

Gentlemen,

Welcome to Eastern Illinois University and welcome to Carman Hall 3 South! I hope that you are enjoying the summer and are as excited as me about getting to ole Carman Hall! My name is Mike Bird and I will be a sophomore when the semester starts. I am a History major with minors in Military Science (ROTC), Religious Studies, and soon Criminology. I am from Villa Grove, Illinois and played football, baseball, and basketball. I love the outdoors and dogs. I am a big time hunter and love country, rock, and a few other types of music.

One thing that I am excited about in particular is that each and every one of us is going to become great friends. I will be around almost all day and night to help all of you with whatever you need help with. I can't promise you elite physical fitness or a 4.0 G.P.A. but I can give you the tools and guide you in the right direction so that you can achieve each of those. I will be having programs on our floor as soon as you get here to help each of you get to know each other and learn a little about your floor mates, college, myself, and so much more.

For those of you that are freshmen I want you to come into college with a fresh, free, and curious mindset. Too many friends of mine come to college expecting something and get disappointed or something else, but if you just experience EIU as you go through the year you will love it. As for those of you who are a little more veteran at this I promise it will be fun and definitely not boring. I hope all of you as new students and returning will feel safe, at home, and excited about your new room and floor. I will do my best to help you all out as much as possible and create an environment you can thrive in.

How would you like some advice? Too bad you're getting it anyway lol. Guys, the biggest thing to do to get ahead is to be social. Eastern has things planned for you when you get here, but friends don't just magically appear. You have to be brave and get out there! Go to that social event, go to that person's house or dorm that you just met, go eat with that group of people you hung out with in the quad. It will be fun trust me. Also, be organized and be prepared. I am very proficient in both and it is the easiest way to get through at least your first year. Make a schedule for all your classes. Make to do lists every day. Have note cards and post-its for everything. Have your clothes organized and neatly put away. Get a dirty clothes hamper. Label all of your school binders, notebooks and folders. I will help each of you when you get here and I will be here to give you advice whenever you need it. I am here to help YOU!

To wrap things up, don't forget to get to know your roommate before you come here. Add each other on Facebook, text each other, meet up if possible. You will also want to talk to each other about what you are bringing. Do you need two TVs, two Xboxes, or two microwaves? Do want you want, but don't over stuff your rooms. Mainly, it's just important for you to get to know each other before you get here because I'm sure you don't want to experience that awkward moment where you find your room and someone is putting their stuff in it and you are like, Oh, I guess this is my roommate lol. It makes the transition easier and you will already have at least one friend coming into EIU.

Guys, I can't wait to meet each and every one of you and I am really excited about fall 2011. We are going to have a great year! My email is [mjbird@eiu.edu](mailto:mjbird@eiu.edu), my cell number is 217-552-6124, my Xbox Live gamertag is SF Captain Bird, and add me on Facebook if you want to. If you have any questions just hit me up anytime.

See you in the fall!

Mike Bird