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Media Advisory : Jesse White

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July 26, 1999

Contact: Bob Aaron, 309/556-3181

News Media Advisory

Who: Jesse White
Illinois Secretary of State

Jesse White Tumblers

What: 8th Annual Illinois Wesleyan University
Minority Alumni Network Picnic and Pool Party

IWU minority alumni, current students, freshman minority students and their parents will attend the event.

When: Sunday, Aug. 1, 2 p.m.

Where: Home of Caleb and Jeotha Johnson
13917 Richardson
Robbins, Ill. 60472

Caleb and Jeotha Johnson are the parents of optometrist Ansel Johnson, a 1981 IWU biology graduate and owner of the Vision Salon in Blue Island.

"We try to match up incoming and current students with mentors," explained Johnson, referring to a practical result from the picnic. "Student-alumni connections can lead to jobs and internships—and lifetime relations with people you otherwise might not know."

Johnson introduced President Bill Clinton at a White House program in 1994, when legislation extending the Head Start pre-school education program was signed into law. Johnson was a member of the first Head Start class in 1965. Also participating in the ceremony marking Head Start's 29th birthday were First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Vice President and Mrs. Al Gore, and Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala.

Johnson received IWU's Robert M. Montgomery Outstanding Young Alumnus Award in 1994.