

News for
Eastern Michigan
Faculty and Staff

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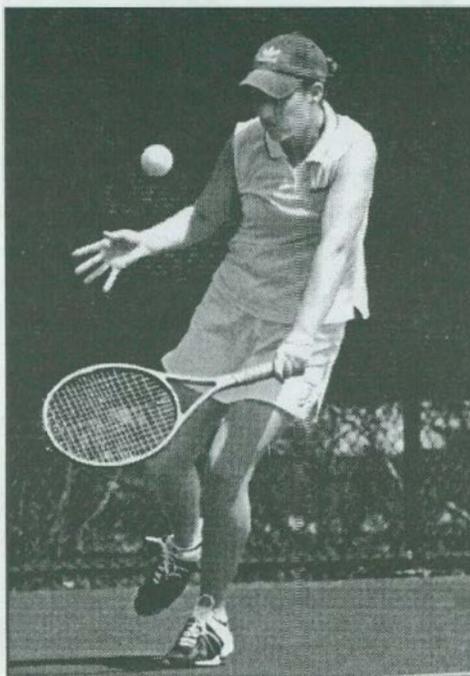
'Walk' benefits women's athletics

One small step for your health can help women's athletics at Eastern Michigan University continue to make strides.

The Second Annual Walk for Women's Athletics, an event to raise money for scholarships and program costs, is scheduled Saturday, May 10, 9:45 a.m., at EMU's Convocation Center.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to get some exercise in the company of friends and help support the women athletes at Eastern Michigan University," said Pam Kirkpatrick, chair of the event and wife of EMU President Samuel A. Kirkpatrick.

"We have a 70 percent graduation rate among our women athletes," said Carole Huston, senior associate athletics director at EMU. "But there is still a need for fifth-



RIGHT ON THE MONEY: The Walk for Women's Athletics, scheduled May 10, raises money for women's athletic scholarships at EMU. Rebecca Hawkins (left), a senior from Gosford, New South Wales, Australia, a current EMU tennis player and the 2000 MAC Player of the Year, uses her backhand during a recent tennis match.

year aid. That need has not lessened any. Our expectations are great, but reachable with support for this walk."

EMU has 12 women's

sports and more than 250 women athletes. EMU women's sports include: basketball, softball, indoor track, volleyball, rowing, golf, soc-

cer, tennis, gymnastics, swimming and diving, outdoor track and cross country.

There is a \$25 pledge requirement from each participant. Team participation is encouraged and corporate sponsorships are available.

Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. at the Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt Road. There will be a Wellness Warm Up following check-in that includes demonstrations of Yoga, Pilates, step aerobics and rowing machines. There also will be a golf swing clinic for participants.

The walk begins at 10 a.m. on the Olds-Robb Track at Rynearson Stadium. Participants can jog or walk for the 30-minute event.

A continental breakfast follows the walk.

For more information, call 487-8236.

EMU students work to conserve British cannon from War of 1812

UNBURIED TREASURE: Rick Kuss, a graduate student from Saline, and Lauren Sickles-Taves, assistant professor of historic preservation, examine a cannon that was used in the War of 1812. Sickles-Taves is leading a team of students from EMU's historic preservation program who are preserving the cannon. The cannon was forged during the reign of King George II of England (1727-1760) and dumped into the Detroit River when the British fled Detroit in 1813.



By Carol Anderson

Secrets from the deep have been raised and Eastern Michigan University is helping to shed some light on a nearly 200-year-old mystery. Two EMU historical preservation graduate students, Alexandra Raven and Michelle Sponseller, are working to conserve a 1,325-pound, 6 1/2-foot-long cannon used during the War of 1812.

The historical artifact, retrieved 100 feet below the surface of the Detroit River by sports divers in 1987, was donated by the Dossin Great Lakes Museum in Detroit to the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing. The students, under the direction of EMU

Assistant Professor of Historic Preservation Lauren Sickles-Taves, started the 10-month conservation project in December 2002.

"The cannon may have fallen or been pushed off the ship as it was being taken out of Detroit," said Raven, who theorizes it was lost during the British retreat at the end of the war in 1813.

As the rust and encrustations, or microorganisms, were removed from the cannon, the royal crest of King George II could be seen on the barrel, verifying the cannon's British origins as sometime between 1727-1760. But questions still persist with the discovery of the myste-

SEE CANNON, page 4

Potter resigns as COB dean

By Ron Podell

Earl Potter, dean of the College of Business since May 2000, resigned from his position, effective June 20. He will become provost and vice president of academic affairs at Southern Oregon University, an institution of 5,500 located in Ashland.

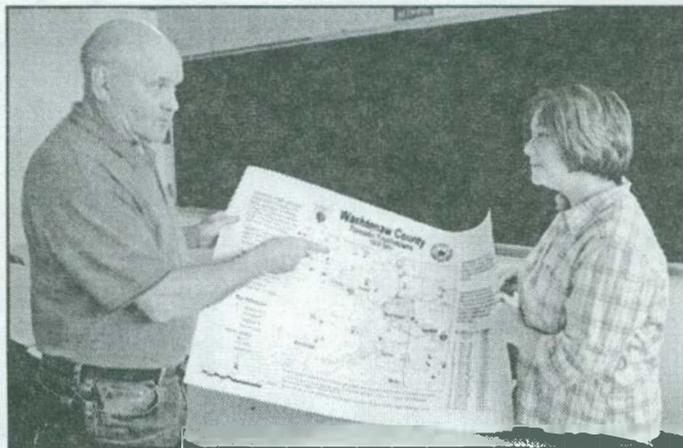
The move was based, in large part, on a promise Potter made to his wife 25 years ago that they would someday return to the Pacific Northwest region, where many family members live.

"I am sad to be leaving EMU. The last three years have been some of the best years of my life," Potter said. "I am most proud of the climate that we have created in the College of Business over the last three years: positive, focused on the future, productive and creative. The COB's strength is increasingly recognized in this region and beyond."

During Potter's tenure, the COB was reaccredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business-AACSB International; built a strong outreach program through the Office of Business Partnership Programs; revamped the MBA program; expanded the master of science in information systems (MSIS); added new programs in E-business, entrepreneurship and supply chain management; and strengthened its partnership with MASCO Corporation.



NOAA names Ojala an 'Environmental Hero'



ENVIRONMENTAL EDGE: (far left) Carl Ojala, professor of geography and geology, reviews a tornado map created by EMU student Jennifer Beecher. The NOAA named Ojala an Environmental Hero.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recently selected Carl Ojala, professor of geography and geology, as an Environmental Hero. In conjunction with Earth Day celebrations, the award honors NOAA volunteers for their 'tireless efforts to preserve and protect the nation's environment.'

Each spring since 1994, Ojala has annually trained roughly 400 SKYWARN spotters on behalf of the National Weather Service, and has maintained the agency's cooperative weather station in Ypsilanti since 1986.

"I'm extremely humbled and gratified by this award," Ojala said. "It means that they appreciate the work and think that it's important."

■ Raymond Rosenfield, profes-

sor of political science, recently received a Fulbright Senior Specialists grant in public administration at Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration. The Fulbright Senior Specialists Program offers two-to-six-week grants to leading U.S. academics and professionals to support curricular and faculty development, and institutional planning at academic institutions in 140 countries around the world.

■ Joe Bishop, assistant professor of teacher education, and Don Staub, from the Office of Academic Service-Learning, have received an award from the American Councils for International Education for "Citizenship Education Internship Program for Secondary School Teachers and Teacher Trainers from Eurasia at Eastern Michigan University." Seven

Ukrainian secondary educators will be at EMU for five weeks in October and November 2003. They will visit local schools and other government agencies, and will be trained by Bishop in how to establish a citizenship education curriculum. Bishop will later make two trips to the Ukraine to study implementation of the project.

■ Barbara Jones, corporate relations manager for the Career Services Center, was the winner of the 2003 Athena Award from the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce Women's Council. The award recognized her dedication to the local business community.



Jones

■ Heather Neff, professor of English language and literature, recently was named a winner of the 2003 Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA) Literary Awards. Neff was an honor winner in the fiction category for her novel, "Wisdom," which tells the story of a woman whose quest to find an estate called 'Wisdom' leads her to discover her own personal legacy. The awards recognize excellence in adult fiction and

nonfiction by African American authors published in 2002, recognition of a first novelist, and a citation for outstanding contribution to publishing.

■ Ella Burton, assistant professor of leadership and counseling, was recently named president of the Michigan Association of Professors of Education Administration.

■ Charles Achilles' research on the effects of class size on student learning in the early grades was identified as one of 11 pieces of research in the past 50 years that has changed education, according to an article in the February 2003 issue of *Educational Leadership*. Achilles is a professor of leadership and counseling.

■ Suzanne Hobson, associate professor of leadership and counseling, has been appointed chair of the Human Rights Committee of the American Counseling Association (ACA). Hobson, at the association's recent convention, received the first place award for "Best Leadership Development Program" and has been commissioned to write the ACA's leadership training book.



Neff

Hannan's early interest in biology encouraged by mentors

Many people find out as early as childhood what it is they want to do for a living. Some even stick with it while in college. Gary Hannan did this and then some.

"I was the usual kid who messed around spending a lot of time outside," said Hannan, an associate professor in the biology department at EMU since 1986. "I knew that I wanted to be in

1979.

In addition to his love of the outdoors and learning in classes, Hannan credits his undergraduate advisor as being a mentor to him.

"He made it easier for me and gave me great advice," said Hannan, whose goal it was to eventually land a faculty position that would allow him to do research as well as teach.

After graduate school, Hannan lectured for a summer in the botany department at California State-Berkeley.

"Being at Berkeley, I learned a lot about researching as a student and as an associate," Hannan said.

Later, the opportunity arose for him to return to his alma mater as a research associate and lecturer at UC-Santa Barbara. Ironically, he replaced his undergraduate mentor.

"That was an interesting

time," he said. "But I knew it was temporary."

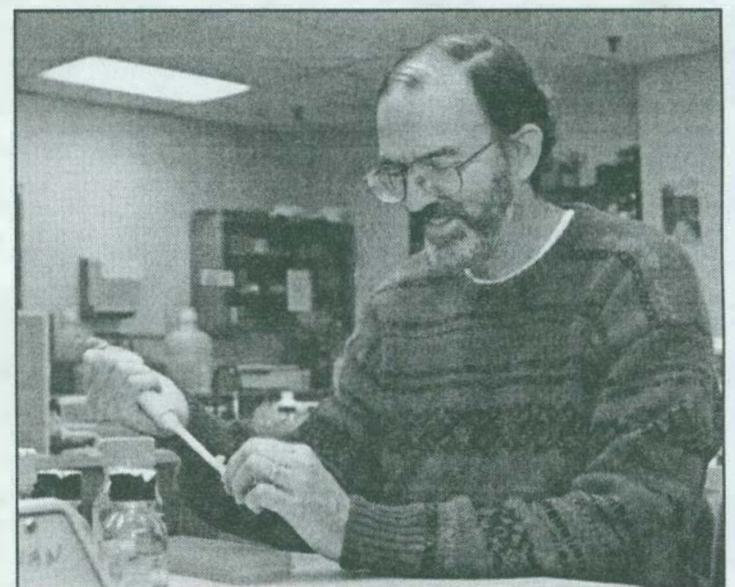
Meanwhile, Hannan continued to apply for full-time positions at a number of institutions, including Eastern Michigan. He was later interviewed and offered a position as an assistant professor in 1982.

"I liked the mix of what people were doing here," he said, recollecting his reasons for coming to EMU. "The balance of teaching and research is what I was looking for."

"I love the interaction with the students," Hannan said. "We (biology department) require that all faculty include them in the research at some level."

Hannan strongly believes that including students' participation in faculty research will generate more interest in the field, as well as bridge the gap between teachers and students.

"We should be able to ex-



LAB RAT: Gary Hannan, an associate professor of biology, conducts an experiment in a lab at Mark-Jefferson.

pose students to updated methods so that they'll be able to not only gain the knowledge, but know how to use it," he said.

In keeping with his interests, Hannan served as a member of the editorial board of the Michigan Botanical Club from 1985-88 and filled a

number of positions from 1980-87 with Friends of the University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens. From 1990-93, he was co-editor of *The Michigan Botanist*, a scientific journal of the Michigan Botanical Club. — contributed by Rashid S. Umar

EM *you*

biology, but I wasn't sure where."

Hannan eventually followed his dreams, earning a bachelor of arts degree in environmental biology at the University of California-Santa Barbara in 1973 and his Ph.D. at the University of California-Berkeley in botany, the study of plants,

Students combine characters, improvisational music to create class performances that entertain children

By Summer Wilhelm

To Pamela Ruitter-Feenstra, "Peter and the Wolf" isn't just a popular children's tale. It's an inspiration.

After seeing how much her nieces and nephews enjoyed the play, "Peter and the Wolf," Ruitter-Feenstra decided to use the fable as a model for the children's stories students in her improvisation music classes performed for 30 kids from the Children's Institute April 16.

Ruitter-Feenstra, who recently went on maternity leave, also was searching for a performance idea that would utilize the talents of her replacement, Joel Speerstra. Speerstra, senior researcher at the Goteborg University Organ Art Center in Sweden, filled Ruitter-Feenstra's shoes as performance organizer and narrator.

Instead of having her students simply read lines, Ruitter-Feenstra decided each character should have a musical theme. Every performer had an instrument and created a tune that was played in accompaniment with their dialogue. The audience could then associate a certain theme song and instrument with a certain character in the play.

"Mixing music and storytelling is



BUSY BEES: Students in Pamela Ruitter-Feenstra's improvisation music classes perform a scene from "The Fire Race," a Native American tale. Students learned how to create characters, such as the bumblebees (above), by combining dialogue and music to enrich the performance. Here, students perform for children from the Children's Institute.

a great way for musicians to express themselves in a manner that communicates to the audience," said Ruitter-Feenstra. "They also are able to use their imaginations and really get to know their musical instruments."

The music students performed two children's stories, "The Bremen Mu-

sicians" and "The Fire Race."

"The Bremen Musicians," by the Grimm Brothers, is a story about four animals that run away from home to form a band in the town of Bremen.

On the way to Bremen, the animals encounter robbers in a cottage. After chasing the crooks away, the animals

remain in the cottage, never to become Bremen musicians.

"The Fire Race," a Native American tale, tells the story of animals that are cold because they have no fire. The only creatures that possess fire are three very mean bees.

The animals decide to take the fire from the bees, passing the burning stick from one animal to the next until the fire ends up with the frog. The frog puts the hot coal in his mouth and goes to the river bottom to hide.

After the bees give up their search, the frog spits out the coal, which is swallowed by the tree. The coyote then shows the animals how to extract the fire, by rubbing two sticks together.

The students, who prepared for the performances by doing dramatic readings in class and rehearsing every week, said they enjoyed the experience.

"We're really integrating storytelling and music-making, and exposing kids to the music world," said Scott Elsholz, one of the performers and an EMU graduate. "It's a wonderful wedding of the two diverse arts."

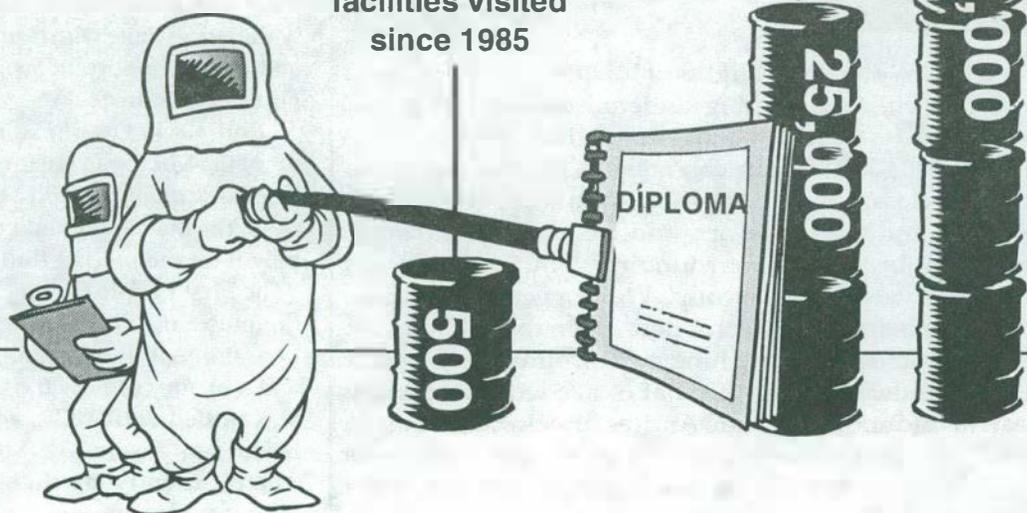
EMU BY THE NUMBERS

Eastern Michigan University's Center for Organizational Risk Reduction (CORR) has provided hands-on hazardous materials management and occupational health and safety training since 1985. CORR also consults with new companies for facility safety orientation programs and has been awarded a Michigan Consultation, Education and Training (CET) Training and Education grant every year since 1996.

Number of students trained since 1985

Number trained since 1999

Number of different facilities visited since 1985



SOURCE: Center for Organizational Risk Reduction

Student Affairs' staff honored for innovation

By Summer Wilhelm

In order to produce course reading materials in alternative formats for students with disabilities, Don Anderson and Jenny Clark proposed the purchase of equipment, including a Braille embosser, for the C.A.T.E. Lab.

This innovative idea was one of seven honored at the Second Annual "Best of the Best" Awards Luncheon April 24. The event was hosted by the Division of Student Affairs' Innovagency.

Each year, the Innovagency solicits ideas from across the division for participation in the "Best of the Best" review. Innovators who create or expand new programs or whose ideas reduce costs are reviewed by a special committee. The committee analyzes the innovations based on whether they meet the established criteria and if the ideas can be implemented.

"It's great to see so many people are actively engaged

in innovative ideas," said Vice President for Student Affairs Jim Vick. "We're not only concentrating on the innovation themselves, but on how to implement them as well."

Project titles, winners and funded amounts are:

■ **EMU E-Text**, Don Anderson and Jenny Clark, Access Services, \$15,300.

■ **Just In Time Marketing**, Rosalyn Barclay, Counseling Services, \$6,000.

■ **Secretary of State-Go To EMU**, Marilyn Szymanski Suter, Dining Services, \$2,000.

■ **Campus Connections**, Eric Ward, University Health Services, \$10,030.

■ **Innovation Leadership Summer Institute**, Innovation team, \$2,000.

■ **Evaporative Cooling**, Phil Kasa, physical plant, \$3,000.

■ **EMU Immersion**, Kathleen Russell, assistant dean of students, \$7,000.

JOBSLINE

An Affirmative Action/
Equal Opportunity Employer

To be considered for vacant positions, all Promotional Openings Application Forms **MUST BE SUBMITTED** directly to the Employment Services Office in 204 Bowen and received no later than 5 p.m., Monday, May 6. **NOTE: LATE OR INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Vacancy information may also be obtained by calling our 24-hour Jobs Line at 487-0016. Employment Services office hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CLERICAL/SECRETARIAL (Hiring Rate)

CSBF0315 CS05 \$26,118 Police Dispatcher, Public Safety. Varied shift work.

CSBF0316 CS05 \$26,118 Senior Secretary, Physical Plant Office.

PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL (Hiring Range)

PTSA0319 PT06 \$27,089-31,638 Area Complex Director, Housing.

PTPR0307 PT07 \$31,151-36,635 Marketing and Communications Associate II, University Marketing & Communications.

The pay rates stated above reflect the hiring rate or range for a newly hired EMU employee. The pay rate or salary for current employees will be established according to the respective employee group union contract, and/or University salary administration policy guidelines.

CANNON, from page 1

rious No. 7 located near the seal.

"We don't know what the number seven means," Sponseller said.

The desalinization process, which took approximately a month, was the first step used to remove any salts from the cannon that may have been picked up during its underwater burial. The cannon now rests in an electrolytic bath, where the can-

non will remain until October. The electrolytic bath contains sodium carbonate and low-amperage electrical currents in the water that work to remove the rust.

Raven, who works for the state preservation office which is located in the same building as the Michigan Historical Museum, checks the monitoring equipment daily for chloride and proper PH levels of the water in which the cannon rests.

After the rust is eliminated from the artifact, the cannon will be sealed with a clear wax or polyurethane coating to protect the metal from future corrosion.

To provide a learning experience for museum visitors, the preservation work is taking place in plain view on the museum floor. However, visitors are required to remain about 130 feet away from the cannon, Sponseller said.

A number of third graders visit the museum and are excited to watch, especially when the forklift moves the cannon, Sponseller said.

"Their imagination is wild," she said. "They see bubbles in the tank and want to know why the cannon is taking a bubble bath."

The steady stream of tiny bubbles is actually the result of electricity going through the water and breaking down the rust and encrustations in the borehole of the cannon, Sponseller said.

"This cannon is an important artifact," said Ted Ligibel, director of EMU's Historic Preservation Program. "Michigan played a crucial role in winning the War of 1812. The war ended any boundary dispute with Canada and was an important turning point in U.S. history."

Phil Kwiatkowski, director of the Michigan Historical Museum, plans to build a carriage for the cannon and display it on the second floor of "The First People Gallery" of the museum. This floor contains the geology of Michigan and a history of how the area was settled until 1837, when Michigan became a state. There currently are no other cannons in the museum, Kwiatkowski said.

"It's going to be a great addition to the museum," he said.

Why I work at Eastern Michigan University



"My teaching background gives me a better understanding of what is needed in a quality early childhood program."

Chris Aris
Director
Children's Institute

I've been involved in early childhood education at Eastern since 1984; first as a student and a volunteer at the old Children's Center in Snow. I started teaching at the Children's Institute after I received my bachelor's degree and teaching certification, then went on to earn a master's degree.

After three years in the classroom, I was asked to serve as the acting director of the Children's Institute while a national search for a new director took place. While the search was still ongoing, I discovered that I really liked what I was doing and asked to be considered for the position.

I oversee 16 professional staff members, 200 practicum students and 60 student employees every semester. In addition, about 200 students from majors such as nursing and art come here to do practice testing and observations for their

courses. We also run Flights of Imagination, a summer camp for children entering kindergarten and first grade.

We currently have children from 153 different families enrolled. Children can start at 18 months in the toddler classrooms and go through kindergarten. Their parents and guardians are students, faculty and staff, and members of the surrounding community, so it's always a very diverse group. We're a very busy place.

I love being the director here, even though at heart I'm a teacher. My teaching background gives me a better understanding of what is needed in a quality early childhood program. And, as director, I am able to find the support necessary to make the Children's Institute a top-notch program. It's the best of both worlds.