

Connect with the Alumni Association online
Now you can find us on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) – two of the most popular social networking sites among EIU graduates. Join today to instantly begin to receive updates on the university and invitations to alumni events, reconnect with lost classmates, network professionally and much more.
[LinkedIn](#): A social networking platform dedicated to helping working professionals expand their online business networks.

Old Main National Historic Site



Make Great Things Happen! Make a Gift Online!

Make a gift to your favorite area at EIU online. Log on to <https://www.give2eiu.eiu.edu/index.html>. It's convenient, secure, and confidential.

How things look from the car seat . . .



I visit with alumni and friends of the University on a regular basis as Director of Philanthropy for the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences. I can't begin to tell you how many times over the past year, people have made the comment, "I bet it's rough being a fundraiser these days." I decided that in this issue of Enews, I would let you know how the view looks from my car seat and offer some thoughts for you to consider as you support Eastern's mission.

First, let me tell each and every one of you how very important you are to us, now more than ever! **YOU** have changed the lives of our students through your financial support! It may be through the scholarship money you gave. It may be through the resources and materials your gift provided for a class. It may be that gift you gave that helped train a faculty member in a new technology. And let's not forget all the hands-on experiences you provide our students through your generous support. You may have provided the funds for research and lab experiences that make our students more competitive in the workplace. These are just a few examples of how your support has affected our students. **THANK YOU** for changing those lives!

Please remember that Eastern may serve as a resource to you as you weather the economic storm. Our partnership together as University/Student didn't end upon graduation. Our partnership continues as University/Alumni! Therefore, many of you may own your own business. Others may work in large organizations. Our Business Solutions Center (<http://www.eiu.edu/~cei/>) offers resources and services to small businesses. Our faculty may be another great resource as they stay current in their fields of study. So, please don't hesitate to call upon us to see if we can help.

The general unofficial feedback is that you are very committed to Eastern. You understand our mission and the difference you can make here. You keep our relationship a priority in your life. You simply need the economy to stabilize to plan your giving. We understand, but do want to encourage you to continue to give however you are able. **Our students need you!** Many of you are reviewing your retirement and estate plans during this time. We understand. Let Eastern again, be a resource to you. Trained professionals like myself can assist you in the planning process as you consider your gifts to Eastern. There are many donor attractive ways to make gifts in these times through both income producing and non-income producing vehicles during your lifetime and in your estate plan. Our staff can help you maximize your gift while minimizing the tax implications. Just give me a call or send an email!

In short, we will weather the storm together. We will continue to change the lives of our students. Please make your gift today so that those that follow may have the same experiences you did as a student that have stayed with you for a lifetime! You may do so by calling 217-581-7969, by emailing me at jsjoines@eiu.edu, or by making an online gift at: <http://www.eiu.edu/~develop/gift.php>! **THANK YOU!**



Director of Philanthropy
Certified Fundraising Executive
Class of '88 and '96

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[LinkedIn](#): A social networking platform dedicated to helping working professionals expand their online business networks.

[Facebook](#): A fun social utility with an emphasis on your personal life.

Also, you can keep up with tidbits of EIU news via [Twitter](#), where members post updates containing no more than 140 characters. Follow us and keep up with campus happenings.

CHADD RECEIVES COLLEGIATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Dr. Julie Chadd

Julie Chadd, an assistant professor and coordinator of the Career and Technical Education program in Eastern Illinois University's School of Technology, received the prestigious Collegiate Teacher of the Year award for 2008, presented by the Illinois Business Education Association.

In 2008, she was also honored locally with an Outstanding Service Award for exceptional performance to the university, her profession and her community.

Friends and colleagues acknowledge that Chadd's leadership at Eastern has "kept business education at the forefront." Mahyar Izadi, chair of EIU's School of Technology, adds, "Her passion for teaching is not limited to the traditional CTE students, but expands to educating the state's cooperative education teachers and administrators and EIU's Alternative Teacher Certification students."

This passion for impacting others is apparent in Chadd's many presentations, publications, and research activities, where she seeks to offer information that will benefit and encourage other teachers, Izadi added.

Chadd's research during the past years includes, but is not limited to, the publication and presentation of numerous referenced papers, State of Illinois grants, Redden Fund grants and one PIE grant. In addition, she served as a reviewer for National Business Education Yearbook since 2006, as a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Applied Research for Business Instruction, and as section editor for the Basic Business and Economics of Business Education Forum.

Over the past years, Chadd has also selflessly given her time and energy to her community, to Eastern and to her profession. She served as a Big Sister with Big Brothers Big Sisters, and chaired the following committees: School Curriculum, CTE Program, School Marketing, Faculty Search, and School Scholarship and Awards. She also volunteers at the Coalition for People in Need.

Chadd served as faculty adviser for Pi Omega Pi and Phi Beta Lambda, and also served as a very active member on the following state committees: Illinois Association of DECA Conferences, Illinois ACTE, Illinois Business Education Association, Delta Pi Epsilon, and the Bias Review Committee of the Illinois State Board of Education.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2009 ALUMNI AWARDS

The EIU Alumni Association is currently seeking nominations for the 2009 alumni awards. The award recipients will be recognized during the annual Homecoming festivities, including a dinner held in their honor on Saturday, Oct. 17. Nominations should include a letter of nomination and any supporting materials such as articles or additional letters of support. Please submit all materials by Friday, June 19.

Send nominations by mail, fax or email to: Steve Rich - Executive Director, EIU Alumni Association, 600 Lincoln Ave, Charleston, IL 61920-3099. Fax: 217-581-7260. Email: swrich@eiu.edu

Distinguished Alumnus Award

Established in 1973, the Distinguished Alumni Award is the most prestigious award which is bestowed by the Alumni Association. This award is presented to individuals who have distinguished themselves in either academic or literary fields, business, public service and/or service to the University and who, through their accomplishments and service, have brought prestige to their alma mater. Alumni nominated for this award must have celebrated at least their sixth class reunion. In the case of an alumna/us who has not graduated, class year would be determined by the year he or she would have graduated. Past recipients have included an Illinois Governor, Oscar-nominated actors, a nuclear physicist, educators at all levels, CEOs, athletes and many others.

Louis V. Hencken Alumni Service Award

First presented in 1988, the Alumni Service Award is presented to alumni who have repeatedly displayed outstanding voluntary service to the University. In 2007 the name was changed to the Louis V. Hencken Alumni Service Award in honor of Eastern's outgoing president. Lou Hencken served Eastern in a variety of administrative positions for over 40 years and was named University president on August 1, 2001. He retired from the presidency on June 30, 2007.

(continued on next page)



(Continued from previous page - Alumni Awards)

Outstanding Young Alumnus

First presented in 1988, the Outstanding Young Alumna/us is presented to an alumna/us who is 35 years of age or younger and has excelled in a new career and/or public service.

Distinguished Educator Award

Established in 2004, the Distinguished Educator Award is presented to alumni who have distinguished themselves in the field of K-12 education



EIU STUDENT—WEIU SPORTSCASTER 9TH IN NATION

Hit-Mix 88.9 WEIU sportscaster John Twork is currently ranked #9 in the nation among collegiate student sports broadcasters, based on the debut Sportscasters Talent Agency of America (STAA) Top 20 list (see list [here](#)). His entry to STAA included play-by-play of EIU women's basketball vs. SIUE, EIU baseball vs. Oral Roberts and Shelbyville High School football vs. Monticello.

Twork is a junior journalism major from Bloomington. He is the voice of Charleston girls' basketball, the color commentator for Eastern Illinois women's basketball, and the sideline reporter for Eastern Illinois football. He also does play-by-play for Eastern Illinois baseball on www.eiupanthers.com.

Twork has received several awards in his broadcasting career, including best small market play-by-play for the Illinois Broadcasters Association (2008), best college play-by-play announcer in the Illinois News Broadcasters Association (2007 and 2008), and best sports play-by-play (2008) and third place (2007) in the Illinois Broadcasters Association-University awards.

Twork plans to graduate in 2010 from Eastern with a degree in journalism. He is focusing on a career in sports broadcasting.

HEALTH STUDIES STUDENTS WIN NATIONAL CASE STUDY COMPETITION

Team Health Studies bettered their second place finish in 2008 by taking first in the American Association for Health Education Undergraduate Case Study Competition. The team, consisting of seniors Jenna Manigold, Angelina Montleon and Breanne Stillwell, had 12 minutes to explain and justify their plan for a two-day regional conference addressing fall-related injuries in Wisconsin. Informal feedback from at least one judge indicated there was little question as to which team "rose to the top." Only eight teams are selected to participate in the competition. Team HST has participated each year. The team was mentored by Julie Dietz, Kathleen Phillips and Sheila Simons from Eastern's Department of Health Studies.

PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN, BIOGRAPHER NEXT SPEAKER IN EIU EDGAR SERIES

Historian and biographer Richard Norton Smith has a mantra. "There's no excuse for a dull book, a dull museum or a dull speech," he says. "Especially when dealing with history -- the most fascinating subject I know."

Campus and community residents will have the opportunity to see Smith practice what he preaches as the fourth speaker in the Edgar Lecture Series, hosted at Eastern Illinois University. His talk, "The Triumph of Politics: Abraham Lincoln at 200," will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, at The Theatre, located in the Doudna Fine Arts Center. Admission is free and open to the public. A public reception will follow in the building's concourse.

See [here](#) for the full story.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

EIU's Department of Communication Studies seeks an individual to teach in the area of **rhetorical theory/criticism and culture**. The department is particularly interested in an individual whose work addresses the role of power in the social/discursive construction of race, gender and class in organizations, institutions and/or societies. Possible areas of expertise might include political rhetoric, social movements/dissent, rhetoric and aesthetics, rhetoric and media, rhetoric and performance, U.S. public address, visual rhetoric, and/or history of rhetoric. A complete application will include a letter of application, vita, three current letters of reference, transcripts (official copy required for appointment), and evidence of teaching effectiveness. Send the application materials to: Mark Borzi, Department of Communication Studies, Eastern Illinois University, 600 Lincoln Ave., Charleston, IL 61920-3099. Additional information available [here](#).

GARDEN CENTER TO OPEN AT FORMER CAR DEALERSHIP PROPERTY

The cars are gone, but the former Baldwin Pontiac dealership at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Douglas Street is showing new signs of life, with rows of cars replaced by rows of trees, shrubs and rocks.

Local landscapers Jonathon Wills and Tim Butler said they plan to open their new Green Tree Garden Center at the site in the coming months. The center will provide landscaping services, tree and lawn care, trees, shrubs and flowering plants, Wills said. "We've had a positive response already and we haven't even opened the doors yet," Wills said. The men are waiting for cold weather to pass before they open the garden center and begin selling annual and perennial plants. "We're waiting for the frost to pass," Wills said. "It's still really early in the season."

Wills, a 2002 Eastern graduate in environmental biology, said he and Butler have owned Green Tree landscaping together for nearly four years. Before that, Butler said he worked on projects around the country, including landscape maintenance at Disneyland in California and landscape design at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago.

Butler said he and Wills design landscapes as eco-friendly "outdoor living spaces." "We're definitely not your normal kind of landscaper," Butler said. "We look at (landscaping) as more of a work of art." The company has landscaped over 100 projects in the Charleston area, Wills said, adding that most of the company's business comes from customer referrals.

Butler also said he and Wills identify problems with trees and shrubs. "We'll actually go out and diagnose problems with everything that's classified as a woody ornamental," Butler said. "We actually look into things deeper ... rather than just putting down more fertilizer."

Wills said the men ran their landscaping service at a shop in Mattoon until they bought the former car dealership last fall. Initially, they planned to use the building and grounds to store their equipment, mulch and plants, Wills said. But, he said, people began asking about buying plants and material from the building. "So, we'll give the garden center a try," Wills said.

Story by Joe Astrouski at DENNEWS

Enews Sources

The Enews is a publication of the Lumpkin College of Business & Applied Sciences Philanthropy Office. Much of the text is obtained from the University Newsletter, Media Relations, and the Alumni Newsletter. Other sources for campus news include Panther Athletics, The Daily Eastern News, and the Charleston Times-Courier.



DOUDNA FINE ARTS

APRIL

26 4pm, A Musical Journey Through Time: Eastern Symphony Orchestra and EIU Choral Ensembles, Dvorak Concert Hall, \$12/adults, \$10/senior citizens & EIU employees, \$5/students; reserved seating

MAY

1-3 **Celebration: A Festival of the Fine Arts.** Features a variety of arts activities for all ages – performances, an art and fine crafts fair, and children’s programs – plus food and fun. Celebration has been a tradition on Eastern's campus since 1977, celebrating the role the arts play in our daily lives. Sponsored by the EIU College of Arts & Humanities, the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, the City of Charleston Tourism Office, and other sponsors and divisions of EIU. Free admission. Friday noon – 7pm; Saturday 10am – 7pm; Sunday noon – 5pm.

2 **Celebration Concert: Multi-Cultural Concert,** Dvorak Concert Hall, 1 pm, Free admission; open seating

3 **Celebration Concert: EIU Wind Symphony,** Doudna Fine Arts Center, Dvorak Concert Hall, 2 pm. Free admission; open seating

August 16 through May 2010: EIU campus, 7th Street, **Summer Residency Program Sculpture Exhibition.** This two-year outdoor sculpture competitive residency/exhibition for regional graduate/post-graduate students features works by Matt Searle, Cary Netherton, Luke Greco, and Luke Achterberg.

SHAKE IT FOR SACIS

The Women's Studies Program is pleased to support SACIS's upcoming event -- Shake it for SACIS. Benefitting the Sexual Assault Counseling and Information Service, this dance event will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, April 24, in the Grand Ballroom at the MLK Jr. Union. Area dance instructors will teach a variety of dances to interested participants. We have nine dances scheduled so far, including Hip Hop, Tango, Rumba, Cha Cha, Salsa, Buchata, Line Dancing, Waltz and Buchata. Wear shoes that slide! Tickets are \$5 and available at the door. Call SACIS for more information: 348-5033.

BRICKS PAINTED FOR DIVERSITY

The Residence Hall Association hosted the Writing on the Wall Brick Painting event. At the event, bricks were decorated with words or phrases that have hurt, offended or marginalized students. These bricks were used in the construction of a wall of oppression for Social Justice and Diversity Week before they were torn down to symbolize tearing down barriers.





Please support our
Alumni Authors and
Friends!

*21st Century Wealth by
Jeffrey G. Scott '68

*Wellness: Piece by
Pat Sullivan '75

*Country Music for
Laughin', Lovin' & Livin'
It Up

*More Country Music for
Laughin', Lovin' & Livin'
It Up

*Momma Used to Say
Management Up,
Down, & Inside Out

By Gene Newport '57

*Boomtown, USA by
Jack Schultz, Former
President — EIU
Foundation

Pemberton Hall
National Historic Site



EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY

- 2 Women's Luncheon: 'Inspiring Empowerment', Schaumburg, IL, 10:30am
- 2 Spring Fling, Lantz Arena, 6:30pm
- 24 Annual Alumni & Friends Cardinal Outing, St. Louis, MO, Redbird Suites open at 11:15, game time is 1:15pm.

JUNE

- 6 EIU Alumni & Friends Dallas Reception, 7pm
- 12 EIU Alumni Cubs Outing, Pregame 11-1, Game 1:20pm
- 18 Alumni & incoming student picnic—Belleville, 6-8pm
- 24 Alumni & incoming student picnic—Lombard, 6-8pm
- 25 Alumni & incoming student picnic—Tinley Park, 6-8pm

AUGUST

- 15 Oakland A's vs. Chicago White Sox, Oakland, CA

OCTOBER

- 16-17 Panther Marching Band and Pink Panthers Reunion

Go to <http://www.eiu.edu/~alumni/events.html> for details on all of the events.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT - Ongoing Exhibits

- ◆ April 5-26, Main Galleries, **2009 Graduate Art Exhibition**
- ◆ April 18-June 7, Brainard Gallery, **African Art Exhibition**
- ◆ May 2 - 24, Main Galleries, **27th Children's Art Exhibition**
- ◆ Through Aug. 2, **2008-2009 Cultivating Creativity: Consolidated Communications Children's Art Exhibit.** ([Contact the Tarble Arts Center](#) for the complete tour itinerary.)

Go to <http://www.eiu.edu/~tarble/exhibitions.php> for details on the above exhibitions.

BOOTH LIBRARY EXHIBITS

- ◆ **Sporting Milestone of the 1940s:** On display in the Booth Library Marvin Foyer is a poster that highlights important sporting events of the 1940s, including information on athletes such as Jackie Robinson, Margaret Osborne and Joe DiMaggio. Bradley Tolppanen is the curator.
- ◆ **TRAVELING EXHIBIT: Confronting Democracy's Boundaries** - The Lincoln-Douglas Debates is on display in the Booth Library atrium April 1-30.
- ◆ An exhibit for **Asian Heritage Month** is located in the Marvin Foyer.
- ◆ South Lobby case has an exhibit titled "**Persephone: The Return of Spring.**"
- ◆ **Nutrition Education.** Students from the School of Family and Consumer Sciences will demonstrate the importance of nutrition in an exhibit on display in the Marvin Foyer of Booth Library.
- ◆ **Libraries Around the World and Did You Know?** In celebration of National Library Week, this exhibit features photographs highlighting libraries located around the world and includes information about the variety of services available at Booth Library. The exhibit, located in the Reference Hallway through April 30, is curated by Arlene Brown, Lois Dickenson and Lee Whitacre.
- ◆ **Women of Valor in WWII.** American women played important roles during World War II -- at home, in the workforce and in uniform. Reluctant to enter the war, the United States quickly committed itself after the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. That commitment included utilizing all American assets, including women. Nearly 400,000 women served, both at home and abroad, volunteering for the WAAC/WAC, WAVES, USMCWR, SPAR, WASP, ANC and the NNC. To find out more about these heroic women in uniform, visit the North Lobby of Booth Library and view the exhibition, Curated by Jeff Boshart and Dan Crews.



2009 DATES TO
REMEMBER

FAMILY WEEKEND
OCTOBER 2-4

HOMECOMING
OCTOBER 16-18

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

GREEK WEEK ACTIVITY

Dan Nadler, vice president for student affairs, announced this week that fraternity and sorority members, through a newly created Greek Week food sculpture event, donated 3,026 items to the Charleston Food Pantry!

W. Timothy Coombs and **Sherry J. Holladay**, communication studies, published "Further Exploration of Post-Crisis Communication: Effects of Media and Response Strategies on Perceptions and Intentions" in *Public Relations Review*, 35, 1-6, 2009.

Scott A.G.M. Crawford, kinesiology and sports studies, had a book review published in the *Journal of Sport History*, Vol. 35, No. 2. The book was "Sweet William -- The Life of Billy Conn," authored by Andrew O'Toole.

Bill Elliott, International Programs, will present "International Education Marketing Consortia: A Case Study by Study Illinois" at the AACRAO National Conference in Chicago on April 15, 2009. Elliott is chair-elect of the Study Illinois Consortium, an international student recruitment consortium made up of Illinois institutions of higher education.

The American College Personnel Association's Standing Committee on Graduate Students and New Professionals presented **Charles Eberly**, professor of counseling and student development, with its 2009 Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award at an awards ceremony on Saturday, March 28, 2009, at the Gaylord National Hotel in Washington, D.C. Eberly was nominated for the award by alumni and graduate students of the college student affairs master of science program at Eastern.

Zoraida Irizarry, M.S., College Student Affairs, 2008, EIU Building Services, and **Charles Eberly**, counseling and student development, presented on Hispanic Women in Higher Education: Leadership and Career Advancement, at the 85th annual convention of the American College Personnel Association at the Gaylord National Hotel, Washington, D. C., on March 31, 2009. The presentation was based on Irizarry's qualitative master's thesis.

Condolences to the family of former budget director Jimmy Shonkwiler. Shonkwiler was budget director at EIU from 2003-2007. He passed away April 6. Please see [here](#) for the article.

Christopher Hanlon's (English) essay "Eloquence and Invisible Man," originally published in the journal "College Literature," has been selected for inclusion in Harold Bloom's "Bloom's Guide to Invisible Man" (Chelsea House, 2009). Next month, Hanlon will present a paper titled "Eloquence and the Transatlantic Cable" at the annual convention of the American Literature Association in Boston.

David Raybin, EIU English Department, has published "Muslim Griselda: The Politics of Gender and Religion in Geoffrey Chaucer's 'Clerk's Tale' and Pramodya Ananta Toer's 'The Girl from the Coast,'" *Exemplaria* 21 (2009): 179-200. Professor Raybin thanks the Council of Faculty Research for its support of this project.

Andrew M. White, mathematics and computer science, and Stephen Balogh, Brian Cordes, Brittany Hochstetter, Ben Johnson, Meredith Mueller, Tim Ruddell, Weston Steinberg, Reuben Stence and Kelly Ann Witts, all pre-service EIU students, made an April 7 presentation at the 52nd annual Conference on the Teaching at Mathematics, held at EIU. The presentation was titled "Motivating All Students by Merging Mathematics and Children's Literature." Students acted out three children's books and did mathematics activities connecting the two.

COLES COUNTY COULD GET FREE HEALTH CLINIC

A community health care organization could begin building a free clinic near Charleston soon. The organization, Coles Community Health Program, would build the clinic to serve uninsured Coles County residents, according to the group's Web site.

The clinic would be built on the east side of Mattoon and would take up between 2,700 and 3,000 square feet, said Mike Murray, the organization's president. "We'd like to start the building in the next six months," he said. "Approximately a year from now ... we'd like to be open and functioning."

Murray said the organization, which formed in February 2006 as a consortium of community and health care organizations, has raised more than half of the funds needed to open the clinic.

[For full story...](#)

SPORTS NEWS



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Brainard House Home of the EIU Alumni Association



CATCHING UP WITH LINDSAY LESKANICH



As a coach, there are moments when you work with a student-athlete and you know that what the person is showing you that day is what he or she will deliver everyday for the rest of his or her life. Call it the "X-factor" or "that special something," but it is that indescribable understanding and lasting impression that makes the coach forever thankful they had the opportunity to include that person on his or her team. Lindsay Leskanich was that "X-factor" that led the Eastern Illinois University Rugby team from the moment she first stepped foot on the field. Where is she today? Not where you might expect. Leskanich calls Baghdad, Iraq, home.

Her journey started in Dwight, Ill., in a family that raised her on the values of hard work and earning what you want. This steadfastness translated well into life as a Panther. "Coach (Frank) Graziano and EIU athletics expected nothing less of me. I was in so many roles, including the role of captain, and worked with many different personalities," Leskanich relays via email from the Ibn Sina Hospital where she is an intensive care and emergency room nurse for the 10th Combat Support Hospital.

[For full story...](#)

RESULT OF THE LAIR FUND: DOMINIQUE SIMS, WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



English Philosopher George Moore was quoted: "A man travels the world over in search of what he needs, and returns home to find it." Perhaps Moore was foreseeing the philosophy of the 2008-2009 EIU women's basketball team who won 20 straight games at home. Junior guard Dominique Sims sees Charleston as a second home, and her teammates a second family.

Sims describes her most rewarding experience of being a student athlete at EIU as being able to meet great people and see new places. Being away from home does not matter as much to Sims as does the happiness of spending time with her teammates, where there is never a dull moment.

[For full story...](#)

PANTHERS ON THE ROAD LAUNCHES

Eastern Illinois University Athletics and the EIU Alumni Association are excited to announce the debut of *Panthers on the Road*, a series of hospitality events including coaches' shows, pregame functions and socials that will extend to all of Panther Nation.

"We are proud to kickoff *Panthers on the Road* and look forward to reconnecting with our loyal supporters," EIU Director of Athletics Barbara Burke said. "We hope all of 'Panther Nation' joins us this year as we make our way throughout the state and Ohio Valley Conference sites."

Future *Panthers on the Road* events will include:

- **June 4** – Springfield, Sammy's Sports Grill
- **July 29** – New Lenox, Charleston's Bar & Grill
- **August 25** – Effingham, Rosebud Theatre Wine Tasting and Jake Maurer Concert
- **September 12** – AD Tailgater at Indiana State (Terre Haute, IN)
- **September 19** – AD Tailgater at SEMO (Cape Girardeau, MO)
- **September 26** – AD Tailgater at Austin Peay (Clarksville, TN)
- **October 10** – AD Tailgater at Penn State (University Park, PA)
- **October 31** – AD Tailgater at Murray State (Murray, KY)

These will be added to the events calendar in future Enews publications.

SPORTS NEWS

SCHOLAR-ATHLETES

EIU Athletics recognized its student-athletes who have excelled in the classroom at an annual Scholar-Athlete Award Dinner, sponsored by the EIU Panther Club. There were 155 student-athletes honored for maintaining a 3.00 or higher cumulative GPA during their EIU careers.

Seven student-athletes were awarded the Presidential Award, which is handed out to seniors graduating with a 3.75 or higher GPA. The seven recipients were Michelle Anderson from women's golf, Matt Davis from men's golf, Vicki Dzura from women's track, Michael Lewis from men's soccer, Brian Morrell from baseball, James Scheffers from men's soccer, and Laura Welsh from volleyball.

The ceremony also recognized team academic achievement with men's golf and women's tennis winning top team GPA for the male and female sports.

QUESTIONS ABOUT EASTERN BASEBALL

Story by Brian Nielsen, Sports Editor @jg-tc.com (April 14)

How many times do you think Eastern Illinois' baseball coach Jim Schmitz was asked this question Monday? How is Brett Nommensen? "He's doing fine," Schmitz said. "He got x-rays and they're negative. He's day-to-day."

The Panthers' remarkable baseball season that last week received a No. 27 national ranking took a scary turn Friday when Nommensen, the All-American candidate near the top of national hitting lists, left a game with sore wrists and did not play in the second game of the doubleheader or Saturday's game.

Nommensen still might not play in today's 6 p.m. game at Illinois that fans would consider big and actually could be a factor when an selection committee considers its NCAA tournament field. But the bigger games in Eastern's week might actually be Saturday and Sunday when preseason favorite and last year's regular season champion Jacksonville State visits Coaches Stadium for a three-game Ohio Valley Conference series. The fact former pitching great Marty Pattin is to be here to have his number retired just adds to the flavor.

Jacksonville State, standing third in the OVC at 5-4, certainly would like to gain ground and regain some of its usual baseball swagger when visiting Eastern, which pulled a surprise winning last year's conference tournament for an NCAA berth and now leads the league at 9-1.

This weekend has the games when the Panthers would really like to have Nommensen, whose .521 batting average, 11 home runs, .649 on-base percentage and 1.021 slugging percentage all lead the OVC. If the senior center fielder with those amazing numbers has to miss another game, keep in mind the Panthers posted a 30-3 win Saturday at UT Martin without him.

The Panthers did not have a stolen base attempt or sacrifice bunt in this blowout but Schmitz could hardly stop his players from swinging the bat, which resulted in nine home runs among their 30 hits.

The coach did receive a complaint about running up the score but it was not from UT Martin. "I got a text message from one of our football coaches saying 'don't embarrass us; you're scoring more than we do,'" Schmitz said with a laugh.

Mattoon fans are bound to ask this question as Eastern, 24-6, visits Illinois, 21-8. Will Blake Fairchild pitch against the Panthers? Ken Westray, the former EIU pitcher now in his fourth season as Illinois' pitching coach, indicated that the junior from Mattoon could see mound time today. After two seasons plagued by injuries, Fairchild has made six relief appearances this year. The left-hander has allowed seven earned runs in 4 2/3 innings.

Brian Morrell is the scheduled starting pitcher for Eastern, which beat Illinois 13-3 last year in a game played at Mattoon's Grimes Field.

PANTHERS POST FIRST WIN IN CHAMPAIGN SINCE 1996

Zach Skidmore blasted a two-out, two-run homer in the eighth inning and three Eastern Illinois baseball pitchers limited Illinois to five hits in the 29th-ranked Panthers' 5-1 win at Illinois Field Tuesday evening. The victory was EIU's third in the last four years against the Fighting Illini (21-9), but first in Champaign since 1996. Eastern (25-6) has won 15 of its last 16 games dating back to March 21.

[For full story...](#)



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Brainard House Home of the EIU Alumni Association



SPORTS NEWS

ROMO AND DOMERCANT LEAD EASTERN HALL OF FAME PICKS

Tony Romo and Henry Domercant, two of Eastern Illinois' greatest athletes who shared limelight when on campus, now headline the five-member class to be inducted into EIU's Athletics Hall of Fame this year. Former baseball player Sean Lyons, former wrestler Don Neece and friend of athletics Ed Corley are others to be inducted in a ceremony on Nov. 14 when the Panthers host UT Martin in football.

Before he became the two-time Pro-Bowl selection for the Dallas Cowboys, Romo, who was at EIU in 1999-2002, etched his name in the EIU annals as one of the best football players in Panther history. He won the 2002 Walter Payton Award handed out to the nation's top FCS level player. He was a three-time OVC Player of the Year and 2002 consensus first team All-American. He ranked 1st in NCAA passing efficiency in 2001 and 2nd in 2000. He is the EIU and OVC career record holder for single season (34) and career touchdown passes (85). Romo guided EIU to three straight NCAA FCS playoff berths from 2000-02.

On the basketball court Domercant (2000-03) was one of the nation's top point producers as he helped lead EIU to the 2001 NCAA Tournament. He finished his career as the No. 1 all-time scoring leader in both the Ohio Valley Conference and at Eastern Illinois. His 2,602 points ranks 30th all-time in NCAA history and he became only the 11th player to finish his career as a top five scorer in the nation three times. He was a three-time first team All-OVC honoree and two-time NABC All-District selection. Domercant was the 2002 OVC Player of the Year and honorable mention All-American. Domercant is playing professional basketball in Europe.

Lyons (1996-99) was one of the most consistent hitters for EIU baseball in the late 1990's. He was a three-time All-Ohio Valley Conference selection earning first team honors in 1997 and 1998. In 1999 he helped propel the Panthers to their first NCAA Division I Regional appearance setting a school record with 66 runs scored. He ended his career ranking in the top ten in nine offensive categories including a .349 batting average with 56 doubles. Lyons currently serves as the assistant baseball coach at EIU where he helped coach the Panthers to a 2008 NCAA Regional berth.

Neece (1962-65) was a top wrestler for the Panthers in the early 1960's winning the NAIA National Championship in 1965 at the 190 lbs. weight class. He won the Interstate Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IIAC) championship in 1964 competing at 177 lbs and placed second in the IIAC championships two other times. He was a 1965 first-team NAIA All-American. Neece is retired after a long career as a teacher, coach and athletic administrator at East Alton-Wood River Community High School.

Corley is being inducted as a friend of athletics based on his long support of the EIU Panther Club. During the annual fund drive Corley has been the top fund raiser each of the last four years raising more than \$31,000 for Panther Athletics. He was the 2006 Glen Hesler Award winner presented annually to the individual who makes a significant contribution to Panther Athletics. He serves as a volunteer for EIU track and field meets and has been a Marshall for the IHSA Boys and Girls State Track Meets for more than 20 years. Corley is a retired faculty member from Eastern Illinois.

Story by JG/T-C Staff

FIRST WOMEN'S GOLF WIN COMES AT KEY TIME

The women's golf team got its first win of the spring Monday at the Loyola of Chicago Invitational finishing first of eight teams, and it could not have come at a better time. This was the last regular season tournament for the women this spring as they prepare for the Ohio Valley Conference Championship in London, Ky., and the team played brilliantly.

Four players for the Panthers finished in the top 10 including senior Carrie Riordan (third place), junior Katie Imburgia (tied for fourth), senior Michelle Anderson (ninth) and junior Jaymie Voorhees (tie 10). More impressively for the Panthers was the way in which they won. The Panthers shot a 317 on the first day of the tournament, but cut 13 strokes on the second day to win the title. Riordan dropped four strokes from her day one score (79 to 75), Imburgia three strokes (79 to 76), Anderson two strokes (80 to 78), and Voorhees nine strokes (84 to 75). "Four of our players just clicked on the last day," Imburgia said. "I don't know what happened, but it felt great. (Riordan) struggled a little bit so far this spring, but she broke through and played great."

Like many of the tournaments, the weather was rough. Imburgia said it was cold and windy, but she knew she had to get it done. "I felt all over the place the last day, but I knew I had to keep it together and get a manageable score so we could be in a position to win," Imburgia said.

After a successful fall season, the Panthers were not able to duplicate those successes before this weekend. The team finished in first place at the Chicago State Invitational and second place in four other tournaments in the fall. Until last weekend, the highest the women's team had placed was in seventh place in the Bradley Classic April 5 and 6.

Imburgia said the win meant everything for the team as they prepare for the conference championships. She does not know why the team locked in like they did on the final day of the tournament, but she hopes that can carry over into the OVC Championships in two weekends. "We have not played up to our potential all spring, but we showed this week we can do it," Imburgia said. "It showed we can play our best golf and win the conference tournament." Story by Dan Cusack at DENNEWS.



McAfee Gym

National Historic Site





PANTHER CLUB GOLF OUTINGS ANNOUNCED

EIU Athletics and the Panther Club are happy to announce the 2009 golf outings. The line-up includes a few changes but guarantees to be better than ever. Please join EIU athletics administrators, coaches, alumni and current student-athletes at one or all of these summer outings:

- **May 17** – Chicago-EIU Golf Classic Banquet at Bolingbrook Golf Club (Bolingbrook, IL)
- **May 18** – Chicago-EIU Golf Classic at Bolingbrook Golf Club
- **June 25** – Bill Glenn EIU Invitational at Piper Glen (Springfield, IL)
- **July 10** – Blue and Gray Classic at Sycamore Hills Golf Club (Paris, IL)
- **July 24** – THE EIU-PLAYERS Championship at Lake of the Woods Golf Course (Mahomet, IL)
- **August 14** – The Athletic Director's Cup at Mattoon Country Club (Mattoon, IL)
- **October 16, Homecoming Weekend** – Panther Scholarship Scramble Golf Outing at Charleston Country Club (Charleston, IL)
- **October 16, Homecoming Weekend** – Panther Scholarship Scramble Banquet at Charleston Country Club

BROOKS GIVES EIU TRACK FOUR STRAIGHT HONORS

Eastern Illinois won its fourth straight weekly outdoor track award as freshman sprinter DeMarcus Brooks was named the Ohio Valley Conference Male Track Athlete of the Week. Brooks picked up wins in the 100m and 200m dashes as EIU won the team title at the Lee Calhoun Memorial. He posted a winning time of 10.54 in the 100m dash and 21.49 in the 200m dash. Additionally Brooks was a member of the 4x100 relay team that posted a season best 41.30 time to win the event. This is Brooks second honor this season as the Male Track Athlete of the Week. He has already hit the NCAA regional qualifying time in both the 100m and 200m sprints. EIU returns to action this Saturday in the Memphis Tiger Invitational.

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH



[Mike Recchia](#) of baseball and [Amber May](#) of softball were named the Eastern Illinois student-athletes of the month for March 2009. Each month during the school year one male and one female student-athlete are recognized for their outstanding performance in their sport.

Recchia, a sophomore right handed pitcher from Crestwood, Ill, was outstanding during the month. He posted a 4-0 record in five starts including a win over nationally ranked Oklahoma. He worked 31 innings allowing only 3 earned runs with 30 strike outs. His ERA for the month was 0.87. He was named the OVC Pitcher of the Week once during March as EIU opened the season 5-0 in the OVC.



May, a sophomore right handed pitcher from Normal, Ill., was instrumental in EIU opening the OVC season with a 6-3 record. May posted a 9-5 record with one save with 72 strike outs in 95.1 innings of work in the circle. May's ERA for the month was 1.84 which included a 10 inning complete game win over UT Martin.

FOOTBALL RECRUIT TO PLAY FOR USA FOOTBALL

Erik Lora of Miami, Fla., and Eastern Illinois University, has been selected to play for USA Football's 2009 Junior National Team which will compete in the sport's first junior world championship this summer. The 5-11, 175-pound receiver is one of 36 graduating high school seniors soon to enter one of 27 college football programs who will play on America's first national team in the sport comprised of players aged 19 and under. USA Football's Junior National Team roster will ultimately consist of 45 student-athletes.

Lora earned first-team All-Dade County 6A-4A honors for a Columbus High School team that posted a 10-1 record and ranked No. 23 in the state of Florida and was coached by USA Football Junior National Team defensive backs coach Chris Merritt, a former assistant coach at Eastern Illinois. A high-energy receiver, Lora recorded 29 receptions for 649 yards and seven touchdowns as a senior. A standout on special teams, he also returned 11 punts for 160 yards last season, two of which he took back for touchdowns.

[For full story...](#)



UPCOMING SPORTS EVENTS

****Bold denotes a home game**

Sport	Date	Opponent	Location	Time
M & W Track	4/24-25	Drake Relays	Des Moines, Iowa	TBA
M & W Track	4/24-25	SIU Edwardsville Invite	Edwardsville, IL	TBA
Baseball	4/25	SIU Edwardsville (DH)	Coaches Stadium	1pm
Softball	4/25	Jacksonville State (DH)	Williams Field	1pm
Softball	4/26	Jacksonville State	Williams Field	Noon
Baseball	4/26	SIU Edwardsville	Coaches Stadium	1pm
Baseball	4/28	Missouri	O'Fallon, MO	6:30pm
Baseball	4/29	Southern Illinois (at Peterson Park)	Mattoon, IL	6:30pm
Softball	4/29	Southeast Missouri	Cape Girardeau, MO	5pm
M & W Track	5/1-2	OVC Championships	Richmond, KY	All Day
Softball	5/2	Austin Peay (DH)	Clarksville, TN	1pm
Baseball	5/2	Southeast Missouri (DH)	Cape Girardeau, MO	1pm

RECENT RESULTS & RECORDS

Last week's results

Baseball (24-6, 9-1 OVC)

W 25-7 vs. Indiana State

W 10-3 at UT Martin

L 3-13 at UT Martin

W 30-3 at UT Martin

Softball (24-14, 8-3 OVC)

W 6-3 at Evansville

W 6-3 at Evansville

W 11-0 at Tennessee Tech

W 2-1 at Tennessee Tech

Men's Tennis (10-11, 3-5 OVC)

L 3-4 vs. Murray State

Women's Tennis (8-12, 4-5 OVC)

W 5-2 vs. Southeast Missouri

L 1-6 vs. Murray State

Outdoor Track

Men and women won Lee Calhoun Memorial titles

Brad Butler, DeMarcus Brooks and Brenton Pegues

first place finishers for men, Chandra Golden and Nicole

Walcott first place finishers for women

Men's Golf

Finished 12th at Tennessee State Classic

Matt Bird top golfer tied for 31st

Women's Golf

Finished 7th at Bradley Classic

Katie Imburgia top golfer tied for 7th

Men's Soccer

Spring game vs. EIU Alumni

Previous week's results

Baseball (21-5, 7-0 OVC)

W 12-8 at Saint Louis

W 16-5 vs. Chicago State

W 11-5 vs. Murray State

W 2-1 vs. Murray State

Softball (20-14, 6-3 OVC)

L 0-2 vs. Butler

L 2-8 at SIU Edwardsville

W 1-0 at SIU Edwardsville

Outdoor Track

Hosted Big Blue Classic

Zye Boey, DeMarcus Brooks, Ian Winston all hit

NCAA Regional marks for EIU men

Kandace Arnold hit NCAA Regional mark for

EIU women

Men's Tennis (10-10, 3-4 OVC)

L 3-4 vs. Indiana State

W 7-0 at Tennessee State

L 0-7 at Tennessee Tech

Women's Tennis (7-11, 3-4 OVC)

W 6-1 at Tennessee State

L 0-7 at Tennessee Tech

Men's Soccer

Played in spring Governor's Cup

Volleyball

Played in Loyola-Chicago Spring Tourney