

Logan Wallace to compete for Illinois Wesleyan University

By Daniel L. Chamness
Only time will tell if the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin, and more particularly Illinois Wesleyan University, will love Tuscola senior Logan Wallace as much as he loves them.

On Monday, the Tuscola senior inked his National Letter of Intent to compete in not only cross country for the Titans, but track as well. He selected the Bloomington-based IWU over Elmhurst University and Augustana College, both CCIW schools as well.

"The coaches at Augustana and Elmhurst were amazing individuals, but I already kind of had my heart set on IWU," said Wallace. "That was only solidified when I met the Titan coaches. I was welcomed enthusiastically and I immediately knew that was a team that I wanted to be a part of. It also did not hurt that J.D. (Barrett) and Kinlee (Miller) were already there and they told me everything they loved about IWU. What I got to experience in my short time there was amazing."

Wallace is in his third year

as a Warrior track athlete and recently completed his fourth year of cross country. He has been to state in track and field in the 1,600-meter relay. He and his three Warrior teammates (Clayton Hausmann, James Boyd and Bryce Graves) would run a time of 3 minutes, 33.98 seconds and miss earning an all-state medal in Class 1A by less than a second.

"I love the 800-meter run and the 400-meter run," said Wallace. "But, I love those relays (1,600-meter relay and 3,200-meter relay) even more," said the senior. "It combines you with the race you love and your friends/teammates. There is so much to like about those two races. The high point so far of my career has been that trip to state. Hopefully, Bryce and I will get another chance to get there in that relay or another event."

In cross country, there will be added distance in college. Most NCAA Division III races will be set at 8,000-meters, which translates to 4.97 miles.

"I am looking forward to the added distance in cross country," said Wallace. "I think it

will be fun. On the track, I see my main event as the 1,500-meter run. I would love to run anything from the 400-meter dash to the 1,600-meter run. I can see myself running the 3,000-meter, the 3,200-meter or the two-mile run occasionally."

The son of Jason and Wendy Wallace of Tuscola carries a perfect grade point average of 4.0. Not surprisingly, he has not only been on the honor roll, with highest honors, for the last seven semesters, he has also begun taking college level classes. Away from the cross country course and the track oval, the future Titan is a member of the Student Council, Students Against Drunk Driving, the Key Club, Student Advisory Council and Math Team.

"I really have to say the coaches and teachers that I have had at Tuscola, do everything they can do to prepare you for college," said Wallace. "In every way. I have taken a few college level classes during my time here. I took AP Calculus, English 101 and English 102. They have been extremely helpful toward helping you



FLANKED BY HIS PARENTS, Logan Wallace, inks his National Letter of Intent to compete for Illinois Wesleyan University. From left to right are Jason Wallace, Logan Wallace and Wendy Wallace. Photo by Daniel L. Chamness.

plan your future, whatever it may be. They will support you and guide you in the right direction."

In cross country and track, IWU has finished in the middle of the pack, usually sixth, in both sports. There are nine CCIW teams with one of the perennial powers in the NCAA

Division III included in the league. By joining the Titan team, he will become the third former Warrior to be on the track team and second to be on the men's cross country team.

"Coach (Ryan) Hornaday gave me some of the best advice when it comes to running," said Wallace. "He said 'running

is one of the best team sports. You don't just run for yourself, you run to help the team. One of the best things to be in college/university, or school in general, is to be part of a team. It does not matter if you are the best of the worst, just being a part of a team will make your time in school better."



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