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Golden Apple Offers Specialized Teaching Experiences

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Illinois Wesleyan University

NEWS RELEASE

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May 20, 2008

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Golden Apple Offers Specialized Teaching Experiences

BLOOMINGTON, III. – Illinois Wesleyan University 2008 graduate Amanda Cordes, an English and Spanish double major with a secondary education concentration from Naperville is one of ten Illinois Wesleyan Golden Apple Scholars honoring her promise to the Golden Apple Foundation as she embarks on her teaching career in Illinois.

Created in 1988 by the award-winning teachers of the Golden Apple Foundation, the Golden Apple Scholars program recruits talented high school graduates and a select number of college sophomores who commit to teaching careers in Illinois schools of need. As part of the commitment, The Golden Apple Scholars program requires its members to attend one of the 53 Illinois colleges and universities that participate in the program, to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, to obtain Illinois Initial Teacher Certification and to teach for at least five years in a school of need in Illinois after graduation.

Students are also required to participate in Summer Institute programs. In return for their commitment, the students receive \$2,500 per year for up to four years paid directly to their undergraduate institution and \$2,000 per summer for participation in the Summer Institute programs.

The Golden Apple Foundation defines a school of need as one listed on the government's Department of Education Federal Perkins Loan Program forgiveness list or one that states through its Interactive Report Card that less than 60 percent of students meet or exceed state standards in two subject areas.

Students who apply directly after high school participate in two consecutive Summer Institutes during which they live at DePaul University, work in Chicago area schools and take classes on various aspects of teaching. Sophomores in college have the opportunity to apply to become Pathway Scholars. The Summer Institutes continue throughout a student's college career with the final institute occurring the summer before they begin their student teaching. For more information, visit The Golden Apple Foundation Web site at www.goldenapple.org.

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Michael Lawton- Senior, Music Educ- River Forest. 12 Rristine Madigen- Senior, Educ. Star, Soc - Stokie, 12 Amy Siporic- Senior, History, La Salte. 12

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