

4-10-1998

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University Marketing and Communications, "04/10/1998 - Prize Winning Photo Journalist To Visit Eiu.pdf" (1998). 1998. 108.
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98-133

April 10, 1998

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PRIZE-WINNING PHOTOJOURNALIST TO VISIT EIU

CHARLESTON -- The former editor of *National Geographic* will present the keynote address Saturday, April 18, at the celebration of a fundraising campaign sponsored by Eastern Illinois University's Department of Journalism and Student Publications.

Speaking will be prize-winning photojournalist W.E. (Bill) Garrett who served on the staff of *National Geographic* for 36 years, the last 10 of them as editor. His address marks the celebration of the success of the Publishing the Next Edition Campaign held in conjunction with the move of the Department of Journalism and Student Publications into renovated quarters in Buzzard Hall.

Garrett's presentation at 2:30 p.m. in Buzzard Auditorium is titled "From Peter Zenger to Paparazzi Zingers." He will use slides to illustrate his talk which is open to the public without charge. Garrett will emphasize the courage needed to be a journalist

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today. "I will talk about the various kinds of courage required and how the profession and its acceptance have changed, " he noted. "I'll be using anecdotes from years of working with some very courageous people."

During his career with *National Geographic*, Garrett wrote and/or photographed 32 major articles from almost every continent. He co-produced the award-winning television special "Alaska!" and produced three Atlases for the National Geographic Society. "We've selected Bill Garrett for this keynote talk because he offers a global perspective of photojournalism and is known as a lively and interesting speaker," said Les Hyder, chair of the journalism department. "His presentation will appeal to everyone who has enjoyed and appreciated the outstanding quality of the photography and writing in the *National Geographic* which excelled during his decade as editor."

After Garrett's presentation, a reception will be held until 5 p.m. in the Buzzard atrium to celebrate the success of the Publishing the Next Edition Campaign. The year-long effort, spearheaded by alumni and faculty, raised approximately \$130,000 in funds for journalism scholarships as well as equipment.

The celebration of the campaign's success comes mid-way during Journalism Month, featuring a variety of events.

Garrett has won numerous awards both for his environmental work and his photojournalism achievements. He is the recipient of the University of Missouri School of Journalism's Gold Medal, Syracuse University's Newhouse Citation for Distinguished Service, the Holography Museum's Outstanding Achievement Award and the 1968

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Magazine Photographer of the Year award for his Vietnam War coverage.

Garrett is also a conservationist who has received recognition from Guatemala and Mexico for his leadership in the preservation of the homelands of the Maya civilization. He also received the 1990 Chevron Environmental Award, the Leadership Medal of the United Nations Environmental Program, the National Parks and Conservation Association Citation for Outstanding Service and the Trustee of America, the highest award of the Mary Washington College Center for Historic Preservation.

Since retiring from *National Geographic*, Garrett has continued his work in Latin America in connection with environmental projects. He and his wife, Lucille, live in Great Falls, Va., where he grows grapes and makes wines from his home vineyard.