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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DYE NOMINATED FOR MASTER'S THESIS AWARD

CHARLESTON -- Sally Dye of Geff, graduate candidate for a master of arts degree in English, has been nominated by Eastern Illinois University for the 1998 Distinguished Master's Thesis Award of the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools.

Dye's thesis, "Yoknapatawpha as Camelot: The Influence of the Arthurian Legends on the Writings of William Faulkner," demonstrated how characters in the stories of Faulkner were influenced by the legends of King Arthur.

Through her research, Dye drew parallels between the themes of idealism versus realism and reliance on the code of chivalry in Arthurian stories and the writings of Faulkner.

Michael Leddy, professor of English, served as Dye's thesis chair. He noted in his letter of nomination that Dye's thesis was unique as it provided new and important information on the interpretation of a major writer because of her focus on character types.

Dye, who teaches junior high mathematics and literature at Geff Grade School, earned a

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bachelor of arts degree in English from Eastern in 1972. She has held presidential positions in the Teachers of Geff Association/IDEA/NEA and Geff Parent/Teacher Association. She has held other leadership positions on the Wayne County Fair Association and as mayor of the Village of Jeffersonville.

Dye's thesis has been forwarded to the 1998 Distinguished Master's Thesis Award Committee of the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools for national competition. Her selection as EIU's nominee will be recognized in ceremonies at the 1998 Graduate Exposition, April 14, in the University Union Grand Ballroom. Her selection as Eastern's nominee includes a \$100 scholarship from the Graduate School. An additional honorarium will be provided by the Midwest Association should her thesis be selected at the national level.

Two other theses by Jennifer Radcliffe of Frankfort and Kristi Cobble of Lerna were reviewed during the annual competition.

Radcliffe's thesis for the master of science degree in communication disorders and sciences, under the direction of Gail Richard, is titled "Impact of Amateur Educational Video Viewing on Language Acquisition of Preschool Children." Cobble's thesis for the master of science degree in educational psychology and guidance, under the direction of Cheryl Hawker, is titled "The Effectiveness of the Automatic Reinstatement Policy at Eastern Illinois University."

For more information on the annual Distinguished Master's Thesis Award competition and the 1998 Graduate Exposition, contact Eastern's Graduate School at (217) 581-2220.