



Fall 9-5-2006

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Recommended Citation

Salowitz, Stew, "IWU's Dennie Bridges Pens Book on Small-Town Childhood" (2006). *News and Events*. 3277.

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IWU's Dennie Bridges Pens Book on Small-Town Childhood

September 5, 2006

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University athletic director Dennie Bridges has authored a book filled with stories of growing up in rural central Illinois.

"Kids Don't Bat Rocks Anymore" is a true story of a life of a boy in small town middle America in the 1950s. The only fiction in the book is the name "Luke", chosen for the main character in the book.

All profits generated from the book will be donated to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, which is dedicated to ensuring the development of a cure for Parkinson's disease within this decade through an aggressively funded research agenda.

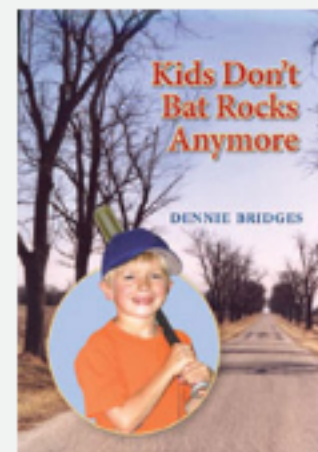
The book is available for \$10 at the Illinois Wesleyan University Bookstore, located in the Hansen Student Center; at the Alamo II Bookstore, 319 North St., Normal; Airport Gifts and Baskets, Central Illinois Regional Airport; or at the IWU athletic offices in the Shirk Center.

It is also available by mail for \$10 plus \$2 shipping and handling by sending a check or money order to "Kids Don't Bat Rocks Anymore", c/o Dennie Bridges, Shirk Center, 302 East Emerson, Bloomington, IL 61701.

Bridges, a 1961 IWU graduate who grew up in Anchor, Ill., a small town about 30 miles east of Bloomington-Normal, retired as head men's basketball coach in March 2001 after 36 seasons with a career record of 667-319, second most in wins all-time among NCAA Division III coaches. His 1997 team won the Division III championship while his 1996 and 2001 teams each placed third nationally.

In 2002, Bridges authored "A Dunk Only Counts Two Points", recounting his basketball coaching days at IWU, and all proceeds going to the school's Jack Horenberger Scholarship Fund, named in honor of the legendary Illinois Wesleyan coach and Bridges' mentor.

That book remains available for \$15 at the IWU Bookstore.



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