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The Journalist

Journalism Department Newsletter for Majors

Chiariello named editor-in-chief for fall semester

By Megan Frejlich

Jennifer Chiariello, senior journalism major, has taken on the new title as editor-in-chief.

Chiariello has been a writer for The DEN since her freshman year, and took on her first job as the activities beat editor in the spring of her sophomore year.

"It's really funny how I began writing for The DEN," Chiariello said. "I was at a party my freshman year when I began talking to the sports editor. I told him my major and he recruited me."

As well as activities beat editor, Chiariello has been the campus editor, opinions editor, associate editor and managing editor.

After three years of editing for five different sections of The DEN, becoming editor-in-chief was the next goal to fulfill, Chiariello said.

"The editor-in-chief position is something I think a lot of editors shoot for," she said. "All of the editor positions are great, but as the editor-in-chief, I get to see and improve all different areas of The DEN."

"There were three terrific applicants, but of the three, Jenny had the edge."

Joe Gisondi, adviser to The DEN

Chiariello was selected over two other applicants for the position as editor-inchief. She was appointed by the Student Publications Board through a long application process. Her appointment was then approved by Professor Joe Gisondi, adviser to The DEN, and Dr. John Ryan, director of student publications.

"There were three terrific applicants, but of the three, Jenny had the edge," Gisondi said. "As far as experience, organization and great ideas, she seemed the best fit for the job."

Not only did Gisondi think she was the best and most experienced, but so did her co-workers.

Joaquin Ochoa, senior journalism major and staff writer for The DEN, said, "I'm very happy that Jenny got the job as editor-in-chief. She has put in a lot of time and effort."

"She has the most experience and is very competent and reliable," Ochoa said.

Chiariello not only works for The DEN, but also is an editor for the Warbler and has previously worked at WEIU. Aside from her experience at EIU, Chiariello has had the opportunity to intern at a handful of high-profile organizations.

The summer before her junior year she interned at Travel Magazine. She has also been published in The Wall Street Journal and has interned for Dow Jones.

Chiariello's biggest accomplishment came at her first internship for Dow Jones when she was able to interview the president of Afghanistan.

"It was the first week of my internship, and I was at the Chicago Board of Trade and was extremely nervous," Chiariello said. "I was taken by secret service workers with three other reporters and was allowed one question to the president of Afghanistan."

"It was a newswire so not only was I very nervous, but I had a tight deadline," she said. "Luckily I got my questions in."

Chiariello has big plans for The DEN for the fall semester.

"I want to improve the content of the newspaper and find different angles that apply locally and nationally to students," she said. "I believe the newspaper should make people engage in conversation and make ties between our campus and the greater picture, the world news."



Jennifer Chiariello, senior journalism major, waits patiently in the news room as finishing touches are made to The DEN. Chiariello will be editor-in-chief this fall.

Photo by Angie Faller

As well as improving content, Chiariello plans to improve on stylistic things like design and layout. She also wants to see an overall improvement on The Verge.

Gisondi said, "Jenny and I have already been talking about what needs to be changed about the newspaper. With the staff that Jenny has picked, I know they will get what they want accomplished."

As well as a new editor-in-chief, a whole new staff of editors has been selected. Together, this group plans to

Lori Miller inducted into the Journalism Alumni Hall of Fame

By Krissy Peters

Getting into the Journalism Alumni Hall of Fame is not easy. Succeeding in the journalism world after college requires great work ethic, great writing and a great passion for the job.

Lori Miller, a 1979 graduate of EIU, showed dedication to journalism from day one at EIU and has taken that dedication with her throughout her professional career.

Miller's interest in the news began in high school. The work of Dann Gire, Mike Cowling, Rick Popely, John Ryan and many others inspired her.

Under the guidance of David Reed at EIU, Miller found her place as a reporter for the campus News. As a senior, Miller worked as editor-in-chief for The DEN.

After completing her degree at EIU, Miller attended the Public Affairs Reporting program in Springfield and later joined the Decatur Herald & Review as a reporter.

After taking a year off work to travel with some theatre friends, Miller got the copy editor position at the Daily Herald in Arlington Heights. Less than a year went by before Miller joined the Dallas Times Herald.

Miller met her husband Bob Drummond at the Dallas Times Herald and it was not long before they moved to Washington, D.C. There, Miller worked at the Washington Post metro copy desk. Miller became deputy editor after a few years working for the Post's National Weekly Edition.

John Ryan, professor of journalism and director of Student Publications, has viewed Miller's career from afar.

"You don't get hired at those newspapers without being a very, very good editor," Ryan said.

"Lori is a very bright person and a good editor. She is a wordsmith from the old school and has done well as an editor because she possesses great news judgment and is well-read," Ryan said. "She has always possessed a great work ethic and it has served her well in her career."

Now, Miller's husband works as an investigative writer for Bloomberg. Rockville, Maryland, has been the family's home since Miller left the Post in 1995. Nowadays, she devotes her time and energy to her two daughters Kate, 12, and Maggie, 9.

For her outstanding career in Journalism, EIU inducted Lori Miller into the Journalism Alumni Hall of Fame. Miller will receive her prestigious award at the Journalism and Student Media banquet April 30. "Lori is a very bright person and a good editor. She is a wordsmith from the old school and has done well as an editor because she possesses great news judgment and is well-read."

Dr. John Ryan,professor of journalism



Lori Miller is a recent addition to the Journalism Alumni Hall of Fame. Miller graduated from EIU in 1979.

Photo submitted by Dr. John Ryan

Campus connects with Campus Connection

By Jake Sweet

EIU students are getting involved with their very own newscast. The show, Campus Connection, is recorded on Wednesdays at II: a.m.

Jamie LaGuardia, a graduate student, serves as the news director for the show.

According to Jamie, "My favorite part about being involved with this program is seeing a learning curve with the students. I really enjoy seeing them improve their news skills week to week."

Four separate classes spend the time getting the show ready for students to watch. The Broadcast News Writing classes are responsible for writing the copy that the anchors read.

An Electronic News Gathering course lets the students put together video packages with on-site reporting.

The last class is a production class that actually tapes the newscast and runs the studio.

The show has two anchors, Catherine Thoma and Angie Taylor, who are both freshmen. However, the show is a team effort and takes the entire team roughly twenty hours a week to get the show ready to go on the air each week.

Campus Connection focuses on different issues and events, which affect the culture at Eastern. There is always a story that affects the college community in some form. You can catch the show on Fridays at 6 p.m., Saturdays at noon and Sundays at 5 p.m. on campus cable in both the dorms and the dining halls.

Journalism and Student Media Banquet to be April 30

By Sara Wagoner

The 46th Annual Journalism and Student Media Banquet will honor the achievements and hard work done by journalism students and student publications staff members. The banquet will start at 5:30 p.m. April 30, with a cash bar followed at 6 p.m. by a buffet dinner and awards ceremony. It will be held at the Best Western Worthington Inn.

Special guests include alumni, students, staff and donors. The banquet is designed as a night to honor the achievements of the student publications, as well as the academic successes of the students. Scholarships and awards will be presented to the students by past award recipients, staff members and fellow publication staff members.

The banquet will highlight the past year's work of the Journalism Department and all student-run publications, broadcast news, design, editing, news and emerging media, photojournalism, public relations, writing and reporting.

James Tidwell says the banquet is a night to celebrate and have fun, "The Journalism/Student Media Banquet is a time for faculty, staff and students to celebrate the accomplishments of the year, to recognize students who have won scholarships and other awards and generally just to have a little fun as the school year comes to a close."

46th Annual Journalism and Student Media Banquet April 30, 2005 Worthington Inn Dinner and Awards 6 p.m.

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improve The DEN overall, Chiariello said.

"A lot of what I have learned has been from other editors, and I want to give the new editors the help and encouragement I have been given."

 Jennifer Chiariello, senior journalism major "I view everyone on the staff as equals. I am no more important than any other editor on the staff," Chiariello said. "We all have plans to work on organization and communication among the staff."

Not only is Chiariello anticipating a positive outlook for the upcoming semester, but the rest of the staff is as well.

Gisondi said, "I am very excited about the next year because Jenny did a great job of picking her staff. It is a very young staff, but I know they will do great."

Ochoa said, "Although the staff is younger, I know that everyone will work hard and do well. I know we will have fun because we have a lot of amazing new people with great personalities."

Chiariello believes that she has a lot to offer to the new staff of The DEN and is thankful to everyone who has helped her become what she is today.

"I want to pass on what all editors have given me," Chiariello said. "A lot of what I have learned has been from other editors, and I want to give the new editors the help and encouragement I have been given."



Age does not define character

By Mindy Brown

The age of a person rarely defines who they really are. Jessica Youngs, senior journalism major, who will be graduating this semester at age 19, is a shining example of how you can't judge a person by their age.

In fact, her age rarely comes up.
James Tidwell, Youngs' adviser in the
journalism department, found out she
was 19 during a recent interview and all
he had to say about it was "Holy cow."

All Tidwell knew was that Youngs was "a real go-getter."

April McLaren, senior journalism major, has worked with Youngs and agreed with that statement.

"Once you get to know her, you don't see her as a 19-year-old. You see her as a determined and focused college student working for one goal at a time," McLaren said.

But Youngs' age doesn't scratch the surface of her personality.

Youngs' parents, who are both teachers, told her that she had to take college courses at nearby Wabash Valley College while attending high school in Mt. Carmel. Youngs took at least one class at the college each semester throughout her years in high school. During her senior year, she balanced a full class load at the college, as well as her high school classes.

She enrolled at EIU for the 2003 fall semester as a sophomore and chose to major in journalism because she loves to write.

McLaren said, "She was two giant steps ahead of the average 17- or 18year-olds on campus."

While at EIU, Youngs has been what Tidwell called "the guinea pig for the journalism departmental honors program," for she will be the first student to actually complete the program. She has also been involved with Mock Trial this past year on top of being the former city editor for The DEN, as well as working in the publications office. Outside of school, Youngs lifeguards at the YMCA in Mt. Carmel. She also teaches swimming lessons throughout the year.

Though her plan growing up was to major in biology and go to medical school, she has found her calling in law. She will be attending the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana law school in the fall and will be focusing on first amendment law.

"Once you get to know her, you don't see her as a 19-year-old. You see her as a determined and focused college student working for one goal at a time."

> April McLaren, senior journalism major

"I want to center around journalism," Youngs said. "I'm very interested in the media."

Youngs doesn't think her young age is a big deal and knows that she will be on track with everyone around her while in law school.



Jessica Youngs, senior journalism major, enrolled at EIU for the 2003 fall semester as a sophomore. Youngs will be graduating on May 7, after only four semesters at EIU.

Photo by Angie Faller





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The Agency is a student-run public relations organization. Anyone is welcome to join. Meetings are held every Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. in Buzzard Hall, room 2436