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January 12, 1993

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NOMINATED TO ALL-USA ACADEMIC TEAM

CHARLESTON, IL--Two Eastern Illinois University students have been nominated for USA Today's 1993 All-USA Academic Team, based on their scholarship, academic talent, creativity and leadership.

The annual search for the nation's best college students is sponsored by USA Today in cooperation with four higher education associations, including the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

Vying for the national honor are Kevin Dwyer of Arlington Heights, a junior social science major, and Jennifer Eikenberg of Bloomington, a senior speech communication major.

USA Today will choose 60 of the top college students in the nation to be featured in a special section of the newspaper planned for Feb. 5.

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Twenty of the top winners will receive a \$2,500 cash award and an invitation to an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The key element, to be given the most weight by the judges, is a student's outstanding academic or intellectual performance.

Dwyer's record of scholarship, leadership and community service earned him Sigma Phi Epsilon's 1991 President's Award for "outstanding freshman" at Eastern. He has also contributed to the fraternity's achievement as the top chapter among EIU fraternities scholastically. His most recent accomplishment was the development of a peer counseling program for EIU fraternity and sorority members which he hopes will be adopted by other Greek organizations on college campuses throughout the country.

He is also vice president of the Interfraternity Council at Eastern. In the community, he is a Red Cross instructor and Habitat for Humanity volunteer.

"Kevin is bright, self-activated, curious, independent and seeks excellence in achievement. He is one of the most assertive and motivated students I have had," said J. Earl McSwain, associate professor of speech communication at Eastern.

Eikenberg has received numerous honors, including a 1992 Grant-in-Aid Student Leadership Award and selection as a delegate for the National Association for Campus Activities. In particular, she has been recognized for her work as communications coordinator for Eastern's University Board, a volunteer student organization that provides a variety of entertainment events.

Her contributions have increased the visibility of the University Board on the Eastern campus and in the community.

"Jennifer is a talented, steady worker who is multifaceted in her considerable abilities. She has a pleasing personality to go along with her high-powered intellect and is an inspiration to not only her classmates but her instructors as well," said Calvin Smith, professor of speech communication at Eastern.