Illinois Wesleyan University

SPORTS NEWS

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White, Addis Chosen as Titan Football MVPs

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — Junior wide receiver Eric White and senior defensive back Josh Addis have been selected as the most valuable offensive player and most valuable defensive player, respectively, for the 2003 Illinois Wesleyan University football team.

White (**Antioch HS**), who also earned the team's "Best Skill" award and was a first team all-CCIW pick, set an IWU single season record with 1,215 receiving yards. A second team all-region choice, he finished with 74 catches and 14 touchdowns in 2003 and, after three seasons, he ranks third in touchdowns (28) and fourth in scoring (170) in school history.

With his senior season ahead, White is third in career receptions (171) and receiving yards (2,591), and second in receiving touchdowns (28) at IWU. In all categories, the leader is Chris Bisaillon, who amassed 3,798 yards and 56 receiving touchdowns on 230 catches from 1989-92.

Addis (Essex, Reed-Custer HS) was a first team all-conference selection as he led the CCIW in tackles. A second team all-region choice, Addis made 103 total tackles, including 51 solo, with three interceptions, five pass break-ups, two forced fumbles and one fumble recovery. Addis also returned 29 punts for a 4.6 average.

Honors

Sophomore running back Ryan Spellman (Wilmette, New Trier HS) was selected as the "Most Improved Player", and defensive end Mike Stephens (Orland Park, Providence Catholic HS) earned both the "Best Lineman" and "Most Valuable Freshman" honors.

In his first season as a regular, Spellman led IWU with 627 rushing yards and five touchdowns on 141 carries. He had 121 rushing yards in the Titans' 27-7 win over North Park.

Stephens made 22 solo tackles and assisted on 28 more. He had 14 tackles for losses totaling 57 yards, including eight quarterback sacks for –44. He also had one fumble recovery, a forced fumble and a blocked kick.

The "Best Big Skill" award went to senior tight end Bob Cullen (**Sycamore HS**) and senior kicker Brian Klesath (**Peoria, Notre Dame HS**) was the "Best Special Teams" player for the second straight season.

Cullen made 22 catches for 307 yards and had six receptions for 70 yards in the Wheaton game.

Klesath scored 59 points, connecting on 23 of 28 extra point kicks and 12 of 14 field goals, tying his own single season school record. For his career, Klesath finished with 37 career field

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goals, eclipsing the old IWU record of 29 by Dave Pearce from 1979-82. Klesath's 214 career points makes him second all-time at IWU, behind only Bisaillon with 384.

Freshman running back Armond Boulware (**Thornridge HS**) and freshman defensive lineman John Peterson (**Chicago, Notre Dame HS**) were the winners of the top offensive and defensive junior varsity player honors, respectively.

Senior co-captain Dave Strubbe (**Oak Forest, Providence Catholic HS**) was chosen for the "Titan Award", which is voted on by the coaches for loyalty, leadership, citizenship, sportsminded, team-minded and attitude. A wide receiver, Strubbe made 39 catches for 512 yards.

Lettermen

Fifty-eight IWU football players, including 46 who will return next season, were awarded letters by head coach Norm Eash, who has a 110-49-1 record in 17 seasons at his alma mater. The lettermen are:

<u>SENIORS</u> (12) - Josh Addis (Essex, Reed-Custer HS), Mike Clark (Joliet, West HS), Bob Cullen (Sycamore HS), Solomon Jones (Kankakee HS), Pat Kinsella (Bolingbrook, Joliet Catholic HS), Brian Klesath (Peoria, Notre Dame HS), Llewellyn Nash (University Park, Crete-Monee HS), Jacob Norris (Springfield, Sacred Heart Griffin HS), Chris Pedersen (Bloomington, Normal U High), Dave Strubbe (Oak Forest, Providence Catholic HS), Kyle Venvertloh (Quincy, Notre Dame HS), Jared Wagner (Lexington HS).

JUNIORS (20) – Dave Byers (Lansing, Thornton Fractional South HS), Mike Cafferata (Chicago, Gordon Tech HS), Vince Heaton (Wheaton, Warrenville South HS), Matt Holland (Kenney, Clinton HS), Adam Houser (St. Charles, East HS), Kyle Jones (Glenview, Glenbrook South HS), Steve Lucas (Grant Park, Kankakee HS), Tom Mikolajczyk (Glencoe, New Trier HS), Tyler Neal (Bloomington HS), Jason O'Hara (Bolingbrook, Romeoville HS), Garrett Oleson (Genoa, Genoa-Kingston HS), John Pritchard (Galesburg HS), Josh Remer (Crestwood, Shepard HS), Chris Reynolds (Springfield, Southeast HS), Sam Stahnke (Round Lake Park, Grayslake HS), Andrew Tarman (Carol Stream, Glenbard North HS), Greg Whisler (Des Plaines, Maine West HS), Eric White (Antioch HS), Kyle Wolfe (St. Joseph, St. Joseph-Ogden HS), Tyler Zindars (Oakwood HS).

SOPHOMORES (17) – Rick Alvis (Metamora HS), Damon Banks (Bellwood, Walther Lutheran HS), Bryson Brownlee (Evanston HS), Levi Derber (Princeton, Spring Valley Hall HS), Drew Himes (Princeton HS), Ken Holub (Berwyn, Morton West HS), Jensen Jones (LaHarpe HS), Tom Kudyba (Des Plaines, Elk Grove HS), Kevin Maliszewski (Glen Carbon, Edwardsville HS), Larry Masarsky (Skokie, Niles West HS), Dan Pfeifer (Gardner, Dwight HS), Matt Ross (Chatham, Chatham-Glenwood HS), Doug Schmeid (Hanna City, Farmington HS), Blake Schulenburg (Springfield, Sacred Heart Griffin HS), John Scrementi (Homewood, Homewood-Flossmoor HS), Ryan Spellman (Wilmette, New Trier HS), Ben Webster (Kankakee, Bishop McNamara HS).

<u>FRESHMEN</u> (9) – Adam Bohr (North Aurora, Aurora Central Catholic HS), Ryan Ellis (Vernon Hills HS), Eric Esch (Bloomington HS), Steve Groetsema (LaGrange, Lyons Township HS), Jacob Kummer (Bloomington HS), Mike Mastro (Sarasota, Fla., Cardinal Mooney HS), Matt Maxwell (Tinley Park, Andrew HS), John Peterson (Chicago, Notre Dame HS), Mike Stephens (Orland Park, Providence Catholic HS).

- For electronic transmittal of photos of any IWU football player, contact: salowitz@iwu.edu
 - For quotes on any IWU football player, contact head coach Norm Eash, 309-556-3344