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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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July 2, 1986

BLOOMINGTON, ILL.--Illinois Wesleyan University athletic director Dennie Bridges announced today that Marla Maupin and Dennis Martel have been added to the university's coaching and physical education staff for the 1986-87 school year.

Maupin, a former Saybrook-Arrowsmith and Illinois State University basketball star, will coach women's basketball and women's track and field. She is a 1985 graduate of ISU, where she was captain and most valuable player of the 1984-85 women's basketball team.

Becky Mayhew, who has coached women's basketball the past two seasons, will remain on the faculty and continue as volleyball coach.

Martel, who was Bridges' assistant in basketball and baseball on a part-time basis the past year while completing work on his master's degree at Illinois State, will again serve in those positions. He is a 1984 graduate of the University of Maine and coached the IWU junior varsity basketball team to a 12-4 record last season.

Maupin and Martel also will have teaching assignments.

The hiring of Martel means that Bridges will again be head coach of basketball and baseball.

Bridges said the return of Martel will put on hold a plan to sign a new coach who would serve as Bridges' basketball assistant in 1986-87 and be expected to move into the head coaching job for 1987-88. Bridges had announced in April that he would give up his duties as head basketball coach at the conclusion of the 1986-87 season.

Bridges said this would leave open the possibility that he would continue to coach basketball beyond the 1986-87 season. He said he will wait until later "and take a long look at our total staff needs. A number of future staff uncertainties prevent this from being the right time for making long term staff decisions.

"My decision to consider the possibility of coaching a few more years is partially due to the sincere feelings of many Wesleyan fans that they would like to see me remain as

coach," Bridges said.

Bridges, who is 47 years old, has coached the Titans to 10 College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin basketball championships and to 10 appearances in national play-offs in 21 seasons.