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For Immediate Release

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August 28, 1995

Contact: Bob Aaron, 309/556-3181

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Chicago, Cat TV
Rock City Media, locals*

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Jenny Jones of **Rock City, Ill. (Dakota H.S.)** is one of a dozen National Merit Scholars in the 1995 freshman class at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Jones is among about 1,865 students--including approximately 520 freshmen --who began classes today at IWU for the 1995-96 school year.

Jones graduated No. 1 in her class of 60 students last spring.

Among Jones' academic honors, special awards and offices held in high school were National Honor Society president, Citizenship Award, Excellence in English Award, Social Studies Award, Chemistry Award, Scholastic Athlete Award, Who's Who Among American Students, and a regional first place in the National Spanish Exam--Level III. Among her other activities were Students Against Drunk Driving, Natural Helpers, Student Council, Drama Club, volleyball, basketball, and softball.

Jones intends to major in business.

The National Merit Scholarship Program, established about 40 years ago, honors academically talented high school students nationwide. National Merit scholarships are underwritten by about 600 organizations and institutions, including corporations and campuses.

Jenny is the daughter of Vernon and Tari Jones, 6262 N. Eggert Rd., Rock City, Ill.

IWU, founded in 1850, offers a College of Liberal Arts, College of Fine Arts, and a four-year professional School of Nursing. A \$25 million Center for Natural Science Learning and Research will be dedicated on Oct. 7. A \$15 million athletics and recreation center opened in the fall of 1994. 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. *101 of the Best Values in America's Colleges and Universities* calls IWU "undoubtedly one of the finest small colleges in the country," adding, "Illinois Wesleyan has surged to national prominence on the basis of its reputation as a school with a rock-solid academic program."

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