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Eastern Michigan University

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Eastern Today Update

Spring 1988

Alumni Action Is Officially Launched

This supplement to *Eastern Today* contains information that is so important and a message that is so exciting that the Alumni Association decided it could not wait until the next issue of *Eastern Today*. The message is Alumni Action.

Alumni Action is a program designed to increase the level of participation in Alumni Association sponsored events and to increase the amount of benefits available to alumni and friends of Eastern Michigan University.

This is your opportunity to be a part of Alumni Action. Joining the Alumni Association will entitle you to participate in special events open only to Alumni Association members. This year's list of events includes the annual Alumni Awards Dinner Dance; the Alumni Golf Tournament, held this year at Barton Hills Country Club; the Yuletide Dinner and Sleigh Ride at Greenfield Village; the "Sea of Green" Homecoming Celebration; a cruise aboard the Star of Detroit, which will feature a prime on-the-water view of the Detroit unlimited hydroplane races; and a chance to watch the sky explode at the Detroit Fireworks Celebration, which will be seen by alumni from the Atrium Room at the Omni Hotel in Millinder Center.

Furthermore, Alumni Action is more than

action. It is also benefits and privileges for association members. One of these benefits is an offer to carry the EMU Alumni Silver MasterCard and companion VISA that is issued with no annual fee for the first year and comes with the highest credit line possible. Your Alumni Association membership also entitles you to receive many discounts, including tickets purchased on Alumni Days at Sea World (June 4 and 5), Campus Life events, computer hardware and software, wholesale food purchases, lodging at the new Radisson resort in Ypsilanti and 15 percent off purchases in the University Bookstore. An Alumni Action membership card can benefit your family by making alumni scholarships available to your sons, daughters or grandchildren. Other benefits include keeping up with Huron basketball by taking advantage of a two-for-one ticket offer, free use of the EMU library, invitations to all outreach events, and receiving the monthly Alumni Action newsletter.

The Alumni Action program is an outgrowth and a response to the needs of the alumni. Hayes Jones, a former Alumni Association Board member and Olympic track star, said, "We discussed the Alumni Action program four or five years ago. At that time, alumni seemed to be looking for more in terms of par-

ticipation." When the subject of more participation from the Alumni Association came up at a weekend retreat last year, Jones said, "We took that charge."

After an exciting year at EMU, there are already alumni who have expressed an interest in getting together and sharing the pride, who are eager to stay involved with the Eastern Michigan University campus, and who want to continue the friendships and contacts that were begun at Eastern Michigan. Alumni Action is your program and the opportunity to join the Alumni Association is in your hand.

Enclosed with this newsletter is an application form. If you want to be part of the action, return it today with the \$25 membership fee (joint membership for another person at the same address is the same \$25). Any person who has attended Eastern Michigan University or members of the University Circle (donors of \$100 or more) are eligible to join. The membership fee will cover the cost of the mailings and invitations, but the Alumni Action events are self-funded. This is the program that Eastern Michigan's alumni have asked for; the only goal is to extend the University experience by allowing alumni to work together for the benefit of each other.

End of an Era

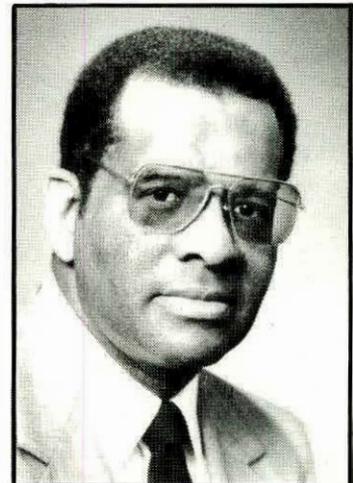
Eastern Michigan University President John W. Porter announced he will retire next Jan. 1. EMU's 17th president served the school for eight and one-half years.

Eastern experienced outstanding growth and advancement during Porter's tenure. Some of these accomplishments include a 30 percent enrollment increase, the establishment of the Center for Entrepreneurship and the state's first College of Technology. Porter's administration also oversaw the construction of the Olds Student Recreation Center in 1982, the Coatings Research Center in 1987, and the groundbreaking of the Corporate Education Center.

Porter also was committed to strengthening the scholarship system and developing the athletic programs. His leadership in these areas led to the addition of four scholarship programs and Eastern's first MAC titles in football and basketball.

Porter said, "I will remain forever grateful and committed to the well being of Eastern Michigan."

A selection committee is currently searching for Porter's replacement, and a new president is expected to be named for approval prior to his departure.



John W. Porter

In Honor of Fellowship, Dedication and Commitment

Celebrate the achievements of Eastern Michigan alumni at the fourth annual Alumni Awards Dinner Dance at the Dearborn Fairlane May 14. Becoming a traditional part of our spring calendar, this event has grown in popularity every year.

The evening will begin with an open bar, followed by the awards presentation program. After a sumptuous dinner, dancing will begin to the music of the Don Korte Orchestra.

The awards are presented in four categories.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to alumni of 25 years or more whose

accomplishments show dedication to their careers, service to mankind and continued interest in the University. This year's recipients are A. Keith Ebersole, '54; Jack D. Minzey, '50; and Edward Engle Sr., '39.

The Alumni Achievement Award is presented to alumni of 10 or more years whose achievements clearly distinguish them from their peers in their chosen fields and who show continued support of the University and evidence that their college education has applied to their lives. This year the award goes to Dr. Thomas Grundner, '67; James Webb,

'71, '76; and Lynn Diane Riddle, '81.

The Young Alumni Award recipients are generally graduates of less than 10 years whose accomplishments demonstrate that Eastern Michigan University has contributed to their success in their chosen fields. The 1988 recipients are Rodney E. Slater, '77, and Richard A. Lepping, '83.

The Distinguished Service Award is presented to alumni or non-alumni who have demonstrated outstanding service to Eastern Michigan and society as a whole. This year's award goes to Robert Taylor, Hon. '86.

Distinguished Alumni Award

A recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award, **Edward Engle Sr., '39**, is the founder of Rima Manufacturing Co., a supplier of machining services. After mortgaging his house to meet start-up expenses, Engle organized the company in 1955. Since then, it has become a landmark in Hudson, Mich. Rima is now the leading supplier of machining services for the automation, refrigeration, communication and appliance market. Although his son, Ed Jr., has assumed the position of president, Engle is still active in managing the company he founded.

Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient **A. Keith Ebersole, '54**, is now retired from American Motors Corp., where he served as vice president of diversified operations and supply group until January 1987.

Ebersole was a member of the EMU College of Business Development Council and was the guest speaker at the 1983 EMU College of Business honors banquet.

A varsity football player and Kappa Phi Alpha member, Ebersole continues to support EMU athletics.

Head of EMU's Department of Leadership and Counseling in the College of Education and winner of the 1986 Distinguished Service Award from the National Education Association, **Jack D. Minzey, '50**, can add a Distinguished Alumnus Award to an already outstanding list of kudos.

After receiving his degree at Eastern, Minzey subsequently earned an M.A. from the University of Michigan and an Ed.D. from Michigan State University. This educational combination led to his career growth from high school teacher and principal to University professor and academic administrator.

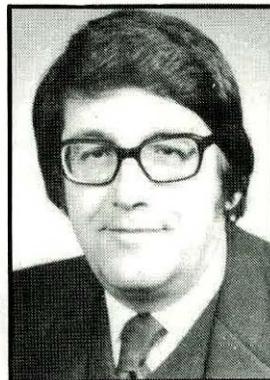
Minzey has received many honors, including the Outstanding Service Award from the National Community Education Association, and listings in *Contemporary Authors*, *Leaders in Education* and *Who's Who in the Midwest*.

Alumni Achievement Award

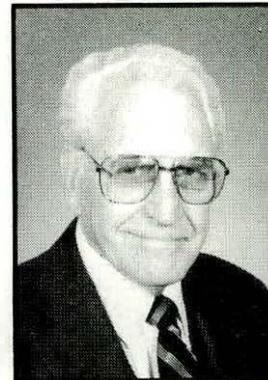
Alumna Achievement Award recipient **Lynn Diane Riddle, '81**, has recently been named



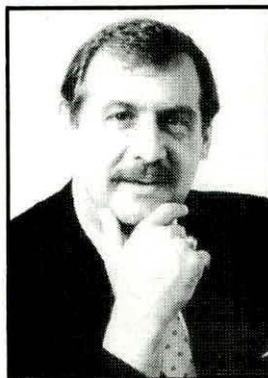
A. Keith Ebersole



Jack D. Minzey



Edward Engle Sr.



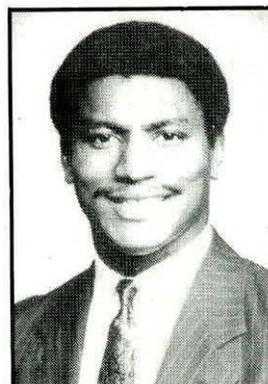
Thomas Grundner



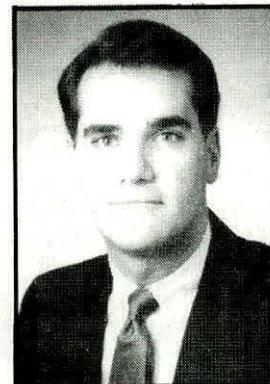
James Webb



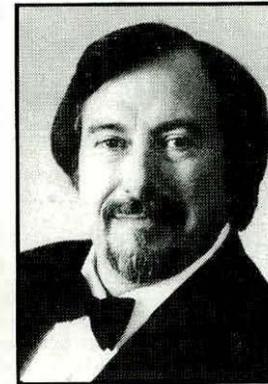
Lynn Diane Riddle



Rodney E. Slater



Richard A. Lepping



Robert Taylor

assistant vice president of North American marketing communications for the Mitel Corp.

Riddle's professional career has benefited both public and private organizations. Her personal achievements have included creating and conducting training programs for Borg Warner and AT&T, and writing numerous articles for management and training magazines.

Riddle has served on the board of directors of the Southeast Michigan Red Cross, and she is currently serving as the chairperson of the National Advisory Council on Youth.

A recognized leader in the field of education, Alumnus Achievement Award recipient **Dr. Thomas M. Grundner, '67**, won four varsity football letters at EMU. After graduation, Grundner went on to earn two master's degrees and a doctorate in education.

Grundner is on the faculty of Case Western Reserve University, where he has gained a national reputation as a developer of medical telecomputing systems.

Last spring, Grundner returned to the EMU campus to train with the football team. A book Grundner has written about this experience, *Fourth and Forty*, is due to be released soon.

James W. Webb, '71, senior vice president of the Frank B. Hall Co., has been named a recipient of an Alumnus Achievement Award.

Webb is a member of the Career Horizons Board, which is composed of leaders in education, business and industry who have the collective goal of preparing students to live and work in the 21st century.

Webb likes to say he was a member of the EMU swim team for "20 minutes." Although his involvement with the team was short, his commitment to athletics is long. Webb and the Frank B. Hall Co. have been active supporters of the swim team.

Young Alumni Award

Young Alumnus Award recipient **Rodney Slater, '77**, is the director of governmental relations at Arkansas State University, and he

is also a member of the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Commission.

At Eastern, Slater was an all-MAC football player, team captain, a member of the academic all-conference team and a member of the 1977 national championship forensics team. A graduate of the Arkansas School of Law in 1980, Slater's undergraduate degree in political science and speech communications prepared him for his eventual career.

Young Alumnus Award recipient **Richard A. Lepping, '83**, has recently been promoted to the position of senior vice president for the Michigan Retailers Association, a non-profit trade association that represents independent retailers across Michigan.

In addition to speaking to marketing clubs at EMU and around the state, Lepping is associated with many organizations, including the American Society of Association Executives and the Lansing Midway Optimist Board. He also serves on the Board of Business Education Alliance, Career Consultants, Eastern Michigan University.

Distinguished Service Award

This year's Distinguished Service Award will honor **Robert Taylor, Hon. '86**, for his continued support of Eastern Michigan University.

Known professionally as "Fat Bob, the singing plumber," Taylor is a local celebrity and radio personality. While studying voice at the University of Michigan, Taylor won the Great Lakes Regional Metropolitan Opera Contest. He went on to make appearances on the Mike Douglas Show and performed with headliners, including Arthur Godfrey, Duke Ellington and Buddy Rich.

Taylor was involved with the Quirk-Sponberg fund-raising campaign, and throughout his career he has generously donated his energy and talents to support various EMU events and projects.

Mackinac Trip

Don't forget to make plans to meet alumni and friends for a weekend at Stonecliffe on Mackinac Island Aug. 18-21.

The getaway tour includes three nights lodging, transportation to and from the hotel, reduced rates on the Mackinac Island ferry and a sunset cocktail cruise.

While enjoying one of the island's most charming resorts, you will be treated to a welcome barbecue, a banquet followed by a reception, and three additional meals as part of the package.

In addition to golf, horseback riding, bicycling and relaxing, there will be an optional side tour to the Grand Hotel that includes lunch in the Grand's main dining room, and a tour of Fort Mackinac complete with a visit to the Tea Room for lunch with a birds-eye view of the breathtaking beauty of the Straits of Mackinac.

Bus transportation to the island is available. The coach will depart from Eastern's campus and will take alumni and friends to the ferry docks in Mackinac City.

For details and price information, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at (313) 487-0250.

Congratulations!

The first official alumni chapters under our new organizational structure were initiated this winter. Congratulations go out to Michigan's first chapter, in Flint, and four chapters initiated in Florida. Look for details of these events in a future issue of *Eastern Today*.



invites
**Eastern Michigan University
 Alumni**
to
**College Alumni Reunion
 Weekend**

SAVE \$5.00 Per Person
June 4 & 5

Coupon valid on above dates only. Not valid with any other discount or special pricing. Offer good only in Ohio.
A-1614 C-1615 S-1616

YES, I/we would like to join the EMU Alumni Association
 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP individual or joint \$25.00

Name (1) _____ Class _____

Joint with (2) _____ Class _____

EMU ID Number (1) _____ EMU ID Number (2) _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Residence Phone () _____ Business () _____

Check made payable to Eastern Michigan University enclosed for \$ _____

OR. charge VISA MasterCard # _____ Exp. _____

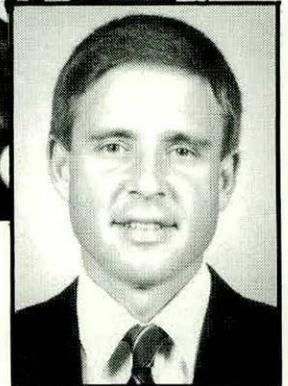
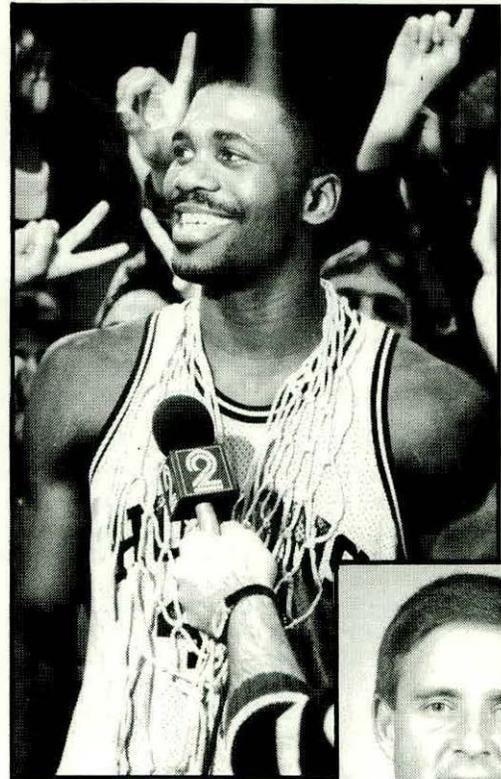
Your signature as it appears on credit card _____

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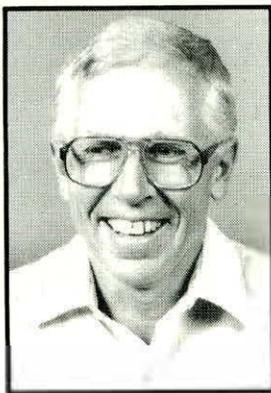
The Alumni Association congratulates Eastern Michigan's champions.



*Football Coach
Jim Harkema*



*Basketball Coach
Ben Braun*



*Swimming Coach
Mike Jones*

Sports Shorts

The Huron *swimmers*, led by MAC Coach of the Year Mike Jones, won their ninth straight conference crown, and John Eisley's *wrestlers* finished with a strong third place MAC showing.

Coach Bob Parks has strengthened his already powerful *men's track* team. Freshmen Mark Daily and Wayne Boyd are joining MAC champions Carl Johnson, Darrin Carpenter and Morris Ellis. The team won the unofficial indoor championship this winter and hopes to

repeat as MAC outdoor conference champions.

After a second place finish in the unofficial outdoor meets, senior middle-distance runner Donna Donakowski and senior sprinter Virginia Bullie will help Bob Maybouer's *women's track* team defend its MAC title.

Roger Coryell has taken over the reigns of the *baseball* program after the resignation of Ron Oestrike. Coryell plans to rely on returning pitcher Mike Lumley and seniors Mickey

Delas and Brian Neil to contend for a MAC championship.

First year coach Connie Miner plans to build upon last year's 19-26 *softball* record. Miner is counting on leadership from six returning seniors to pick up her team.

With only senior Bill Milne and junior Kevin Jamaski to give leadership to the squad, John Thibault's *golf* team is rebuilding this year and hopes to improve on last year's seventh place MAC finish.

Office for Alumni Relations
202 McKenny Union
Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

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