



2003 TITAN FOOTBALL

Illinois Wesleyan vs. UW-LaCrosse

THE GAME: Illinois Wesleyan (0-0) plays the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse (1-0) on Sat., Sept. 13. Kickoff is at 1 p.m. at Wilder Field at Illinois Wesleyan.

SPECIAL WEEKEND: This is "Fall Family Weekend" at Illinois Wesleyan.

ALL-TIME: IWU is 490-352-42 (.578) in 111 years of football. That win total is 17th among Division III schools. The leader is Wittenberg with 636 wins in 109 seasons.

SEASON OPENERS: IWU is 10-6 in opening-day games under Norm Eash. IWU won last season's opener, 35-31, at Wisconsin-LaCrosse.

SEPTEMBER SUCCESS: In September, IWU was 3-0 last season and is 31-9-1 in September in the Norm Eash era. The loss in 2001 at Washington U. was the Titans' first in September since 1995 and that loss also snapped a string of 11 straight regular season non-league wins, dating back to a 24-21 loss to Simpson in 1995.

LAST SEASON: The Titans were 6-4 in 2002 and 3-4 in the College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin...With six victories last year, IWU had its ninth straight winning season and its 13th in the last 14 seasons.

FOR THE RECORD: Since 1995, IWU has won 57 of its last 72 games (.803). The 15 losses have come to Wheaton (5), Millikin (4), Augustana (3), Mount Union, Washington U., and Carthage (1 each)...The Titans are 57-17 (.770) at home and 48-27-1 on the road (.638) under Eash.

AT WILDER FIELD: Illinois Wesleyan is 46-9 (.836) at Wilder Field in the last 11 years (1991-2002). 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).

SCOUTING THE EAGLES: In his first college start, sophomore **Steve Tennies** completed 13 of 15 passes for 150 yards and one TD as UW-L downed Howard Payne, 42-0, at home last Saturday. Senior tailback **Andrew Mocadlo** (17 rushes for 72 yards) and junior fullback **Matt Pagel** (six rushes for 71 yards) were the Eagles' top rushers as 12 different people got carries. The Eagles had 418 yards of total offense compared to 213 for the Yellow Jackets and returned three interceptions for touchdowns in the first half against Howard Payne quarterback **Adam King** (who led Division III in 2002 in total offense)...UW-L spread the completed passes among eight receivers, including junior **Scott Burnoski**, who led the team with four grabs for 56 yards...Last season UW-L was 7-4 overall and lost in the

first round of the NCAA Division III playoffs to Coe (21-18). The Eagles won their 31st WIAC title in 2002 with a 6-1 mark...UW-L was picked to finish tied for third with UW-Whitewater in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference preseason poll, behind UW-Stout and UW-Stevens Point (the team that beat Augustana, 19-15, last weekend).

THE SERIES VS. THE EAGLES: This is the second meeting between the two schools in football - IWU won last year's game, 35-31, in LaCrosse. The Titans, down 17-14 at halftime and 31-21 in the fourth quarter, rallied with two scores in the final eight minutes to win. **Eric White** caught an 11-yard TD pass from **Josh Akin**, then Akin had a 37-yard TD run with 6:43 left to ensure the final margin.

THE COACHES: **Norm Eash** (Illinois Wesleyan, 1975) is in his 17th season as head coach at IWU and has an overall record of 105-44-1 (.703) and a CCIW mark of 80-36-1 (.688) with conference titles in 1992, 1994, 1996, 2000, and 2001. Eash, the CCIW "Coach of the Year" in 1992, 1996 and 2001, is fourth in all-time CCIW coaching wins, behind IWU's **Don Larson** (142 wins), Bob Reade of Augustana (112) and Carthage's Art Keller (105). Eash is second in victories at IWU, behind **Don Larson** (166 wins in 33 years, 1954-86)...**Larry Terry**, a 1977 UW-La Crosse grad, is in his fourth season as head coach at UW-L. He is 19-13 (.594) at the helm of the Eagles and 44-42-1 (.507) in nine years as a college head coach. The 11th head coach in school history, Terry has also been the Eagles' offensive coordinator since 1988. UW-L has led the WIAC in total offense four times under Terry. Terry has a master's degree from Bowling Green and a doctorate from the U. of New Mexico.



LAST WEEK

UW-Stevens Point 19, Augustana 15
Elmhurst 44, Benedictine (Ill.) 13
North Park 24, Greenville 17

THIS WEEK

UW-LaCrosse at Ill. Wesleyan 1 p.m.
Lakeland at Carthage, 7 p.m.
Franklin at Millikin, 1 p.m.
Benedictine at North Central, 7 p.m.
U. of Chicago at North Park, 1 p.m.
Alma at Wheaton, 1 p.m.
Augustana at Central of Iowa, 1 p.m.

CCIW PRESEASON POLL: IWU was picked in a third place tie (with Millikin) in the preseason College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin coaches' poll. Wheaton and Augustana were picked in a first place tie.

RANKINGS: UW-LaCrosse improved to 14th in the first *Football Gazette* national Division III weekly poll. The Eagles were No. 15 in the *Football Gazette* preseason rankings. UW-L is No. 8 in the latest *d3football.com* poll (they were No. 15 preseason) and the Eagles were No. 11 in the preseason *Street & Smith's* magazine.

QUICK SEASON PREVIEW: The Titans must replace the entire starting backfield although the other seven offensive starters all return. Five starters return on defense, led by the all-conference linebacker duo of **Solomon Jones** and **Mike Clark**. The biggest question marks offensively will be finding replacements for all-CCIW quarterback **Josh Akin** and standout running back **Chris Ross**. Akin threw for 2,035 yards and 15 touchdowns last season while rushing for 430 yards and five TDs. Ross ran for a team-high 871 yards and nine TDs. Former Metamora, Ill., High School all-stater **Rick Alvis**, a 6-foot, 250-pound transfer from Division I-A Northern Illinois, is expected to fill the hole left by the graduation of Ross and starting fullback **Pat Spangler**, but has been out with a leg injury.

ERIC WHITE: Junior wide receiver **Eric White (Antioch HS)**, a first team all-CCIW selection in 2002, ranks 11th all-time at IWU in catches (97) and 12th in receiving yards (1,376)...Last year he led the league in catches (77) and receiving yards (1,064) with eight TDs...His catch total was second most in an IWU season and his yardage total was third best...Was IWU's "Offensive Player of Week" (a team honor) three times last season.

STEVE LUCAS: Junior **Steve Lucas (Grant Park, Kankakee HS)** will get his first start at Illinois Wesleyan as quarterback against Wisconsin-LaCrosse. Last season Lucas was 3-for-4 passing for 21 yards.

BRIAN KLESATH: The first team all-CCIW kicker in 2002 is closing in on IWU kicking records - he has 25 field goals, just four short of Dave Pearce's IWU record of 29...He also has 155 career points, fifth all-time at IWU... Last year he led the CCIW in kick scoring...Made 35 of 39 extra points and tied school record with 12 of 17 field goals...His career long is 44 yards (UW-LaCrosse, 2002)... His four FG vs. North Central (2002) tied an IWU game record.

2002 CCIW HONORS: Three returning Illinois Wesleyan football players were chosen to the 2002 College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin first team all-league

squad - junior wide receiver **Eric White**, senior linebacker **Solomon Jones**, and senior kicker **Brian Klesath**. On the all-CCIW second team were junior offensive lineman **Greg Whisler**, senior linebacker **Mike Clark**, and junior defensive back **Vince Heaton**. **White (Antioch HS)** led the league with 52 catches and 101.7 receiving yards per game. **Jones (Kankakee HS)** was 14th in the CCIW with 50 total tackles, including 30 solo. **Klesath (Peoria, Notre Dame HS)** was the league leader in kick scoring with 51 points, connecting on nine of 11 field goals and 24 of 27 extra point kicks. Overall he was sixth in CCIW scoring. **Whisler (Des Plaines, Maine West HS)** helped an offense that was second in the league in passing with 200.3 yards per game and third in scoring (30.4 points per game). **Clark (Joliet, West HS)** was 16th in the league with 47 total tackles, including 24 solo. **Heaton (Wheaton, Wheaton Warrenville South HS)** was ninth in the CCIW with 57 total tackles and had 39 solo. He also intercepted two passes for 24 return yards.

UW-LaCROSSE CONNECTIONS: Illinois Wesleyan head cross country and women's track coach **Chris Schumacher** is a 1991 graduate of UW-LaCrosse, where he still holds the school career record with 28 field goals made (53 attempts) and the single-season mark with 13 (of 17) in 1989. His long field goal was a 45-yarder vs. St. Ambrose in 1990. He is second in career extra points (99 of 119) and sixth in career scoring (186 points). Schumacher was also a track All-American for three years, competing on teams that won three national championships. Schumacher also earned a master's degree at UW-LaCrosse, and in 2002 he earned the UW-LaCrosse Multi-Cultural Alumni Award for his accomplishments while at IWU and his human and ethical qualities. In his six seasons as track coach, the Titans have produced 32 All-Americans including two national champions. The 2003 track season saw the Lady Titans break 21 school records including a 3:44.16 clocking in the 4x400 which is the fifth fastest time in Division III history.

FAMILIAR PRESS BOX: The Wisconsin-LaCrosse sports information director, David Johnson, is no stranger to the IWU press box - he was the sports information director at Millikin from 1996 to 2000.

ON THE AIR: The IWU/UW-L game will be broadcast live on WJBC Radio, AM-1230.

LOOKING AHEAD: The Titans play two more non-CCIW games - playing at Washington U. at 1 p.m. next Saturday, then hosting the University of Chicago at 6 p.m. Sept. 27. IWU opens CCIW play on the road Oct. 4 at 1 p.m. vs. North Park in Chicago.