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EKU to Host Governor’s Scholars Program This Summer

About 350 Students Expected

About 350 of the Commonwealth’s brightest high school seniors will converge on the EKU campus each of the next three summers for the prestigious Governor’s Scholars Program (GSP).

EKU joins Centre College and Northern Kentucky University as hosts for the five-week educational enrichment program. The selection of Eastern followed a “campus-wide effort” to submit a competitive proposal and two site visits by program officials.

“The faculty, staff and students at Eastern are honored to be affiliated with the Governor’s Scholars program,” President Kustra said. “Given the excellent academic reputation of Governor’s Scholars, we are especially excited for our faculty who represent the finest teaching quality and who will now have the opportunity to join the best and brightest high school students in our summer classrooms.”

The program will feature some of the Commonwealth’s top college and university professors, including several from EKU, and high school teachers.

“This will be a very intensive residential experience to create a community of scholars,” said Dr. Libby Wachtel, associate vice president for planning and assessment. “It truly is a team effort that requires a considerable commitment of direct and in-kind contributions from the entire University community.”

The cooperation also extends to the community. District Judge John Paul Moore has agreed to allow the Governor’s Scholars Program use of his newly renovated courtroom in the Madison County Courthouse for two pre-scheduled days per session for the purpose of conducting mock trials.

“The Governor’s Scholars Program is looking forward to returning to the first public university to host our endeavor, Eastern Kentucky University,” said Skirleen Sinney, executive director of the Governor’s Scholars Program.

“Our common mission for the enhancement of Kentucky’s future leaders and the creation of models of educational excellence makes this an ideal partnership for the further development of outstanding young Kentuckians.”

The GSP has more than doubled in size since its establishment in 1983. The popular program provides academic and personal growth opportunities in a challenging, non-traditional experience that balances a full co-curricular and residential life experience.

Students must be nominated by their schools to be considered for admission. Scholars attend free of charge, needing only money for personal and incidental expenses.

General Colin Powell will head an impressive list of distinguished guest speakers at the statewide America’s Promise Summit at Alumni Coliseum Friday, Nov. 10.

A limited number of free tickets for the morning session remain and may be reserved through Wednesday, Nov. 1, by calling 622-8333. Tickets also may be picked up at two campus locations: Combs 430 and Stratton 354. The morning session begins at 9 a.m.

EKU, home of the Commonwealth’s first and largest University of Promise Program, is hosting the Summit to encourage volunteer efforts on behalf of Kentucky’s youth.

In addition to those attending the day-long Summit, thousands of others from the campus community and Central Kentucky picked up complimentary tickets to attend the morning session featuring General Powell, Gov. Paul Patton, Lt. Gov. Stephen Henry, Kentucky House Speaker Jody Richards, Kentucky Cabinet for Families and Children Secretary Viola Miller, Miss America 2000 Heather Renee French, humorist and former EKU professor Carl Hurley, and WKYT-TV news anchor Sam Dick.

“As one of the nation’s first Universities of Promise, EKU is pleased to be coordinating a statewide summit that will explore ways to help young people succeed,” said President Kustra.

“General Powell’s participation underscores the importance of mobilizing citizens across the Commonwealth to address this serious need.”

“We hope that this Summit builds upon the excitement that began almost two years ago when Eastern became a University of Promise and that communities and young people will benefit in significant ways.”

Summit participants will learn how they can implement or enhance Schools of Promise, Communities of Promise or Universities of Promise programs.

EKU’s College of Justice & Safety and the University’s College of Education serve as co-sponsors of EKU’s University of Promise Program and the Summit.

For more information about the Summit, call 622-2131 or 622-6543.
Wednesday, Nov. 1

‘Evolution, Creation in Kentucky’


Thursday, Nov. 2

Feminism and Politics

“How Has Feminism Changed Politics?” Kathy Stein, attorney and Kentucky legislator, 7:30 p.m., Keen Johnson Ballroom. Sponsored by EKU Women’s Studies.

‘Games Colleges Play’

“Games Colleges Play: Scandal and Reform in Intercollegiate Athletics,” author John Thelin, University of Kentucky, 7 p.m., Grand Reading Room, Crabbie Library. Thelin’s book examines the history of the major intercollegiate athletic conferences, major scandals and the various attempts at reform during the 20th century. His talk is part of EKU Libraries’ Autumn Voices Lecture Series.

‘Living in A Segregated Society’

“Living in A Segregated Society in the Civil Rights Era in Kentucky,” lecture by Dr. George C. Wight, provost, University of Texas at Arlington, 7:30 p.m., Keen Johnson Room, Powell Building. Sponsored by EKU Center for Kentucky History and Politics.

A Night at the Opera

Mozart’s “Don Giovanni,” 8 p.m., Brock Auditorium. Tickets $1 for students, $2 general public, may be purchased at door.

Friday, Nov. 3

Volleyball Action

EKU vs. Southeast Missouri, 7 p.m., Alumni Coliseum.

A Night at the Opera

Mozart’s “Don Giovanni,” 8 p.m., Brock Auditorium, tickets $1 for students, $2 general public, may be purchased at door.

Saturday, Nov. 4

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Volleyball Action

EKU vs. Eastern Illinois, noon, Alumni Coliseum.

Sunday, Nov. 5

Opera Matinee

Mozart’s “Don Giovanni,” 3 p.m., Brock Auditorium, tickets $1 for students, $2 general public, may be purchased at door.

Wednesday, Nov. 8

Fanny Kemble Profiled

“Fanny Kemble’s Civil Wars” author Catherine Clinton, 1:30 p.m., Crabbie 108. Sponsored by EKU Women’s Studies, the Center for Kentucky History and Politics, and the Department of History. Socialite, talented actress, Georgia Plantation mistress, controversial author and passionate abolitionist, Kemble left an enormous mark on 19th century American life.

Faculty Brass Quintet

8 p.m., Brock Auditorium, free.

Saturday, Nov. 11

Gridiron Action

EKU vs. Kentucky State University, football, 2 p.m., Roy Kidd Stadium.

International Banquet

Annual EKU International Banquet, 6:30 p.m., Keen Johnson Ballroom. Authentic cuisine and cultural entertainment will be presented by international students. Tickets are on sale at the International Office, Cose Annex 181, or by calling 622-1478. Tickets are $6 per student, $8 per adult. No tickets will be sold at the door.

3:30 p.m., Kemner Room, Powell Building. Sponsored by EKU Women’s Studies.

Udall Scholarship Available

Udall Scholarships, valued at $5,000, are available to sophomores or juniors interested in environmental public policy and Native Americans interested in health care or tribal public policy. For applications, call 622-1538 or e-mail hriselle@acs.eku.edu.

The deadline for receipt of applications is Feb. 1, 2001.

Conference Bridge Available

EKU faculty and staff university now have access to convenient and time saving conference calling.

The EKU Conference Bridge was purchased by the College of Justice & Safety with Program of Distinction funds in cooperation with Information Technology and Delivery Services. It is available for use, at no charge, by EKU faculty and staff. The Conference Bridge is capable of accommodating 3-24 callers from both on and off campus.

Reservations are required to use the bridge. To set up a conference call, contact Jenny McWilliams of the Training Resource Center at 622-6671 or e-mail jenny@eku.edu.
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### News

#### EKU Home of State’s Fastest-Growing Herbarium

The EKU Herbarium is taking the Commonwealth into the electronic age of plant study, but remaining focused on “the whole picture.”

“As more and more of the major universities get big grants for molecular studies, there’s a tendency to do away with their herbarium collections,” said Dr. Ronald L. Jones, curator of the Herbarium and a professor of biological sciences. “There’s some concern that we’re getting too far away from the organism. If it’s a problem for biology students because they need to have the whole set—from molecules to organisms.”

Regional schools across the nation may become the places where these collections are kept for the study of the entire organism—the whole plant, Jones said.

“Without the whole picture, we can’t really understand the whole process,” Jones said.

The EKU Herbarium staff also promotes the study of the whole with Index Kentuckyensis (IK), a state-of-the-art computer program that makes it easier for Kentucky’s plant researchers to share and use data. With the computer expertise of Charlie Lapham in Glasgow, Eastern developed the program in 1995. The IK program enables herbaria staff to put their collections into a searchable database that can be used to conduct research, print plant distribution maps and aid in classroom instruction.

“We’ve made this software package free to curators around the state and in the southeast U.S.,” Jones said. “From what I’ve been told, ours is one of the most sophisticated.”

Some researchers are using IK in conjunction with the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to map plant species with overlapping soil and geological data to see how the three interact with one another.

“They can use that information to predict where unusual habitats are or where they may find rare species,” Jones said. “Building up Kentucky’s GIS database is going to be a big use of the IK in the future.”

To make Kentucky’s collections more accessible and useful to researchers, Jones has submitted a statewide grant proposal for the purchase of computer equipment and hiring of staff to maintain the data-entry process.

“We want everybody to get on the same system so we can share the info with each other on CD,” Jones said. “That way there would be no computer database without the thousands of dried-plant specimens themselves. Each herbarium has its own unique expertise of professionals, parents and people with autism and resist any changes in routines.

#### Professor’s Book Sheds New Light on Autism

A new book edited and co-authored by EKU occupational therapy professor Dr. Ruth Huebner sheds new light on how autistic persons perceive and are affected by sensations such as touch, movement, noise, smell and light.

“Autism: A Sensorimotor Approach to Management,” published recently by Aspen Publishers, integrates literature from several academic disciplines with the knowledge and expertise of professionals, parents and people with autism.

“There’s much debate in the field about whether or not there are any sensory concerns related to autism,” Huebner said. “This book is a beginning, the first of its kind to examine the research from many fields and apply it to understanding the sensorimotor dysfunction of autism.”

About 1 in 500 individuals in the United States have some form of autism, ranking it as the third most common developmental disability—more common than Down Syndrome, for example. It typically appears in the first three years of life as the result of a neurological disorder that affects functioning of the brain. The disorder makes it difficult to communicate with others and relate to the outside world. Persons with autism may exhibit repeated body movements, unusual responses to people or attachments to objects, and resist any changes in routines.

“(The book) may generate more questions than answers and more challenges than acclaims,” she writes in her preface, “but any dialogue or debate that results from this book may spur related theories, terminology and management approaches. People with autism and their families may be the ones who ultimately benefit.”

Huebner’s book includes contributions from 21 researchers and professionals, and two chapters authored by Rita Brockmeier, a child with autism. Contributors from EKU are Jean Kalcheur, Elaine Leone and Colleen Schneck from the Department of Occupational Therapy, Dr. Myra Beth Bundy from the Department of Psychology, and Dr. Charlotte Hubbard from the Communication Disorders Program.

#### Dill among Top 13 in International Trumpet Event

It’s official now: EKU senior Denver Dill ranks among the elite young trumpet players in the world.

The music merchandising major from Lexington, Ohio, made it to the semifinal round of the prestigious Maurice Andre International Trumpet Competition in Paris, France Sept. 29-Oct. 5.

Of the 66 invited contestants from 23 countries, only the top 13 made it to the semifinal round.

Dill, who performed in capacity crowds at the Paris Conservatory of Music and an historic Paris cathedral, said he had no regrets about narrowly missing the “final four. I wasn’t disappointed because I was satisfied that I played to the best of my knowledge at the time.”

After all, the first priority was to learn from the experience. And he certainly did that.

“I came away with a lot of suggestions for improvement, so I got what I wanted and want more of. These (the jurors) are people who my professors have been telling me to emulate and now they’re telling me what they liked or didn’t like. Who better to teach you?”

“I learned so many things, there were days my head hurt.”

#### Teaching & Learning Center Announces Event Schedule

EKU’s Teaching and Learning Center will host several forums and workshops this fall in the Faculty Club Lounge of the Ken Johnson Building:

- Nov. 2, 3 p.m. – “The Fullbright Experience,” panel discussion led by Dr. Richard Freed. Panelists will include faculty who have received Fulbrights, and questions will be answered for those interested in applying.
- Nov. 2, 7 p.m. – “Peculiarities of Ukrainian Independence,” Professor Paraskeviya Yerchenko of the Ivan Franko National University in Lviv, Ukraine.
- Nov. 8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. – “The Library: We Deliver to You!” The EKU Library has an improved menu of services to improve faculty research and teaching. Pizza will be served.
- Nov. 14, 9 a.m. – “Developing Media-Based Materials for Instruction: A Team Approach.” The Division of Media Resources production team will review services and procedures for developing media materials.
- Nov. 29, 3 p.m. – “Introduction to Grants at EKU.” Workshop led by Scott Tracy, director of EKU’s Division of Sponsored Programs and designed for people who have never submitted a proposal at EKU.
- Dec. 5, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. – “Teaching on KTLN,” Kay Wright, designed to allow faculty new to KTLN to pick up helpful information on the process and to foster exchange of ideas among those more experienced with KTLN.
Name: Tracy Whitaker

Current position: Catering Manager for EKU Dining

Job description: I work for Aramark, which has the food service contract with the university. I work with current and potential clients, organize events, relay information to the chef, make sure the event is staffed and set up, supervise catering menus, recruit business for our services on and off campus and just make sure everything runs smoothly at our events.

Education: B.A. (1989) in sociology from the University of South Carolina at Columbia.

Recent Awards: Certificate of Recognition from Aramark for a catering resource workshop and the EKU Multi-cultural Student Services’ African-American Achievement Award for preparing a soul-food menu.

Family: I have a Dalmatian named Dottie and am the oldest of five children. My father is Dr. Charles Whitaker, who teaches English at Eastern and my mother is Judy Treadway. My stepmother is Julie Whitaker.

What did you do before coming to EKU? I was a social worker for the Lexington Clinic for seven years.

What are your interests and hobbies? I just built a house in May, so decorating my house, planting flowers and getting some grass to grow in my yard are my major interests. I also love antiques, auctions, reading, walking, animals, music and watching football games. And I love to shop.

What is your favorite TV show? “The West Wing.” After doing the catering for Senator Lieberman’s visit, I can relate to it even more.

What is your favorite vacation spot? After Gulf Shores, it would be Mexico. I have been to a place called Cancun San Quitz, which is about 50 miles south of Cancun. I went down there and it was like paradise. I went snorkeling and am planning on going back, I hope in January, to get my scuba diving license. You can get your license there in three days.

What is in your CD or tape player at home right now? Creed’s “Human Clay.” I love the song “With Arms Wide Open.”

What book would you recommend to others? Norman Grisham’s “The Testament” was excellent. The ending wasn’t what I anticipated, but it’s a very intriguing book about power and greed and then about some individuals who didn’t care about money and realized there were more important things in life besides financial well-being. I read it in a day. I couldn’t put it down.

What is your most embarrassing moment? At a wedding reception and was putting the top tier on the wedding cake and it slipped out of my hands and landed on the floor. Basically, the wedding topper was too heavy for the cake, so when I put it on, it flipped and I wasn’t able to catch it. That was not a good thing. People were watching me and it was a major professional faux pas.

What person do you admire most? My father, Dr. Charles Whitaker. He’s an English professor here on campus. He’s not only my father, but my best friend. He’s taught me a great deal in life — respect, integrity and that there’s comedy in life and you need to appreciate it. He’s just been a very healthy support system for me. I could tell him anything. When I built my house, he came out there every day. Basically, he bonded with my house, I didn’t think he was ever going to leave. He’s taught me that work builds character and that, in the long run whether it be financial well-being or whatever, as long as you’re proud of what you do and you know right from wrong, things will work for you.

What is one thing about you that people might be surprised to know? That I’m an auctioneer. You have to receive a license by the state. You have to take a written exam, plus a vocal exam. I got my license in 1995 and do a lot of personal auctions of farms and estates in conjunction with a real-estate firm. I don’t get to do it as often as I like, because I’m so busy, but I do get several calls.

What issue concerns you most about today’s world? The environment concerns me. The idea that the hole in the ozone layer is getting bigger and bigger and that some day my grandchildren and great-grandchildren won’t be able to appreciate the beauty we all have. Also the lack of respect that people have for the environment, especially concerning littering. To me, it’s just laziness that you can’t walk to a trash can. I’m wondering where all this garbage is going to end up, so I think that recycling is crucial. A lot of people don’t know that some clothes are made out of recycled plastic and to touch them or look at them, you would never know that. It’s very important that we be environmentally aware.

What is one thing about you that people might be surprised to know? I love the song “With Arms Wide Open.”

Homecoming 2000 This Weekend

Homecoming 2000 is less than a week away.

The campus will welcome back thousands of EKU alumni this weekend for a variety of events and activities.

The celebration is highlighted by a key Ohio Valley Conference gridiron battle between the Colonels and Murray State University at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4.

Other Homecoming events include an African-American reunion for classes of the 1970s and ’80s, an Amateur Talent Night, EKU volleyball matches, a Mozart opera, the Homecoming Run and Parade, Colonel Country Fair and a halftime queen coronation. Also, numerous academic departments and campus organizations have planned events.

A partial list of events follows (for a complete list of events, visit www.eku.edu/alumni or obtain a brochure from Alumni Relations).

Friday, Nov. 3

- African-American Reunion, 3-10 p.m., contact Donna Kenney, 622-2106, for details about all the Reunion events throughout Homecoming Weekend.


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