

"Eastern Expedition" was created in 2003 by original Host and Executive Producer Adam Wurtzel. In November '03, the original pilot episode was viewed by a select number of students on campus.

After fantastic feedback, the show quickly started its first season of official production. Exciting things quickly happened, including the addition of the "Crazy Craig Café," where co-host Craig Wise (who joined the show during its 2<sup>nd</sup> season), dazzles contestants, and the viewing audience by juggling, and even on one occasion, balancing a shopping cart on his chin!

In 2006, "Expedition" was voted 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Student Studio Production category at the BEA Awards in Las Vegas. For this momentous occasion, Wurtzel along with advisors Dr. Jaime Gomez and Dr. Andrew Utterback, and many crew members flew to Las Vegas to accept the award.

For the show's 4<sup>th</sup> season beginning in 2007, the show began including even more challenging trivia, with the addition of the segments "Minute of Momentum" and "Risk Runner." The "Risk Runner" segment not only presents contestants with tough questions, but also involves elements of strategy and decision making.

In May of 2007, Adam Wurtzel graduated from Eastern, leaving the show in need of a new host. In the fall of 2007, Katrina Clark was picked to be the successor to Wurtzel, who now adds a completely new feel to the show, with her bubbly personality and fantastic interaction with the show's contestants. "Eastern Expedition" can be seen Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 only on TV22!

#### **Eastern Expedition Timeline:**

- Spring '03-Adam Wurtzel begins creating a format for a college-based game show, before he's even accepted to a college!
- Spring '03-Adam is accepted to Eastern Connecticut State University, so the name "Eastern Expedition" is born.
- 2003 (first day of fall semester)-Adam meets Dr. Gomez and begins proposing "Expedition," and finding his crew, made up all of upperclassmen he's never met before.
- November '03-The original pilot of the show is produced, and quickly edited by alumni Keegan Stiles, for viewing in the Betty Tipton Room shortly after.
- December '03-After positive reviews of the pilot, Gomez and the Communication department "pick-up" Eastern Expedition for its first season. Format ideas are quickly gathered for existing crew members.
- January '04-The TV-22 Club is created, allowing Eastern Expedition to be budgeted by the university, and allowing for more opportunities for student television creativity (such as News 22, created in 2005)
- February '04-Season 1 begins production
- May '04-"Island Expedition" begins shooting, and takes the entire summer. This was to be the first ever part documentary/part game show, all based on the hot spots of Long Island, New York.
- February '05-Season 2 begins production/ECSU professors Dr. Severance, Dr. Salka and Dr. Everton play the game.
- October '05-Episode "203" is shot. This episode was the show which got "Expedition" the BEA Award.
- December '05-Phil Trostler becomes the first contestant ever to win the bonus round, winning a trip to the Splish Splash Water Park.
- February '06-Season 3 begins production
- March '06-Adam is notified by the BEA that "Eastern Expedition" won the 3<sup>rd</sup> place award in Student Studio Production.
- April '06-Wurtzel, Professors Jaime Gomez and Andrew Utterback and many crew members fly to Las Vegas, NV, where they accept the award.
- December '06-President Dr. Nunez visits the studio of "Eastern Expedition" and appears on a special Administration episode along with Vice President Michael Pernal, Nancy Tinker and Kimberly Crone.
- February '07-Season 4 begins production
- April '07-Michael Merritt begins producing "Eastern Expedition," in preparation for Wurtzel's departure.

-May '07-For the first time, Adam plays "Expedition" with seven other crew members. Announcer and music composer Josh Yawn flies in from Texas to guest-host. His first time in Connecticut, Yawn recorded all announcer tracks from his home in Texas.

-May '07-Wurtzel shoots his final episode and invites the entire crew on stage to introduce themselves.

-September '07-Katrina Clark is chosen to be the new host of "Eastern Expedition."

-October '07-Clark steps behind the podium to begin shooting new episodes.

-February '08-Season 5 begins production

-TODAY-"Expedition" continues to be a success, now being the longest running student production ever at Eastern Connecticut State University, with no end in sight!