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October 23, 1993

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ALUMNI HONORED AT HOMECOMING

CHARLESTON, IL--Three Eastern Illinois University alumni received special recognition for their service to their alma mater during Homecoming festivities Saturday, Oct. 23.

Those honored were Stephen Schnorf of Rochester, a Charleston native; Jill Fulton Nilsen of Charleston; and Craig Titley of Los Angeles, son of Dale and Bernice Titley of Mattoon.

Schnorf, director of the Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS), received Eastern's Distinguished Alumnus Award, the university's highest alumni honor.

The award is given to individuals, who through their accomplishments and service, have brought credit to their alma mater.

Nilsen, associate dean of the Graduate School and Research at Eastern, received the Alumni Service Award given to an alumnus who has displayed outstanding volunteer service to the university and to his or her community.

Titley, a Hollywood movie producer, received the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award, which recognizes an alumnus who has graduated within the last five years and brought distinction to the university or to his or her profession.

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ALUMNI AWARDS

Schnorf received both a bachelor's and master's degree in education from Eastern in 1966 and 1973, respectively.

Before entering public service, he worked in the human services field with several associations for the retarded and developmentally disabled in Illinois, including the Coles County Association for the Retarded (now known as CCAR Industries).

He was appointed by former Illinois Gov. James Thompson to the Executive Committee of the state's International Year of Disabled Persons program and was a member of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Developmental Disabilities Managers and the National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems.

After serving 10 years with the Illinois Secretary of State's Office, during which time he administered the state's drivers licensing program, he was appointed to the cabinet position of CMS director by Gov. Jim Edgar in 1991.

While administering the operations of a service agency with an annual budget of more than \$1.5 billion, he continues to serve on various boards and task forces that advocate the development and advancement of human resources.

Nilsen received both a bachelor's and master's degree from Eastern in 1974 and 1975, respectively. She received a Ph.D. in speech and hearing science from the University of Illinois in 1982.

She joined the Eastern faculty in 1976 and served as chair-

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ALUMNI AWARDS

person of the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences (CDS) from 1984-1990, when she was appointed associate dean of the Graduate School and Research.

She has been instrumental in developing a graduate student advisory committee and a Graduate School publication, *The Chronicle*.

During her tenure at Eastern, she has served on numerous campus committees, including the Council on Academic Affairs, Council on Teacher Education, Women's Studies Council, Union Board, Intercollegiate Athletic Board and the Presidential Search Advisory Committee.

Locally, she is a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church and serves on the board of the Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

She has also been active in professional organizations at the local, state and national level.

Titley graduated summa cum laude from Eastern in 1989, earning bachelor's degrees in business and English. He was one of 25 students and the youngest student ever accepted into the prestigious Peter Stark Motion Picture Producing Program at the University of Southern California and received a Master of Fine Arts degree from there in 1991.

After an internship at Universal Pictures, he worked as a production assistant on the feature film Mobsters and on several low budget feature films. He joined director Joe Dante's

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ALUMNI AWARDS

Universal-based Renfield Productions (Gremlins, Innerspace, Matinee) in 1991 where he currently is a director of development.

He has produced, written and directed six short films and is currently developing several motion picture scripts, a TV series and an animated series.

Titley has returned to Eastern on numerous occasions to talk about his career to interested students.