

The Journalist

Oct. 2005
Issue 2

Newsletter for Journalism Majors

Big-Time changes at WEIU-TV

By Jess Caudle

Every year new faces come into WEIU-TV, and in that sense, this year is no different. This year, however, with the new faces came a new program to put the nightly news program together.

News Director Kelly Runyon said they have a handful of new students this semester, both from the journalism and communication studies departments. These students are filling positions in both the writing and production work involved in the news program.

The on-air faces aren't new to viewers, but they are in different positions than last year. Anchors are Andrea Stankevych, senior communications studies major, and Blake Wood, senior journalism major. The weather this year will be forecast by Leanne Noland, junior communications studies major.

These changes are all normal yearly processes for the TV station. The big change this semester is the switch from EZ News to I News. Along with that change, the computer systems used to put a reporter's package together, called Avid Newscutter, and the cameras are changing.

Work loads are still the same right now, but could be changing soon. "Cameras will be all hard-drive and we'll no longer use tapes," said

Runyon. "Once that is in place, the time to put a package together will be less because there won't be a need for digitizing the video." Runyon did say some of the time constraints of a story can't be changed, however. No matter what equipment is used, there will still be drive time and interviewing time that can't be cut.

Runyon also said the rundowns are more organized because of I News. "The new program talks to the Avids," she said. This means that the reporters' scripts are sent to the Avid through I News, automatically creating a timeline in the rundown for the story.



Tasha Brown, Mindy Brown and Patrick Comerford are hard at work in the production room. They are setting up camera shots for "NewsWatch."

Photo by Jess Caudle

"I love it (I News); it's a little less user friendly, but it can do a lot more," said Kate Henderson, senior journalism major. "CNN uses it and NBC just bought a contract into it." Henderson said

she liked the opportunity to learn the same program that major networks are using for their news programs.

Sheryl Judd, junior communication studies major, said she learned I News when she started this semester. "Just like anything else, it takes practice and getting used to," said Judd. "I came to Eastern for the opportunities to work with a production that was on-air." She also said she is excited to learn many of the production positions as she prefers to stay behind the cameras.

Another new face is that of Kaitlin Addison, a Charleston High School senior, who is interning with WEIU-TV as part of her tech-prep program through the high school. This semester Addison is making beat calls and checking with the local police station for news stories. She also logs information. "Next semester I'll be here later in the day so I'll get to shadow more of the production work," Addison said.

Runyon added that more exciting news for WEIU-TV is the building of the new transmitter tower in Humboldt. The area's only 5:30 p.m. broadcast is available in 12 counties now and will be expanded when this tower is complete.

"We will be inching into Indiana and close to Decatur ... by the end of the year," Runyon said.

Grad students making the news

By Sara Wagoner

While most graduate assistants are teaching others while perfecting their individual talents, Brian Hajik and Khyle Sutfin are different. Hajik and Sutfin are still learning while helping direct students with all aspects of broadcast news.

"This production is consistent with what I've done in the past," Hajik said. "But, I'm constantly learning new things and different aspects of production."

Serving as a GA for two Communication Studies 2525 Electronic Production classes, Hajik guides students to various events around town including football games, music concerts and city council meetings to explain the concepts of production to them. He then grades the students based upon their performances

and abilities to understand and successfully fill their positions.

Sutfin serves as assistant news director at WEIU-TV. She is in charge of the news show "Campus Connection." Sutfin organizes the show and events that center around the show, and says coordinating the events is what she enjoys the most.

"Campus Connections has an excellent news director in Khyle, who brings great experience to the job," says John Johnson, journalism professor.

"I enjoy working with the students and making sure everything is the way it should be everyday," Sutfin said. "It gives me a chance to focus my energy in one place and at the end of the day have a production to show for it."

Both Hajik and Sutfin are veterans of WEIU "NewsWatch" and are taking the skills they learned there to help the students they teach.

Serving as a GA, Hajik and Sutfin see some familiar faces in their classes and on set. Both teach students that are or have been members of the NewsWatch team.

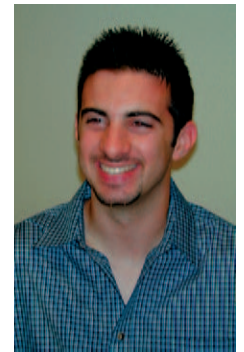
"The people I'm teaching that I

already know are younger than me and have less experience and have always come to me for help and such at WEIU when we all worked there," Hajik said.

"Now they are coming to me for the same stuff, but in a different role."

Sutfin does not see herself as a leader or boss but rather an equal.

"I like to lead by example and if I have the skills to help others I want to use them and teach others my skills so they can help others as well," Sutfin said. "Working as part of WEIU is not about who knows the most and who to get behind when things start to go bad, but how we can lean on each other and not be afraid to ask for help if we need it."



Graduate assistant
Brian Hajik

Photo by T. Johnson



Front, from left: Jamie Arcineaux, Khyle Sutfin and Kaylin Gordon; Back: Jack Schumack and Christopher Stanfield. Khyle Sutfin shows students how to use I News.

Photo By T. Johnson

WEIU makes hat trick

For the third year in a row, WEIU TV "NewsWatch" has been awarded Best Television Newscast in the State of Illinois by the Illinois News Broadcasters Association.

Illinois Broadcasting Association President, Dennis Lyle stated that "EIU and WEIU were the best kept secrets in the state of Illinois!"

EIU talks about sports at The Paw

By Holly Frejlich

This semester, "Sports Talk" has changed taping locations and now involves a live audience.

"Sports Talk," which used to be taped in the WEIU-TV newsroom, is now being taped in front of a live audience at the Panther Paw Bar and Grill on Fourth Street.

Hosted by David Kidwell, "Sports Talk" is a half hour program in which EIU coaches are interviewed. The members of the audience are invited to ask questions and their input is greatly appreciated.

Kidwell, assistant athletic director for sports information and marketing, said "We had two reasons for changing the location of 'Sports Talk.' The first was that change is good and the second was that we hoped to create a new interest in the show."

Kidwell and staff thought that moving the location of the taping would not only create more enthusiasm with a live audience, but would bring people out to the Paw when there usually isn't a large crowd. "Sports Talk" is taped on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

"You don't usually find a big crowd of college students at the bars early on Monday evenings," Kidwell said. "We thought taping 'Sports Talk' on location would be an opportunity for students to come in and relax after class, have a burger, listen to the coaches and players speak, win some prizes and maybe even ask a few questions."

Though the show tapes on Mondays, it doesn't actually air until Wednesday evenings.

"We thought taping on Monday evenings would be a better night because we hoped that people would come for 'Sports Talk' and stay to watch Monday Night Football," Kidwell added.

to the members of the booster club so they know who we'll be talking to."

Each week, the show averages about 20 to 25 people in the audience. Kidwell said that he would like to see at least 30 to 40. Kidwell encourages everyone to come out to the Paw on Monday



Adam Howarth, Mike Brad and Bob Spoo discuss EIU's next football game on "Sports Talk." The show is now taped Monday evening at The Panther Paw and aired Wednesday evening.

Photo by Sara Wagoner

So far this semester, Kidwell has had the opportunity to interview a number of coaches and players, including Coaches Bob Spoo, Lori Bennett, Geoff Masanet and Tim Nowak. A microphone is set up so that audience members can approach to ask their questions.

"Usually, we don't announce who will be on the show that week ahead of time," Kidwell said. "But, occasionally we will send an e-mail

nights to talk to the coaches and players, ask questions and win prizes.

"We give away some good prizes each week, which only adds to the list of reasons to come out to the Paw," Kidwell said.

"Sports Talk" is taped on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. at the Panther Paw Bar and Grill, and airs on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. on WEIU-TV channel 51.

Howard Price says au revoir

By Chris Sobut

In August of 2005, after 21 years of working as an academic adviser and a teacher in the journalism department, Howard Price retired from Eastern Illinois University.

Price came to EIU in 1984 from Saginaw, Mich., where he worked as a copy editor for a local newspaper. He accepted a job offer at EIU to teach copy-editing courses. Coming into the situation Price didn't have experience teaching college courses and his teaching experience included a few years of teaching grade school in New York.

As time went on, Price began to get more involved with EIU, as he started work as an academic adviser and teaching other courses including journalism and democracy and international journalism.

"The more I stuck around the more EIU grew on me," Price said.

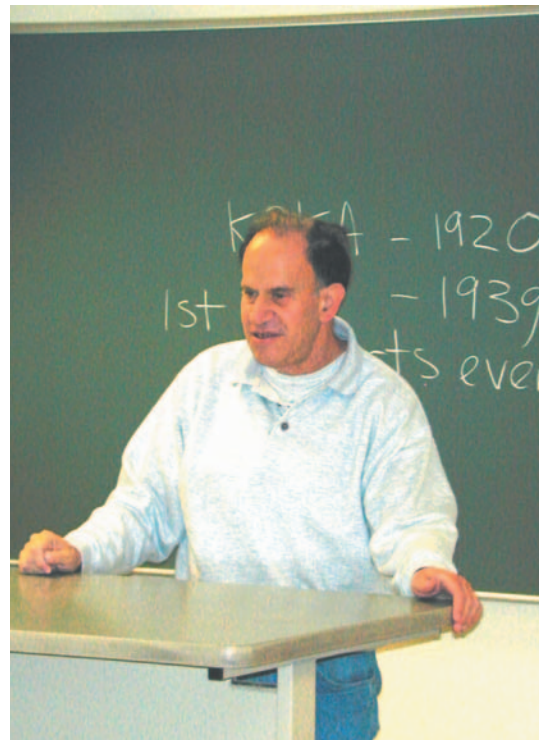
With his love for sports and journalism, Price and Dr. Dave Reed, then department chair, created a course covering both aspects called sports and the media.

"I am fascinated with the impact that sports has had on the media," said Price.

College classrooms can have different types of atmospheres, Price tried to have a unique approach of joking around and having a positive environment.

"He was very enthusiastic and was full of energy," said Brian Poulter, EIU professor of journalism.

Working as an academic adviser, Price was able to interact with students on a daily basis and help them work towards future goals. He also added that one of the best



Howard Price substitutes for David Kidwell in Sports & Media. Although retired, Howard is still willing to help out.

Photo by T. Johnson

things about EIU was the students themselves.

"He was an excellent adviser who was dedicated to helping students; he was always very on top of things," said Poulter.

Kimberlee Boise, journalism alumni, had this to say: "Howard Price was both a good professor

and adviser to me through my time at EIU. He added me to his growing list of advisees when my original advisor retired. He always kept me on track with my course loads, and on my toes in his class. He always took the time to say hello. I feel that he got to know students as both a friend and a professor. Howard was a good teacher, its sad to see him retire. He'll definitely be a legend in the journalism department."

Now that Price is retired, he has taken the time to sit back and enjoy himself. He spent the summer traveling to college baseball summer league games in Alaska and Tennessee.

"He sent us a post card from the French Riviera," said Terri Johnson, professor of journalism. "This was the first week of school and he wanted to remind us he was thinking about us... working so hard while he was enjoying his retirement!"

Besides traveling, Price plans to relax and catch up with friends. He also plans to head out to Bush Stadium to see the St. Louis Cardinals during its playoff run.

Although he is retired, Price plans to return to teaching at EIU during second semester of the 2005-2006 school year. He will be teaching his own sports and the media course.

"I am here whenever the department needs me," said Price.

SCJ still strong after 50 years

By Holly Frejlich

Founded in 1949, EIU's chapter of the Society for Collegiate Journalists (SCJ) has been running strong for over 50 years.

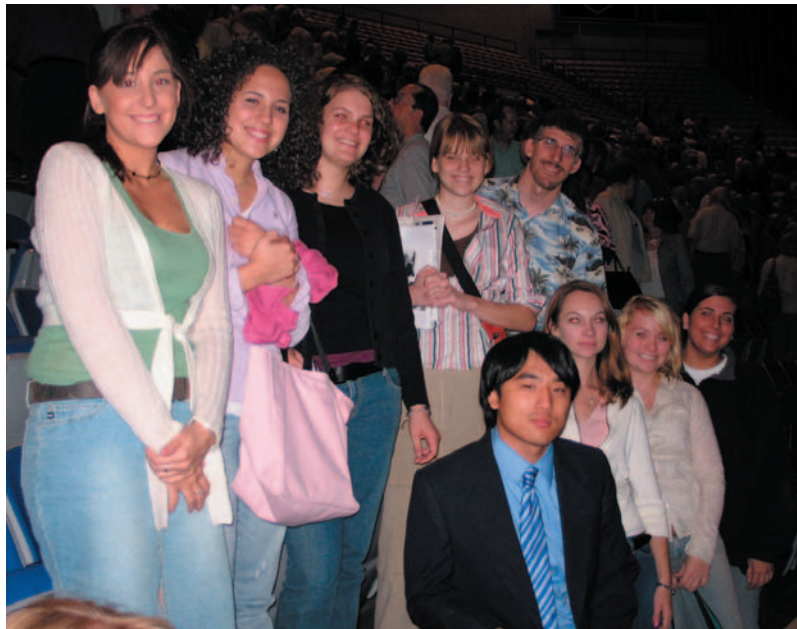
Sally Turner, professor of journalism, was named faculty adviser to EIU's chapter this semester. Turner has a lot planned for the year and is looking forward to continuing the excellence that has been set forth by advisers in the past.

"For a number of years, Dave Reed (former journalism department chair) held the adviser position," Turner said. "He even served as national president from 1984-1986."

Earlier, another former journalism department chair "Dan Thornburgh, served as Grand President of Pi Delta Epsilon during the 1974-1975 year," Turner said. "I know that this chapter was a real powerhouse in the '70s, and I hope to do what I can to bring it back to that."

By powerhouse, Turner was referring to national awards that were presented to the chapter in the '70s. In 1974, EIU's chapter was presented with The McDonald Award, naming it the national chapter of the year, Turner said.

According to the SCJ Web site, "The McDonald Award is given to the Outstanding SCJ Chapter of the year. The award's namesake was instrumental in promoting collegiate journalism nationwide."



Several members of the EIU Chapter of the Society of Collegiate Journalists heard Journalist Bob Woodward speak in Terre Haute, Sept. 27. Top row, from left: Trina Cattani, Hollie Smith, Cathy Bayer, Sarah Whitney and Chris Walden. Front row: Tim Martin, Ashley Rueff, Amanda Dugan and Jennifer Chiariello

Photo by Liz Viall

"Many years back, it was a great honor to be a member of SCJ," Turner said. "Instead of just showing up and joining, members had to be invited to join."

This year, Turner and the members of SCJ have a number of events planned and all are excited to strive for the excellence of years past.

"We are currently not recognized as an RSO (Registered Student Organization)," Turner said. "But, I have the paperwork and we are in the process of trying to become one."

Along with becoming an RSO, the chapter recently held a book sale and is planning an internship panel.

"The panel would allow a student from a few different concentrations of journalism to speak about internships they held this past summer," Turner said. "The panel would give others a chance to talk to the students and find out exactly what an internship entails and how they can obtain one themselves."

"I am looking forward to a great year for SCJ," Turner said. "In my opinion, this should be a place where the passion of journalism is celebrated."

Meetings have been on Wednesday nights so far this semester. For those who are interested in joining, Sally Turner can be contacted by e-mail at seturner@eiu.edu. Her office is located in the Journalism Office in Buzzard Hall.

Sarah Whitney in the spotlight

By Katrina Zaret

The Daily Eastern News is a busy place and between the editing process, deadlines and the routine of everyday life, the editors of the DEN are constantly on the move and pressed for time. However, being busy does not stop the seventeen various editors as well as all their field reporters from reaching their 4 p.m. deadline.

While working on a deadline, Sarah Whitney, editor of the administration beat, took time out of her busy schedule to answer some questions. The administration beat, Whitney says, is straight forward. She works in conjunction with the faculty to inform the student body of Eastern

administration news.

"I really like what I do. [I want to] develop writers for the beat who are not afraid to do in-depth reporting," said Whitney. "The idea of being an in-depth reporter," she added, "is a goal for all aspiring journalists."

When asked about deadlines, Whitney responded that deadlines can be flexible, and that she understands when a reporter is running late. She is also understanding when sources are unreachable, which might make the article be a little bit late. However, what is somewhat irksome is when there is lack of effort to finish the article. If a reporter just e-mails the source,

and doesn't try to contact the source in person, there is a chance that the source will not get back to the reporter.

Whitney advises that reporter's stopping by the source's office or contacting them by phone leaves an impression on them. This makes the source more willing to respond to the reporter's persistence.

The organization of the staff, tight-knit relationships and in-depth reporting help the DEN run smoothly. Sarah Whitney is only one of seventeen editors who take their jobs very seriously.

Kidwell adds teaching to his résumé

By Chris Sobut

For the past 34 years Dave Kidwell has been the sports information director at EIU.

With his retirement set for December, Kidwell decided to help out for the university by accepting an offer to teach a journalism course, sports and the media.

Kidwell brings much knowledge to the classroom considering he has been dealing with the media at EIU for quite some time.

"I feel that he is a perfect fit for the job," said Howard Price, retired EIU journalism professor, who previously taught the course.

As sports information director, Kidwell's job goes well beyond keeping stats and designing media guides.

"Our goal is to provide as much positive information about EIU athletics and its student athletes as we can," said Kidwell.

Taking over for Price who retired over the summer, Kidwell was able to gain advice and get topic information about how to conduct the course.

"I couldn't have done this without Howard's help," said Kidwell.

The objective of the class is to discuss the influence that sports has had on the media and vice

versa.

The class covers a wide range of topics including press pioneer Red Barber, women in the media, Howard Cosell, and the birth of Monday night football.

Besides covering those topics Kidwell also discusses the history of sports and current events. He also invites guest speakers from



David Kidwell

Kidwell continued on p. 7.

Students pay for paper with plastic

By Katrina Zaret

In every computer lab, save the journalism department labs, students have to pay in order to print. At seven cents a page paying to print does not put a dent in student's pockets, and saves department for funds for other costs that arise throughout the school year.

The fees students pay buy the equipment in labs, as well as the paper and ink toner for printers, John Henderson, director of information technology services, said. Henderson continued to say that all labs are "non-profit" and money goes toward "only what is used," by the labs.

The journalism computer labs would have had the printing

Kidwell adds teaching cont'd. from p. 6

print and electronic media.

"I try to have guest speakers so students have a better understanding for the media," said Kidwell.

Even though Kidwell didn't have any teaching experience prior to this fall, he did say the transition from the office to the classroom has been no problem at all.

"He might not have had teaching experience," said Terri Johnson, journalism professor, "but he has always been an excellent guest speaker, sharing his expertise with students. "That willingness to share his expertise helps make him a good teacher."

Kidwell also said that he is learning

program implemented earlier had "network problems prevented it from going into effect last year," said Professor Doug Lawhead. He added that paying to print in the labs should not cause a problem because it is the same "printing policy in every lab [across campus], except for the journalism [labs]."

Lawhead also said that it wouldn't be fair to department computer labs if a student came to print a paper for another class, let's say English, during open lab hours in the journalism department. The funds that the journalism department is losing during open lab hours could be used elsewhere, such as funding scholarships for journalism majors. Students will pay to print by inserting their Panther Card into card

as much as he can on the job from students and faculty.

"I have great respect for the faculty here at Eastern," said Kidwell.

When he is away from the classroom Kidwell spends most of his time around the athletic department making sure that EIU is on track for all of its athletic events.

Kidwell has put in time and effort over the years to the EIU athletic program and knows that success can be something special.

Kidwell plans to be around after his retirement as a consultant. He just wants to work about 40 hours a week, now, instead of his normal 60.

readers that will take money off of the chip, which will in turn pay for the paper that the student is trying to print.

It is important to remember, though, that printing will be free during class periods. It is only during open lab hours that students will have to pay. This semester, one lab, Buzzard 2434, is set up to pay, but the others are not.

Equipment for computer labs is expensive and while paying to print may seem like a burden for students, it drastically helps out the departments sponsoring the computer labs.

Journalism Re-accreditation Schedule

October 16 – 19th the department will be undergoing a re-accreditation review by an ACEJMC team.

The team will be observing and meeting with students at the following days and times.

Monday, Oct. 17

- 9 - 11 a.m. Team visits classes
- 11 a.m. Team meets with all majors in BH 1180
- 3 p.m. Team meets with students by concentrations

Writing & Reporting: BH 1819
Editing & Design: BH 1180
Public Relations: BH 2160
Broadcast News: BH 2602
Photojournalism & New Media:
BH 2440

Tuesday, Oct 18

- 9 - noon Team visits classes

New faculty brings experience

By Sara Wagoner

You may have class with her or you may have seen her wheeling down Buzzard. Dr. Wanda Brandon is the newest addition to the Journalism Department. Brandon brings years of experience in print journalism to Eastern and is looking forward to the opportunity to help her students.

Dr. Brandon graduated from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale in 1997 with her doctorate. Since then, Brandon served as adviser to the Daily Egyptian for five years.

After leaving Carbondale, Brandon went to work as adviser at Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield. She served as adviser to the newspaper, The Standard, at SWMS for eight years. During her time there, the paper went from a black and white to a full-color publication. Her students were working with an operating budget of around \$90,000, that they raised themselves, selling ads.

More impressive than her past experience, is her dedication to her students. The second day of classes Brandon fell down a flight of stairs and broke her ankle. Since then Brandon has missed no classes because of the injury. A less than impressive way to start the new semester, yet Brandon said she is impressed by what she has seen at Eastern.

"I'm really enjoying it. The department is accredited so that speaks well. I'm really impressed

by the student media at Eastern," Brandon said.

Brandon said a change was what she wanted when she decided to apply for the Eastern position. "Every once in a while you need a change," Brandon said. "I contributed a lot to the paper down there; they are poised and are doing well."

When asked what she liked best about teaching, Brandon said she enjoys knowing she is helping students develop the skills they need to be effective public affairs reporters.

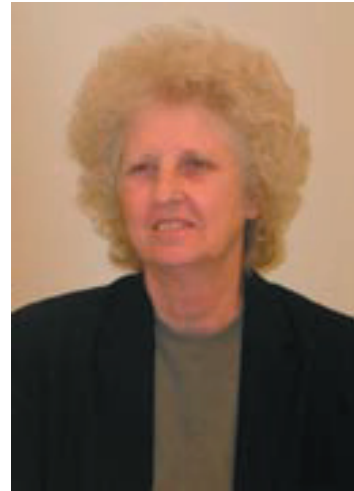
"My work, helping my students be the best, is what inspires me," Brandon said. "I just love journalism and it's such an important aspect in a democracy like ours."

In addition to her teaching experience, Brandon has professional experience with:

- 10 years reporting, editing and copy editing experience at the Southern Illinoisan, a regional newspaper in Southern Illinois with bureaus in Herrin, Marion, Murphysboro and Carbondale
- 10 years experience as owner/operator of a photography business in Herrin, Ill.
- One semester editor and designer of a newsletter for the Department of Continuing Education at SIU.

In her free time, Brandon enjoys spending time with her five cats and her dog. She also enjoys photography.

"Photography is the love of my life," she said. "I taught photojournalism at both universities and have been in nine exhibits."



Dr. Wanda Brandon

Photo by Liz Viall



The Journalist

The monthly newsletter
for EIU journalism majors
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