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Sherry Wallace Illinois Wesleyan University

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Illinois Wesleyan University News Service, P.O. Box 2900, Bloomington, IL 61702-2900

Illinois Wesleyan University

(309) 556-3181

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Contact: Sherry Wallace, 309-556-3181

Sixth Annual African-American and Latino Junior and Senior High School Academic Achievement Recognition Ceremony to be Held at IWU

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Approximately 150 honor roll students will be honored at the Sixth Annual African-American and Latino Junior and Senior High School Academic Achievement Recognition Ceremony at Illinois Wesleyan University, Sunday, June 22 at 2:30 p.m.

The ceremony, which recognizes the high academic achievements of students in grades five-twelve from schools in District 87, Unit 5 and Metcalf, U-High and Central Catholic, will be held in the Anderson Auditorium (Room C-101) of IWU's Center for Natural Science, 201 E. Beecher St., Bloomington. It is sponsored by IWU and Neighbor-to-Neighbor, a Bloomington-Normal community group.

IWU President Minor Myers, jr. will welcome the students, parents and friends. Featured on the program will be keynote speaker Rev. John Rayford, assistant pastor at Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Bloomington, and Neighbor-to-Neighbor Executive Director Barbara Malone.

IWU student participants in the State Farm Minority Summer Enrichment Program have volunteered to help with the program, which will include musical selections and a reception immediately following the ceremony.

Highlighting the awards ceremony will be the presentation of special certificates of achievement to newly selected honor roll students as well as a presentation of special awards to students who have continued their academic success. Special recognition will be given to students who earned straight A's for the 1996-97 school year.

"This awards ceremony gives underrepresented students in the local school

districts an opportunity to be recognized for their achievements," said Monica L. Taylor, director of Multi-Cultural Affairs at IWU. "These students can be seen as role models for younger students and even younger siblings in their families. It is a way to show these students their achievements are not unnoticed in the community."

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