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March 13, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

LOCAL EIU STUDENT ACCEPTED INTO HONORS PROGRAMS

CHARLESTON -- Martha Menser, daughter of Mary Ennis of Oilfield and the late Elbert Ennis, has been accepted into Eastern Illinois University's Honors Programs.

Menser, a sophomore undeclared major, is a 1974 graduate of Westfield High School. She resides in Westfield with her husband, Jerry, and their children Jerry Jr., Ryan and Crystal.

The Honors Programs, with close to 500 current members, are open to students who meet two of the following criteria: an ACT score of 26 or higher, a SAT score of 1100 or higher, top 10 percent of their secondary school's graduating class, and a 3.5 grade point average for at least 12 hours of coursework taken at EIU. Students in the program must take a minimum of 25 hours in honors courses, which substitute on a one-on-one basis for general education courses.

The University Honors Programs provide honors sections of required general education courses and upper division colloquia and offer students of superior academic ability an unusual opportunity to develop their potential for intellectual achieve

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ment. These programs are intended to aid students in developing such qualities as independence of mind by undertaking an enriched curriculum that provides in-depth studies.

The students benefit from early touch-tone registration, a computer lab and study areas at Booth House and a specific residence hall where members can live together. Honors classes have no more than 15 students per class and members have special honors advisors. Furthermore, outstanding participants may be awarded scholarships or tuition waivers in recognition of their scholastic abilities.

Eastern emphasizes distinguished teaching in the liberal arts, sciences and selected professions. A traditional, residential state university of recognized quality, Eastern enrolls more than 11,000 undergraduate and graduate programs.

The university, located in Charleston, also serves the region through a variety of non-credit and off-site degree programs, as well as cultural and recreational opportunities.

Eastern's pursuit of excellence attracts well-qualified students of an increasingly diverse population and a teaching faculty active in research and public service who utilize the latest technology.