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10/05/1989 - Embury First BOG Distinguished Alumnus

University Marketing and Communications

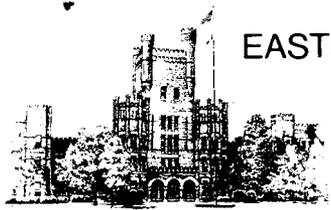
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EMBERY FIRST BOG/BA DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's Board of Governors Bachelor of Arts (BOG/BA) program will boast its first Distinguished Alumnus when Joan Embery receives the award during the Homecoming alumni/awards luncheon at 11 a.m. Saturday, October 14 in the Union's Grand Ballroom.

She will be one of nine recipients of the award, which is given each year by the Distinguished Alumnus Award Committee composed of faculty and alumni appointed by Eastern president Stanley Rives.

Embery, who completed the BOG/BA program in 1986, is the International Goodwill Ambassador for the San Diego Zoo.

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She is best known for her appearances on "The Tonight Show" and also for hosting "Animal Express" and "Animals of Africa," two internationally syndicated programs. She has given over 700 presentations concerning captive breeding, habitat preservation and the values of wildlife. Educational lecture tours have taken her to Europe, Africa, India, Nepal, Thailand, China, Mexico and the Caribbean, as well as throughout the United States.

She has been presented several awards, including the San Diego Press Club's "Headliner of the Year" in 1981, the ACE Award for excellence in cable network programming in 1983 and the On Cable Award for outstanding documentary personality in 1983.

Since 1980, Embery has published three books concerning animals. She is involved with numerous charitable organizations and is a member of several wildlife groups.

Eastern's BOG/BA program offers adult students a fully-accredited bachelor's degree which may be completed without disruption of family or employment responsibilities. Since its inception in 1973, 1535 students have completed the program.