

# Exemplar

Spring / Summer 2007 | [www.emich.edu/communications](http://www.emich.edu/communications)

Eastern Michigan University

## On the case

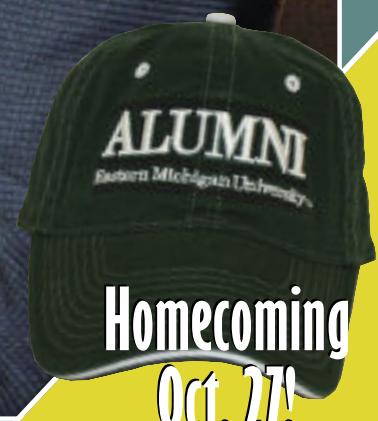
From cops to cowboys,  
Loren Estleman is rich  
in character

Also:

EMU Gospel Choir:  
lifting voices, spirits

Mark Jefferson's  
\$100M makeover

Professor Bedford &  
the Negro Leagues



Homecoming  
Oct. 27!



# Making a Difference

Teal Christoffersen (left) and Vanessa Porter are succeeding at EMU through dedication, talent and the support of alumni. Both are current recipients of the EMU Alumni Association Scholarship, which recognizes tradition by helping current students from families with at least one EMU graduate. Through the generosity of alumni and other EMU supporters, 12 renewable scholarships are being awarded. Your contributions are making a difference every day. Thank you.

**Read more about Teal and Vanessa at [www.emich.edu/communications](http://www.emich.edu/communications)**



## How to make a difference:

- ▶ Make a direct contribution to the EMU Alumni Association Scholarship Fund or attend a fundraising event that supports it, such as the May 19 Alumni Awards dinner. For more information, visit [www.emich.edu/alumni/awards/scholar.html](http://www.emich.edu/alumni/awards/scholar.html).
- ▶ Get an EMU vanity plate from the state of Michigan. The fee is \$35 in addition to your annual vehicle registration fee. Of the \$35, \$25 supports alumni scholarships and programming initiatives. Visit [www.emich.edu/alumni/programs/license.html](http://www.emich.edu/alumni/programs/license.html) for more information.



**EMU Alumni Association**  
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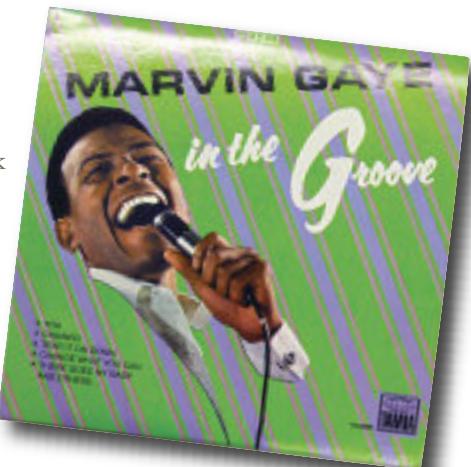
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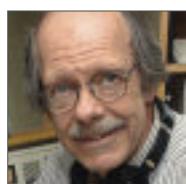


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# Strike up the band

When you're editor of an alumni magazine, you naturally hear from a lot of alumni. The news and updates I receive are sent either by employers telling us about someone's new hire or promotion or are collected from clipping services and other sources. Even in this digital age, we still receive the periodic phone call from someone passing on good news. But the rarest form of communication is the arrival in our office of a handwritten note. And when you combine that with a pen, music CD and a check to the EMU Foundation ... well, that's called the alumni trifecta!

The note and other items were sent recently by Luke Wegienka, Michigan State Normal College Class of 1948. He came from Romulus High School to MSNC in 1941, pledged a fraternity (Zeta Chi Sigma), fell in love and later married Helen Wrobel, was drafted, served overseas from 1943-46, returned and graduated with a major in music and education. He went on to serve as an educator and administrator in Monroe and Wayne county school districts for the next 37 years.

While a student "Normalite," the bassoonist taught fellow band members to do the "duck walk" for a half-time show, was named president of the Music Club his senior year and was selected to play the cymbals for the 1947 Homecoming Parade, an honor he still cherishes.

After his formal retirement, he continued to teach instrumental music at parochial schools in the Dearborn Heights area, where he has produced several local cable music programs. He and brother Matthew (yes, Mrs. Wegienka named her first four sons after the Gospel writers) have produced numerous CDs (including the one pictured above, with Luke on the left with brother Matthew) and continue to perform locally. You can learn more about their music — and buy CDs — by visiting [www.originalmelodies.net](http://www.originalmelodies.net).

What makes Luke's story worth sharing is the abundance of fond memories he has of Ypsilanti and the special place the University has in his heart. Feelings like those are shared by countless others who continue to have not only a debt of gratitude but a special bond with EMU. And that's a story worth passing on any time.

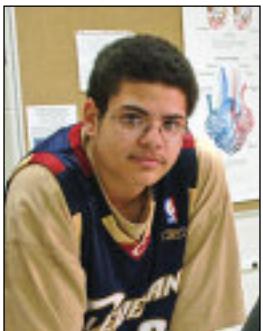
**Reminder:** As we first explained in the winter issue, the University magazine *Exemplar* is now being mailed to both donors and alumni. Content from *The Edge*, the former alumni magazine, has been incorporated into the larger and improved *Exemplar*. I hope you're enjoying the issues. Drop me a line — or a handwritten note — any time. ♫



## contributors



**Sheryl James (B.S. '73)** is a freelance journalist from Brighton, Mich. She has spent most of her 25 years in journalism writing feature stories for several daily newspapers, including the St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, where she won a Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing in 1991. James also is author of the biography "The Life and Wisdom of Gwen Frostic" and currently is writing a biography of former congresswoman and Michigan Lt. Gov. Martha Griffiths for the University of Michigan Press. She is married and has two daughters.



# The new face of science

The largest construction project in Eastern Michigan University history has cleared its largest hurdle. In doing so, the Mark Jefferson Science Complex project is redefining the University's leadership role in science education for at least a generation. The expansion and renovation of Mark Jefferson – home to most of the "sciences" in the College of Arts and Sciences – still must pass through several logistical checkpoints. Among these are the sale of construction bonds, selection of architects and engineers, and achieving consensus on everything from light fixtures to color schemes.

After first being discussed in 1982 and sketched in some initial detail in 1998, the \$100 million project now has an air of inevitability. When completed, the addition will be larger than the recently opened EMU Student Center. In March, the EMU Board of Regents approved the proposal. In doing so, they cleared the final largest hurdle – official University financial commitment. The regents forwarded the proposal to the state legislature's Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee, which approved the project April 19. The scheduled 2010 opening will change not only the physical landscape of the southwest corner of campus but the educational landscape as well.

"The project highlights the important role of science within the college, the University and the community at large," said Dr. Harmut Höft, interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The project immediately affects five of the college's 18 departments (biology, chemistry, geography and geology, physics and astronomy, and psychology) and those departments' 90-plus faculty and thousands of students.

The reasons for the project are many, but center on addressing current limits in space, technology and infrastructure. For example, many pieces of new science equipment require dedicated space and electrical, heating and cooling requirements that can't be accommo-

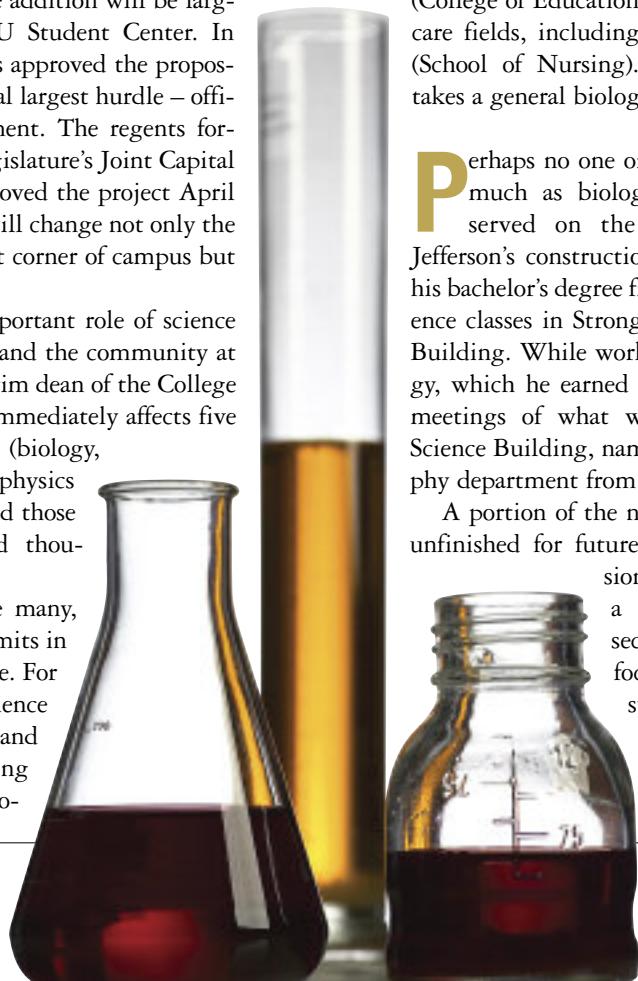
dated efficiently within the current building, which opened in 1969. In addition to equipment, faculty and students want more research laboratory space that can enhance learning and usher in a new era of interdisciplinary research.

"This building will attract new students. We have awesome students and this will help keep them here," said Dr. Tamara Greco, head of the biology department. "It's good for faculty, too. The new building will help us compete and get the best and brightest to serve our students."

Not just College of Arts and Sciences' students will benefit. Courses offered through the biology department, for example, are taken yearly by about 500 future elementary educators (College of Education) and about 300 students in health-care fields, including nursing and occupational therapy (School of Nursing). And nearly every undergraduate takes a general biology class.

Perhaps no one on campus appreciates the project as much as biology Professor William Booth, who served on the planning committee for Mark Jefferson's construction in the late 1960s. Booth earned his bachelor's degree from EMU in 1966, and took his science classes in Strong Hall, Sherzer Hall and the Hover Building. While working on his EMU master's in biology, which he earned in 1968, Booth attended planning meetings of what would become the Mark Jefferson Science Building, named after the head of EMU's geography department from 1901-39.

A portion of the newly constructed space will remain unfinished for future growth and departmental expansions. The project's first phase calls for a 154,000-square-foot addition. The second phase includes renovations and focuses on mechanical and electrical systems, structural improvements and a new roof. The work will increase the existing building's life by at least 35 more years. ♀



# The Campus Scene

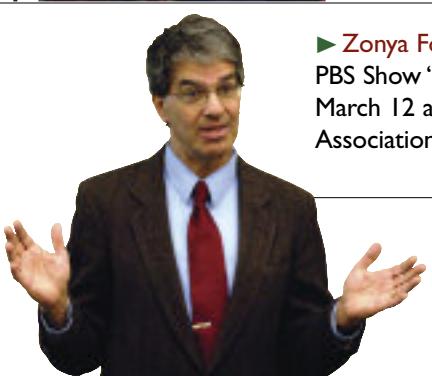
A sampling of recent guests who spoke on campus

► “Technological development has outrun our spiritual development.”

— **Grace Lee Boggs**, an activist, writer and speaker with more than 60 years of political involvement, who delivered the keynote address Jan. 15 at the President’s MLK Luncheon.



► **Zonya Foco**, a diet expert and host of the PBS Show “Zonya Health Bites,” appeared March 12 as part of an EMU Student Dietetic Association fundraiser for Food Gatherers.



► **Dr. Paul Ceruzzi** of the Smithsonian’s Air and Space Museum spoke April 4 on the ARPANET and Internet. The Department of Computer Science sponsored his appearance.

► **Randy Cohen**, who writes The Ethicist column for *The New York Times Magazine*, was a March 16 keynote speaker during the first College of Business Ethos Week. His speech, “How to be Good,” examined the best ways to motivate people toward ethical behavior.

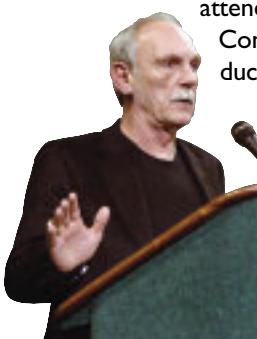


► Legendary civil rights activist **Dick Gregory** was the keynote speaker Feb. 22 at a conference on community empowerment for community change agents and grassroots workers sponsored by the National Action Network, a national organization founded by the Rev. Al Sharpton.



▼ **Jim Leyland**, manager of the Detroit Tigers, and players Placido Palanco, Craig Monroe, Todd Shelton and Justin Verlander visited Jan. 18 as part of the annual Tigers Winter Caravan. About 3,000 people attended the free event at the EMU Convocation Center.

► **Ira Glass**, host and producer of National Public Radio’s “The American Life,” spoke March 24 at Pease Auditorium during an event sponsored in part by Friends of the EMU Library.



Dick Gregory © Ethan Miller/Getty Images

# Alumni gain with Eagle Discount Card

**E**astern Michigan University and the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce have launched the Eagle Discount Card Program. The program entitles EMU students, employees, interested alumni and retirees, and chamber members who show their identification or membership card to receive designated discounts at participating Ypsilanti-area businesses. Through April, 31 businesses have joined, from Eagle Crest Golf Club and Fischer Honda to Sticks Pool & Pub and the Best Damn Sports Bar.



Proud Sponsor of Eastern Michigan University and the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce

EMU and the chamber are promoting participating businesses in various ways:

- Inclusion in an EMU brochure distributed across campus.
- Recognition on EMU fliers posted in high-traffic campus areas.
- Exposure via a new EMU Web site, [www.emich.edu/eaglediscount](http://www.emich.edu/eaglediscount).
- Visibility through chamber e-mails, Web site, newsletters and meetings.

“With more than 23,000 EMU students and 2,000 EMU employees plus thousands of alumni, retirees and chamber members, our cardholders are a significant group of local patrons for local businesses,” said Theodore G. Coutilish, associate vice president of EMU marketing and communications. “Local businesses benefit through increased customer traffic, EMU benefits through increased visibility, and EMU students, employees, alumni and retirees benefit by saving money. A stronger Ypsilanti equals a stronger EMU and vice-versa.”

Alumni and retirees who would like an EMU Eagle Discount Card can call the Office for Alumni Relations at 734.487.0250.

For more information, visit [www.emich.edu/eaglediscount](http://www.emich.edu/eaglediscount).

# A Conversation with Shawn Quilter

**Q:** What is your role as EMU's first associate dean for academic accountability?

**A:** I have two main responsibilities. The first is coordinating all accreditation efforts through the entire educator-preparation program. It used to be that we could turn in a catalog, a couple of syllabi and the qualifications of our faculty and talk about how great we are to meet accreditation standards. That's no longer acceptable. We now have to turn in evidence that our students are learning. We have to show evidence that our students are learning against multiple standards, national as well as standards specific to the area they are going to teach, and standards that we decide on locally. It gets kind of complicated. Part of my job is to try to make it uncomplicated.

The second major part is supervising operations in the Office of Academic Services. There's a lot of student service work we do for people who are becoming teachers and other educator professionals.

**Q:** Why do we need to belong to a national accreditation organization such as NCATE?

**A:** The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) is the historical, traditional and current standard of excellence in teacher preparation. It's an accrediting body that's been around for more than 50 years, and it's very progressive in terms of its expectations. It was ahead of the curve in terms of realizing the importance of diversity in preparing both diverse teachers as well as preparing teachers to work with students who have different needs and are from diverse backgrounds.

And so part of the accreditation process is not just meeting that standard of excellence. It's being honest with ourselves and saying, 'We need to improve.' Part of the way we improve is by thinking about, writing about and collecting data about what we're doing and making decisions about that. When we go through that rigorous accreditation process, we do improve. When we make changes to our programs, we help our students improve. That's not to say that you couldn't do it without NCATE. But doing it with NCATE is a matter of prestige.

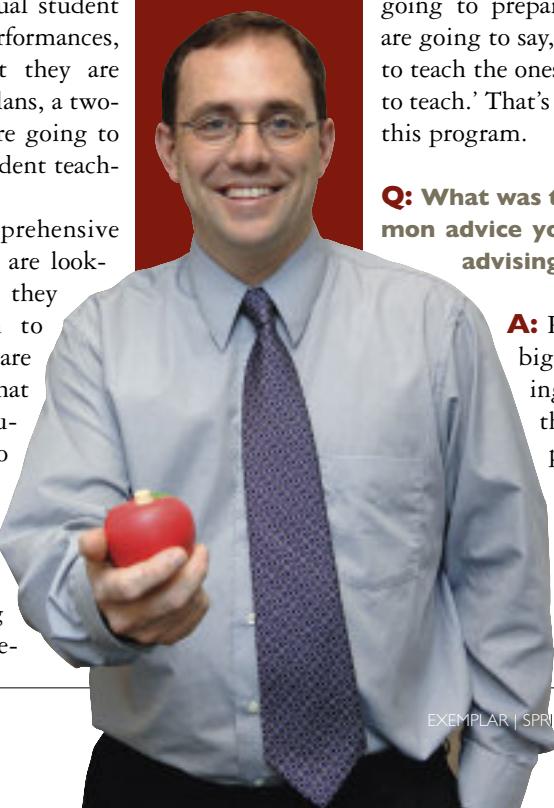
**Q:** Are accreditation standards and data-collection requirements so much greater that we had to dedicate someone to it?

**A:** Yes. In previous NCATE visits, we didn't have to report on how our students were doing on each of the sets of standards for their professional association. Our accrediting bodies are requiring us to collect and analyze student data, meaning individual student data on individual performances, whether it's a project they are doing, a set of lesson plans, a two-week unit plan they are going to implement or their student teaching evaluations.

It's a very comprehensive kind of thing, and we are looking at it from when they entered the program to where they exit. What are the key assessments that demonstrate our students are preparing to be math teachers, for example, in the way that the National Council for Teachers of Mathematics is saying they need to be pre-

## Shawn Quilter

Shawn Quilter was named associate dean for academic accountability in 2006, a new position created in the College of Education. Prior to that appointment, he was an associate professor in the Department of Teacher Education and assistant dean for the college. He joined EMU in 1996 as an assistant professor. He earned a master's degree and his Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina. He also has a master's in educational psychology from EMU ('93) and a B.A. ('90) from the University of Michigan.



pared? It's a huge shift. And it requires a lot of data, organizing and thinking, and collaborating. There's a lot of collaborating going on now that didn't happen before.

**Q:** What is the top concern today of Michigan educators?

**A:** Educators everywhere are concerned about meeting the needs of all their students. Not only are students more diverse, but their needs are more diverse. Twenty years ago when we prepared teachers, we might not have talked about community or family situations. We might not have talked about all of these other things that you consider 'outside' what goes on in the classroom. But so much of students' lives is based on what goes on outside the classroom, that you can't ignore it. You have to understand that in a larger context. And until you do that, you're not going to meet the needs of students.

It's part of the value set we share with students when they come to this program. We're not going to prepare teachers who are going to say, 'I'm only going to teach the ones who are easiest to teach.' That's not an option in this program.

**Q:** What was the most common advice you gave as the advising coordinator?

**A:** Plan ahead. My big goal was helping them to see that it's a whole process. Those who looked ahead and planned ahead had a lot easier time. ☺

EMU and WNIC FM 100.3 Present  
Flashback Homecoming 2007 • October 27

# FLASHBACK FEVER



Meet WNIC Flashback Weekend DJ  
Kevin O'Neill. Visit [emich.edu/homecoming](http://emich.edu/homecoming)  
or read more in the fall issue of Exemplar.



# Journey to Tibet

**A**pril Aretz considered herself a culturally astute student, but even her globetrotting adventures did not prepare her for the experience of Tibet.

"My first impression was, I couldn't believe how beautiful it appeared, with crystal-clear blue skies and the Himalayas," said Aretz, a 2006 EMU graduate who is working on an MBA. "You definitely felt a spirituality." What Aretz experienced is now open to all EMU students

**By Kevin Merrill** through the China Cultural History Tour, a travel-abroad program that now includes an option to spend 11 days in Tibet. The Tibet visit is part of a 41-day, three- to six-credit course that includes nearly a month in China's major cities.

"As an Asian Studies student, I thought I knew a lot. But I learned more in those six weeks than I did in two years," said Aretz of her experience on last year's inaugural tour. "It's one thing to memorize and regurgitate knowledge. But here, the history is so fresh – and you live it. You make a connection with what you've learned and can understand it at a higher level."

"When students are in the context of the culture, they really learn it," said Benita Goldman, a cultural history tour program associate in EMU's Office of Academic Programs Abroad, which manages the China-Tibet program and all other academic tours.

Goldman also has a master of fine arts degree from EMU, and teaches art subjects on the tours. "I've traveled all over the world but visiting Tibet was one of the most interesting things I've every done," Goldman added.

About 225 EMU students participated in travel-abroad experiences last year, Goldman said. (The current China-Tibet tour started May 14, and runs through June 23. The fee is \$4,190, plus tuition and airfare. Non-EMU students pay \$500 more.)

For-credit tours blends the thrill of international travel with the traditional rigors of the classroom. EMU tours touch nearly every continent and range from a week to a semester in length. But it wasn't until the summer of 2006 that a structured program existed to introduce Tibet to EMU students.

During their 11 days in Tibet, students – many are from EMU, but the program is open to students internationally – learn how Tibetan Buddhism was formed, the evolution of the state and the role of its religious leaders. They also study the nation's iconography and speak to monks and nuns about Tibetan culture.

Students spend the first weeks in China. "Just as you start to get comfortable with Chinese culture, you go to Tibet and start all over learning about another way of life," Goldman said. The first day in Tibet is spent adjusting to the higher altitude. This

year's group will take the Tibet train, which travels at the highest altitude of any train in the world. (Last year's group flew into Lhasa, the capital of Tibet.)

There isn't a standard profile of a student who pursues an EMU travel-broad experience, but Aretz's interests are typical. The student has a deep interest in different cultures and political systems, and a thirst for adventure. "Once you travel abroad, you get a travel bug," she said. "It was very applicable to my Asian Studies program. That's what pushed the decision over the edge for me. Why not get six credits and finish my degree?" ♫



TOP: Colin Everett, a senior from Monroe, Mich., with one of the guardian figures that line the Sacred Way along the path to the Ming Tombs at Xiaoling outside Nanjing, China. LEFT: April Aretz in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa.

# A league of their own

By Lisa Donovan

**N**ow that the major league baseball season is in full swing, fans across America are rooting for their favorite players. For Eddie Bedford, baseball season brings a completely different lineup to mind. Players like James "Cool Papa" Bell, William "Judy" Johnson, and Ted "Double Duty" Radcliff – superstars of Negro Leagues Baseball – may be unfamiliar to many people. But their names roll off Bedford's tongue as if he were talking about his best friends.

Bedford, an assistant professor in EMU's School of Health Promotion and Human Performance, has amassed such a huge collection of Negro Leagues' memorabilia that he built a basement with 9-foot ceilings to hold it all. Photos, uniforms, bats and balls bring to life the forgotten heroes of the league, created by Andrew Rube Foster in reaction to the racist policies of major league baseball commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis.

"They had Babe Ruth and Cy Young, we [Negro Leagues] had Josh Gibson and Satchel Paige," Bedford said. "Paige was a flashy player and got a lot of attention, but he also garnered respect."

Bedford's most prized collectibles are the baseball, book and three caps autographed by Minnie Minoso, a heavy-hitter with the New York Cuban Giants from 1945-48 before joining the Cleveland Indians. These mementos have special meaning because Bedford and Minoso, who live near each other in Naperville, Ill., have become friends over the years. They get their cars repaired at the same garage. Bedford drove the airplane-shy Minoso to the Society for American Baseball Research's 2001 Negro Leagues conference in Kansas City, Mo., where Minoso was the guest of honor. And Minoso was a guest at the 2004 high school graduation party for Bedford's daughter. "We've known him for quite awhile, so she asked me to invite him to the party," said Bedford, who teaches physical education classes for classroom teachers as well as physical education majors.



Bedford's expertise in Negro Leagues history has garnered him a role on the national stage. In 2005, he hosted the eighth annual Society for American Baseball Research's Negro Leagues conference in Chicago. He also became the educational consultant to a Major League Hall of Fame committee established to study the Negro Leagues and assemble statistics.

"Many Negro Leagues stories have been passed on like folklore, but now there are official stats to prove them," Bedford said.

The Hall of Fame was so impressed that it allowed the committee to select the first roster of Negro Leagues inductees for the Hall of Fame's Class of 2006. In March, Bedford presented his experiences in that selection process at the national conference of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

To share his collection and growing field of knowledge with students, Bedford created a course on Negro Leagues History, which he has taught at EMU since 2002. He brings in Negro Leagues' authors and former players to share their experiences with students. Mel Duncan, who pitched for the Kansas City Monarchs and Detroit Stars from 1949-56, is a frequent visitor. "I thought I knew a lot about Negro Leagues baseball, but when he gets to talking, I feel like I don't know hardly anything," said Duncan, an Ypsilanti resident.

Negro Leagues historian Dick Clark, chairman of the Society for American Baseball Research's Negro Leagues

Committee, also has been a guest speaker. Clark has collaborated on six books on the subject, including "The Negro Leagues Book" and "Black Baseball in Detroit."

"Eddie is extremely knowledgeable," said Clark of Ypsilanti, who earned a bachelor of science degree in marketing from EMU in 1970. "He's gotten a great collection going by knowing a lot of the former players."

Bedford's course, the only one in the country dedicated to Negro Leagues history, has attracted attention from other universities. Although he does not want to part with his hard-won syllabus, Bedford is more than happy to help other institutions develop their own course to shine a light on this forgotten era.

"In the black community, kids and adults need to realize there was a league that paralleled Major League Baseball," Bedford said. "It's important to realize that the Negro Leagues Baseball organi-

zation still today is the second-largest black-owned industry ever."

Bedford's course winds up with an optional trip to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, Mo., the league's birthplace. "It's a long field trip, to be sure, but he feels that experiencing the museum adds more depth to their studies," said Ray Doswell, deputy director and chief curator of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. "We wish there were more teachers like Mr. Bedford."

Bedford's love of baseball goes back to the second grade. Growing up in Kenosha, Wis., in the 1950s and '60s, his father took him to the Milwaukee Braves' opening day game every year. He got his first hint of Negro Leagues baseball in the late 1950s, when his next-door neighbor, an Alabama native, talked about all the great players on the Birmingham Black Barons team. "My kids have a ready-made Christmas list for me," Bedford said. "Just get me something from Negro Leagues history and I'm happy!"

**LEFT:** Professor Eddie Bedford and Mel Duncan, an Ypsilanti resident and former pitcher for the Kansas City Monarchs.

**RIGHT:** This locker and many other items were part of a traveling exhibit, on loan from the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, on display last fall at the Bruce T. Halle Library.





**98 Miles High: The Ride of a Lifetime Chasing an Obscure Cycling Record**, by Eric Durak (B.S. '84). Durak, a former track athlete, offers a personal journal of his single-year journey traveling 500,000 vertical feet on road grades of 7 percent or more. Medical Health & Fitness Publications \$19.95, softcover

**Breaking Into Commercials**, by Deborah Ouellette (B.S. '98, M.A. '01) and Terry Berland. An essential guide to untapped opportunities in regional and national markets with valuable insights into developing a competitive edge. Silman-James Press \$15.95, softcover

**The Cosmic Spiderweb**, by Lou Bitonti (B.S. '71). All you need to know about capturing any customer through event marketing. Full of tips and relevant case studies, including one on the very successful Camp Jeep event series. Dog Eat Dog Publications \$22.95, hardcover

**Dance in the Key of Love**, by Marianne K. Martin (B.S. '67). Paige Flemming is on the run. Marissa Langford is a woman living with the wreckage of her dreams. As old secrets emerge, they must search deep inside to battle their demons. Bywater Books \$13.95, softcover

**Freshman Orientation: House Style and Home Style**, by Dr. Ed Sidlow (B.S. '74). The story of what it takes to make the challenging transition from candidate to newly minted member of Congress. CQ Press, a division of Congressional Quarterly, Inc. \$29.95, softcover

**The Rice Diet Cookbook**, by Kitty Gurkin Rosati (M.S. '83), R.D., L.D.N., and Robert Rasati, M.D. Offering 150 everyday recipes and inspirational success stories from the Rice Diet Program. Simon & Schuster \$26, softcover

## CAMPUS BRIEFS

### Gymnasts win first MAC crown

The EMU gymnastics team made history March 31 by winning a Mid-American Conference (MAC) Championship, the team's first in 26 years of MAC competition. The Eagles won on their home turf at the EMU Convocation Center, edging Kent State University by less than three-tenths of a point. EMU was paced by junior Jolene Worley (pictured, right) from Orlando, Fla., who notched a season-high 39.175 for the event title. Worley was named all-around champion, EMU's first since Robin Loheide in 1993. The Eagles posted season-high marks on the bars (48.725), beam (48.350) and floor exercise (48.775).



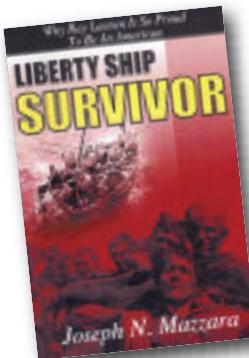
### Speaking of sports titles ...

The women's gymnastics team isn't the first to bring home the gold, so to speak, in 2006-07. EMU sports teams have earned five other MAC titles this year: men's golf, men's cross country, men's swimming and diving, women's swimming and diving and men's indoor track. As *Exemplar* went to press, several other teams were having strong seasons heading into their championship tournaments, including men's baseball, women's softball and men's and women's outdoor track. The women's golf team finished second at its MAC tournament.

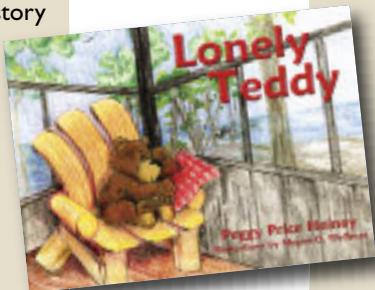
### Recruiting the best, brightest

The EMU Convocation Center was the place to be April 17 for prospective educators. More than 175 school districts from states such as Arizona (right) and Florida registered to recruit students.





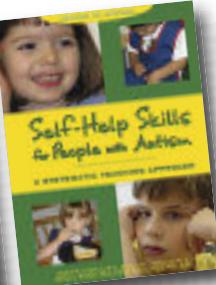
Liberty Ship Survivor: Why Ray Laenen Is So Proud to Be an American, by Joe Mazzara (B.S. '74, M.S. '79). Based upon the true story of a Michigan man's ordeal during World War II. AuthorHouse, \$14.95, hardcover



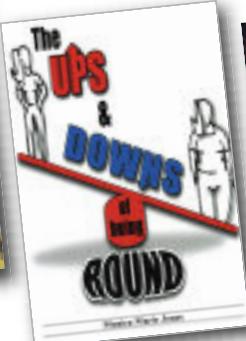
**Lonely Teddy**, story by Peggy Price Heiney (M.A. '79), illustrations by Megan Wellman (B.F.A. '02). A children's book about a teddy bear who is inadvertently left behind at a northern Michigan cottage and the adventures he encounters. Nelson Publishing & Marketing \$18.95, hardcover



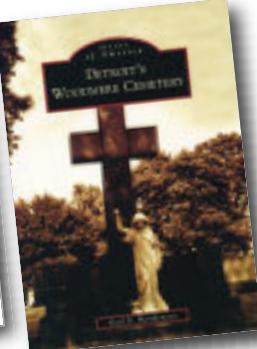
**The Red Diaries**, authored by Gary Reed (M.S. '86). A graphic novel about the "lost" diary of Marilyn Monroe and the deathbed desire of its owner to share the contents with the world. Image Comics \$16.95, paperback



**Self-Help Skills for People with Autism**, co-authored by Gary Reed (M.S. '86) and Vicki Madaus Knapp (M.S. '97) and three other researchers. A systematic approach that parents (and educators) can use to teach basic self care to children (ages 24 months to early teens) and older individuals. Woodbine House \$21.95, softcover



**The Ups and Downs of Being Round**, by Monica Marie Jones (B.S. '01). A coming-of-age story about a girl who struggles with weight issues. Excerpts appeared in "Chicken Soup for the Girl's Soul" in 2005. Hub Books Publishing \$15.99, paperback



**Detroit's Woodmere Cemetery**, by Gail D. Hershenson (M.A. '89). An overview in pictures and words of the movers and shakers of Detroit throughout its history who found a final resting place in the historic cemetery. Arcadia Publishing \$19.99, softcover

Attention EMU authors. Send news about your new book to [exemplar@emich.edu](mailto:exemplar@emich.edu).

## Two for one at WEMU

WEMU became the first public radio station in Michigan to launch a second channel – WEMU2 – on High Definition radio. Since April 1, listeners with high-definition radios have been able to tune to a second channel on WEMU's frequency of FM 89.1. Currently unhosted, WEMU2 is all music and plays a mix of Adult Album Alternative (AAA), roots (fundamental blues), folk, Americana and blues from local, national and regional artists.

## Talk of the town

The award-winning forensics team placed second in the nation to Western Kentucky University at the National Forensics Association Tournament April 19-23 at Berry College in Rome, Ga. The performance was the best showing for EMU at nationals in more than a decade and exceeded expectations, said Ray Quiel, director of EMU's forensics team. Chris Griesinger, a senior from

Middletown, Ohio, was a three-time national champion, placing first in prose interpretation, after dinner speaking and persuasive speaking. Griesinger also placed second in informative speaking and in the pentathlon (top speaker in the nation). Among those who got a chance to hold the trophy were (below, left) Kyle Zrenchik, a senior from Westland, Mich., who earned second in persuasive speaking and third in poetry interpretation, and Brandon Miller, a student team assistant.



## EMU leads chain reaction

Aluminum Supply Company Inc. of Detroit won a national award for "Outstanding Small Business" from the Small Business Administration – and EMU was there to help play a role in the success. In accepting the award, Nancy Marshall, the company's chief executive officer, credited EMU's Small Business and Technology Development Center and one of the College of Business' supply chain management classes for her company's success. In that class, students focused on Aluminum Supply as a case study. The results were shared with the company, and led to the implementation of new techniques for inventory control, warehouse management and distribution. (On a related note, the EMU Board of Regents at its March 20, 2007, meeting approved a new major and a minor in supply chain management.



## Flashback Homecoming is coming Oct. 27!

Boogie on down Oct. 27 to the EMU Convocation Center for Flashback Homecoming 2007 (see related ad on page 8), co-sponsored by EMU and WNIC (FM 100.3) and featuring

Flashback Weekend DJ Kevin O'Neill. This year's Homecoming Week festivities start Oct. 20 and are dedicated to the '70s and '80s.

Kickoff for the home football game against Western Michigan University is 3 p.m. Flashback tailgating is expected to begin around noon.

For game and event updates, visit [www.emich.edu/homecoming](http://www.emich.edu/homecoming). See you at the game ... and GO GREEN!

(In the fall issue of Exemplar, the football team's 2007 season will be previewed, including its key matchup Oct. 6 against the University of Michigan.)



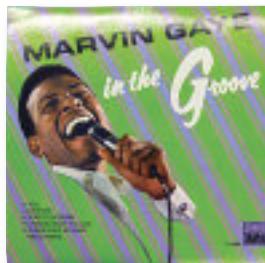
**REMEMBERING A FALLEN EAGLE:** EMU awarded a posthumous degree to Mark Kidd, a pre-law senior who was one semester short of graduating, at Spring Commencement ceremonies April 29. Kidd, a 26-year-old Marine corporal, died Jan. 25 while conducting combat operations in Iraq. Receiving the honorary degree on Mark's behalf was his father Frank (above). Hundreds of friends and family members gathered at Mark's funeral services Feb. 3 (inset) at Brighton Hills Cemetery in Brighton Township, Mich. (funeral photo © The Hometown Life Newspapers)

## Motown: the sequel

Congratulations to Gina Gibson, Kathy and Rick Purcell and Eric Timson – winners of our Motown Lowdown quiz (Exemplar Winter 2007). Each correctly answered all eight questions and won free tickets to the Motown Historical Museum.

Speaking of Motown, shame on us for forgetting EMU's own treasure-trove of Motown memorabilia, donated by none other than Esther Gordy Edwards herself. In

the fall of 1972, Mrs. Edwards donated the Gordy Motown Recorded Collections to the EMU Recorded Sound Collections. EMU has more than 2,200 original Motown 45s and LPs – with their original sleeve jackets. The collection is a restricted service available only for research purposes. Included are items such as original sheet music and fan items such as Jackson Five playing cards! Thanks to Maria Davis, who recently retired from University Archives, for bringing the collection to our attention.



## Next issue:

The fall issue of Exemplar will explain the new General Education curriculum overhaul. Gen Ed is the heart and soul of an EMU undergraduate education, and a lot has changed about it since you were on campus. Starting this fall, freshmen will experience a Gen Ed program that is more flexible, global and outcomes-based.



## Celebrating culture here, abroad

Several lives ago, in 1970, I arrived on the EMU campus as a new faculty member in the Department of English. I thought it was a pretty nice place and I'd be here a long time. That turned out to be true, but not quite the way I envisioned it at the time. After a few detours, I discovered that EMU is a good place to reassess, re-tool and re-invent. I also learned there are creative and vital aspects of this University that may not be obvious at first look but have wide-reaching significance.

Since 1986, I have been the director of the Office of Academic Programs Abroad. In the last 20 years, study abroad has become a better known option for U.S. students, even though only a small percentage participate. At EMU, the choices have increased, but our specialty remains extensive travel-study programs led by faculty. These programs offer powerful opportunities to encounter other cultures and histories face-to-face while earning academic credit, learning how to function in a group and discovering previously unknown inner resources.

Few other universities are able or willing to put as much emphasis on travel-study as we do. But we can offer an array of compelling travel-study programs because our staff believes this is an excellent way to involve students actively in cultural discoveries.

The other major aspect of my life at EMU has been involvement with our public radio station, WEMU, 89.1 FM. For nearly 25 years, I have been hosting jazz programs on WEMU; since 1989, I have been a volunteer host for The Groove Yard. Playing jazz records on the radio is definitely fun, but there's a serious purpose, too. The music staff at WEMU is committed to putting

the music we broadcast into a context that gives listeners a clearer idea of where jazz and blues fit in America – and sometimes the world. This is really culture study – learning who we are, where we came from and what we value. Not too much different from taking a group of students to Europe or Asia and having them encounter people and cultures a world away.

Other aspects of my two EMU worlds are similar in unexpected ways. Because the travel part of some study programs is so extensive, they sometimes are thought of as just travel. "Where do you have class?" we are sometimes asked. "Wherever we are" is our response, which can include the Roman Forum, the Great Wall of China or other historic and cultural sites.

At WEMU, our music programs are about more than playing records. A lot of research, thought and heart go into the effort to tell a meaningful story about jazz and blues and their con-

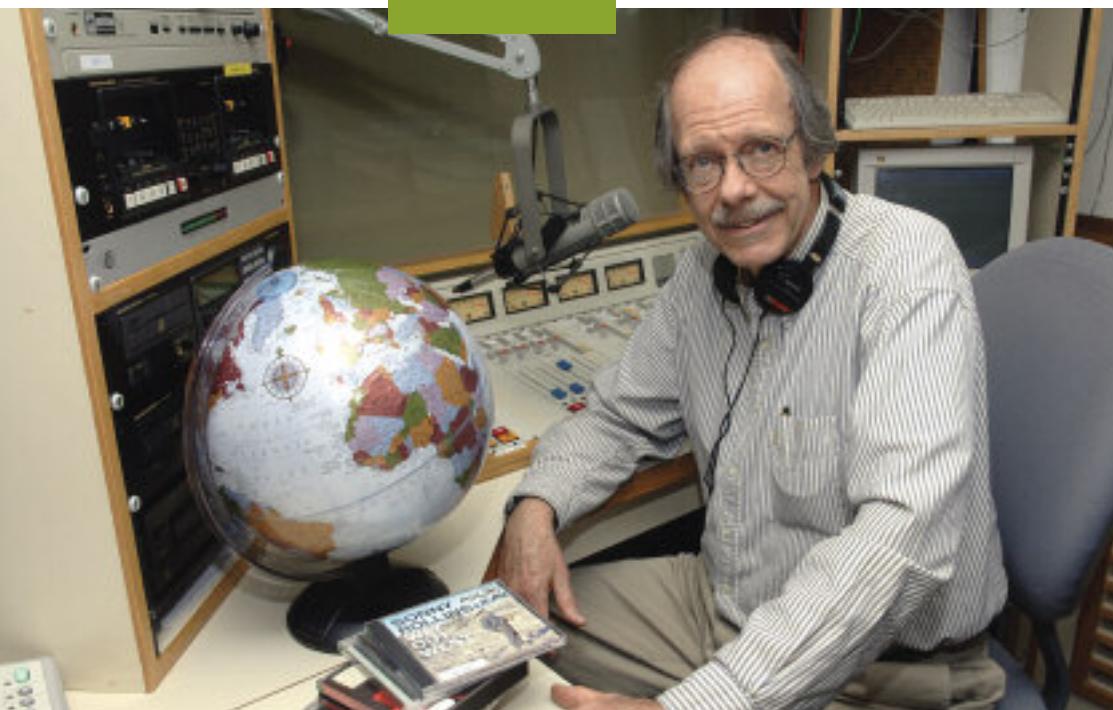
### George Klein

George Klein has been director of the Office of Academic Programs Abroad since 1986. He previously taught humanities in the interdisciplinary studies program at Wayne State University and English at Eastern Michigan. He received his doctoral degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Oregon in 1974. He also serves as host for 'The Groove Yard,' a weekly Sunday jazz program on WEMU. Klein can be heard from 1-3 p.m. on 89.1 FM.

text, while still keeping the emphasis on the music. Listeners discover that the entertainment also includes a wealth of knowledge. In both worlds, an exceptional staff is required to do exceptional programming, whether it's locally produced presentations of music and news at 89.1, or navigating increasingly complex conditions around the globe.

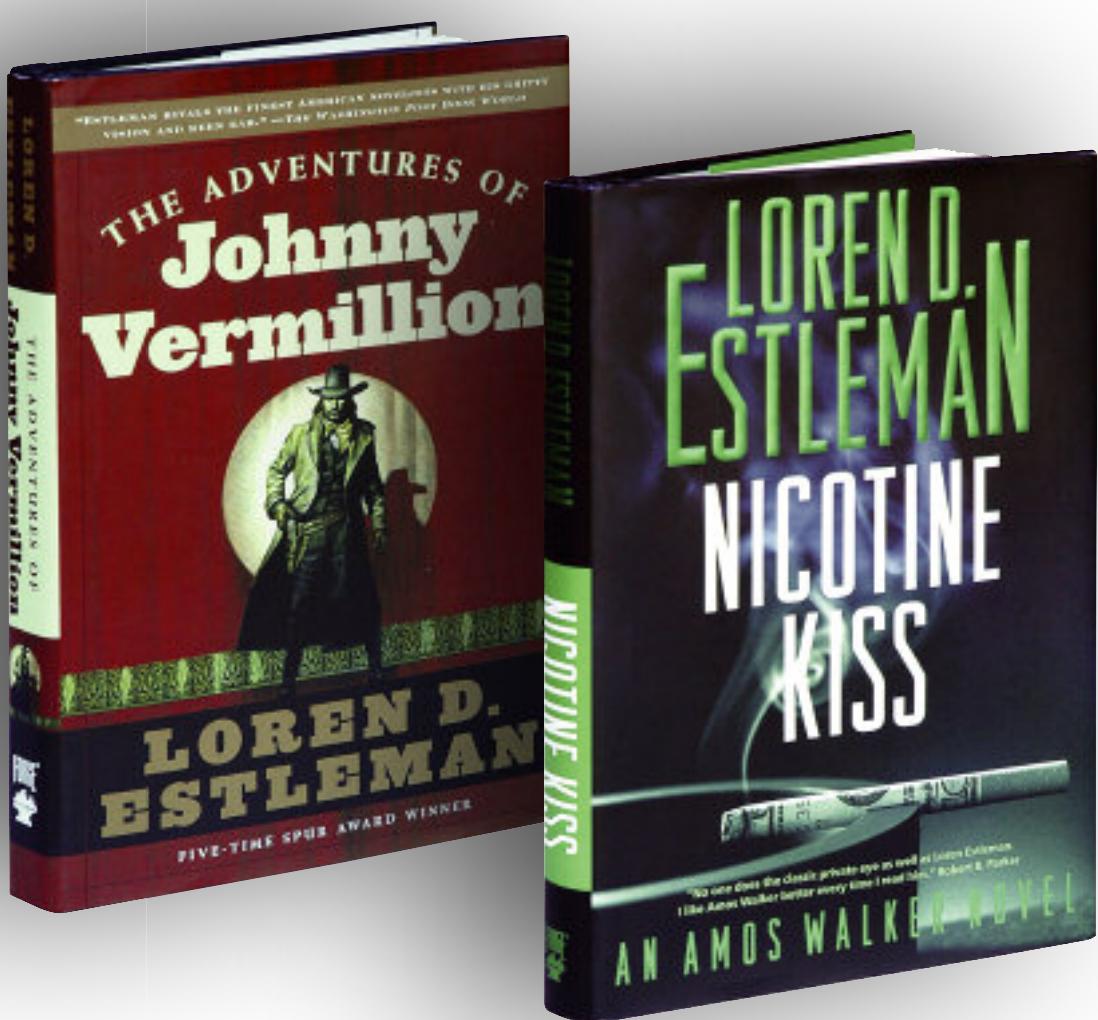
I'm very fortunate to have found my way to these different but similarly creative approaches to culture. When I arrived in 1970, I had no idea that study abroad or public radio existed here, and certainly no inkling that I would find a professional identity and spiritual home in them. They continue as great assets to EMU.

They are also fragile, facing growing challenges, and always in need of resources and staff ready to go beyond the call. They may not be the first things you see on campus, but they continue to say much about EMU at home and abroad. ♫





# inch



# Character

*Prolific Estleman still wooing fans* By Sheryl James

Loren D. Estleman has written 60 novels full of wise-cracking, conniving, colorful, idiosyncratic, melodramatic, enigmatic characters who get in and out of trouble and say things such as, "She had a face like Tom's bay mare," and "I ate an injun once," against Old West backdrops where "theaters and ballrooms dripped with murder" and "where drifters caked head to heel with dust swilled red-eye whiskey at long mahogany bars."

Or, in Estleman's more modern day, Detroit and Michigan-set detective novels, characters say things such as, "The cop's face got as hard as quartz. It hadn't been puff pastry to begin with." The scenery boomerangs from Lake Huron beaches with "freshwater clam restaurants propped up on piers and 'Rhapsody in Blue' drifting out of bandshells" to a "condo on the fourth floor of a former steam radiator factory in the shrinking warehouse district off East Jefferson, within pistol range of the Renaissance Center."

Of course, readers always wonder how much an author's characters resemble the author. In other words, can Loren Estleman live up to his own characters?

Let's see. He grew up in an 1867 Whitmore Lake, Mich., farmhouse built by a Civil War general. The cracks between the oak floor boards were so large, you could glimpse people roaming around in the basement – not unlike a scene in his 2006 novel "Nicotine Kiss." His grandmother was a flapper and a gambler in Al Capone's Chicago who regularly left her daughter, a.k.a. Estleman's mother, back at the apartment with

anyone she could find. This is why his mother's first memory is seeing a guy toting a Tommy Gun on the balcony. Estleman's other grandmother was a cousin of Nicola Tesla, who invented the light bulb, which, it is said, Thomas Edison promptly stole. And Estleman's wife and author Deborah Morgan is related to the infamous Dalton Brothers of the Old West.

Meanwhile, Estleman, 54, writes on a manual typewriter. An Underwood. 1923. Cast iron. Good for throwing out the window when you're frustrated, he says, because you can just go pick it up and dust it off. His dining room is Victorian, done in garnet red, and his bedroom is Napoleonic decor. Against that backdrop, he says things like this: "I don't know a first predicate from a Buick," and "I tell people I'm the Meryl Streep of writers. I'm not bankable, but they keep me around for the prestige."

That last statement is a bit misleading, all due respect. Estleman is plenty bankable, enough so that he hasn't had a real job in 20 years. "At this point, I'm hard core unemployable," he says. His books, which command a narrow but loyal following, have garnered good reviews in *The New York Times* and attention by well-regarded writers of crime and Westerns, some of whom Estleman knows personally. He's been asked to speak at so many writers' conferences that he's tiring of cocktail parties. And his books win awards.

"Most of the best accolades I've gotten are ones I've never heard of," he says. "Someone sent me one through fourth-class mail. I didn't even know I was up for it. I got this padded envelope

lope in the mail. It took like three weeks to reach me, with no explanation. I hung it on the wall."

Yeah, he's a character, all right.

He's also incredibly homegrown and loyal to Michigan, Detroit, and EMU. He has not strayed far from any of them his entire life. He was born in Ann Arbor in 1952, but grew up in that 1867 farmhouse, where he lived until he was 30. Today, he lives right across the street in a home he had built about 20 years ago.

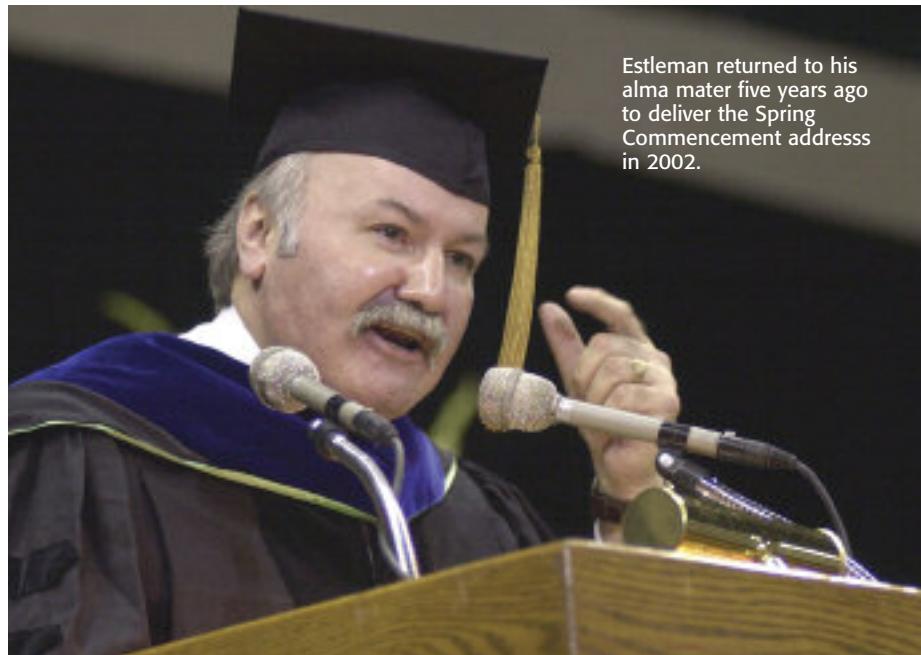
He went through the Dexter (Mich.) schools, rather folksy and low key at the time. He graduated from Dexter High School in 1970 and headed off to the big U in Ypsilanti. It wasn't far in miles, but it was in sophistication. "I remember the first day I went to Eastern, I was suddenly learning new words. I'd never heard the words 'syllabus,' or 'extrapolate' before and I heard both of those on the same day," he says.

**A**t EMU, he planned to be a graphic artist until he saw how good everyone else was. In the meantime, he wrote a short story for his fiction class — taught by Naomi Long Madgett, now Detroit's official Poet Laureate — that was so good, Madgett didn't believe he wrote it. "So I wrote another one," he says, equally good.

Soft spoken, polite and remarkably humble, Estleman has nothing but good things to say about his alma mater. "I think I got a really excellent education. It was just a very stimulating time. Even the required courses I'm not particularly good at were good."

EMU has yet to provide a scene in any of Estleman's Michigan-based books, but it has furnished a character. Estleman can't recall which book, but the character was a black activist named Starkweather Hall. A fan and serious student of history, Estleman says Starkweather always has been his favorite building on campus.

He graduated in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in English literature and journalism. (EMU awarded Estleman an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters in



Estleman returned to his alma mater five years ago to deliver the Spring Commencement address in 2002.

2002.) He then went to work for the *Dexter Leader*. "I was writing 800 inches of copy a week." His last day at that job, or any other formal job, was Oct. 31, 1980.

But by then, he already had written his first book. In 1976, he published "The Oklahoma Punk," a crime novel based on a 1930s Midwest gangster. (He hates the title, foisted upon him by the publisher.) He followed with western novels and some Sherlock Holmes adventures. All of these were published by Doubleday before 1980.

It was his first real Detroit detective novel "Motor City Blue," published in 1980, that first brought Estleman some praise from a *New York Times* critic and from other writers, though prior books had gotten notice from *Time* magazine and other publications. They commended his plots and his writing style — razor sharp, expertly done, well-researched. This book introduced Estleman's most familiar and enduring character, detective Amos Walker, who appears once again in "Nicotine Kiss," investigating terrorist-linked crime north of Port Huron.

Estleman has introduced strings of books featuring the same main character. For instance, one series of books features Peter Macklin, a killer. "I know he's not a good man; there are times when you find yourself rooting for him because he's our

killer." Estleman says his usual technique is to begin with a title, and let it take him from there.

So, why mysteries and westerns?

"I tried to write what they call literary fiction," Estleman says, "and every time I try, after a while, somebody dies in some horrible fashion. And there I am down that road again." With mysteries, "you're constantly playing a game of chess with the reader. You have to give the reader enough



Detroit Renaissance Center

information that when you draw the final veil, he'll say, 'Oh, why couldn't I figure that out,' rather than saying, 'Well, this guy cheated on me.' But not so much that he figures it out 20 pages ahead of time.

"I like writing about the West because the West is as much fun to write about as it must have been to experience."

**E**stleman has written one of each recently. Both feature abundantly Estleman's genius for word use, visual imagery — "The sun broke red as an angry boil over Lake Huron..." — pace and blemishes of humor. From "Nicotine Kiss":

*The twinge in my leg didn't qualify as a twinge anymore. It felt like a root canal starting at the knee. I went into the water closet and studied the little folding program that came with the bottle of Vicodin. I wasn't to take it with alcohol under any circumstances; but it had been twenty minutes since I took it. That was the loophole I'd been looking for. I went back to the desk and poured an inch and a half from the bottle of single malt I'd bought myself for Christmas.*

In "The Adventures of Johnny Vermillion," a great tale of an old-West theater troupe that performs plays and actual bank robberies at the same time, Estleman assembles a motley crew of char-

acters led by the handsome, likeable and thoroughly crooked Vermillion. Two characters are an older married couple that bring Fred and Ethyl to mind. When "Mme. Elizabeth Mort-Davies" is accosted by one of bad guys, she and her husband, Major Evelyn Davies, have the following exchange

*The Major asked if he'd assaulted her. She looked at him piteously.*

*"He knocked me to the ground, cut my lip, and blacked my eye."*

*"You know very well what I meant."*

*"No, Evelyn. I'm still the same unsullied girl you married."*

*"You were living with a fire-eater when we met."*

*"Don't think I don't miss that."*

Estleman uses what he calls a "shotgun perspective" point of view in "Vermillion." "It's a term I created," he says. "It's semi-omniscient.... Each scene is from a different point of view. That has a lot to do with the cinematic technique" he used in the book, stopping often to introduce readers directly to the next scene or adventure. "That's what a movie does. It's seldom from one person's point of view. Here's a chance to use narrator the way a director uses a camera."

Around these parts, though, Estleman's claim to fame are his Detroit

books, especially the Amos Walker series. "It always boggled my mind that there had never been a hard-boiled detective novel set in Detroit. It's such a hard-boiled city." His thorough use of Detroit scenes, along with his established popularity, has prompted Detroit-area landscape and cityscape photographer Monte Negler to photograph some locations used in the series. Wayne State University Press will publish the book, "Amos Walker's Detroit," due out in August.

Estleman credits his wife, who has published several of her own books, for some of his longevity and success. "She is my editor. I will argue with her about a point, then I'll go upstairs and find out she was right, and come down with a sheepish look on my face."

With 60 novels and no bestseller in sight, you might think Estleman would be ready to slow down, take a break, retire. Not a chance, sweetheart.

"It can be discouraging if you let it," he says. "But then I remind myself that after 30 years, I'm doing the one thing I like to do, and the only thing I do well, and I'm making a living at it." ♦

*(Sheryl James is a Brighton, Mich.-based freelance writer, an EMU graduate and current instructor in the Department of English and Language.)*

## The novels of Loren Estleman often mention locations and events from his home state

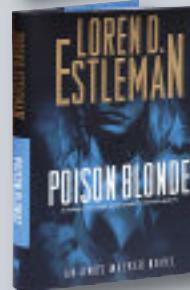
### PLACES, EVENTS WITH BIT PARTS IN "NICOTINE KISS"

Hamtramck  
Oak Park  
Dearborn  
Mexicantown  
Detroit Federal Building  
Old Dodge Main  
Woodward Dream Cruise  
Eight Mile Road  
Henry Ford Hospital  
Detroit Police Department  
The Old Warehouse District  
The Renaissance Center  
Henry Ford Hospital  
St. Clair River

## Recent Estleman works featuring detective Amos Walker:

American Detective (April 2007)  
Nicotine Kiss  
Retro  
Poison Blonde  
Sinister Heights  
A Smile on the Face of the Tiger  
The Hours of the Virgin  
The Witchfinder  
Never Street  
Sweet Women Lie  
Silent Thunder  
Downriver  
Lady Yesterday  
Every Brilliant Eye  
Sugartown

(View complete works of Estleman at [www.lorenestleman.com](http://www.lorenestleman.com).)



# Happy Day

by Lisa Donovan

**F**eeling lonely, homesick and longing for a connection that was not available on campus for black students, freshman Martha Cotton was drawn to the piano in Wise Hall. On a fall day in 1972, she began playing and singing gospel songs that reminded her of home, where she was an active musician at The Apostle Paul Missionary

Baptist Church in Detroit. As the sounds filled the residence hall and lifted her heart, others joined in. Soon, an impromptu group had formed around music and a shared cultural heritage. Thirty-five years later, their voices still reverberate across campus.

"We all had gospel music in common," said Martha (Cotton) Hurse, who chose EMU based on a high school counselor's recommendation and its proximity to home. "It was refreshing

for them to feel the connection. It made them feel sort of balanced and gave them the glue that kept us together." Hurse, who earned a bachelor's degree in fashion merchandising in 1976, is now a certified massage/physical therapist and business owner in Atlanta, Ga.

The student group that Hurse and others formed became the Eastern Michigan University Black Gospel Choir. "The choir was started to unite the 150 blacks on campus," said Devin Gough, the choir's current leader. "Everyone joined, whether they could sing or not, as a way to unite with a common purpose."

Today, its 70-plus members go by the name Eastern Michigan Gospel Choir. They have recorded three CDs, established spin-off student groups and become global ambassadors for



the University. They even had a supporting role last April during the investiture ceremonies of EMU's 21st president, John A. Fallon, III.

**T**he choir's longevity and vitality have made it one of EMU's most successful student organizations. But its professional sound and wide-ranging performance schedule make it unlike any group at EMU.

Witness the whirlwind of praise-filled energy that electrified the choir at its 35th Anniversary Reunion Concert Feb. 25. Fresh from a second-place finish at the national Path Mark Gospel Choir Competition in New York, more than 100 passionate voices set the audience into motion. The crowd filling the pews of Ypsilanti's Christian Life Center clapped and swayed to the captivating beat. But Staffy Butler-Blakely, the choir's leader from 1982-2000, wanted more.

"Hand clapping is the cheapest form of praise. We need you to open up your mouths!" said Butler-Blakely, who graduated in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in

telecommunication and film.

Audience members did not need much coaxing to stand and add their joyful voices to the chorus. "I love gospel music," said Patricia Freeman of Ypsilanti. "I was brought up with it, so I was in my zone."

As Butler-Blakely led current and former choir members through rousing renditions of gospel favorites like "God of Mercy," she reminded everyone present that this was not an ordinary concert. "We came to get some church today!" she exclaimed. "We've got something to shout about! Hallelujah!"

For three hours, Butler-Blakely and directors dating back to the choir's 1972 roots took turns leading the group that filled the stage. From the quiet grace of founder Hurse to the dynamic charisma of current leader Gough, all shared their vocal and directorial talents. Each was grateful to Hurse for bringing the choral group to life more than three decades ago.

"It was very spirit-filled. It brought back a lot of memories of songs I hadn't heard in a long, long time," said Ashanti Edwards of Ypsilanti, who came to hear her friends perform.

**Eastern Michigan Gospel Choir**  
PRESENTS

**35th Anniversary Celebration**  
**Legends Gala**  
Saturday, February 24, 2007  
7:00pm EST

EMU Student Center - Gough Recital Hall  
900 Dongen Rd. S.E.  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
(734) 483-5458

**1982**  
Staffy Butler-Blakely

**1982**  
Sonia Roush

**1972**  
Hulse, Edwards, Gough, Gough

**By Him**  
**For Him**  
**Through Him**  
REUNION CONCERT

**Sunday, February 25, 2007**  
**5:00PM EST** FREE ADMISSION! OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Christian Life Center Church  
2146 Wooster Ave.  
Ypsilanti, MI 48198  
For more information including how to purchase tickets  
please contact Eastern Michigan University 35th Anniversary Gough Recital Hall  
[EMU.35thANNIVERSARY.COM](http://EMU.35thANNIVERSARY.COM) | [TICKET.35thANNIVERSARY.COM](http://TICKET.35thANNIVERSARY.COM)  
**FEATURING:**  
The EMGC 35th Anniversary Choir!!!

OPPOSITE PAGE: Members of the EMU Gospel Choir perform at the Feb. 25 35th Anniversary Celebration. ABOVE: Choir members joined President John A. Fallon, III (middle, green robe) on stage at Quirk Theatre April 7 to sing, including a rendition of "O Happy Day" as part of the investiture ceremonies. Since its founding, the choir has had five directors, who were featured on the group's promotional flier for the Legends Gala event.



ABOVE: Attending the Legends Gala in February were the choir's first five directors, including the first three (from left) Martha (Cotton) Hurse, Ronald Alexander and Marvin Miller. Staffy Butler-Blakely succeeded Miller. The choir's current director is Devin Gough. OPPOSITE PAGE: An early art concept for the choir's next CD.

When former director Marvin Miller jumped in front of the choir, his fervor became an explosion of physical activity. He threw his whole body into action to pull out the best performance from his singers. Sopranos, altos, tenors and basses had their eyes riveted on his every move, watching for cues that sometimes came in rapid-fire succession.

**G**od just gave me my own style!" said Miller, who led the choir from 1975-82. "We never had to worry about anyone doing our material because I create all my own arrangements." Miller came to Eastern Michigan on a wrestling scholarship and earned a bachelor's degree in physical education in 1977. He is now a Pentecostal elder who has taught music at Washtenaw Community College for 32 years.

"He's a fireball!" said Freeman, who has sung under Miller's direction in several choirs. "If you can't sing under him, you just don't want to sing."

"I think a lot of people become Christian because of the upbeat nature of gospel choirs like this," added Brent Terry of Ann Arbor. Watching his friends perform reminded him of his own conversion to Christianity, which began with singing

in a gospel choir.

For Monica Miller, singing and playing the tambourine with her old friends brought back wonderful memories from 1989-91. Top on the list was the time her former husband, Melvin Miller, proposed to her at a choir rehearsal. Monica still gets together with choir friends for "impromptus." "You just jump in and start singing and it all comes back to you again," she said.

The choir has come a long way since 1972, when Hurse first sat down at the piano in Wise Hall. By its second year, under the direction of freshman Ronald "Chucky" Alexander, membership had grown from 30 to more than 100. "My message to the choir was 'We are a family, and we must love and protect each other,'" said Alexander, who graduated in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in music education. "And that is how we survived, including me." Alexander is now principal of Charles L. Spain Elementary/Middle School in Detroit.

As word of the fledgling music group spread, members began receiving invitations to perform at faculty events and churches. "We were excited about the response we got from students and faculty," said Hurse. "They got the buzz."

When Marvin Miller took over in 1975, he removed "Black" from the

choir's name and added more travel to their agenda. The newly-named Eastern Michigan University Gospel Choir (EMGC) performed on major tours across the country and opened for such artists as The Winans, The Clark Sisters, Daryl Coley and Kirk Franklin.

Ten years after the choir was formed, Butler-Blakely stepped into the role of director. The group went through a rough time and dwindled to two sopranos, two altos and two tenors. Butler-Blakely took piano and organ lessons to bolster her skills. "She was a fighter and built the choir back up to 65-70 members," said Gough, who first joined the group under Butler-Blakely's leadership in 1997.

Jharid Collins became part of that rebuilding effort in 1999. After only one choir rehearsal, he was hooked. "They were on fire!" said Collins, a senior from Royal Oak Township majoring in electronic engineering technology. "It was so intense, we were having more fun at rehearsal than at parties." The clincher was when Butler-Blakely randomly tapped him to sing "Sign Me Up." He said his heart hit the floor, but when he finished the song, the choir's supportive applause won him over.

After eight years with the group, Collins credits the choir with being a tremendous source of stress relief, spiritual encouragement and reassurance. "It's really been the foundation of my stay here at Eastern," he said.

During Butler-Blakely's tenure, which lasted until 2000, the organization noticed a change in the spiritual needs of students and evolved into EMGC Ministries. The group's expanded scope was reflected in their 1999 slogan – "Not Just a Choir Anymore!" In addition to the choir, students could participate in the Image of Christ Bible Study Group, Dancers of David dance team and Reflections of Christ drama team.

Each sub-ministry was established as a separate student organization with its own board, composed of a president, secretary and treasurer. For coordination purposes, the president of each board also sits on the board of Next Dimension, the new name for EMGC Ministries. Student dues of

\$80 per semester for the choir, and \$40 per semester for the other groups, cover operational costs during the school year.

The popularity of the new ministries led to the creation of Christian Academic Study Session (CASS). "We found that our ministries were so active, studies were slacking off," said Gough. "We didn't want to see people's grades slip, so we started CASS."

In addition to study help from their fellow choir members, students who faithfully participate in CASS are eligible for \$500 scholarships. In the last three years, EMGC has given away about \$7,500 in scholarships. To raise the money, EMGC conducts fundraising events. Several local businesses, organizations and churches have agreed to match the funds generated by the events.

**U**nder the leadership of current choir and EMGC Ministries president Gough, the group has adopted a new mission statement: "To provide a source of inspiration to our present generation to ignite them to a state of unashamed praise and glory to God." They have put that mission into action on campus and beyond.

At one of the choir's more unique campus performances, President Fallon became part of the act. At his April 2006 investiture, President Fallon added his deep voice to the classic "O Happy Day." "He just wanted to sing in the choir, but then I pulled him out front," said Gough.

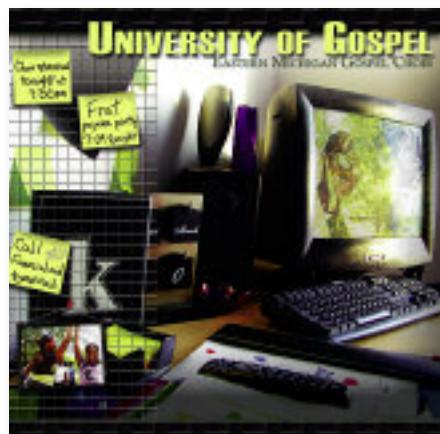
EMGC's annual spring tour has taken the choir far beyond the bounds of the Ypsilanti campus. The choir, as well as the dance and drama teams, hit the road to take their special brand of performance to different parts of America. In 2005, the choir headed south and sang at a variety of theme parks, like Ohio's Kings Island and Cedar Point. Last year, they blanketed the East Coast. This spring's target was a 10-12 day tour of the West Coast, which cost about \$30,000. Students paid about \$200 each. Fundraisers and donations from churches paved the rest of the way.

In addition to the spring tour, the choir has made special appearances across the

country. In recent years, it was showcased at such events as The Gospel Music Hall of Fame and Museum Induction Dinner, Soul Train's Lady of Soul Awards and Super Bowl XXXVIII Gospel Celebration.

"We take the name of EMU all across the country to places that have never heard of it," said Gough. "Parents end up sending their kids to Eastern because they've never seen a campus ministry like this." Gough has also received letters from students who say they chose to come to EMU just because of the choir.

Camille Hines was one of those students. A 2001 on-campus choir and dance team performance convinced the high school senior from Farmington Hills, Mich., that Eastern Michigan was the place for her. "I fell in love with the choir



the first time I heard it," said Hines. "That's the reason I wanted to come to Eastern. People weren't ashamed to sing about God." The energetic style of the Dancers of David also caught her eye. A year later, Hines added both groups to her freshman schedule of activities.

Since 2003, she has been president of the 25-member dance team, which performs with the choir as well as solo. In addition to concerts, Dancers of David holds workshops on campus to teach students some of their hip-hop, mime, modern, step and tap dance routines set to gospel and inspirational music.

To extend its reach even further, the choir ventured into recording its own music. The idea first emerged in 1999, when Gough's father, David Gough, saw EMGC's 27th anniversary concert. David,

a gospel artist himself, was impressed enough to suggest that the choir record a CD with his gospel music promotion company, DoRohn Entertainment. Current and former choir members got busy writing music. In 2001, their debut CD, "Get to the Concept," was released and stayed on Billboard's Gospel Top 40 chart for 47 weeks. "People love to hear the different spin we put on traditional songs," said Devin Gough. Subsequent releases include the CD, "Patriotically Yours" and a DVD entitled "College Night: The Experience." They have also appeared as a special guest on a Christian rock opera soundtrack and a Dorinda Clark-Cole DVD.

When the choir launched its recording career, it underwent some logistical changes. On campus they are known as the Gospel Choir of Eastern Michigan University. But to prevent legal complications, they dropped "University" from their name and record as Eastern Michigan Gospel Choir. They also established themselves as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization for fundraising purposes.

The popularity of EMGC's CDs gave rise to a fan club on DoRohn Entertainment's Web site. About 1,400 members from around the globe receive periodic e-mail newsletters on the choir's activities. "I love the broad reach of our music," said Gough. "We have fans in Germany, London, Japan and Africa. People have requested tracks so they can sing them at youth events and church services."

After 10 years, Gough is preparing to turn over the reigns of a group that has helped shape who he is and how he thinks. The impact on his concept of leadership has been particularly significant. "For most people, leadership is based upon how many people are serving them. With the choir, it's about how many people I serve."

Gough's leadership grew out of the small group of students that first huddled around Hurse's piano 35 years ago. Hurse is amazed that the group she founded is still mentoring, ministering and supporting people.

"The choir was a dream come true," she said. "It gave me a deeper relationship with God and long-lasting friends." ♫



By Amy Spooner

Long before EMU changed its nickname to Eagles, a feathered fan roamed the sidelines at sporting events. As he's aged, his look has changed and he has been christened with a name ... Swoop. Today, Swoop is a fixture not only at Rynearson Stadium and the EMU Convocation Center, but around campus and the community.

Swoop's avian predecessor debuted at Bowen Fieldhouse in January 1985. According to Bob England, EMU's direc-

# CONFIDENT SWOOP STARTS A 13TH YEAR

tor of recreation and intramurals, the idea for a mascot stemmed from the desire to boost enthusiasm at athletic events. At the beginning of the 1984-85 basketball season, an ROTC cadet repelled from the ceiling of the Fieldhouse carrying an egg. It was placed in a roped-off area marked with a sign that said, "Reserved for the Egg." During subsequent games, the egg grew and developed cracks, indicating it was ready to hatch.

For the "hatching," England convinced a student employee to play the mascot, but the student had second thoughts that night. He was nearly late



and showed up inebriated, looking for “liquid courage” to get him through the game. He told England that he wouldn’t be the mascot unless he was paid \$50, which Bob promised to negotiate. The student made it through the game and a new mascot at Eastern was born. The only problem? “People thought it was a duck,” England said.

**T**oday’s Swoop is definitely an Eagle, debuting in 1994. Originally, a cheerleader would don the costume, but eventually Swoop – although still considered part of the spirit squad –



An EMU student auditions this spring for the coveted role of Swoop.



Facebook fans can chat with Swoop via his own page at the social-networking Web site.



Swoop got a new set of feathers this year, replacing his mocha-colored feathers (above) for chocolate colored (left).

had his own crew of students. One former Swoop, Karen ('05), recalls seeing an ad in the *Eastern Echo* for Swoop tryouts. “I told my friends I was going to try out and make it, and I did!” Karen said. (*Exemplar* is omitting her last name in order to promote the anonymity of being Swoop.) The tryout involves an interview, which includes giving students scenarios to see how they would react in certain situations. Students also must demonstrate they have the ability to manage the costume, which isn’t always easy. Past Swoop costumes weighed between 40 and 50 pounds, and were made of wool and heavy cotton with

a foam and plaster head. It could be at least 30 degrees warmer inside the costume than outside. “I lost about 10 pounds when I first started,” said Laura, a current Swoop who is a junior from North Branch, Mich. “Not only did I lose weight from sweating like crazy but the heavy costume would make my shoulders sore.”

**B**eing Swoop takes a special kind of student, and the Athletics Department recognizes that. “Swoop is the University’s biggest marketing tool,” said Scott Schultz, coordinator of athletic marketing and promotions. “When Swoop is at an event, it’s amazing to see people’s reaction to him, especially little kids. That really expresses the value of Swoop.”

Ideally, four or five students at a time are registered to be Swoop, allowing for the complications of class and work schedules. Currently three students – two men and one woman – are registered. Swoop attends all home football, basketball (men’s and women’s) and volleyball games, as well as alumni tailgates, admissions events, parades, Family Day, Commencement and more – in all, about 100 events a year.

It is important that a registered student be available for a function because the Athletics Department doesn’t want just anyone to play the role. If an official Swoop isn’t available, the request will be denied. “If anyone can throw on the costume and be Swoop, it diminishes the prestige of what Swoop represents,” said Stephannie Harvey, assistant athletics director for athletic marketing and promotions. It also detracts from the anonymity of Swoop, she said.

“Being Swoop and representing Eastern are an honor, and we want everyone to recognize that. Part of that honor is the anonymity,” Harvey said. “Because no one knows who they are, we encourage students to really step out of their comfort zone,” added Schultz.

“I would recognize fans around campus and feel like I knew them because I saw them at all the games,” Karen said. “I wanted to say ‘hello’ but couldn’t because they didn’t know *me*, they knew Swoop.”

Harvey and Schultz want students selected to be Swoop to understand the special responsibilities involved because the Athletics Department is serious about its own obligations. "Over the next three to five years, we have a goal to really take our spirit squad to the next level," Harvey said. Part of the plan is to increase the level of support offered to students who are Swoop.

Until this year, Swoop received no financial support and sometimes students would even have to pay to have the costume dry cleaned. Now, students who appear as Swoop receive a voucher to help offset the cost of textbooks. Harvey and Schultz also want to send Swoop to a regional mascot camp each summer.

As part of its commitment, athletics purchased a new Swoop costume that

debuted at Homecoming 2006. The new costume is more durable, breathes easier and has cooling vests. Even with a cooler costume and small stipend, being Swoop still is largely a labor of love. "Oh, it's still hot," Laura said, "and I usually have to take four showers to get rid of the smell."

There are other hazards, too. "I get punched in the stomach a lot," Laura added. "People don't seem to realize it hurts. I have bruises everywhere. Also, football players hit me on the head when they're excited." Laura once walked around for several minutes, unaware that a child was hanging onto her leg. "Thank goodness he had a good grip," she said.

So why do they do it? "Being Swoop is pure entertainment," Karen said. "In a way, mascots are like celebrities – everyone gets excited when they see you." It's

not just little kids, either. Laura said one of her best memories of being Swoop is when she helped announce the new partnership between TCF Bank and EMU at a corporate meeting. "I was nervous because I *was* Eastern Michigan University," she said. "But I ran into the room and there were 'millions of suits' clapping and cheering."

It's been said that college is a time to figure out who you are and to learn lifelong lessons. For those lucky enough to be Swoop, this happens while wearing an enormous Eagle costume. Laura has decided to pursue a career in sports marketing because of her time as Swoop. Karen, who now lives in Hawaii, teaches special education but still has the mascot "bug." She also is an assistant soccer coach at Hawaii Pacific

## REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK



Amy Spooner (a.k.a. Swoop) keeps some young fans smiling during an appearance/performance as the EMU mascot.

In order to fully understand what it is to be Swoop, the Athletics Department granted me special permission to be Swoop for a night. What follows are my notes on the experience.

**Jan. 11:** I learn I will be Swoop at next Wednesday's women's basketball game. I am a professional who has given speeches in front of large crowds, yet I am terrified by the thought of being Swoop.

# I, Swoop



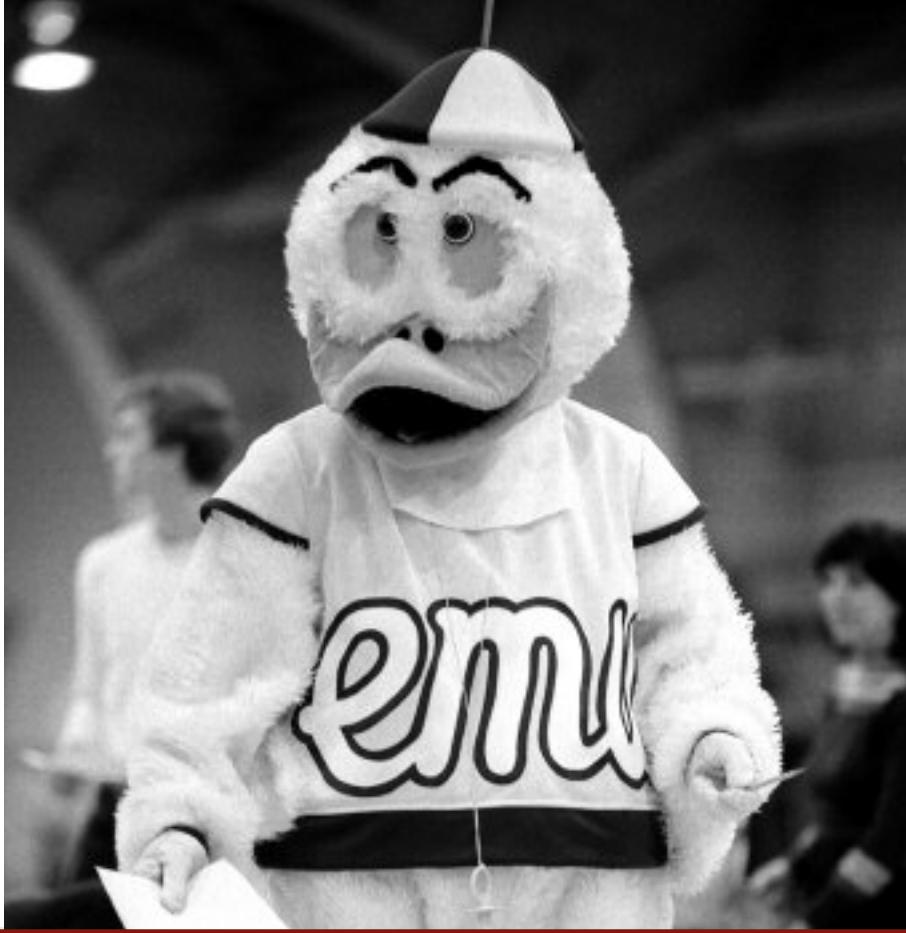
**Jan. 13:** I watch ESPN's "Sports Center." They are showing footage of an NBA team's mascot using a springboard to dunk a basketball. My heart sinks. I can't compete with that.

**Jan. 16:** I find out it can be 30 degrees hotter in the Swoop costume than it is outside. "No problem," I tell myself. "It's freezing cold this week."

**Jan. 17:** The big day. I'm nervous and excited. I'm most nervous about not being able to talk for two hours. My husband wholeheartedly agrees this will be the biggest hurdle.

**6:30 p.m.:** As I approach the Convocation Center, I realize I'm following two alumni I know. I duck around a corner so they won't see me. It's time for me to get my anonymous Swoop "game face" on.

**6:35 p.m.:** I meet Dan Worden, a graduate assistant in Athletics. He takes me to the court to show how I can walk the perimeter and where I can go into the stands. He says I have total freedom in what I do, as long as it doesn't involve obscene hand gestures or messing with the teams or game. His advice: "Act



**SWOOP'S COUSIN?**: No, not exactly. In 1985, when EMU graduates were still known as Hurons, this 'mascot' debuted at an EMU basketball game. In 1994, the modern Swoop character was born.

University and has been asked to occasionally serve as the school's mascot "Sharkie." "Being Swoop reconfirms that if you make the best of every opportunity and put your all into something, the more you get out of it," Karen said.

Laura acknowledges she was very shy her freshman year. "I would sit in my room and keep to myself," she said. "Now, when I graduate, I'll always know I wasn't just lying around or partying all the time. I'll remember the people's lives I touched and the fact that I was able to represent my school, to be part of something bigger than myself. I'll know my time here was perfect." ♀

lively and have fun with it." After a long day at work, "lively" is not the preeminent adjective in my head. I begin to get *really* nervous.

**6:45 p.m.:** Dan helps me into the costume. The head is positioned so the forehead rest pulls down on my eyebrows, and since the view hole is in the middle of the beak, I am more or less looking straight down. I lift my head and look in the mirror with amazement. I am Swoop! Dan has me practice walking, and then I'm on my own. With minutes left until tip-off, I walk toward the arena. I encounter my first person – a cheerleader – and say hello. Uh oh. My husband was right.

**7 p.m.:** The band starts playing the fight song, so I clap along. I have no idea what to do next, so I walk up and down the court, giving high-fives to fans. I dance with the band. I'm really hot. Sweat runs down my face and I instinctively try to wipe it, forgetting about the giant head that's covering my own. I try to scrunch my face in ways that will make it disappear. Dan had said I should leave the arena as often as I need in order to take a break. I had scoffed when he said it; now I understand. But when I look at the clock, only 3 minutes of game time have elapsed. I

vow to stick it out at least 5 minutes. I hear someone yell "Swoop" and turn around. A young boy is holding his baby sister, who is staring at me with wide eyes. I shake her hand and she smiles. Suddenly, I am transformed, and the rest of the game passes as a blur. I try to steal pizza from the cheerleaders. I dance to "Low Rider." I

**The big day. I'm nervous and excited. I'm most nervous about not being able to talk for two hours. My husband wholeheartedly agrees this will be the biggest hurdle.**

dance to anything that's played, actually. I autograph two T-shirts. I give lots of high-fives. When I think I can't go on, I take a break and after a minute or two am ready to return.

As the game concludes, I take my remaining, minuscule energy and run onto the court and dance to the fight song, celebrating EMU's victory. Then I follow Dan to the atrium, where I have to take pictures with one of EMU's corporate sponsor's logos for use in upcoming promotions. I

hold the sign in one hand while pretending to flex and then pointing my index finger in the "We're No. 1" manner. Photo session complete, we walk across the atrium to the elevator. I see the alumni I had seen earlier in the evening. They say, "Hello Swoop" and I wave, before gratefully following Dan into the changing room to be stripped of the costume. Looking in the mirror, I no longer see a proud Eagle but rather an exhausted, sweaty woman with matted hair and a face that looks like it's been painted for Valentine's Day. A mere mortal once more, I thank Dan and head out into the cold.

**10 p.m.:** Later, I am exhausted as I reflect on the experience. I am in complete awe of what Swoop goes through, and I shudder to think what it must be like at one of the early season football games, with the sun beating down and the temperature in the 70s or 80s. I am grateful for how friendly the cheerleaders and dance team were, giving me high fives and encouraging me to dance. I am impressed that this spirit squad – Swoop, cheerleaders and the dance team – goes through so much hard work for nothing other than the opportunity to show their love of EMU. I am honored to have been part of it.



# Yankee soars with Eastern as co-pilot

The devastating 2004 fire that destroyed Yankee Air Museum had an unintended consequence: igniting the compassion and ingenuity of the Eastern Michigan University community. The October blaze destroyed one-of-a-kind aircraft and dealt a near-fatal blow to the museum's future, located about six miles east of campus at Willow Run Airport. However, EMU students, faculty and staff have contributed time and money to its revival in the past 30 months, from cataloging and storing saved artifacts to creating business

By Lisa Donovan

plans to keep its fundraising and membership development efforts on track.

"That place is near and dear to my heart," said Tassie Zahner-Palyka ('00, '04), who was a museum intern and volunteer while an EMU graduate history student from 2002-06. "I was on my hands and knees in muck and ash combing through debris looking for whatever artifacts survived."

Among the surviving artifacts were the museum's four flyable aircraft: a B-17, B-25, C-47 and a Stinson. The B-17 had taken nine years and 147,000 volunteer hours to restore to its original condition. Nine static aircraft in various stages of restoration were lost, along with the World War II hangar housing them. More than 10,000 artifacts perished.

"Some were one-of-a-kind specimens," said Gayle Roberts ('00), the museum's curator since 2001. "Even with the collections we're getting now, we'll never get them back." Roberts, who earned a bachelor of arts degree in historic preservation, urban planning and interior design, had to set her graduate stud-

OPPOSITE PAGE: The nose of the B-17 "Yankee Lady." BELOW: A B-25 marking.

ies aside after the fire.

Susan Obert ('01, '04), an intern in EMU's Historic Preservation program, had been at the museum a few days before the fire. After months of research, she spent that day selecting uniforms and other items for the new "Women in Aviation" exhibit. The fire destroyed everything. "I was absolutely devastated. They lost some tremendous stuff," said Obert, who now owns Artifact Conservation Resources, a company that preserves historic artifacts for a variety of clients. "I worked there for months afterward, and there was very little women's stuff that came in."

There was a flood of other donations, however, which Historic Preservation students cleaned, preserved, catalogued and stored. "It amazes me the things people still have and are willing to donate to our collection," Roberts said. "It's nice to know that people trust us with their family memories." So many donations came in that museum officials rushed to find places to store them.

Enter EMU's Brian Hoxie, director of academic programming. Hoxie found a safe place for more than 1,000 items in the basement of Rackham Hall, where they stayed until returning to the museum's temporary quarters in Willow Run Airport's Hangar 2 in October.

**E**veryone we've dealt with, from Historic Preservation and business, has been absolutely tremendous and supportive," said Dick Stewart, president of Yankee Air Museum. "I can't thank the students and faculty enough for their help in our reorganization and restructuring plan as we move forward."

EMU's professional aviation fraternity, Sigma Chi, also flew into action. The student organization last year raised \$670 from a raffle. The grand prize was a ride



## EMU aviation programs at Willow Run Airport

With its sights set on the future of the industry, EMU's aviation programs use the other facilities at Willow Run Airport that co-exist with Yankee Air Museum. Willow Run, built in 1941 by auto magnate Henry Ford and aviation pioneer Charles Lindbergh, was the world's largest bomber plant during World War II. The airport now serves cargo, corporate and general aviation clients.

EMU's aviation management program took flight in the mid-1980s, followed by the introduction of the flight technology program four years ago. The aviation program offers undergraduate degrees in both fields. Enrollment has climbed from 15 students the first year to about 160 in 2006-07 – 90 in flight technology and 70 in aviation management.

"Our goal is to attract 400-500 students to the program," said Anthony Adamski, an associate professor in the School of Technology Studies. The school houses both academic programs and is in the College of Technology.

### Aviation Flight Technology Anthony Adamski, coordinator

The flight technology program prepares students to become pilots with Federal Aviation Administration credentials and the knowledge to become professional pilots. EMU offers many of the courses in partnership with Eagle Flight Center, owned and operated by Suburban Aviation. The company is based at the airport and uses state-of-the-art equipment to provide flight training and required Federal Aviation Administration ground-school courses.

"Our students get to use brand-new Cessna 172s equipped with Garmin G1000 avionics packages," Adamski said.

Aviation faculty members are exploring other avenues to enrich their students' education. "We are developing a close relationship with Yankee Air Force to provide our students with community service opportunities to meet the new General Education program's requirements," Adamski said.

### Aviation Management Philip Tartalone, coordinator

The goal of the aviation management program is to prepare individuals for entry-level management and supervisory positions in aviation. "We study the business side of the industry," Tartalone said. "We use Willow Run resources as part of our enhancement program."

Tartalone frequently takes students to Willow Run Airport to get a first-hand glimpse at aviation businesses. The aviation maintenance class visits the Murray Air hangar to see mechanics in action. Students in the aviation and automation class get a chance to climb into Kalitta Air's 747 simulator. "They see how all the bells and whistles work," Tartalone said. "You can only do so much with pictures."

Although his classes focus on the future of the industry, he has great respect for Yankee Air Museum's role as a prominent education facility for the community. "The preservation of our industry's history is very important for our students," said Tartalone, who recently became a museum member.

### Aviation fraternity

Sigma Chi is EMU's chapter of Alpha Eta Rho, a professional co-ed fraternity founded to bring together students with a common interest in the field of aviation. "We distinguish ourselves as a professional rather than a social fraternity," said Mike Thompson, a senior from New Boston, Mich., who served as the organization's president in 2006. "We have fun, but we're primarily based around networking and professionalism."

Educational field trips to airports, aviation museums and anything related to aviation are an integral part of its activities. The 32-member group conducts an annual pancake breakfast and fly-in at Willow Run, to which they invite pilots and airport officials from across Michigan. The museum participates by offering aircraft tours and displaying artifacts. More information on Sigma Chi is available on its Web site at [www.emich.edu/studentorgs/ahp/](http://www.emich.edu/studentorgs/ahp/).

– Lisa Donovan



on the B-17. "Our aviation program shares hangar space with Yankee Air Museum, so we wanted to help out," said Mike Thompson, 2006 president of Sigma Chi and a senior from New Boston, Mich., majoring in aviation management.

**S**ince the fire, the College of Business has developed a mutually beneficial relationship with the museum. At the suggestion of museum member Kim Wahtera (M.B.A. '75), COB Dean David Mielke met with Stewart to discuss how the University could help the museum's rebuilding efforts. As a result of those discussions, two or three student-driven projects each semester now focus on the museum's business needs. Students have worked on projects such as a competitive market study, organizational structure analysis and a risk-management program.

Rob McKenney ('06) led a group of three students who created a membership survey to capture information from existing members about the features they would like to see incorporated in the new

"Some were one-of-a-kind specimens," said Gayle Roberts ('00), the museum's curator since 2001. "Even with the collections we're getting now, we'll never get them back."

museum complex. The survey grew out of the working relationship established between Len Sholtis, a full-time lecturer in the college's Department of Management, and Roger Sherman, the museum's marketing director. "Everything flowed really well," said McKenney, who earned a bachelor of science degree in business management from EMU.

"They have been great projects for our students," Mielke said. "And Dick [Stewart] and his team have been very pleased with our students' work." Student efforts will continue to shape the museum's future.

Even before the fire, the museum was running out of space. Officials had discussed plans for a significant new museum and educational complex. "The fire reordered things and accelerated our plans," said Dennis Norton, president of

Michigan Aerospace Foundation, the museum's fundraising arm.

Plans call for 13 new buildings on the same general site as the original museum. Construction at the Wayne County-owned airport is expected to take place in two phases over the next 20 to 25 years, with an estimated cost of \$100 million. Fittingly, the first building to be used for the new museum and educational facility will be Willow Run Schoolhouse, built in 1938 by auto magnate Henry Ford. The schoolhouse was moved on site this winter. After a year of renovation, it will be the museum's new Welcome Center. Construction of the first new building is under way following an April groundbreaking.

"It will allow us to do more tours of the air park and have more exhibits," Roberts said. "We're starting to recoup a marvelous collection and, to me, having it all stored away where no one can see

it is a horrible waste."

Such an extensive building project will require a lot of fundraising through special events as well as donations from large corporations and individuals, Norton said. Museum officials wasted no time in setting their plans in motion. "Within nine months of the fire, we were able to raise \$300,000," Norton said. "That enabled us

to get architectural drawings, marketing and other materials that we need to be able to talk to major donors."

**"I can't thank the students and faculty enough for their help in our reorganization ...."**  
**Dick Stewart said.**

Since then, the museum has conducted several fundraising events, such as the Hearts to Yankee auction and dinner in February. This year's big event is the annual Thunder Over Michigan air show, scheduled for July 7-8. The show, featuring the United States Navy's Blue Angels aerial demonstration squad, is expected to bring in about \$300,000, Norton said. ♣

(For more information about the museum, visit [www.yankeeairmuseum.org](http://www.yankeeairmuseum.org).)

# Supporters help Eagles score a new 'field of dreams'

Thanks to the generosity of many donors, EMU's Oestrike Stadium has a new infield. And it is paying off. Heading into May, the team was in first place in the Mid-American Conference (MAC).

The upgrades included replacement of the entire infield area with ProGrass, a synthetic surface, supported by an extensive drainage system and sub base. The base paths, home plate area and pitcher's mound were upgraded with brown-colored synthetic turf. With the improved sub base and drainage system, the infield can handle up to 8 inches of rain an hour – and still be playable.

"This project would not have been possible without the generosity of a large number of true EMU baseball faithful who believe in our championship dreams and made a financial commitment to this project," said Roger Coryell, baseball head coach. "This field will give us a critical competitive advantage that we had to have to maintain our edge."

The EMU baseball program has a rich tradition dating to 1949 and an excellent record of achievement. Program successes include winning the 1971 NAIA National Championship; NCAA College World Series appearances in 1975 and 1976; MAC Championships in 1975, 1976 and 2002; and MAC Tournament Champions in 1981, 1982 and 2003. Eighty-five former players have played baseball professionally. In addition, the team posted the top GPA among all EMU athletic teams during the fall and winter 2005-06 semesters.

"Our goal is to provide a facility that allows EMU baseball players to achieve



their highest potential on the field, and ensures that the valuable lessons learned as a highly competitive NCAA Division I student-athlete remain an integral part of their overall educational experience," said Dr. Derrick Gragg, director of athletics. "In addition, we want to dramatically increase the number of youth groups and baseball organizations in Washtenaw County that utilize the field each year."

Oestrike Stadium, built in 1969 and named for former baseball Head Coach Ron Oestrike, also plays host to a large number of community-related baseball events and tournaments. When opened, it was one of the finest collegiate baseball facilities. While there have been improvements through the years, the facility requires significant upgrades, the most important of which was the field.

The project cost is \$300,000. To date, nearly \$200,000 has been committed. Those making major commitments include Thomas Biggs ('73), chief finan-

ABOVE: EMU hosted the University of Michigan on its new infield in April. LEFT: The construction project gets under way.

cial officer, University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers, and wife, Leah ('74); Dr. Michael Bretting, associate dean of the College of Education; Kenneth Bruchanski ('75), former EMU baseball player, E-Club Athletics Hall of Fame member, treasurer of the EMU Foundation Board of Directors and chief financial officer of CIT Systems Leasing; William Clark, owner of Quadrants, Inc., construction firm; Roger Coryell ('71), baseball head coach and E-Club Athletics Hall of Fame member; Kellie Dean, president of Dean Trailways and parent of current player Patrick Dean; John C. Holman ('72), former EMU baseball player and president and chief executive officer of *Greater Lansing Business Monthly*, and wife, Louise Ann ('73); Virginia Kapla, grandparent of former baseball player Scott Kapla; Jennifer (Coryell) Leach ('92), former EMU softball player; Michael Markey ('07), former player and representative with Northwestern Mutual Financial; and Jim Mulchay, III ('90).

Fundraising continues for the field upgrades. To make a gift, contact Craig Fink, director of development for athletics, at 734.487.8236. ♀

– Nancy J. Mida



## HSBC gifts fund business scholarships

A generous gift from HSBC, one of the world's largest banking and financial services organizations, has funded scholarships benefiting students in EMU's College of Business.

To date, HSBC has donated \$8,500 to fund the HSBC College of Business Scholarship Fund, awarded to seniors with academic merit, demonstrated leadership abilities and interest in sales management in the financial industry.

"HSBC has demonstrated their strong commitment to the education of our students with this scholarship program. In addition, they offer great opportunities for our students for full-time jobs and internships. HSBC is the perfect corporate partner for the College of Business," said David Mielke, dean of the college.

"The HSBC scholarships really help our students as most work part time to support themselves through college. HSBC also recruits our top students for internships and the accelerated-management training positions," said Amelia Chan, assistant dean and undergraduate adviser for the college.

Two recent recipients are Larry Hooker and Aimee Woodrum.

Hooker is majoring in accounting information systems and is treasurer of

From left: Dean David Mielke, Latashia White, HSBC campus recruiter, and Amelia Chan, assistant dean and undergraduate adviser, celebrate another fundraising milestone.

the National Association of Black Accountants and an active member of the Accounting Club. "This scholarship will allow me to focus more on extracurricular activities and school work and focus less on working to pay for classes," said Hooker, a native Detroiter. This summer, he plans to intern with PriceWaterhouseCoopers in its Assurance Division and begin studying for the CPA exam.

Woodrum, who graduated in April, majored in business management. The Cincinnati, Ohio, native also is on the softball team and earned Mid-American Conference Pitcher of the Week honors in April. She plans to start working and possibly earn an MBA. "The HSBC scholarship has helped me worry less about money matters such as paying for school supplies and books, rent and food and it allowed me to concentrate more on my studies and softball," Woodrum said.

HSBC is headquartered in London, England, and has an international network of nearly 10,000 offices in 82 countries and territories.

— Nancy J. Mida

## EMU taking the 'Initiative' with help from Kresge

With help from friends and The Kresge Foundation, EMU's College of Arts and Sciences is on track to meet a \$1.25 million fundraising goal to help it acquire and maintain state-of-the-art science equipment for students and faculty.

EMU already has received \$250,000 as part of the Kresge Foundation Science Initiative Challenge Grant program, money it used to buy new biology and chemistry department equipment. One such piece was a Lachet Discrete Analyzer, which measures nutrients in water samples and is more reliable and user-friendly than equipment it replaced. The analyzer is often used by students and faculty in experiments that require the measurement of excess nutrients, such as fertilizer, in lakes and rivers affected by runoff.

Kresge will award EMU another \$250,000 if the University can raise a total of \$1 million by Sept. 1. The EMU Foundation is spearheading the fundraising efforts, and already more than \$125,000 has been raised toward that goal. Kresge selected EMU in March 2006 to participate in the program.

EMU's fundraising goal, coupled with the second and final \$250,000 check from Kresge, will create a \$1.25 million endowment for future equipment purchases and maintenance of already purchased equipment.

Gifts can be made in honor or memory of a loved one, friend or colleague, or to commemorate a special occasion. Gifts of \$10,000 or more can be used to create a named endowment in support of the Kresge Science Initiative, which entitles the donor to the added benefits of receiving annual reports on the financial and programmatic progress of their endowed fund. ♦

— Kevin Merrill

# Gemignani ready to give a presidential performance



**B**eing president comes naturally to Jerry Gemignani. He was president of his junior and senior classes at Lamphere High School in Madison Heights, Mich.; president for a year of the Republican Club at EMU; and president of EMU Student Government in 1992-93. Today, the 1994 EMU graduate is again president – this time, of the EMU Alumni Association.

“I always enjoy setting and achieving goals,” said Gemignani, in explaining his passion for public office and service. “Being a political science major at EMU was the perfect choice for me, because understanding the political process explains how just about everything works, whether it’s your neighborhood or your company.”

The Alumni Association Board consists of up to 25 elected members, four of whom are then elected to serve as officers. Gemignani’s two-year term began in March. President-elect Eric Brown ('03) succeeds him in March 2009.

The Alumni Association has an ambitious agenda, starting with finding out

Jerry Gemignani (inset), president of Lamphere High School Senior Class (1990), and Jerry Gemignani, president of the EMU Alumni Association.

more about what EMU’s 130,000 alumni want, including the thousands who graduated in April and heard Gemignani address them at the Sunday, April 29 Spring Commencement. (The Alumni Association president historically speaks to graduates at Commencement.)

The association is in the early stages of developing and implementing an online survey. The results should be compiled by fall, Gemignani said.

“We’ve come a long way in building a strong base and now we have it,” said Gemignani, who lives in Plymouth,

Mich., and works as a Realtor for Coldwell Banker. “Now we want to understand what products, services and activities our alumni want. My goal is to open communication with alumni to understand how we can better serve them.”

Association board members will increase their presence at University events, particularly sporting events, as a way to solicit more ideas and opinions directly from alumni.

A school administrator at Lamphere, who happened to be an EMU graduate, convinced Gemignani to consider EMU. Once on campus, he lived in Hill Hall his freshman year, Pittman Hall his second, Hill again for his third, and Phelps Hall his fourth. It was during his fourth year, after serving as a student senator and resident adviser, that he ran for and was elected president of Student Government.

“I wanted to make time to give back. Eastern has always been a remarkable place to me,” Gemignani said. “Even as a freshman, I was impressed with the small size of the classrooms and the passion of my professors.”

His most memorable achievement during his year as Student Government president was in setting the groundwork, through a series of political activities, for the construction of what would become the Bruce T. Halle Library. Student Government organized forums, invited legislators to campus, compiled facts sheets and stationed library supporters with megaphones at the Pray-Harrold kiosk. Organizers even sent a continuous loop of pro-library faxes to the office of then-Gov. John Engler.

Within two years, groundbreaking occurred for a new library. ♀

– Kevin Merrill

## Activate your association membership today

If you are an EMU graduate, membership in the EMU Alumni Association is free. To activate your membership, sign up today at [www.emich.edu/alumni/association](http://www.emich.edu/alumni/association). If you want to provide programming ideas or feedback to Jerry Gemignani or any member of the Alumni Association board, you can find their e-mail addresses at [www.emich.edu/alumni/association/directors.html](http://www.emich.edu/alumni/association/directors.html).

# Take Five

with James J. Beasley, Jr. ('77)



**Take Five** is a regular feature of *Exemplar* that introduces a member of the EMU Alumni Association Board of Directors. This issue, we speak with James J. Beasley, Jr., a graduate of Detroit Northwestern High School and former chairman of the Detroit Cable Communications Commission. He and his wife and daughter live in Detroit.

**Q:** If you had \$1 million to give to EMU (we hope you do!), where would you want to see it spent?

**A:** I would probably like to see it spent in three ways. First, I would place it in a scholarship fund to create opportunity for students to attend EMU and get a great start in life. Next, I would send some to the new athletic director, Dr. Derrick Gragg, so that he can be successful in rebuilding the program and bringing the enthusiasm back to campus. Finally, I would send some to the College of Business, of which I am a graduate.



**Q:** You graduated the same year the original "Star Wars" was released. Who's your favorite character from that film and why?

**A:** My favorite character is Darth Vader because of his mysterious background and reliance on supernatural force.

**Q:** You are a regional sales manager for Blackboard, a leading provider of online applications and related services to the education industry. What does your company have against chalk?



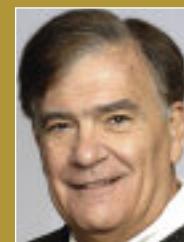
**Q:** This is a two-parter: What's your most listened-to song on your iPod and what ring tone do you currently use on your phone?

**A:** iPod: I am a huge Earth, Wind & Fire fan and one of my favorite songs is "Fantasy." Ring tone: Fat Albert's "Hey, Hey, Hey."

**Q:** Share with us one of your fondest memories of your time at EMU?

**A:** Being elected as the first African-American president of the EMU Student Senate (1976-77) and the numerous life-long friendships that I developed are at the top of my list of fond memories. Being a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity and the achievements that we accomplished stand out in my memory as well. ♫

## EMU Alumni Association



### Officers:

(Clockwise, from top left:) President: Gerald Gemignani ('94); President-elect: Eric J. Brown ('03); Parliamentarian: Len Capelli ('68, '73); and Secretary/Treasurer: David Mamuscia ('67, '71)

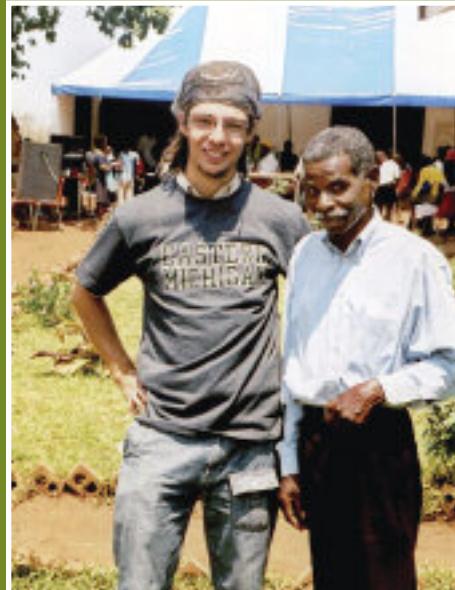
### Other board members:

Mary E. Batcheller ('56), James J. Beasley, Jr. ('77); Tom Borg ('79); Carl Christoph ('75); Michael Ferens ('86); Scott Frush ('94); Jay Hansen ('83); James Hogan ('92, '98); Ernie Krumm ('90, '97); Rusty Machovec ('80); Jerry Marszalek ('67, '74); Dr. Joe Misiewicz ('68, '70); Latoska N. Price ('96); Eric Rass ('91, '95); Gregory A. Sheldon ('96); Robert T. Simon ('91); Karen M. Tabb ('04); Dr. Martha M. Taylor ('89, '95); Robert C. Theodore ('79). Emeritus board members: W. Fred Roberts ('56), H.F. (Bud) Schimmelpfenneg ('68)

### Congratulations, new members:



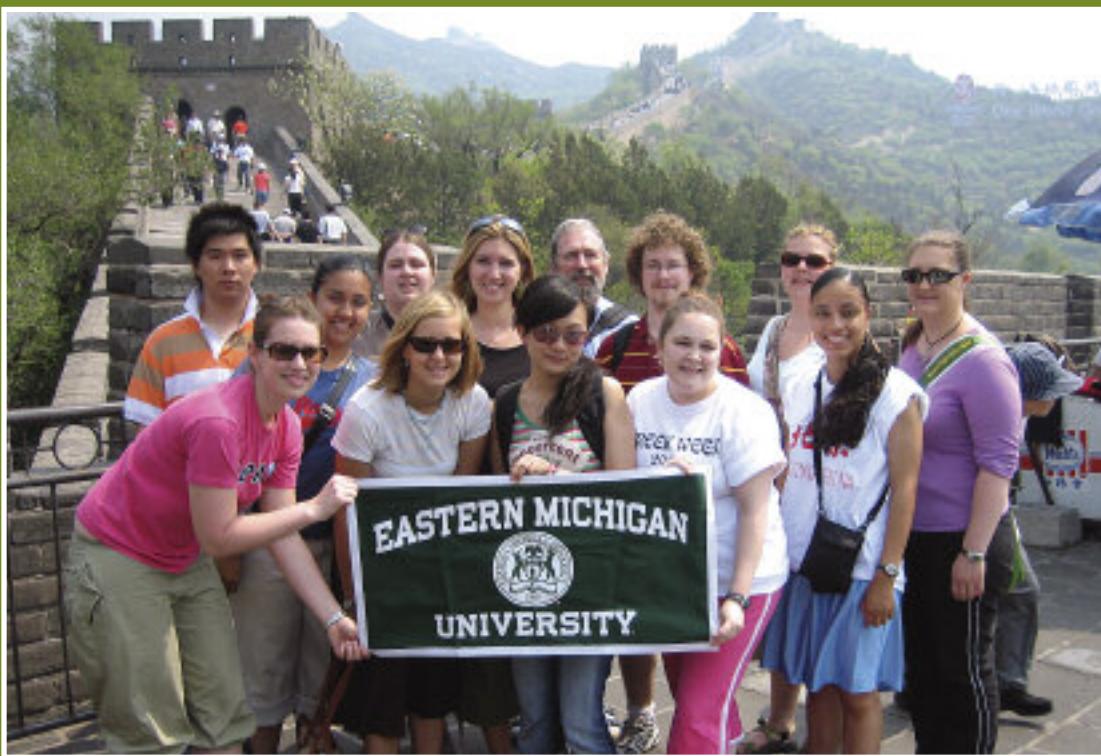
Congratulations to Mary E. Batcheller ('56) and Michael Ferens ('86), who were elected to the board at the association's annual meeting in March.



## WEAR IN THE WORLD!

Do you have a picture of yourself wearing or displaying EMU gear in a faraway or unusual location? If so, e-mail the image to [e-alumni@emich.edu](mailto:e-alumni@emich.edu). Or use regular mail and send it to Exemplar, 15 Welch Hall, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: Natalie Vidusic (B.S. '04) and a feathered friend pose for a picture while on a spring vacation with family and friends on the Caribbean island of Grand Turk; Hossam Abouzahr (B.A. '05) and his "host dad" say hello from the village of Mafarana in northeastern South Africa, where Abouzahr is stationed as a Peace Corps Volunteer; and EMU students show their colors during a stop at the Great Wall of China during the China Cultural History Tour program last year.





Gary (far left) and Laura (far right) Thomas opened their Ann Arbor home earlier this year as hosts for a "Dinner with 12 Strangers." The Student Organization for Alumni Relations coordinates the program, which is always looking for hosts.

was an enjoyable way of giving back to her alma mater. "My experience as a student on campus was rewarding and I wanted to take advantage of the opportunity to encourage current students to be involved and to take charge of their education and career development opportunities," she said.

Dinners are hosted by alumni for the lifeblood of the University – students. And student interest was apparent with the number of applications received ensuring adequate staffing for each dinner.

"I hope students can take what stories and advice alumni gave them, and use it to have a more enriched experience in the EMU community," said Paul Bayer, SOAR president and a senior in the public administration program. "Many of the student participants are now friends and networking with one another. They all have shared with me the great time they had."

Another important component to the

## Dinner With 12 Strangers

**T**ake 12 previously unacquainted people with a common bond – Eastern Michigan University – and gather them together for a meal. That's the simple basis for the Dinner With 12 Strangers program. Based on popular demand, the Student Organization for Alumni Relations (SOAR), under the direction of the Office for Alumni Relations, orchestrated the "social experiment" for a second year and once again discovered that among EMU alumni, students and faculty, the term "stranger" might never really apply.

Although still in its infancy com-

pared to similar models like the one UCLA began in 1968, EMU's program is growing thanks to the driving force behind it – volunteers. The number of dinners more than doubled this year, thanks to EMU alumni who served as hosts. Carlos and Martha Costa ('87) and Dan Hunter ('93) were repeat dinner hosts and joined the ranks of Frank Houston ('01), Kyrian Nwagwu ('86), Gary ('87) and Laura Thomas ('03, '06), and Jim ('75) and Helen Vick.

For Laura Thomas, donor relations manager for the EMU Foundation and MPA Alumni Chapter member, hosting



### Cookin' with Laura

Here's the recipe for Apple Dumpling Bake (and its mysterious ingredient) served at the Thomas home.

2 tubes (8 ounces each) refrigerated crescent rolls	3/4 cup Mountain Dew soda
2 medium Granny Smith apples, peeled and cored	Vanilla ice cream
1 cup sugar	Caramel ice cream topping
1/3 cup butter, melted	

Unroll crescent rolls and separate dough into 16 triangles. Cut each apple into eight wedges. Wrap a crescent dough triangle around each apple wedge. Place in a greased 13 x 9 x 2 baking dish. In a bowl, combine sugar and butter; sprinkle over rolls. Slowly pour the soda around the rolls (do not stir). Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm with ice cream and caramel topping.



program is faculty participation, which was present this year thanks to EMU professors Pat Barry, a lecturer in the Department of Communication and Theatre Arts, and Dr. Howard Bunsis, a professor in the Department of Accounting. "Having a faculty member at the table definitely shed light on programs and efforts that we don't get a chance to hear about on a daily basis," said host Martha Costa, the assistant director of The Competitive Edge Pro Shop and University Park.

Great food and conversation are immediate rewards of the program. But the underlying purpose is building and strengthening the EMU community. A

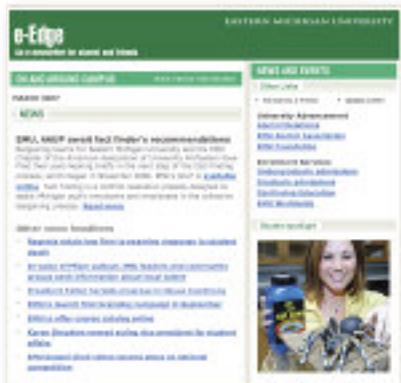
tangible example of the ease at which bonds are created happened at the Thomas dinner even before anyone had a chance to sit down.

In an effort to better accommodate their dinner guests, Gary and Laura prepared two tables. The unexpected result was a group of "strangers" insisting on squeezing around one table instead. This type of camaraderie proves common across all the dinners, and is really the lasting benefit for all the participants. Of course, by request, many of the Thomas' guests also left with a recipe for the popular apple dessert containing a mysterious ingredient – the unusual addition of a popular caffeinated soft drink (see recipe, page 36).

Thinking of hosting your own Dinner With 12 Strangers? Take it from Martha Costa: "You don't have to be a gourmet cook or the best conversationalist. A simple meal and a common interest in EMU will go a long way."

For additional information about hosting a Dinner With 12 Strangers, e-mail SOAR at [emu.soor@emich.edu](mailto:emu.soor@emich.edu) or contact the Office for Alumni Relations via e-mail at [alumni.relations@emich.edu](mailto:alumni.relations@emich.edu) or by phone at 734.487.0250. ♀

– Danielle Clair

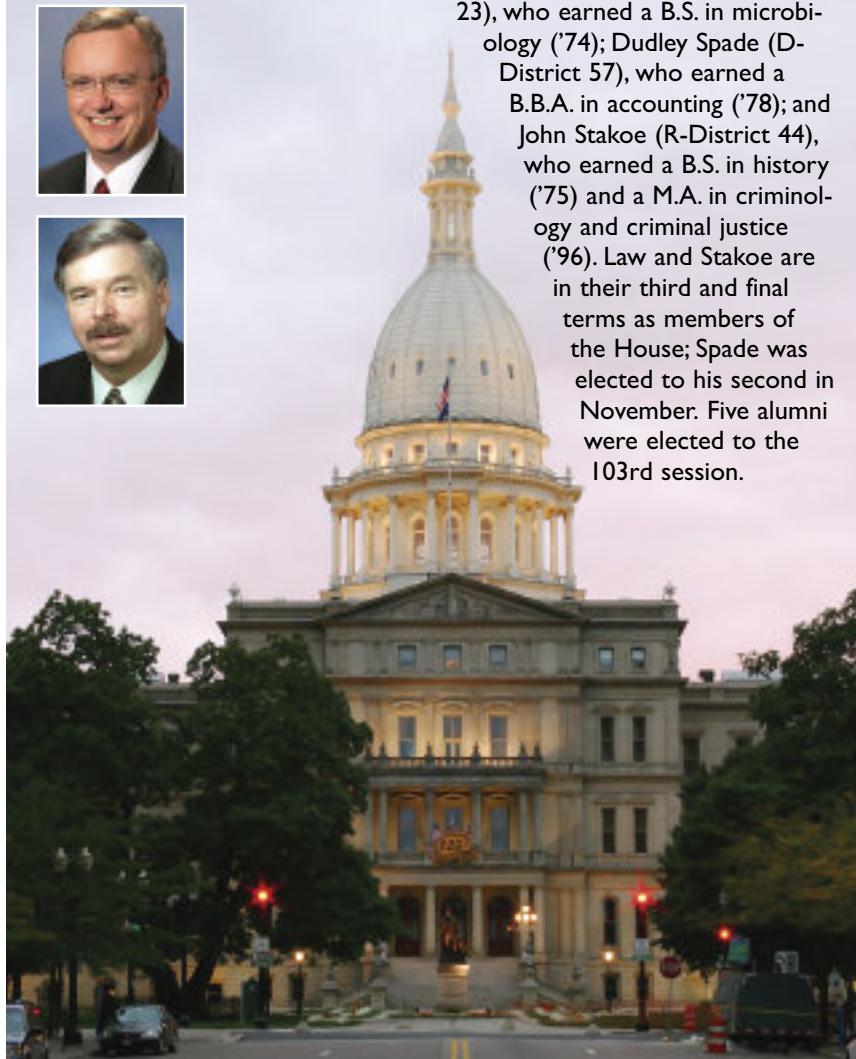


## Stay connected

Stay informed about alumni chapters, events and University news by subscribing to e-Edge, EMU's monthly electronic alumni newsletter. Sign up today at [www.emich.edu/alumni/edge](http://www.emich.edu/alumni/edge).

## Alumni in the Michigan legislature

Three alumni were among the members of the 104th session of the Michigan legislature sworn into office in January. Congratulations to representatives (pictured at left, top to bottom): Kathleen (Walz) Law (D-District 23), who earned a B.S. in microbiology ('74); Dudley Spade (D-District 57), who earned a B.B.A. in accounting ('78); and John Stakoe (R-District 44), who earned a B.S. in history ('75) and a M.A. in criminology and criminal justice ('96). Law and Stakoe are in their third and final terms as members of the House; Spade was elected to his second in November. Five alumni were elected to the 103rd session.



# 2007 Alumni Awards recognize excellence

Each spring, Eastern Michigan University recognizes outstanding alumni and friends. The EMU Alumni Association will host the Alumni Awards Dinner, its showcase event, Saturday, May 19, at the Ypsilanti Marriott at Eagle Crest. The evening features a reception at 6 p.m. followed by a seated dinner and program at 7 p.m. Tickets for the awards dinner are \$55 per person or \$400 for a table of eight, and can be purchased by contacting the Office for Alumni Relations at 734.487.0250. This year's honorees are:



**Outstanding Young Alumni Award**  
Dr. Brendan B. Kelly ('98, '00) is the director of forensics and an assistant professor at the University of West Florida. At EMU, Kelly was a member of the forensics team and won the National Pentathlon Championship, making him the No. 1 speaker in the United States in 1998. He furthered his studies by completing his master's degree at EMU and receiving his Ph.D. from Wayne State University.



**Alumnus Achievement Award**  
John R. Heffron ('93), winner of NBC's "Last Comic Standing," started his career at EMU performing stand-up comedy at the Main Street Comedy Showcase. After graduation, Heffron pursued his dream and toured more than 80 colleges per year. After his college tour, he became a radio personality on Detroit's Q 95.5 FM. He has appeared on numerous television shows such as "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and now has a lead role on VH1's "Smash."



**Distinguished Alumni Awards**  
Michelle M. Mueller ('74) is vice president of customer services for San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) and Southern California Gas Co. Prior to joining SDG&E in 1999, Michelle held customer service, marketing and administration leadership positions at QUALCOMM Wireless Systems, Torrey Communications and The Titan Corporation. Additionally, she has taught marketing at the University of California at San Diego, San Diego State University and California State University, San Marcos.



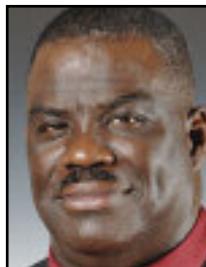
Richard W. Neu ('77) started his distinguished accounting career at KPMG, specializing in the audit of financial institutions. In 1995, he joined First Federal of Michigan as the executive vice president and chief financial officer. After the merger between First Federal of Michigan and Charter One of Cleveland, the institution rose to \$43 billion in assets and \$10 billion in market capitalization. In 2004, Neu retired and currently is an active member on different committees and boards.



## Dr. John W. Porter Distinguished Service Awards

Dr. William E. Fennel has enlightened many biology students and has become a legend at EMU, teaching more than 20,000 students before retiring in 1993. In 1969, he joined the faculty and began teaching introductory biology using various techniques such as music, explosions

and even the occasional marshmallow. Dr. Fennel was previously honored with the Outstanding Teaching Award by former President Dr. John Porter and serves on the College of Arts and Sciences' Resource Development Board.



William Malcolm ('76) has achieved much distinction in his life. After playing football at EMU, Malcolm signed with the New Orleans Saints in 1976. Following his football career, he spent 13 years at General Motors Corp. For the past 20 years, he found his true calling as an intensive probation officer for the Washtenaw County Family Court Division. During the summer months, Malcolm helps manage the Washtenaw County Summer Sports Camp, where he works tirelessly as a coach, teaching kids about teamwork, responsibility and good sportsmanship. He tirelessly gives up his time for the Alumni Association.



H.F. (Bud) Schimmelpfenneg ('68) retired from Ford Motor Co. in 1997 after 32 years on its human resources staff. Bud started his EMU involvement as a student-athlete, a member of Phi Sigma Epsilon and Student Council representative. Schimmelpfenneg continues his involvement with EMU as a committed donor, season ticket holder and volunteer. His EMU volunteer activities include E-Club Board of Directors, EMU Foundation Board of Trustees, the Alumni Association Board of Directors and Alumni Legislative Connection program. He continues his service with the Alumni Association as one of its first emeritus members.

# Chapter listings

More information: [www.emich.edu/alumni/chapters](http://www.emich.edu/alumni/chapters)

Chapter name	Contact	E-mail/Web	Phone
<b>Accounting Alumni</b>	Patrick Gannon ('92)	prgan@yahoo.com	773.267.0469
<b>Black Alumni</b>	George Eason ('88)	georgeeason@sbcglobal.net www.emuba.org	313.657.6050
<b>Central Arizona Alumni</b>	Paula Miller ('02)	paula.miller@asu.edu	480.730.2638
<b>Chicago Alumni</b>	Chris Carollo ('98)	cacarollo@yahoo.com	773.486.1458
<b>Communication and Theatre Arts Alumni</b>	Patrick J. Barry, Jr. ('71, '73)	pjbsailor@earthlink.net	734.427.0797
<b>Construction Management Alumni</b>	James Hogan ('92, '98)	james@usconstruction-design.com www.emu-cmac.org	313.647.6216
<b>E-Club Alumni</b>	Ed Mizinski ('76)	Miz30@cac.net	517.548.2414
<b>Greek Alumni</b>	Greg Nixon ('99) Jennifer Rass ('93)	gnixon29@gmail.com maxjenn@aol.com www.emugreekalumni.org	734.699.4297 248.414.6501
<b>Historic Preservation Alumni</b>	Tamara Click ('03)	info@historicpreservationalumni.com www.historicpreservationalumni.com	517.456.4282
<b>Huron Restoration Alumni</b>	Maynard Harris ('53)	www.huronalumni.org	517.423.7026
<b>Kensington Valley Alumni</b>	Jay Hansen ('83)	jhansen@gocomcoach.com	734.420.3386
<b>Latino Alumni</b>	Guadalupe Salazar ('95)	emu_latinoalumni@yahoo.com	313.274.4876
<b>LGBT and Friends Alumni (I)</b>	Michael Daitch ('75)	michaeldaitch@yahoo.com	586.468.7001
<b>Master of Business Administration Alumni</b>	Jim Spilos ('99)	emualumnimba@yahoo.com	248.374.9795
<b>Master of Public Administration Alumni</b>	Dr. Don Koyluoglu	sukru.koyluoglu@emich.edu	734.487.3113
<b>MSHROD Alumni (2)</b>	Sue Gerten ('99, '03)	sgerten@smartworkforce.com	313.965.6454
<b>National Capital Alumni</b>	Mary Fettes ('86)	Mfettes4@comcast.net	703.548.8826
<b>Northern California Bay Area Alumni</b>	Jeff Zank ('82)	jzank@earthlink.net	650.537.6360
<b>Occupational Therapy Alumni</b>	Marge Kirchner ('00)	m_kirchner1958@yahoo.com	517.547.7248
<b>Southern California Alumni</b>	Marian Bliznik ('71, '76, '90)	mbliznik@yahoo.com	949.729.8008

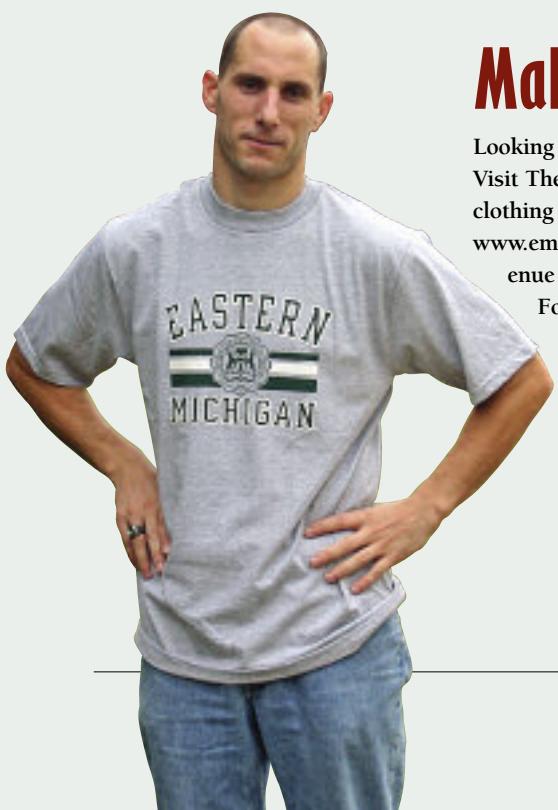
(1) Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender

(2) Master of Human Resource Management and Organizational Development

## Make a (fashion) statement

Looking for the newest and coolest EMU apparel and souvenirs? Visit The Competitive Edge Pro Shop, the only University-owned clothing store on campus, in the Rec/IM. When you buy online at [www.emich.edu/recim/compedge.htm](http://www.emich.edu/recim/compedge.htm), a percentage of the revenue benefits the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

For the spring/summer operating hours of The Competitive Edge Pro Shop, call 734.487.4204



**Note: All locations in Class Notes are in Michigan, unless noted otherwise.**

## 1960s



**HAYES JONES (B.S. '61)**, an Olympic gold medalist, was named honorary chairperson for the 2007-08 Michigan Senior Olympics Aug. 6-11 in Oakland County. Jones is former director of the Oakland County Department of Economic Development & Community Affairs and served as a state representative.

**DENNIS BLANCHETTE (B.S. '65)** is president and chief executive officer of Ensure Technologies, an Ann Arbor-based company specializing in health-care network security.



**THOMAS P. KROMER ('65)**, a professor at Central Michigan University, received the Michigan Campus Compact Lifetime Achievement Award in February. He has taught at CMU since 1969 and is a supervisor of CMU student teachers in mid-Michigan.

**MARIANNE K. MARTIN (B.S. '67)** authored "Dance in the Key of Love" (see book review, page 12).

**THOMAS SAMPSON (B.S. '68, M.A. '72)** was promoted to assistant professor of education at Olivet College in Olivet.

**JOE CAMILLONE (M.S. '69)** was awarded the 2007 Presidential Award at the 2007 Eastern Athletic Trainers Association Convention. He is head athletic trainer at The College of New Jersey in Ewing, N.J.

## DENNIS ELLISON (B.S.

**'69, M.A. '72**) retired from Baldwin Community Schools in Baldwin after teaching high school science for 32 years. He volunteers for the Chase Historical Society.

**DOUG FLEWELLING (B.S. '69)** performed in the Little Traverse Civic Theatre production of "Proof."

## 1970s

**RICHARD DRURY (B.S. '70)** is superintendent of Community Unit School District 200 in Illinois.

**KEN WALCOTT (M.A. '70)** is retiring from the Muskegon Community College Board of Trustees after six years. For the past four years, he has served as treasurer.

**DENNIS LAUGHLIN (B.B.A. '71)** retired from the Dallas (Tex.) Fire and Rescue Fire Communications office. He is the weekend supervisor of cash control at Traders Village in Grand Prairie, Tex.

**RON REMENDER (B.S. '71, M.A. '89)** retired from Lansing Public Schools. Now residing in Perry, he is enjoying traveling the world and playing golf.

## THOMAS FLAMBOE (B.S.

**'72**) is an assistant professor in the Department of Arts and Sciences for Presentation College in Aberdeen, S.D. He was recently elected faculty president.

**SANDRA FRENCH (B.S. '72, M.A. '77)** is an instructor at Washtenaw Community College. A Ypsilanti restaurateur for 35 years, she is co-owner of popular Ypsilanti-area restaurants Aubree's Saloon, Cady's Grill and Aubree's Pizza.

**TIMOTHY GRIFFIN (B.B.A. '72)** was named treasurer of Joe Griffin & Associates in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

**GARY HERRON (B.B.A. '72)** was recipient of the "Best Sports Photo of the Year" award in the Wick Communications contest. He is the official scorer for the 2007 Class AAA All-Star Baseball game in Albuquerque, N.M.

**ALAN MAKI (B.S. '72)** is the pastor at First Baptist Church of Tecumseh.

**ROBERT MATKOVIC (B.A.E. '72)**, principal at Airport High School for the past six years, retired in January. He served a 19-year career with Airport Community Schools in Carleton.



**DIANE PARFITT (B.S. '72, M.A. '84, M.A. '90)** was hired as a tenure-track assistant professor in EMU's Department of Leadership and Counseling.

**KATHLEEN M. BURKE (M.A. '73)** recently published "A Safe Position," a book about obstacles America's teachers encounter while trying to achieve their goals.

**DAN HECKMAN (B.S. '73)** was named interim superintendent of Leslie Public Schools by the Leslie Board of Education.



**CLAUDE L. INCH (M.A. '73, M.B.A. '89)** retired from the Standish-Sterling Community School District in March, where he has been superintendent since 1986.

**DAN LANUTI (B.B.A. '73)** was promoted to vice president of KeyBank National Association at its corporate headquarters in Cleveland, Ohio.

## GUIDE TO DEGREES

<b>B.A.</b>	Bachelor of arts
<b>B.S.</b>	Bachelor of science
<b>B.A.E.</b>	Bachelor of art education
<b>B.B.A.</b>	Bachelor of business administration
<b>B.B.E.</b>	Bachelor of business education
<b>B.F.A.</b>	Bachelor of fine arts
<b>B.M.</b>	Bachelor of music
<b>B.M.E.</b>	Bachelor of music education
<b>B.M.T.</b>	Bachelor of music therapy
<b>B.S.N.</b>	Bachelor of science in nursing
<b>M.A.</b>	Master of arts
<b>M.F.A.</b>	Master of fine arts

<b>M.S.</b>	Master of science
<b>M.S.W.</b>	Master of social work
<b>M.S.N.</b>	Master of science in nursing
<b>M.B.A.</b>	Master of business administration
<b>M.B.E.</b>	Master of business education
<b>M.L.S.</b>	Master of liberal studies
<b>M.O.T.</b>	Master of occupational therapy
<b>M.P.A.</b>	Master of public administration
<b>M.M.E.</b>	Master of music education
<b>S.P.A.</b>	Specialist of arts
<b>Ed.D.</b>	Doctorate of education
<b>Ph.D.</b>	Doctorate of philosophy

**JAMES WELCH (B.S. '73, M.A. '80)** received the 2006 "Employee of the Year" award for the truancy division of Psychotherapeutic Services of Florida.

**JOE MAZZARA (B.S. '74, M.S. '79)** wrote "Liberty Ship Survivor," a book based on the true story of a Michigan man's ordeal during World War II. Mazzara is an adjunct instructor of psychology at Macomb Community College and recently retired after 25 years with Macomb County Community Mental Health Services (see book review, page 13).



**TOM MICALLEF (B.A. '74, M.A. '79)**

Track Coaches Hall of Fame in February. He has been coaching in Ypsilanti Public Schools since 1975.



**ED SIDLOW (B.S. '74)**, a professor in EMU's Department of Political Science, wrote

"Freshman Orientation: House Style and Home Style." The book chronicles the challenging transition from candidate to newly minted member of Congress by following the triumphs and trials of Congressman Joe Schwarz (see book review, page 12).

**LYNNE SRULL (B.S. '74)** received the 2006-2007 "Teacher of the Year" and "Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year" awards from the Illinois Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance. She is an education teacher in the Champaign Community Unit School District 4 in Champaign, Ill.

**COLLEEN TUCKER (B.F.A. '74)** retired as an art teacher and school library media specialist in 2006. She now creates pottery and is an officer in the Arts & Culture Alliance of Manistee County and the Dickson School Cultural Center.

**MARY-DEAN BARRINGER (B.S. '75)** was elected chief executive officer of All Kinds of Minds, a nonprofit institute affiliated with the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. She has served as national director for the institute's Schools Attuned Program for seven years.

**DAVID BLAKLEY (B.S. '75)** is personnel manager/librarian and principal second violin for the Marion Philharmonic Orchestra in Muncie, Ind. He also is the librarian and principal second violin for the Muncie Symphony Orchestra.

**MICHAEL GENO (B.S. '75)** is a retired communication specialist for Wayne State University. He is president of the Michigan Council of the Blind.

**ROBERT LEOPARD (B.S. '75, M.A. '78)** is a professor of biology at Monroe Community College in Rochester, N.Y.

**MARTIN JACOBS (B.S. '76)** is a professor of education at Murray State University in Murray, Ky.

**KEN HULIK (B.S. '76)** is the associate principal for GeoEnvironmental, Inc. in Livonia.

**RALPH PASOLA (M.A. '77, M.L.S. '86)** was honored by the Association of Fundraising Professionals as a Distinguished Volunteer for his work with Eastern Michigan University.

## SUBMITTING A CLASS NOTES UPDATE

Do you have news about yourself you want to share with fellow alumni? You can send the updates electronically by using our online form. Or you can send through regular mail, but be sure to include name, address, city/state/ZIP, e-mail address and telephone number. Please list the degree you earned and the year you graduated.

Mail to:  
Eastern Michigan University  
Office for Alumni Relations  
1349 S. Huron St., Suite 2  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

[www.emich.edu/alumni/association/classnotes](http://www.emich.edu/alumni/association/classnotes)

Send us your photo, too. We prefer color prints or high-resolution digital color images. For faster delivery, use our online submission form, which can be found at:



**DALE E. HEYDLAUFF (B.S. '79)**, former vice president-new generation for American

Electric Power, was appointed to a new executive position leading the new Scioto Mile development project in downtown Columbus, Ohio. Heydlauff also was recently named one of the vice chairs of EMU's upcoming comprehensive fundraising campaign.

## 1980s

**DANIEL A. GAUDETTE (M.B.A. '80)** was reappointed to the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Nashville Branch.

**DAVID MCLOUGHLIN (B.S. '80, M.A. '91)** is the athletic director and secondary principal for Rudyard Area Schools in Rudyard.

**ROBERT CRAIG (B.S. '81)** is executive director of the Warren County Regional Planning Commission in Lebanon, Ohio. He is also the president of the Ohio Planning Foundation.

**DOMINIC PALLAZOLA (B.A. '78)** is a qualified mental health associate at Laurel Hill Center in Eugene, Ore. Laurel Hill Center is an agency that provides psychiatric rehabilitation to people with severe and persistent mental illness.

**LATHAN FRANKS (B.S. '79)** received a master of social work degree from Hunter College's School of Social Work in New York.

**PEGGY PRICE HEINEY (M.A. '79)** authored the children's book "Lonely Teddy." She is a retired kindergarten teacher who lives in Plymouth (see book review, page 13).

**DENNIS ROTTENBUCHER** (M.A. '80) is the interim superintendent of Mason Consolidated Schools in Erie.

**TERRI MOUNT (B.S. '81, M.A. '88)** received the "Civic Education Teacher of the Year" award from the Michigan Center for Civic Education. He has taught at Hanover-Horton Middle School for Hanover-Horton Schools for 22 years.

**SCOTT MCKELVEY (B.B.A. '82)** was promoted to executive vice president and senior wealth management officer by Monroe Bank and Trust.



**TIM KEENAN** (B.S. '83) was named public relations director at G. Temple Associates, Ltd., based in Farmington Hills.

**KITTY GURKIN ROSATI** (M.S. '83) is the nutrition director of the Rice Diet Program in Durham, N.C. She coauthored "The Rice Diet Solution," which is a *New York Times* bestseller. She recently wrote a second book titled "The Rice Diet Cookbook" (see book review, page 12).



**ANN BERIAULT** (B.S. '84) was named a partner at Young & Laramore, a full-service advertising and marketing firm in Indianapolis. Beriault continues to serve as senior vice president, director of account services.

**ERIC DURAK** (B.S. '84) published "98 Miles High: The Ride of a Lifetime Chasing an Obscure Cycling Record." The book chronicles his journey establishing an unofficial world record by traveling 500,000 vertical feet on road grades of 7 percent or more (see book review, page 12).

**PAUL F. KISAK (M.B.A. '84)** founded KKI, which produced and marketed award-winning satellite-simulation software for PCs and Macs until 1995. Today, he is active in Preserve Frederick, a grassroots movement in Middletown, Va., and in restoring Cinnamon Hill, a historic colonial home.



**DAN RAGLIN** (B.B.A. '84) was honored by the Association of Fundraising Professionals as a Distinguished

Volunteer for his work with Eastern Michigan University.

**STEVEN SOMERS** (B.S. '84, M.A. '86) is owner and founder of Alley Records, an Ypsilanti recording and production studio. For more information, visit [www.alleyrecords.com](http://www.alleyrecords.com).

**LEE ACKERMAN** (B.S. '85) is executive director for Disabled and Alone/Life Services for the Handicapped, Inc. Life Services provides national support services to individuals with disabilities after the death of parents or caregivers.



**NEETA DELANEY** (M.A. '85) was named "Citizen of the Year" by *The Jackson Citizen Patriot*.

**FOTIS FOTIOU** (B.B.A. '85) was appointed minister of agriculture, natural resources and environment for the Republic of Cyprus by President Tassos Papadopoulos.

**TANYA WHITAKER** (B.S. '85), along with husband, Sean McClellan, founded *The Independent* newspaper in Dundee, which reached its 20th anniversary in May.



**SUSAN R. BODARY** (B.S. '86) is executive director of the P-16 Education Consortium, a new joint effort of educators in Ohio's Miami Valley working to strengthen the region's math and science education.

**JACQUELINE BRUSCO** (B.S. '86, M.A. '92) is a teacher consultant at Woodworth Middle School for Dearborn Public Schools.

**TIM PORTER** (B.B.A. '86) is vice president of wealth management at United Bank & Trust in Ann Arbor.

**GARY REED** (M.S. '86) authored "The Red Diaries," a graphic novel and fictional investigation of the President Kennedy assassination. Also a biology teacher at three area community colleges, he has written more than 200 comics and books, as well as film scripts, short stories, role-playing games, and a video game storyline (see book review, page 13). For more information, visit [www.garyreed.net](http://www.garyreed.net).

**GREG GKEKAS** (B.B.A. '87) works in sales and marketing for R2 Technology in Grand Rapids.

**MICHAEL JEFFREY SLEBODNICK** (B.S. '87, M.A. '02) is a teacher/educator with the elementary and secondary science teacher education department at Turtle Mountain Community College, N.D.

**VALERIE REITZEL** (B.F.A. '88) has been an art teacher for Brighton Area Schools at Lindbom Elementary School for eight years.

**GAIL V. RHODES** (B.B.A. '88, B.S.N. '00) is a nursing staff development coordinator in the Nursing Staff Development and Patient Education Department at the James Cancer Hospital and the Solve Research Institute at The Ohio State University Medical Center.

**SCOTT ADKINS** (B.S. '89) is superintendent for the city of St. Clair and was appointed to the board of directors for the Economic Development Alliance of St. Clair County.

**GAIL D. HERSHENZON** (M.A. '89) published "Detroit's Woodmere Cemetery," which examines the lives of prominent Detroiters buried there. She is an elementary teacher for Detroit Public Schools, and volunteers at the cemetery by giving tours and helping families with research (see book review, page 13).

**SUZANNE KEENAN** (B.S. '89, M.P.A. '97) is the director of grants and institutional research at Glen Oaks Community College in Centreville.

## 1990s

**BRENDAN FOREMAN** (B.A. '90) received tenure and a promotion at John Carroll University in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, and the Department of Education and Allied Studies.

**STEPHANIE HALL-STURGIS** (B.S. '90, M.A. '97) is director of the arts and sciences undeclared program and the university scholars program at Lawrence Technological University. She recently earned a doctoral degree in composition and rhetoric at Wayne State University.

# In the event of marketing, call Bitonti

From MUD Productions during his late 1960s days at EMU to the dusty trails of Camp Jeep in later years, Lou Bitonti has carved out an award-winning career in events marketing. Now a retired DaimlerChrysler events executive, Bitonti has launched his own firm, LD3 Event Management, and distilled his expertise into a book, "The Cosmic Spiderweb: How to Capture Any Customer Through Event Marketing."

His book grew out of speeches he gave at business events and universities. After piquing the audience's interest with a glimpse at everything from rodeos and golf to tennis and ski tour promotions, audience members' hands would pop up. "Students would tell me they wanted to switch to event marketing but there was no real program for it," said Bitonti, who graduated from EMU in 1971 with a bachelor of science in communications.

As a college student from East Detroit, Mich., Bitonti knew that the field of advertising was a natural fit for him. Through his MUD (McKenny Union Distribution) Productions, the campus soon became aware of his talent for promotion. Every week, bright orange fliers with a trademark mud-splat image advertised the latest second-run movies he was showing.

"I rented the movies from Paramount Pictures for a flat rate, so I could show them as many times as I wanted as long as I had it back to them by Monday," said Bitonti, who chose EMU so he could be near his widowed mother and younger sister. After four sell-out weekend performances in a 500-seat lecture hall in Pray-Harrold, MUD would net about \$1,000 a week for the Inter-Fraternity Council, of which Bitonti was vice president.

In March, he returned to campus to

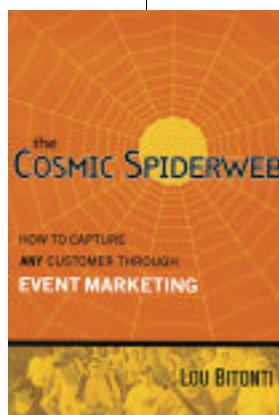
share his views on ethics in marketing. His presentation was part of Ethos Week sponsored by the College of Business, where he serves on an advisory board.

Following his EMU graduation, Bitonti landed a sales position with The Gillette Company in Chicago, where he finagled his way into working with its advertising agency as much as possible. A few years later, he secured a marketing job at DaimlerChrysler. In it, he was introduced to the world of event marketing, which he defines in his book as a "specific focus on the lifestyle experiences of customers and integrating those experiences with buying preferences."

In 2004, Bitonti's mastery earned him a spot on *Event Marketer* magazine's 11-member "Dream Team" as one of the "best creative marketers" in the United States.

In one of his most successful marketing events, Bitonti and his team brought the Muppets on board to introduce parents to the new safety-conscious Plymouth Voyager minivan in 1981. During a three-year mall tour, Kermit, Miss Piggy and the rest of the Muppets' gang delivered car-safety messages to children in kid-sized minivans while their parents checked out the real thing. "The kids loved it but what was really critical was that the mothers were crazy about it, too," said Bitonti, who lives in Rochester Hills, Mich. "If you hit with the right pieces, it really tells a lot of messages."

Bitonti and his team employed a different set of tools to cultivate the Jeep crowd, who value freedom, adventure and the great outdoors. In 1995, they transformed the small regional Jeep Jamborees into the annual Camp Jeep, which attracts hundreds of people from around the country for an action-packed weekend of camping and trail-riding. Camp Jeep has since gone international, with events

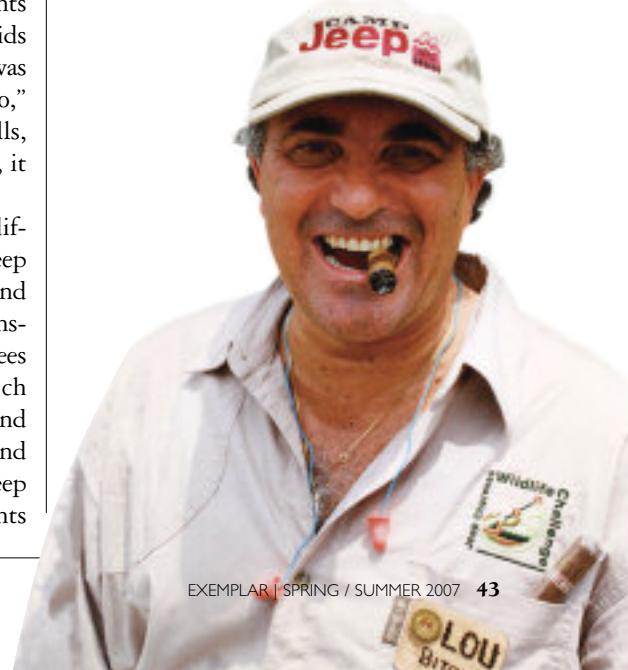


in South America, Europe and Mexico. In 2002, Camp Jeep was voted the "Best Event in the World" by *Promo Magazine*, and for five years it was among the Top 10 best events worldwide.

"Camp Jeep was a labor of love, from production planning to engineering to marketing," Bitonti said. "You're right there in the middle of the action! It's a win-win. That's what I love about it."

Now Bitonti has launched LD3 Event Management, based in Southfield, Mich. As head of the firm, he has the luxury of choosing his clients. He has assembled a team of veterans and is ready for new challenges. "In the area of event marketing, nothing scares me anymore," he said.

To give back to the community, Bitonti joined another team – the Brother Rice High School football team in Birmingham, Mich. – when his son Christopher was a player. As a coach for the past 10 years, he teaches the value of teamwork and working toward a goal in all aspects of life. But he cautions athletes to be realistic about dreams of a professional sports career. "There are about 600,000 high school players like you out there," he tells them. "About 75,000 of them will get on Division I, II or III college teams. Maybe 2,800 of them will make the pros. So, you better get a good education!"





**DAVID KASPER (B.S. '90)** is course director and co-owner, along with wife, Rachael, of

Huron Scuba in Ann Arbor, which recently won its third consecutive Excellence in Retailing Award from the Council on Retail Excellence. The award, presented at the annual Dive Equipment and Marketing Association show in Orlando, Fla., recognized Huron Scuba as one of country's Best Dive Centers. Kasper is a lecturer in EMU's School of Health Promotion and Human Performance, where he has taught the scuba diver course since 1997.

**PATRICK KNIGHT (B.S. '90, M.L.S. '95)** retired in 2005 as chief of the Riverview Police Department.

**BRIAN SMITH (B.S. '90)** was named vice president of Marsh USA in Atlanta, Ga.

**LYNETTE VOLLINK-FRAND (B.B.A. '91, M.L.S. '95)** is the human resource administration manager for North America at Federal Mogul's Southfield headquarters.



**DANIEL G. HACKER (M.B.A. '92)** was recently elected to the board of directors of the

Independent Jewelers Organization, a world-leading jewelry-buying group. He is co-owner of Hacker Jewelers in Tecumseh, Mich., with wife, Barbara.

**ILHAM BADREDDINE MAHFOUZ (B.F.A. '92)** has works on display at the Arab American National Museum's exhibit "Connections & Contrasts: Detroit's Arab American Artists" in Dearborn through May 31.

**SUSAN MAKELA (B.S. '92)** is director of education and telehealth at Marquette General Health System.

**CATHY MCGILVERY (M.A. '92)** is the assistant principal at Carman-Ainsworth High School for Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools.

**CHRISTOPHER OLZEM (B.B.A. '92)** is vice president and commercial loan officer at Peoples State Bank.

**MANDY GREWAL (M.A. '93)** serves as vice-chair for the Pittsfield Charter Township Board of Trustees, representing the 7th District.

**DAVID MORLOCK (M.B.A. '94)** is chief executive officer of University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers.

**TIMOTHY WEAVER (B.A. '94)** is the director general for Baxter Mexico.

**RAMAKRISHNA KOGANTI (M.S. '95)** received a Henry

Ford II Distinguished Award for Excellence in Automotive Engineering from the Society of Automotive Engineers in April at the SAE World Congress in Detroit. He is a body engineering technical expert at Ford Motor Co.'s Research and Advanced Engineering Center, where he investigates hydro-forming and rollforming technologies for vehicle body structures.



**THERESA LAVECK (B.S. '95, M.A. '04)** is participating in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's "Hike for Discovery" fundraising program at the Grand Canyon in May.

**SHANNON STIMSON (B.F.A. '95)** is creative director of *This Week In Real Estate*, the official publication of the Flint Area Association of Realtors.

## Alumnus gets a kick out of judo passion

By Brenda Ortega

More than 40 years after Neil Simon (B.A. '70, M.S. '74) discovered judo as an EMU freshman, he is returning to the place where his passion took root, with several hundred youth in tow.

Now president of the 11,000-member United States Judo Federation, Simon is responsible for bringing between 600 and 1,000 young athletes to his alma mater to compete in the U.S. Judo Federation Junior National Championships this July. Teams will come from the U.S., England and Canada.

"We're a grass-roots organization try-

ing to foster the development of judo," Simon said.

A former high school wrestler, Simon took a wrestling and judo class during his first year at EMU in 1966. His interest piqued, he went on to win collegiate intramural judo championships two years in a row.

Simon strayed from the sport for several years after college, until he was thrown from a horse in 1978. He was unhurt because he knew how to do a perfect back fall, a technique judo students master to avoid injuries, Simon said.

"I thought, if that's in my body to do, then this is the perfect sport for me," he said.

Since then, the martial art known as "The Gentle Way" has become a way of life. By day, he is president and chief executive officer of Business



**STEVEN HYDER (B.S. '96)**, a paramedic in Livingston County since 2001, recently earned a law degree from Cooley Law School and founded his own law firm, Priority One Law.

**DEBRA YOUNG (B.S. '95, M.A. '01)** is a third-grade teacher for Flat Rock Community Schools, where she has taught since 1995.



**TRACY ROSS (B.S. '96)** was named president and chief executive officer of the American Lung Association

(ALA) of the Midland States, based in Columbus, Ohio. In February, the ALA of Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee merged with the Midland States regional office. Ross is the first African-American woman to head an ALA regional office.

**CHARLIE SUNNE (B.S. '96)** earned an MBA from Walsh College. He works for J & L Industrial Supply in Southfield.

**NICHOLE A. FRANCIS (B.A. '97)** was hired as counsel to the U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security.

**VICKI MADAUS KNAPP (M.S. '97)** recently co-authored "Self-Help Skills for People with Autism." Knapp earned a master degree in clinical behavioral psychology. Her doctorate is in child and development psychology from the University of Kansas (see book review, page 13).

**JENNIFER SMITH (M.A. '97)** is a speech pathologist for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

**ANDREA TAYLOR (B.S. '97)** was appointed press secretary by Cleveland Mayor Frank G. Jackson. She had been communications director for Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald.

**Q. THANG DO (B.B.A. '97)** is creative director at The Futon Shop, the largest U.S. futon retailer with 11 stores in California.

**KENNETH LENNON (B.F.A. '98)** is a graphic design specialist at the Cleveland Clinic and part-time graphic design instructor at John Carroll University.

**DEBORAH OUELLETTE (B.S. '98, M.A. '01)** co-authored "Breaking Into Commercials: The Complete Guide to Marketing Yourself, Auditioning to Win, and Getting the Job." She is an award-winning entertainment-industry photographer and writer who often serves as a judge and guest speaker at regional and national modeling/talent competitions (see book review, page 12).

**DELORAS J. RUSSO (B.S. '98)** retired after 29 years of military service from the Michigan Army National Guard. She was a member of the 46th Military Police Command based out of Lansing and served as deputy chief of staff personnel.

**MARY ANNE DELACENSERIE (B.A. '99)** received her a teaching endorsement in autism after completing coursework through Florida State University.

**ROBERT DORNER (M.S.W. '99)** is the social worker at Fuller Street Elementary School for Maple Valley Schools in Vermontville.

**HEATHER SROKA (B.S. '99)** is an attorney for the U.S. Department of State, Office of Defense Trade Controls Enforcement Division-Military Intelligence.

**KAREN WALWORTH (B.B.A. '99)** is the regional vice president of the eastern region for McKinley, a national owner and manager of apartments and commercial real estate.

Development Group, Inc., advising companies nationally and internationally on ways to improve their bottom line through effective use of human and financial resources, known as intellectual capital. He lives in Southfield, Mich., and operates offices in Ann Arbor and Southfield.

In addition to business consulting, Simon holds a fourth-degree black belt in judo. He teaches the sport to young people through various venues, including volunteer work at the Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Wayne State University's School of the Deaf.

"I use judo to help develop and evolve people physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually," he said.

Described as a system of self defense, exercise and physical and mental discipline, judo does not involve kicking or striking. Instead, tournament competitors seek to win

by throwing opponents to the mat, by pinning opponents for 25 seconds or by making opponents submit with chokes or arm locks.

"The object is not to kill and maim," Simon said. "In judo, we try to take the person's energy and redirect it in a favorable way."

Participants between the ages of 8 and 19 will compete in the Junior Nationals at EMU's Convocation Center July 14-15. They are assigned to brackets based on weight and skill level, ranging from basic to elite. In addition to the sparring competition known as Shuai, the event will feature Kata, which are formal demonstrations of technique



that are judged and scored.

Simon became president of the U.S. Judo Federation in April 2006, which he described as "quite an honor." This summer's judo event at EMU will be a way of coming home to say, "Thank you," he said.

"To be able to come to a teaching institution and present this, to me, is a giveback to Eastern," Simon said.

**For more on the tournament, visit [www.michiganjudo.org](http://www.michiganjudo.org).**



## 2000s

### DAVID PETERSEN (B.F.A.

**'00**) is the creator of the comic book series "Mouse Guard."

**BRENDA SAID (B.S. '00)** is president of Great Lakes Education Group in Saline. Formally known as Step Ahead Learning Center, Great Lakes Education Group helps K-12 students develop learning and logic skills to succeed in school.

**AZIZA N. YULDASHEVA (B.B.A. '00)** joined the law firm of Fraser Trebilcock Davis & Dunlap, P.C., where she is practicing commercial litigation, insurance law and immigration.

**ANTHONY FISHER (B.S. '01)**, designer of EMU's Swoop mascot logos, won first place by popular vote in the *Savannah Morning News* "Komics Kombat" competition. His winning cartoon strip "Lou Sir!" received a spot in the newspaper's daily comics section for 90 days. Visit his Web site at [www.fishfrytoon.com](http://www.fishfrytoon.com).

### SPC. JODY B. HOLETON

**(M.A. '01)** graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

### MONICA JONES (B.S. '01)

authored "The Ups and Downs of Being Round," a coming of age story about a girl who struggles with weight issues. Jones is a freelance writer for the *Michigan Front Page* and a member of the Detroit Chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists (see book review, page 13).

### KURT KELLER (B.F.A. '01)

is a designer-art director at Phire Branding Company, an Ann Arbor-based advertising company.

**ALICIA LANGE (B.S. '01)** is a seventh and eighth grade social studies teacher at Perkins Middle School in Sandusky, Ohio.

**CECILY MORELAND (B.S. '01)** is the mentor coordinator for Camp Fire USA-Wathana Council serving Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties.



**SARA SCHAUB (B.B.A. '01, M.S. '02)** was hired as the head volleyball coach at Montana State University-Billings. Schaub was an assistant women's volleyball coach at EMU.

### ED ROBINSON (M.A. '02)

recently held his first solo art exhibition at the Huntington Woods Library in the Woods Gallery.

### MARK SHARP (ED.D. '02)

is assistant principal at Howell High School for Howell Public School.

### MEGAN WELLMAN (B.F.A.

**'02)** illustrated the children's book "Lonely Teddy" (see book review, page 13).

### JENETA IDRIZI (B.S. '03)

is employed by Lehman Brothers in California. She is a lender representative in BNC Mortgage, Inc., its sub-prime wholesale division.

### JASON MENSING (M.S.

**'03)** is head varsity football coach for Tecumseh High School for Tecumseh Public Schools.

### BYRON LUCIA JR. (B.S. '04)

is a substance abuse counselor at a mental hospital in Phoenix, Ariz.



**STEVE WATSON (B.S. '04)** is the new athletic director at St. Bonaventure University in New York.

### ALEXIS ROBINSON (B.S.

**'05)** is the registrar of the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan.

### JULIE BUMGARDNER

**(M.S. '06)** is a staff accountant at Yeo & Yeo, P.C., CPA, working in the firm's Ann Arbor audit department.

### STACEY LAFEHR (B.B.A.

**'06, M.S. '06)** works at the Southfield office of Grant Thornton as an associate in the firm's assurance practice.



**MELANIE LEBERT (B.S. '06)** is a reporter at *The Franklin Press*, a biweekly newspaper in Franklin, N.C.

### BRANDON RIVERS (B.S.

**'06)** works as a designer for Yazaki North American, Inc. in Canton.

## Forensic artist is drawn to action

Flashing police lights and screaming sirens jumpstart Barbara Martin-Bailey's sketch pencil. As the forensic artist for the Oakland County (Mich.) Sheriff's Office, Martin-Bailey is frequently called to the scene of a burglary or homicide to coax a description of the suspect from a traumatized witness.

"When I'm interviewing a witness, I'm so intensely interested in what they're saying that someone could drive a truck through the room and I wouldn't even notice," said Martin-Bailey of Berkley, Mich., who earned a bachelor of art education degree from EMU in 1971.

"A good forensic artist tries to capture

not just the person's physical appearance, but also their expression, like how piercing their eyes were," she added.

Her skills have drawn the careers of many criminals to a close. Martin-Bailey's first shot at forensic art came in 1968, when she was developing her natural drawing talent as an art student at EMU. Three young women who lived near her disappeared with a young man, and wound up dead. Upset by the lack of quality of the suspect's composite drawing being, she called the police three times pleading to use someone



with more artistic talent.

"My roommate and friends thought I was nuts to get involved, but I had to," said Martin-Bailey. "It was either him or me."

Police finally connected her with a witness. Martin-Bailey drew what turned out to be the face of John Norman Collins, who was convicted in 1970 of one murder in a series of seven linked murders. "I wanted to prove a point about drawing an anatomically correct likeness," Martin-Bailey said. "But by the 13th death investigation, I was hooked for life."

— Lisa Donovan

(To read more about Martin-Bailey, visit [www.emich.edu/communications](http://www.emich.edu/communications).)

## Alumni memoriams

Maurine Sinclair ('27, '59) Marshall, Oct. 22  
 Elwin L. Hulce ('32) Naples, Fla., March 9  
 Margaret E. Hammer (B.A. '34) South Haven, Nov. 11  
 Marian N. Mahard (B.S. '34) Granville, Ohio, Jan. 8  
 Laura Bullock ('35) Milan, Feb. 11  
 Irene J. Neir (B.S. '36) Muskegon, Jan. 3  
 Winnifred L. Williams ('36) Bowling Green, Ohio, March 8  
 Kathleen D. Boscardin (B.A. '37) Princeton, N.J., Feb. 10  
 Charles J. Neir (B.A. '37) Muskegon, Nov. 15  
 Shirley E. Reid ('37) Battle Creek, Feb. 26  
 Viola Jacobson (B.A. '38) Mancelona, Nov. 16  
 Norman A. Roller ('38) Ann Arbor, Jan. 25  
 Ruth E. Chapman (B.A. '40) Traverse City, Nov. 14  
 Mary L. Engelhardt (B.S. '40) Decorah, Iowa, Nov. 18  
 Catherine R. Creel ('41) Naperville, Ill., Feb. 9  
 Olive C. Enright (B.S. '42) Canton, Nov. 14  
 Nona R. O'Connor (B.S. '42) Arlington, Va., Jan. 4  
 Virginia Horton ('43) Lansing, Nov. 1  
 Ruth A. Donelson (B.S. '44) Flint, Feb. 12  
 Rosalia A. Schwem ('45) Petoskey, Feb. 17  
 Rosalia Ann Schwem ('45) Petoskey, Feb. 17  
 Stanley G. Richardson (B.S. '46) Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Dec. 2  
 Molley E. Westrbook (B.S. '46) Memphis, Tenn. Jan. 1  
 Joyce M. Doerner ('47) Newark, Del., Feb. 13  
 Charles F. Owens ('48) Los Angeles, Calif., Jan. 10  
 Donald B. Meier (B.S. '50) Seven Lakes, N.C., Feb. 10  
 Eugene C. Barker (B.S. '51, B.M.E. '54, M.A. '57) Tucson, Ariz., Nov. 10  
 Elaine M. Ross (B.S. '51) Sebring, Fla., Feb. 20  
 J. Andrew Domagalski (B.S. '52) Plainwell, Jan. 12  
 Callan P. Suchyta (B.S. '52) Morristown, N.J., Dec. 26  
 Anne E. (Taubitz) Townsend (B.S. '54) Moscow, Idaho, Feb. 22, 2006  
 Richard Myron Chatters (B.S. '56, M.A. '64) Britton, Nov. 6  
 Stuart L. Edmonds (M.A. '57) Midland, Dec. 31  
 Virginia Smith (B.S. '57, M.A. '64) Fort Myers, Fla., Oct. 2  
 Gretchen Broach (M.A. '58) Ypsilanti, Feb. 16  
 Helen J. Huber (B.S. '58, M.A. '62) Linden, Nov. 28  
 Richard A. Moore (B.S. '58) Plymouth, Oct. 28  
 Robert W. Steward (B.S. '59, M.A. '66) Fort Gratiot, Jan. 16  
 Eugene M. Miller (B.A. '60) Kenosha, Wis. Feb. 16  
 Donna M. Northridge ('60) Bedford, N.H., Dec. 10  
 Vera Hoadley (B.S. '61) Cass City, Feb. 13  
 Jean Carl (M.A. '62) Riverview, Dec. 11  
 Doris M. Clayton (B.S. '62, M.S. '68) Central Lake, Jan. 10  
 Alice M. Griffin (B.S. '62, M.A. '66) Adrian, Dec. 31  
 Charles E. Hagstrom (B.S. '62, M.S. '69) Petoskey, Oct. 29  
 Mary E. Hunt ('62) Swartz Creek, March 4  
 Judith A. Knuth (B.S. '62) Libertyville, Ill., Jan. 5  
 Laurel D. Lichlyter (B.S. '63, M.A. '66) Fenton, Feb. 20  
 Joyce A. Ridgway (B.S. '63) Napa, Calif., Aug. 4  
 Harold L. Beam (M.A. '64) Lenoir, N.C., Nov. 23  
 Jeanette M. Boland (M.A. '68) Lapeer, Jan. 28  
 Sophia Fisher (M.A. '69) Adrian, Jan. 4  
 Edith R. LaFayette (B.S. '69) Lapeer, Feb. 18  
 Eullalee Reed (B.S. '70, M.A. '74) Toledo, Jan. 13  
 Gerald Miller (M.A. '71) Ann Arbor, Nov. 30  
 Pat Sadler (B.S. '71) Detroit, March 6  
 Michael F. Staphis (M.A. '71) Davison, Feb. 28  
 Carl Nels Becker (B.S. '72, M.S. '73), Petersburg, Ill., April 13, 2006  
 Wayne Cummins (M.A. '72) Bonita Springs, Fla. Jan. 17  
 Thelma G. Brinker (M.A. '73) Pemberville, Ohio, Nov. 23  
 Susie E. Haluska (B.S. '74) Escanaba, Dec. 15  
 Robert L. Horn (B.S. '76) Mesa, Ariz., Dec. 20  
 Richard L. Painter (B.S. '76) Ubly, Jan. 31

Sharon Ellis (M.A. '79) Livonia, Feb. 14  
 Larry Steeb (M.S. '79) Ann Arbor, Feb. 12  
 Cynthia T. Bosio (M.S. '80, M.A. '87) Somerset, Jan. 15  
 Bernith L. Stanton (M.S. '81) Milan, Dec. 28  
 Judy A. Emery (M.S. '84) Arnold, Md., Dec. 13  
 Robert L. Rinehart II (M.A. '84) Huron, S.D., Dec. 26  
 Beth I. Rutz (B.S. '84, M.A. '90) Onsted, March 9  
 Tami R. Fischer (B.S. '85, M.A. '93) Onsted, Nov. 22  
 Marcia Marwil (B.S. '85) West Bloomfield, Jan. 4  
 Lena Metzelaar (B.S. '85) Ypsilanti, March 16  
 James Daniel (B.S. '86, M.S. '92, M.A. '94) Detroit, March 6  
 Sonya M. Allen (B.S. '91) Ann Arbor, March 5  
 Pear F. Johnson (M.A. '91) Fort Wayne, Ind., Feb. 9  
 Jeffrey Tarkington (B.A. '92) Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 15  
 Diane G. Robbins (B.B.A. '93) Grass Lake, Dec. 22  
 Mark A. Niehaus (B.S. '96) Ypsilanti, Jan. 29  
 Jeffery Doot (B.B.A. '98) Chicago, Ill., Dec. 10  
 Heather MacAllister (B.S. '99) Portland, Ore., Feb. 13  
 Catherine E. Voltz (B.S. '99) Pittsburgh, Pa., March 15  
 Dawn K. Gaitan (B.A. '05) Jackson, Feb. 9

## Faculty, staff memoriams

Max Adler (right), who taught biology and was senior curator of EMU's greenhouse for more than 32 years, died Feb. 27. He was 72. Adler began teaching as a lecturer of ornamental plants in 1965. He taught various biology courses and managed the greenhouse, which now sits next to Mark Jefferson, until his retirement in 1997.



Hilda Brown, who taught in the College of Business, died Dec. 12 in Orlando, Fla. She was 90.

William Bryan, a professor of military science from 1954-58 and later an accounting professor in the College of Business from 1961-74, died Jan. 1. He was 87.

June Grace Thorn Cobb, a secretary from 1967-84, died Dec. 15. She was 89.

Ralph Johnston, a former teacher, died Jan. 30. He was 95.

James Aubrey Lynch Sr., who worked as a new construction engineer for a decade, died March 25. He was 78.

Grace Kline Maxfield, a librarian from 1958-78, died April 6. She was 92.

Derious T. "Dee Dee" McCoy, an EMU food service and custodial maintenance employee from 1975-90, died April 12. He was 81.

Anne G. Thompson, who retired as a senior counselor in 1976, died Feb. 4. She was 90. While at EMU, Thompson was a member of the Women's Association (Faculty Women's Club) and was the force behind the formation of the EMU Women's Commission in 1972, serving as its first chair.

## Photo Gallery



**SCHOOL SPIRIT:** Members of EMU's Northern California Bay Area Alumni Chapter gathered for an alumni and friends reception April 19 in San Jose. Rohen Bose ('90), the chapter's new president-elect, attended with wife, Sumitra.



**FAMILY AFFAIR (from left):** Phi Alpha Alpha inductee Jada Hahlbrock ('01, '07) celebrated her achievement with proud husband Chris Burnett ('97) and sister Acadia Hahlbrock ('07). The ceremony took place Feb. 16 at a reception at University House hosted by the MPA Alumni Chapter.

**'CROWING' IN VENICE (right):** Florida resident Steve Harner ('72), owner of the Crow's Nest Marina Restaurant in Venice, welcomes guest Dr. Derrick Gragg, EMU's director of intercollegiate athletics, to the March 15 luncheon he hosted for alumni and friends.

**REUNITED (below):** It was a reunion 50 years in the making for former Homecoming queen Isabel Ward ('59) and long-lost EMU friend Gerry Buck ('70, '73). The two reacquainted at an alumni and friends reception March 16 in Florida hosted by Keith ('85) and Heather Stone at their Barefoot Beach home.





**CLASSY:** New inductees for the Class of 2006 were honored at the 31st Annual E-Club Athletic Hall of Fame Feb. 10, 2007. From left: EMU President John A. Fallon, III; Bob Lints ('70), football; Gary Tyson ('74), men's basketball; Dazel Jules ('90, '93), men's track; Greg Howe ('82), baseball; Nikki (Stubbs) Douglas ('90), volleyball; Carole Huston, athletic administration; Peter Linn ('74), men's and women's swimming head coach; Dr. Derrick Gragg, EMU athletic director; and Ed Mizinski ('76), E-Club Alumni Chapter president.



**GOING FOR THE GOLD:** Representatives from Google Ann Arbor were excited to meet with EMU Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) at an informational event the company hosted April 2 in Royal Oak. AdWords Strategists Justin Mears (left) and Shally Madan (right) visit with young alumnae Leslie Stiver ('99) (second from left) and Nichole Freitag ('99).



**BIRD-WATCHING:** Hundreds gathered to pay tribute to Professor P. George Bird at the close of his final EMU Theatre production Feb. 17, rounding out his 51 years of legendary service to the University. From left: Distinguished Alumna Award recipient Gloria Logan ('78) and April Callis ('86, '88) shared a moment with their mentor at the pre-performance dinner, as did many members of the Communication and Theatre Arts Alumni Chapter.

**MAY**

**19 Alumni Awards Dinner:** The EMU Alumni Association recognizes outstanding alumni and friends at the 46th Annual Alumni Awards Dinner. 6 p.m., Ypsilanti Marriott at Eagle Crest. Tickets are \$55 each or \$400 per table of eight. To R.S.V.P. or for additional information, contact the Office for Alumni Relations at 734.487.0250.

**7 Permanently positive:** "Chris Hyndman Selects Works From The Permanent Collection." First in a series of exhibitions in which EMU faculty select works from the art department's permanent collection. Exhibitions showcase the collection while elucidating the personal aesthetics of individual faculty. University Art Gallery, EMU Student Center. Through June.

**IMPORTANT NUMBERS:**

EMU Ticket Office: 734.487.2282

EMU Theatre Box Office:  
734.487.1221

Check out calendars online at:  
[www.emich.edu/calendars](http://www.emich.edu/calendars)

**28 Honoring our heroes:** Ypsilanti's annual Memorial Day Parade continues the time-honored tradition of honoring America's soldiers. 9 a.m., downtown Ypsilanti. Sponsored by the American Legion Post 282. Info: 734.483.4444.

**JUNE**

**7 Start your engines:** Depot Town Cruise Nights every Thursday evening through Sept. 13 (weather permitting). Bring your own classic car or simply come to enjoy the show. Explore Ypsilanti's unique collection of classic and gloriously restored automobiles. Info: [www.ypsicars.com](http://www.ypsicars.com).

**8 Going, going ...:** EMU Theatre presents the spring musical "Diamonds in the D," a lighthearted look at the national pastime. Shows are June 8-10, 14-16. Times TBA. Info: [www.emich.edu/public/cta](http://www.emich.edu/public/cta).

**JULY**

**2 By degrees:** Summer classes start at EMU. Register at [www.emich.edu](http://www.emich.edu).

**14-15 Hand-to-hand combat:** The United States Judo Federation brings its 44th Annual Junior, Youth, Team and Kata National Championships to the EMU Convocation Center. (See story page 44)

**13-14 All shook up:** Elvis has not left Riverside Park! Michigan Elvisfest returns for concerts and hunka-hunka fun. Info: [www.mielvisfest.org](http://www.mielvisfest.org).

**AUGUST**

**11-19 Shared heritage:** The 29th Annual Ypsilanti Heritage Festival begins. Locations across Riverside Park, Depot Town, Frog Island and downtown Ypsilanti. Opening reception Thursday, Aug. 16, from 7-10 p.m. at Cross Street Village on Cross Street.



Dust off the clubs and prepare to unleash the "Tiger" within. Here are some great golf outings for EMU alumni and friends. (All events are at Eagle Crest Golf Club in Ypsilanti.)

May 19: Kensington Valley Alumni Chapter's 22nd Annual 'Best of Best' Golf Outing. 9 a.m. shotgun start. Info: Jay Hansen at 248.293.6722 or [jhansen@gocoach.com](mailto:jhansen@gocoach.com)

June 8: E-Gridiron Group Football Golf Outing: 10 a.m. shotgun start. Info: Adam Tubaro at 734.487.3420 or [atubaro@emich.edu](mailto:atubaro@emich.edu)

June 15: Accounting and Finance Alumni/Student Golf Scramble. 8 a.m. shotgun start. Info: Susan Kattelus at 734.487.3320 or [susan.kattelus@emich.edu](mailto:susan.kattelus@emich.edu)

June 28: Lucy Parker Women's Golf Outing. 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. Info: Carol Carrico at 734.487.4458 or [ccarrico@emich.edu](mailto:ccarrico@emich.edu)

July 23: Women's Golf Team Golf Outing: 9 a.m. shotgun start. Info: Sandy Wagner at 734.845.1122 or [swagner2@emich.edu](mailto:swagner2@emich.edu)

Aug. 6: Men's Basketball Golf Outing. 10 a.m. shotgun start. Info: Rich Marion at 734.487.0316 or [rmarion@emich.edu](mailto:rmarion@emich.edu)



## Doreen Lawton

When she started her college career in her 50s, Doreen Lawton said she never felt out of place and was readily accepted by younger students and art faculty alike. "Even my kids were proud of me for going back to school," she said of her three children. Doreen graduated in 1988, and fully enjoyed her seven years as a substitute teacher in every grade and subject. Doreen landed her "dream job" the last seven years of her career and taught art at the elementary level for Livonia Public Schools.

"I had such good preparation to teach, coming from my education at Eastern. Even at the elementary level, we integrated art history and studied the great artists. Because of the care and concern shown by my art professors at EMU, particularly Richard Fairfield, I wanted to give back to the art department."

Doreen also benefited from a wonderful travel-study experience through the European Cultural History Tour, offered by EMU during the 1980s. The caring atmosphere is one of the reasons Doreen established a charitable gift annuity with EMU, which provides her a guaranteed and lifetime stream of income. Through this planned gift, she will help other art students for years to come.

### Selected current charitable gift annuity rates for one life

Age	Rate
60	5.7 %
65	6.0 %
70	6.5 %
75	7.1 %
80	8.0 %
85	9.5 %
90	11.3 %

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