2007 TITAN FOOTBALL
Illinois Wesleyan vs. North Central

THE GAME: Illinois Wesleyan (6-2, 5-0 College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin) is in its 116th football season...The Titans aim for their sixth consecutive win this year playing at North Central (6-2, 4-1 CCIW) in Naperville at 2 p.m...The last IWU six-game win streak was in 2001-2002. The Titans won their last five at the end of the 2001 season and the streak continued to a nine-game skein with four straight wins at the start of the 2002 season.

THE SERIES VS. THE CARDINALS: In a series that dates back to 1945, IWU leads North Central, 36-18-3 and have won 20 of the last 26 meetings. The Titans had won 14 straight games against the Cardinals before losing the last four seasons, including a 47-21 loss in Bloomington last season.

ON THE AIR: The IWU/North Central game will be broadcast live on the Internet at www.wjbc2.com.

FOR THE RECORD: IWU is 77-43 in its last 120 games (.642) since 1995...The Titans are 69-28 (.711) at home and 55-44-1 on the road (.561) under Norm Eash...The 43 losses have come to Wheaton (8); Augustana (7); Millikin (6); Carthage and North Central (4); Elmhurst (3); Simpson, UW-Eau Claire, Mt. St. Joseph and Coe (2); and Mount Union, UW-La Crosse, and Washington U. (1)...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 the 1993 team was 4-5. The Titans had been at .500 or better for 10 straight years.

NOVEMBER: In November, IWU is 30-17 (.638) in the Norm Eash era and was 0-2 last season in the month. The last Titan victory in November was in 2003.

OCTOBER: In October, IWU is 57-36 (.613) in the Norm Eash era, was 4-0 this year and was 2-2 last season in the month.

AT WILDER FIELD: Illinois Wesleyan is 59-21 (.738) at Wilder Field in the last 16 seasons (1991-2007)...The Titans are 4-0 in night games since lights were brought back to the field in 2001...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).

ON TO THE NEXT 500: IWU is 510-380-42 (.570) in 116 football seasons...The 500th win came in a 23-14 win over Wheaton on Oct. 22, 2005.

LOOKING AHEAD: The Titans host league-leading Wheaton at 1 p.m. on Saturday (Nov. 10) in “Seniors’ Day” and the last regular season game of 2007.

LAST WEEK: Illinois Wesleyan remained undefeated in the CCIW with a 20-14 win at North Park on Oct. 27. The Titans won their fifth straight for the first time since the end of the 2001 season. IWU got 142 rushing yards on 29 carries from senior Marcus Dunlop (Maywood, Proviso East HS) while freshman Bo Lanter (Clayton, Mo., HS) had 93 yards on 17 carries with two touchdowns. Lanter scored in the second quarter and early in the fourth quarter and sophomore quarterback Kraig Ladd (Shelbyville HS) ran for a score in the third quarter. IWU led 20-0 before two Viking scores with less than 11:00 to play in the game. Ladd was 15 of 27 for 142 yards as the Titans amassed 387 yards of total offense while the defense limited North Park to 145 yards. Junior Dan Souder (Elk Grove Village, Elk Grove HS) had seven tackles and senior Bo Osburn (Morton HS) made six total stops to pace IWU while senior Brian Smith (Louisville, Ky., Trinity HS) had an interception.

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: Marcus Dunlop, senior, back, Maywood (Proviso East HS); Eric Van Hise, senior, line, Rochelle (HS)
DEFENSE: Tim Wilkins, senior, defensive end, Evanston (HS)
SPECIAL TEAMS: Robert Beauchamp, junior, defensive back, Cerro Gordo (HS); Donnie McGhee, senior, defensive back, Hazel Crest (Hillcrest HS)

SCOUT (Offense): James Reed, freshman, receiver, Orland Park (Marist HS); Harrison Gholston, freshman, receiver, Joliet (HS); Michael Handke, freshman, tight end, Brookfield (Lyons Township HS)
SCOUT (Defense): Mike Smith, sophomore, line, Chicago (Leo HS); Miguel Jones, freshman, back, Maywood (Walther Lutheran HS)

TITAN AWARD: Martin Ceisel, junior, wide receiver, Deerfield (HS)

OTHER GAMES TODAY
Augustana at North Park, 1 p.m.
Carthage at Wheaton, 1 p.m.
Elmhurst at Millikin, 1 p.m.

GAMES NEXT WEEK (NOVEMBER 10)
Millikin at Augustana, 1 p.m.
North Central at Carthage, 1 p.m.
Wheaton at Illinois Wesleyan, 1 p.m.
North Park at Elmhurst, 1 p.m.
2007 ILLINOIS WESLEYAN PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

SCOUTING THE CARDINALS: North Central is ranked No. 28 in d3football.com and 19th in Don Hansen's Football Gazette this week...Their lone league loss was on Oct. 6 to Wheaton, 28-24, when the Thunder came back from a 17-0 deficit to win with a score in the final 2:00...The Cardinals also lost (16-13) to Washington U. on a score in the final 2:30...For the second time this season, sophomore quarterback Aaron Fanthorpe is the CCIW "Offensive Player of the Week" as he led the Cardinals to a 31-15 win at Augustana, their first victory at Ericson Field since 1980. Fanthorpe led the team in rushing and passing as he completed 11 of 20 passes for 105 yards and two TDs and also rushed for a team-high 106 yards on 17 attempts. The Cardinals’ run defense held the Vikings’ sixth-ranked rushing offense to only 108 net yards. Forced to pass, Augie quarterbacks were a combined 10 of 21 for 128 yards, one interception and one touchdown. North Central was the team with the dominant ground game, rushing for 259 yards on 51 attempts...Conference statistical leaders for the Cardinals are sophomore Dominic Sulo (rushing, 120.6 per game), Fanthorpe (total offense, 245.4), sophomore Matt Wenger (56 total tackles, 25 solo), Jordan Hoffman with three interceptions and Joe Schneiderbauer in both punt return average (15.3) and kickoff return average (23.8).

MARCUS DUNLOP: With 2,510 career yards, senior running back Marcus Dunlop (Maywood, Proviso East HS) is in second place all-time at IWU and needs 263 rushing yards (131.5 per game) to overtake Kurt Swearingen’s career total (2,772 yards, 1975-78)...Dunlop is now the school career leader in rushing attempts with 631, eclipsing the mark of 604 by Britt Travis (1977-80).

1. Kurt Swearingen (1975-78) ........ 2,772 (588 att.; 4.71/rush)
2. MARCUS DUNLOP (2004-) ........ 2,510 (631 att.; 3.98/rush)
4. Dick Raab (1961-64) ............ 2,475 (485 att.; 5.10/rush)

MARTIN CEISEL: Junior Martin Ceisel (Deerfield HS) is No. 9 all-time at IWU with 132 career receptions. He is No. 5 all-time with 2,036 receiving yards and also No. 5 with 23 TD catches...Ceisel was chosen "Offensive Player of the Week" in the CCIW in the Oct. 20 win over Elmhurst. He made 12 catches for 162 yards, catching two TDs and rushing for a third.

MONTHLY BREAKDOWN OF NORM EASH RECORD

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TITANS IN THE LEAGUE: The Titans are the top defensive team in the CCIW, allowing 245.0 yards per game, and will be facing the league’s top offensive team in North Central (414.0). The Titans also lead the league in pass defense (126.4) and are fifth in rush defense (118.6). IWU is fourth in total offense (353.8). Individuals in the top five in league-only statistics:
- Marcus Dunlop - Rushing (2nd, 76.2)
- Kraig Ladd - Passing Average (2nd, 208.4), Total Offense (2nd, 225.8), Pass Efficiency (4th, 129.6)
- Martin Ceisel - Receptions (1st, 7.2/g), Receiving Yards (2nd, 90.6), Scoring (4th, 7.3 ppg)

THE RANKINGS: Three IWU foes have earned national rankings this week.

D3football.com - Football Gazette
Wheaton (6-0) ............... 4 ......... 7
North Central (4-2) ........... 28 .......... 19
Mount St. Joseph (5-1) ......... 36 ......... 34

THE COACHES: Norm Eash (Illinois Wesleyan, 1975) is in his 21st season at IWU and has a career record of 125-72-1 (.634), 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 2001, 1996 and 1992. His career CCIW mark is 94-55-1 (.630), making him fourth all-time in victories in the league. John Thorne, a 1969 Illinois Wesleyan grad, is in his sixth season at North Central and has a record of 44-17 (.721). Prior to 2002, he spent 22 years as coach of Wheaton Warrenville South HS, where he had a 181-64 record with state titles in 1992, 1995, 1996, 1998 and two runner-up finishes. He also captured six DuPage Valley Conference titles and earned DuPage Area "Coach of the Year" honors five times.

NORTH CENTRAL (36-18-3) 1969 IWU 34, @ N. Central 14 1990 IWU 42, @ N. Central 28
1970 IWU 44, @ N. Central 7 1991 IWU 44, N. Central 9
1946 N. Central 20, IWU 0 1972 IWU 14, @ N. Central 9 1993 IWU 38, @ N. Central 24
1950 IWU 41, N. Central 33 1974 IWU 26, @ N. Central 6 1995 IWU 25, @ N. Central 0
1953 N. Central 15, IWU 12 1975 (tie) IWU 7, NCC 7 1996 IWU 60, N. Central 0
1955 IWU 25, N. Central 9 1976 @ N. Central 16, IWU 14 1997 IWU 28, @N. Central 20
1957 N. Central 7, IWU 6 1978 @ N. Central 36, IWU 29 1999 IWU 14, @N. Central 6
1958 N. Central 15, IWU 0 1979 IWU 20, N. Central 7 2000 IWU 24, @N. Central 0
1959 IWU 6, N. Central 0 1980 IWU 29, @ N. Central 6 2001 IWU 33, N. Central 10
1961 N. Central 13, IWU 7 1982 @ N. Central 25, IWU 13 2003 @ N. Central 20, IWU 16
1962 IWU 27, N. Central 19 1983 IWU 26, N. Central 13 2004 @ N. Central 21, IWU 18
1963 IWU 20, N. Central 13 1984 IWU 48, @ N. Central 26 2005 N. Central 36, IWU 14
1964 (tie) IWU 13, NCC 13 1985 IWU 13, N. Central 0 2006 N. Central 47, @IWU 21
1965 IWU 21, N. Central 7 1986 IWU 34, @ N. Central 34
1966 @ N. Central 12, IWU 7 1987 N. Central 35, IWU 14
1967 IWU 40, N. Central 30 1988 @ N. Central 30, IWU 17
1968 IWU 67, @ N. Central 0 1989 IWU 34, N. Central 13

KRAIG LADD: The Shelbyville High School product was "Offensive Player of the Week" in the CCIW and one of 11 national Division III "Players of the Week" chosen by Don Hansen's Football Gazette after his record-book entry day in a 35-31 win at Carthage Oct. 6. Ladd completed 27 of 37 passes for 404 yards and five touchdowns and had 52 rushing yards for a total offense day of 456 yards, second to the IWU mark of 458 set by Brad Forsyth against Carroll in 1989. Ladd’s 404 passing yards is the third most in an IWU single game, behind only John Rooney (426, Elmhurst 1983) and Chad Beatty (409, North Central 1997) and the 27 completions is the fourth best single game total. Ladd’s .730 completion total is third best in an IWU game, behind two efforts by Lon Erickson (.871, 27-31 vs. Millikin in 1996 and .750, 21-28 vs. North Park in 1995) ... Ladd played baseball for the CCIW champion Titans last spring and was 6-for-24 with one HR and five RBI.

ROGERS EARN CCIW HONOR: Freshman linebacker Dan Rogers (Palos Ridge, Maine South HS) was named CCIW "Special Teams Player of the Week" for his play in the 24-7 win over Millikin Oct. 13. He had six total tackles, including two solo, and recovered a fumble on a Millikin punt return with 4:54 to play in the game that gave the ball back to IWU, who scored a TD on a 26 yard pass three plays later.