



Winter 12-6-1994

Lauri Nichols of Tinley Park: IWU Computer Science-Math Major Wins Scholarship

Bob Aaron
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news>



Part of the [Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Aaron, Bob, "Lauri Nichols of Tinley Park: IWU Computer Science-Math Major Wins Scholarship" (1994). *News and Events*. 6284.
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/6284>

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

December 6, 1994

Contact: Bob Aaron, 309/556-3181

Lauri Nichols of Tinley Park**IWU Computer Science-Math Major Wins Scholarship
From Data Processing Management Association***Tinley
Park, IL*

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--An Illinois Wesleyan University computer science and math major from Tinley Park has won a scholarship from the Bloomington-Normal chapter of the Data Processing Management Association (DPMA), a group of corporate computer professionals.

Lauri Nichols, a junior, received the \$500 merit-based award in November at DPMA's monthly meeting attended by about 100 members.

"I'm a logical person so math makes sense to me," Nichols said. "With computer science, you get a feeling of accomplishment when you debug a program on your own.

"Computer science," she explained, "isn't mundane. In the long-run, I'd like to work in a business world setting, where I'm not working alone and I'm able to bounce ideas off of others. I like working in groups where you can brainstorm ideas."

Nichols has enjoyed computer science and math since she was introduced to the fields in high school.

DPMA sponsored three scholarships, two of which were awarded to IWU students. The other IWU student to win a scholarship was Stephanie Pannier, a senior majoring in computer science from McLean, Ill.

"A committee of 12 chapter members reviewed scholarship applications," Nichols explained. "Application forms were accompanied by two letters of recommendation and grade transcripts."

Application forms focused on students' activities, honors, career objectives, and goals.

DPMA's Bloomington-Normal chapter is among the largest in the nation with corporate representatives from firms including State Farm, Diamond Star Motors, Country Companies, and Growmark.

While Nichols is unsure about her plans following graduation from
(more)

Lauri Nichols/2

IWU in May, 1996, she is thinking about a computer career, where she could troubleshoot problems.

Her interest in the outdoors led Nichols to working at a summer camp in the Kankakee-Manteno area, where she worked with youngsters in activities including rock climbing, crafts, swimming, hiking, and sports.

Nichols, a graduate of Victor J. Andrew High School in Tinley Park, is the daughter of Neal and Sharon Nichols of 7827 Nottingham Dr., Tinley Park. Neal Nichols is an electrical engineer with AT&T, the telecommunications conglomerate. Sharon Nichols is a homemaker.

Nichols' older brother, Dave, is a 1993 IWU graduate who works for Honeywell, a computer and electronics firm, in the Mt. Prospect, Ill., area.

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. In recent years, the university's endowment has grown to more than \$92 million; a \$15 million athletics and recreation center opened in the fall of 1994; and a \$24 million science building will open in 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 164 highly selective National Liberal Arts Colleges in the annual *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. *U.S. News* ranks IWU the second most efficient national liberal arts college--a key gauge of the campus' quality academic program and relatively reasonable cost. *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges*, another respected college guide, rated IWU "highly competitive (+)" in its latest edition. IWU's 1994 freshman class scored an average 27.9 on the ACT exam, compared to the national average of 20.7.