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### 09/25/1990 - Huckleberry Finn Author to Speak

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File



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

HUCKLEBERRY FINN AUTHOR TO SPEAK

CHARLESTON, IL--Ray Browne, author of Mark Twain's Quarrel with Heaven and numerous other books, will be in Charleston Thursday, (Oct. 4) to speak on Huckleberry Finn as a popular classic.

Browne's talk, entitled "Huckleberry Finn: An Inestimable Blessing and Bother," is scheduled at 7:30 p.m. in the Booth Library Lecture Hall on the Eastern Illinois University campus. A reception for the author will follow.

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HUCK FINN

Noted for his entertaining lectures on American popular culture, Browne is also a respected literary theorist, credited with chief responsibility for establishing Popular Culture as an academic discipline in America.

Along with traditional scholarship on Twain, Melville, and other recognized authors, he has written on such topics as crime fiction, popular cults, the novels of Stephen King, and children's jump-rope rhymes. He has appeared on the Voice of America radio program and spoken at the American Folklore Society.

On Friday (Oct. 5) in the auditorium of Eastern's Buzzard Building, Browne and four EIU faculty will also conduct a panel discussion on "Issues of Race and Gender in Huckleberry Finn," exploring Twain's relevance to contemporary themes of racial and sexual equality.

Both activities are free and open to the public.

The public lecture and panel discussion will be offered in conjunction with a conference at EIU for high school teachers on the 4th and 5th. The conference will entail additional activities--a book show, film preview, book talk, dinner, and five workshops--which are open only to registered participants.

All activities are sponsored by Phi Delta Kappa and the Illinois Humanities Council. For further information, write to the Department of Secondary Education, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL 61920; or call (217) 581-5931.