

8-8-1990

## 08/08/1990 - Upward Bound

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### Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "08/08/1990 - Upward Bound" (1990). *Press Releases*. 1004.  
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90-484

AUG 08 1990

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

UPWARD BOUND

CHARLESTON, IL.--Marijon Stites of Oakland, student coordinator for zoology and botany at Eastern Illinois University, and Lucinda Horton of Shelbyville, EIU botany instructor, are playing a key role in a unique summer program at Eastern.

The two are helping 50 Chicago area high school students better understand the challenge of preparing for college through practical experience supplemented by traditional classroom work in biology.

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The freshmen, sophomores and juniors, who are participating in the Chicago Ada S. McKinley Educational Services (AMES)/Project Upward Bound college preparatory program at Eastern, are getting a "hands-on" learning experience through field trips to area historic sites, farms and other points of interest.

In addition to these participatory activities, the students enrolled in the comprehensive six-week program attend classes that develop academic skills and receive individual tutoring and personal, academic, college and career counseling, according to Bonnie Spears of AMES, project director.

"The goal of AMES/Project Upward Bound is to develop the academic skills and personal growth necessary for the student to successfully complete high school and enroll in college," said Spears.

Besides attending classes in math, reading, and English taught by AMES staff and regular study sessions, the students are experiencing dorm life firsthand and have two former Upward Bound participants as residence hall counselors.

"The program is unique because it takes into account the total individual. Not only are we helping the students in the area of academics, but we are also enhancing their personal growth and development through leadership training and in-house counseling," Spears said.

Following completion of the residential summer session at Eastern, the students will return to their respective high schools and continue the program by attending Saturday classes and after school tutorials and counseling sessions.