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April 6, 1998

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Author/Crusader to Speak at IWU on Nazi History

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Author and crusader for victims of Nazi persecution Anna Rosmus will visit Illinois Wesleyan University tomorrow to discuss the hidden past of her German hometown.

The real-life heroine of the film, "The Nasty Girl," Rosmus will speak on Tuesday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the IWU Memorial Student Center Main Lounge, 104 E. University. Her address is open to the public and free-of-charge.

As a teenager, while researching an essay for an international contest, Rosmus discovered hidden involvement in Nazi persecution within her hometown of Passau (Germany).

For the past 13 years, Rosmus has continued to document local Nazi history, as well as oppose Germany's neo-Nazi movement and extreme right-wing.

Rosmus' latest novel, *Wintergreen: Suppressed Murders*, details atrocities in Passau toward the end of World War II, including forced abortions, murdered infants, and the slaughter of 2,000 Soviet prisoners.

Rosmus has also located and published several stories and artwork of Passau Jews who were exiled during this period.

Despite frequent harassment and death threats from opponents, Rosmus has received numerous awards for her work and appeared on CBS' *60 Minutes* last January.

Rosmus' visit is sponsored by IWU's Student Senate Current Issues Committee.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 2,000 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 \$5.1 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--opened in August, 1997, as well as a new \$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 159 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.