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Immediate Release

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For Immediate Release**List is in Zip Code order, on both sides of paper**

30 June 1999

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BLOOMINGTON, Ill. -- Baccalaureate degrees were conferred on 351 members of the Class of 1999 at Illinois Wesleyan University on Sunday, May 2, during the 149th annual Commencement program.

IWU President Minor Myers, jr., also conferred an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree on award-winning journalist Linda Wertheimer, the National Public Radio host who delivered the Commencement address, "Giving Up Politics."

The commencement list also includes those seniors who completed their academic graduation requirements at the end of May Term 1999.

Twenty-two students graduated summa cum laude (S), signifying a grade-point average of 3.9 or better (on a 4.0 scale). Fifty-one received magna cum laude honors (M) for a grade-point average of 3.7 or higher, while 71 more graduated cum laude (C, for a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

A total of 255 students received bachelor of arts (BA) degrees and 38 were presented bachelor of science (BS) degrees. Twenty-one received bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degrees; 21 graduated with bachelor of fine arts (BFA) degrees; 10 received bachelor of music (BM) degrees; and six received bachelor of music education (BME) degrees.

About Illinois Wesleyan University

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 center opened in fall 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 did 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.
