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Matthew Croisant of Champaign, Ill.

11 National Merit Scholars in IWU's Class of 2003

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.—Matthew Croisant of Champaign, Ill., is one of 11 National Merit Scholars among 545 first-year students at Illinois Wesleyan University.

IWU's total enrollment is about 2,075 students for the 1999-2000 academic school year. Enrollment figures are estimates before classes begin. Final enrollment statistics will be reported later.

Croisant, a graduate of University Laboratory High School, is a music education major at IWU. Croisant has been a member of the East Central Illinois Youth Orchestra, Illini Lab Jazz Band, University High School Jazz Band, University High School Madrigals, and has participated in several theatrical productions.

The 11 National Merit Scholars averaged 33 as a group on the American College Test (ACT). ACT is a college entrance exam administered nationally with a top score of 36. The ACT national average is 21. On the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), also a nationally college entrance exam with a maximum score of 1,600, this group averaged a score of 1,450. The SAT national average is 1,025.

Scholarships with a total value of more than \$41 million are awarded nationally each year in the Merit Program. Winners are chosen on the basis of their scholastic and extracurricular accomplishments, talents, and academic abilities.

The IWU merit scholars are planning to major in political science, chemistry, biology, physics, music education, theatre arts, biology, and English.

In addition to financial support the students receive from Illinois Wesleyan, some IWU National Merit Scholars are assisted by the State Farm Companies Foundation, R.R. Donnelley & Sons Co., Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation, Inc., The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation, Motorola Foundation, PPG Industries, Storage Tek Foundation, FMC Foundation, Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical, National Starch and Chemical foundation, Inc., Nalco Chemical Co., PepsiCo Foundation, Inc., Maytag Corporation Foundation, The UPS Foundation, Rand McNally Foundation, and Albany International.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 2,075 students in a College of Liberal Arts, and individual schools of Music, Theatre Arts, Art, and Nursing. Since 1994, these facilities have been added to the IWU campus: a \$15 million athletics and recreation center, a \$25 million science center, a \$6.8 million residence hall, a \$5.1 million Center for Liberal Arts, and a \$1.65 million baseball stadium.