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91-163

April 16, 1991

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

JOURNALISM WEEK SPEAKER

CHARLESTON, IL.--Eastern Illinois University will kick-off Journalism Week with a discussion of the civil rights movement and the issue of diversity in today's society by a veteran newspaper reporter from Louisville, Ky.

Mervin Aubespin, associate editor for development at the Louisville Courier-Journal, will discuss the civil rights movement of the 1960s in his Journalism Week keynote address, "Montgomery to Louisville: Some Thoughts on Civil Rights and Journalism in America," at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 17, in Eastern's Booth Library Lecture Room. The public is invited.

John David Reed, chair of Eastern's Journalism Department, said Aubespin is a "marvelous teacher." He adds, "I've seen him interact with students at a half-dozen job fairs. He brings energy and commitment to his discussions of diversity and journalism."

In his more than 20 years of news experience, Aubespin has recruited and counseled hundreds of African American and other minority journalists and today serves as an advisor to journalism programs at several major colleges and universities. Last year, the Louisville Association of Black Communicators established a scholarship in his name for minority students studying journalism.

He has been president and was a founder of the National Association of Black Journalists. A leader in several national journalism organizations, he is also a member of the Minority Affairs Task Force of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. In August, he will receive the Distinguished Journalism Service Award from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.