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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FILE COPY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DAVIES HONORED

CHARLESTON, IL--For Kathy Davies of Mattoon the support of her family and inspiration from God to excel has enabled her "to go the extra mile."

An academic advisor at Eastern Illinois University, Davies has been selected as a 1988 Certificate of Merit recipient by the American College Testing/National Academic Advising Association Recognition Program for exemplary advising practices. She will be honored at the NACADA's annual meeting in October.

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"The support of my family makes me want to go on and excel," Davies said, "and God has given me the desire to want to do better."

The daughter of Ruby and the late Ralph Smith Sr. of Mattoon, and married to Fred Davies, she said she is happy to receive the award, adding, "it's important to me to continue to try to do excellent work."

As an advisor at Eastern, Davies counsels incoming freshmen, "undeclared" and pre-business majors. She visits community colleges and last year presented study skills seminars in Eastern residence halls. She also works with the Psychology department on an education advising committee and the Sociology department with Peer Helpers, a group which assists minority students on campus, and has served as coordinator of the Prescriptive Curriculum Admission Program (PCAP).

She enjoys working with the people at the university and especially the students. "I like getting to know them and I feel good about helping them," she said.

The Director of the Academic Advisement Center at Eastern, Cal Campbell, said Davies "is an outstanding advisor who has constantly received outstanding student evaluations."

He nominated Davies for the Certificate of Merit, which is a regional award for the Midwest. The award is made each year to a select group of academic advisors from throughout the United States and Canada.

Aside from her family, Davies said another advisor, who is a past recipient of the same award, has also influenced her. "Vanlou Trank has served as an excellent model for me as an advisor," she said.

Before coming to Eastern six years ago, Davies was a guidance counselor at Mattoon Junior High School for two years.

She received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Eastern and has lived in Mattoon all her life. Staying in the area has been a conscious decision on her part.

"This is my home, I don't want to go anywhere else," she said.

Davies believes some people wrongly assume that individuals from small towns don't achieve much. She hopes her award will inspire other small-town residents to excel.

Receiving the award has been "icing on the cake," as she recently gave birth to a son, Ryan. She and her husband, Fred, have two other sons, Kyle and Jeremy.

She will be taking a six-month leave of absence from her work to be with Ryan.