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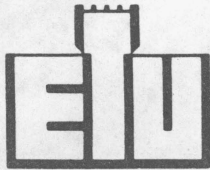
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NEWS

SHELLY FLOCK, Director of Information
University Relations, Charleston, IL 61920
Office :(217) 581-5983 - Home:(217) 253-2082

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU PRESIDENT PROCLAIMS OCT. 20-26 ALCOHOL AWARENESS WEEK

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University President Stan Rives has officially proclaimed October 20-26 as "Alcohol Awareness Week."

Student-run activities on Eastern's campus, supported by faculty and administration, will promote alcohol education, development of student decision-making skills and positive peer influence.

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AWARENESS WEEK

Last year, Eastern's BACCHUS (Boost Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students) Chapter and GAMMA (Greeks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol) Chapter were named "Outstanding Chapters" by the national BACCHUS organization.

"Alcohol Awareness Week at Eastern initiates a year-round emphasis on alcohol education and recognition of the individual's ultimate responsibility for decisions regarding use or non-use of alcohol," said President Rives.

"It is in the best interest of students, faculty, administrators and the community that such decision-making be responsible and well-informed. In addition, we want to encourage a partnership to prevent campus problems associated with alcohol misuse."

Alcohol Awareness Week will include various workshops, displays and activities across Eastern's campus aimed at prevention through education and individual responsibility in connection with the use of alcohol. All activities are open to the public.

A Walk-A-Thon/Jog-A-Thon at noon Sunday, Oct. 20 will kick-off the week's activities. Participants in the 3-mile walk or run will leave from the Library Quad.

On Monday, Oct. 21, a tent will be set up on the Library Quad from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and soda will be served as part of an alcohol-free pledge sign-up.

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EIU crime prevention officer Mike Ealy of the University Police Department will give an important talk on "Driving Under the Influence" at 7 p.m. Monday in Lawson Hall. He will discuss the consequences of DUI and conduct an actual field sobriety test on volunteers. He will repeat his talk at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23, in Carman Hall.

A mock DUI graveyard will be set up on the Library Quad from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 22, to represent the number of individuals who die every 20 minutes in alcohol-related accidents. The graveyard will also be set up from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24, on the South Quad.

On Wednesday, Oct. 23, student organizations will be invited to participate in a "mocktail contest" from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Stevenson Hall Lobby.

Thursday, Oct. 24, is marked "Dead Day" and volunteers will pretend that they are one of the estimated 72 individuals who die in alcohol-related accidents every 20 minutes.

Friday and Saturday evenings are highlighted with non-alcoholic socials.

Throughout the week a flower memorial will be placed in the Union Walkway for those who have had alcohol affect their lives.

There will be information tables set up all week in the University Union near the Sugar Shack.