



Spring 3-30-2001

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Sherry Wallace
Illinois Wesleyan University

Clint Sabin

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Recommended Citation

Wallace, Sherry and Sabin, Clint, "Bonnie St. John Deane to Address Illinois Wesleyan Associates Luncheon" (2001). *News and Events*. 1062.
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March 30, 2001

Contact: Sherry Wallace or Clint Sabin, 309/556-3181

Bonnie St. John Deane to Address Illinois Wesleyan Associates Luncheon

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Bonnie St. John Deane, athlete, author, executive and motivator, will speak at the annual Illinois Wesleyan Associates Luncheon on Thursday, April 5.

The invitation-only luncheon will be at 12 p.m. at the Shirk Center, 302 E. Emerson St., Bloomington.

Bonnie St. John Deane is an African-American woman from a family of modest means. She became an amputee at age five but, in spite of this challenge, won a silver medal for overall performance in the alpine ski events and two bronze medals for the slalom and giant slalom events at the 1984 Paralympics in Innsbruck, Austria.

A Rhodes Scholar, Deane graduated from Harvard University with honors in 1986 and received a degree in economics from Oxford University in 1990.

Deane's professional experience includes Sales and Marketing for IBM; International Finance in markets that include Wall Street, Tokyo, and London; Economics and Public Policy, with specialization in labor markets. She has taught Economics at Oxford, and was appointed by President Clinton as a Director for Human Capital Issues at the National Economic Council, focusing on workforce issues.

NBC Nightly News selected Deane as "one of the five most inspiring women in America." The Today Show, Good Morning America, CNN and Sunday Morning with Charles Kuralt, The New York Times and People Magazine also have profiled Deane and her extraordinary achievements. She is a national spokesperson for Disabled Sports/USA and a member of the National Speakers Association.

Deane is President and founder of SJD&Co., a speaking, writing and consulting company. She speaks for corporations, associations and universities throughout the country, sharing her experience and techniques for achieving peak performance. She is the author of Getting Ahead at Work Without Leaving Your Family Behind and Succeeding Sane: Making Room for Joy in a Crazy World and The Winning Spirit: Achieving Olympic Level Performance in Business and Personal Achievements.

Bonnie St. John Deane lives in San Diego, Calif., and is the mother of Darcy and wife of Dr. Grant Deane, a physicist at Scripps Institute of Oceanography.

Illinois Wesleyan Associates

The Illinois Wesleyan Associates, formed in 1953, is a group of business and professional leaders interested in the advancement and support of independent higher education. The

Associates provide internships and job opportunities for IWU students, as well as financial support.