



Illinois Wesleyan vs. Augustana October 18, 2008 Wilder Field at IWU Stadium, Bloomington, Ill.

THE GAME: Illinois Wesleyan (4-1, 1-1 College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin) hosts Augustana (3-2, 1-1 CCIW) in a 6 p.m. game at Wilder Field at IWU Stadium... This will be McLean County nAppreciation Day, postponed from the rainy weekend of Sept. 13.

ON THE AIR: The IWU/Augustana game will be broadcast live on WESN-FM 88.1 and on the Internet at www.wjbc2.com.

UNDER THE LIGHTS: This is the fifth home night football game at IWU's Wilder Field since 1971 and the latest on the calendar in at least 43 years. In 2007, IWU defeated Augustana, 22-19; in 2005, IWU topped Chicago, 20-13; in 2003, the Titans downed Chicago, 30-21, and in 2002, IWU won its first overtime game in a 31-24 decision over Washington U. The Titans were to have played Aurora at night on Sept. 15, 2001, but the game was cancelled after the national tragedies of Sept. 11. Before 2002, the last home night game was on Oct. 2, 1971, when Carthage downed the Titans, 22-19.

Home night game results since 1965:

Sept. 29, 2007	IWU 22, Augustana 19
Sept. 24, 2005	IWU 20, U. of Chicago 13
Sept. 27, 2003	IWU 30, U. of Chicago 21
Sept. 21, 2002	IWU 31, Washington U. 24 (OT)
Oct. 2, 1971	Carthage 22, IWU 19
Sept. 19, 1970	IWU 21, Wheaton 21
Oct. 5, 1968	Carthage 20, IWU 13
Sept. 30, 1967	IWU 17, Augustana 3
Oct. 1, 1966	IWU 20, North Park 0
Sept. 25, 1965	IWU 34, Illinois State 7

The Vikings are 0-4 at night since a 7-0 win at Carthage in 2005, when the Red Men were No. 8 in NCAA Division III. Since then, Augie lost at Wis.-Platteville in 2006 (24-7), at Wheaton (28-24) and at Carthage (33-28).

LOOKING AHEAD: IWU will play next week under the lights again, hosting Elmhurst at 6 p.m. Elmhurst's quarterback is Chris Kudyba, younger brother of former Titan Tommy Kudyba, who played for a championship team in Finland this summer.

OCTOBER: In the Norm Eash coaching tenure, Wesleyan is 58-37 in October... IWU is 1-1 this year and the Titans were 4-0 in October in 2007.

FOR THE RECORD: IWU is 82-45 in its last 127 games (.648) since 1995... The Titans are 71-29 (.711) at home and 58-45-1 on the road (.550) under Norm Eash... The 45 losses have come to Wheaton (8); Augustana (7); Millikin (6); North Central (5); Carthage (5); Elmhurst (3); Simpson, UW-Eau Claire, Mt. St. Joseph and Coe (2); and Mount

Union, UW-LaCrosse, and Washington U. (1)... Last year IWU finished 7-3 overall and earned a share of the CCIW championship for the first time since 2001. It was IWU's 13th league title ... IWU's last three consecutive losing seasons before 2004-06 were 1941-43... 2004 and 2005 were the first back-to-back losing seasons since 1987 (4-5) and 1988 (4-5)... In 2004, IWU (3-7) had its first sub-.500 season since 1993 (4-5). The Titans had been at .500 or better for 10 straight years.

ON TO THE NEXT 500: IWU is 515-382-42 (.571) in 116+ football seasons... The 500th win came in a 23-14 win over Wheaton on Oct. 22, 2005.

THE SERIES VS. THE VIKINGS: In a series that dates back to 1917, Illinois Wesleyan leads by a margin of 39-33-1 but the Vikings have six of the last seven contests and seven of the last nine... The Titans scored a 22-19 win at home last year after rallying from a 13-0 deficit and putting together a 98-yard fourth quarter drive... The Titans won four straight from 1995-98 before Augie stopped a four game losing streak with a 41-0 shutout in 1999... At one time IWU led the series, 32-12-1, but 11 straight Viking wins trimmed the margin to 32-24-1 heading into 1992.

LAST WEEK: Senior receiver Martin Ceisel (Deerfield, Ill., HS) made nine catches for 170 yards and two touchdowns as Illinois Wesleyan defeated Millikin, 42-0, in Decatur on Oct. 11. Adam Crouch (Sycamore, Ill., HS) started the scoring with a 90 yard interception return for a TD in the first quarter and Ceisel caught the first of his two TDs in the second quarter. Bo Lanter (Clayton, Mo., HS) rushed for 46 yards and Travis Brubaker (Mt. Prospect, Ill., Hersey HS) ran for 43 yards and both had touchdowns. Kraig Ladd (Shelbyville, Ill. HS) completed 14 of 25 passes for 177 yards and one TD while Brien Rooney (Western Springs, Ill., Fenwick HS) threw two TD passes and rushed for a team-high 52 yards. Joe Duffy (Oak Lawn, Ill., Brother Rice HS) was perfect on six extra point kicks. The linebacking corps of Nick Nikolich (Libertyville, Ill. HS) (with seven), Dan Rogers (Palos Ridge, Ill., Maine South HS) (six) and Dan Souder (Elk Grove Village, Ill., Elk Grove HS) (five) were the leading tacklers for Wesleyan.

IWU PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: *Chosen by Titan coaches to honor top players in the week's game and practices. The "Titan Award" honors a player for work ethic, loyalty and spirit.*

Offense – Martin Ceisel, senior, receiver, Deerfield, Ill. (HS)

Defense – Adam Crouch, junior, back, Sycamore, Ill. (HS)

Special Teams – Chris Messina, junior, receiver, Chicago, Ill. (Nazareth Academy)

Scout Offense – Matt Berg, freshman, back, Grayslake, Ill. (Carmel HS); Rodkeem Jackson, freshman, line, Peoria, Ill. (Woodruff HS)

Scout Defense – Ryan Gresko, freshman, linebacker, Downers Grove, Ill. (North HS); Kindred Cook, senior, line, Chicago, Ill. (Whitney Young HS)

Titan Award – Travis Boothe, senior, defensive end, Villa Park, Ill. (Willowbrook HS)

MARTIN CEISEL: Senior Martin Ceisel (Deerfield, Ill. HS) is No. 4 all-time at IWU with 2,705 receiving yards (No. 3 is Ed Brady, 2,907, 1981-84), No. 3 with 29 receiving touchdowns and No. 4 with 178 receptions (No. 3 is Brady, 220).

COACH NORM EASH: Norm Eash (Illinois Wesleyan, 1975) is in his 22nd season at IWU and has a career record of 130-74-1 (.636), making him second among IWU coaches in victories (Eash's college coach, Don Larson, had 168 wins from 1954-86). Prior to 2006, Eash ranked 50th among all-time Division III coaches in winning percentage and 67th in victories (24th among active coaches in wins). The "dean" of league coaches, Eash has been College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin "Coach of the Year" in 2007, 2001, 1996 and 1992. His career CCIW mark is 96-57-1 (.630), making him fourth all-time in victories in the league.

COACH BARNES: Jim Barnes is in his ninth year at his alma mater and has a career record of 63-25. Overall, he has a 100-38 mark in 14 years as a college head coach, including 37-13 at Wooster (1995-99). At Augustana his teams are 44-14 in the CCIW with league titles in 2001, 2005 and 2006. The Vikings have participated in the NCAA Division III national playoffs in 2001 and 2005.

ABOUT THE VIKINGS: Augustana is coming off a 26-14 home loss to No. 6 Wheaton last Saturday. Augustana played well in the first half, taking a 14-13 lead but the Vikings generated only 41 yards of total offense in the second half...The Vikings are currently averaging 23.2 points per game (116 in five games) and 330.2 yards of total offense (175.2 rushing and 155.0 passing) per game. Tim Podulka has caught on to the new spread offense, completing 77 of 109 passes for 750 yards with one touchdown and four interceptions. He is completing .706 of his passes and has a quarterback efficiency

rating of 124.13. He is spreading the wealth around in terms of distributing the ball. Jake Parke has 24 receptions for 203 yards while Jason Kwasigroch 17 catches for 219 yards. Matt Downing chips in with 14 catches for 141 yards and Henry Deters has 10 for 100. The rushing attack is led by Josh Galliard with 274 yards on 74 attempts while Podulka has gained 230 yards on 53 carries. Defensively, the Vikings have allowed just 51 points in five games (10.2 average). They rank seventh in NCAA Division III in scoring defense and second in the CCIW. Opponents are averaging just 280.8 yards in total offense (100.4 rushing and 180.4 passing). Linebacker Eric Meyer leads the team in total tackles with 44 (31 solo and 13 assists) while cornerback Billy Lynch is next with 37 (28 solo and nine assists).

CCIW IN THE POLLS: North Central is No. 6 and Wheaton is No. 7 in the Oct. 14 AFCA Division III poll. Illinois Wesleyan is No. 42...In the D3Football.com Top 25 rankings on Oct. 7. Wheaton is No. 4 (up from No. 6) and North Central improved to No. 8. D3Football.com is a website devoted strictly to the coverage of NCAA Division III football, which releases a top 25 poll that's voted on by a panel of 25 coaches, sports information directors and media members from across the country...The Titans were No. 40 in the preseason D3football.com poll.

KRAIG LADD: The junior quarterback tied a school record with six touchdown passes in the 48-34 win over Alma Sept. 13. Ladd completed 17 of 26 passes for 272 yards in tying the TD passing efforts by Lon Erickson (North Park, 1995) and Brad Forsyth (Carroll, 1989).

IWU'S 2008 CCIW HONORS: Senior kicker Joe Duffy (Oak Lawn, Ill., Brother Rice High School) was CCIW special teams player of the week for his play vs. Hope Sept. 6. He had field goals of 39 and 36 yards in the 28-25 win. His 39-yard field goal came just 59 seconds into the game to give the Titans a 3-0 lead. His 36-yard field goal came with 1:51 to play to stake IWU to a 28-19 lead and proved to be the margin of victory as Hope scored a minute later. Duffy also added two extra-point kicks.

FAST START: The Titans were 3-0 for the first time since 2002 when they started with four straight wins (at Wis.-LaCrosse, 35-31; Washington U., 31-24 in OT; at Chicago, 34-16; North Park, 49-9).

CCIW VS. NON-CCIW: Teams from the CCIW were 19-5 in three weeks of nonconference play in 2008.

HOMECOMING: After the loss to Carthage, the Titans are 28-16 in their last 44 Homecoming games and have been 10-11 in the last 21 years, preceded by a six-game winning streak from 1982-87.

SEASON OPENERS: With the win at Hope on Sept. 6, IWU is 11-11 in opening-day games under Norm Eash. Prior to last weekend, the Titans had dropped their last five season openers, last winning in 2002 (35-31 at Wisconsin-LaCrosse).

CCIW PRESEASON POLL: Illinois Wesleyan was picked to finish third in the 2008 CCIW preseason coaches' poll. The Titans got 33 points from the league coaches. North Central got six first place votes (and 48 points) to finish first in the poll, followed by Wheaton (two first place votes, 44 points). After Wesleyan comes Augustana, Carthage, Elmhurst, Millikin and North Park.