

# the Journalist

a departmental newsletter for journalism majors & minors

## Warbler number one

By Alex McNamee

Standing around a gas station somewhere in Georgia, assistant journalism professor Lola Burnham shouted out that the *Warbler* yearbook placed first in the Best of Show competition for yearbooks 300 pages or fewer.

The 10 journalism students, each who work for either the *Warbler* or *The Daily Eastern News* celebrated the accomplishment.

*Warbler* editor Kristin Jording said she was not even thinking about when or if they would get a call telling them they won an award from the Associated Collegiate Press.

"I was just wondering when we'd get home," Jording said.

However, Jording said she was excited to win the award, which shows how their hard work last year paid off.

"We had our troubles last year with deadline and it was stressful," Jording said. "But it just lets us know that we can do it again with this year's book."

*Warbler* managing editor, Danny



Kristin Jording, *Warbler* editor-in-chief, looks at the convention book for the Orlando CMA convention.

Damiani, said the announcement was like a breath of fresh air during the trip home from the College Media Advisers' conference in Orlando, Fla.

"I was tired from the drive, but it was unexpected and really exciting," Damiani said.

Jording credited the work of three staff members who graduated last

year for a lot of the book's success. Barbara Harrington and Cyndi Francois were great feature writers for the book, Jording said. Brittney Ferris was the design editor for the book and was instrumental in its design, Jording said.

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# School is out; now what happens?

By Emily Drahokoupil

With a couple weeks left of the fall semester, students are focused on schedules for spring, finishing up projects and getting ready for finals.

But for some students, graduation is all that is on their minds. Resumes are being sent out and the job search is underway. For three journalism majors, the real world is just around the corner.

Kacie Berry is not hitting the work force right away. Some relaxation is in store with her husband and a trip to Mississippi to see her sister-in-law and brother-in-law. After some rest and relaxation, Berry hopes to land a job in the East Central Illinois area in radio or TV.

Rachel Morris will also be taking some personal time before starting on the full-time career path.

Morris will be traveling and spending time doing recreational activities. She is excited about graduation and even more anxious to see what awaits her in the future.

Chris O'Driscoll said he is diving right into the work force after graduation. Chris said he is hoping to specialize in social media for a company in Santa Monica, Calif. Since



*Rachel Morris, above, will graduate in December along with Kacie Berry, Ronald Henton, Lauren LaPlante, Chris O'Driscoll, Nicholas Persin and Kaitlin Sullivan.*

**Photo by Marcus Smith**

O'Driscoll is graduating a semester early, he is still open to accepting internships in journalism and putting his multimedia and Internet skills to

work.

Also graduating are Ronald Henton, Lauren LaPlante, Nicholas Persin and Kaitlin Sullivan.

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Alex McNamee, The Daily Eastern News editor in chief, waits in the lobby of the Renaissance Seaworld hotel during the CMA conference Oct. 27.

Photo by Danny Damiani

## DEN lands second place at CMA conference

By Seth Schroeder

While in Orlando, representatives of *The Daily Eastern News* entered one of their papers into the Associated Collegiate Press' Best of Show competition and came home with second place.

The competition was part of the ACP/College Media Advisor National College Media Convention during the final week of October.

Alex McNamee, editor-in-chief, said winning the award has improved the morale of the staff.

"It's still hard to believe but it's awesome," McNamee said. "It says a lot about what this staff is doing and the quality of the staff this year."

*The Daily Eastern News* competed in the "four-year daily tabloid" category of the competition. This means they competed with other four-year colleges that publish everyday in tabloid style.

McNamee said because the competition is for Best of Show, the entire newspaper had to be satisfactory in order to win the award it did.

He said judging for the competition takes four to five hours and the judges look at categories such as design, headlines, photos, news, sports, opinion and content. The entries are judged by professional journalists.

"Our college newspaper was judged by a professional who knows more than we do," McNamee said.

"Eastern has a daily newspaper that's right up there with the best."

Lola Burnham, editorial advisor of *The Daily Eastern News* and assistant professor of journalism, said she thinks the award is a good boost for the paper's staff and she hopes they keep working hard to later win first place.

"We don't need to rest on our laurels," Burnham said. "It's a reward and a challenge at the same time."

The staff of *The Daily Eastern News* entered its Family Weekend edition of the paper into the competition. The edition was four color, 24 pages and was printed Oct. 9.

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# Time for lunch, talk in Orlando



*Journalism students attending the CMA conference eat lunch in the lobby of the Renaissance Seaworld hotel in between sessions Oct. 27. From left, are Alex McNamee, junior, Seth Schroeder, sophomore, Kim Foster, junior, and Rachel Rodgers, sophomore, seated; standing are John Ryan, faculty, David Reed, emeritus faculty, and James Tidwell, department chair.* **Photo by Danny Damiani**

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McNamee said the edition had strong content in all of its sections and had unique design.

"We definitely used the right paper," McNamee said. "It was in color which right from the get-go makes it more attractive."

Burnham agreed with McNamee and said the Family Weekend edition was a strong issue. She said be-

cause it was 24 pages it had "three times the meat" of a regular eight page newspaper.

Burnham said winning this award does not change much of what the staff members are doing. She said the staff will continue to put out the best newspaper they can.

"We're not doing it for a contest," Burnham said. "We're doing it because that's what makes us bet-

ter."

Shelly Holmgren, managing editor, said the staff members will have to continue to work for the standard they have set themselves while also trying improve. She said she appreciates the recognition.

"It validates the hard work we do here every night, when we forget to have proper sleep cycles and proper nutrition," Holmgren said.

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When Jording heard the announcement of the recognition, she said she immediately called Ferris to tell her the news.

"I woke her up, but she was excited," Jording said.

Damiani said the success of last year's book has shown him what is important for yearbooks to have.

"Design for yearbooks is incredibly important," Damiani said.

"Without that nothing looks good in the book."

Damiani said the award will be nice to show off to yearbook staffs of the past, present and future.

He said it was also nice to get recognition from professionals at the conference who complimented the books.

The winning yearbook's theme was "Capture," making its purpose to capture the stories of the year at Eastern. The theme also played off

of the photos in the book, Jording said. Jording said the staff decided to flip the book on its side in order to feature the photography in the book, as well as other things.

"We made the book in chronological order to make it like a story," Jording said.

With the award, Jording and Damiani said they are excited to try to win more awards with this year's book. The new book will be released in May.