WINTRUST

NEWS RELEASE

Wintrust Financial Corporation Will Be Presenting at U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray Financial Services Conference on October 29, 2003

2003-10-27

LAKE FOREST, Ill., Oct. 27 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Wintrust Financial Corporation ("Wintrust") (Nasdaq: WTFC) today announced that Company management will make a presentation to analysts and portfolio managers at the U.S. BancorpPiper Jaffray Financial Services Conference to be held in New York on October 29, 2003. Wintrust's presentation is scheduled to begin at 12:40 PM, Eastern time. Approximately 50 public companies will be presenting at the Conference on October 28, 2003 and October 29, 2003. Investors may access an Internet webcast of the presentation at Company's website at **http://www.wintrust.com** during the conference and for 30 days following the conference. The webcast may be accessed by clicking on the "Presentations" link located on the "Presentations and Conference Calls" page on the Company's website.

Listeners should go to the website at least fifteen minutes before the event to download and install any necessary audio software. There is no charge to access the event.

Wintrust is a $4.3 billion financial holding company whose common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Stock Market. Wintrust operates eight community banks that provide a full complement of commercial and consumer loan and deposit products and services through 34 banking facilities in the Chicago metropolitan area. Wintrust also provides brokerage, trust and investment services to customers primarily in the Midwest, as well as customers of the banks, and provides services in several specialty-lending niches.

SOURCE Wintrust Financial Corporation
-0- 10/27/2003
/CONTACT: Edward J. Wehmer, President & Chief Executive Officer, or David

A. Dykstra, Senior Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, both of Wintrust Financial Corporation, +1-847-615-4096/
/Web site: http://www.wintrust.com /
(WTFC)

CO: Wintrust Financial Corporation; U.S. BancorpPiper Jaffray Financial Services Conference
ST: Illinois, New York
IN: FIN
SU: CCA

LC-CM
-- CGM052 --
6974 10/27/200314:49 ESThttp://www.prnewswire.com