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02/02/2005 - Mt. Caramel Native Inducted Into EIU Journalism Hall of Fame

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05-25

February 2, 2005

For Immediate Release:

MT. CARMEL NATIVE INDUCTED INTO EIU JOURNALISM HALL OF FAME

CHARLESTON -- Years after starting a successful journalism career at his hometown newspaper, Mt. Carmel native Mike Cowling has been inducted into the Eastern Illinois University Journalism Alumni Hall of Fame.

Cowling started his journalism career as a high school student, when he worked as a sports writer for the *Daily Republican-Register*. A son of Harold and Helen Cowling, he graduated from Mt. Carmel High School in 1971.

While attending EIU in Charleston, he continued to work summers at the Mt. Carmel newspaper. He also served as editor of *The Daily Eastern News* and sports editor of the university yearbook, the "Warbler." After graduating with a bachelor's degree in journalism from EIU, he received his master's degree in journalism from the University of Illinois.

His professional experience has included working at the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Chicago Sun-Times* and five other Illinois newspapers.

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MIKE COWLING

Now an associate professor in the journalism department at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Cowling previously taught part-time at California State University-Fullerton and Cal Poly-Pomona.

Since 1997, Cowling has worked summers for *The New York Times* as a copy editor. For the past five years, he also worked as an editor for *The New York Times* on the Web.

In addition, he serves as executive secretary of the Northeastern Wisconsin Scholastic Press Association for high school journalism students.

Cowling has conducted workshops and served as a writing coach for newspapers including *The Boston Globe*, the *Oklahoman* in Oklahoma City, *The Raleigh (N.C.) News and Observer*, the *Wichita Eagle*, the *Belleville News-Democrat* and the *Lafayette (La.) Advertiser*, as well as for state press associations.

He has written free-lance articles that have been published in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, *Editor & Publisher*, the *Journal of Mass Media Ethics*, and *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*. Cowling's column, "Writing With Precision," has appeared in *Publishers' Auxiliary*. He has also helped create journalism training videos for the Newspaper Satellite Network in Dallas.

Cowling, who said he was able to attend EIU because a journalism professor there arranged financial assistance, now donates to the department as a way to return that support.

Hall of Fame inductees are chosen by a committee of journalism faculty members, who consider nominees' professional experiences and achievements, as well as contributions to society.

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MIKE COWLING

Cowling was inducted into the Eastern Illinois University Journalism Alumni Hall of Fame in the fall, when he spoke to EIU alumni, students and faculty about his journalism career.

Family members attending the ceremony included his parents and his brother and sister-in-law, John and Becky Cowling.