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Illinois Wesleyan University

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NEWS RELEASE

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IWU Alumni Al and Andi Tauber Return to Illinois Wesleyan's Blue Moon Stage, Dec. 7

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Folk musicians and IWU alumni, Al and Andi Tauber, are returning to Illinois Wesleyan University, Dec. 7.

Al and Andi will close the fifth fall season of IWU's Blue Moon Coffeehouse on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 8 p.m. in the Main Lounge of the Memorial Student Center, 104 E. University Ave., Bloomington. Admission is free, and Al and Andi's performance is open to the public.

"Their acoustic repertoire is an eclectic blend of folk, rhythm and blues--r&b--, and bad seventies pop songs. They attempt to connect with their audiences by treating each venue as if it were their living room (without the ugly wallpaper)," according to one Tauber observer.

"Al and Andi have charmed standing-room-audiences with both their variety of musical stylings and with their warm and humorous interplay from the stage--but mostly it is the music that moves the audience," according to previous Blue Moon Coffeehouse promotional materials.

Al was born and raised in Champaign, Ill, and graduated from IWU with a history major in 1988, while Andi, who spent her musically formative years in Germany, graduated in 1989 with a degree in music.

Following their marriage in 1989, the Taubers toured Europe with a Christian mission group performing at schools, youth clubs, churches, and refugee camps. The Taubers have been active in the Chicago folk scene for several years.

Al provides the guitar and background vocals for the duo, while Andi sings lead vocals and uses her fingers for snapping.

The majority of Al and Andi's songs are covers--trademark songs by other performers-with their favorites ranging from numbers by Charlie Peacock, the Indigo Girls, Joni Mitchell, They Might Be Giants, Simon and Garfunkel, and The Partridge Family. However, Al and Andi also perform a few of Al's originals, which he started writing after his marriage to Andi, a classically trained singer. "I needed a creative outlet to express my pent-up frustration at Andi's habit of singing arias nightly," Al said.

Darcy L. Greder, assistant dean of student affairs-residential life and host of the Blue

(more)

TAUBER IWU CONCERT/2

Moon Coffeehouse, often relates the story of the Tauber's first Blue Moon appearance. They just finished their set and were relaxing in the Cartwright Room of the Memorial Student Center when Greder rushed up the stairs, threw open the door, and said, "You've got to go back. You've got to play something. You can play whatever you want. Play a song that you've already played. Just play something. There's pandemonium."

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 1,900 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 \$4.6 million Center for Liberal Arts--a facility housing 60 faculty offices, six classrooms, and other facilities for social science, humanities business and economics, and interdisciplinary studies' faculty--is slated to open next August. 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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