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05/01/1985 - Founders Day

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
 Charleston, Illinois

news

May 1, 1985
 Local and Area

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University, now in its 90th year, will observe Founder's Day with a series of events on Saturday, June 22.

Included will be an authentic re-creation of President Livingston C. Lord's traditional chapel service at 10:30 a.m. in Pemberton Hall. Lord was Eastern's president from 1898 until his death in 1933.

Chapel was one of the more distinctive features of Lord's presidency. Each school day at 9 a.m. all faculty and students, including six-year old children in the "Model School," would gather for "morning exercises," including prayers.

Other Founder's Day activities will include a reception in Pemberton Hall, lunch in a tent, classes conducted as they are today, reunions, and an old-fashioned ice cream social.

Eastern Illinois State Normal School was established by the Illinois General Assembly on May 22, 1895. It successively became Eastern Illinois State Teachers College (1921); Eastern Illinois State College (1947); and Eastern Illinois University (1957).

In 1907 Eastern was given authority by the General Assembly to confer degrees. The first master's degree was awarded in 1952 and the first specialist in education degree in 1966.