



a publication for broadcast students

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# Broadcasters gain experience



*Students working the Charleston girls basketball game.  
Photo by Allison Cramarosso*

### Allison Cramarosso Reporter

Broadcasting students should get involved on campus as soon as possible. No matter what one's major is, a club or organization that Eastern offers can give students hands-on experience.

Four broadcast students are broadcasting for the Charleston High School girl's basketball. Claire Dau, Wally Swenson, Jon Roemer and Steve Morck all became involved with broadcasting early in their college career.

Becoming involved early can help with the decision of picking the correct major and gaining the proper ex-

perience.

Swenson, senior journalism and history major, said, "All students should get involved on campus as early as possible." The reason is it will give them important experience. Swenson said, "Eastern is nice because, it gives you hands-on experiences." Something that other schools may not offer.

Internships, too, are important experience. Even if students do not know someone directly to ask about interning, they can go to Career Services or talk to professors and advisers. They will help students find contacts.

Moreck, a senior communication studies major

with a broadcast news concentration, said he knew a person who worked broadcasting the Charleston High School basketball team, so he got a spot there. He now has hands-on experience to prepare him for his future broadcast career.

Getting involved on campus will help to prepare students for many careers. It may give students hands-on experience or it may allow them to decide if this is the career they want to pursue.

Dau, a senior communication studies major, also is part of the Morning Show on HitMix WEIU-FM. Roemer is a junior communication studies major.

# Study abroad: rewarding treat



*Dustin Tylman in th UK.  
Courtesy photo from Dustin Tylman.*

## **Megan Johnson Editor**

Studying abroad proves to be an exhilarating and life changing experience, according to students who have done it.

Students are able to see the world in a whole new setting, while exploring cultural differences and meeting

new people, according to Sara Boro, graduate assistant in the Study Abroad Office.

Students who study abroad learn critical thinking, writing skills, great communication skills and most of all, they walk away with a great understanding of what it takes to become a leader. These are the skills to assure students survive in the “real world,”

says Boro, who has studied abroad three times.

Dustin Tylman, who studied abroad last semester said, “This trip has been one of the best decisions that I’ve made since going to college.”

Tylman went to Harlaxton College located in the UK. “I really didn’t know that much about the school until I got to Harlaxton,” said Tylman, “I actually found out about it by reading an article in the *Wave-length*.”

Tylman, a senior communication studies major, also had the opportunity to visit Britain, Ireland, France, Germany and Italy.

At Harlaxton students live in a manor that has a lot of history. Tylman said he went because he was told the classes were easy and he wanted to spend the semester traveling and learning about other places and cultures.

“I’ve really enjoyed each trip and learned a lot in the process. Learning about the rest of the world in school is completely different then actually going and seeing the places you talk about,” Tylman said.

With the change in dollar to euro/pound exchange Harlaxton showed students a cheap way to get around. “Harlaxton has helped a lot of us out by showing students cheap ways to get around and stay for the night. With the constant travel I’ve also gained a new found independence for myself,” Tylman said.

A semester away from home can be a good test run for living and surviving on a student’s own. “Being separated from my friends and family has helped me really mature as an individual,” Tylman said.

Students develop a deeper understanding of the world around them. “This semester has been an adventure and I’m just glad I was able to have this experience,” Tylman said.



*Photo taken in Paris.  
Courtesy of Dustin Tylman*



# New students on Hit-Mix

**Merritt Whitley**  
**Reporter**

Five new students brave the airwaves at Hit-Mix 88.9, where a variety of popular artists and genres of music are played around the clock.

The primary purpose of the radio station is to provide students with hands-on experience in the radio industry.

Some of the experiences provided include: announcing, using production equipment, promoting events, writing on air promotional spots, as well as keeping music and operational logs.

Michael Skasick, a freshman English major, is one of the new members to EIU's Hit-Mix station. "My first

impression was that it was a fun and hardworking environment. I got involved because I love radio, it is the cornerstone of all mass communication and it is a lot of fun," Skasick said.

Many students work at Hit-Mix 88.9 because they enjoy the chance to get to work with music, while many get involved for the valuable work experience that it provides.

Jessie Meyer, a freshman communication studies major, said she got involved because this is what she would like to do with her life.

"Eventually I would like to get more into the business aspect of radio, but this is definitely a good start. I love the job, everyone has a great personality and I am learn-



ing a lot," Meyer said.

So far she has been participating in studio production, group work, producing commercials as well as learning voice tracking. She said her favorite part so far has been being live on the air.

Danny Trevor, a sophomore more communication studies major, is also a new member to the radio team. He is the DJ Mondays from 7 p.m.-10 p.m. Trevor said his favorite part about working at the

station is being on the air and getting experience. So far he really likes the people and finds them very helpful.

"I would absolutely recommend students get involved. Classrooms can only offer you so much information. Experience is the key," Trevor said.

Students wanting to get involved with the radio station, can contact Jeff Owens at [jdowens@eiu.edu](mailto:jdowens@eiu.edu) or Rob Calhoun at [rob@weiu.net](mailto:rob@weiu.net).

## EIU students land jobs at local radio station WRJM

**John Harshbarger**  
**Reporter**

Two EIU seniors, Steve Morck and Wally Swenson, work at Charleston's WRJM Radio, formerly WEIC.

The station covers Charleston, Coles, Clark, Cumberland, Edgar and Jasper counties.

Miller Media Group's Kaskaskia Broadcasting bought it in October.

Morck is a senior communication studies major. At WRJM Morck is the play-by-play announcer for the sports teams covered.

He said after he graduates

he would like to work for WRJM full time.

Swenson, a senior, has a dual major in journalism and history. His concentration in journalism is in broadcast news.

Swenson hosts a weekly "Coach's Corner" show. He interviews local high school coaches on the week's recap, as well as a previews of the coming week.

In addition to sports, he covers the Charleston City

Council meeting every first and third Tuesday of the month. His news article on the meetings is posted on [weicdailynews.com](http://weicdailynews.com).

Swenson said, "Working at WRJM is a great opportunity to gain valuable experience in a broadcast industry that I truly find satisfying."

His plans after graduation are to go to graduate school and he has also applied for an internship at WGN Radio 720 for the summer.

An EIU 2002 graduate Jared Schaefer also works for WRJM. At EIU he majored in speech communications with an electronic media production option.

Schaefer is the news director and the host of the 6:30 to 10 morning show.

Schaefer said, "My plans are to help WRJM continue to grow in East Central Illinois and to make it a lasting footprint here in this market."



**Jan./Feb. 2012**



# Let's talk leadership



*Members of NABJ and FRESH! surround the national president of NABJ who visited this month.*

## **Laura Bolbat Reporter**

“Work ethic is very important, especially in this generation where many aren’t willing to work for what they want,” the 19th president of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) told a group of EIU students Feb. 9.

Gregory Lee, the youngest ever NABJ president at age 36, took time out from a trip to Chicago to visit the EIU campus and speak to Professor Joe Gisondi’s Sports Writing class and to those attending a special meeting of the EIU chapter of NABJ.

Lee is the senior assistant sports editor of the *Boston Globe*. Prior to coming to the *Globe* in 2004 he worked at

the *Washington Post*.

“This is the time to learn everything you need to know to survive in journalism,” Lee said. He also stressed that today’s successful journalist not only needs to be a good writer, but needs to know how to take photos, use multimedia tools and talk in front of a camera.

Jasmine Randle, the president of the NABJ campus chapter, said Lee inspired her. “It makes me want to do better so that later on in life I can have the job I want along with the lifestyle I want to live.”

Lee also was the on-site editor at the Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, has been an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland, and president of Xavier’s Washington D.C alumni chapter.

*The Wavelength is the Eastern Illinois University newsletter for broadcast students. It is published by The Agency, Eastern’s student-run public relations firm, sponsored by the Department of Journalism. It is printed in Buzzard Hall.*

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