

STAFF EDITORIAL

Campus size is nice attraction

According to an article in the Tuesday edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, one of the biggest selling points of Eastern is the smaller campus size.

One debut attendee said the campus felt "homey."

The campus size fits well with the small-town feel of Charleston. A lot of hot spots in town are within walking distance and those that are not are easily accessible using the Panther Express.

Students quoted in the article that Southern Illinois University-Carbondale's campus was too spread out and involved too much walking.

As college students we have walked around campuses like SIUC and University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. The campuses involve too much walking to get from one place to another.

We have heard from friends attending SIUC that a bike is essential to make it on time from class to class. They would have to walk too far and be late for class without quicker form of transportation.

Students do not want to have to walk ten minutes to get from one class to another.

Eastern's campus size is perfect for walking from one class to another within the allotted time between classes.

We like that the buildings on campus are organized in a way that keeps them close together.

With the exceptions of Carman Hall and the new textbook rental facility, the buildings on campus are organized in a way that makes them easily accessible from any other campus building.

We applaud the Eastern administrators for picking the "tundra" for the future location of the science building. The building will be constructed just south of Tarble Art Center. This spot will keep the building close to other academic buildings and residence halls on campus.

We hope when administrators plan to construct more buildings on campus they keep in mind the importance of a close-knit campus to current and future Eastern students.

We also applaud the faculty of the education department.

One student in Tuesday's article said she chose Eastern because she thinks the education department is great and challenging.

She said she liked that the department here focuses more on the student's overall education that they get at Eastern and make them keep a higher grade point average in order to obtain a teaching certificate.

It is great to hear that Eastern's education department is held in high regards by incoming students because of the department's focus on quality of education, not just in their department but in all classes.

Future teachers should have a good foundation in all academic subjects. That sounds obvious but even high school math teachers should have at least basic knowledge in English and science just in case they have to supervise a study hall.

The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

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COLUMN

Sunscreen labels to be changed soon

The FDA has changed its regulations toward sunscreen which may help people reduce their risk of early aging and cancer.

They have set this new standard into motion because of the damage from the sun's ultraviolet radiation.

While the sun is a good source for Vitamin D, the ultraviolet A-rays of the sun have the potential to damage a person's DNA and cause cancer. The ultraviolet B-rays could cause blisters and irreversible sun damage to the face.

In fact, in 2012, the FDA will begin to make changes to the labels on the sunscreen products.

"Water-resistant" will still be allowed on the label, but the label must specify the amount of time until the sun lotion has to be reapplied.

The FDA is regulating what can be labeled "sunscreen." This specific label is reserved for any lotion that is rubbed into or sprayed onto the body. Products that claim to have sunscreen in them, such as body washes and shampoos, may have to reconsider their label.

The new regulations are intended to inform



Jennifer Brown

consumers of the dangers of the ultraviolet radiation. They will do this with a broad spectrum label, which will tell the consumer if the product has met the FDA requirements.

In the future, don't look for the terms water-proof, sweat-proof and sunblock on sunscreen labels.

These labels are misleading to the consumer, the FDA said.

The FDA is also considering pulling from the shelves those sunscreens which have an SPF of anything above 50.

The fact that most people put these higher SPFs on only once a day is what concerns the

FDA. This increases the chances a person may get a serious sunburn, which could increase their chance of cancer.

Could consumers see warning labels on these products? Yes, if they don't meet the new required standards of the FDA.

This means the product has to be above SPF 15 to be allowed on store shelves, but those above SPF 50 are more than likely to disappear. Goodbye Neutrogena SPF 100.

The FDA is certain the new standard they will set in place will protect the consumers against skin cancer and sunburn.

If anything, it will limit choices and make the selections easier to buy.

Maybe this is a mild solution to cancer and sunburn, but it's only going to be a baby step in the effort to a cure. What is the FDA going to protect us against next? Soon we might as well live in a plastic bubble.

Jennifer Brown is a senior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com.

FROM THE EASEL



ALESHA BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

COLUMN

If it's bottled water, recycle the bottle

This week I read two articles on Yahoo! that brought up good points about how, even with the threat of global warming and other climate changes, many people still aren't paying attention.

They aren't paying attention to the fact that using five plastic water bottles a day is harmful to the planet. If people aren't comfortable drinking tap water there are plenty of options. There are plenty of products available to filter the water. There are filters for the faucet, filters for reusable water bottles and filtered water pitchers. Water can come out of a sink and be safe to drink.

A chef in Australia recently started charging for water that isn't in a bottle. He bought a filter system that not only cleans but also chills and carbonates that water. This water is more like mineral water that his customers would pay for by the bottle.

He has received mixed reviews but by doing this he is bringing awareness to the fact that people will pay a lot more for bottled water but they won't pay for the same thing if it doesn't come in a bottle. Besides being more cost effective it reduces the amount of waste.

I understand that sometimes bottled water out of a vending machine is the only option. That's fine, but that bottle should be recycled and not thrown in the trash. The simplest things can make a big difference.



Audrey Sawyer

The other article I read was on the issue of the ocean and how life in the oceans has the serious potential of going extinct in the next generation.

According to the article there are two main reasons for such an outcome. One being over-fishing and the other is a build up of carbon dioxide.

Over-fishing is the easiest one to be fixed. The article states that 60 percent of known extinction of fish in the ocean is due to over-fishing.

Changes in policies on fishing could immediately help with the issue of over-fishing. The rise of carbon dioxide is being blamed on the use of fossil fuels. The fuels are being

absorbed into the ocean causing such issues as acidification, a decrease in the pH level, and anoxia, which is a decrease in the oxygen level.

If there wasn't reason enough before there is now to push for wind or solar power. These are cleaner and safer ways to fuel things compared to using fossil fuels. Using fossil fuels may be easier but when it comes down to doing something because it's easy or because it could save the planet, saving the planet wins.

As of now it's not possible for everyone to have an electric car or solar powered houses but down the road hopefully it will be. Once these technologies are perfected the goal of using little to no fossil fuels will be more capable.

Until that time comes people should consider driving less to save gas and reduce pollution, use fewer plastic bottles, push for policy changes and anything else they feel would be beneficial.

If every person changes the way they do things even just slightly it could make a difference. Even if all they do is buy a water filter and stop using plastic bottled water they are making a change.

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Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in *The Daily Eastern News*.

The DEN's policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words.

Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

Letters may also be submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.