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# NEWS

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For Immediate Release:

## EIU ALUMNUS RETURNS TO ALMA MATER – AND BRINGS INDY SHOW CAR WITH HIM

CHARLESTON – An Eastern Illinois University alumnus is visiting his alma mater this week, and he's brought an Indy show car with him.

Kevin Savoree, who is co-owner, chief operating officer and vice president for finance of Andretti Green Racing, will speak at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 27, on "The Business of Racing." Admission to the event, scheduled to take place in Roberson Auditorium, Lumpkin Hall room 2030, is free and open to the public.

In conjunction with Savoree's visit, an Indy show car will be on display from approximately 9 a.m. Thursday to 3 p.m. Friday in the Lumpkin Hall main floor hallway.

Savoree, a 1981 EIU graduate, returns to Eastern as an executive-in-residence through the School of Business. As such, he will spend part of his visit speaking to students in- and outside the classroom, sharing information to promote the understanding of concepts and processes necessary for productive business activity.

An avid racing enthusiast his entire life and a CPA by trade, Savoree has progressively increased his involvement in the sport he loves throughout his working life. In December 2002, he made the ultimate professional commitment when he joined forces with Michael Andretti and Kim Green to form Andretti Green Racing. In 2004, he was rewarded for the endless hours and years of learning with a championship in the Indy Racing League® IndyCar® Series.

Having earned a bachelor of science degree in business from Eastern, Savoree started his career as an accounting intern at Larsson, Woodyard & Henson (LWH) that year. He was admitted as partner to the firm in 1987.

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While at LWH, Savoree acquired significant experience in the negotiation and administration of professional drivers' contracts, team contracts and sponsorship contracts. He also dealt with the management and operations of racing entities involving drivers and teams, and international tax issues related to professional drivers and race teams.

Savoree's clients at LWH included such notable racing professionals as Indianapolis 500 winner Jacques Villeneuve, Alessandro Zanardi, Dario Franchitti, Greg Moore and Helio Castroneves.

Concurrent with his time at the firm, Savoree served as treasurer and a member of the board of directors of Team Green from 1994 through 2002. In 1997, he rose to the level of vice president of finance for Team Green and held that position until the sale of the team's assets in 2002, which launched Andretti Green Racing.

During Andretti Green's two years of operation, the company has set industry benchmarks – not only on the race track, but also in the area of sponsorship acquisition and activation. Driven largely by Savoree, the team has expanded to a four-car operation and boasts a deep and diverse nucleus of corporate backing at a time when sponsorship dollars are more valued than ever.

In July 2004, Savoree teamed up once again with Andretti and Green, this time in a joint venture with Barry Green to form Andretti Green Promotions, which will promote the Indy Racing League's first non-oval race on a temporary street circuit in St. Petersburg, Fla.

A committed family man, Savoree spends as much time as his busy schedule will permit with his wife, Pam, and his sons, Nathan and Nicholas. He enjoys participating in such family activities as model building, bike riding, reading and movie watching, as well as being involved in sports activities like soccer, baseball, basketball and football.

Savoree, who resides in Indianapolis, remains a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Illinois CPA Society.