

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

February

2022

2-2-2022

Daily Eastern News: February 02, 2022

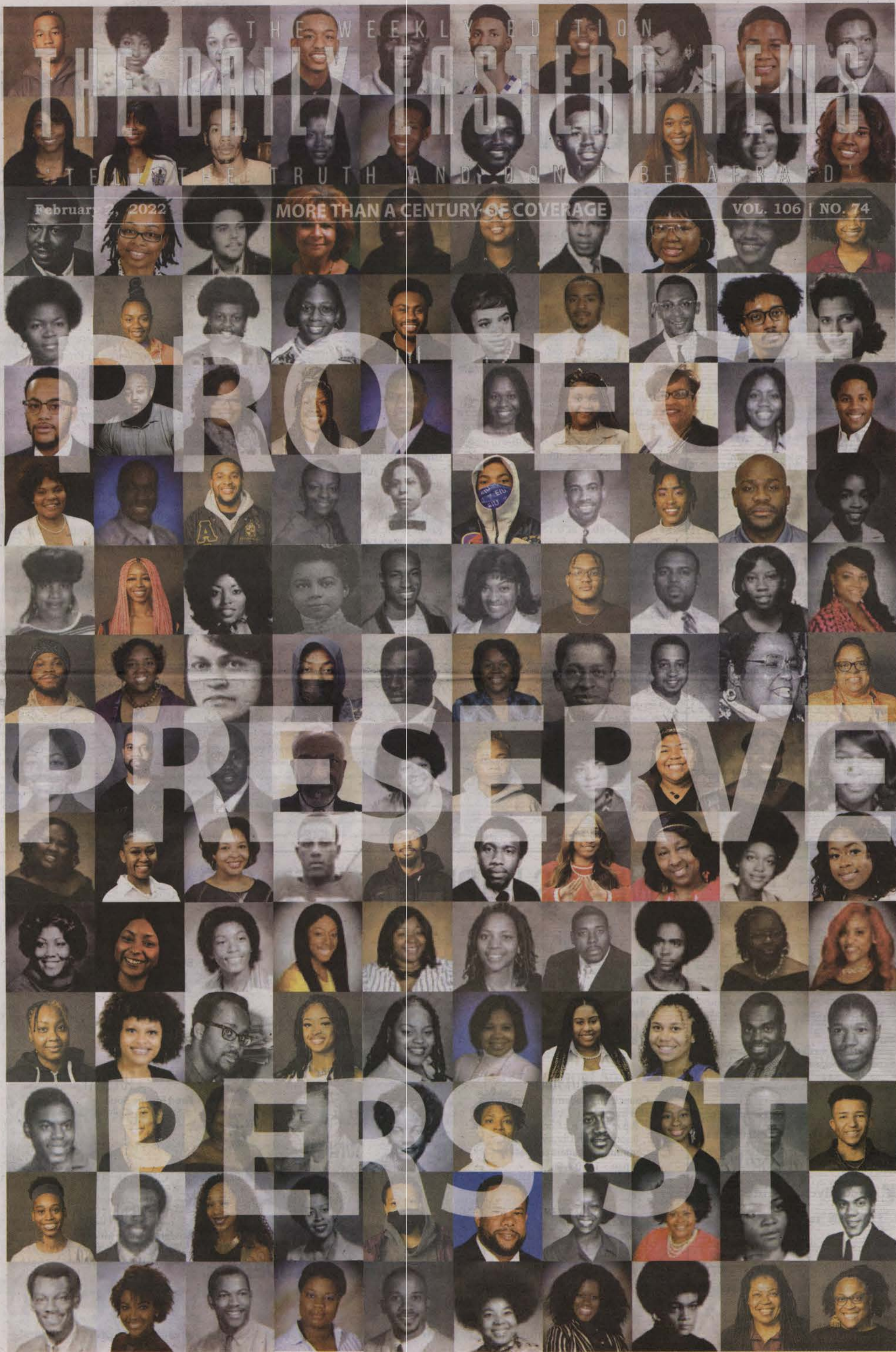
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Recommended Citation

Eastern Illinois University, "Daily Eastern News: February 02, 2022" (2022). *February*. 1.
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THE WEEKLY EDITION

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

February 2, 2022

MORE THAN A CENTURY OF COVERAGE

VOL. 106 | NO. 74

PROFESSORS

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Black History Month to be observed with events throughout February

By **Katja Benz**
 Campus Reporter | @katjabenz1

Eastern's is celebrating Black History Month by having African American Heritage Month with events throughout February.

The next event, titled "Time Period Train" Through Black History, is on Wednesday starting at 6 p.m. in the Andrews Hall basement.

"Time Period Train" Through Black History is hosted by Eastern's Black Student Union and Alpha Phi Alpha.

Zeta Phi Beta is hosting "Everyone Wants to be Black Until it's Time to be Black," a presentation in the Coleman Hall Auditorium, on Feb. 3 at 6:20 p.m. and will examine cultural appropriation.

Movie Night: "The Same Difference" hosted by Eastern's Pride club is on Feb. 4 in the Coleman Auditorium at 7 p.m.

Delta Sigma Theta is hosting Black Card Revoked on Feb. 7 at 6:13 p.m.

This game-style event has questions about African American culture.

This event is meant to connect people together and have various categories for the game board, including music, movies and the experiences of the Black community.

Food for the Soul, hosted by Sigma Gamma Rho, will take place in the culture

house at 5:22 p.m. on Feb. 8. Traditional African American food will be served at the event.

Strong S.H.E is hosting the next event, which intersects reality TV and black women.

Black Women and Reality TV... Is it for the Culture will take place on Feb. 15 at 6 p.m. in the University Ballroom in the MLK Jr. Union.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council is hosting a trivia night for Black history in the Martinsville Room of the MLK Jr. Union on Feb. 16 at 7 p.m.

Soul Food: Nourishment for the Culture is on Feb. 17 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Klehm Hall.

The department of public health and nutrition is hosting this event.

The Latin American Student Organization has a separate event on the same day at 6 p.m. about being Afro Latinidad.

The event is in the Charleston-Mattoon Room of the MLK Jr. Union.

The NAACP's annual 2022 Image Awards is on Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the MLK Jr. Union.

A movie night watching the film "Selma" on Feb. 21 at 6:20 p.m. in the Physical Science building's Phillips Lecture Hall is hosted by Zeta Phi Beta.

"Selma" is based on the Montgomery vot-

ing rights marches with MLK Jr. in 1965.

The African American Leadership Awards is in the University Ballroom of the MLK Jr. Union at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 22 hosted by the NACWC.

Afro-Latinos Trivia Night is on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Martinsville room in the MLK Jr. Union.

The trivia night is hosted by Alpha Psi Lambda.

The next event is the ABCs of Black History hosted by Voices in Progress: Untold Truth on Feb. 24 at 6 p.m. in the Coleman Auditorium.

The 2022 Ms. Black EIU takes place Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the MLK Jr. Union.

The final AAHM event is the MTEA Panel Series: Hearing from Our Past to Motivate Our Future! on Feb. 28 at 6 p.m. via Zoom hosted by the Minority Teacher Education Association, MTEA.

More information on the events taking place this month can be found on the website for the Office of Inclusion and Academic Engagement.

Madelyn Kidd contributed to this article.

Katja Benz can be reached at 581-2812 or at kkbenz@etiu.edu.

On the cover

The cover contains photos of Adiaobi Agbo, Adrian Beard, Alajo Boluwaji, Alireza Beard, Amber King, Angelica Moore, Anne Smith, Annie Scott, Anthony Blackwell, Anthony Lewis, Anthony Zinn, Antiqua McMorris, Antonio Burton, Arafat Ajala, Argelia Bradshaw, Ariel Johnson, Ashley Mickens, Barbara Drane, Beraninda Carter, Bill Wooten, Billie Frazier, Brandy Woods, Brenda Major, Calvin Gordon, Cam'ron Hardy, Carol Sures, Ceci Brinker, Charles Hall, Charrell Barksdale, Chavonne Farr, Chris Hicks, Claiborne Dungey, Clarice Estell, Clifton Graham Jr., Curley Bradford, D.J. Jones, Dana Bradley, Darriel Jones, Dave Radford, Debbie Minter, Deneen Gayles, Dennis Anderson, Destiny Rockett, Diane Williams, Donald Coleman, Drew Smith, Dwayne Brown, Edward Brown, Edward Pullen, Elizabeth Woods, Farouk Olaitan, Faye Johnson-Wilson, Frances Ballard, Georgia Warren, Gregory Coopwood, Gregory Sharp, Imani Walker, Jacqueline Williams, Jared Franks, James Saunders, Jamiah Bell-Ray, Jamiya Smith, Janice Allen, Jeffrey Collier, Jeremiah Boyd-Johnson, Jessica Brumfield, John Craft, Johnetta Jones, Jon Browning, Joselyn Christmas, Joseph Williams, Justin Fields, Juwan Wright, Kalyah Mitchell, Kathy Hines, Kayla Crowder, Keaira Williams, Keenan Price, Keinia Parham, Keith Roberts, Kelly Edwards, Keniata Green, Kenyetta Brunson, Keyauna Bunch, Khayriyah Johnson, Kiley Allen, Kristopher Gross, Krystal Hawkins, Krysten Wharton, Lariah Washington, Larissa King, Larry Campbell, Latrice Campbell, Leon Lomax, Linda Adeseye, Linda O'Connor, Lois Gray, Lynette Gayden, Mabel Killion, Maggie Burkhead, Marcus Powell, Marietta Jones, Marques Ray, Marvin Edwards, Mary Burroughs, Maylia Wesley, Melba Bailey, Melba Goliday, Mona Davenport, Morgan Colvin, Najma Mosley-Williams, Nkoye Williams, Omar Solomon, Patrick Byrd, Paul Bizimana, Paula Allen, Phyllis Stimpington, Rachel Dunbar, Raifat Yarrow, Raiven Jones, Rastar West, Raven Ramsey, Rhea Bickham, Rhonda Bowdry, Ricardo Barber, Robert Vickers, RonNesha Harris, Ronnie Beatha, Ronnie Bouemboue, Roy Ellis, Sarnia Cotton, Shameia Perkins, Sharece Davis, Shariah Campbell, Sharmaine James, Shavon Edmond, Shawn Peoples, Shyra Bluminberg, Steven Cain, Syracuse Brown, Tahzae Johnson, Tashayaj Silmon, Tashon Lawrence, Teshome Abebe, Todd Akande, Trelyn Newkirk, Treva Jackson, Tykyla Crockett, Tytiana Jemison, Vinram Bey, Whinter Kent, Wilbert James, Yolanda Williams and Zella Powell. Photos were taken by Ashanti Thomas and Rob Le Cates, as well as taken from The Keep.

WHAT'S HAPPENING FEB. 2-9

WEDNESDAY

Student Senate Meeting
 7 p.m. - 7th St. Underground,
 MLK Jr. University Union
"Time Period Train" Through Black History
 6:20 p.m. - Andrews Hall
 Basement

THURSDAY

Council on Academic Affairs Meeting
 2 p.m. - Witters Conference Room, Booth Library
Community Leaders for Safety
 2 p.m. - 1510 A St.

FRIDAY

Movie Night: The Same Difference
 7 p.m. - Coleman Auditorium

SATURDAY

YOUR EVENT COULD GO HERE...

SUNDAY

OR HERE! CONTACT US TO BE INCLUDED.

MONDAY

Black Card Revoked
 6:13 .m. - Phipps Lecture Hall,
 Physical Science Building

TUESDAY

Food for the Soul
 5:22 p.m. - Cultural Center

WEDNESDAY

Student Senate Meeting
 7 p.m. - 7th St. Underground,
 MLK Jr. University Union

Send your event information to dennewsdesk@gmail.com to be added to our online and print calendars!

"Being a Black student here at Eastern means a lot to me because I'm the first generation to graduate so I've been pushing forward towards that. I feel like as a Black woman or just a Black person in general, the system doesn't really want to see Black people succeed."

"Honestly, it's really the way life is going to be after college."

"Everybody here has treated me as an equal."

"I love walking around and seeing other students who look like me and who have different goals with that same ambition."

"Being a Black student here at Eastern means a lot to me because I'm the first generation to graduate so I've been pushing forward towards that. I feel like as a Black woman, like, or just a Black person in general, like the system doesn't really want to see like Black people like succeed."

"This place really makes me feel at home even though it's a PWI. Like, a lot of people say that HBCU is the way or whatever but really the school of your choice will mesh with how you feel."

"It's just not as diverse as it's represented in our marketing."

"Being a Black student is a little bit weird to me in a way because I am used to being around mostly Black people in my schools and where I live, but it is growing on me because it's just you get different points of view from different people."

"It's unpredictable."

WHAT IS

IT LIKE

BEING

BLACK AT

EASTERN?

"Honestly, before coming to Eastern, I was terrified, like are there gonna be other students of color? You know, not even just Black students, Hispanic, etc. So when I got here I was pretty surprised I was like, 'okay diversity is here you know?'"

"We have our own little community."

"Being a Black student here Eastern is somewhat a struggle because we are the minority, but it does give us obstacles that we have to overcome and I think that makes us stronger."

"I'm grateful to be around the people that I'm around who have the strong work ethic that I do, and especially seeing other students who are like me; it makes me feel comfortable, especially at a predominantly white institution."

"I think every student here is amazing, but I think we deserve, especially the students of color, just that appreciation, because of the work that we put in and how just we're willing to uplift everyone."

"I found my culture at my PWI."

Black artists 'make magic'

In light of Black History Month, five Eastern students studying the arts spoke on what it means to them to be Black artists and how being Black influences their art.

By Ryan Meyer
Campus Reporter | @meyer_ryan_twt

Eli Jones

Eli Jones, a junior majoring in 2D studio art, said that being Black helps him approach his work in a way that avoids stereotypes when depicting humans.

"I think (being Black) definitely does influence how I approach my work as far as doing a human being or a particular animal," Jones said. "But as far as humans, I don't want to enforce any offensive stereotypes, like I want to be true in how I approach my drawing and my painting because as an artist, I do a lot of things based on gut feeling."

Jones also disputed claims that art lacks prominence in the Black community.

"Some people say that art isn't really as prominent in the Black community, but I think that's misleading because there are a lot of artists who are Black and become very inspired to become artists themselves in their communities," said Jones.



ASHANTI THOMAS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eli Jones, a junior 2D studio art major, shows off his paintings that he worked on in the painting studio at Doudna Fine Arts Center, which are part of his African mammal series. Jones is in the progress of creating more art pieces for his series.

Joy Okokon

Struggles for Black artists can occur abroad, too, says Joy Okokon, a Nigerian graduate student studying ceramics. Some artists have to leave their country to find appreciation for their work.

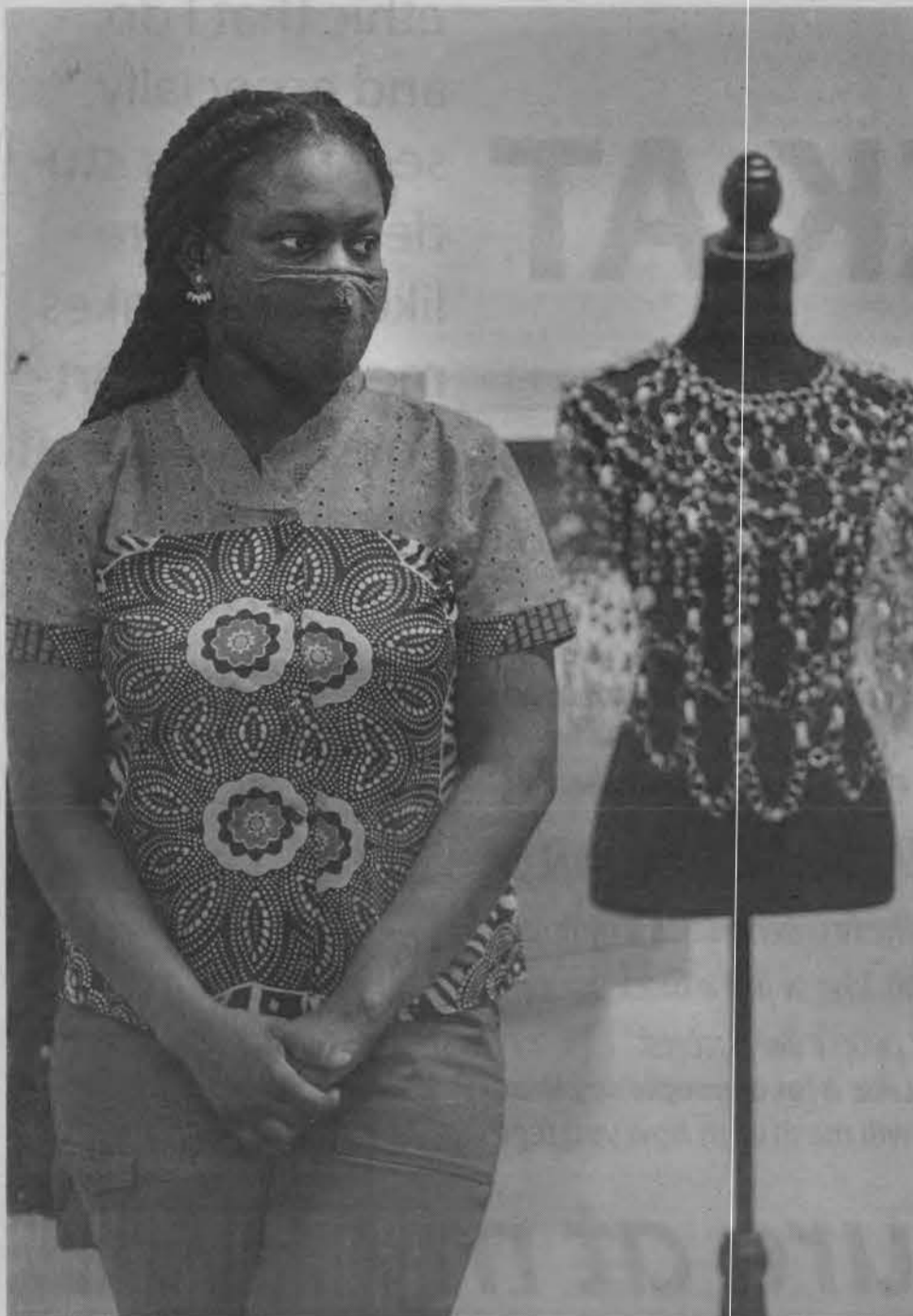
"...And that was very challenging for most artists so they leave their home country and go to some other place that really do appreciate the arts," Okokon said. "They find joy in it, and you just keep moving from there. That's kind of the struggle for most African artists back home."

According to Okokon, family expectations can also be part of the struggle for African artists, as parents often "want their children to study something that they will get good income from, not something they enjoy."

She told a story of a cousin who had a love of music and a doctor as a father, and the father paid for him to get a doctoral degree. The cousin decided to study music anyway and got his degree in music, and upon his father's realization that he didn't study what was expected of him, Okokon said his father was torn between what he believed to be right and supporting his son doing what he loved.

Okokon said she feels privileged that her family supported her pursuits even through struggles with traditional school subjects.

"I am privileged that they are so supportive," Okokon said. "Even though I had issues with my teachers back in school, they're like, 'Why don't you understand certain things?' But you can't mess around with my studio because that is where my joy is, that's where my happiness is, and I'm not doing well in math or English or any other sort of studies...So I kept pushing on my art, and they kept supporting me, kept buying me stuff."



ROB LE CATES | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

(Left) Joy Okokon, a graduate student studying art, stands next to a torso piece she created with materials from Nigeria in the Ceramics Studio in Doudna Fine Arts Center.

(Above) Joy Okokon, a graduate student studying art, peels clay off of a drying towel in the Ceramics Studio in Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Kendra Moore

Two of Kendra Moore's, a senior art education major, paintings were of Black women, and she said she focused on them because of a lack of representation.

"Black women are very unrepresented in this world, and I feel like they should be given a better chance," Moore said. "I guess it's hard for us to make it, and we have to try harder than everyone else, and I just wanted to show that in my artwork."

Moore also said that being a Black student in the art department provided her with an opportunity to display her capabilities as an artist.

"It means a lot because I came into this art program and the people around me are not minorities, they're mostly white, Caucasian," Moore said. "So I did feel a little out-of-place, but I think it means a lot to me because I get to show people I am as capable as them, and I get to be a part of representing the minority people."



ASHANTI THOMAS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Kendra Moore, a senior art education major, sits in front of 5 art pieces that she has created in Doudna Fine Arts Center's painting studio.



ASHANTI THOMAS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Samuel Aye-Gboyin, a graduate student studying graphic design, in his work room, explains what it is like to be a black artist.

Samuel Aye-Gboyin

Samuel Aye-Gboyin, a graduate student studying graphic design, says his work, which includes photography and animation, investigates the ideas of power, poverty and the unequal distribution of wealth.

"So, as an artist, you need to be an advocate; you need to do work that tells the message," Aye-Gboyin said. "So my work is essentially about that...so being a Black artist is phenomenal because I get to tell the African story the African way and get ahead, so eventually change happens."

When it comes to representation of Black art, Aye-Gboyin said "we should all be viewed as humans first," but acknowledges that if not for the hard work of other Black artists he wouldn't be where he is now.

"We're all humans, and we bleed red," Aye-Gboyin said. "So I don't think we should see any other way...I don't see the difference between Black art or white art. We are just humans making art in the art community, essentially."

Ryan Meyer can be contacted at 581-2812 or at rameyer@eiu.edu.

Francis Akosah

Francis Akosah, a graduate student from Ghana studying studio art and sculpture, said he developed his passion for art when his mother saw him drawing cartoons on the walls and in sketchbooks and encouraged him to follow his talent. Although he didn't like it at first, he trusted her knowl-

edge and fell in love with it his first day in class.

"Since then, everything I touch in art, I do it with passion," Akosah said.

Akosah is currently working on an 8-foot tall elephant composed of various materials like wood and scrap metal.



ASHANTI THOMAS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Francis Akosah Akwaboa, a graduate student who studies studio art and sculpture, shows his idea board full of sketches and measurements to plan out his elephant sculpture inside Doudna Fine Arts

Black Homecoming Queen in 1973
due to an alleged campaign violation.
Queen that year.
in the front yard of Kappa Alpha Psi,
red Williams.

Black Greek organizations
move to Greek Court in
1995.

Dr. Carole Surles became
Eastern's first Black
president in 1999.

In 2021, Jacqueline Williams
became the first Black
woman to be student body
president.

First Miss Black EIU,
Debbie Minter, coronated
in 1971.

a list of six grievances:
es and sororities to Black
ore Black students, 5)
ultural courses to the

In 2018, Morgan Colvin and Keshyra Bluminberg created a petition to raise the Black Lives Matter flag on campus. The request was initially declined by the university. After further pushing from the student body, especially Colvin and Bluminberg, Eastern installed the "We Are EIU" Flagpole in Fall 2020 which flies flags representative of various different groups throughout the year. The first to be raised was the Black Lives Matter Flag and it usually flies again during Black History Month.

GRAPHIC BY LUKE TAYLOR | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Leaving a legacy: Eastern's first Black female student body president

Jacqueline Williams shares thoughts on impact of her legacy, says she hopes to set the stage for future POC student leaders

By Madelyn Kidd
News Editor | @DEN_news

Eastern's first black female student body president, Jacqueline Williams, represents students of color, diversity on campus and change for the history of Eastern's Student Senate.

For Williams, being the first black female student body president means everything to her.

"To be the first EIU African American female president means everything to me," Williams said. "Attending a [predominantly white institution] is very challenging for EIU students of color to transition, find their niche or achieve the student representation and recognition that other EIU students may receive. To hold this student leader role, duties and position is unbelievable."

Williams also commented on the mark in history she is leaving at Eastern.

"It seems so unreal, that I have made my mark and history at EIU that only a few EIU students will ever attain in their time at EIU," Williams said. "I

hope that my achievement will become an inspiration to African American girls just like me and show them 'Yes you can achieve anything you set your heart and mind to achieve.' It seems surreal, but I am truly thankful and blessed to have held this position."

Before Williams was elected as the student body president, she had joined the Student Senate to be involved with Eastern, to help students of color be heard and represented on campus and to encourage others.

"Not only am I honored to be the first African American female EIU student body president, but it is also historical achievements like this that I hope my example will set the tone for other EIU students of color to strive for in making their own history at EIU," Williams said.

When Williams first found out she was elected student body president, she couldn't believe the announcement and is proud to be a part of Eastern's and the Student Senate's history.

"This was truly a moment in history for both EIU and the EIU student body to be elected as the first EIU African American female student body president in a long line of EIU female student body presidents through the years," Williams said. "I am so proud to be first, but certainly not the last to reach this milestone as an EIU student and student leader in the future."

Along with being the student body president, Williams is also the treasurer of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and has to schedule her time accordingly while holding both positions.

"Serving in both roles can at times be both demanding and challenging to balance, considering I don't really have a lot of downtime," Williams said. "Making sure that I am a good time manager and making sure that my time is used wisely and efficiently is the only way I stay afloat."

However as the student body president, Williams found herself in a role with an opportunity to represent the National Pan-Hellenic Council, NPHC, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

"I feel that I give my Sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., and NPHC Greek community great representation in the EIU Student Government, as members of the Greek community are often serving in major leadership roles across campus," Williams said. "Even though I do not update the senate with every event that my sorority and NPHC put together, I do continuously encourage Student Senators to get involved and find the events that cater and represent and impact EIU students, especially mentally."

Being both in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the Student Senate means "the world" to Williams.

"I think that Delta is the first of many, and that has made me want to strive and be the first in my community (the Charleston/Mattoon Area)," Williams said. "I think I'm surrounding myself with great leaders in the Theta Zeta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., and that is what pushes me to be the best version of myself every day."

As president, Williams is involved

with various committees and projects on campus.

"As the elected EIU student body president, I am held to higher standards of excellence, empowered to make executive decisions and take executive action on behalf of the EIU student body," Williams said. "I serve as an advocate on behalf of the EIU student body to the EIU Administration in university functions, issues and matters."

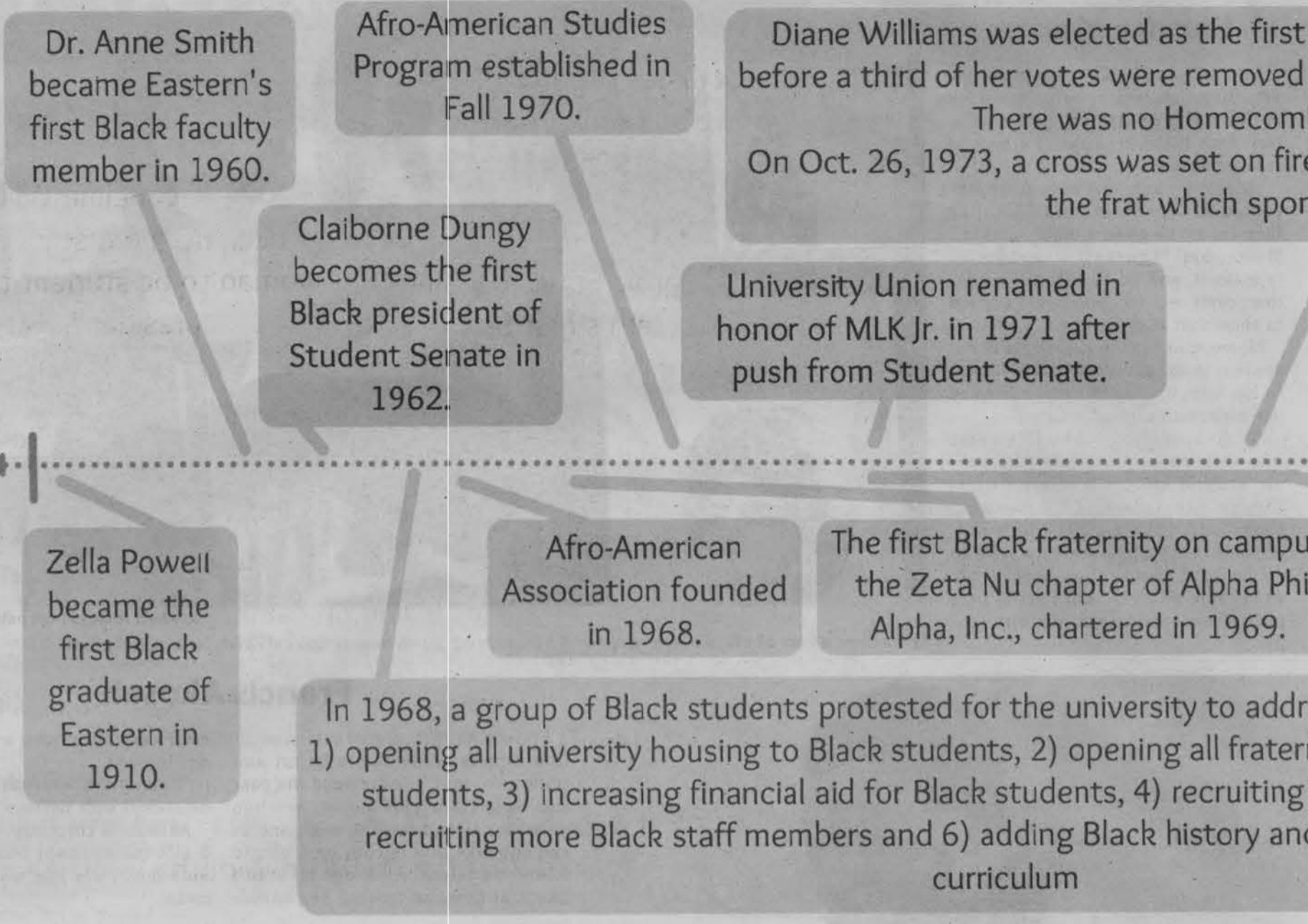
Williams is on the University Planning & Budgeting Committee, helps plan the EIU First Night event, is working on a Freshman Leadership Initiative, Panther Tracks, mental health awareness initiatives and a co-curricular transcript, which would add extra-curriculars to academic transcripts.

Williams said her favorite part of being the student body president is representing Eastern students and having an impact on student's lives.

"My favorite part of being the EIU student body president is representing my fellow EIU students and making decisions that have a positive impact on their lives and experiences at EIU," Williams said. "In addition, I enjoy meeting and getting to know EIU students from all walks of life... Currently, I am proud of being a member of the EIU Student Government that is the 'most' diverse it has been in years, with EIU students from all races, cultures, genders and backgrounds exchanging diverse ideas, issues and programs on behalf of the EIU student community."

Madelyn Kidd can be reached at 581-2812 or at mekidd@etu.edu.

EASTERN'S FOUNDING IN 1895



Eastern has 'divine' history with historically Black sororities and fraternities

By Corryn Brock
Editor-in-Chief | @corrynbrock

Throughout the years, Eastern has been home to chapters of all nine chapters of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, also known as the Divine Nine.

The first NPHC chapter to come to Eastern was Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. in 1968.

The fraternity is still active today with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life reporting that the fraternity had three active members in the Fall 2021 semester.

In 1971, two Black sororities came to Eastern, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

Last semester Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. had five active members and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. had three active members according to the FSL Office.

A year later, two more Black sororities made their way to Eastern.

One, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., had 10 active members last fall, making it the largest Black sorority at Eastern. The other, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., closed in 1997.

In 1975, three Black fraternities made their way onto Eastern's campus.

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., is the only fraternity to come in 1975 that is not currently active after closing in 2017.

The other two, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. both reported five members last semester making them the largest NPHC fraternities at Eastern.

The youngest of the Divine Nine, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc., came to Eastern in 1986 and later closed in 1994. The fraternity was recently resurrected in 2021 and currently has four active members.

These nine groups lead the way for other Black Greek organizations with Beta Phi Pi Fraternity, Inc. and Phi Rho Eta Fraternity, Inc. coming to Eastern in 1995 and 2001 respectively.

Several Latinx Greek organizations followed as well, with Lambda Theta Phi Fraternity, Inc. coming in 1999 and Lambda Theta Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority, Inc. coming to Eastern. All three have since closed, but Alpha Psi Lambda National, Inc., a Latino-interest fraternity that came to Eastern in 2016 remains active and often involved in NPHC activities.

Corryn Brock can be reached at 581-2812 or at deneic@gmail.com.



ASHANTI THOMAS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Student Body President Jacqueline Williams, also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., holds up a hand in prayer as a representative of her sorority.

Everyone should learn from Black history

This Black History Month, take the opportunities available to you to learn more about Black history, especially if you are a non-Black person.

In this country, this state, and even at this university, Black people have done so much to shape the world around us and it is important that, regardless of race, we educate ourselves on this contribution and value our complete history.

Oftentimes in education, contributions from various minority groups are overlooked and under-appreciated, especially contributions from the Black community. Until a systematic change is made to right those wrongs, we as a society have a duty to educate ourselves.

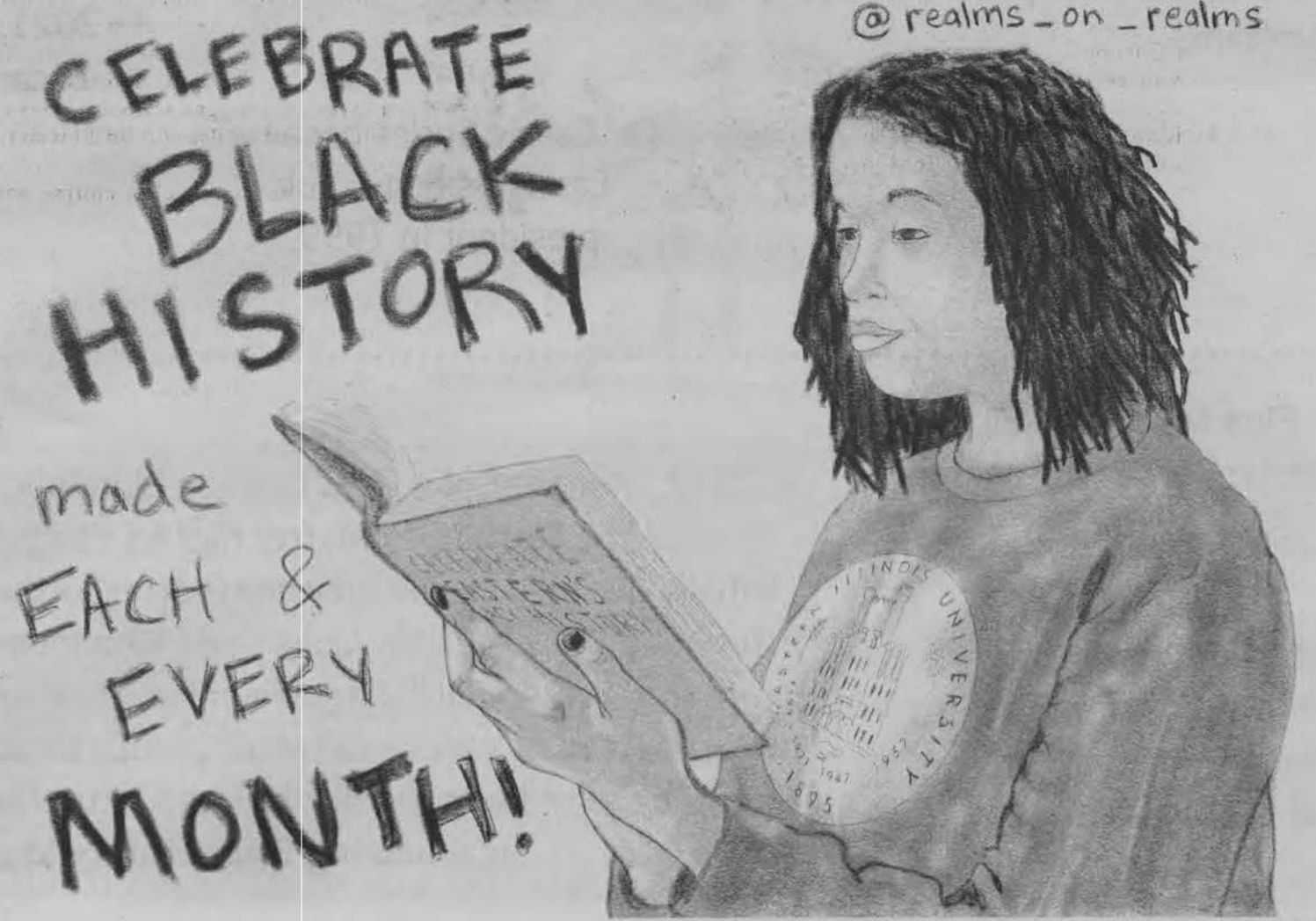
This month, right in our own backyard, there will be several events ready for you to participate in and learn more about Black history and issues the Black community is currently facing. Attend them.

Whether you attend one or all of these events, you will benefit from them. From trivia nights to lectures and discussions on important topics, everyone can be benefited by learning more about the history that has shaped and molded the Black community today.

Aside from events being hosted on campus, take time to educate yourself, 2022 is not the year to be claiming ignorance on important issues.

Learn more about current events in the Black community, sit down and learn more about Eastern's own Black history.

Eastern has a rich Black history full of students doing incredible things and faculty and staff going above and beyond to support students, as well sev-



@realms-on-realms

Comic By Will Simmons

eral times where the university was on the wrong side of history. Do your part to learn more about this history.

Today, students have more power than ever to create long-lasting, meaningful changes in the world around us, but before we can do that we must make sure we understand where we have come from and where we go.

Right now, all around you on this campus, local, national and perhaps even world leaders are in the making. Those leaders are well-educated on the issues of the world and compassionate enough to sit down and listen to and learn from the experiences of marginalized people.

Today is the day to add yourself

to the growing list of emerging leaders from Eastern. Start with one of the many fantastic events being hosted this month, or maybe with researching one of Eastern's many notable Black alumni.

With so many options for educating yourself this month, there's no excuse not to.

Psychology

Medical field must face longstanding racial bias

There has been a long history of the medical establishment both using and mistreating Black Americans. This comes from underlying racism and bias, while has led to scientific discovery in some cases like in Henrietta Lacks's cells, but our lives our disregarded.

This ranges from horrendous experiments on enslaved people, the forced sterilizations of Black women, all the way to the infamous Tuskegee syphilis study that withheld treatment from hundreds of Black men for decades to let doctors track the course of the disease.

It is only about what we can contribute, not how we can benefit from the science discovered by some of these medical professionals.

When Black people try to bring up these issues we are often dismissed, but there are multiple studies backing up our fears that health professions still do not take us seriously sometimes.

In 2016 a study of black cancer patients and their physicians found that, overall, providers high in implicit bias



Theo Edwards

were less supportive of and spent less time with their patients than the providers lower in implicit bias.

Black patients picked up on those attitudes and viewed high-implicit-bias physicians as less patient-centered than physicians low in this bias. The patients also had more difficulty remembering what their physicians told them, had less confidence in their treatment plans,

and thought it would be more difficult to follow recommended treatments, according to the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

We deserve equal treatment for how much medical care can cost in this country.

Furthermore, a report from an Institute of Medicine panel made up of behavioral scientists, physicians, public health experts and other health professionals titled, "Unequal Treatment," concluded that even when access-to-care barriers like insurance and family income were managed for, racial and ethnic minorities received worse health care than nonminorities. Both explicit and implicit bias played potential roles in this.

Patients should not have to feel like they're trying to prove something to their doctors, but sometimes as a minority that's what it feels like. It feels like we have to prove we're worthy of being treated and that we are not just overreacting and making up symptoms.

A journal article from 2016 showed

that half of medical students and residents held one or more false beliefs about supposed biological differences between Black and white patients. An example includes a belief that Black patients have a higher pain tolerance than white patients, according to a journal from the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Virginia.

Additional studies have shown that Black Americans are consistently undertreated for pain relative to white patients, according to the Center for Bioethics at University of Pennsylvania.

If this isn't continuously discussed, we will never make progress in the right direction in correcting these mistakes and in getting people the healthcare that they deserve. Implicit and explicit bias against people of color prevents them from being taken seriously in the medical field.

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Education

We need to teach all of Black history in schools

In most classrooms, you are taught about the colonization of the world by Europe.

Then you get to the colonization of the Americas. We are taught that the African people were brought here against their will and forced into slavery.

Then we fast forward to the Civil Rights Movement.

Then it just kind of stops.

We are not taught African history like we're taught medieval history. In my case, I can tell you more about mathematical processes I will never use again than I can about African people and their culture. Why are we taught European history more than African history?

Most teachers do not have a choice of what they can teach, but why not make waves to show what should be taught? Black students are taught the history of their kidnappers rather than the history of their own ancestors.

Instead, some students just stare



Ellen Dooley

confusedly at cultural traditions, but know exactly what is happening in Medieval Times.

Is this because we have seemed to block out African history? We teach kids about the queens and kings of England, but not about the leaders of African nations.

The only classes that involved a deep discussion of African history is when I came to EIU.

Back home, there was nothing like African American studies. But then again, I came from a smaller school with a population the size of a class in a bigger school. I guess it would have to depend on how many teachers were able or knowledgeable enough to teach a course with the correct content.

We tend to have a "white-washed" or "Americanized" textbook.

When it comes to the horrors of slavery, it tends to be shrunk into a reprimand instead of realizing what early Americans did. Then again, a lot of textbooks tend to leave out other things too.

But why? We need to teach everything for students to get a non-biased education. That starts with including everything about where the people in this nation came from.

We uprooted the African people from their homes and cultures, there is no doubt, but we need to teach students about African history as much as we teach European

history.

Our nation was colonized by white Europeans and people think that this nation was only built by them. They are wrong.

There is a melting pot of different people who built this country to what it is today. It was mostly built on the backs of minorities.

Either voluntary immigration or forced slavery shaped the infrastructure of early America.

We need to teach our children this.

We should not just teach Black history during February. African history and cultures need to be taught in our schools just like European history.

We all deserve to know the full history of our ancestors and why we are where we are today.

Ellen Dooley is a sophomore special education standard major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or at emdooley@etiu.edu.

Social Commentary

Dear white people, it's time to acknowledge our privilege

I'm white. I've spent my life incredibly fortunate and lucky.

There are so many people that aren't so lucky. They get discriminated against just because of the color of their skin, which is something they couldn't control.

There's an issue with that though. Black people can't control their skin color and white people don't recognize that it isn't okay to belittle them or discriminate against them for it.

Theoretically, we live in a country where all men were created equal.

I've never been looked at funny. I've never code switched, stood up straighter, gotten denied medical care or been denied entrance to a building just because I'm white.

And neither have most students at Eastern. According to the Eastern's 2020 factbook, African American and Black students make up 13.12% of the student population, while white students make up 60.62% of that same population.

It's not okay that the remaining 39.38% of Eastern students may



Katja Benz

be get a month of events focusing on their culture.

The white population of Eastern should be doing more to support their students of color.

Having a month's worth of events just isn't enough anymore.

People of color deserve the same amount of respect that white people get automatically.

They shouldn't have to fight anymore, especially in a country where

all men were created equal, theoretically anyway.

As someone who has continually had to fight for herself, all I want is to fight for them too.

Minorities deserve a rhetoric change, respect and so much more.

If the university prides itself on being diverse, equal and inclusive, then why don't they do more to support their minority students, staff, and faculty?

The minority population of Eastern is still a part of the university.

If people refuse to see them as such, then there's a problem.

Being a minority isn't a monthly thing, so we shouldn't treat it as such. Support and equality are a year-round issue.

And if we live in a country where all men are created equal, then why are Black Americans getting denied healthcare, jobs or the basic human right to live?

We, as white Americans, have to do something about it.

We should have done more than

posting a black square on our Instagram page and captioning it #black-outuesday.

That was never enough, and never will be.

That is the bare minimum of effort. Minorities deserve more than the bare minimum.

After black out Tuesday, I watched the Netflix documentary "13th", which explores racial inequality in the U.S. while examining the racial disparity in prisons across the country.

There is so much that we, as white people, will never understand about what it means to be a Black person.

It's so important that we recognize that.

It's so important that beyond recognizing it, we need to do something about it.

If you refuse to do something, then you aren't American.

Katja Benz is a junior English major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or kkbenz@etiu.edu.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

DO YOU THINK EASTERN DOES ENOUGH TO PROMOTE ITS BLACK HISTORY?

CHECK OUT DAILYEASTERNNEWS.COM TO SEE WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

Plant discusses Panthers' offseason preparations

By Nick Bays
Women's Soccer Reporter | @DEN_Sports

The Eastern women's soccer team's season ended last November after qualifying for the OVC Tournament once again. While the playoff appearance was impressive enough, the Panthers would be eliminated in the first round.

Two months removed, the Panthers have had time to sit back and look at last season as they prepare for their next upcoming OVC campaign. Head coach Jake Plant has been able to take much of last season's ups and downs into perspective and is using that information to create a productive spring off-season.

"Coming back from the break, you get a few priorities you need to address. Make sure that foundation is solid," Plant said. "One major one that we're dealing with right now, that we think will have a massive impact this fall, is our possession rate. We pride ourselves as a possession-based team. Also, getting the understanding of 'why' into the group is one of the biggest things."

He also said that roster turnover makes it difficult to work on things long term.

"Not only do we need to have good possession rates to dominate games, but we also had a lot of turnover in the last two seasons," Plant said. "Lot of kids leaving and coming in with big classes. So, that learning and understanding of the micro-details of possession is something we really have to get done this spring."

When looking at this spring offseason, Plant said this spring is more of a return to normal spring seasons.

The last two springs had been affected more drastically by COVID, with one being cut short and the other containing a re-scheduled fall season.

"The next three to four months, every detail in possession and why the ball goes here and there and has to be taught," Plant said. "That may not be the only thing, but that will be the biggest thing we will be doing all spring long."



BY ASHANTI THOMAS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Eastern forward Serra Pizano gets into position to head the ball in Eastern's match against Chicago State on Sept. 3, 2021, at Lakeside Field. Pizano had a goal in the match, which Eastern won 1-0.

Along with emphasizing possession, Plant said he is ready to give potentially important roles to younger players.

"You give the chance to the younger kids to develop, grow, and become the staple kids in the program. They earned those spots (last year) and that's just where we're

at as a program. Lots of our kids graduated, especially in the backline, so we had to stagger it with some youth," he said.

"Now these younger kids are somewhat experienced, which is nice. The future is bright when it comes to those positions because by the time they're juniors and se-

niors, they're going to have played fifty to sixty games for EIU and be rock solid."

When it comes to spring training, the emphasis will be heavily possession based.

"(Possession) is going to be immersed in everything we do," Plant said. "Every session, every drill, even if we're doing a finishing drill that's about scoring goals, there will be an element of the principles of possession. . . The importance will be stressed by the girls just seeing it every day in lots of different scenarios."

Possession play, and starting possession at the back line, is important to Plant and the offense he wants to run for a few reasons.

"Dropping the center backs towards goal and spreading them out wide tempts the other team into coming forward," Plant said. "We want the opponent to come to us to create space in their half of the field. Then that allows for the decision makers at the back to once the pressure comes to bypass it. It's all about creating space behind the opponent."

That potential space created behind proved to be effective on multiple occasions for the Panthers as they doubled their goal scoring tally from their 2020 season (played in the spring of 2021). The Panthers in that 2020 season scored five goals in ten matches averaging 0.5 goals per contest. However, the Panthers last season scored ten goals in seventeen matches with an average of 0.58 goals per game.

With younger players developing under Plant with an emphasis on possession and creating space in the other half combined with six proven goal-scoring threats who found the back of the net last season for the Panthers, this average should continue to grow alongside these players. The foundation for the Panthers is a solid one that presents potential for growth, and Plant's ideas and methodology seem to be taking the program to more competitive seasons to come.

Nick Bays can be reached at 581-2812 or ntbays@eiu.edu.

COLUMN

Ranking Garoppolo's best tweets from his time at EIU

With a disappointing loss in the NFC Championship Game and rookie Trey Lance waiting in the wings, it seems that the Jimmy Garoppolo era is over for the San Francisco 49ers.

But fear not. Everybody's favorite active NFL quarterback who is also an Eastern alum will likely get a chance to start for another team. Perhaps he can go to the Falcons. After all, he did lay a pretty big egg Sunday.

Despite the loss, Garoppolo's career has had more success than failure, especially dating back to his time at Eastern.

His accomplishments on the field at Eastern will not be forgotten, but we cannot allow ourselves to forget his accomplishments off the field, mainly his many fantastic tweets from his time on campus.

The man tweeted a lot. He also went through distinct phases, like the one where he used #makeitnasty a lot.

You can also witness a transition in his use of the platform as he neared the end of his final season at Eastern and



Adam Tumino

stopped posting nonsense and started getting grooming himself as a professional prospect.

His once wonderful account has hardly been used for two years and is mostly a barren wasteland of boring platitudes and retweets from the 49ers' official account.

It is disappointing to see a prolific poster be reduced to this, but we can always appreciate the good times from the Twitter feed of Jimmy G.

Adam Tumino is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or ajtumino@eiu.edu.

5.  Jimmy Garoppolo @JimmyG_10 · Jan 24, 2013
Chillin in class #EIU
2 replies 31 retweets 63 likes
4.  Jimmy Garoppolo @JimmyG_10 · Jul 6, 2013
Damn shit just got crazy at the mall lol #clothesfordays #bangbang
10 replies 730 retweets 1K likes
3.  Jimmy Garoppolo @JimmyG_10 · Jan 20, 2013
Damn Mufasa just died
18 replies 1.5K retweets 2.2K likes
2.  Jimmy Garoppolo @JimmyG_10 · Sep 19, 2013
Just saw a longboarder get wrecked by a car haha
76 replies 4.9K retweets 11.1K likes
1.  Jimmy Garoppolo @JimmyG_10 · Apr 2, 2012
Lost my panther card #fucked
5 replies 223 retweets 454 likes

Celebrating Eastern's trailblazing Black athletes



Charles Hall

Charles Hall is known around Eastern for several reasons. His name is among those being considered to replace Douglas Hall, largely due to his actions during World War II as one of the famed Tuskegee Airmen

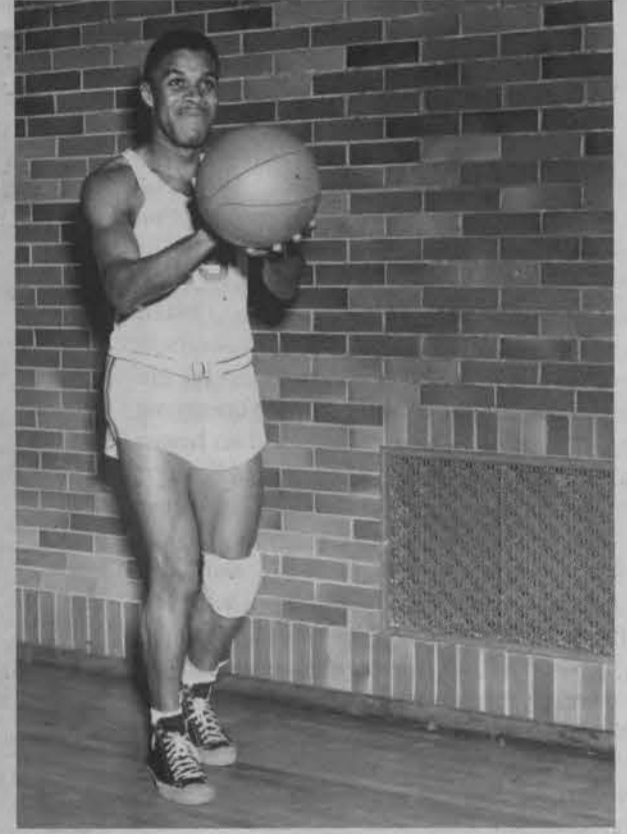
He also goes down in history as Eastern's first Black athlete as a member of the track and football teams from 1938-1941, when he left school to join the military.



John Craft

John Craft had a very successful stint on the Eastern track team in the late 1960s. He later became the first Eastern athlete to participate in the Olympics. Craft competed in the triple jump in the 1972 Munich Olympics, placing fifth.

He also served as an assistant coach for Eastern's track and field teams until 2002 and the Panthers host an annual event called the EIU John Craft Invitational.



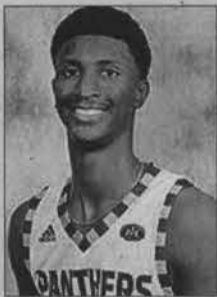
James Johnson

James Johnson was on one of the most successful basketball teams in Eastern history. He played an integral part on the 1951-52 team that went undefeated in the regular season.

Johnson hailed from the same town, Brazil, Indiana, as Charles Hall. Like Hall, Johnson served in the military, spending three years in the Air Force. Johnson was also the Dean of Student Personnel at Eastern from 1970 to 1991.

Athletes of the Issue

PAUL BIZIMANA



Freshman forward Paul Bizimana played a major role in the men's basketball team's last two games, which were the Panthers' first two wins on the conference season.

He had six rebounds and four blocks against Tennessee-Martin on Jan. 27 and 20 points and six rebounds on Jan. 29 against Tennessee State.

LARIAH WASHINGTON



Washington once again had a standout week for the women's basketball team. She scored 38 points in the Panthers' last three games, in which the team went 3-0.

She had a 20-point game on Jan. 29 against Tennessee State. In that game, Washington became the 27th player in program history to surpass the 1,000-point mark for her career.

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Wilkerson introduced as head football coach

By Autumn Schulz

Assistant Sports Editor | @autschulz

The Eastern Athletics formally introduced Chris Wilkerson as the 26th head coach of the football program Friday morning in the Hall of Champions in Lantz Arena.

Wilkerson is no stranger to O'Brien Field and the culture of Panther football. Wilkerson played defensive tackle for the Panthers from 1991-94 earning his degree from EIU in 1995. Wilkerson then began his coaching career on the staff of Eastern coach Bob Spoo from 1995-2001. During that time, Wilkerson had stints as defensive coordinator, linebackers coach, and defensive line coach but primarily led the special teams unit all seven years.

Eastern president David Glassman reflected on the meeting he had with Wilkerson prior to his hiring during the press conference, noting that being head coach here at Eastern has been a life dream of Wilkerson since 1995.

"He told me during that meeting that his life's goal, his life's goal, starting in 1995 was to be the head coach at EIU. That he's wanted that position since 1995 and that desire, that dream, that vision has never changed since 1995, and now he gets to live it," he said. "Celebration is today but I know that Chris is going to immediately go into the hard work of making those relationships and it's all about relationships with recruiting and keeping the team moving together as a team, and that's going to start tomorrow. He's not going to wait."

Eastern Athletic Director Tom Michael echoed Glassman in his statement by saying that Wilkerson exhibits many traits that make him the perfect fit for the football program.

"I am ecstatic about Chris leading this



BY ROB LE CATES | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Chris Wilkerson (left), Eastern's newest head football coach, receives a jersey from EIU Athletic Director Tom Michael for becoming the football team's new head coach at Wilkerson's press conference on Jan. 28 in the Hall of Champions in Lantz Arena.

program," he said. "When I really got to know Chris, we talked to Chris very early in the process, and as we had conversations and got to learn more about his personal traits, about how passionate the man is. He is passionate about teaching and coaching, he's got unbelievable positive energy, an engaging personality that

is magnetic and infectious."

In the last three seasons, the Panthers have won three games. In the 2021 season, the Panthers averaged 14.5 points per game and ranked 116th out of 123 FCS teams. They ranked 111th in rushing offense, 92.2 yards per game. Wilkerson said that with work, and the combina-

tion of new coaches on both sides of the ball, the Panthers' offense should flourish.

The rest of this story can be found online on The Daily Eastern News website:

dailyeasternnews.com

Wilkerson's hiring connects Eastern's football past, future

By Adam Tumino

Sports Editor | @adam_tumino

Pride for Eastern's football past was mixed with optimism for its future Friday as Chris Wilkerson was introduced as the next head coach of the Eastern football program.

This dynamic was present throughout Wilkerson's introductory press conference, as former and current players listened on.

Among them were several of Wilkerson's old Eastern teammates, who came to watch their friend realize dream; taking over as the head coach at a school where he played and coached for a decade.

"Thirty-two years ago this Wednesday, I made a decision that changes my life forever. I signed my national letter of intent to attend Eastern Illinois University, and man did that change the trajectory of my life" Wilkerson said.

He played defensive tackle at Eastern from 1991 to 1994 under head coach Bob Spoo, the winningest coach in Eastern history who helmed the program from 1987 to 2011. Spoo died in 2018 at the age of 80.

Wilkerson said that Spoo is the reason he became a coach at the college level, something that he has been now doing in various position at multiple programs since 1995.

"I came to Eastern because I want-



BY ROB LE CATES | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Chris Wilkerson (left) talks to former teammates along side his son, Peyton Wilkerson, on Jan. 28 after Chris' introductory press conference.

ed to teach and I wanted to coach, but I thought it would be at the high school level. And when I got done with my senior year, coach approached me about the possibility of helping with the staff in the spring," he said. "I said, 'coach, I haven't really thought about coaching college ball. I'm finishing my student teaching over at Mattoon Junior High School, Sharna and I are getting married in May, I've already passed the Illinois state examination, I've got reciprocity in Indiana. I thought I'd get a job teaching and coaching at the high schools."

He said that Spoo thought he could have a "bright future" as a college coach, which is something that has rung true.

"Twenty-seven years later and I haven't done anything other than coach college football," Wilkerson said. "He was such an influence on my development just as a person. I owe everything I have to this day to Bob. He's just a huge influence on my life."

Another member of Spoo's coaching tree was in attendance Friday. Sean Drendel played linebacker at Eastern from 1990 to 1993 and is now the head coach at Naperville

North High School in Naperville, Illinois. He said that he thinks Wilkerson will be a good fit for the job.

"Chris has always been a hard-working, tough individual," Drendel said. "When he played here, he was a little bit undersized for the position he played, but he was built on hard work... He's got great passion for this place."

Drendel also mentioned Spoo's legacy at Eastern, saying that having someone connected with that era of Eastern football take charge of the program is something to be excited about.

"With coach Spoo's legacy, and being a part of that, it's great to have Chris back. It's great to have an EIU guy in charge," he said.

Throughout Wilkerson's speech Friday, he made a call for pride in Eastern football, for former players from all eras to return to a program that they are forever a part of.

He said he wants to build an era of sustained success at Eastern, much like the one that was overseen by Spoo.

"I know he's going to be watching every single day," Wilkerson said, "and my goal is that we make him proud."

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