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## Illinois Wesleyan Mourns Death of Football Co-Captain

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. -- A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, August 31, at 11 a.m. in the Shirk Center for Illinois Wesleyan University senior Doug Schmied, a co-captain on the Titans football team, who died on August 24, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

Funeral services for Schmied were held on Saturday, August 27, at Farmington High School in Farmington, Ill. [Read the Peoria Journal Star account.](#)

A Hanna City, Ill., native and graduate of Farmington High School, the 21-year-old Schmied became ill following a morning practice on Friday, August 19, and was taken immediately to BroMenn Regional Medical Center in Normal, then transported to Saint Francis on Sunday, August 21, after his condition worsened.

An accounting and computer science major at Illinois Wesleyan, the 6-foot-3, 285-pound Schmied was a two-year starter as an offensive lineman for the Titans.

In a statement, Illinois Wesleyan President Richard F. Wilson said:

"The entire Illinois Wesleyan community is filled with tremendous sorrow and a deep sense of loss today over the death of Doug Schmied, There are many people deeply affected by this tragic event, but the Schmied family is uppermost in our minds." [Read President Wilson's complete statement.](#)

"This is a devastating loss for everyone who knew Doug," said Illinois Wesleyan head football coach Norm Eash. "As a co-captain, he led by example, and he earned the respect and admiration of every player and coach on our football team as well as other students at the University."

Members of the University's Office of Counseling and Consultation have been meeting with members of the football team as well as with other students who are on campus. The first day of classes at Illinois Wesleyan is Monday, August 29. The University's first-year students arrived on campus on Tuesday, and upperclassmen are returning this weekend.

At Illinois Wesleyan, Schmied was a member of the Illinois Wesleyan Accounting Society. He was the recipient of an Illinois Wesleyan Alumni Academic Scholarship.

In addition, he was a lab supervisor in Illinois Wesleyan's Information Technology Center. He also worked as an engineering technician for V3 Industrial Services in Peoria during the summer of 2004.

He is survived by his parents, Michael D. and Laura Ann Stranz Schmied, of Hanna City; two sisters, Katrina "Katie" (and Dana) Berry of Elgin, IL. and Jessica (and Scott) Belsly of East Peoria, IL. and one nephew, Aiden Belsly of East Peoria, IL. He was preceded in death by his maternal and paternal grandparents.

Memorials may be directed to Illinois Wesleyan University/Doug Schmied Athletic Fund, PO Box 2900, Bloomington IL 61702-2900.



Doug Schmied