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World Famous Trumpeter to Visit IWU

Dave O'Neill
Illinois Wesleyan University

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April 22, 1994

Contact: Dave O'Neill 309/556-3181

World Famous Trumpeter to Visit IWU

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.-- Illinois Wesleyan University will be given a musical treat April 28 and 29 when Armando Ghitalla, one of the world's most skilled trumpet players visits campus.

Ghitalla, who was called, "absolutely the greatest (trumpeter) in the world," by Arthur Fiedler, the famed conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra, will receive an honorary doctorate from IWU on April 28th, before performing with the Wesleyan Civic Orchestra on the evening of April 29th.

Ghitalla was a member of the Boston Symphony Orchestra from 1951 until 1965. He then became the principal trumpet for the Boston Pops Orchestra, a post he held until 1978. It was with the Boston Pops that Ghitalla first gained national recognition.

Ghitalla's performance will be at Braden Auditorium on Illinois State University's campus, at 7:30 p.m. on April 29. The program will include "The Planets" by Holst, "Rienzi Overture" by Wagner, and "Trumpet Concerto, Eb Major" by Haydn. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults, \$5.00 for senior citizens, and \$3.00 for students. Additional ticket information is available at (309) 438-5444.

Ghitalla will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters degree during a convocation held at IWU's Evelyn Chapel, April 28. The convocation includes music by the Franklin Park Brass, a brass quintet of IWU music students, an address from IWU President Minor Myers, jr., along with the presentation of the degree. There also will be a reception following the convocation.

The performance is being sponsored by Ameritech Cellular Phone Dealers and the McLean County Amateur Music Club.

Ghitalla is no stranger to central Illinois. He was born in Alpha, Illinois, and lived most of his childhood in Knoxville, Ill. After graduation from Knoxville High School in 1942, Ghitalla attended IWU for one year. But his academic career was put on hold after his first year when was drafted into the U.S. Navy.

Ghitalla is currently teaching at The Shepard School at Rice University in Houston, Texas.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 1,800 students in a College of Liberal Arts, College of Fine Arts, and a four-year professional School of Nursing. For five consecutive years, *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked IWU No. 1 in the Midwest among regional colleges and universities in its annual "America's Best Colleges" edition. *U.S. News* also rated IWU as a "best buy" in higher education in its first survey, "Paying for College," published in October, 1993.
