



Eastern Connecticut State University

NEWS

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Dwight Bachman, Public Relations Officer
(860) 465-5114 or Bachman@easternct.edu

Edward Osborn, Director of University Relations
(860) 465-5043 or Osborne@easternct.edu

Anne Pappalardo, University Assistant Writer
(860) 465-0116 or PappalardoA@easternct.edu

Eastern Student Awarded Scholarship

WILLIMANTIC, CT – Matthew Mitchell, a senior at Eastern Connecticut State University, was recently awarded the Dorothy G. Mullen/George Sanford Scholarship by the Connecticut Parks and Recreation Association at their 47th annual conference. The event was held on Nov. 19 and 20 at the Mohegan Sun Conference Center in Uncasville and was attended by more than 600 college students, university professionals, and park and recreation employees from throughout the state.

The \$500 scholarship was awarded to Mitchell for his scholastic achievements and volunteer work in the local community. He is a graduate of South Windsor High School, coaches basketball for kindergarteners and first-graders in South Windsor, and is head coordinator for the senior boys' basketball division there. He also did a summer internship for the Town of Colchester and volunteers at local parks and recreation events. Mitchell was one of the Eastern students who traveled to New Orleans in early 2007 to participate in Habit for Humanity post-Katrina rebuilding efforts. Mitchell says, "It is important for students to do volunteer work because it shows that they care. It shows that

we are able to take time out of our lives and help others and maybe do some good for someone a little less fortunate.”

Robert Horrocks, department chair for the Health and Physical Education Department at Eastern, says, “Matthew is a unique individual who constantly looks for ways to enhance his professional development. He understands the value of community service and does not hesitate to get involved in activities that benefit those in local communities.”

Mitchell is pursuing a degree in Sport and Leisure Management with a goal of becoming a parks and recreation director for a local community.

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Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state’s public liberal arts university. Eastern serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.

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