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05/21/1992 - EIU to Attract More Than 17,000 Summer Visitors

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU TO ATTRACT MORE THAN 17,000 SUMMER VISITORS

CHARLESTON, IL--Special programs hosted at Eastern Illinois University will bring more than 17,000 visitors to Charleston May through August.

The largest event will be the Illinois High School Association men's and women's track meets with more than 4,000 participants. The women are competing this weekend and the men, May 28-30, at O'Brien Stadium.

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Another large event will be Premiere Boys State June 6-12 where 900 Illinois high school students will spend the week learning about the functions of government. Illini Girls State will follow June 14-20 with more than 600 participants. Local and state government officials have been invited to address both groups.

The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy will hold its first camp at Eastern June 17-July 2. One-hundred top high school students from across the state will be attending. Gov. Jim Edgar, a 1968 Eastern graduate, has been invited to speak at the camp's closing ceremony.

Another select group of students will arrive at Eastern June 21 to participate in the University's Partnerships for Excellence program for minority high school freshmen and seniors. They will attend classes for credit and learn how to better prepare for college. Students from 10 area high schools will be represented.

Beginning and advanced basketball camps for men and women will attract more than 800 visitors to campus during the last three weeks in June, while a canvassing group will bring nearly 1,000 visitors to Charleston and the Eastern campus June 25-28. A four-day Universal Cheerleading Association camp June 29-July 2 will have 500 participants.

High school music camps will be held each week in July, with more than 1,500 campers expected. Two National Cheerleading Association camps, July 10-13 and July 17-20, will have 500 attendees.

Eastern again will be one of 10 campuses nationwide to host a Showstopper pom pon camp July 20-23, bringing an additional 500 visitors to campus.

Six area high school bands will hold camps during the first two weeks in August, with total attendance at 825.

"These are just a few of the larger groups that will be visiting Eastern this summer. We will be hosting many others, such as numerous athletic camps, the Civil Air Patrol, cosmetologists, and ELDERHOSTEL, a residential, educational program for older adults sponsored by Eastern's School of Home Economics," according to Mary Smith, director of camps and conferences at Eastern.