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Kay Mitchell Illinois Wesleyan University

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IWU Male A Capella Group Spring Concert

April 17, 2006

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - The Illinois Wesleyan University male a capella group Suspended will give a concert on Saturday, April 22, at 8:30 p.m. in the Evelyn Chapel (1301 Park St., Bloomington).

The event will be free and open to the public.

Suspended was founded three and a half years ago by Tim Shelton, class of 2004, and released their first CD, a self-titled album, this year. The group performs a wide variety of music including pop, oldies and jazz. Suspended is entirely student run; the men do all their own marketing and arranging and perform some original compositions.

Performers through and through, the group often mixes short sketches and humor into their performances. They made an entrance at their fall 2005 concert as the Gregorian-chanting, head-thumping monks from *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. At intermission they donned thrift-store Christmas sweaters and to begin the second half of the concert pretended to sing to a recording of themselves, which started skipping in the middle of the song. According to their fans, their antics add humor and fun to an already impressive performance.

The members of the group are: Donovan Davis, a junior music education major; Eric Diaz, a first-year music education major; Mike Duback, a sophomore math major; Tom Fairbairn, a junior voice major; Ben Johnson, a junior music composition major; Matt LoPresti, a junior political science/business administration double major; Jeff Scott, a senior art major; Jon Sestak, a junior business administration/music double major and Paul Teipe, a junior music composition major.

Each spring the group tours high schools on behalf of the IWU School of Music to promote music and music education and to act as a recruiting tool. Previous tours have included the Chicago suburbs and future tours could potentially include the St. Louis area and local high schools. In addition to tours, the group also performs at private functions, such as a recent concert for IWU faculty.

For more information, contact Matt LoPresti, Suspended business manager, by e-mail at <u>suspended@iwu.edu</u> or by phone at (847) 309-4816.