Welcome

“As part of the Distinguished Speaker Series, the College of Business and Technology invites prominent leaders to our campus to discuss current topics and issues related to their expertise. The guest speaker has an opportunity to interact with students, faculty, and other interested participants during a public address, round table discussion, and luncheon. We are pleased to have the Richmond Chamber of Commerce and Richmond Rotary Club join with us in providing this enrichment opportunity.

We are honored to have Mr. E. Ray Walker, an Eastern alumnus, as this year’s Distinguished Speaker. Mr. Walker has distinguished himself in the field of journalism and is the Special Projects and Content Editor for Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Service in Washington, D.C. He has reported on five Olympics and two political conventions and has edited The Eyes of History, the annual awards book of the White House News Photographers’ Association, for the last three years. Mr. Walker was selected as the EKU Department of Communication Outstanding Alumnus for 1996 and was also inducted into the EKU Hall of Distinguished Alumni.

We welcome Mr. Walker to campus and cordially invite all interested persons to attend the public address.”

Dr. Robert B. Rogow, Dean
College of Business and Technology
Eastern Kentucky University
Mr. E. Ray Walker
Distinguished Speaker
College of Business and Technology
Eastern Kentucky University

Mr. Walker is a 1979 EKU Journalism graduate and is the Special Projects and Content Editor for Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Service in Washington, D.C. After graduating from Millard High School in Pikeville, Kentucky, he began his journalism career in 1972 as a copy editor for the Lexington Herald-Leader. After earning his Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism from EKU, Mr. Walker went on to work as News Editor for The Virginian-Pilot in Norfolk, Virginia. In 1984, he returned to the Lexington Herald-Leader as Copy Desk Chief until joining Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service in 1988.

While at Knight Ridder/Tribune, Mr. Walker has served as Assistant News Editor, Sports Editor, News Editor, Project/Content Editor, and now as Deputy Editor. At KRT, he oversees the weekday op-ed report, which involves daily contacts with opinion-page editors, columnists, academics, think tanks, advocacy groups, trade associations, and others. He also supervises KRT University, a college internship program that he initiated in 1998 and for which he received the Knight Ridder Excellence Nomination in 2000.

Mr. Walker has reported on five Olympics and two political conventions and has edited The Eyes of History, the annual awards book of the White House News Photographers' Association, for the last three years. He also edited the book, It Gets Dark Sometime, by Jeffrey Marx, which chronicles his sister’s ordeal of having a liver transplant. He is married to the former Carolyn Sue Mitchell Bell, Director of Member Services for the National Association of Children’s Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI), a non-profit association in Alexandria, Virginia, concerned with issues affecting children’s hospitals.

In addition to the many awards for excellence received at KRT, Mr. Walker has received the EKU Department of Mass Communication Distinguished Service Award in 1991, was selected as the EKU Department of Mass Communication Outstanding Alumnus for 1996, and was inducted into the EKU Hall of Distinguished Alumni in 1998. He has also served as a member of the professional advisory board for The Eastern Progress, EKU’s award-winning student newspaper.

Schedule of Events
Thursday, October 9, 2003

8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.  BREAKFAST ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION with
                      Mr. Walker for Faculty and Staff
                      Faculty Lounge, Keen Johnson Building
                      EKU Campus, Richmond, Kentucky

9:30 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.  PUBLIC ADDRESS by Mr. Walker, Deputy Editor,
                          Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service, Washington, D.C.
                          Student Services Auditorium
                          EKU Campus, Richmond, Kentucky

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.  LUNCHEON with Mr. Walker for Business Community
                        and University Administration
                        Arlington House
                        Richmond, Kentucky