feels "not as much input" is being provided into planning activities for the university.

Royster said Greek Life, as well as members of SAC themselves, have been heavily involved in promoting the openings.

"All of the fraternities know; all of the sororities know," Royster said. "We all made it our Facebook status."

Other than using social media and Greek Life, SAC has been advertising through EKU Students Today and hanging up posters.

"If there's nobody in SAC, we don't have a well-informed idea of what the university wants from us," Stanfield said.

To properly tend to the entire student population, Brock said all of these vacant seats need to be filled.

"More voices are great," Brock said. "We definitely need to get those spots filled, so everyone's voice is heard."

Stanfield urges anyone who is interested in event planning or entertainment to get involved.

"The people that you meet and things that you do are unique," Royster said. "SAC has been amazing for me to get involved in."

Once the application is selected and reviewed, the student will be interviewed before being appointed as an official member.

To apply for one of these open positions, visit the Student Government Association office in Powell for an application.

RLC

CONTINUED FROM A1

Applications are available in the SGA office and can be picked up from the administrative assistant. Chosen applicants will then be sworn in.

Salyer said council members have a say in what happens in the residence halls.

"They'd [members] be a voting member [of RLC]," Salyer said.

She said participation in one of three committees is required. Salyer said members are involved in researching, writing and presenting policies.

RLC policy chair Dan Hendrickson, 21, a nursing major from Middlesboro, said RLC is the branch of the student government that allows members a good mix of involvement in residence life.

"The best thing about RLC is you get the best of both worlds," Hendrickson said. "You can either do programming or policy."

SGA President Rachel Mollozzi said it is important for students to get involved in residence life.

"Right now is a perfect time for students to take the steps toward getting involved

"I am confident students will enjoy being a part of an organization that truly makes a difference on campus."

Rachel Mollozzi
SGA president

with SGA," Mollozzi said. "RLC is an exciting branch that deals with policy and programming for students living on campus."

Salyer said RLC is responsible for programs such as Shut In For The Shut Out, Eastern's Got Talent, the Eastern Cup Challenge, candy grams and conferences such as Kentucky Residents Affiliates Conference for Leadership and Education (KRACKLE). Additionally, RLC reviews and makes policies for improving residence halls and writes and proposes new legislation to be presented to housing officials.

Mollozzi said RLC is a vital branch of SGA that is enriching for members.

"I am confident students will enjoy being a part of an organization that truly makes a difference on campus," Mollozzi said.

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New program 'connects the dots' between freshmen, graduation

By **COURTNEY KIMBERLIN**
progress@eku.edu

Eastern alumni will have another way to become involved with current Eastern students. The alumni relations program has created Connecting the Dots, which will begin fall 2012.

Director of Alumni Relations, Jackie Collier, said the idea for the program is molded after other colleges with similar programs where first generation incoming freshmen are paired with an alumnus in their major.

"If you are a first generation it can be difficult to get used to college and trying to figure out what you want to do with your

career and life," Collier said.

Collier said in the fall 2012 semester, around 12 first year students will use Connecting the Dots for the first time. She said all have been assigned an alumnus mentor that was personally chosen to support them.

Terry Wilson, educational extension agent coordinator and the creator of Connecting the Dots, said the mentoring will be beneficial for first year students.

"The alumni who experienced the 'ins' and 'outs' and barriers that they faced while in school will help their mentee navigate their academic pursuits by avoiding the same barriers," Wilson said. "Hopefully, this

will help increase the retention rate of first-generation students."

Collier said communication between students and mentors will be set up for them.

"All you have to do as a student, is apply, and we will find an alumnus to connect with you through phone calls, via email and having a meet and greets in person," Collier said.

She said since this is a new program for the university, a lot of people do not know about Connecting the Dots yet.

"It will take a little while to let everyone know about Connecting the Dots, just like every new project that is presented, it takes

time," Collier said. "Before the freshmen come to campus, they are to sign up and will be paired up with local alumni within a certain radius, because it is easier for the students but we do want to expand."

But out of all of the alumni that graduate each semester, how does Eastern pick these select few people to help them with this new and exciting mentoring problem?

"There is an alumni board member who sends out notifications to local alumni in the area, and a lot of the alum are professors on the campus and such that already work on campus," Collier said.

Change in method of ranking planned for RSO funding

By **KYLE WOOSLEY**
kyle_woosley3@mymail.eku.edu

The process for funding Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) is currently undergoing changes to make the process more efficient.

The RSO funding meeting took place on Jan. 31 to discuss the application process, as well as some of the changes, with various student organizations across campus.

Donovan Nolan, who has recently been appointed appropriations chair on Student Senate, said he hopes to change the way organizations are ranked in order to make the funding for organizations more widespread.

"I want to change the way people are ranked," Nolan said. "It should be ranked according to organization. We hope to be able to get more people money."

Nolan said there would be four to six categories, and within each category, the organizations will be ranked again. Finally, the categories would then be ranked alphabetically.

"If you have a sports category and a religion category, the religion category would go first," Nolan said.

The categories would then alternate each year to give every organization an equal, unbiased opportunity. For example, the next year religion would be the last category on the list, with sports being first.

Armanda Pennington, senator at large on Student Senate, said, "We had so many RSOs last time, I couldn't particularly pick one that needed funding."

Kiker Miller, 20, emergency medical care major from Corbin and commander of Pershing Rifles, said the appropriations process supports newly created student organizations on campus.

"They try to help out new organizations to become a prominent member of the campus," Miller said.

According to Nolan, the ranking process is the most important and time-consuming process.

"Ranking is the big thing," Nolan said. "I'd like to make it faster. It typically takes three to four hours. It's incredibly long."

Being a veteran of the appropriations



TAYLOR PETTIT/PROGRESS

At the Jan. 31 RSO funding informational meeting, Erica Brantley, 21, middle school education major from Lexington, takes notes on the funding process.

process, Miller is impressed with the betterments thus far.

"They're always improving," Miller said. "I've come to the last two meetings, and they always make improvements."

Pennington hopes for a more efficient process.

"We plan for it to go smoother and more fair," Pennington said.

Applications for the RSOs who attended the preliminary meeting are due at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 14 in the Student Government Association office. All applications must have a sponsoring senator.

Organizations have to be registered and approved by Student Life before the next RSO meeting, which will take place at 5 p.m. on Feb. 21 in the Kennamer room in Powell.

Iraq war sees end, student vets transition to new beginnings

By **SETH LITRELL**
seth_littrell3@mymail.eku.edu

With the War in Iraq officially over, many college campuses, including Eastern, have seen more recent veterans returning to school. Many of these veterans face challenges transitioning to the civilian life of a student from the life of an active-duty soldier.

To assist in this transition, Eastern offers a number of resources that focus on paying for college, finding housing and getting books.

But many of these new students are running into problems when it comes to getting financial aid from the G.I. Bill.

"The most difficult part is getting the government to do things," said Andrew Dailey, 24, junior criminal justice major from Stanford.

Dailey recently returned from Baghdad Dec. 21, 2011, where he was serving with the 617 military police company for six months. He started as a full-time student in the spring semester, but he said when he filed for his G.I. Bill benefits, it took a long time before he received his aid.

"There's a lot of paperwork, it takes months to process," Dailey said.

However, Dailey said despite his problems with the G.I. Bill, Eastern has helped him greatly.

"Eastern really goes out of the way to make sure you have what you need," he said.

Daily said he was supposed to attend a school in California when he returned from deployment, but his plans were canceled. Working with Eastern through his girlfriend, a student, he was able to enroll and register for classes while still in Kuwait waiting to return home.

"They [Eastern] did everything for her, because it was for me," Dailey said.

The G.I. Bill has also undergone recent updates, and veterans are awarded aid differently depending on what version of the bill they file under. If the veterans are fil-

ing under the old G.I. Bill, chapter 30, and they have been active for three years, they receive \$1,473 for being full-time students.

The new version of the bill for veterans deployed after 9/11, chapter 33, gives aid to student veterans based on how long they were active.

"If they were active for three years, then that's 100 percent," said Retha Sandlin, senior academic recorder for student financial assistance.

"They receive \$957 a month for full-time status, 100 percent of their tuition paid and the fees associated with their courses, and they'll get a house allowance of \$957 a month, and \$500 a semester for book allowance."

To further assist veterans in getting books, the Student Outreach and Transition Office (SOTO)

is putting together a library of textbooks students can donate af-

ter they are done using them. Sandlin said to donate books by dropping them off at the SOTO office in Room 442 of the Student Success Building.

If undergrad veterans have not been active for three years, the benefits they receive from the new G.I. bill drop and can go down to 40 percent of what three-year active veterans receive.

Veterans taking only online classes may also receive aid from the new bill, getting half of the national average of aid, which is approximately \$650 a month.

But paying for college isn't the only aspect of the transition from soldier to student that has proven challenging for some veterans. Dailey said one of the biggest challenges he faces every day is finding a way to spend all of his newfound free time.

"Here [Eastern] you're kind of back to your own schedule," Dailey said. "You're wandering around doing your own thing. You're sitting around twiddling your thumbs and wondering what to do."

To remedy this, Eastern's veteran's club puts on a number of events for other veterans to attend, including a summer outreach program that is still being planned.



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PERSPECTIVES

Perspectives 5

Thursday, February 2, 2012

www.easternprogress.com

Seth Littrell, editor

Should you care about student government?

It has become obvious that many students are not only not involved with student government but have no idea what student government does.

For this academic year of 2011-2012, SGA boasts an overall budget of \$334,597, split into various subdivisions. Here's a breakdown detailing what the money is used for.

The base-operating budget of Student Government Association [SGA] is \$33,273.

SGA is budgeted \$44,666.

This year Student Activities Council has a budget of \$164,799.

\$45,298 has been set aside to help fund student-run organizations. This money is distributed at the appropriations meetings every semester.

A "special activities" budget of \$46,561 has been set aside. The special activities fund can be used for any event promoting student involvement.

In addition to all this, SGA also helps distribute money from the IT Grant ev-

ery year, which is \$100,000, although more than \$50,000 has gone to help support the Noel Studio. This grant is specifically targeted for technology projects in various departments on campus.

Money talks, and it's talking pretty loudly that caring is important.

SGA is heavily involved with many aspects of everyday life at Eastern.

However, many students here don't know of or fully understand what roles SGA plays. This makes it difficult for students to know whether or not they should pay any attention to SGA at all, leading to a number of openings in the organization.

SGA can be broken down into three branches. The Student Senate is the largest SGA body. They are responsible for voting on legislation regarding school policies, such as registration, attendance and tailgating policies. Senate is also responsible for funding student organizations on campus. Therefore, any time a group needs money, they can come to

Senate. Any time administrators want to gauge how students will react to a policy, they go to Senate.

Another branch of SGA is the Student Activities Council (SAC.) SAC is in charge of the entertainment on campus. Fall and spring concerts, as well as various other events throughout the year are sponsored and put on by SAC, including tailgating entertainment and charity events. So every time a band comes to campus that causes internal bleeding, or boredom arises due to a lack of weekend activities – these are the people that make those decisions.

The third branch is the Residence Life Council, or RLC. This branch deals specifically with students living in on-campus housing. They promote residence hall events and help fund upgrades to hall appliances, such as washing machines and dryers.

SGA doesn't just take an activist role for the university; they get things done, and they have the resources to do it.



CAMPUS COMMENTS

"FAFSA/Financial aid"

All Campus Comments are anonymous.

- It sucks. It barely covers any of my expenses.
- Financial Aid was satisfactory. They took care of business in about a week.
- It sucks and is unfair.
- My mother deals with all my financial aid.
- It's definitely beneficial for students.
- Without it, I would not be here.
- If you qualify for FAFSA, you should be able to get a job on campus without having to qualify for work study.
- It takes too long to get.
- Obviously there is not enough for everybody. Most of my financial aid is loans. I wish that there were more scholarships available. There is a lot for upperclassmen, not enough for freshmen and sophomores in the English department.
- Financial Aid has been very reasonable. They have been very supportive of my college career so far.
- I've been very lucky with financial aid.
- It is a pain.

Compiled by Elise Svoboda

Submit your topic ideas and comments via email to progress@eku.edu

>Letters to the editor

Student to organize event for people with mental illnesses

I have a mental illness; a turd in my otherwise perfect punch bowl of life.

I wasn't always this way. I used to be one of those mentally healthy people who rolled my eyes at the idea of mental illnesses and doubted their validity. Let me clear up some common misconceptions right now for those of you who are skeptical: I was an ignorant asshole. Mental illnesses are very real. Those of us who have them do not want them. We did not ask for them. And nobody is safe; on any given day, you might become one of us.

Imagine that you're buckled into the driver's seat of your car and your hands are tied behind your back. Now imagine that your car is slowly sinking in a river or lake with you in it. The car is completely submerged in the river or lake and that the glass is about to crack under the pressure of the water, rush into the car and kill you. No, it isn't an opening scene for an episode of Law & Order or CSI – it's the mindset of someone with an anxiety disorder. Take that anxiousness and dread and live with it fluttering around in your chest all day, every day. Welcome to my life.

I lived with that feeling for several months but refused to acknowledge it. After seeing Black Swan, identifying with Nina's charac-

ter, and not being as freaked out as the rest of the general population seemed to be, I could no longer ignore the fact that A) Mila Kunis is too attractive to be a real human and B) I had a serious problem. I went to see a doctor for my problem. I was put on medication for my problem. I spent several days balled-up under a down comforter trapped under the weight of my problem. I had counseling sessions for my problem and I talked about things that were bothering me. Things like being so far away from home, the death of my grandfather, and people who don't use turn signals.

The only thing that saved me from disappearing into my illness was talking about it. I talked about it to my mom, my dad, my friends, my co-workers, my fiancé, and my dogs (yes, my dogs). I wrote about it in my blog, discussed it on Facebook and even tweeted prescription recommendations to my sorority sister who was in the same situation.

I'm not ashamed of it anymore. Talking about my problem personified it and made it something I could deal with. Breaking down that wall is what allowed me to reclaim some parts of myself that my illness had taken

from me.

So I'm doing something to encourage other people to talk about their mental illnesses. I'm organizing a 5k and festival in Richmond: Run Like You're (Not) Crazy. I want it to raise awareness of mental illnesses and allow those of us with mental illnesses to feel less isolated and have a sense of community. I also want to, despite the name, emphasize the fact that people with mental illnesses are not crazy. It will take place sometime in the fall of 2012. I would like this to incorporate an exhibit for participants to express their feelings through art, an open-mic for participants to express their feelings through spoken word, a 5k race, food, and (perhaps most enticing to college students) sweet T-shirts! This is for anyone who has a mental illness, knows someone with a mental illness, or supports those of us who suffer from mental illnesses.

If you are interested in helping out, shoot me an email at kelli.hogue@gmail.com. Anyone is welcome to help, participate, or both!

Kelli Hogue
Student

Student body president spreads word of educational rally

I hope you are off to an excellent semester! It's hard to believe we are already four weeks into our classes, homework, activities on campus and work schedules. I challenge each of you to continue to work hard and enjoy the life of an Eastern Kentucky student!

On another note, I am writing to share a tremendous opportunity with you. I have the privilege to sit on the Board of Student Body Presidents – which is a collection of student body presidents at each of the state universities in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

With that being said, we have been working hard to represent our students and plan the Rally for Higher Education. This has been something Eastern has done for years, but unfortunately, many students have not known what it was or been able to attend. This "rally" will take place in Frankfort at the state capitol in, "The Rotunda." If you have never gotten a chance to visit the state capitol, this is a perfect opportunity to check it out. Kentucky's Capitol Building is ranked as one of the most beautiful capitols in the nation.

You may ask, "So what is this rally all

about?" The answer to that question is that it's about showing our state legislatures that we care about higher education! For 11 years, higher education's budget has been cut, and this year we are receiving a \$62 million cut in our state allocations. That means there could be an increase in tuition, which I know you don't want to see. Unfortunately, we are living in tough times... there is not much money in Frankfort to be disbursed and many programs are receiving pretty heavy cuts. However, there is \$9 billion in Frankfort and higher education (us, the students) is receiving a 6.4 percent cut.

To make my message clear – this is not a rally where I want Eastern students to go to Frankfort and disrespect legislatures and yell and scream. I want this to be a rally where we send a positive message to our representatives and encourage them to not forget about us while they are in their voting session. As your Student Body President, I care about keeping your tuition affordable. While I cannot control the state's budget, I can encourage all of us to truly take a passion in caring about our future in education. This rally will

be a time for us to ask our representatives questions and see what we can do to make a difference. If you can't make it to the rally, I challenge you to write your representatives letters, make phone calls and sign petitions to make a difference for Eastern Kentucky!

The Student Government Association will be providing transportation, lunch, a free T-shirt and a University Excused Absence. Please email me at rachel.mollozzi@eku.edu and we will reserve a spot for you on the bus! Buses will leave for Frankfort at 10:15 a.m. from Alumni Coliseum and will return by 2 p.m. on February 7. For all you Greek students out there – if you attend you will receive Greek points.

I hope each of you consider this great opportunity to attend and learn more about higher education.

May God bless you as you continue your semester.

Most Respectably,
Rachel Mollozzi
Student Body President and Regent

THE EASTERN PROGRESS

326 Combs Building, Richmond, Ky. 40475

The Eastern Progress (ISSN 1081-8324) is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press, Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association and College Newspaper Business & Advertising Managers, Inc.

The Progress is published every Thursday during the school year, with the exception of vacation and examination periods. Any false or misleading advertising should be reported to Adviser/General Manager, Reggie Beehner at (859) 622-1875.

Opinions expressed herein are those of student editors or other signed writers and do not necessarily represent the views of the university. Student editors also decide the news and informational content.

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Letters to the editor may be edited for length prior to publication. Letters must be submitted by Tuesday at 6 p.m. in order to be considered for publication in the same week.

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FEATURES

Adam Turner, Editor

The Eastern Progress | www.easternprogress.com

Thursday, February 2, 2012

The Patch to Justice



TWO EASTERN STUDENTS DECORATE DORM ROOM WITH DOZENS OF COLLECTED CITY AND STATE POLICE PATCHES FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

By MICHAEL EMERSON AND ADAM TURNER
progress@eku.edu

Some people collect stamps; some collect coins. However, a certain pair of students on campus has shown an interest in a slightly more obscure collectible.

Police studies major Robby Sykes, 20, and Nathaniel Arnold, 18, a criminal justice major, both of whom are from Lexington, share a room in Keene Hall and a common hobby: collecting city and state police patches.

Currently, Sykes owns 42 different patches from different cities nationwide; Arnold owns 80.

Despite having nearly double of his own collection, Sykes maintains that he himself actually started first.

"I came in with just one, I had one from the state police and then I got a couple others from one of my police officer friends, and then he was like 'Ah man, that's a cool idea!'" Sykes said. "And so he just started writing letters to any police department he could think of that came to the top of his mind and somehow or another he got ahead. In our room we have part of our wall totally covered. Whenever we met in the middle of our ceiling, we decided to stop. But he got to the middle before I did and decided he didn't wanna stop."

Sykes explained that the idea originally came from wanting to honor the state he

loves.

"The idea was when I first got my first patch I thought it would be a cool idea to represent departments all over the state, because me personally, I don't want to leave the state. I want to work somewhere in the Commonwealth after graduation," Sykes said. "So I grabbed a patch from here and there to represent law enforcement all over Kentucky and then once you run out of so many departments to write to, you've gotta spread out. It started out as a Kentucky thing and kind of grew into a national thing. But law enforcement is like one big family; different states, different cities, but they all do the same job."

And it certainly has become a nationwide collection. In addition to numerous cities and counties in Kentucky, the pair have raked in patches from states such as California, Alaska, Hawaii, Arizona, Nevada, Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Vermont and Rhode Island.

Skyles said he believes he and his roommate will eventually have a patch from all

SEE PATCHES, PAGE B3



SONYA JOHNSON/PROGRESS

Nathaniel Arnold and Robby Sykes have managed to collect over 100 patches from cities and counties all over Kentucky and across the country including one from Juneau, Alaska.



A balloonist with tricks up his sleeves

BALLOONIST/MAGICIAN/COMEDIAN JOHN CASSIDY TREATED EASTERN STUDENTS TO A SHOW JAN. 26

By ELISE SVOBODA
progress@eku.edu

The art of ballooning can seem like less of an art, and more a party trick.

But for John Cassidy, the craft of ballooning encompasses so much more than air and latex.

Cassidy is a professional magician, comedian, and balloon artist, and Thursday, Jan. 26, he treated Eastern students to a show in SSB.

According to his official web site, Cassidy originally performed his tricks at birthday parties, but when he noticed adults liked his programs, his career took off. He has performed for the White House twice, for schools, colleges and more. Cassidy holds several Guinness Book of World Records and has been on multiple TV shows including *The Today Show*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and *Live with Regis and Kelly*.

Cassidy started the way most comedians do— making others laugh.

"I made my dad laugh once when I was a little kid and it was the best sound I had ever heard in my life, and then my mom was really sick for years and I was going to become a doctor and try and make her feel better," Cassidy said. "I found out that was hard and this is a lot easier."

Cassidy's love for balloons also developed at a young age.

"I bought a bag of balloons like 9-year-olds [do] and have been playing with them ever since," Cassidy said.

Cassidy also mentioned he just recently started performing for colleges in the last year or so.

"I have never done colleges, and they are so fun," Cassidy said. "The kids are polite and especially everyone here."

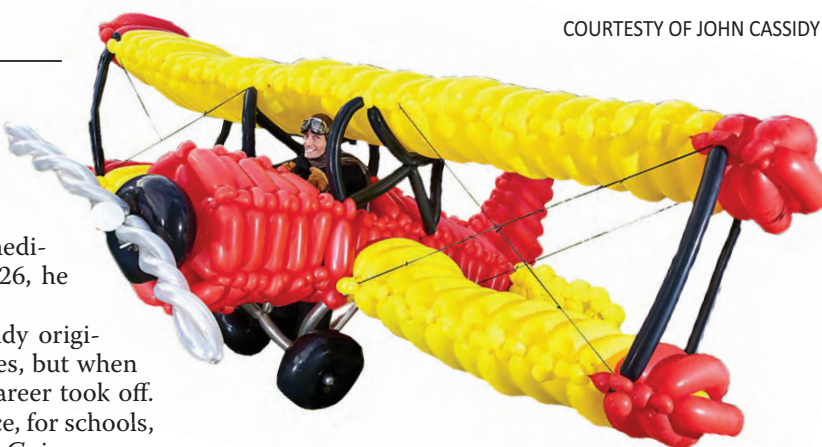
This magic man uses a large amount of balloons per show.

Cassidy said, "I really did get audited four years ago for \$27,000 in latex expenses and no dependence, so it really set off a schedule C audit. I use about 30,000 balloons a month."

Cassidy says his favorite part of the show is "the fact that anyone will come and have a good time and laugh is the best thing in the world. It's a lot of fun."

So when it came time for Eastern to find entertainment for the semester, Cassidy seemed like the perfect choice.

"We saw him at a conference we attend to preview acts to bring to college campuses and one of our students was pulled up onto the stage," said Nikki Hart, assistant director of student life in charge of activities for students.



COURTESY OF JOHN CASSIDY



SAMANTHA TOY/PROGRESS

Students got the opportunity to join in his magical presentation.

Caeleigh Gilliland, 19, an undeclared major, said she had an awesome time on stage until Cassidy brought out the flame-throwing Rainbow Brite doll.

Gilliland said her favorite part was when Cassidy picked on her for being Canadian.

Whenever Cassidy had a group of students up on the stage with him, he had them start blowing up balloons to see who could blow up the most; Cassidy put the students to shame.

J.P. Sparr, 19, geology major from Liberty, said it was fun being up on stage with Cassidy.

"That guy is really, really funny," Sparr said.

The student who arguably had the most interesting time with Cassidy was John 'Cody' Lawson, 19, a network, security, and electronics major from Corbin, who was on stage for the majority of the show.

Lawson's experience was fun, yet terrifying at the same time.

"I should have brought more boxers," Lawson said.

For Cassidy's final number, Lawson was asked to pick a card and hold a dartboard while Cassidy's whole body was inside a balloon. A lawn dart was shot out of a cannon and popped Cassidy's balloon. The lawn dart stuck into Cassidy's bottom with Lawson's card, the 4 of clubs, pinned on.

For more information about Cassidy's career and performances, you can follow him on Twitter @JohnCassidyShow, like him on Facebook, or visit his website at www.johncassidy.com.

And stay tuned for upcoming Student Life events by following on Twitter @EKUStudentLife and checking out www.studentlife.eku.edu.

Cashman set to rock Paddy Wagon Feb. 16

By ADAM TURNER
adam_turner66@mymail.eku.edu

Rock and roll has sadly become diluted and neutered in its old age. It had a lively, spirited youth (the 50s), some rebellious, game-changing teenage years (the 60s) and a few decades of mature, experienced adulthood. Thanks to the rise of pop and the death of the album, however, this music genre has seemed to have entered a major mid-life crisis.

Here to kick some life square in its pants is the band Cashman.

This two-piece, Nashville-based blues band features the gritty, down-home guitar playing of lead singer Ray Cashman and the rhythmic, unrelenting drumming of Adam Verone. And they will be bringing their particular brand of rock and roll to Richmond's Paddy Wagon on Thursday, Feb. 16.

Ray said the goal of their music is simple: to have a good time.

"It's a drum/guitar combo so it's a lot of driving rhythm. Everybody seems to have a good time," Ray said. "So that's really important to us, to come out and have fun."

"It's a little bit of hill-country, a lot of slide guitar, some old blues stuff that you don't hear a lot these days. All original songs besides a few covers. And we rock it out too," Verone added.

Though Ray has been performing under the Cashman name for many years and many albums, his partnership with Verone is a new one.

"The first note that Adam ever played with me was at what used to be called the King Biscuit Blues Festival in Helena, Arkansas," Ray said. "That was about a year and a half ago in October."

Verone said that his experience with his new band has been an exciting one.

"It's been crazy for me. A big culture shock," Verone said. "This whole hill-country, blues we've been playing is pretty new to me. But I'm really getting into it. It's been awesome because I've been learning a whole new style of music."

Each member has had a lifelong love of music and numerous influences on their style.

"Well, man, I like a lot of different stuff. R.L. Burnside, Lightnin' Hopkins, I love Townes Van Zandt, Tony Joe White, Rolling Stones. Got a wide variety of influences," Ray said.

The band is a touring powerhouse, averaging about 150 shows each year all around the country. They play a lot in Nashville as well, though Ray noted that their venue options are limited there.

SEE CASHMAN, PAGE B3



COURTESY OF KAT RAYLS

Kanye West's top ten tracks

By JABRIL POWER
progress@eku.edu



Kanye has dominated the world of hip-hop consistently since his debut album in 2003, *The College Dropout*. The spotlight has remained on the music mogul for years as people wondered what Kanye West would say or do next. Every album has received tremendous amounts of critical praise, with each of them being almost nothing short of perfection. And with five solo albums under his belt, Kanye could easily be argued as being one of, if not the most important artist in hip-hop history. So in his honor, we disregard all his egotistical actions and microphone stealing to present to you Kanye West's Top 10 Songs.

10. Last Call (The College Dropout)

"Last Call" clocked in at a whopping 12 minutes and 40 seconds. This song's length mostly had its outro to blame. But this last song on the album intelligently gave us a handful of Kanye as an artist, who he was at the start of his career and what he had to offer. It seemed to be Kanye's last attempt for you to really get to know him. And *The College Dropout*, in my opinion, was only meant to do one thing: To let us know he was something different, and he had heart. I'd say it worked out for him well.

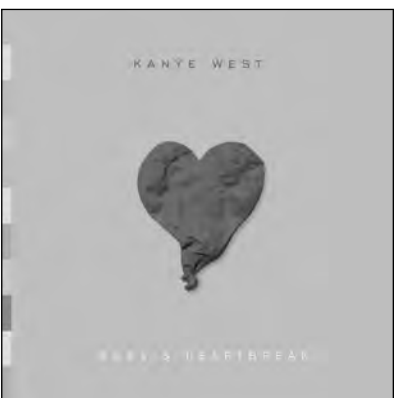
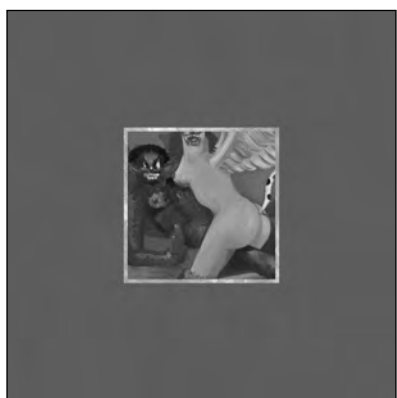
9. Crack Music (Late Registration)

"How we stopped the Black Panthers? Ronald Reagan cooked up an answer..."

On "Crack Music," Kanye and The Game gave us a politically conscious song deep-fried in the soulful samples of the New York Community Choir. The chants and horns were something we as listeners will not forget. It was the perfect blend of a very "gangsta" chorus, and the socially conscious verses really made this song one of his most memorable to date.

8. Power (My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy)

This song really has one of the most memorable samples in the Kanye West's arsenal. Originally performed by King Crimson, Kanye flips it and makes this song one of the most powerful, in-your-face songs he has produced. This anthem goes great with almost anything sports related or action packed and was even featured in



The Social Network trailer. What is the song really about? I don't think anyone knows exactly, though it did stir a bunch of conspiracy theories. Nonetheless, Kanye still delivered.

7. Late (Late Registration)

This easily made it in the list for me. From the amazing orchestral sound to the fun lyrics about the pointless things in college, Kanye really gave us an amazing piece of work that reminded us no matter what he puts out and no matter how long it takes him, it will be worth the wait.

6. Everything I Am (Graduation)

This was a glimpse of the Kanye we had seen back on *The College Dropout*, and fans loved it. DJ Premier chopped it up on the turntables while a beautiful piano sample and passionate lyrics about being accepted really helps the listeners remember this song for its pure greatness and honesty. You quoted this song your senior year, don't lie.

5. Devil in a New Dress (MBDTF)

This *Dark* composition was heavily reliant on soulful samples, but just when you thought this beat would just be a loop, it broke out into an amazing, gritty guitar solo wrapped up by one of Rick Ross's best verses. All the violins, pianos and sounds on this song helped make the album a beautiful beast.

4. Christian Dior Denim Flow (The Good Friday series)

This song has so many features and was an "All of the Lights" of it's own. This hinted at the amazing album that was to come with *MBDTF* and puzzled fans on why this didn't make the final cut.

3. I Wonder (Graduation)

Listen to this, and it will explain why this is number three in the list. The experimental sound, the weird samples, the simplistic but emotional lyrics makes this a one-of-a-kind Kanye song. This song truly stands out amongst all



the others. Young Kanye was just trying to find the answers in life within this song.

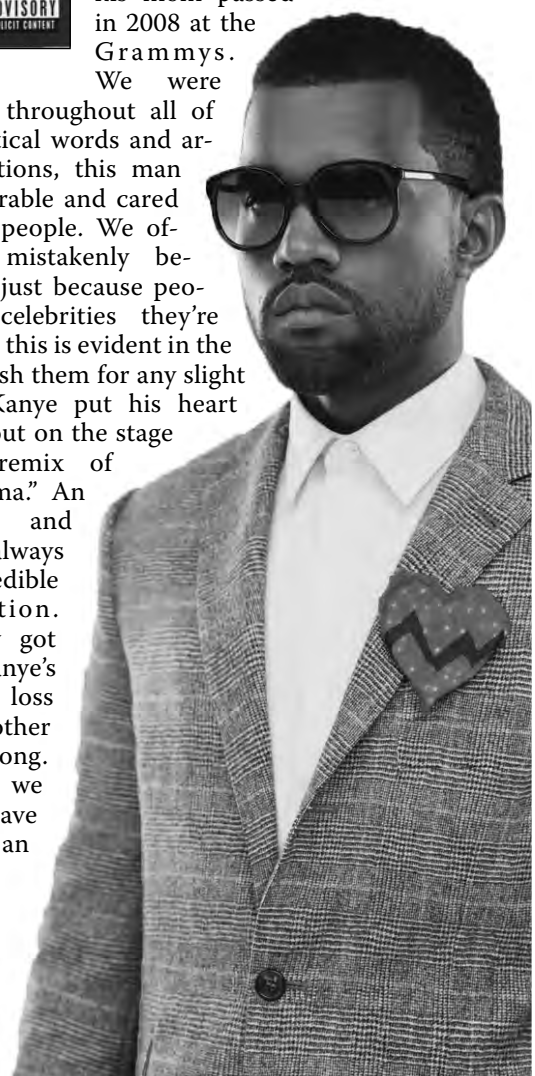
2. Dark Fantasy (MBDTF)

"Can we get much higher?" This song introduces one of the darker hip-hop albums of 2010 and arguably the darkest for Kanye's career. This ignites the flame to one of the best, most powerful hip-hop albums in five years, with the question "Can we get much higher?" Allowing the listener to really reflect on Kanye's career, what he was, and what he's become, he allowed us to see he was not the same man during *The College Dropout*. He has given us something new every time he steps to the plate. What can he do next? Can he get any higher then he already is? Has Kanye reached his limits? This song is an important point in a new era for Kanye West.

1. Hey Mama (Grammy Version)

Kanye performed this song after his mom passed in 2008 at the Grammys. We were

reminded throughout all of his egotistical words and arrogant actions, this man was vulnerable and cared for other people. We oftentimes mistakenly believe that just because people are celebrities they're invincible; this is evident in the way we bash them for any slight mishap. Kanye put his heart and soul out on the stage in this remix of "Hey Mama." An orchestra and Kanye is always an incredible combination. We really got to feel Kanye's pain and loss for his mother with this song. I wish we could have seen it on an album.



COURTESY OF KANYEWEST.COM

My Little Pony develops fandom following

By EVAN McMILLIN
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Both my gender and age are definitely outside the targeted demographic of the *My Little Pony* franchise, which is adolescent girls. So, why am I recommending college students to enjoy the show *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic*?

My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic is the latest generation of the Hasbro toys with its own show. The animated series of *My Little Pony, Friendship is Magic*, is written and developed by Lauren Faust. She is known for her work on *Powerpuff Girls* and *Foster's Home for Imaginary Friends*. *Friendship is Magic* includes the voices of Tara Strong, Ashleigh Ball, Andrea Libman and many more.

This still doesn't answer the question of why a college student should watch a show traditionally targeted

to young girls. *Friendship is Magic* is an excellent example of an element of mainstream media being absorbed by Internet culture.

The show has gained a large cult following online, with the fans often referred to as bronies. Many fans approve of the various pop culture references and character development, and as well as the animation and Looney Tunes-style wackiness. I personally enjoy everything about it, despite the occasionally clichéd tolerance and friendship lessons.

Unlike in previous incarnations of the *My Little Pony* franchise, the characters of *Friendship is Magic* are well developed and memorable. Each character has his or her own distinct personality and downfalls. From the highly studious and naïve Twilight Sparkle, who occasionally shows signs of OCD, to the shy and quiet Fluttershy, who is comically prone to outbursts of psychotic rage all can be relatable to real life.



Another great aspect of *Friendship is Magic* is the writing. Previous generations of *My Little Pony* were dumbed down with half-hearted attempts to be "girly." Rather than go this route, Faust decided to cater to parents with references to *Charlie's Angels*, *Lord of the Rings* and even *The Big Lebowski*.

Friendship is Magic makes frequent throwbacks to Looney Tunes. Characters will occasionally interfere with the screen fade as an episode ends and acknowledge the audience. Pinkie Pie travels like Pepé Le Pew, hopping on all fours. Comically, like Pepé, when Pinkie is chasing someone, she always magically arrives to the destination first, much to the annoyance of those she pursues.

The animation is another excellent aspect of *Friendship is Magic*. The show is animated in Adobe Flash, which creates crisp and beautiful images. The animation flows smooth and clean. The animation of *Friendship is Magic* is comparable to that of *Foster's Home for Imaginary Friends*.

My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic is an excellent show for everyone who appreciates great cartoons. Faust breathed new life into a stale and generic franchise with great writing, excellent character development and beautiful animation. This is a show that you should definitely be watching.

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Mack is a Senior History Major with a minor in religion. As an avid New York Yankees fan, Mack recommends that students not wear Red Sox apparel to tutoring appointments. Also, gifts of Bruce Springsteen tickets would be highly appreciated

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Man on a Ledge fails to live up to great premise

By KENNA TRENT
progress@eku.edu

I love the premise of *Man on a Ledge*: an escaped convict creates an elaborate diversion while his brother attempts to prove him innocent. Since I saw the first trailer, I have been anxiously awaiting its arrival. Is it a thriller? Is it a heist? I don't know! But it's a fresh idea, and that is fantastic.

Unfortunately, the execution of a good idea is another story.

There is something about *Man on a Ledge* that just doesn't seem to add up. But, I'm getting ahead of myself.

Man on a Ledge tells the story of Nick Cassidy (Sam Worthington), an ex-cop who has spent time in jail for stealing a one-of-a-kind diamond from a real estate mogul (Ed Harris). He is allowed out of prison for one day to attend his father's funeral and takes that opportunity to escape his guards. His plan is to get a hotel room with a view of the city and step out on to the ledge. Soon, reporters, by-standers and police have him surrounded on the ledge. While a police psychologist (Elizabeth Banks) tries to talk him down, another plan is in the works. Nick's brother Joey (Jamie Bell) is across the street trying to steal the allegedly already stolen diamond to prove it was never stolen at all, making Nick innocent.

I can't really pinpoint what I don't like about this movie, but I have some ideas. And I'll get to those later, because I must first admit there were some redeeming qualities of *Man on a Ledge*.

For someone who usually plays larger-than-life charac-

ters, Sam Worthington does a great job of being an average Joe. His demeanor, motivations and 5 o'clock shadow are all believable; the kind of person you want to cheer for.

I was pleasantly surprised to see funny-girl Elizabeth Banks put into a different scenario. It was perfect casting for a character who is trying to be professional while losing it slowly. And, of course, Ed Harris was superb. I wouldn't expect anything less from a man who has spent the later part of his career picking bad-guy roles. He just plays that character well.

Then, there was everyone else. Jamie Bell and his onscreen girlfriend Genesis Rodriguez were the diamond thieves and supposed comic relief of the film. However, their lovers' squabbles were poorly timed and inappropriate for the film as a whole.

On top of that, their theft was completely nonsensical. Entire scenes are spent doing a heist thing that will, hopefully, get them to the diamond, but the entire plan is lost to the audience. They are just watching them crawl through vents and cut wires, and the audience has no idea how those paths are getting



COURTESY OF IMP AWARDS

them anywhere.

The plot leaves the audience hanging in other points, as well. As the details of Nick's plan are unfolding, the police are making quick leaps and bounds by using logic. While the whole scheme of the bad guys comes together in the end, there were places in the middle I still haven't filled in. I mean, how did they know?

Perhaps there were too many plot points and ideas that didn't get fully realized, which made the film ultimately turn out all wrong. For a great idea, the execution was poor and was only redeemed by the performances of the main characters. Minus Rodriguez, who's only redeeming quality was that she brought her push-up bra to the robbery.

If you like action movies, this will get the job done. You will be entertained, but at the cost of quality.

Verdict: C

Witty film critic offers sharp humorous reviews

By MICHAEL EMERSON
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You've all heard of certain famous critics such as Siskel and Ebert, Gene Shalit and others but what about critics

who aren't

so renowned. I'm of course talking about Doug Walker, or "The Nostalgia Critic," whose reviewed repertoire includes classics such as *Fern Gully* and *Last Action Hero*.

As his name implies, he only goes for movies that were made at least 10 years ago and have garnered a nostalgic audience.

You might want to be careful about watching his reviews, as they are not simple summaries but full plot treads that contain a cer-



COURTESY OF THATGUYWITHTHEGLASSES.COM

tain witty execution. His reviews are not only a source of credible information, but a huge source of entertainment, as well. He, in simple terms, verbally and physically rips the movies apart and can be credited as one of the biggest cynics in the history of media review.

Now, I could talk all day about his reviews, but I'm actually here to bring attention to his website, "hatGuyWithTheGlasses.com, and the many contributors on it. Noah Antwiler (The SpoonOne), Lewis Lovhaug (Linkara) and Phelan Porteus (Phelous), just to name a few, all offer their own style, demographic and influence. This site has more than 30 different critics from Chicago to France, all contributing to the cause of getting honest-to-goodness reviews of movies, video games, comic books, TV shows, books, music and anything else that may peak your interest.

The biggest draw that comes

from this site is abstract humor that is produced from the analysis of the different forms of media. You're not just getting a review, but a full blown cavalcade of sketch comedy gold.

One crucial aspect of this site is that it encourages anybody from anywhere to do what they do, even to the point of making a living off of it like Doug does. The other big aspect is that the main contributors all know one another and indulge in various crossovers when both reviewers wish to review the same thing.

Speaking of crossovers, every year during the summer the site administrators and Doug Walker fly every contributor from around the world to produce an Anniversary Special. The first one was a "Brawl" of sorts that pitted gamers vs. critics with Doug Walker and James Rolfe (The Angry Video Game Nerd) leading the two sides respectively. With a fourth anniversary on the way, the site as a whole is combining forces to accomplish a goal outside its normal routines, such as the hostile takeover of Mollassia (A real Micro Nation in Nevada). All this and more are the reasons why this site should be gaining more viewers.

PATCHES

CONTINUED FROM A1

50 states.

The two of them obtain these patches by writing or typing letters to different police stations in hopes of a response to receive a patch.

"We both write letters, but we do it different ways. He handwrites all of his, more personal y'know, and I have a template where I'll change the name, the address, the chief of police's name," Sykes said. "But we hand sign it and do it the old fashioned way: send it out in the mail with a stamp and wait till we get a letter back."

Their family and friends have shown great interest in their collections, going so far as aiding them in obtaining patches.

"Both of our families are very supportive, all of our friends know and every time we get patches we put it up on Facebook for all of our friends to see," Sykes said. "We keep our door propped open here in the hallway on our floor, and people walk by and they'll just stop in the hallway and stare and ask 'What is all that?' So we have to explain all the time."

Arnold shared the excitement that comes from anticipating the arrival of a patch.

"It's just fun coming in from a long day and finding a patch in the mailbox," Arnold said. "My favorite patch would be the one from the Georgetown SWAT."

Sykes has a slightly different preference.

"My favorite patch is the one from Paducah, Kentucky," Sykes said.

They've had little to no luck in finding other patch enthusiasts, but of course, this is what makes their collection special.

Other people around them seem to share their excitement, however.

"The people at the desk always ask if we have new patches... they're just as excited to get them as we are," Sykes said. "They always want to see the patches we've got before we take them up."

Sykes and Arnold plan on continuing their collection after college and beyond, finding more suitable means of preservation such as framing them to a mantle. They said they believe that committing to this collection inspires them to work harder in hopes of one day reaching their goal of becoming law enforcement agents.

The two young men share a common interest not only in their collection, but in their same dream of practicing law. Sykes said he had this passion since he was in kindergarten and the teacher passed out sheets featuring the famed question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

"I always put down police officer," Sykes said. "So one day I just gave it some thought and I came to the realization that it bothered me when I see people in distress or see people in danger or see people who are in need of assistance from somebody who has the power to make a difference in their life. I decided I want to dedicate myself to public service and be a help to anybody any way that I can. I couldn't think of any better way to do that than to be a police officer."

While Nathaniel said his story may not be as "romantic," he still wishes to pursue the road of justice.

And for this pair, it seems the road to justice is paved with embroidered patches and good intentions.

CASHMAN

CONTINUED FROM A1

"We can't really play downtown because we don't play covers of country music (laughs)," Ray said. "So east Nashville is kind of where all the rock and blues, bluegrass, all the other music is happening."

"The whole independent movement is there," Verone said.

Their constant touring has even brought them to Kentucky in the past.

"Yeah, we've played in Lexington and I've played Rabbit Hash about 57 times," Ray said. "It's a town with maybe a hundred people. It has a dog for the mayor, but it's a fun place. It's just a small town that loves music."

The band is now preparing a new album, their latest since 2010's *Snake Feast*.

"I've got about four albums out right now and we're fixing to record a fifth album, tentatively called *The Rough Tumbled South*," Ray said. "It'll be out maybe early summer."

Throughout the lineup changes and the new albums, one thing has always remained: the joy of playing music. And their upcoming Richmond show should prove to be yet another rocking good time.

"We're looking forward to it. We should be pretty much on our game because we've just come off a three week tour," Ray said.

For more information or to hear some of the band yourself, check out www.reverbnation.com/cashman and prep yourself for their upcoming Paddy Wagon show. Show up and help shake rock and roll out of its current funk back to its former glory.

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By CHRIS MCGEE
chris_mcgee@mymail.eku.edu

COLONEL CORNER

Peter Sigilai



Senior Peter Sigilai had a remarkable 2011 season. He was the Colonels' no. 3 runner. In addition, the men earned their first team berth to the NCAA championships because of his performance at the Southeast Region Championship. Sigilai recently changed his major to environmental health. He is currently pursuing a master's in this field.

What sport would you be playing if not cross country?
Volleyball.

What is your proudest accomplishment up to this point?
Graduate school.

What are your plans after graduating EKU?

I plan to get a job here for one or two years and then return home to Kenya.

What is your favorite food?
I eat mostly Kenyan food, but my favorite American food is pizza.

What made you decide on environmental health as a major?
I chose environmental health because I believe it's where we need the most help at home [Kenya]. We have a lot of people dying of disease in my country, and I want to try and help them.

Where do you see yourself in five years?
I want to find somewhere to train and keep running. I want to run in public events.

Men's tennis rebounds with weekend wins

By GREG ADAMS
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It was home sweet home for Eastern's men's tennis squad Saturday.

After starting the season with two grueling road losses against powerhouse teams University of Kentucky and University of Tennessee, they began home play against both the University of the Cumberlands and the University of Dayton.

Eastern (2-2, 0-0 OVC) squared off against Dayton University of the Cumberlands (1-2) Saturday in what would be the last home opener for a group of guys who have led Eastern to three straight OVC championships.

Eastern's no. 3 seed Joao Maio would be the first to get the Colonels on the board as he defeated senior and Ecuador native Danilo Garcia in straight sets with 6-0, 6-1.

No. 4. seed for Eastern Emilio Piriz would soon follow his lead as he took down the Patriots senior Jerrid Neeley by 6-2, 6-0.

No. 2 seed for the Colonels Parul Verma also picked up a victory for Eastern by defeating no. 2 seed Guillermo Alvarez with a score of 6-1, 6-1.

The only loss of the day for the Colonels came at the hands of the Patriots no. 1 seeded player Juan de la Llera, as he was able to outlast senior veteran Philip Janz. Janz kept it tight in the first, but fell short. And in the second set De la Llera was able to pull away and steal the match with a final count of 6-4, 6-1 in favor of De la Llera.

But the Colonels were able to rebound as both no. 6 seed Jan Dombrowski and new comer Craig Campbell were able to defeat their opponents in straight sets.

Winning with an overall final score of 6-1, Eastern used their momentum to take down Dayton.

The Flyers came in 0-1 looking to upset the expe-

rienced Colonel squad. Although managing to keep it competitive, they were unable to do so, as they fell 6-1.

Senior and no. 2 seed Hugo Klientovsky struck first, defeating his opponent Robert Salcedo in straight sets. The score being 6-2, 6-1.

Soon after fellow senior and no. 1 seeded Colonel Niklas Schroeder would follow his teammates footsteps, as he took down Dayton's Andrew Hanley in convincing fashion with the final count being 6-2, 6-0.

Just as it appeared Eastern would cruise to another win, the Flyers began to fight back.

First, it was the Flyers freshman and Canada native Josh Malyon who challenged the Colonels. He faced off against no. 4 seed Parul Verma. After Verma was able to take the first set quickly, Malyon began to rally back in the second. After a fierce battle back and forth, Verma was able to narrowly prevent the match from going into a third set as he got the victory of 6-1, 7-5.

Looking to avenge his loss to the University of the Cumberlands, no. 1 seed, Janz would return to his no. 3 seeded position to take on the scrappy Dayton junior Joe West. In a highly competitive match, Janz proved to be too much for West, as he took the match in straight sets of 6-2, 6-3.

Looking to keep the Colonels perfect in the match, no. 6 seed Carles Pons made quick work of the Flyer's Benton Benalcazar: 6-1, 6-1.

The most captivating and suspenseful match came from Maio of Eastern. The fifth seeded sophomore battled against Colin Bernier in a three-setter. After taking the first set 6-4, Maio fought valiantly but was taken down in the second and failed to capture the third-set tie break. Bernier won the match, 4-6, 6-4, 10-7.

Afterwards, Coach Rob

SEE MEN'S TENNIS, PAGE B4



SONYA JOHNSON/PROGRESS

Eastern's Raechele Gray (No. 10) drives past a Tennessee Tech defender in the Lady Colonels recent loss to the Lady Golden Eagles. Eastern couldn't overcome two scoring runs by Tech in the 82-67 loss.

Big runs bury Lady Colonels

By STEPHEN HAUSER
progress@eku.edu

The Lady Colonels couldn't overcome two large runs by Tennessee Tech University, in their 82-67 loss Saturday.

Eastern (10-10, 5-4 OVC) were placed in a tough spot with 5:14 left in the first half of play. The Golden Eagles (9-13, 5-3 OVC) scored eight straight points, two 3-pointers, after two straight turnovers. The Golden Eagles were up 42-28 and held all the momentum in the game.

Instead of collapsing with so much time remaining in the game, the Eastern tightened up their bootstraps and clawed back into the game. The Lady Colonels would finish the half on a 14-4 run to cut the lead to 46-42.

Marie Carpenter, sophomore Lady Colonel, closed the half with one of her two 3-pointers. Carpenter led the team in scoring with 13 points.

"I feel like the first half of the

game I was taking what the defense was giving me," Carpenter said. "I was playing within the offense, and I was being more aggressive."

Eastern had all of the momentum heading into the locker room and lost it within the first minutes of the second half. The Lady Colonels came out flat, and the Golden Eagles capitalized. The Golden Eagles went on an 8-2 run to expand their lead to 54-44 with 15:26 remaining in the game.

"I think the lack of intensity on offense and defense in the second half is one of the reasons why we didn't come back," said Lady Colonel Alex Jones.

Jones scored 11 points and grabbed seven rebounds for Eastern.

Tennessee Tech University didn't

have any problems shooting the ball against the Lady Colonels defense. The Golden Eagles shot 48.8 percent from the field making 30-62 of their shots. From behind the arc the Golden Eagles shot 53 percent from the field hitting 7-13.

"If you look at the numbers they shot the ball really well," Head Coach Chrissy Roberts said. "We were like 8 out of 19 from inside the paint and you need to knock down those shots."

Alex Jones
forward

The Lady Colonels return to action when they travel to Nashville, Tennessee to face Tennessee State University Wednesday evening, Dec. 31, 2011 the Lady Colonels defeated TSU 79-59. Tipoff is scheduled for 8 p.m.

"I think the lack of intensity on offense and defense in the second half is one of the reasons why we didn't come back."

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Eastern's junior guard Mike DiNunno poured in a career-high 33 points in the Colonels loss to Tennessee State in double overtime. DiNunno tied a school record for seven three-pointers in one game.

Colonels suffer setbacks in two conference games

MEN LOSE FIRST HOME GAME OF SEASON, FALL IN DOUBLE OVERTIME

By RYAN ALVES

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Last week wasn't a good week to play Tennessee teams.

Eastern's men's basketball team suffered its first home loss of the season Thursday night to Tennessee Tech, then were outlasted in double overtime and by Tennessee State Saturday.

Against the Golden Eagles of Tech, Eastern couldn't overcome a late scoring drought of almost eight minutes en route to the 82-65 loss. It was the Colonels' first loss of the season.

Eastern trailed by 10 points at the half, but Tech's lead quickly grew to 14 with 16:45 to play. Over the next five minutes the Colonels clawed back to within three points at 48-45, after senior Joshua Jones and sophomore Jeff Johnson sank back-to-back 3-pointers.

But then the Colonels went cold, scoring only five points over the next eight minutes, and just like that Tech's 66-50 lead with 3:41 to go was never in jeopardy.

Senior Jaron Jones led Eastern with 23 points and five rebounds, while freshman Eric Stutz contributed with 13 points in the paint.

Tennessee Tech's Kevin Murphy poured in a career-high 34 points. Jud Dillard chipped in with 14 points and grabbed a team-high nine boards for the Golden Eagles.

As a team, Tennessee Tech shot 56 percent (24-for-43) from the field and 58 percent (7-for-12) from three-point range.

Eastern's woes continued, but this



SONYA JOHNSON/PROGRESS

Senior guard Jaron Jones (No. 15) has scored 23 and 30 points respectively in the Colonels' last two games. Despite the seniors contributions, Eastern hasn't been able to net a win.

time on the road at Tennessee State.

The two teams battled back and forth but in the end junior Mike DiNunno's career-high 33 points wasn't enough as the Colonels lost in double-overtime 91-85.

With the win, Tennessee State improves to 13-10 overall and 6-4 in OVC action. The Colonels fall to 12-11 and 5-5.

In a game that featured 16 ties and 19 lead changes, a DiNunno 3-pointer gave Eastern the late lead 70-67 with 58 seconds to play. But TSU hit three free throws to tie up the game with 34 seconds left.

Senior Jaron Jones' missed the potential game winner at the buzzer. In the first overtime, Jones hit two

free throws with five seconds left to send the game into the second overtime.

Jones came up big again with a jumper with 1:10 remaining to tie things at 85-all, but Tennessee State pulled away down the stretch.

Jones chipped in with a personal best 30 points. DiNunno's 33 points came behind seven 3-pointers, which equaled a program single-game record.

Robert Covington paced Tennessee State with 22 points and eight rebounds. Four other Tigers totaled at least 10 points.

The Colonels continue their three-game road swing on Thursday, Feb. 2 at Eastern Illinois. Game time is set for 8 p.m.

Track team fairs well at weekend's Rod McCravy meet

SENIOR KOSGEI, JUNIOR BOUCHIKHI CONTINUE STREAK OF WINS

By MATT CRUMP

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Eastern's track and field team continues to win big, with senior Lydia Kosgei and junior Soufiane Bouchikhi both winning the women's mile and the men's 3,000 meters, respectively, at the University of Kentucky's Rod McCravy Memorial Meet at the E.J. Nutter Fieldhouse last weekend.

Kosgei blew past the competition during the women's mile with a personal best time of 4:45.57. The second place runner was from Vanderbilt and came in almost seven seconds late at 4:52.21.

"It was okay, I won," Kosgei said about her time. "But I wasn't worried about my time. It was comfortable, you know?"

Bouchikhi also placed well in front of his competition, which consisted of 45 runners. His time for the men's 3,000 meters was 8:04.00, which was almost seven seconds faster than the second place runner, an athlete from the University of Kentucky. Bouchikhi's time also pushed back the record for men's 3,000 meters at Eastern, with the previous record being 8:07.09, which was set by former Eastern All-American Jacob Korir in 2009.



Soufiane Bouchikhi

The Colonels had a strong showing. University of Tennessee transfer Senior Peter Sigilai finished third in the men's 800 meters with a time of 1:49.89. He was the second collegiate runner to place, with a runner from Western Kentucky beating him by 27 seconds. His time also was 31 seconds slower than Eastern's school record of 1:49.58, set by Steve Maina in 2006. He later ran in the men's 3,000 meters and placed sixth with a personal best time of 8:15.35.

The other runners from Eastern in the men's 3,000 meters were senior Ben Cheruiyot, who placed fifth with a time of 8:15.35, senior David Mutuse, who placed ninth with a time of 8:20.66. Eastern placed 20th during the women 4x400 meter relay.

Participating teams at the meet included the University of Cincinnati, Georgia Tech, the University of Kentucky, Memphis, Middle Tennessee State, the University of Mississippi, Murray State, the University of South Carolina, Southern Illinois, Western Ken-

> SEE TRACK, PAGE B4

States' top rusher one of many expected to sign with Colonels



Ryan Alves

As of press time, all recruits had only given a verbal commitment to Eastern. Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2012 was the first day recruits could sign their national letters of intent.

This week hundreds of high school seniors will be deciding where they will suit up to play on the gridiron next fall.

In years past, Eastern football's head coach Dean Hood's dedication to the recruiting trail has paid dividends.

This year should be no exception for the Colonels. According to Jody Demling, who covers recruiting around the state for the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, the first big name comes from the Bluegrass state itself, Johnson Central High School's own J.J. Jude.

Jude, a 5-foot-10, 190-pound running back was the state's leading rusher last year with 3,061 yards. He scored 31 TDs and became the first Kentucky player to surpass 3,000 yards twice. He's only the sixth player to reach 3,000 in any season and ended his career with 8,637 rushing yards.

I've watched a few highlights videos of Jude on YouTube, and the first thing that sticks out to me is his unwillingness to let the first guy tackle him. Several times it looked like the other team had him bottled up, but then he'd break a few tackles and squirt out of the pile for more yards.

For Eastern, who this past year revamped its offense to focus more on the run-game, Jude should be a viable weapon in the years to come.

Other notable recruits from around the state of Kentucky are Butler County High School's Kianté Northington and Scott County's Ben Lawler.

Northington had 46 catches for 804 yards and nine touchdowns in his senior year. According to Demling, Northington will attend Eastern on a partial scholarship in hopes of landing a full scholarship next season. He should add some more depth to an already young receiving corps for the Colonels.

Lawler, a 6-foot-3, 190-pound quarterback, picked the Colonels over Ball State and Furman, according to Dem-

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SONYA JOHNSON/PROGRESS

Eastern's Kristina Labeja goes for a forehand in the women's win over the weekend.

Women's tennis sweep in dual home opener

By GREG ADAMS

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With a line-up of fresh faces, Eastern's women's tennis squad took the court Friday looking to prove age is nothing but a number.

With wins over Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (0-4) and University of the Columbians (0-3), the Lady Colonels had a great start to what should be an exciting season of tennis.

The Lady Colonels (2-0, 0-0 OVC) welcomed IUPUI and University of the Columbians for a much anticipated home/

season opener.

With the addition of five new freshmen, it was up in the air as to how they would perform in the first collegiate match of their careers.

Coach Rob Oertel spoke on how pleased he was with their performance, despite a few pre-game jitters.

"Considering, understandably, how nervous they were, it's a good sign that they were productive even when nervous," Oertel said. "Their nerves didn't hurt their performance level. First college, first team match for them in their careers. They

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