

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Robbins to retire from COE dean post

By Ron Podell

For 13 years, the campus community received the latest College of Education news from "The Monday Report." Come June 28, the 609th — and possibly last issue — of the longtime newsletter will be published.

That's because its editor, Jerry Robbins, will soon be stepping down as dean of the COE.

"Doing this (The Monday Report) almost every week is a huge burden," said Robbins, who describes himself as "a frustrated journalist" that started a similar newsletter when he was a dean at Georgia State University. "If it weren't a labor of love, it wouldn't get done. I've done it because it's needed and needed to be done. There are many good things happening in the COE that we and our constituencies need to know about, but that wouldn't get out if weren't for this. And I kind of like doing this sort of thing."

After 39 years in higher education — the last 13 as dean of the COE at EMU — the Arkansas native has ideas about trying other sorts of things, including more traveling, researching his family genealogy and devoting more time as director of his beloved Ypsilanti Community Band (formerly known as the Barnhill Community Band).

"I may goof off a couple weeks, become bored and come back," said Robbins, who has the option to return as a full- or part-time faculty member. "Or, I might like goofing around and not come back."

But, first things first. Robbins techni-



EDUCATIONAL EXIT: Jerry Robbins, dean of the College of Education since 1991, will officially retire from his post Aug. 31. He will perform light duties until then, with Alane Starko, who was appointed interim dean, handling the bulk of the deanship, beginning July 1, 2004.

cally is still dean until Sept. 1, when Alane Starko replaces him (see sidebar). Under an agreement with the provost, Robbins said he will use about a month's vacation from now until then; complete a series of COE annual reports; and conduct evaluations of eight administrators who report directly to him. His

Starko named interim COE dean

By Ron Podell

Alane Starko, head of the department of teacher education, has been named interim dean of the College of Education, effective July 1, 2004.

Starko replaces Jerry Robbins, who will perform only limited duties as dean in July and August, concluding with presiding over the college's fall conference Aug. 31. Robbins was dean of the COE for the last 13 years.

"Alane has substantial knowledge of the intricacies of our teacher preparation programs and the strong support of the college's administrative team," said Paul Schollaert, provost and vice president for academic affairs. "Her appointment ensures continuity of leadership within the college during the interim year."

"I am honored to have been asked to serve as interim dean for the College of Education and excited about the chance to work with the outstanding faculty and staff there," Starko said. "I believe this interim year gives us an important opportunity to think together as a college about what we want in the next stage in our his-



Starko

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EMU works with developer to add student housing

Edwards Communities building apartment units on site of old Peninsular Paper Company

By Ron Podell

Eastern Michigan University may add some new housing options to campus without having to pay property and construction costs.

Developer Edwards Communities of Columbus, Ohio, is in the midst of building apartment housing at the present 7.8-acre site of the Peninsular Paper Factory, near Huron River Drive and LeForge Road. In a potential deal still in negotiations, University officials are working on an agreement that would allow EMU's housing staff to manage and operate the proposed facility, which is targeted to house EMU students.

Edwards Communities' plan calls for construction of two buildings, one at the northwest corner of Huron River Drive and LeForge Road and the other at



CHIMNEY SWEEP: The historic chimney is all that's left of the old Peninsular Paper Company at Huron River Drive and LeForge Road. The chimney will be incorporated into the design of a 186-unit apartment complex developed by Edwards Communities of Columbus, Ohio. EMU officials are negotiating to staff and manage the property, which would provide a needed housing option for EMU students. The complex is expected to open in fall 2005. Photo by Craig Watson

the northeast corner of that intersection. The complex would include 186 units of one-, two-, three- and four-bedroom apartments. In all, the facility would

include room for 481 beds and be ready for occupancy in fall 2005.

More importantly, the project would provide EMU students

with modern housing options close to the University.

"They will be high-quality, upscale facilities," said Jim Vick, EMU's vice president for student affairs. "We are in the process of negotiating with (Edwards) so that the units will be part of campus housing."

The planned unit development (PUD), approved by the Ypsilanti City Council March 16, appears to have potential benefits for all involved entities. If an agreement were struck, EMU would be able to manage the facility and provide more housing without using capital resources while the city of Ypsilanti would gain quality housing without losing the property from its tax rolls.

"(Edwards) would pay for all of our housing staff. We would

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TOP TEACHERS: (above left) Heidi Capraro, a sixth-grade science teacher at Hillsdale Middle School in Northville, teaches her students how to read barometric pressure from a thermometer. Capraro was recently named 2004-05 Michigan Teacher of the Year by the Michigan Department of Education. (above right) Jonathan Marceau works with Mary Gallagher, a fifth-grade student at Eberwhite Elementary School in Ann Arbor. Marceau was recently named Outstanding Student/Intern Teacher of the Year by the Michigan Association of Teacher Educators.

Capraro photo by Craig Watson

Capraro, Marceau have right stuff in the classroom

EMU alumna, student sweep 2004 Michigan Teacher of the Year honors

By Carol Anderson

Eastern Michigan University's College of Education has long been considered a top producer of outstanding teachers. This year, no one could argue the results.

Heidi Capraro, an Eastern Michigan University alumna, recently was named 2004-2005 Michigan Teacher of the Year by the Michigan Department of Education. The award, which was announced May 10, recognizes excellence in teaching.

But that's not all. The Michigan Association of Teacher Educators (MATE) recently named EMU's Jonathan Marceau, of Southfield, Outstanding Student/Intern Teacher of the Year. The award is granted to student teachers who excel in their student teaching experience. Marceau received a plaque, certificate and \$1,000.

Capraro, who has taught for 14 years, is a sixth-grade science teacher at Hillside Middle School in Northville. She graduated from EMU's College of Education with a bachelor's degree in elementary education (1989) and a master's degree in middle school curriculum (1994).

"There are many wonderful teachers and I am especially delighted when one of our alums is tapped for this honor," said Jerry Robbins, dean of EMU's

College of Education. Capraro is the third EMU alum in 13 years to win the state teacher of the year award, he said.

The surprise announcement, made at Hillside Middle School, came under the guise of an assembly to discuss the school's code of conduct.

"I bought it hook, line and sinker," Capraro said. "But I was flabbergasted and in shock when the award was announced."

The Michigan Teacher of the Year is someone who is a leader and mentor to other teachers as well as being well rounded in their topic and able to speak on their feet, she said.

"Heidi has a passion for making a difference in the lives of her students," said Michigan Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Watkins, who attended the school presentation. "Her proven skills as a teacher, mentor and creative leader make her the perfect ambassador for the teaching profession in Michigan."

As state teacher of the year, Capraro will work as a liaison for the Michigan Department of Education during the 2004-2005 school year and travel the state on behalf of teachers. She also will meet with policymakers, parents, educators and students and report her findings to the state board of education.

"This position has quite a few dynamic possibilities for me,"

said Capraro, who is now eligible for the National Teacher of the Year Award.

The Howell resident credits her father, a high-school chemistry teacher, with steering her toward education and former EMU geography professor, Carl

"I bought it hook, line and sinker. But I was flabbergasted and in shock when the award was announced." (after showing up for what she thought was a school assembly and then learning she was named 2004-05 Michigan Teacher of the Year)



Marceau, who taught at Eberwhite Elementary School in Ann Arbor, was honored for a science lesson that was part of an overall look at the effects of oil drilling in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. He introduced his 20 fifth-graders to the

Marceau said he prefers to teach fifth-graders because they are still naive to the world and really open and honest. They also have their own personalities and are more independent than younger students, he said.

"He's a very creative teacher with a wonderful sense of humor. I'm not surprised that he got the award," said Debi Wagner, principal of Eberwhite Elementary.

Wagner said some children have different ways of learning and Marceau addressed their needs with various methods including music, drawing and physical activity.

Marceau received a bachelor's degree in natural science and certification in elementary education from EMU in April 2004.

"I don't know where life is taking me," said Marceau, who said he would like to teach in Ann Arbor, Chicago or Boston.

Other EMU students honored by MATE were semi-finalist Kelli Wills of Westland and six student teachers who received honorable mentions. They are:

- Bobbi Devault of Brighton
- Tammy Dominick of Milan
- Jason Helmes of Cincinnati, Ohio
- Grace Landon of Dearborn
- Pamela Simpson of Commerce Township, and
- Kimberly Wayburn of Ann Arbor.

Ojala, for instilling her with a love of teaching.

Capraro is president-elect of the National Middle Level Science Teachers Association and a member of the Michigan Science Teachers Association and the Metropolitan Detroit Science Teachers Association.

Robbins was just as excited about Marceau's honor.

"I am delighted that Mr. Marceau received this recognition. There are many deserving students and the fact that the top student was from EMU demonstrates the high quality of our program," Robbins said.

food web that, he said, is similar to a food chain, but more complicated.

"We looked at how seals eat fish; wolves eat seals; and polar bears eat seals and wolves. If you pull one animal out of the web, the predator dies," said Marceau, who used different ways of communicating the concept of a food web to his students. "If you draw them into the lesson, they will want to learn."

At the end of the year, after studying other effects of drilling, his students wrote letters to President George Bush asking him not to drill for oil in Alaska.

IT'S ALIVE!



FEAR FACTOR: "Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature," is the focus of a traveling exhibition currently at Halle Library. The exhibit includes the origins of author Mary Shelley's novel "Frankenstein"; the movies and memorabilia; and the questions of life and death posed today through genetic science. The exhibition, made possible through major grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Library of Medicine, will be on display in Halle through June 22.

Photos by Craig Watson

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manage it," Vick said. "The units would be part of the normal (student) room draw each year."

Students would have their own room, bathroom and closet, while sharing a living room and kitchen, which will include dishwashers and microwaves. Each unit also will have a washer and dryer, said Rick Kirk, a partner with Edwards Communities and president of K & E Construction, which is building the housing complex.

"Eastern is just one of many universities that has old housing stock that's not really consistent with the quality of housing available today," Kirk said. "Most universities are limited in terms of dollars to build housing because of budget cuts."

"For us, we think it's a great development of a former industrial site that could have sat empty for years," said Megan Gibb, director, planning and development for the city of Ypsilanti. "Providing student housing where that project is proposed is very appropriate. It may release some of the pressure on single-family neighborhoods (in Ypsilanti) and allow for more home ownership opportunities there. We see it as complementary to our efforts to stabilize the single-family neighborhoods."

The paper mill had operated at the site since the 1880s, according to Ypsilanti City Manager Ed Koryzno. Crown Vantage, beginning in 1996, last owned the mill. But, that company eventually declared bankruptcy and the site has sat vacant for two years, Koryzno said.

As a reminder of the site's long history, Edwards Communities will incorpo-



BREAKING GROUND: Edwards Communities, a Columbus, Ohio, developer broke ground May 11 for construction of an 186-unit apartment complex on the site of the old Paper Peninsular Company. Those who attended the groundbreaking ceremony are (from left) Jim Vick, EMU's vice president for student affairs; Keith Peters, Ypsilanti Chamber of Commerce president; Megan Gibb, director, planning and development, City of Ypsilanti; Ypsilanti City Councilman Barry Larue; Ypsilanti City Manager Ed Koryzno; Ypsilanti Mayor Cheryl Farmer; and Rick Kirk, president of K&E Construction and a developer with Edwards Communities.

Photo by Craig Watson

rate the paper mill's chimney and a railroad scene as focal points in the project's architectural design, Koryzno said. Norfolk Southern owns rail right-of-way to the south of the site.

"The chimney is just one of the wonderful and unique historical landmarks of Ypsilanti," Kirk said. "I feel obligated to keep that. It's cool."

A groundbreaking ceremony was conducted at the site May 11 and demolition began shortly thereafter, Kirk said.

The project also is expected to include

360 parking spaces. Edwards Communities has agreed to conduct a parking and traffic study one year after the housing complex has been open to determine the level of impact in that area, Gibb said.

Vick said University officials have visited other projects constructed by Edwards in Columbus, Ohio, and came away impressed. Edwards currently is working on a housing project for the University of Toledo, Vick said.

"Both sides see an advantage of a partnership," Vick said.

Newsletter covers latest on strategic plan

By Ron Podell

For the past four years, strategic planning has been a critical element of moving the institution forward. To keep that long-term planning in the forefront, the offices of Strategic Planning and Continuous Improvement, and Institutional Research and Information Management (IRIM) started a newsletter in May.

The newsletter, which will be published once every two months, will bring the latest updates on strategic initiatives to campus and provide results of the most current data reports compiled by IRIM.

"This newsletter is important to us. People on campus are starting to get feedback from (strategic) initiatives and results of the strategic planning and continuous improvement committees," said Bruce Moses, administrative manager of strategic planning and continuous improvement. Moses also is co-editor of the newsletter. "By reading this newsletter, you'll find out what we have done. You can read about the funding and implementation of strategic initiatives and the efforts to create a continuous improvement environment for the University and our constituents in this newsletter."

Sandra Williams, director of institutional assessment, agreed.

"The newsletter will help our department update the campus community on new developments that will help make data accuracy and data sharing easier," said Williams, who is co-editor of the newsletter.

Survey data, such as from the national survey, Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP), will be included, Williams said. The survey is given to incoming freshmen. Other stories will help the campus community understand EMU's students, employees and alumni, the campus climate and information on national trends in higher education.

"Every newsletter will have an article on AQIP," Williams said of EMU's new Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) accreditation process.

EMU was accepted into AQIP in February. The AQIP accreditation process evaluates institutions for continuous improvement on an ongoing basis.

In addition, the May newsletter includes articles about the University's launch of its third strategic planning cycle; the work of various campus cross-cutting committees; and an update on IRIM's progress toward developing a data warehouse that will serve as the official University resource for official data reporting and analysis. The newsletter can be found at www.emich.edu/strategicplanning

CHHS reorganization occurs July 1

By Ron Podell

By now, most people on campus know the College of Health and Human Services will be reorganized, effective July 1. But more particulars on where programs will now reside and who will be heading existing departments and newly created schools and programs have recently surfaced.

Information on the reorganization can be found at http://www.emich.edu/program_transition/specifics.html

Some of the key reorganization changes are as follows:

■ **Jeanne Thomas** will assume leadership as dean of the College of Health and Human Services, effective Aug. 1. Thomas previously



Thomas

was dean of the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences at California State University-Chico.

■ **Polly Buchanan**, who has served as interim dean since May 13, 2002, will return to her duties as associate dean of the CHHS.

■ The Department of Social Work will be renamed the School of Social Work, effective July 1. The school will remain within the CHHS. **John Gunther** will continue to serve as department head.

■ The Department of Nursing will be renamed the School of Nursing, effective July 1. The school will remain within the CHHS. Effective Aug. 1, **Mary Sue Marz** will return to her duties as the head of the nursing department. Marz has served as interim associate dean of the CHHS since July 1, 2003.

■ The Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (currently in the College of Education) will undergo the following changes:

The dance program will align with the music program in a newly renamed Department of Music and Dance in the College of Arts and Sciences. **David Woike**, who already is head of the music department, will serve as head of the reorganized department.



Woike

The remaining programs — health, physical education and recreation — will be consolidated under the new School of Health Promotion and Human Performance within the College of Health and Human Services, effective July 1. **Ian Haslam**, who is already department head of HPERD, will serve as department head of the new school.

■ The Human, Environmental and Consumer Resources (HECR) Department, currently in the CHHS, will be realigned as follows:

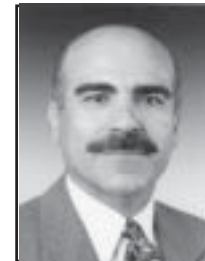
The Associated Health Professions Department in the CHHS will be renamed the School of Health Sciences, effective July 1. **Elizabeth Francis-Connelly** will continue to serve as department head.

The department will be enlarged to include HECR faculty and programs in dietetics and human nutrition from HECR and therapeutic recreation from the old HPER department.

The programs in apparel, textiles and merchandising; hotel and restaurant management; and interior design will move to the College of Technology.

■ The three academic departments in the College of Technology, together with the programs transferred from the HECR department, will be restructured into two schools within the COT.

The School of Engineering Technology will be headed by **Bob Lahidji**, who is currently interim



Lahidji

department head for industrial technology. **Morell Boone**, professor of interdisciplinary technology, will serve as interim head for the School of Technology Studies.

For purposes of governance, each of the new schools will be the functional equivalent of academic departments, will be led by department heads and will each have one seat on the Faculty Council.

Eagles set to “clash” with CMU at Ford Field



FOUR AT FORD: EMU will lead four college football teams in the “Collegiate Clash,” set for Ford Field Nov. 6. The Eagles will battle Central Michigan University and Hillsdale College will take on Wayne State University. The head coaches from the competing schools are (from left) Keith Otterbein, Hillsdale; Paul Winters, Wayne State; Jeff Genyk, EMU; and Brian Kelly of CMU.

Ford Field in Detroit is the home of the Detroit Lions, but Eastern Michigan University will call the field home Nov. 6 when it hosts the first ever Collegiate Clash.

The Clash, which will be played Saturday, Nov. 6, is a college football doubleheader which will pit EMU against in-state rival Central Michigan at 4:30 p.m. and Wayne State University against Hillsdale College at noon.

“We are very excited about this opportunity to host a college football doubleheader at Ford Field,” said David Diles,

EMU athletic director. “I think the concept of bringing college football to downtown Detroit is great for the city and participating schools. This doubleheader gives us a chance to reach many more alumni and friends of the University than a regular home game, and also allows them to see football in one of the finest indoor facilities in the country.”

“This is an exciting development, both for Eastern Michigan University and for Mid-American Conference

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EMU BY THE NUMBERS

SummerQuest 2004, a hands-on, intensive learning program offered by Eastern Michigan University, begins its third year June 20. The program offers one-week camps for high school students (grades 10-12) interested in aviation, health careers or pre-law, and two-week camps for forensics or theatre. This year, programs in chemistry, disaster management and music (band and orchestra) have been added. Numbers for SummerQuest 2003 are as follows:

Students who attended SummerQuest 2003	112
Michigan and Ohio high schools represented	81
High school seniors in 2003-04 who attended	44
High school seniors admitted to EMU for 2004-05	21



Source: Joanne DeCamp, Director, Non-Credit Programs, Continuing Education

THE ROBBER BRIDEGROOM



SING A SONG: (from left) The characters Goat (Ann Arbor senior Jason Layden), Rosamund (Canton senior Delaine Andrzejewski) and Little Harp (Livonia freshman Lorenzo Toia) perform during EMU Theatre's production of “The Robber Bridegroom.” Goat and Little Harp are two unsavory characters that contribute to the comic twist of double mistaken identity by bungling a kidnapping that was supposed to bring Jamie, the robber bridegroom, a bride. The musical completes its run June 10-12.

Therapy is magic!

Recreation therapy program uses Project Magic to help senior citizens

By Linga McClair

For many senior citizens, the magic in life is often gone. Students in Eastern Michigan University's Student Therapeutic Recreation Organization (STRO) have helped remedy that.

During late March, EMU's therapeutic recreation students presented Project Magic to senior citizens at the Ypsilanti Senior Center. The group followed that performance with a June 3 presentation at the Therapeutic Recreation Institute's Annual State Conference in Canton, a gathering for therapeutic professionals.

"The presentation is on the whole idea of using magic as a therapeutic intervention in health care," said David Thomas, associate professor of therapeutic recreation at EMU. "Magic has traditionally not been looked at in this way."

Renowned magician David Copperfield initiated Project Magic in 1981 to help hospitalized children with physical and psychological problems. EMU's version of Project Magic mirrors Copperfield's, but focuses on using magic for diverse groups. Students from Ypsilanti and Willow Run high schools participated in the magic trick with the senior citizens.

During the trick, the magician uses three ropes, one red, one white and the

third, blue, said Lindsay Cameron, president of STRO since September 2003 and who introduced Project Magic at the conference. Cameron explained that the ropes are tied end to end in a long chain and change to one long rope that is three different colors, she said.

For those who observe closely, there are two loose, small ropes that are tied to the ends of the three long ropes, giving the illusion that the ropes are individual. In fact, what appears to be three individual ropes tied together is actually one long rope, Cameron said.

The rope trick can achieve a number of therapeutic goals related to physical, emotional, social and cognitive well-being, said Thomas, who serves as faculty adviser to STRO. The activity also can be used to bridge the gap between generations.

For example, when a senior citizen



LEARNING THE ROPES: Residents of the Ypsilanti Senior Center learn a magic trick using a rope. Eastern Michigan University students in the Therapeutic Recreation Organization (STRO) have created their own version of Project Magic, a program that uses magic as therapy.

holds the rope and extends his or her arms, the physical is addressed. The same trick also can be used to help one feel better, providing emotional benefits, he said. The trick involves using a number of persons, so a social goal could be addressed. For cognitive benefits, citizens have to organize and sequence their thoughts to complete the trick.

"So, one trick could be used to address a goal for each of the four domains, depending on the issue with the person," Thomas said.

The conference audience was composed of professionals from rehabilitation centers, nursing and psychiatric centers.

Professionals, with guidance from the students, practiced the trick. A discussion period followed, which allowed conference attendees to discuss and reflect on ways magic could be used in their fields, Thomas said.

"It's David Copperfield's (model) with occupational therapy," Cameron said. "We turned it into a therapeutic reckoning because we all believe it's more of that than occupational therapy."

Canton Parks and Recreation has contacted the group to perform Project Magic at a day camp for handicapped and disabled children this summer, Cameron said.

ROBBINS, from page 1

last official duty as dean will be to preside over the college's annual fall conference Aug. 31.

"During July and August, I will still have the title of dean and fewer responsibilities," Robbins said.

Ever since he turned 65 in February, Robbins said he has contemplated retirement from his current position. After determining his financial situation was stable and realizing there were things he'd like to do that he never had time for, Robbins made his decision to step down as dean.

But being an educator will probably never leave his DNA. Robbins admits he'd like to write some professional papers on the supply and demand of teachers in the United States.

"Some parts of the country have a severe shortage of all kinds of teachers and southeastern Michigan is an area where we have more teachers than we know what to do with," he said. "There are more than enough teachers to solve the shortage problem. There are enough people with full credentials to teach, but are doing something

else for whatever reason."

Robbins earned his doctorate and master's degree in educational administration from the University of Arkansas. He earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics from Hendrix College in Conway, Ark.

Before coming to EMU, Robbins was a professor of edu-

"In the 13 years I've been here, we've gone through an NCATE accreditation review three times and came out successful each time."

Jerry Robbins
Dean
College of Education

cational administration from 1979-91 and dean of the COE from 1983-90 at Georgia State University.

During his tenure, Robbins said he is proudest of the construction of the Porter Building, a state-of-the-art building that includes the latest technology. The Porter Building is a far cry from the 1991 COE scenario where a large portion of the department was located in a then-

dilapidated Boone Hall with the rest of the department smattered among Rackham, Pray-Harrold, the old library and the Warner Building, Robbins said.

"So far, Porter has served us extremely well," he said. "We've been able to do better preparing educational personnel."

The COE recently earned re-

accreditation from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), which means Robbins is leaving the COE in good standing for the next seven years. The NCATE reaccreditation process establishes rigorous standards for teacher education programs and holds accredited institutions accountable for meeting them.

"In the 13 years I've been here, we've gone through an

NCATE accreditation review three times and came out successful each time," Robbins said. "As NCATE has changed and improved its standards, we've been able to meet those standards and improve our programs."

Establishment of the John W. Porter Chair in Urban Education also ranks high on Robbins' list of accomplishments. The chair is named in honor of Porter, a former EMU president. It is the first endowed chair in the COE and attracts top faculty educators from around the country.

"We've been able to have a series of nationally known people in teacher education spend time with us," he said. "I think that has been a real plus."

And last, but certainly not least, the numbers speak for themselves. During his 13 years here, Robbins said EMU has graduated more professional educators — more than 25,000 — than any other institution of higher education in the country.

"We have a very high degree of common understanding about what school personnel need to know and be able to do when they leave here," Robbins said.

STARKO, from page 1

tory and how we can get there. I hope to be able to create opportunities for faculty and administrators from all our departments to talk and plan together."

Starko was a lecturer at the University of Connecticut before joining the faculty of EMU's Department of Teacher Education in 1986. She became head of the department of teacher education — the COE's largest — in 1997.

She is nationally known for her work with the education of gifted and talented students, receiving awards from the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) and the Academy for the Talented and Gifted of Michigan.

Starko earned her doctorate in work with the gifted from the University of Connecticut and her master's and bachelor's degrees in elementary education from State University College in Oneonta (New York).

The Leopard Trail

Lecturer takes journey to professorship

By Ron Podell

What's the recipe to starting out as a lecturer at Eastern Michigan University and eventually becoming a full-time professor?

For Barbara Leopard, the ingredients included lots of patience and determination; unwavering support and understanding from her family; and the homegrown knowledge that others in her family had earned their doctorate — all while juggling family obligations and teaching full time.

Of course, that route is far from the one she originally envisioned for herself when her husband, David, took a job as an assistant professor of business and industrial technology in the College of Business at Eastern Michigan University in 1992.

The family stayed back a year because, as Leopard, said "We wanted to find out what the snow was like. (David) soft-pedaled it."

Trekking north from South Carolina with her children a year later, Leopard planned to teach in the Ann Arbor public schools.

"I was a K-12 teacher in the South Carolina schools for 16

years. When I moved from South Carolina, I just assumed I'd get a job in the Ann Arbor schools," she recalled.

In not so many words, Leopard said she was told she basically "had too much experience and was way too expensive."

Approximately two weeks before the 1993 fall term began at EMU, Leopard received a call from Don Lick, then the head of the math department. He offered her a lecturing job in math. Leopard took the job teaching a five-course load until, she hoped, a teaching position opened up in Ann Arbor Public Schools. She began her time at EMU lecturing courses in math education and mathematics. After two years in that routine, she taught developmental math courses.

Leopard soon discovered that she enjoyed teaching college students. She also realized, that if she wanted to teach at the university level on a long-term basis, she needed to pursue her doctorate.

"If you're going to be tenure-track, it's understood that you need to get a doctorate," Leopard said.

Leopard began pursuing her doctorate from the University of



"I have two children. It was hard on them. It was hard on me. It was not an easy thing for anybody to do. My youngest was nine when I started. She was 14 when I finished."

(on pursuing her doctorate degree for five years and missing out on spending more time with her family)

Barbara Leopard
Assistant Professor
Mathematics

Toledo in 1995. But, the effort was not without its pitfalls.

"I have two children. It was hard on them. It was hard on me, too," said Leopard, recalling all of the weeknights she was in class and not home with her family. "It was not an easy thing for anybody to do. My youngest was nine when I started. She was 14 when I finished."

In between, family members became what Leopard termed "self sufficient" as her husband and two children learned how to cook and do laundry in Leopard's absence.

Even though there was a heavy toll on her home life, Leopard said she genuinely enjoyed taking doctorate courses.

"I enjoyed the (doctorate) coursework. Once I got through the coursework, it's a matter of writing my dissertation," she said of her final hurdle. "Once I got so far along, with the expenses, I felt it would be crazy not to do this."

In addition to the long-term investment, Leopard had seen her husband, David, earn his doctorate from the University of South Carolina in 1988. Her mother, also a teacher, earned her doctorate late in life and recently retired from teaching at Georgia Southern University at age 72.

In 2000, Leopard finally earned her doctorate in curriculum and instruction (mathematics education) and was promoted

to a full-time assistant professor in mathematics.

"A lot of people consciously don't want to (pursue their doctorate)," Leopard said with understanding. "They either say they should have gotten it years before or they don't have enough teaching years left to make it worth it."

So, what's next?

"I don't have tenure yet. I hope to get it next year," said Leopard, who was honored with the Distinguished Faculty Teaching I Award this past spring.

The key to achieving that goal is to have more articles published in educational periodicals, a task Leopard said she is pursuing this summer.

Ducks turn Sill Hall courtyard into wildlife refuge

By Linga McClair

It may not be the Courtyard by Marriott to you and me. But for Molly the Mallard and, now her babies, the Sill Hall courtyard has been a nice retreat.

Molly flew in at the beginning of the spring semester and made herself at home in the courtyard. Duck eggs were first noticed May 5. Five days later, 13 Mallard ducklings were born.

"Everybody's talking about them. They come and watch as entertainment," said Judi Breault, administrative secretary of the dean's office in the College of Technology.

Breault and Nancy Harris, an administrative associate in the same office, have provided the ducks with three baby swimming pools and deli trays filled with water and duckling food. The ducklings go back and forth from the pools to the food, waddling up carpet runners to get into the water, while Mama Molly stands over them with a watchful eye.

"At first, she would get on top of the roof and quack at the ducks," Breault said. "Then, if she saw us looking, she'd fly down."

Breault and Harris consulted with



A BAKER'S DOZEN: Molly the Mallard and her 12 ducklings, residents of the Sill Hall courtyard since May 5, march to the small swimming pools provided by staff in the dean's office of the College of Technology. The staff also has set food out for the ducks and even rescued a couple that fell into a sewage grate.

Photo by Craig Watson

Carol Dangler, an independent wildlife rehabilitator, who suggested what food to feed the ducklings. According to Breault, Dangler said it is pretty common for a mother duck to fly into an enclosed place like a courtyard to have her babies.

However, the feel-good story had one sad moment. On May 26, the youngest of Molly's brood died.

"We named him Butch," Breault said. "He was the runt, and he'd fall when he walked. The mother duck would get in

back of him and move with him. But one day, we noticed she wasn't waiting for him any more and the next day he was dead. Nancy and I buried him in the corner of the courtyard and put some flowers on it."

Two more ducklings fell into a sewage grate and had to be rescued. The ceramics lab uses the courtyard to set pots out to dry and to rinse them. When Tony Grant, a specialist in the COT, came out to cover the grate, he noticed two ducklings had fallen in.

Breault said someone would have to herd the Mallards out if they don't fly out on their own. She believes they will leave once their wings develop. She just hopes providing food won't make them dependent and keep them there. But because they were stuck in the courtyard, she said Sill Hall staff felt compelled to help them.

"It's been a fun addition to the courtyard," Harris said. "I think, for the most part, all the faculty and staff are enjoying the process of watching them grow and watching mama duck teach them things. Hopefully, we will all be around to see them when they fly out and bid them goodbye."

JOBSLINEAn Affirmative Action/
Equal Opportunity Employer

To be considered for vacant positions, all Promotional Openings Application Forms **MUST BE SUBMITTED** directly to the Compensation/Employment Services Office and received no later than 5 p.m., Monday, June 14. **NOTE: LATE OR INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Vacancy information may also be obtained by calling our 24-hour Jobs Line at 487-0016. Compensation/Employment Services office hours are Monday - Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

FOOD SERVICE/MAINTENANCE

(Hiring Rate)

FMBFO349 FM06 \$10.73 Custodian, Halle Library/Physical Plant, Sunday-Thursdays, 11 p.m.-7:30 a.m.

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(MAC) football,” said Rick Chryst, commissioner for the MAC. “Ford Field has been a tremendous venue for the Motor City Bowl, and to extend that relationship into college football’s regular-season with an important in-state MAC matchup is ground-breaking. Congratulations to EMU for taking this step forward.”

“This is a great opportunity to play on the main stage,” said EMU player Kevin Harrison. “The whole team is excited.”

Ford Field, which opened in downtown Detroit in 2002, has a seating capacity of 65,000. It is also the site of Super Bowl XL in 2006. Ford Field has strong ties to college football. It is the venue for the annual Motor City Bowl and the Detroit Football Classic.

Tickets are \$20, \$15, and \$5 and are good for both games. Tickets are available at each school or through Ticketmaster. For more information, call EMU at (734) 487-2282.

SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

These people are celebrating service anniversaries with the University in June.

30 years

Kathleen Tinney (36 years)
University Relations

Ann McLellan (35 years)
library-general account

Gerald Hartenburg (34 years)
biology

Alida Westman (32 years)
psychology

Geneva Trochet (31 years)
health services administration

25 years

John Edgren (25 years)
economics

20 years

Andrew Snyir (20 years)
accounting and finance

Ann Remp (20 years)
business and technology
education

Heide Ramme (20 years)
library-general account

15 years

Brian Ellison (15 years)
ICT-application development

Sarah Younglove (15 years)
library-general account

10 years

Brian Anderson (10 years)
research development

David Keller (10 years)
athletic maintenance

John McAuliffe (10 years)
parking

Peggy Daisey (10 years)
teacher education

Russell Blanton (10 years)
ICT-application development



“My goal is to make sure, years from now, our current athletes remember their EMU days as a big-time experience.”

David Keller
Facilities Supervisor
EMU Athletic Department

Why I work at Eastern Michigan University

Although I’m an EMU employee, I first came to campus in the early 1980s as a student and baseball player.

After graduating in 1985 with a bachelor’s degree in physical education and a minor in business, I taught in high school and coached baseball. But in 1994, I returned to campus.

When I played EMU baseball, I got so much joy from the entire experience that I now want today’s student-athletes to have a similar experience. My goal is to make sure that, years from now, our current athletes remember their EMU days as a big-time experience.

That experience includes employment. Boaz Cheboiywo, who’s a professional runner now, is working for me while finishing his degree. A number of student-athletes also help me maintain the football and baseball fields by grooming and lining the fields.

A couple of my most memorable EMU moments as

an employee have been meeting former Detroit Tigers Alan Trammell and Dave Bergman, and pitching batting practice to Minnesota Twins player Tori Hunter.

I’m responsible for the upkeep of the Bowen track facility and the baseball, softball, football and soccer fields. I also handle all game operations – making sure that the scoreboard, public address system and lights all work.

These days, from the scoreboard to the headsets worn by the football coaches, electronics play a big part in the game. That’s one of the reasons my job has changed. I now travel to all of the football games to make sure the headsets are in top working order.

Over the years, I’ve evolved with the job and look forward to continually meeting the challenges ahead.