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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

May 2, 1986

Local/Area/Metro

HARRY READ, Director of Information and Publications (217) 581-2820

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL.--Joan Embery, the Goodwill Ambassador and official hostess for the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park, will receive a Board of Governors Bachelor of Arts Degree from Eastern Illinois University at Saturday morning (May 10) Commencement ceremonies.

The BOG Bachelor of Arts Degree is an adult oriented undergraduate program that provides flexible educational opportunities while maintaining traditional academic standards.

Embery will receive her degree during the 10 a.m. ceremony which will be followed by a reception for the graduates.

Nationally recognized through many appearances on Johnny Carson's Tonight Show and other variety programs, she has written three books on animal-related subjects and has spoken to over 900 audiences on wildlife subjects.

Instituted in 1972 by the Illinois Board of Governors of State Colleges and Universities, the BOG/BA program is offered at EIU and the four other public universities in the BOG system.

"This degree program appeals to adult learners who seek greater academic flexibility than most traditional programs," said Dr. Shirley Neal, director of the program.

"Working adults are particularly attracted by the accessibility of the Board of Governors BA degree at Eastern," she said.

"The BOG Degree program is well accepted by employers and graduate schools with more than one third of the graduates going on to graduate

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school," said Dr. Robert A. Pringle, BOG vice chancellor for Academic Affairs.

The program has enrolled nearly 21,000 students at the five BOG schools with more than 6200 graduating. In 1982 the BOG/BA was recognized nationally with The G. Theodore Mitau Award for innovation and change in state colleges and universities.