

August 28, 2003

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Titan Women Look for Next Level of Success

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - The Illinois Wesleyan women's soccer team has great expectations for the 2003 season after setting a high standard one year ago.

Last fall the Titans were 13-4-2 and came within a game of wresting the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin championship from nine-time champion Wheaton in the CCIW postseason tourney.

With 13 letterwinners returning, IWU has set lofty goals as it opens its season at 2:30 p.m. Friday in the Titan Soccer Classic against Loras, an NCAA Division III tournament team last fall.

"As a team we are aware of the task ahead as we look to win the conference and be in the national tournament," said IWU coach Dave Barrett. "If our veteran players can step up and play well, we will do well."

Leading the returning players is three time all-CCIW player and third team all-region selection Ann Bernard (**St. Charles HS**). Last fall she scored five goals with eight assists, raising her career totals to 19 goals, 21 assists, and 59 points, making her sixth all-time on the Titan scoring list.

"Ann is one of the premiere players in the league and seniors have a way of playing their best in their final season," said Barrett. "We will rely on Ann's talent and experience."

Joining Bernard as offensive threats are sophomore striker Katie Kelly (**Wheaton, Warrenville South HS**), sophomore Mary Karson (**St. Charles HS**) and junior center midfielder Marisa Johnson (**Wayne, St. Charles East HS**).

"Karson was a first team all-region player last fall as a freshman and is a very good athlete," said Barrett. "She will play as a back, a midfielder and as a forward, somewhere in the center of the field to give us a versatile threat."

Karson had eight goals with two assists and tied for the team lead with 18 points.

Johnson, a first team all-CCIW selection, scored five goals with six assists to improve her career totals to 11 goals and 11 assists for 33 points, 10th all-time at IWU. Kelly had two two-goal games and scored seven last fall with a total of 16 points.

Sophomore Brittany Kirkpatrick (**Lakeville, Minn., HS**) and junior Stephanie Travers (**Maryville, Rosati-Kain HS**) are other forwards who Barrett says will be used to attack the goal to make the team more dangerous offensively. Returning midfielders are junior Kristin Wood

(Sycamore HS), last season's "Most Improved Player," and sophomore Jenny LaBrenz (Kalamazoo, Mich, HS).

Barrett says as many as four freshmen could find starting assignments, including Emily Castner (Elgin, Larkin HS) in goal to replace the graduated three-time all-CCIW player Alicia Heeger.

Other possible freshmen starters are left back Katie Korder (Urbana HS), midfielder Lyndsay O'Brien (Peoria, Notre Dame HS) and forwards Carly Pearlman (Highland Park HS) and Amy Slott (Oswego HS).

IWU allowed only 10 goals in 19 games last year and defensively returns senior co-captain Lauren Boegen (Waukegan, Warren HS), a second team all-CCIW selection, and adds freshman Ashley Goergen (Geneva HS).

The Titans' schedule is grueling, featuring Wheaton (Ill.) and Wheaton (Mass.), ranked No. 5 and No. 6 respectively in the preseason Division III national poll, along with Chicago and St. Thomas, who are No. 14 and No. 22 in the national rankings. Aurora is another opponent that advanced to the NCAA Division III tournament last fall.

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN 2003 WOMEN'S SOCCER SCHEDULE

Aug. 29	TITAN WOMEN SOCCER CLASSIC	
	Millikin vs. Kalamazoo	12 p.m.
	Illinois Wesleyan vs. Loras	2:30 p.m.
Aug. 30	TITAN WOMEN SOCCER CLASSIC	
	Millikin vs. Loras	12 p.m.
	Illinois Wesleyan vs. Kalamazoo	2:30 p.m.
Sept. 5	HOPE	6 p.m.
Sept. 13	ST. THOMAS	1 p.m.
Sept. 14	WHEATON (Mass.)	12 p.m.
Sept. 20	* at Augustana	4 p.m.
Sept. 24	at Washington U.	7 p.m.
Sept. 27	* at North Park	12 p.m.
Sept. 30	* at Millikin	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 4	* CARTHAGE	1 p.m.
Oct. 8	* at Elmhurst	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	AURORA	7 p.m.
Oct. 17	at UW-Oshkosh	2 p.m.
Oct. 18	at Lawrence	2 p.m.
Oct. 22	CHICAGO	7 p.m.
Oct. 25	* at North Central	12 p.m.
Oct. 29	at Webster	7 p.m.
Nov. 1	* WHEATON (Ill.)	4 p.m.
Nov. 5-8	CCIW Tournament	

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN 2003 WOMEN'S SOCCER (alphabetical)

Head Coach - Dave Barrett (Wesleyan U. '93, Third season at IWU)

Assistant Coaches - Beth Seidelmann, Brian Rossi

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	YR.	HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL)
5	Ann Bernard *** #	MF	5-5	Sr.	St. Charles (HS)
15	Lauren Boegen *** #	B	5-8	Sr.	Waukegan (Warren HS)
1	Emily Castner	GK	5-5	Fr.	Elgin (Larkin HS)
11	Kristin Freund	B	5-2	Fr.	McHenry (Johnsburg HS)
21	Zaya Fusco **	B	5-5	Jr.	Freeport (HS)
17	Ashley Goergen	B	5-7	Fr.	Geneva (HS)
0	Heather Jensen *	GK	5-3	So.	Windham, N. H. (Salem HS)
3	Marisa Johnson **	MF	5-9	Jr.	Wayne (St. Charles East HS)
7	Mary Karson *	MF/B	5-10	So.	St. Charles (HS)
20	Katie Kelly *	MF	5-4	So.	Wheaton (Wheaton Warrenville So. HS)
12	Brittany Kirkpatrick *	F	5-2	So.	Lakeville, Minn. (HS)
2	Katie Korder	MF	5-4	Fr.	Urbana (HS)
10	Jenny LaBrenz *	MF/B	5-6	So.	Kalamazoo, Mich. (Central HS)
22	April Naylor **	MF	5-8	Jr.	Geneva (HS)
6	Lyndsay O'Brien	MF	5-5	Fr.	Peoria (Notre Dame HS)
14	Eileen Ouska	F/MF	5-7	Fr.	Skokie (Niles West HS)
8	Carly Pearlman	F	5-4	Fr.	Highland Park (HS)
4	Jessa Pyzyna **	B/F	5-8	Jr.	Arlington Heights (Hersey HS)
16	Amy Slott	F/MF	5-3	Fr.	Oswego (HS)
13	Stephanie Travers **	F	5-6	Jr.	Maryville (Rosati-Kain HS)
9	Kristin Wood **	MF	5-8	Jr.	Sycamore (HS)

* — Indicates letters won.

— Indicates captains.