



PIANO BATTLE ROYALE

Two German pianists go head to head in musical battle and let the audience choose the winner.

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PANTHER WALK-OFF

Eastern's baseball team lost 2-1 against Indiana State during Tuesday's game .

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 101 | NO. 120

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF COVERAGE

EST. 1915

WWW.DAILYEASTERNNEWS.COM

EIU Pride hosts first Student Drag Show



PHOTOS BY OLIVIA SWENSON-HULTZ | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Lady Save the Bees models in front of her "resist" poster, in which she spray painted as part of The Students Drag Show. All the proceeds will go to SACIS.

Drag Queen 'drags' President Trump

By Kennedy Nolen and Liz Stephens
Multicultural Reporter | @KennedyNolenEIU
City Reporter | @ejstephens_jou

Lady Save the Bees trumped the crowd Tuesday night in the 7th Street Underground with her anti-Trump performance to resist misogyny, homophobia, racism, transphobia and bigotry.

Alex Woolley, a sophomore studio art major, took on the persona of Lady Save the Bees for the first Student Drag Show hosted by EIU Pride.

She wore a denim jacket adorned with "F--- Trump" on the reverse side, then spray-painted "RESIST" on a paper scroll behind her.

The show was in preparation for the DIVA Drag Show at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Grand Ballroom.

All proceeds from both shows will be donated to Sexual Assault Counseling and Information Service.

The show consisted of two categories, which were runway and lip-syncing.

Ava Isabella Sanchez, Chastity La Pierre, Lady Save the Bees, Danny Long Legs, Run Around Sue, Madame Succub---- and Plain Jane Lane Berglain were the queens who performed.

In between categories, the audience members had the opportunity to strut on the runway as the queens prepared backstage for their next performances.

Drag shows are an accumulation of performing arts, music, theater and visual arts, Lady Save the Bees said.

In preparation, she said she

practiced applying her makeup for nearly two months.

Lady Save the Bees said it was her first time performing in drag, and she had never lip-synced in front of an audience while dancing, nor had she worn full drag garb.

She hopes to continue doing shows in the future and said she would love to perform at Chester Street Bar in Champaign.

"I am very concept driven. Concepts come to me first, then visual parts comes later," she said.

One of Lady Save the Bees' outfits and performances made a political statement. She performed to an anti-Trump song and got a strong, positive response from the audience.

Another outfit was a black mourning dress with beads, and she carried a bouquet. She said she pulled inspiration from "The Addams Family" for this look.

A performance by Vander Von Odd had a similar, murderous song, she said.

"It would be sickening" to recreate the concept from Vander Von Odd with her own ideas, Lady Save the Bees said.

Lady Save The Bees, Danny Long Legs, Madame Succub---- and Plain Jane Lane Berglain were the four winners and will open for the DIVA Drag Show Thursday.

Volunteers who want to help set up for the DIVA Drag Show can do so for two hours to receive \$5 off of their entry.

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Plain Jane models during The Student Drag Show, where students lipsynced, danced and strutted on stage.



Lady Save the Bees performs a dance for the crowd during The Student Drag Show in the 7th Street Underground on Tuesday night.

Faculty Senate votes to support Teach Out

By Cassie Buchman
News Editor | @cjbuchman

The Faculty Senate discussed the report it sent to the administration reviewing Workgroup No.7's recommendations on academic programs and passed a resolution supporting a Teach Out at its meeting Tuesday.

The Faculty Senate had created a subcommittee in February to review the recommendations on the programs in Africana studies, philosophy, and career and technical education, which were recommended for deletion or consolidation by Workgroup no.7. In its report, the subcommittee determined that the three programs should be given time and encouraged to enact the structural changes currently underway instead of being eliminated.

"Dismantling these three programs or otherwise enforcing Workgroup No.7's recommendations would at this time likely result in more harm than good," according to the report. "The Faculty Senate believes that EIU can ill afford at this juncture to eliminate programs without a demonstrated benefit to the long-term fiscal and/or academic health of this university."

The committee found that the Africana studies program is in discussion with the Latin American studies, Asian studies and women's studies programs to consolidate some current offerings and find innovative programming to meet the needs of the current student population.

"It would better serve our institution to allow these changes to be driven by faculty aware of the needs, strengths, and challenges of their programs and the ways that diverse programs can work together, than to make an arbitrary 'top-down' edict that would enforce an elimination or consolidation of a major," the report said.

For career and technological education, the subcommittee found the program has shown strong enrollment numbers until the year 2013. Though the program has seen low enrollment in recent years, the subcommittee wrote, there is high demand in the field for workers with a career and technological education skill set.

"Such strong numbers of graduating students (until very recently), coupled with promising job prospects, would indicate that eliminating CTE is premature at this time," the committee wrote.

Regarding philosophy, the subcommittee wrote that eliminating it would lead to a loss of credibility as a university and that the program has the best student-credit-hour production in the College of Arts and Humanities.

Like the Africana studies program, philosophy has also been engaged in conversations with related programs to develop new interdisciplinary programs.



OLIVIA SWENSON-HULTZ | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Participants in The Piano Battle take part in the ping pong competition on stage. Paul Cibis and Andreas Kern are German Pianists who have been doing piano battles since 2010, when they were mistakenly scheduled for the same performance.

Musicians go head-to-head in Piano Battle

By Loren Dickson
Entertainment Reporter | @DEN_News

Two pianists from Germany, Paul Cibis and Andreas Kern, faced off in the Dvorak Concert Hall Tuesday night as part of their 14-stop piano battle tour in the United States.

The show, which was six rounds long, combined classical piano playing with light-hearted competition and a great deal of audience interaction.

Audience members voted after each round for the pianist they thought won that round. Whoever won the round pushed his piano closer to the finish line. At the end of the sixth round, whoever was past the finish line was the winner.

Kern was crowned the winner at the end of the show, although there was some hesitation as to who won.

To announce the winner, they asked an audience member to join them on stage to determine who was the winner. Audience members used double-sided black-and-white cards to cast their vote by raising them high in the air.

The man who was on stage to determine the winner could not decide and said that both Cibis and Kern deserved to win.

A new judge was brought on stage who then decided that Kern had more votes from the audience.

“I think tonight went well, I actually think I was the winner though,” Cibis chuckled. “It wasn’t

planned to have a referee on stage that refused to make a decision.”

Cibis said that although they do go on stage to win, in the end it is about music and the love of music that they share.

“We are performing against each other on stage with a mutual aim in mind,” he said.

“It’s always great to win, but actually at the end of course it’s not the main goal,” Kern said.

Kern said he thought the performance went very well even though the end was a bit unpredictable.

“The hall was very wonderful, we could feel the audience with us,” he said. “The tour in the U.S has been absolutely amazing. It’s fantastic to meet so many nice people in Charleston and everywhere else we go. It’s touching.”

Cibis and Kern have mainly performed throughout Asia and Europe. This is the first time they have toured in the United States. They have been to the U.S. to perform a few other times, but never for a tour of this kind.

When asked about the difference of playing in the United States compared to elsewhere, both pianists had insight.

“We will probably never play two encores here in the United States,” Kern said. “It’s like in Japan, the applause is huge, but when it stops, it’s done. In Berlin, sometimes there are six encores. It goes on and on.”

Kern also said that the audience

reaction to their performance is different.

“Some places in Germany are more conservative and you wouldn’t hear an audience member shouting ‘good job’ like you would here. It’s fantastic,” he said.

Cibis said he noticed that the age of the audience varies from place to place.

“In Asia you have a lot of young people. There are about 60 to 80 million people learning how to play piano,” he said. “They are strongly encouraged to come to the shows with their parents, grandparents, and teachers.”

Bonnie Buckley, Charleston community member, said Cibis and Kern were not only fantastic pianists, but their performance was very unique.

“I’ve never seen a piano battle before,” she said. “The way they interacted and engaged with the audience was absolutely wonderful.”

Buckley said with classical music, it is not common to use humor and comedy like they did, which was what she enjoyed most about the concert.

Cibis and Kern will head to Albuquerque, New Mexico Wednesday to continue on their piano battle tour.

They plan to tour again in the United States in early 2018.

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OLIVIA SWENSON-HULTZ | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Paul Cibis smiles to the crowd after a piano competition with Andreas Kern as part of The Piano Battle.



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Participants prepare to partake in the ping pong competition as part of The Piano Battle in the Dvorak Concert Hall on Tuesday night.

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