THE GAME: In the annual Homecoming game, Illinois Wesleyan (3-1, 1-0 CCIW) hosts Augustana (2-2, 1-0 CCIW) on Sat., Oct. 11. Kickoff is at 1:30 p.m. at Wilder Field in Illinois Wesleyan Stadium...This is the last of three straight home games for IWU...Titan teams are 26-12 in Homecoming games since 1965.

LAST WEEK: In the start of College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin play, Illinois Wesleyan outscored North Park 24-0 in the final 17 minutes on Oct. 4 to claim a 27-7 win. The Titans, who had a 443-170 edge in total yardage, improved to 3-1 overall with their 18th straight win over the Vikings. After a scoreless first half (marred by two turnovers and a missed field goal), the Titans trailed, 7-3, late in the third quarter before the running game got started behind sophomores Ryan Spellman (Wilmette, New Trier HS) and Matt Ross (Chatham, Glenwood HS). Ross’ 35-yard TD run with 2:15 left in the third put the Titans ahead to stay, 10-7. Spellman and Ross both had short TD runs in the fourth quarter as IWU erupted for 240 rushing yards in the second half (348 overall). Spellman ran for 121 yards on 20 carries, Ross had 95 yards (11 carries) and sophomore FB Rick Alvis (Metamora HS) added 61 yards. Steve Lucas (Grant Park, Kankakee HS), the CCIW passing leader, was 12 of 24 for 111 yards. Receiver Eric White (Antioch HS), coming off back-to-back 12-reception games, faced double coverage and was held to three catches for 20 yards. The Titans snapped the scoreless deadlock in record-setting fashion on a 38-yard field goal by Brian Klesath (Peoria, Notre Dame HS) at the 10:30 mark of the third period. The kick was his 30th career field goal, breaking the school mark he shared with Dave Pearce (1979-82). Klesath also made a 24-yarder in the fourth quarter.

Players of the Week: Chosen by Titan coaches to honor top players in the week’s game and practices. The “Titan Award” is new in 2003 to honor a player for work ethic, loyalty and spirit.

Offense: Ryan Spellman, sophomore, running back, Wilmette (New Trier HS)
Defense: Michael Cafferata, junior, end, Chicago (Gordon Tech HS)
Special Teams: None selected
Scout (Offense): Armond Boulware, freshman, back, Gary, Ind. (Thornridge HS)
Scout (Defense): Brian Kowieski, freshman, linebacker, Elmhurst (Immaculate Conception HS); Jason O’Hara, junior, line, Bolingbrook (Romeoville HS)
Titan Award: Brandon Cotter, freshman, quarterback, Bradley (Bradley-Bourbonnais HS)

Head Coach: Norm Eash (Illinois Wesleyan, 1975) is in his 17th season as head coach at IWU and has an overall record of 108-45-1 (.704) and a CCIW mark of 81-36-1 (.691) with league titles in 1992, 1994, 1996, 2000, and 2001. Eash,

Defensively, sophomore LB Damon Banks (Bellwood, Walther Lutheran HS) had eight total tackles (four solo) and freshman Mike Stephens (Orland Park, Providence Catholic HS) and senior Solomon Jones (Kankakee HS) each had six tackles with Stephens getting a quarterback sack, his fourth in two games.

2003 TITAN FOOTBALL
Illinois Wesleyan vs. Augustana

AT WILDER FIELD: Illinois Wesleyan is 48-10 (.828) at Wilder Field in the last 11 years (1991-2002). The IWU football facility is the fifth oldest football stadium in the country (1893), behind Wesleyan [Conn.] (1881), Williams [Mass.] (1883), Sewanee [Tenn.] and Amherst [Mass.] (both 1891).

FOR THE RECORD: Since 1995, IWU is 60-16 in its last 75 games (.789). The 16 losses have come to Wheaton (5); Millikin (4); Augustana (3); Mount Union, UW-LaCrosse, Washington U., and Carthage (1 each)...The Titans are 59-18 (.766) at home and 49-27-1 on the road (.643) under Eash.

All-Time: IWU is 493-353-42 (.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.

October Games: Since 1987 (Norm Eash’s first season), Illinois Wesleyan teams are 47-25 (.633) in games played in October.
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).

SCOUTING THE VIKINGS: Augustana has lost to Wisconsin-Stevens Point (19-15), Central [Iowa] (3-0), and has wins over Wisconsin-Platteville (27-26) and North Central (27-7)...The Vikings and Wheaton were the preseason CCIW favorites in the coaches’ poll...Last week Mike Clark kicked a pair of field goals and the Augustana defense held North Central to 169 yards in total offense. Clark kicked a 26-yarder in the second quarter and a 42 yarder late in the third. Augie was held to just 171 yards rushing as Kyle Zick led the way with 93 yards on 23 attempts. Late in the first half, Viking quarterback Brad Wendell hit Zick with a 45 yard pass that set up a nine yard rushing TD from Aaron Kuzniar. In the third quarter, the Vikings drove 43 yards in eight plays with Zick getting the TD on a two yard run. As a team North Central had just 77 yards rushing against the Augustana defense led by Steve Szpejnowski (10 tackles), Sean Christian (eight, including five for loss and a pair of sacks) and Mike Hansen (five tackles, three tackles for loss and two quarterback sacks)...Clark was the NCAA Division III national "Player of the Week" for Sept. 27 after nailing a 54 yard field goal to beat UW-Platteville...Jim Barnes, a 1981 Augustana grad, has a 26-9 record in his fourth year at his alma mater. Barnes came to Augie after five years as head coach at the College of Wooster (Ohio), where his teams were 37-13. In 1997, the Scots were 9-1 and were 8-2 in 1994 and 1999. He was a three-year starter at defensive back and was team captain and all-CCIW in 1980.

THE SERIES: Illinois Wesleyan is the only team in the CCIW with a winning series edge historically on Augustana. The Titans lead 38-29-1 and have won five of the last eight meetings...Augustana won last year’s game, 27-10, in Rock Island and has won two in a row and three of the last four games...The Vikings won 11 in a row vs. IWU from 1981-91.
ON THE AIR: The IWU / Augustana game will be broadcast live on the Internet at www.wjbc.com. Russ Eisenstein will provide the play-by-play.

BRIAN KLESATH: The senior from Peoria (Notre Dame HS) is the new all-time field goal leader in IWU football history. With two vs. North Park, he now has 31, which eclipses the mark of 29, held for 21 seasons by Dave Pearce, who kicked from 1979-82...Klesath also has 182 career points, third most all-time at IWU and just 10 short of Dick Raab (1961-64) with 192 in second place...This season he became IWU’s all-time leading kick scorer, passing Todd Rozbori (158, 1994-97)...Klesath has 89 career extra point kicks, making him second in IWU career records, but behind Rozbori’s record of 116...Last year Klesath 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.

ERIC WHITE: Eric White (Antioch HS) continues to lead the CCIW in catches and receiving yards per game. Against both Chicago and Washington U., he had 12 catches in a game, tied for seventh most in an IWU game (see records below)...He had 12 grabs for 203 yards and two TDs at Washington U. and the 203 yards is eighth best at IWU...For his career, White has 128 catches and 1,888 total offense through games of Oct. 4...Lucas had a huge passing day at Washington U. on Sept. 20, completing 28 of 49 passes for three TDs and 343 yards. The 28 completions is tied for second most in an IWU game and the 343 yards is 11th best all-time at IWU...Last year, as backup to Josh Akin, Lucas was 3-for-4 passing for 21 yards...His first completion this season (on the first play from scrimmage) was for 80 yards and a touchdown to Eric White.

LEAGUE HONORS: Millikin return specialist/WR Nathan Chandler and Augustana DL Sean Christian are CCIW "Players of the Week" for Oct. 4 games. Chandler singlehandedly turned the tide for the Big Blue in a 21-17 win over Carthage when he returned a punt 98 yards for a TD (9:17, fourth quarter) with what ended up as the winning score. He finished with three kickoff returns for 133 yards and one catch for four yards. Christian had eight total tackles (five solo) and was credited with five tackles for loss (12 yards) and a pair of QB sacks (five yards). He also had a pass deflection...IWU senior linebacker Mike Clark (Joliet, West HS) was the CCIW "Defensive Player of the Week" for his play vs. Washington U. on Sept. 20. He also won the league honor once (vs. Millikin) in 2001.

LOOKING AHEAD: The Titans will play their first road game since Sept. 20 after three straight home games as they travel to Naperville to meet North Central. Gametime is 1 p.m. for the College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin contest. North Central is coached by 1969 IWU graduate John Thorne.

STEVE LUCAS: Junior Steve Lucas (Grant Park, Kankakee HS) will get his fifth start at Illinois Wesleyan as quarterback...He leads the CCIW in passing yards and total offense through games of Oct. 4...Lucas had a huge passing day at Washington U. on Sept. 20, completing 28 of 49 passes for three TDs and 343 yards. The 28 completions is tied for second most in an IWU game and the 343 yards is 11th best all-time at IWU...Last year, as backup to Josh Akin, Lucas was 3-for-4 passing for 21 yards...His first completion this season (on the first play from scrimmage) was for 80 yards and a touchdown to Eric White.

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