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February 23, 1984

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHICAGO--Dr. John Willingham, a native of Charleston, and Dean Fausett, a nationally-recognized artist, will receive honorary degrees from Eastern Illinois University at spring commencement ceremonies on May 12.

Authorization was given today by the Board of Governors of State Colleges and Universities at the request of President Stanley Rives. Willingham will receive an honorary Doctor of Law degree and the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree will go to Fausett.

Willingham, son of Mrs. Russell Willingham and the late Mr. Willingham, is a partner in Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company, one of the nation's largest public accounting firms. He is responsible for research activities in the company's main offices in New York.

A 1957 graduate of Eastern, Willingham holds the Ph.D. from Ohio State and the M.S. from Pennsylvania State University. He is a certified public accountant in Illinois, Ohio, New York, North Carolina and Louisiana.

Before joining his present firm, Willingham was a professor of accounting at the University of Houston. He began his professional career in 1958 as a staff accountant with Dill and Rowland, an accounting firm in State College, Pa.

Willingham is co-author of five books and many magazine articles. In 1978 he was named a Distinguished Alumni by Eastern's School of Business.

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Honorary Degrees Add 1

Fausett's artistic strengths are in the fields of portraits, murals and landscapes. Among his portrait subjects have been Dwight Eisenhower, Eugene Ormandy and the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. One of the country's leading muralists, Fausett was a special guest at the formal opening of the Tarble Arts Center. An exhibition of his works was shown at the time.

He has been commissioned to paint murals in a number of prominent locations. Before coming to Eastern for the Tarble dedication, he addressed a joint session of Congress on the importance of art in America.

Fausett divides his time between New York and Vermont. In Vermont, he lives in a house once used by Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys as a place to plan Revolutionary War strategy.

-30-