



**All access  
with Gino Parrodi**  
Page 8



**Students ease back into  
work with video games**  
Page 3

STUDENT FUNDS

# FAFSA deadline pushed to Friday

Grant applications available online

By Emily Steele  
Editor-in-chief

Students now have a few extra days to possibly get a little more money for school next year.

The Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA) forms are now due Friday after a surprise extension announced on Monday.

By filing a FAFSA, students are eligible for the Monetary Award Program grant. Currently, 3,096 Eastern students are MAP grant recipients.

Jerry Donna, the director of the office of financial aid, said an email went out to all students Monday informing them of the extension, but the office has not had a lot of feedback.

"If you haven't filed your FAFSA just get it in, whatever it takes to get it in by Friday because it could make the difference between a \$4,700, \$4,800 award from the state and not getting that award," Donna said.

A notification went out March 17 from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission stating forms would be due Monday. The financial aid office sent out an email that day, hoping to reach students over spring break.

On Monday the ISAC extended the application an extra five days

because of the amount of early applicants and recent calculations of available program funds. Last year the application cut off was April 15.

Donna said he was surprised to hear about the extension, but said he thought it was because they had more funds available and because the online application system was not working.

"Apparently people who were trying to get in so frantically over the weekend couldn't get in because it was out of service," Donna said. "So probably a combination of those two things made them think we really need to do is extend it so people can get their FAFSA in on time."

Earlier this year the state cut 5 percent from the MAP grants, but Eastern covered the difference for students. Donna said next year another 5 percent will be cut, which will come out to about \$248 per student.

Donna said the process to file a FAFSA form takes 45 minutes at the most. Applications require information from last year's tax returns and can be filed online at FAFSA.ed.gov.

Donna encourages students to take the time to apply.

"We never want someone to think they can't come to school because the funding is not there, we always like for them to at least call and talk to us and see what their options might be," Donna said.

Emily Steele can be reached at [eastele2@eiu.edu](mailto:eastele2@eiu.edu) or 581-2812.

CAMPUS LIFE



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Kaitlyn Martin, a junior special education major, checks out prize options Tuesday after winning a round at the Spring Fling bingo night hosted by the Residence Hall Association in the basement of Lawson Hall.

# RHA puts on bingo night

By Jennifer Brown  
Staff Reporter

Residence Hall Association sponsored Spring Fling bingo night and awarded the guests with prizes that had a spring theme.

Bingo games ranged from "L" shapes, regular bingo and black-out bingo, where each player had to cover their entire bingo card.

Andrew Lilek, junior art major, said last semester the bingo event was packed.

"So far we have a good turnout," Lilek said.

Some of the prizes awarded to players included popcorn bowls with a movie, a kite with bubbles and Easter candy.

Dondre Keeler, vice president of RHA, directed the players by calling out each of the bingo numbers.

Keeler helped plan the event with the committee of community development.

Alison Sinadinos, co-adviser of residence hall association, said Spring Fling is a way to celebrate the spring and promote the community through the buildings.

"It's a fun program that brings

people together," Sinadinos said. "It brings a good crowd."

Brandon Dawson, a senior industrial technology major, said it felt amazing to win at bingo.

"I came last semester and never won a single thing," Dawson said. "I had a full board and I was just waiting for that last one."

The winning play for Dawson was O-73, but the crowd became excited each time a bingo number was called.

"This is my first time I came this semester," Dawson said.

BINGO, page 5

FACULTY SENATE

# Campus security issues addressed

By Jennifer Brown  
Staff Reporter

The faculty senate meeting covered issues on campus security, covering how students are affected and what faculty can do to address the issues.

Dan Nadler, vice president of student affairs, spoke on the campus security and what progress it is making on a university level.

Nadler spoke of how the university has made progress over the prior three years in efforts to make security and safety better for students and faculty.

"We actively participate in one emergency drill per year which (often) includes the university and Charleston police and fire departments," Nadler said. "It helps us prepare for emergencies, manage emergencies and recover from emergencies."

Nadler and Bill Weber, vice president of business affairs, share respon-

**"Our stats are pretty stable. The things that will change are alcohol citations."**

Adam Due, chief of the university police department

sibly of campus safety and security.

Weber focuses more on the facility-side of campus safety, which may include drills involving a fire or flood, while Nadler focuses on the safety and security of the student and faculty of the university.

SECURITY, page 5

ROADS

# 'Pothole Alert' app. a possibility for Charleston

By Elizabeth Edwards  
City Editor

A new iPhone application could allow citizens to report potholes in Charleston on their phones, said an inventor from Virginia.

Minh Tran, a dentist from Springfield, Va., invented an application for the iPhone and Android that allows individuals to report potholes to the appropriate local officials in their communities.

When a driver hits a pothole, they pull the car over and tap the icon twice on the iPhone or Android screen, then the potholes' GPS coordinates are then sent out to the transportation officials, Tran said.

The free application is called "pothole alert," and Tran said he hopes the application will help street officials spot all the holes.

When a person is driving they do

not necessary know who to report a pothole to and the application will solve this problem, he said.

Tran said he came up with the idea for the pothole application after the severe snowstorms in the northeast last year and the many potholes he encountered.

Currently, Tran's pothole application is being used in 20 different states, and he is trying to implement his program in other communities in Illinois.

"I want to implement my pothole application nationwide," Tran said.

He is interested in computer programming and invented iPhone applications in his spare time.

Tran said all he needs to implement the application is verification from the street superintendent in Charleston.

Quincy Combs, Charleston street superintendent, was not available for comment on Tran's invention

Wednesday afternoon.

In the past, Combs, said the severe winter storms have taken a toll on Charleston streets. If anyone would like to get more information about the pothole application, they should go the [savemytire.com](http://savemytire.com), Tran said.

Soon, the website will also allow people to report potholes in their community.

If a student wishes to report a pothole currently, a student should email Combs at the Charleston Public Works Department at [qcombs@consolidated.net](mailto:qcombs@consolidated.net).

Potholes are caused by many different factors such as moisture or freeze-thaw action, Combs said in an earlier interview.

Once a pothole is reported, the city will fix the hole within two business days Combs said.

Elizabeth Edwards can be