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Weber Named Editor of the Illinois Wesleyan Argus

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Illinois Wesleyan University sophomore English major Kate Weber, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Weber from Arlington Heights, Ill., was recently selected as the new editor-in-chief of The Argus, IWU's student newspaper. Former editor-in-chief, Karin McDowell, a senior English major from Ottawa, Ill., and former managing editor, Kelly Piepinbrink, a senior English major from Grayslake, Ill., named Weber to the position in December 1999.

Weber, a 1998 graduate of Prospect High School in Mt. Prospect, Ill., edited her first full issue of the publication in February 2000. Weber began writing for The Argus in fall 1999 and was promoted to page editor a couple of weeks later. Although she has only been with the Argus for a semester, McDowell and Piepinbrink feel that Weber is the most qualified staff member to handle the pressure and responsibility of the editor-in-chief position.

"I was very surprised and excited when I heard the decision," said Weber. "I know it will be a lot of work, and I know I will be challenged."

To prepare for her new editorial position, Weber spent weeks observing the editors of The Argus' various sections. As she gains more insight into the newspaper, Weber hopes to oversee certain improvements and changes in the design and content of the newspaper.

"I'd like to do more in-depth pieces with more follow-ups to previous articles," she said. "We're also trying to work on some projects for Illinois Wesleyan University's 150th anniversary."

Weber is quick to point out the talent and efficiency of her staff as the key to her future Argus success, and she believes they will work well together as a team.

"We're all friends," she said. "So, it's not unbearable to spend long hours in the newsroom. I'm really looking forward to working with them for the next two years."

Weber became interested in journalism after taking a creative writing class at IWU. "The Argus seemed like a great way to apply my love of writing," she said.

About Illinois Wesleyan University

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 2,070 students in a College of Liberal Arts, and individual schools of Music, Theatre Arts, Art and Nursing. Since 1994, these facilities have been added to the IWU campus: a \$15 million athletics and recreation center, a \$25 million science center, a \$6.8 million residence hall, a \$5.1 million Center for Liberal Arts and a \$1.65 million baseball stadium. Construction is underway on a \$26 million library and \$6 million student center.

Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine ranks Illinois Wesleyan University 12th among the nation's 1,600 private colleges in providing a top-quality education at an affordable cost. Also sharing IWU's rank are Princeton and Dartmouth.