

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN 2004 FOOTBALL



GENERAL INFORMATION

NAME: Illinois Wesleyan University
CITY/ZIP: Bloomington, Illinois 61701
FOUNDED: 1850
NICKNAME: Titans
SCHOOL COLORS: Green and White
STADIUM: Wilder Field at Illinois Wesleyan Stadium - 1893 (Grass); The IWU football facility is the fifth oldest football stadium in the country, behind Wesleyan [Conn.] (1881), Williams [Mass.] (1883), Sewanee [Tenn.] and Amherst [Mass.] (both 1891).
CAPACITY: 3,500
ATHLETIC AFFILIATION: NCAA Division III
CONFERENCE: College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin (CCIW)
PRESIDENT: Richard F. Wilson (Alderson-Broadus College, 1968)
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: Dennie Bridges (Illinois Wesleyan, 1961)

SCHEDULE

Sept. 4	at Simpson	1 p.m.	Indianola, Iowa
Sept. 11	UW-EAU CLAIRE	1 p.m.	Bloomington, Ill.
Sept. 25	at U. of Chicago	12 p.m.	Chicago, Ill.
Oct. 2	* ELMHURST (<i>Homecoming</i>)	1 p.m.	Bloomington, Ill.
Oct. 9	* at North Central	6 p.m.	Naperville, Ill.
Oct. 16	* AUGUSTANA	1 p.m.	Bloomington, Ill.
Oct. 23	* at Wheaton	1 p.m.	Wheaton, Ill.
Oct. 30	* NORTH PARK	1 p.m.	Bloomington, Ill.
Nov. 6	* CARTHAGE (<i>Seniors' Day</i>)	1 p.m.	Bloomington, Ill.
Nov. 13	* at Millikin	1 p.m.	Decatur, Ill.

* - Indicates CCIW game.

Home games in bold and capitals

FOOTBALL HISTORY

FIRST YEAR OF FOOTBALL: 1887

OVERALL ALL-TIME RECORD: 495-357-42 (.578) in 112 seasons of football...Prior to 2003, that win total was 17th among Division III schools...IWU was 5-5 last year and finished at .500 or better for the 10th straight season and for the 14th time in the last 15 seasons...Since 1995, IWU is 62-20 in its last 82 games (.753). The 20 losses have come to Wheaton (6); Millikin and Augustana (4 each); Mount Union, North Central, UW-LaCrosse, Washington U., Elmhurst and Carthage (1 each)...The Titans are 60-18 (.769) at home and 50-30-1 on the road (.619) under Norm Eash...Illinois Wesleyan is 49-11 (.817) at Wilder Field in the last 11 years (1991-2003).

NCAA DIVISION III PLAYOFF APPEARANCES: 2 - overall record 2-2 .500

1992 - won in first round over Aurora, 21-12; lost in second round at Mount Union, 49-27

1996 - won in first round at Albion, 23-20; lost in second round at Mount Union, 49-14

COLLEGE CONFERENCE OF ILLINOIS & WISCONSIN CHAMPIONS: (12) - 1948, 1951, 1964, 1965, 1974, 1977, 1980, 1992, 1994, 1996, 2000, 2001.

COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH: Norm Eash (Illinois Wesleyan, 1975)

EASH'S RECORD: Beginning his 18th year at Illinois Wesleyan with an overall record of 110-49-1 (.691) and a record in the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin of 83-40-1 (.673).

FOOTBALL OFFICE PHONE: (309) 556-3344

BEST TIME TO REACH EASH: Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-noon.

ASSISTANT COACHES: Mike Wagner, defensive coordinator; Jim Malosky, offensive coordinator; Matt Gray, linebackers; Matt Traxler, running backs; Brian Steiner, defensive line; Billy Dicken, wide receivers; Paul Ronczkowski, kicking; Jeff Voreis, assistant offensive line/tight ends.

TRAINER: Bill Kauth (Illinois State University, 1989).

SPORTS INFORMATION

SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR: Stew Salowitz

OFFICE PHONE: (309) 556-3206

HOME PHONE: (309) 452-1309

FAX: (309) 556-3804

MAILING ADDRESS: Stew Salowitz, Illinois Wesleyan University, 1312 N. Park St., Bloomington, Illinois 61701

E-MAIL ADDRESS: salowitz@iwu.edu

FOOTBALL HOMEPAGE: www.iwu.edu/~iwunews/sports/football.html

TEAM INFORMATION

2003 RECORD: 5-5 (.500) overall and 3-4 (tie for 5th) in CCIW.

STARTERS RETURNING: 16 (nine on offense, six on defense, one punter)

OFFENSE (nine): T Kyle Jones, G Tom Mikolajczyk, C Chris Reynolds, G Greg Whisler, T Doug Schmeid, QB Steve Lucas, WR Eric White, TB Ryan Spellman, FB Rick Alvis

DEFENSE (six): DE Michael Cafferata, DT Ben Webster, NG Josh Remer, DE Mike Stephens, LB Damon Banks, DB Vince Heaton.

KICKING (one): Drew Himes (punter)

STARTERS LOST: 8 (two on offense, five on defense, one kicker)

OFFENSE (two): TE Bob Cullen, WR Dave Strubbe

DEFENSE (five): LB Solomon Jones, LB Mike Clark, FS Josh Addis, SS Kyle Venvertloh, DB Lew Nash.

KICKING (one): Brian Klesath (kicker)

2003 LETTERWINNERS RETURNING: 46

2003 LETTERWINNERS LOST: 12

2003 ILLINOIS WESLEYAN FOOTBALL SUPERLATIVES

Football Gazette All-American – Eric White, third team

Sports Information Directors All-American – Eric White, third team

CCIW First Team All-Conference – WR Eric White, DB Josh Addis

CCIW Second Team All-Conference – OL Tom Mikolajczyk, LB Damon Banks

CCIW "Players of the Week": Mike Clark (defense) vs. Washington U. 09/21/03; Eric White (offense) vs. Augustana 10/12/03; Eric White (offense) vs. Carthage 11/1/03

TEAM HONORS

Offensive MVP – Eric White

Defensive MVP – Josh Addis

Best Special Teams – Brian Klesath

Most Improved Player - Ryan Spellman

Best Lineman - Mike Stephens

Best Skill - Eric White

Best Big Skill - Bob Cullen

Most Valuable Freshman– Mike Stephens

Titan Award (Inspirational) – Dave Strubbe

Offensive Scout Team Player of the Year – Armond Boulware

Defensive Scout Team Player of the Year – John Peterson

2004 OUTLOOK:

The Titans, who lost four of their last six games, had a chance to play a number of young players in final portion of the season and that experience should help in 2004. IWU returns nine offensive starters, including preseason first team All-American Eric White, a dangerous wide receiver who can alter defensive coverage and free up a traditionally potent offense. White was fourth in the nation in receiving yards per game (121.5). He had 74 catches and 13 TDs and set a school season record with 1215 receiving yards.

Other offensive weapons are senior quarterback Steve Lucas and junior tailback Ryan Spellman. Lucas threw for 2200 yards, including a 343 yard game vs. Washington U., and Spellman ran for 627 yards in his first season as a regular with a 121-yard game vs. North Park.

The offensive line is anchored by all-conference guard Tom Mikolajczyk, while other returning starters are tackles Kyle Jones and Doug Schmeid, guard Greg Whisler (all-CCIW in 2002), and center Chris Reynolds.

Junior fullback Rick Alvis (4.2 per carry) and junior Matt Ross (3.2 per carry) will add depth to the backfield and senior Tim Snyder is another talented wide receiver. Snyder, who was a first team all-CCIW choice in 2001, missed last season with an injury.

On defense the Titans need to replace two starting linebackers and three members of the secondary, including all-CCIW safety Josh Addis. All-conference linebacker Damon Banks (88 tackles) and cornerback Vince Heaton (65 tackles, two interceptions) return to anchor the defense, and sophomore end Mike Stephens returns for his sophomore season after recording 50 tackles, including eight quarterback sacks and six others for yardage loss.