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For Immediate Release:

BOWERS RECEIVES ESBECK AWARD AT EIU

CHARLESTON – Jill R. Bowers has been awarded the Ruth Miller Esbeck Scholarship through Eastern Illinois University’s School of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Esbeck grew up in rural central Illinois, the fourth child in a family that didn’t have much money but was rich in faith and educational appreciation. She graduated from Casey High School in 1932, and received an academic scholarship to Eastern, where she majored in home economics.

Esbeck died after a brief illness in 1995. Her husband Howard established the Ruth Miller Esbeck Scholarship as a tribute to his late wife and to help students pursue a career in family and consumer sciences.

Bowers, the daughter of Tom and Sue Rennels of Ashmore, is a graduate student at EIU. She is a 1995 graduate of Charleston High School, and she and her husband Darin have one child – Zoë.