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March 15, 1996

Contact: Bob Aaron, 309/556-3181**A teacher's teacher****Fred Brian of Stillwater, Minn., Profiled in *IWU Magazine***

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.—Every campus has its "Mr. Chips"—a caring and inspiring teacher students fondly remember—and Fred Brian of Stillwater, Minn., is among those at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Brian taught art at IWU, his alma mater, for 32 years.

He is among three "Mr. Chips"-like professors profiled in the spring, 1996, edition of *Illinois Wesleyan University Magazine*, a quarterly publication with a circulation of 20,000.

However, Brian rejects the "Mr. Chips" tag, saying he didn't want to "wallow in nostalgia" when he retired from IWU in 1984, prompting a move to Minnesota and life along the St. Croix River.

"I was not about to be a 'Mr. Chips' on campus," Brian said of his retirement. "I wanted to keep living and see a different piece of scenery that the wall-to-wall corn in Illinois."

Reflecting on IWU's School of Art, Brian said: "We had a terrific art school there."

Since leaving IWU, Brian has illustrated some books and taught printing and wood engraving at the Minnesota Center for the Book Arts in Minneapolis.

Brian's private works--about 150 pieces--are shown and sold at the Pine Tree Gallery in Ironwood, Mich.

The article, attached to this news release, is headlined: "Three professors who taught us well--Where are they now?" It is written by Stew Salowitz, a 1976 IWU graduate, director of IWU's News Services, and associate editor of *IWU Magazine*. IWU grants permission to reprint the article.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 1,850 students in a College of Liberal Arts, College of Fine Arts, and a four-year professional School of Nursing. A \$15 million athletics and recreation center opened in the fall of 1994; and a \$25 million science building opened in the fall of 1995. The Carnegie Commission for the Advancement of Teaching promoted Illinois Wesleyan to a "Baccalaureate I" institution in 1994, a classification that places it among 161 highly selective National Liberal Arts Colleges in the annual *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges*, another respected college guide, rated IWU "highly competitive (+)" in its latest edition.

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