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April 9, 1997

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Students, Faculty and Administration Host Family Day At Illinois Wesleyan University, Sunday, April 13

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BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Approximately 300 families are expected to attend Family Day at Illinois Wesleyan University, Sunday, April 13.

For the past two spring semesters, a Sunday has been set aside for families of IWU students to come to campus to visit with their sons or daughters and participate in various events.

The core of this year's activities centers around the sciences, arts and athletics.

"The Student Senate, in conjunction with the university, plans interesting and exciting events, as well as facilitating low key, relaxing social opportunities for students and their families," said Dean of Students Debra Carlson Wood. "Family Day is a wonderful opportunity for friends and family to see their students in the university environment. It is a chance for families to see classrooms, computer labs and recreational facilities as well as catch up on their student's life and studies."

Co-chairmen, Jean Stamberger, Decatur, Ill., a sophomore double-major in biology and mathematics, and Christopher Cotner, a sophomore mathematics major from St. Louis, started planning Family Day last September and have scheduled a full day of events, beginning with registration at 9-11:30 a.m. in Memorial Student Center, 104 E. University Ave.

Weather permitting, registration will be held on the terrace of MSC where there will be refreshments and entertainment provided by the IWU jazz combo Active Ingredient. In case of bad weather, registration will be held in the center's Main Lounge.

According to Stamberger, "The idea this year is to have a "pick and choose"

kind of day so that families will be able to select activities which most interest them. Family Day is the only time throughout the semester where families are directly involved in a university activity. I think this is an important time to involve the family in a student's university life by having everyone spend an exciting day in the student's element, the university."

"On another level," said Cotner, "Family Day has the potential to bring the campus together. It provides students the opportunity to volunteer and get involved. Volunteers get the chance to meet and work with a lot of people with which they might not otherwise have contact. Volunteers also get the chance to work with the administration, faculty and staff of IWU. It's a great activity in which students can get their feet wet in campus involvement."

The Illinois Wesleyan University Bookstore will be open from 9-5:00 p.m. and morning activities will start with an optional 9 a.m. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Worship Service in Evelyn Chapel.

A family photo session from 9:00-11:30 a.m. is scheduled to take place in the Main Lounge of MSC where, Bruce Clark, an IWU senior art major from Chanhassen, Minn., will draw caricatures of families or family members.

The Chemistry Stunt Show Spectacular, billed as "fun for all ages," is scheduled at 10 a.m. in C101 of the Center for Natural Sciences, and at 11 a.m. in the atrium of the Center for Natural Sciences, there will be a "tick-tack-toe" demonstration by "Shelley," a robot designed and built by Illinois Wesleyan University students and faculty. Also, at 11 a.m. Catholic Newman Organization Mass has been scheduled in Evelyn Chapel.

IWU President Minor Myers, jr., will welcome guests at a noon luncheon in the Shirk Center. Families will be entertained by PIZZ, an IWU string quartet, and by InSync, a six-member freshmen acappella singing group.

At 1 p.m., afternoon activities will begin with an IWU vs. Millikin University

baseball doubleheader at Wilder Field. From 1-4:00 p.m. there will be an opening reception for the "Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree Candidates" exhibition in the Alice Miller Art Building. The program "Phun in Physics" is at 2 p.m. in C102 of the Center for Natural Sciences and at 3 p.m., winding down the full day of events, will be a performance by IWU's Wind Ensemble in Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall.

"There is something for everyone!" said Wood. "We look forward to greeting both new and returning families to campus!"

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 classroom, and other facilities for social science, humanities, business and economics, and interdisciplinary studies' faculty--is slated to open next August, as well as a \$6.8 million residence Hall. 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.