

Fragile

For alum Dean Allison, glass portraits are an artistic expression of the human condition.



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**ILLINOIS STATE
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FirstWord

The start of another academic year is upon us, bringing the traditional mix of excitement with some anxiety as students and their families settle into the routine of collegiate life.

At some institutions across the state and country, stress is added with the reality that higher education budgets are strained. Many universities are left with no option but to cut programs and positions, including Illinois State's peer schools.

Funding concerns are consistently and predominantly in the news within Illinois, as a two-year budget impasse continues. Gov. Bruce Rauner and legislative leaders remain at odds, and yet Illinois State continues with its mission of providing a premiere undergraduate education.



I want to make clear that through careful financial planning and sacrifices in campus operations, the academic enterprise has been protected at ISU. Faculty members remain in the classroom and support staff are on the job. There have not been furloughs or layoffs on campus. Both have become all too common at other universities, particularly in Illinois. There are no plans to initiate either at Illinois State, although there are 120 non-faculty positions purposefully left vacant.

Students likewise have the support needed to remain at Illinois State. A commitment was made to use some of the University's resources to continue providing Monetary Award Program (MAP) funding

to more than 4,000 students needing financial assistance. Their education must not suffer due to disagreements in the state capital.

The state's budget standoff has created a challenging road for all in higher education, requiring difficult decisions. For example, the timeline on non-safety related construction and maintenance projects has been pushed back at ISU. Major equipment purchases have been put on hold, with travel expenses greatly reduced.

Despite the gloomy budget forecast, confidence in Illinois State remains high. Growing freshman classes in recent years have helped the University better weather the economic storm. Although this fall's freshman enrollment is expected to moderate slightly, I remain confident that ISU's overall enrollment will not waiver in coming years.

I also remain optimistic that common sense will eventually prevail when it comes to a state budget and funding for higher education. State universities in Illinois are an important resource for the continued education and improvement of the state. They are not only centers of knowledge and learning, but economic engines.

This has not been an easy journey, but the campus community has worked together to keep the University steady through the financial storm. Please share with others that Illinois State remains strong and stable.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry H. Dietz".

Larry H. Dietz, Ph. D.
President, Illinois State University



ILLINOIS STATE

Volume 18, Number 1, August 2017

FEATURES

8 Moment in time

Dean Allison '01 is an artist who creates portraits that document a time, a place, and especially a person. He accomplishes all three using glass as his medium. Able to create a person's likeness from glass, Allison's work has been exhibited in the Smithsonian and is now touring across the country.

13 Worth the wait

Student leaders pitched the idea of creating a gathering place on campus back in 2006. During the spring of this year, the plan was realized with the unveiling of Redbird Plaza. The bricked area constructed where Rambo House once stood has as its key feature a bronze statue of the Redbird mascot.

18 From ISU to the NFL

Nancy (Nichols) Svoboda '86 is not the kind of player envisioned by Broncos' fans, yet she is key to the Denver team's success. Svoboda is senior vice president of human resources and involved in all top-level hiring. One of six females on the executive staff, she helped design the team's Super Bowl 50 ring.

22 Is anything safe?

From breached corporate data files to individual identity theft, the fear of being electronically hacked escalates daily. So does the need for professionals who work to prevent, detect and block cyber crime. An academic program starting this fall at ISU prepares students to enter the growing field of cybersecurity.



DEPARTMENTS

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On the cover: *Till I'm gathered safely in* is a glass portrait by Dean Allison, an Illinois State alumnus whose art is currently appearing in a traveling Smithsonian Museum exhibition.



Unearthing history

Undergrads study lost Native American community

The skeletal remains of about 120 Native Americans were retrieved in the 1970s from an ancient mound overlooking the Mississippi River valley in Western Illinois. They were discovered during a home construction project.

Anthropologists date the site, now known as Schroeder Mounds, to around 900 to 1150 A.D. Professor Maria Smith and her undergraduate students in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology are working to learn about these pre-Columbian people.

The University has a temporary loan of the burial collection. Smith incorporates the search for information into her Human Paleopathology and Skeletal Analysis course. Several of her students

have published their discoveries in scholarly journals.

“Every time you access the collection there are unanswered questions that could potentially be answered. That’s what I think intrigues the students,” said Smith, who is shown above with student Katharine Woollen. The bones pictured are skeletal replicas.

Woollen completed her anthropology major in May. She researched ankle and foot trauma that she found in 10 percent of the adults, primarily males. The location of the injuries posed a question about what the adults were doing that resulted in them breaking their metatarsals.

Finding the answer requires examining Schroeder Mounds people’s culture and labor. “Everything goes through your head,” said Woollen, who is entering graduate school to study forensic anthro-

pology. “Was this a male activity pattern? Was it unique to Schroeder Mounds? Or was it typical of other peoples who lived in the same economic context?”

Unfortunately, there is virtually no material culture information on the Schroeder Mounds people. Smith’s students have pieced together evidence showing they were sedentary and, based on an examination of their teeth, that corn was a diet staple.

“What is important to underscore is that these investigators are undergraduates,” Smith said. Woollen appreciates the unique experience.

“I’m just so thrilled that Dr. Smith agreed to do this project with me,” Woollen said. “I’ve learned so much from and about the Schroeder Mounds people. I can’t wait to see what else can be learned from them.”

Equipment upgrade brings high-definition to TV-10

Broadcast students will be better prepared for careers in the television industry now that TV-10 has switched to high-definition technology. The upgrade gives students hands-on experience with the same quality and type of equipment they will be using when they enter the field.

The new equipment includes a tri-caster, three studio cameras, HD cables, and a newly built monitor wall. It was purchased in part through generous gifts from TV-10 alumni.

“Our old equipment was about 23 years old,” said TV-10 News Director Laura Trendle-Polus '87, M.S. '00. “We felt like we were looking old and tired.” The upgrade has improved the quality of the station’s broadcast, which now has a clearer picture.

TV-10 began in 1974 and is housed in the lower level of Fell Hall. It is both an academic unit and a working laboratory. Students perform all roles for each broadcast, including reporting, writing, producing, creating graphics, taking photos and serving as anchors.

Grant helps youth in foster care earn degree

Less than 3 percent of youth raised in foster care earn a bachelor’s degree. Illinois State is partnering with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to help change that statistic.

With grants totaling \$250,000 from DCFS and a private donor, Illinois State’s Center for Child Welfare and Adoption Studies in the School of Social Work is establishing a First Star Academy to help prepare high school-aged youth in foster care for college. Illinois State joins only a handful of First Star academies in the nation.

“This grant will enable us to help transform lives,” said Associate Professor of Social Work Deneca Avant, who is also the academy director. “This program will ensure high school students have the tools to focus on academic and life skills to help them not only finish high school



The look and quality of TV-10's training have improved greatly with high-definition equipment.

but enter college, complete college, and enter adulthood.”

First Star Academy will offer Saturday academic enrichment classes, year-round mentoring, caregiver workshops, and a summer campus program. It builds on outreach to foster care youth, as ISU is also home to a Foster Youth Scholars Program that provides academic and mentoring support.

Graduate programs lauded as among best in nation

U.S. News & World Report has included three Illinois State programs in its 2018 edition of the Best Graduate Schools rankings released earlier this year.

College of Education graduate study, Mennonite College of Nursing’s master’s degree options and the part-time MBA sequence offered in the College of Business were noted.

ISU is one of four Illinois public universities named in the 2018 rankings for graduate education programs. Only one was listed for a master’s in nursing beyond Mennonite College of Nursing.

There were three, including Illinois State, cited in the MBA category.

The rankings are based on expert opinions about program excellence and statistical indicators that measure the quality of a school’s faculty, research and students. Statistical surveys go to administrators at more than 1,970 graduate programs, with more than 16,500 reputation surveys sent to academics and professionals in the disciplines.

Work of English professor gains international acclaim

Distinguished Professor of English Roberta Seelinger Trites received the 16th International Brothers Grimm Award presented by the International Institute for Children’s Literature in Japan.

The award recognizes prominent contributions made by a literary critic of children’s literature. Trites, who joined ISU’s English Department in 1991, is only the third U.S. citizen to receive the honor.

She has authored books that focus on feminist themes, including *Waking Sleeping Beauty: Feminist Voices in Chil-*

Where are they now?

What he likes to do now is fish.

But for 26 years, Bill Semlak enjoyed teaching students to talk to each other, debate, and navigate through France.

He came to Illinois State in 1974 as director of the Forensics Team, after earning his doctorate in political communications at the University of Minnesota. Within two years, he moved the program into the national spotlight, where it's stayed.

"The highlight of my career was the Forensics Program," said Semlak, who later directed the Honors Program. He became chair of the Department of Information Sciences, restructuring it as the Department of Communication. He taught a study abroad program in Grenoble, France, relocating there with his wife and four young children. When he returned to campus, he taught large lecture communication courses and completed his career as director of International Studies.

Retirement came earlier than planned in 2000 when his wife, Betty, was diagnosed with cancer. They wanted to see the world, so they bought a motor home and traveled to 47 states and six continents. She died in 2003. Three years later, one of his daughters, Anne Semlak '01, died of cancer. The Anne M. Semlak Memorial Scholarship in ISU's Women's and Gender Studies Program was established in her honor.

Semlak is a member of the College of Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame. He returned to campus to teach a couple of courses before finally retiring for good. "You know it's time to go when your students tell you their grandmother had you for class," said Semlak, who ends conversations with "Go for it!"

He and his wife, Joan Moore, spend winters in Texas and the rest of the year at their home on Heritage Lake in Mackinaw, where he likes to fish. He can be reached at wdsemlak@illinoisstate.edu.



Professor Emeritus Bill Semlak

dren's Novels. The International Institute of Children's Literature describes Trites' books as ground-breaking in their theoretical approaches to adolescent literature, feminist studies, historical, and cultural literary studies.

ISU excellence confirmed with national scorecard

Illinois State's high graduation rate and alumni earning power, coupled with its average cost, put the University in some elite company on the U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard.

Out of the nation's nearly 700 four-year public universities, Illinois State is one of just 41 schools that can tout high graduation rates, high alumni earning power, and an average annual cost below \$21,000. Other schools on the elite list include University of California, Berkeley; University of Maryland; and the University of Texas at Austin.

"There is no more credible source for data than the Department of Education," said Director of Admissions Jeff Mavros, M.S. '06. "We are proud of our commitment to student outcomes, and we are pleased to be in the company of so many great schools across the country."

The scorecard allows students and parents to easily compare schools and decide which college makes the most sense when considering costs, average student loan amount, students' ability to repay their loans, and their future earnings. ISU stands out for the high percentage of graduates who pay their student loan debt on time, a sign they are able to find good-paying jobs after graduation.

Student screenplay chosen superior in national contest

Television production senior Jessi Brutton captured first-place honors at the 2017 Broadcaster Education Association's Festival of Media Arts. She entered

the feature-length student scriptwriting category.

Brutton's original screenplay titled *Just Like Her* captured attention at the event that is the world's largest collegiate digital media and broadcast competition. More than 1,450 entries were received from nearly 200 universities and colleges.

Her screenplay, written during her junior year, is a science-fiction drama about a high school student who discovers she is an android created to replace a dead sibling. The story explores how people view personal identity, culture, social oppression and prejudice.

Alumnus named to GLT general manager position

ISU's public radio station is now under the leadership of R.C. McBride '99, who has been named general manager. He held the position on an interim basis following the retirement of Bruce Bergethon in 2015.

To the Editor,

What a great article! (“Days of May,” May 2017).

As a person who was there during the time that John Freed referred to as “a rather sleepy teachers’ college,” I can assure everyone that it was far from sleepy!

We had the number one college circus in the U.S. and a nationally recognized sports department. We had tremendous cultural opportunities. The college provided regular weekend social opportunities. We had an open door to the head of our department, and a highly skilled and friendly faculty.

My days at ISU had a profound influence on my life. It was very carefully chosen by this Oklahoma girl. My parents were determined that I would get the best education—even though we were so poor we didn’t have running water or electricity.

When I arrived as a junior, I sat on my bed and cried. I didn’t know a soul, and had never been away from Oklahoma. That was the last time I cried! I had joy of friends, learning, and participation in such a “crackling” environment!

We had a few black students on campus. I remember four who were friends of mine. I never did see any signs of discrimination. There was some when we went downtown, but none on the campus that I ever saw.

JimAnn Smith Oliver, '54

To the Editor,

I rarely ever read my *Illinois State* magazine and I’ve never written in, but I just had to tell you what an incredible article Kate Arthur wrote about Vickie Lannie (“When every moment matters,” Feb. 2017). I kept thinking while I read it that she is a true hero, unlike today’s sports “heroes.”

Jerry Davison '81

McBride has a background in broadcast and social media, as well as marketing. After starting his broadcast career in high school, he worked as an award-winning news reporter and sports play-by-play broadcaster. He served for more than 10 years as program director for WJBC in Bloomington-Normal.

“I look forward to undertaking the significant challenge of operating a financially viable public radio station in this era,” McBride said. “Given our talent, focus on community and the passion of our supporters, I know GLT is up to that challenge.”

McBride joined Illinois State in 2012 as an assistant director of University Marketing and Communications. He serves on the Normal Town Council and continues to provide play-by-play and sideline reporting for Missouri Valley telecasts.

Seasoned leader chosen for vice president role



Finance and Planning Vice President Daniel Stephens

Daniel Stephens began as the vice president for the Division of Finance and Planning in the spring. He replaced Greg Alt, who retired after 27 years at ISU. During the last three, he was vice president for Finance and Planning.

Stephens most recently served as the associate vice chancellor of finance for the University of North Texas System in Dallas, which includes three universities and more than 42,000 students.

He helped oversee an administrative restructuring and held senior leadership responsibility for many areas, including financial reporting, student financial services and accounts payable.

Prior to working in Texas, Stephens held senior financial leadership roles with the University of Idaho and Jacksonville University in Florida. He served as university controller and treasurer at both institutions. He also served as chief financial officer at Central Michigan University’s global campus division in Mount Pleasant.

Stephens earned an MBA in finance from the University of North Florida. He spent 15 years in financial leadership roles for several private corporations before working in higher education.

Fellowship backs study of attitudes toward prisoners

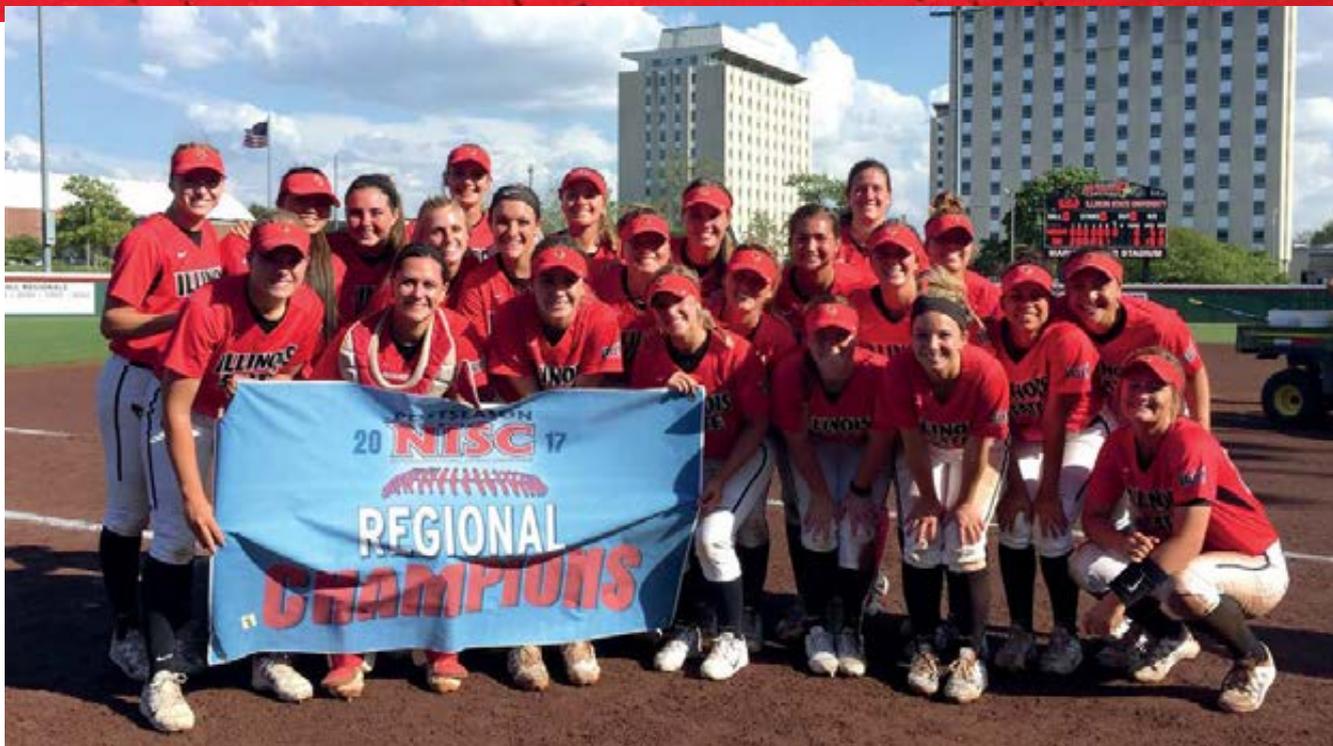
History Professor Amy Wood has received a prestigious Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship that supports her study of the nation’s sense of moral responsibility toward criminals in the late 19th century, which led to prison reform efforts.

She spent six weeks during the summer at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, examining prison reform literature and Jack London writings while working on a book titled *Sympathy for the Devil: The Criminal in the American Imagination*.

“It’s a cultural and intellectual history of crime and punishment in the U.S.,” Wood said. “I’m examining both scientific and popular understandings of the criminal mind and what made someone a criminal at the time.”

Prisons emerged in the United States in the 19th century, when criminals were seen as moral monsters, Wood said. The rise of criminology as a science pushed away that idea and empathy surfaced. Prison reformers used rising compassion for the criminal to build support for prison reform, including educational opportunities, parole and probation.

Redbird Athletics



Sensational softball

Season of milestones for head coach, team celebrated

The success of Illinois State's 2017 softball season will long be remembered, as the team earned a share of the MVC title for the first time since 2011.

With a 20-6 league record and a 33-24 overall tally, the Redbirds compiled the best record in five years.

"The records and firsts for this team are huge. They figured out how to get it done this year, and I'm incredibly proud of this team," said head coach Melinda Fischer '72, M.S. '75. She gained a professional achievement as well in reaching her 1,000th ISU win.

Fischer is the 20th coach in NCAA softball history to earn that many wins at one institution. In her 32nd year

at Illinois State, she is only the 10th Division 1 coach to claim such an honor. "The opportunity to be at Illinois State this long and to work with all the people who have produced those wins has been an amazing journey," Fischer said. "It's all in one place and that, to me, is really special."

So was the season, as the Redbirds received a bid to the National Invitationational Softball Championship Tournament and hosted a regional round.

They won the Regional 3 title and advanced to the six-team championship to play at Liberty University in Virginia as the No. 2 seed. They fell short of taking the tournament, but the loss did not overshadow the season.

The Redbirds ranked top-five in program history in eight statistical categories. Four members were named to the 2017 National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-Mideast Region team.

For the first time in team history, the team earned three, third-team selections. Jordan de los Reyes was a first-team pick.

A catcher from Moline completing her senior year, she broke seven ISU records and one in the MVC during the 2017 season. She earned the MVC's prestigious Player of the Year and ranked top-10 nationally in home runs per game, home runs, RBIs, RBIs per game, slugging percentage and total bases.

New leadership for women's basketball team

Kristen Gillespie has been named the eighth women's head basketball coach. She replaces Barb Smith, who led the Redbirds four seasons.

Gillespie comes to ISU after leading Lewis University in Romeoville to a 51-12 record over the past two seasons. The team advanced to the NCAA Tournament each year under Gillespie, with an appearance in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship game. She was named 2016 Coach of the Year in the league.

Prior to her time at Lewis, Gillespie coached four seasons at Benedictine University in Lisle and two at the University

of Illinois-Chicago. Her most formative years as a coach occurred while an assistant under legendary head coach Kay Yow at North Carolina State.

Gillespie was a four-year letterwinner as a player on the Wolfpack team, and was the starting guard on the 1988 NCAA Final Four squad. She has coached five student-athletes who went on to play professionally and recruited the 2010 Atlantic Coast Conference Rookie of the Year.

Gillespie is eager to start working with the Redbirds, saying she "welcomes the challenge of building Illinois State into an MVC power once again."



Trent Wallace

Golfer advances to NCAA Championship

Sophomore standout Trent Wallace became the first men's golfer to compete in the NCAA Division I championship since the ISU team qualified in 1975 under the leadership of D.A. Weibring '75. He is only the second student-athlete in MVC history to reach the championship round as an individual.

Wallace, who is from Joliet, entered the competition at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove as the No. 4 seed of the six individuals who qualified. He missed advancing to the final round by one stroke, finishing at even par.

Wallace made it to the NCAA championship by repeating as the MVC champion. He advanced from the NCAA West Regional at the Kampen Course on the Purdue University campus with a 1-over-par 217, despite battling 30 mph winds. He had the lowest score of all student-athletes who were not part of the top-five teams, placing seventh of the 75 competitors.

MVC welcomes new team

The Missouri Valley Conference has added Valparaiso University to the league following the departure of Wichita State. Valparaiso is an independent Lutheran institution in Indiana that sponsors 17 sports.

The Valpo Crusaders had been part of the Horizon League prior to joining the MVC July 1. They will begin competing in the upcoming 2017-2018 season.

"We are excited to welcome Valpo to the league," said ISU Athletics Director Larry Lyons. "They are a good fit academically and athletically." MVC Commissioner Doug Elgin agreed, saying Valparaiso "will be a great fit competing in our league."

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Muller gains coaching honor, opportunity

Men's basketball head coach Dan Muller '98 has been named an Illinois Basketball Coaches Association NCAA Division I Coach of the Year. He shared the honor with Northwestern coach Chris Collins, son of Redbird great Doug Collins '73.

In his fifth season as head coach, Muller led the Redbirds to a share of the MVC regular-season title in 2016-2017. The team finished at 28-7 overall and 17-1 in the conference, establishing program records for total wins, regular-season victories and league triumphs. He was named MVC Coach of the Year.

Muller's ISU record of 104-65 reflects a level of success others continue to note. He was one of four collegiate coaches chosen to serve as a court coach for the 2017 USA Men's Basketball U19 World Cup Team training camp.

He worked at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs this summer, preparing the team for competition in Egypt. Muller called the opportunity "an absolute honor to be part of USA Basketball. To be part of something so much bigger than myself is a dream come true."





A LIFE IN GLASS

**Alum's unique portraits
gain national acclaim**

BY KEVIN BERSETT

Glass artist Dean Allison sees a lot in a human face. He sees what has been trapped on the skin. He sees the person's facial expression, wrinkles, and pores. He sees a life lived as he attempts to capture a moment.

When he creates a portrait, Allison covers his subjects' faces—and sometimes their entire upper body—in rubber. He makes a mold and manipulates the wax, adding and subtracting material to reveal a person's essence, until he arrives at an image in time. He fills the mold with molten glass, leaving a frozen impression of his subject that will last long after the artist and subject are gone.

"One of my favorite painters was Francis Bacon, and one of the things he said was, 'My paintings are a snapshot in time.' And I like to think of my work like that," said Allison '01, a Chicago native and School of Art alumnus. "I call them portraits, but they are really a document of a time and a place."

One of his snapshots recently graced the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery. The museum selected Allison's work

as one of 43 finalists—from more than 2,500 entries—for the 2016 Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition. An exhibition of these portraits is now traveling around the United States. When the three-year tour ends, the Smithsonian has indicated it may buy his work.

“I applied to the competition not thinking I would get it,” said Allison, whose work has been in the Tacoma Art Museum in Washington. It will be shown in Texas and Kansas City yet this year. “It’s a lot of exposure, which is fantastic. Anytime you sell a piece or win an award like that, it gives you confidence to keep doing that.”

This was the latest highlight in an art career marked by several high-profile developments in recent years. Allison has established representation at three galleries: Blue Spiral I in North Carolina, Habatat Galleries in Michigan, and Seeger Gray Gallery in California. He has shown at the prestigious international art fairs SOFA Chicago and SCOPE Miami Beach. Public collections in Alabama, Florida, Michigan, and North Carolina own his work, which sells for as much as \$27,000 apiece.

“People are really validating what I do,” Allison said. “I never thought I would be in museums.”

Such an accomplishment is quite a reversal from a decade ago. He was ready to give up on his art career before one of his first portraits was curated into a show at the Muskegon

Museum of Art in Michigan. “That was a big turning point for me to be in a public collection and to hear really good feedback from my work. I got a top-end gallery from that show.”

Allison had been blowing glass for about a decade before his big break. He was introduced to glass art through a course Jack Wax taught at Illinois State in the late 1990s. Allison had been a figurative painter up to that point. He quickly realized that glass was the perfect medium for his work.

“Glass to me is something that is so similar to the human characteristic: It’s sharp, it’s fragile, it’s transparent, it’s opaque, it’s broken. It can be smashed; it can break down. It can be repaired and patched. It’s so similar to the human condition that I love it for what I’m doing.”

By the time Allison left Illinois State, he had decided to pursue a career as a glass artist. After graduation, he moved to Asheville, North Carolina, at Wax’s suggestion. He spent the next few years honing his glassblowing skills in the artist-friendly city, meeting glass art pioneer Harvey Littleton. He worked odd jobs and for various artists such as Illinois State School of Art alumnus Joe Nielander, M.S. ’91, M.F.A. ’94.

It was Allison’s decision to begin using glass casting for portraits that revealed a public taste for his work. He started creating portraits while he was working as an assistant to prominent glassblower Dante Marioni at North Lands Creative Glass School in Scotland. Allison described his early portraits

BEHIND THE SCENES

Dean Allison engages in a multistep process to create his glass portraits. These photographs were taken while Allison worked through different pieces. In the initial stage (*photographs 1-4*), he uses a platinum silicone rubber to make a mold of a live model, attempting to capture his subjects’ personalities and a subtle glimpse of their individuality. He then pours a wax, which he sculpts and refines, before applying an investment material—a wet plaster—that hardens into a shell and can be fired in a kiln (5). The sticks (6) represent air vents built into the final investment mold to allow bubbles to escape from the glass and to push glass into narrow areas. Allison can apply glass to the mold in different ways. Here (7), he blows glass into the hot investment mold. The wax is melted out of the mold by placing it on a steamer (8). This type of mold would be put in a kiln and filled with cold chunks of glass, then heated up to about 1,600 degrees and held there to transform the glass into a desired portrait. In the last step (9), Allison completes some finishing work on the final piece (10).





as more abstract and influenced by painting. The school's director, Jane Bruce, suggested he attend graduate school at Australian National University where he could work under Richard Whiteley, a glass-casting artist whose work was more minimalistic.

It was there Allison developed the techniques he now uses for his portraits. He called special effects schools in Australia and Europe to learn how to take an impression from life, incorporating what he learned into his current life-casting process.

Allison coats his subject in a platinum skin-safe rubber to form a mask. Then he backs that up with a plaster shell

“Glass to me is something that is so similar to the human characteristic: It’s sharp, it’s fragile, it’s transparent, it’s opaque, it’s broken. It can be smashed; it can break down. It can be repaired and patched.”

from which he makes a wax. He manipulates the wax, adding features such as clothes and hands or softening the material to form a gesture or movement. He makes another mold off the wax, investing the material with plaster silica, then steams or burns out the wax.

Finally, he adds glass to the work by blowing glass into the mold, ladling hot glass into the piece from the furnace, or placing the mold into a kiln and filling the piece with commercial glass. The piece is allowed to cool for several weeks. The entire process takes about two months to complete, though times vary because he is always working on several different pieces.

Allison’s subjects are usually people he knows or would like to know. He has created portraits of his parents and of his niece wearing a snorkel and a mask, *above*. He has been working on a full-body cast of his wife taken last year while she was pregnant.

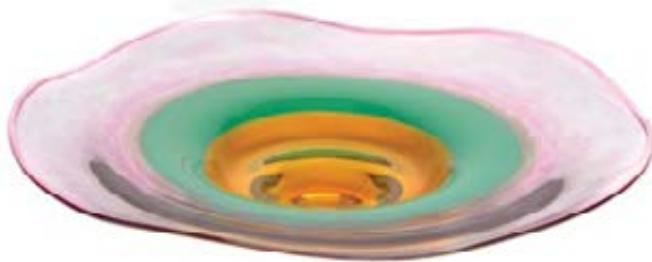
The subject of his Smithsonian portrait is a man named Grover. He was a well-known but seldom-heard-from character who resided in the small town in North Carolina’s Blue Ridge Mountains where Allison still lives.

From the outside, it looked like Grover spent all his days picking up trash to recycle. Allison later learned Grover spoke five languages and was making art out of the recyclables. Allison titled his work “What would the earth look like if all the shadows disappeared?”—a quote borrowed from the writer



Examples of Allison’s glass portraits include, *top left to right*, *Waiting on a World Series*; *Swimmer*; *The enduring comedy*, which is a self-portrait; and *I hear what I want to hear*.

Glass portraits, like the one titled *Float*, *page 8*, have helped galvanize Allison’s art career.



Besides glass portraits, Allison uses many different styles and techniques in his glass art, creating everything from abstract figures to decorative pieces.



Mikhail Bulgakov's novel *The Master and Margarita*.

"Grover just has this really interesting face and mannerism. Everyone knows his face, but nobody really knows him," Allison said. "He is this fascinating guy who lives on the outskirts of society. He is kind of like a shadow, and that is how the title came to be."

Allison's art career has taken him across the country and around the globe. He has studied or conducted workshops at several prominent glass art institutions including the Pittsburgh Glass Center, Corning Museum of Glass, and Pilchuck Glass School. He worked in Turkey and was asked earlier this year to teach in Israel.

Allison still appreciates his days at Illinois State and credits Wax for motivating him. "My relationship with Jack Wax was one where he really pushed me. He would always make me feel that I wasn't going to succeed in glass. I may not have been as persistent if I didn't get that from him."

Wax is impressed with the scale of his former student's work and his individualistic uses of color and texture. "He has imparted his own image into the objects he is making," said Wax, who is now a professor at Virginia Commonwealth University.

"I did doubt him," Wax admits. "I saw that he had potential, but he was a young guy who was enjoying his life. I'm

proud of him up to a point. I'll be even more proud of him once he pushes his work."

Allison plans to do just that, though he will do commissioned portraits and more commercial pieces to help pay the bills. He is building a glass studio at the North Carolina Penland School of Crafts, where he has worked since 2010 and is currently an artist in residency.

Once his studio furnace is finished, he wants to work with how glass flows into the mold in order to experiment with coloring and capturing the translucency of skin. The idea would be to add painterly aspects into the glass in a style reminiscent of figurative artist Lucian Freud's work.

Overall, life is good for Allison. He teaches a couple of workshops at Penland and spends most of his time either working on and marketing his art or tending to his infant daughter, who will no doubt someday be immortalized in one of her father's glass portraits.

Editor's note: The Outwin 2016 American Portraiture Today exhibit will be in the Art Museum of South Texas in Corpus Christi through September 10. It will then be on display from October 6 to January 7, 2018, at the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City, Missouri. To see more of Allison's work, visit deanallison.net.



Meet me at the Bird

By Kate Arthur

There's a new gathering place on campus: Redbird Plaza. Ten years in the making, the landmark has quickly become a popular space for conversation and events.

President Larry Dietz dedicated the outdoor space between DeGarmo and Fell halls on May 11. The bricked plaza, located where Rambo House once stood, became a reality through the Student

Government Association and a gift from the estate of Judith "Jude" Boyer, M.A. '68. She was a leader in Student Affairs for many years, retiring as vice president of the Division in 2000. Boyer died in 2012 at age 74.

"This is definitely the beginning of a new tradition," Dietz said. "There will be times in the future when having a space like Redbird Plaza will

be important, allowing us to gather for celebrations or major events. Yet I am drawn to the idea of the seemingly small moments, when members of our community feel supported and appreciated, and discover a sense of belonging."

Carved in stone in the semicircle with built-in benches are words from the University's fight song: "To this emblem we'll be true."



Local artist Rich Harney '86, *far right*, spent two months creating the bronze bust of Reggie Redbird. He used a smaller sculpture as the model, molded it in clay and then had it cast in bronze. Assistant Professor Randy Reid '87, MFA '96, fabricated the 350-pound base.

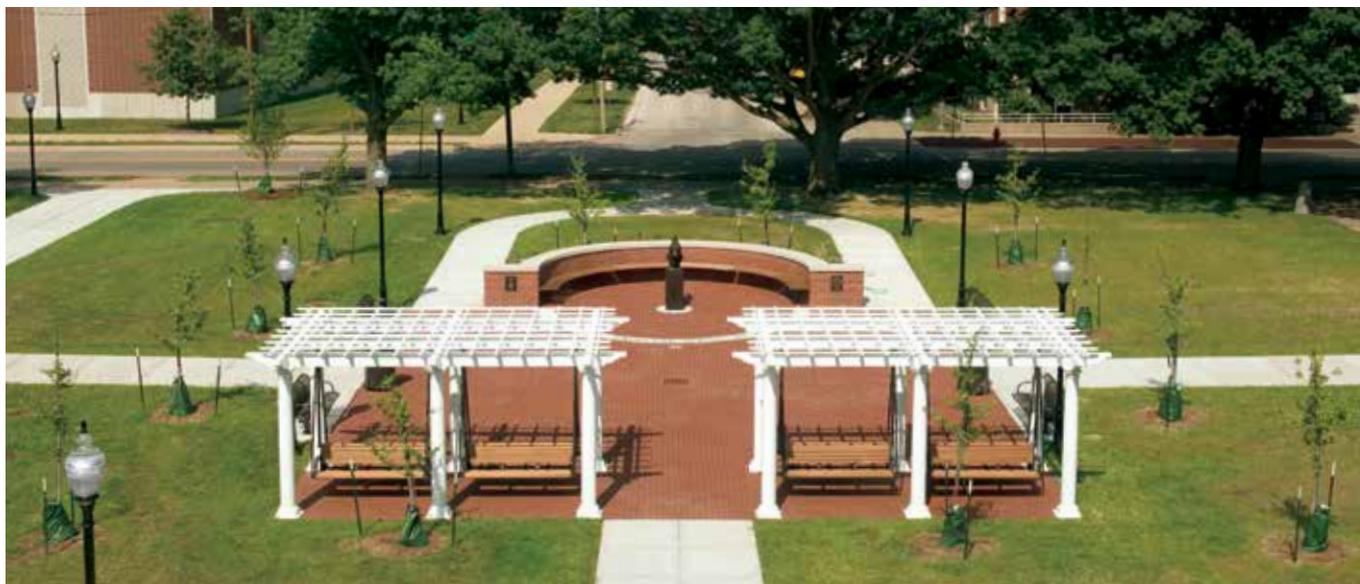
The key feature of the plaza is a bronze statue of the Redbird mascot. Sculpted by local artist Rick Harney '86, the bust is approximately 54 inches tall. Assistant Professor Randy Reid, '87, MFA '96, fabricated the 350-pound base from sheet bronze, as students watched the progress. The height was chosen for accessibility to anyone who'd like to rub the beak for luck—which is a common Redbird tradition.

Student trustee Ryan Powers '17 recalled the first time he heard student leaders wanted to bring a statue to the Quad. "I was thrilled but thought, 'How in the world am I going to convince the administration to build a statue on the Quad?' But as always, the administration opened its arms and accepted the idea because at Illinois State University, students have a voice."

He acknowledged the student leaders

in 2006 who first came up with the idea. "Those students a decade ago gave us the foundation to build this. Without their hard work, we would not be here today."

Vice President for Student Affairs Levester Johnson acknowledged the vision of the Redbirds who created the unique plaza space "where memories will be made, friendships strengthened, and traditions built. The vision of creating Redbird Plaza is fulfilled."





President Larry Dietz, right, and student trustee, Ryan Powers, center, assisted in the unveiling of the plaza statue. Vice President for Student Affairs Levester Johnson gave the countdown. Reggie and the Illinois State cheerleading team posed at the spot that is a popular place for photos.

Making it possible

Jude Boyer advocated for students for 32 years, giving them a voice and encouraging them to use their own. She was known for arriving at work before dawn and leaving long after the parking lot was empty.



Her influence was wide and deep, said long-time friend and campus colleague Mike Schermer '73, M.S. '78, who worked with Boyer for nearly three decades. "If you were here, she influenced you, but you may not have known it."

Boyer served as associate vice president for Student Affairs from 1973 to 1999, then vice president until her retirement in 2000. She was lost too soon, dying unexpectedly of a heart attack on Dec. 23, 2012, while traveling to her family's

home in Iowa. In her estate plan, she left her home to Illinois State. Memorials were made to the Division of Student Affairs' Student Enrichment Fund, which helped make the new Redbird Plaza possible.

One of her many legacies is how she changed commencement. Boyer moved it from a single ceremony in Horton Field House, where graduates were recognized by departments, to Redbird Arena with separate ceremonies for each college. The change allowed every student to cross the stage, which is still the practice today. She was also instrumental in initiating winter commencement ceremonies in 1995.

Boyer was Illinois State's first affirmative action officer for women, a strong proponent of student leadership programs and an advisor for numerous student organizations. "She was a fervent supporter of student leadership opportunities," said President Larry Dietz, "and her passion for elevating the student voice in shared governance is legendary."

Calling her a force of nature, Schermer chuckled when he recalled

how some feared her, but they also respected her. He remembers her favorite phrase was "People, work with me." And they did.

"She got things done. If anyone wanted a thorough examination of an issue and a thoughtful resolution, they would call Jude," he said. "She had a brilliant way of bringing people together."

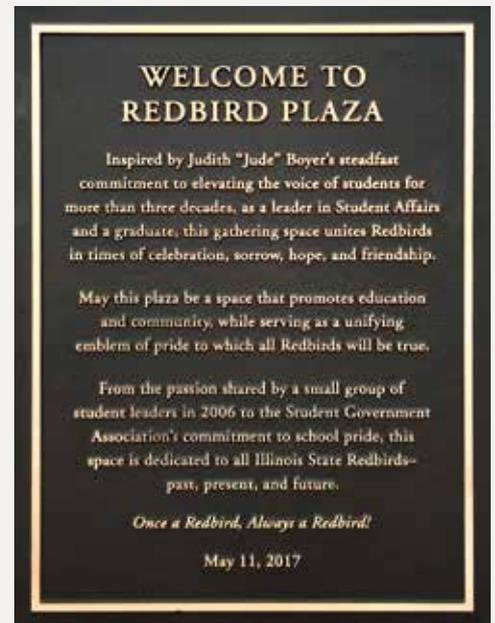
Boyer called her career at ISU a "fortuitous accident." The former high school chemistry teacher came to campus in 1968 to get her master's in the College of Education, which she did. She also started working in University Housing, helped open Watterson Towers, and eventually moved into Student Affairs. Besides student advocacy, another one of her passions was Redbird Athletics.

"She truly loved ISU," Schermer said. "Everything she did was based on making ISU better. Students loved her because she respected them. She inspired us to achieve, to make this a better and special place for all of us."

Would she like the idea of a gathering space being dedicated to her?

"Yes and no," Schermer said. "She would be overwhelmed with emotion, and she would say, 'Why me? There are a million other people who deserve it more.'"

Her former students and colleagues would disagree.





Inside Look

In a place like the prop shop, located on the lower level of Centennial East, things aren't always as they appear. Bridgid Burge, a third-year graduate student pursuing her MFA in scenic design, is charged with making sense of this eclectic and vast collection. It's a deceptively big place, lined with shelves of fascinating trinkets and treasures that twist and turn like a labyrinth deeper into the building. Crossing the threshold into the dark, windowless space brings a sense of suspended reality. But no matter the genre—musical, drama, comedy, dance, etc.—the wonderful storytelling that comes out of the productions put on by Illinois State's College of Fine Arts would surely suffer without this place. In other words, the show would not go on without the prop shop.

1. Bridgid Burge

Burge is a graduate assistant from Lexington, Michigan. She is the resident expert on all things prop shop. In her own words: "We are the executors of all the prop needs for all the shows."

2. Katie Capp

Capp is in her sophomore year. A double major in acting and theatre education, she is from Deerfield.

3. Devon Rodlund

Rodlund is also a sophomore. He is majoring in design production, with an emphasis on sound. Normal is his hometown.

4. Choose your weapon

The weapons in the prop shop can look quite imposing (note large axe and swords), but they are all non-lethal,

safe props. Professor Paul Denhardt is the department's weapons expert, fight coordinator, and is a director. He teaches classes in movement. Weapon props also include colonial-era guns, one of which Burge is cleaning in the photo.

5. Giddy up

That stick horse with the purple face was made by Burge and her team for Illinois Shakespeare Festival's (ISF) 2015 production of *Love's Labour's Lost*. This one-legged mount is all paper underneath a resin outer that's filled with expanding foam filler. Burge said in the play four men rode on stage aboard horses of descending sizes.

6. Drama club

That's a pretty giant club that Capp is working on, but have no fear because it doesn't carry much heft. It's made of



3

9

2

6

muslin, a cotton fabric, which is actually what gives it such a wrinkled appearance. The surface is hardened when a paste-glue compound known as scenic dope is applied.

7. Phony up the books

Rows of books are spines only, with not a single page to turn. They are made from scratch out of hard foam, carved, painted, and designed by grad student Samantha Gribben. These look-alikes—there’s a second set on the floor in the foreground—aptly played the part of books on a shelf during Illinois State’s 2016 production of *The Coffee Bar*, directed by Janet Wilson, director of the School of Theatre and Dance.

8. Busting Bill

Because of the prop shop’s close ties to the ISF, a bust of the Bard of Avon himself provides inspiration and acts as a reminder to the crew of the importance of its work in creating authenticity.

9. Sounds of silence

The Victrola, like similar items in the prop shop, looks like it should make music but does not. It is, Burge said, just a wood box constructed to look like the real thing, but the comparisons end there. Same for the hand-carved lute, just next to the Victrola, which she called “totally fake.”

10. Bird brella

So, where do you purchase a flamingo-headed umbrella? Nobody knows. But, if you needed one for a prop, you’d have

the prop shop create it. First, buy a regular umbrella and then have the talented students in the prop shop make up a flamingo head. This one also doubled as a croquet mallet in an Illinois State production of *Alice in Wonderland* in 2016.

11. Trunk-o-magic

This large trunk was made for ISF’s 2016 production of *Peter and the Starcatcher*, a prequel to *Peter Pan*. The play actually calls for two trunks, but only one held the stuff of magic within.

12. Fake glasses

Goblets are a go-to prop for anything Shakespeare, and thus are a favorite for ISF productions. Burge said that opaque goblets are preferred so that it’s easier for actors to pretend they are filled with something other than water. Cheers!



DIFFERENT PLAYING FIELD

Alumna executive team member of Broncos

by John Moody

Nancy Svoboda is a coach's kid from Joliet. Working in sports would consequently seem like a good fit, which it definitely is, yet it was never her career goal. It's just sort of the way the ball bounced. In her case, that ball was a football.

Svoboda '86, known as Nancy Nichols during her Illinois State days, is executive vice president of human resources for the Denver Broncos. Part of the executive staff, she is the only female in that elite group of seven.

Svoboda made her way to Colorado right after graduating from Illinois State's College of Business. Love inspired the move. Her husband-to-be, Greg, made it clear when they met that he had no intention of staying in the Midwest. He was determined to live in Colorado. She graduated in May of 1986, headed to Colorado for the first time in her life in June, and married in October.

"I actually got there first," Svoboda said of the life-changing move, explaining she found a job before her spouse. Colorado is where she's lived the longest. She loves the state that she now considers home, although she always credits her time on campus and her business administration degree for her fast professional start and subsequent success.



“The school helped build my experience,” Svoboda said. “I remember taking HR classes—compensation and HR management. The professors created a bond by putting us in groups and on committees. It introduced us to different personalities and how to get along with them.”

She recalls courses in marketing, finance, management, and her electives as well, all of which prepared her to “step

munications company. She got the job by answering a classified ad and stayed for 20 years, rising to the role of HR director and senior vice president of HR.

“Coors Brewing Company outsourced its marketing to Integer, which was a startup. The company boomed. It was like family. We all grew up together,” Svoboda said. The client list eventually included Kellogg’s, Proctor & Gamble, and Gillette, to name a few. She had

Svoboda would be interested in pursuing an opening in the Broncos’ front office.

Svoboda was hesitant. “I wasn’t looking, and my decision was a difficult one.” She can now confirm that making the leap in 2013 turned out to be a good move from the start, due in large part to the team’s owner.

Pat Bowlen bought the Broncos in 1984. Since then, no NFL team has won more regular-season games than the

// **The off-season is my in-season. The minute the season ends I’m doing salary reviews, performance reviews, and benefit open enrollment. My world calms down when the season starts.** //

back and take a holistic view of business problems.” The skill has served her well on a career path that started with her first job in Colorado as an assistant manager for Walgreens. From there she accepted a position at Mervyn’s, a

no thoughts of shifting to professional sports.

She learned of an opportunity to join Denver’s popular NFL team as a result of networking. Svoboda was involved with the Colorado Society of

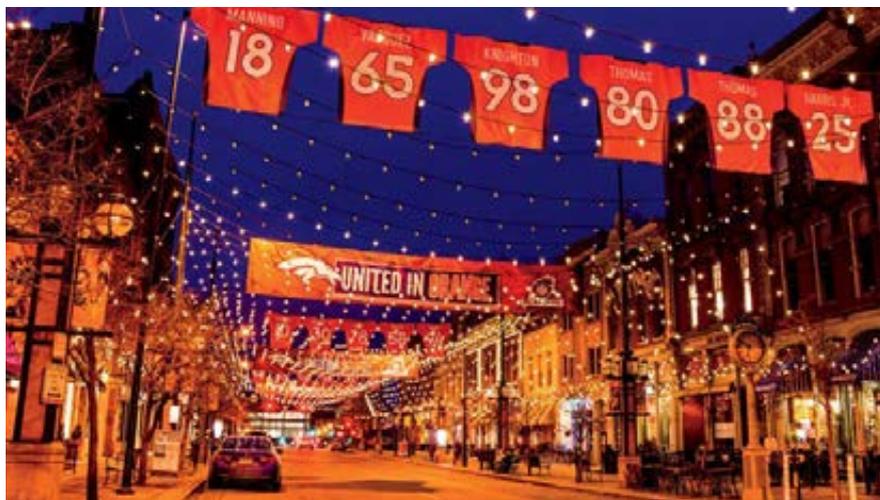
Broncos. They’ve also done well in the postseason, including seven Super Bowl appearances since Bowlen took over.

Winning affects all parts of the operation, resulting in a work environment Svoboda has appreciated from her first day on staff. “Mr. Bowlen created such a warm culture that all the employees were so welcoming,” she said. “And they let you do your job.”

When the Broncos’ 2013 season culminated in a trip to Super Bowl XLVIII in February 2014, Svoboda made the trip to New Jersey despite being a new employee. “My first year, we went to the Super Bowl,” Svoboda said. “All of our full-time employees got to go, along with a guest. Full-time interns got to go, too. That was important to Mr. Bowlen.”

The Broncos lost badly to Seattle, but they came back to win it all a couple of years later against the Carolina Panthers. Svoboda was fortunate enough to attend her second Super Bowl. This time she watched as future Hall of Fame quarterback Peyton Manning, playing his final season, led Denver to victory over Carolina in Super Bowl 50. Svoboda later helped design the team’s Super Bowl ring.

Traveling with the team whenever she desires is one of the nice perks of



Downtown Denver was ablaze for the Broncos during the 2015 NFL playoffs. The strong fan base makes Svoboda’s job even more enjoyable.

large department store chain, where she worked management jobs and got her first taste of HR.

After working in retail, Svoboda shifted to The Integer Group. The agency is part of Omnicom Group Inc., a global marketing and corporate com-

Human Resource Management, a human resources professional society.

“I was co-chair of a project with another HR professional, and she was doing some consulting work for the Broncos,” Svoboda said. They reconnect several years later, and she asked if

Tackling the dreaded job search

Having spent decades in human resources, Nancy Svoboda has seen reams of resumes. She also understands the difficulties and stress that exist on both sides of the hiring process. The effort can be made easier and more successful by keeping a few strategic steps in mind.

The first is to determine if a job change is really advantageous.

"If you can have fun and are continuing to learn at your job, then be thoughtful about pursuing other opportunities. Sometimes it's best to stay at your current job because the grass isn't always greener," she cautioned.

If it is time for a change, pay attention to key aspects of the resume before entering the job market.

"Your resume is your first impression. That's your brand," Svoboda said. "We get 400 applications for marketing interns, so your resume—that first impression—is very important."

She also advises to keep the resume short.

"I recommend sticking to a maximum of two pages," Svoboda said. "But, if this is a first resume created for the purpose of gaining an entry-level job, make it a single page. When I'm receiving 400 resumes for one position, I won't read a long resume. I'm too busy."

When time for an interview, present yourself professionally and know the company well.

"Drill this one in your head," she said. It's equally important to know potential challenges the organization might be facing and have possible solutions.

Follow-up after an interview, even if it's just an email.

"If I'm choosing between two candidates, that may be what tips the decision," said Svoboda, who takes a pragmatic approach when hiring.

Make sure that your employers matches your own values.

"Yes, skills to do the job are important," she said. "But more importantly, will the candidate match the culture, and will they be able to handle the client relationship well?" The question is similar to one Svoboda tells everyone to ponder before accepting a job offer: "Make sure that your employer matches your own values."

Svoboda's job, although she usually only does so once a year. Time away from the office during the season is not difficult to manage, as the ebb and flow of her workload runs counter to the football schedule.

"The off-season is my in-season," she said. "The minute the season ends I'm doing salary reviews, performance reviews, and benefit open enrollment. My world calms down when the season starts."

Svoboda handles human resources issues for stadium operations, ticketing, guest relations, security, finance, marketing, and IT. Her responsibilities include oversight of staff at UHealth Training Center—the team's practice facility. It includes football operations, player personnel, digital media, and public and community relations.

Off-season personnel consists of about 300 employees, including players and coaches. During the season, that number shoots up to 1,400 with game-day and part-time employees. The organization makes it a priority that part-time people feel like they are part of the Denver Broncos.

As the executive vice president of HR, she is "hands-on" at the top level of the organization. She works regularly with Executive Vice President/General Manager John Elway, the Hall of Fame quarterback who is also on the executive staff.

Svoboda describes him as a person who "knows what he doesn't know and asks good questions. He's a very good listener." When Elway comes down the hall seeking information and guidance, she said, he listens and absorbs what others are saying. That intensity and self-awareness didn't fail him as a player and has served him well as he moved from the playing field to the board room.

Continuing the Bowlen culture, Svoboda is a big fan of employee engagement. "A happy staff equals happy clients," she said, "which is so important because that affects the bottom line."

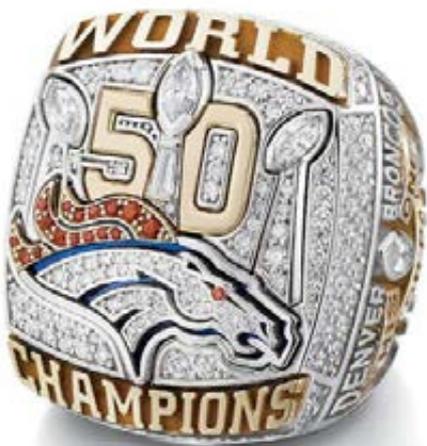
She is equally committed to lifting up others through her community service activities.

Svoboda has an affinity for helping those who have served, in part because she and her husband have two grown sons who spent time in the military. She volunteers helping veterans who are transitioning from military to civilian life, particularly offering assistance as they prepare resumes.

"I love helping ex-military members and feel honored to have employees with military experience," she said. Often they do not realize how the incredible responsibilities they had in the military translate to the corporate world. Svoboda points that out whenever she can, offering guidance and encouragement. The opportunity to do so fulfills her as much as her involvement with a high-profile and winning professional football team.

Svoboda's stellar HR career started when she pursued her business passion as an undergraduate at Illinois State. Her achievements will be noted on campus in the spring, with her induction into the College of Business Hall of Fame.

The honor is humbling to Svoboda, which is not surprising given she remains an honest, down-to-earth person. She has the good sense you pick up from towns like Joliet and Normal, both of which were important in molding her as a child and young adult. Although now far from Illinois and her Midwest roots, Svoboda will always remain an appreciative Redbird who is blessed to be a Bronco.



Denver Broncos Super Bowl 50 team ring, which Svoboda helped design.

HACK

ISU INTENSIFIES FIGHT AGAINST CYBER THEFT. >>

/ BY KATE ARTHUR



Months before graduation, Ben Bradley '17 already had a cybersecurity job lined up as an analyst searching for threats to his employer's computer network. But he couldn't disclose the name of the company.

Such is the world of cybersecurity, which is one of the coolest and hottest jobs out there. Security analysts work to prevent, detect and block attempts by hackers to infiltrate a computer system or network. Starting salaries make for good dinner conversation with parents, as new grads start at \$60,000 or more. There are more openings than candidates to fill them.

Illinois State is taking steps to meet the need, launching a new cybersecurity major this fall. ISU is only the second public university in the state to offer the undergraduate major. Enrollment has already reached nearly 150 students, exceeding the target of 125.

The level of interest doesn't surprise Glen Sagers, assistant director of the School of Information Technology. He worked for three years to shape the curriculum with faculty, as well as leaders in business and higher education.

"By all projections, this will be one of the most in-demand jobs in the computing industry," Sagers said. "When we started talking about the major, coincidentally, State Farm came to us looking for some more highly qualified security professionals and asking what we could do."

A corporate call for help is easily understood, given hardly a day goes by without a headline about hacking or a data breach that has hit a government agency, retailer or corporation. These incidents do more than alarm individuals, who worry about identity theft. They are also incredibly expensive. Lloyd's of London reported in 2015 that hacking costs businesses \$400 billion

annually. Global spending to fight the threat is expected to reach \$170 billion by 2020, according to Gartner Inc., which is a leader in information technology research.

The University is more than ready to provide solutions and prepare graduates to meet the growing challenge. ISU is ranked among the top U.S. institutions for cybersecurity education.

The Center for Information Assurance and Security Education, housed within the School of Information Technology, is designated as a National Center for Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security. Beyond an endorsement of excellence, the ranking makes more federal scholarships available to students pursuing the 80-credit-hour major.

The degree requires 56 hours in information technology, including in-



HACKED!

depth courses in cybersecurity that range from ethical hacking to incident response and forensics. Security courses were previously offered in the information assurance and security sequence, which has been replaced by the new major. Many of those students transitioned into cybersecurity.

To keep pace with changes in the industry, faculty members regularly engage with local business leaders for advice and feedback. The school's Business and Industry Advisory Council includes representatives from State Farm Insurance Company, COUNTRY Financial, Caterpillar, Discover Financial and Northern Trust Bank, along with other companies.

Elias Sahyouni, a cybersecurity analyst at COUNTRY, serves on the council and its new cybersecurity subcommittee. "Our job is to make sure Illinois State is teaching and training students who are not only going to help at COUNTRY or State Farm or Caterpillar, but the industry," Sahyouni said.

"The goal is to figure out what companies are seeing and what they need. Dr. Sagers takes the feedback from

the advisory council and implements it. If we say we need people who can handle incident response, he makes sure they're teaching incident response," said Sahyouni, who warns that hacking will not end because of the financial incentive.

The new major is already making ISU's security program more visible to potential employers.

The need for information security analysts is consequently projected to grow 18 percent by 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations, according to U.S. Department of Labor statistics. The most recent information from the governmental agency shows that in 2015 the median pay was \$90,120 for a candidate with a bachelor's degree and less than five years of experience.

The new major is already making

ISU's security program more visible to potential employers, as well as prospective students and their parents, according to School of Information Technology Director Mary Elaine Califf.

"I'm excited about the prospect of sending even stronger graduates to the industry partners, who already snap up our highly qualified graduates in the crucially important IT field," Califf said.

Tal Parmenter, coordinator of academic services in the School of Information Technology, is on the frontline with those companies seeking cybersecurity experts. He spends most of his time overseeing the internship program, building relationships with companies that recruit interns and graduates.

Finding positions for interns can sometimes be difficult because students have access to proprietary information. The University's reputation for producing highly qualified interns has helped Parmenter open doors for students.

"Everybody wants folks with talent, but at the same time it's a hard area for students to break into initially because it's so confidential," Parmenter said.



Students Evan Rappe, Nicholas Dangles and Karthika Venkatraman, from left, are learning about cybersecurity—one of the most in-demand jobs in the computing industry.

He noted that beyond Central Illinois companies, a couple of ISU students have interned with the FBI cybersecurity office in Springfield, the state capital of Illinois. This is yet another sign of the prestige tied to Illinois State’s program.

The respect and reputation goes beyond the required curriculum. Illinois State students set themselves apart through activities outside the classroom. The ISU Security Club, for example, is a student organization that supports the School of Information Technology’s annual cyber defense competition for Illinois high school students.

Club members have excelled at collegiate and professional hacking competitions that test offensive or defensive hacking skills. ISU teams regularly participate in THOTCON, a hacking conference and competition

created by Nick Percoco ’97. A computer information systems graduate, Percoco is chief information security officer of Uptake in Chicago. He is also an inaugural member of the College of Applied Science and Technology’s Academy of Achievement.

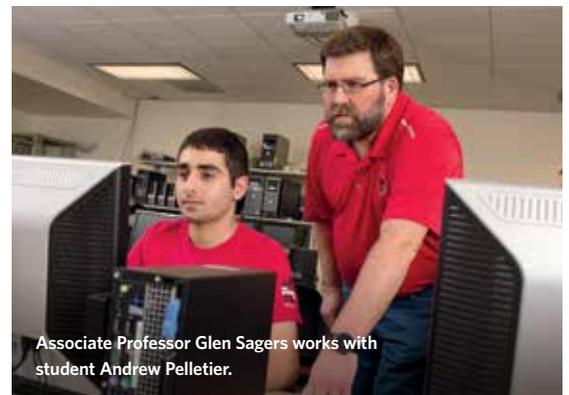
With more than 19 years of information security experience, Percoco’s research in the field captures global media attention. He was named Security Researcher of the Year in 2011 by *SC Magazine*, a leading source in the cybersecurity field. He is also closely connected to the University, speaking regularly with students preparing to enter the field.

Success of alumni such

as Percoco inspire current students and recent graduates just entering the field, including Bradley. With his degree in information assurance and security completed, he is ready and eager to start his career. He is confident future graduates will have even more opportunity to excel in the field of cybersecurity with the University’s new major.

“All of our classes touched on the surface, and now they’re going to be able to dig deep into this topic. It’ll make the students more prepared,” Bradley said. “And there are a lot of very good professors at the wheel.”

The combination of stellar faculty and talented students puts Illinois State at the forefront of the fight against cyber crime, creating yet another point of pride and pocket of excellence at the University.



Associate Professor Glen Sagers works with student Andrew Pelletier.

A gift of \$3 million from State Farm Insurance will advance Illinois State University’s cybersecurity program.

This gift establishes an endowed chair position that will provide leadership for the new major, as well as funding for program enhancements and renovations that will strengthen the learning environment.

“Illinois State’s new cybersecurity program will focus on a topic of critical importance to society,” said Illinois State University President Larry Dietz. “This innovative new major is one additional way we can help our students succeed in a technology-driven world. We are thankful State Farm recognized the importance of this program and

chose to support us by funding learning space updates and a leadership position.”

The State Farm Chair in Cybersecurity will take the lead in overseeing curriculum, setting personal and team research agendas, securing grants, and maintaining the School of Information Technology’s designation as a Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education.

“State Farm and the State Farm Companies Foundation are pleased to provide this gift to help support the beginning of the cybersecurity program at Illinois State,” said Kellie Clapper, assistant vice president of human resources/philanthropy at State Farm. “We realize the growing need for talented students to meet the challenges of online security in the 21st century. We believe this program is a critical part of providing qualified professionals across all industries.”



EMPOWERING

TIPS

FOR CONSUMER PROTECTION

There is a growing anxiety with the rise in hacking, as individuals fear having their identity stolen. The worry is founded, according to ISU Associate Professor Glen Sagers, who has a checklist of what can be done to make personal information more secure.

Personal information/ credit cards

- Change to e-delivery of bills, as information can be stolen out of mailboxes.
- Shred anything with your name, address or account numbers.
- Check accounts regularly for fraudulent charges.
- Carefully choose which sites you store your credit card information on.
- Only use credit cards online because of liability limits, not debit cards.
- Use anti-malware software and keep it updated. Malicious software captures keyboard information and ships data to attackers. Even good anti-malware software is only 50 percent effective.
- Chip cards are much more secure than magnetic stripe cards, as they can't be copied. They are not, however, any more secure for online purchases.
- Apple/Android/Samsung Pay applications are more secure.

Passwords

- Eight characters is not enough!
- Use the first letter of each word of a sentence, then add case changes and punctuation.
- Use a password manager that stores all your passwords in an encrypted database. Examples are 1Password, LastPass, KeePass, mSecure.

WiFi

- Set a network name that is not personally identifiable.
- Set up a strong (minimum 20 characters) passphrase for joining WiFi with WiFi Protected Access 2 encryption.
- Turn off one-button (WPA) connections.
- Set a strong login password for the router.

Texting/email

- Email and texting are insecure communication channels. Don't include personal information in email.
- For texting, use Signal, WhatsApp and other secure messaging systems.
- Online, secure websites will start with HTTPS://. Don't click past warnings.
- Secure your WiFi.
- Choose good password recovery questions, and don't include that information (i.e., mother's maiden name) on social media.

If you've been hacked

- Respond to retailer notifications of breaches.
- Change your password.
- Go to <https://haveibeenpwned.com> to see if your data was exposed.
- Subscribe to alerts.

If you experience identity theft

- Notify the company where fraud occurred.
- Report it to the Federal Trade Commission at FTC.gov.
- File a police report.
- Close or freeze accounts.
- Change logins and passwords for those accounts.
- Place a 90-day free fraud alert with one of the credit bureaus.
- Monitor your credit report for newly opened accounts, and close any opened in your name.
- Add a seven-year credit freeze via a credit bureau.



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HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 16-22

BUILDING A LEGACY

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A CHERISHED *Legacy*

THROUGHOUT THE YEARS



HOMECOMING THEMES

YEARS

Building a Legacy	2017
A Normal Tradition	2016
#BacktheBirds	2015
Rally the Redbirds	2014
Celebrating 150 years of the Alumni Association	2013
Get your Groove On	2012
Get in the Game	2011
Roll Out The Red	2010
Rock the Red	2009
Fire It Up	2008
Spread the Red: 150 Years of Spirit	2007
Spread the Red: 149 Years of Educating Illinois	2006
Redbirds in Paradise	2005
Redbird Roundup	2004
Redbird Magic	2003
Catch the Redbird Spirit	2002
Redbird Celebration	2001
World on Parade at Illinois State	2000
Homecoming 1999	1999
Spark the Spirit	1998
Reach for the Stars	1997
There's No Place Like...75 Years of Coming Home	1996
Traditions...Make History Today	1995
Hat's Off Red and White	1994
Wild with Pride	1993
Best of Times	1992
The Days and Nights of Red and White	1991
Let the Good Times Roll	1990
Through the Looking Glass	1989
Rock, Roll, and Reminiscence	1988
Steppin' Out	1987
Celebrate!	1986
All the Right Moves	1985
Catch the Magic	1984
Under the Big Top	1983
Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow	1982
Time Passages	1981
Reflections	1980
Yesterday Once More	1979
Pastime Paradise	1978
Conquest '77	1977
Good Vibrations	1976
ISU - Changes with Our Nation	1975
Oktoberfest	1974
Booze, Blues, or Whatever You Choose	1973
The Roaring Twenties: Fun, Sin, and Bathtub Gin	1972
Mod Mother Goose	1968

#RedbirdProud



Best in two worlds

Marching band takes top honors in Ireland parades

Spring break was a time of exploration and celebration for 175 members of the Big Red Marching Machine (BRMM). They traveled to Ireland in March for multiple performances and competitions, including two parades in which they were deemed the best band.

The BRMM was one of only 12 chosen to perform in the Lord Mayor of Dublin's 2017 St. Patrick's Day Parade. Performers came from all over the world for the celebration. ISU's performers were named Best Overall Band.

Redbirds also participated in the 47th Limerick International Marching Band Competition, which is Ireland's only international band competition.

The event drew more than 30,000 spectators and featured 17 groups.

More than 1,100 musicians traveled from Germany, England, the U.S. and across Ireland to perform. The BRMM again was chosen Best Overall Band and received the Kenneally Jewellers Perpetual Trophy.

The ISU band always draws attention and enthusiasm given the large number of students full of energy and in matching uniforms. Parade judges were also impressed with the musical talent of the band members, who played a robust rendition of DJ Otzi's "Hey Baby." They also performed Ini Kamoze's "Here Comes the Hotsteper."

BRMM Director Gavin Smith is confident the music chosen helped the Redbirds stand out. "We always try to play fun music that includes singing, and we go from there," said Smith, who praised the other ensembles for their fantastic performances.

"It's not about winning or losing. It's about the experience, coming to a new culture and society," Smith said. "It was a good experience for everyone."

Beyond the parades, group performances at various locations were scheduled. The band's clarinet choir performed at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin. All BRMM members enjoyed entertaining an audience at the Guinness factory.

Alumni News

Annual event set for Legacy families

All Redbirds share the common bond of enjoying their collegiate years on the University campus. For some, the tie is made even stronger by a family connection.

Anyone with a sibling, parent or grandparent who attended the University is part of a Redbird legacy family. Alumni Relations recognizes legacy families with current students attending at an annual brunch during Family Weekend.

This year's event will be Sunday, November 5, in the Brown Ballroom. This event includes a program featuring university leadership and a special pinning ceremony. Registration is available at Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/Legacy-Brunch.

Share your family's legacy and find other special Redbird legacy opportunities at Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/Legacy.

Directors chosen for Alumni Association

There is new leadership within the Alumni Association following the annual meeting in June. Four alumni were elected to three-year terms on the board of directors.

Tyler Clark '09 is the chief of staff for the Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology. He resides in Chicago. Fellicia Foster '08 is an assistant vice president at BMO Harris Bank. She resides in Chicago. Danny Mielneczek '11 is a senior agency sales recruiter for COUNTRY Financial. He resides in Normal. Stacy Ramsey '92, M.S. '94, is the associate director of enrollment management at ISU. She resides in Normal.

Michele Guadalupe '01 is president. Doug Reeves '69 is vice president/president-elect. Lisa Castleman '96 is secretary, with Tim Pantaleone '07 serving as past president.



From the archives

This fall marks 50 years since the College of Business was established. While there were business classes offered prior to 1967, development of the 10 majors currently offered would not have been feasible without creation of the college. Excellence has increased steadily over the years, with the college now recognized as among the best in the nation for preparing business professionals. The student experience changed greatly when the University completed the State Farm Hall of Business in 2005. The high-tech building, which houses all majors, is a vast improvement from the sparse classroom used in 1963 for an electronic shorthand class.

ClassNotes



Career connection

Redbirds build friendship working for game creator firm

Laura Dawson '13 and Sarah (Beck) Miller '05 work in the fantasy world of NetherRealm Studios, which is a video game developer based in Wrigleyville and owned by Warner Brothers.

Known for its *Mortal Kombat* and *Injustice* series, the company creates games for several platforms, including the PS4, the Xbox One and mobile devices.

Both women work in human resources. Miller, *on right in above photo*, majored in business administration. She joined the NetherRealm team in 2006 and has risen to the position of HR manager. She deals with employee rela-

tions and operations for the roughly 200 employees.

Dawson graduated with a psychology degree and worked at a company called Panduit, where she realized how much she enjoyed recruiting. Hired three years ago, she is the senior recruiting coordinator within NetherRealm's recruiting department. She helps hire creative talent such as character artists, animators and software engineers.

Dawson appreciates how the University prepared her for the working world.

"Illinois State provided me with the tools I needed to be successful in my career," she said. "The variety of classes and experiences I had helped me excel

in the game industry, even though it was new to me."

Miller is equally grateful for the knowledge she gained as an undergraduate, and particularly appreciated learning under Distinguished Professor Victor Devinat. "He taught me how to be fair. What you do for one you do for all," Miller said.

Neither she nor Dawson were hardcore gamers before being hired. Both enjoy the opportunity to work with passionate people dedicated to the art of interactive entertainment.

And while not directly involved in the creative process, Miller and Dawson are excited to see what games will be developed. They have learned anything is possible at NetherRealm Studios.

1940s

Joseph French '49, M.S. '50, was a faculty member in the Psychology Department in the 1950s. He returned to campus in the spring to be honored for his contributions to the department. He spoke on his relationship with his mentor, Distinguished Professor Stanley Marzolf. French resides in State College, Pennsylvania.

1960s

Ira Kilgus '66, M.S. '72, is retired from teaching biology and chemistry at Prairie Central High School. He and his wife, Janet, reside in Fairbury.

Gary Swartz '66, M.S. '78, was inducted into the Dwight High School Basketball Hall of Fame. He coached at the school eight years and had a 166-58 record. His teams took five state and five regional championships. He and his wife, **Patricia (Nicodemus) '68**, reside in Bourbonnais.

James Hesselberth '67, M.A. '69, has taught French in Peoria and Rockford. He has also been a truck driver for a furniture store and worked in a manufacturing firm. He resides in Rockford.

Roger Ellis '68 retired after working as a commercial credit officer for River Valley Financial Bank. He also taught at Cerro Gordo High School, and now volunteers for AARP doing free tax returns. He is searching for his roommates from 600 School Street. He and his wife, Marsha, have two sons and two grandchildren and reside in Floyds Knobs, Indiana.

Janet (Morris) Herring, M.S. '68, is an independent distributor for Vol-lara. She and her husband, Robert, reside in Bluffton, Indiana.

Richard Melinder, Ph.D. '69, retired as dean and professor of biological sciences at Southwestern Illinois College. He enjoys traveling and spending time with his eight grandchildren. He and his wife, Carol, reside in Swansea.

1970s

Barbara Doyle '71 is an author, educator and consultant who focuses on individuals with autism, intellectual or developmental disabilities, deafness and deaf blindness. She is the recipient of the 2017 Margaret Bancroft Distinguished Leadership Award by the Winston Knolls School. She resides in Orland Park.

John Hurley '71 is a self-employed farmer. He and his wife, Patricia, reside in Hudson.

Hammed Ibraheem '72 is the founder and promoter of EKO University of Medical and Health Sciences. It is the first private medical university in Lagos, Nigeria.

Darlene Kluka '72, M.S. '76, began her professional career in 1972 teaching PE and coaching volleyball and softball. She has retired from her position as dean of the School of Human Performance and Leisure Sciences at Barry University in Florida. She resides in Gonzales, Louisiana.

John Kramer '72 retired from Toyota Motor Sales after 33 years. His last position there was vice president of Toyota's Global Knowledge Center, where he supported the worldwide sales and distributor operation. He and his wife, Anne, have residences in Phoenix, Arizona, and Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin.

James Newton, Ph.D. '72, is an artist whose work has been captured in the documentary *James Newton: A Life in Art*. He is an art professor emeritus at the University of Delaware. He resides in Newark, Delaware.

Steven Burgauer '73, M.S. '74, is an author. He has written the historical thriller *Nazi Saboteurs on the Bayou* and the science fiction adventure *The Grandfather Paradox: A Time-Travel Story*. He and his wife, **Debra (Laaker) '74, Ph.D. '04**, reside in Lady Lake, Florida.

Bruce Christensen '73 retired from Heritage Middle School after serving as principal for 14 years. His career included 20 years of teaching and 39 years as a school administrator. He enjoys sport car racing

Pause for applause



Winning legacy

From his days on ISU's men's basketball team and throughout years of collegiate coaching, **Steve Fisher '67, M.S. '68**, excelled in the sport. He helped lead the Redbirds to the 1967 NCAA Tournament Final Four. Fisher was head coach at the University of Michigan for nearly a decade, taking the team to a national championship in 1989. He then coached at San Diego State, which had only one winning season in 15 years when he arrived in 1999. Under Fisher, the school made eight NCAA and five NIT appearances. He retired from the coaching position this year with a record of 386-209.

Nurse worth watching

Mennonite College of Nursing graduate **Elizabeth Myers '99** is one of the 40 under 40 Emerging Nurse Leaders identified by the Illinois Nurses Foundation. Her exemplary work in the field includes establishing 2x2 Health: Private Health Concierge. The agency helps patients and families navigate the complicated medical system, from setting up appointments to understanding a diagnosis. Myers also co-founded Abby's Army Foundation. The non-profit organization supports pediatric patients battling life-threatening illnesses and their families. She is active in the nursing field as a member of the Alliance of Professional Health Advocates and the National Association of Healthcare Advocacy Consultants.



Best in Midwest

George Van Den Driessche, M.S. '15, captured an honor for his graduate work that no one at the University has ever received. He won the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools Masters Thesis Award. His thesis is titled *Computational Investigations of Oxygen-Containing Donor-Acceptor Complexes Involving Sulfur Dioxide and Sulfur Trioxide*. He completed the work while studying theoretical chemistry under Professor Jean Standard while at Illinois State. Now a doctoral student at North Carolina State University, Van Den Driessche is working on ways to predict a drug's likelihood of inducing adverse reactions. He plans on pursuing a career with a pharmaceutical company.

A master mentor

Preparing future professionals for positions in psychology has been a passion for **Bruce Kelsay '79, M.S. '83**. He received designation as a model school psychology intern supervisor from the National Association of School Psychologists. Kelsay worked with at least one graduate-level intern each of the past 25 academic years, including students from Illinois State. He studied psychology as an undergraduate and school psychology for his master's degree. Kelsay served for 30 years as a school psychologist with Illinois District 88, which includes Willowbrook and Addison Trail high schools. He entered retirement at the end of the school year.



How we met

It was the fall of 1968. Former vice president and Republican Richard Nixon was running against the sitting vice president at the time, Democrat Hubert Humphrey, for president of the United States. The Young Democrats Club was meeting at the old student union on the Quad.

For Lonny King '72 and Mary Ellen Moehle '71, it was an evening marked by more than political discussions. The two met for the first time at that event, which led to a dating relationship that lasted through their college years.

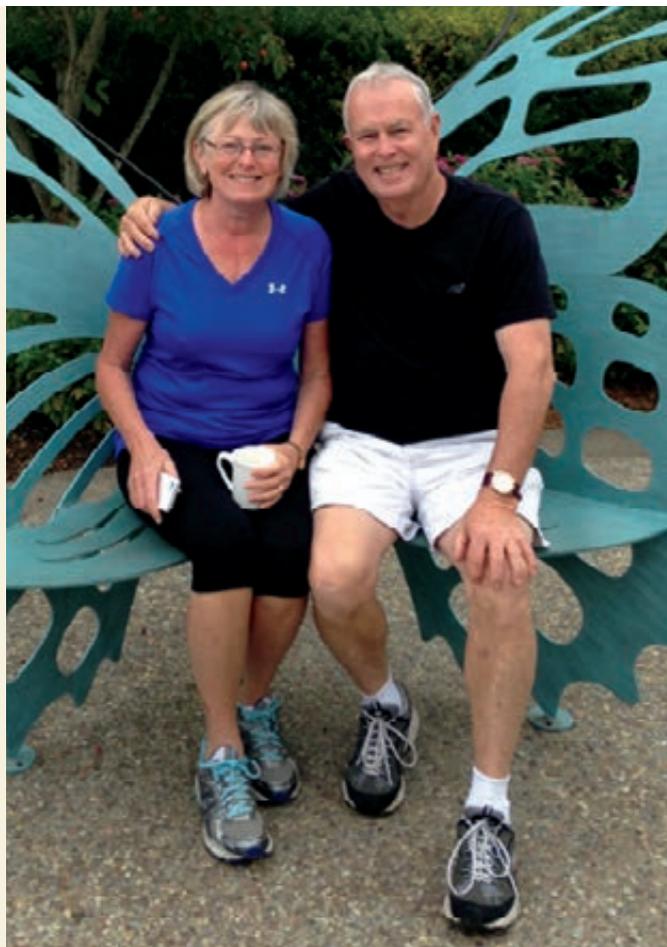
Mary Ellen studied special education, while Lonny majored in industrial arts. The fact Lonny finished a year after Mary Ellen did not end their romance. The two were married just weeks after Lonny graduated. The ceremony was held in June of 1972 in Belleville.

After teaching in Peoria for a couple years, the two decided to head west to Eugene, Oregon. The plan was to stay for a couple of years. More than four decades later, they still call that community home.

Mary Ellen continued her education at the University of Oregon, receiving her master's in 1978. She worked as a reading specialist for 32 years in Springfield, Oregon. Lonny earned a master's in industrial technology from Oregon State in 1983. He eventually left teaching and went into the commercial construction business as a general contractor. Both are now enjoying retirement.

Parents to three adult children, the couple celebrated 45 years together this summer. They keep in contact with several old friends from Illinois State. Both treasure their time spent as Redbirds on campus, and are especially grateful for that election event.

As Lonny puts it, "I like to say that even though Hubert Humphrey lost his Democratic presidential race in that election, I gained a wife and partner for life."



and community service. He resides in Naples, Florida.

John Ftacek '73 retired from State Farm Insurance Company after 43 years as an underwriting supervisor and agent. He and his wife, Judith, enjoy golfing, working on antique cars, volunteering, and spending time with their children and grandchildren. The couple resides in Georgetown, Texas.

Cherie (Dietrich) Lewison '73 is a medical technologist at the Morton Plant Hospital. She resides in Clearwater, Florida.

Michael Saul '73, M.M. '80, has retired from the Hannibal school district in Missouri. He served as director of jazz studies and brass coordinator. He is an adjunct at two colleges and maintains a full private lesson studio. He and his wife, Randi, reside in Quincy.

Gary Theroux '73 is a radio host on WSTC-AM in Connecticut. He hosts the syndicated daily radio feature "The History of Rock 'n' Roll." Each year he writes and produces the 10-hour syndicated countdown of "The 100 Greatest Christmas Hits of All Time." He and his wife, Joan, reside in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Marty Coe '74 is president of Coe Equipment Inc. He and his wife, Debby, reside in Rochester.

Cheryl DeWerff '74 completed a doctorate in education at La Verne University. She worked in education 42 years and retired as superintendent of Howell Mountain Elementary School District. She resides in Napa, California.

Mary (Smith) Fisher-Miller, M.S. '74, is director of the Chatsworth Township Library. She and her husband, Terry, reside in Normal.

Alan Tharp '74 retired from owning Quality Plant Care. He enjoys music and scuba diving. He and his wife, Janice, reside in Edmonds, Washington.

Tim Adams '75 is the executive director of the Wesley House Community Center. He and his wife, Linda, reside in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Dave Baxter '75 is a senior lecturer in mass communication at Wright State University in Dayton, where he has taught 25 years. He teaches an introduction to mass media, media law, and broadcast news writing. He has also taught at the University of Dayton and the University of Cincinnati. He is a musician who plays drums in a Beatles tribute band. He resides in Middletown, Ohio.

Catherine (McNeil) Haab '75 is assistant executive director of the

Bloomington Board of Election Commissioners. She and her husband, David, have two daughters who are ISU graduates. The couple resides in Hudson.

Joy Kreves '75, M.S. '76, is a mixed media artist. Her recent exhibits include "Craving Nature—The Feast Project" and "Animal Architects: Influences on Human Creativity." She resides in New Jersey.

Wilma (Lenning) Balfour Marshall '75 retired from Central Wyoming Counseling Center. She is active in the Open Table ministry. She and her husband, John, reside in Casper, Wyoming.

Rhea Edge '76, M.S. '78, M.F.A. '82, is chair of Fine and Performing Arts at Eureka College, where she is also a professor of art. She is vice president of the John Wesley Powell Chapter of the National Audubon Society after serving as presi-

dent. She and her husband, Harold Boyd, reside in Bloomington.

Rebecca (Rounds) Fegan '77 is a certified John Maxwell speaker, trainer and coach. She works with church groups and corporations, and has co-authored two books. She is a division leader and investment adviser representative with Prim-erica. She is owner and instructor of the Fine Arts Academy. She resides in Bellevue, Nebraska.

Vickie (King) Kjelland '77 retired from COUNTRY Financial after working 38 years in personal lines underwriting. She and her husband, John, have three children and one grandchild. The couple resides in Lexington.

Jill (Birkey) Ridder '77 completed a master's degree in curriculum and instruction at National Louis University. She is retired from teaching after 39 years. She taught first and second grades in Naperville School District 203 for 29 years. She and her husband, John, reside in Naperville.

Christine (Johnson) Bedford '78 is retired from teaching social studies at Urbana High School. She and her husband, Russell, reside in Mahomet.

Jeffrey Jury '78, MBA '85, was named the business development manager for W. L. Gore and Associates after retiring from a 25-year career at DuPont. He and his wife, Kimberly Romm, reside in Avondale, Pennsylvania.

James Knodell '78 is the executive director of corporate protection and security for Health Care Service Corporation. He retired from his position as principle assistant director for law enforcement with the Pentagon Force Protection Agency at the Department of Defense. He and his wife, Joyce, reside in Ashburn, Virginia.

Cindy (Miller) Lewis '78 retired as a Title I reading teacher at Monroe Center Elementary School in the Meridian CUSD 223. She and her husband are parents of three children and reside in Stillman Valley.

Kevin McDonough '78 is a senior operator at Fermi National Accelerator. He and his wife, Sheri, reside in Aurora.

David Middleton '78 worked for 36 years in aerospace program management at Boeing and Robins Air Force Base. He sold real estate for 21 years and is now retired. He resides in Danville, Georgia.

Deborah (Kudrna) Neff '78 teaches kindergarten at Stevens Point Public Schools. She and her husband, Philip, reside in Plover, Wisconsin.

Eric Pitcher '78 is the regional manager of economic development for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway. He and his wife, Ann, reside in Hinsdale.

Leonora Renda '79 completed a master's degree at Arizona State University. She is manager of nutritional services at Chandler Regional and Mercy Gilbert Medical Center. She is researching brain tumors and the ketogenic diet. She resides in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Ann Smock '79 is the records manager for the Swinomish Tribal Police Department. She is widowed and resides in Burlington, Washington.

1980s

Gregory Anderson '81 is executive vice president for finance and the chief financial officer at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas, where he and his wife, Janet, reside.

Eugene "Joe" Haywood '81, retired as head athletic trainer and sports medicine teacher at Ottawa Township High School. He had worked at the school for 35 years, earned teacher of the year honors and was inducted into the school's hall of fame. He and his wife, Dannette, reside in Ottawa.

Alice (Shannon) Rainville, M.S. '81, is a professor and coordinator of the graduate program in human nutrition at Eastern Michigan University. She received the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Excellence in Practice Award for Dietetics Research. She and her husband, Richard, are parents of a son attending Illinois State. They reside in Plymouth, Michigan.

Liz (Valentovich) Shepard '81 retired after 31 years from COUNTRY Financial. She was a supervisor of life, disability and long-term care claims. She resides in Normal.

Thomas Erdmann, M.M. '82, directs the orchestra at Elon University. He has published his sixth book titled *How Jazz Trumpeters Play Music Today*. He and his wife, Jennifer, reside in Burlington, North Carolina.

Philip Garofalo '82 teaches computer science at Northeastern Illinois University. He resides in Chicago.

Phil Heinz '82 is a strategic accounts executive for the personal safety division of the 3M Company. He and his wife, Millie, are parents to three adult children. The couple resides in Haslett, Michigan.

Mark Mcksymick '82 owns PC Tables Inc., a manufacturer of portable, compact and lightweight laptop stands. He holds four patents and is a mentor with ISU's College of Business. He and his wife, Julie, reside in Fountain Hills, Arizona.

Val (McIntyre) Ross '82 is a branch manager with the U.S. Small Business Administration. She and her husband, Jack, reside in Springfield.

Susan (Reimer) Sifford '82, M.S. '84, is the director of bakery and produce purchasing and distribution with Darden. She and her husband, Doug, reside in Winter Springs, Florida.

James Sakas '83 has retired after 33 years as a special education teacher at Niles North High School in Illinois. He also served as baseball coach at the school. He will continue his coaching career in retirement by working as a professional pitching instructor at Slammers

Baseball Academy. He and his wife, Sarah, reside in Libertyville.

Matt Williams '83 completed an MBA at Purdue University. He is a project manager and coatings scientist with James Hardie Building Products in Naperville. He resides in Saint John, Indiana.

Patty (Westfall) Haworth '84 is program manager of immunizations, Medicare B and D, and market access programs at Walgreens in Deerfield. She and her husband, David, reside in Libertyville.

Grace Jones '84 worked in Hong Kong for three years. She is now teaching in Los Angeles. She resides in South Pasadena, California.

Mike O'Brien '84 is an account manager with Federal-Mogul Powertrain. He and his wife, Dawn, reside in Addison.

Rick Schmitt '84 is the superintendent of schools for Sandwich CUSD 430. He and his wife, Beth, reside in Sandwich.

Mark Thorndyke '84 is a wealth management advisor with Merrill Lynch. He has been recognized by *Barron's* as one of America's Top 1,200 financial advisors. He has received the honor nine consecutive years and is 30th on the list. He resides in Chicago.

Beth (Harrison) Bohannon '85 is an intervention teacher for Santa Rosa County Schools. She and her husband, Rob, reside in Navarre, Florida.

Michael Barla '86, M.S. '87, is an assistant professor of education at Fontbonne University and resides in St. Louis, Missouri.



Still Redbird proud

Many years and miles separate Dayle Garrett from the Illinois State campus, yet his love for the University remains strong. The 1942 graduate studied music education and went on to work for State Farm Insurance Company for 38 years. Ready to celebrate 98 years next month, he lives in Columbia, Missouri, and still proudly wears Redbird attire.

Redbird legacy

For sisters Tina Durnil '90 and Debbie Convey '87, M.S. '88, Illinois State University has become a family affair. These Bloomington natives, known by their maiden name of Nierhoff in their campus days, are both married to Redbirds.

Tina, a pre-school teacher, met her husband, Tony Durnil '89, in a chemistry class during her freshman year. He was a sophomore at the time, studying industrial technology. She was an elementary education major.

"There was a little bit of chemistry going on," Tina jokes about the memory. They became friends and didn't date until after college. Married since 1992, they have lived for years in Grayslake. Tony has worked for the same employer, W.W. Grainger, since graduation.

Debbie lives in Sugar Grove with her husband Kevin Convey '87. They met in 1985 at a gathering at her sorority house. The two married in 1988. She works as a speech pathologist for the Oswego School District. Kevin, a criminal justice sciences major, recently retired from the Aurora Police Department.

Both families can boast of having children who are carrying on the Illinois State tradition. The Conveys' daughter, Micaela '16, studied nursing at Illinois State. She works as an oncology nurse at Elmhurst Hospital.

The Durnils' have two Redbird daughters. Jackie '17, was named a Bone Scholar. She completed her degree in communication sciences and disorders, and remains at ISU to earn a master's in speech language pathology. Her sister, Antonia, is entering her sophomore year in Mennonite College of Nursing.

The family's Illinois State connection extends to include Tony's sister, Michele (Durnil) Andrews '86, who studied English. Her daughter, Bailey '17, majored in psychology and graduated on the same day this year as her cousin Jackie.

They are not the only family cousins who are Redbirds. First cousins of Tina and Debbie are also alums. Ed Sullivan '91, graduated from the College of Business. His sister, accounting graduate Kelly Sullivan '87, works in financial consulting in Chicago.



Redbird family members include, front row from left, Antonia Durnil '20; Debbie '87, M.S. '88; Jackie Durnil '17; Tina '90 and Tony Durnil '89. Back row, from left, are Kevin Convey '87; Micaela Convey '16; and Kelly Sullivan '87, a cousin to sisters Debbie and Tina.

Kathy (Taylor) Remsburg, M.S. '86, is a professor of athletic training and head of the health science division at Franklin College. She and her husband, Cole, reside in Franklin, Indiana.

Tina (Swedler) Hardy '87 is a self-employed editor and writer. She resides in Louisville, Kentucky.

Tammie Kennedy '87, M.S. '95, is an associate English professor at the University of Nebraska. She received an Outstanding Teaching Award from the university's alumni association. She resides in Omaha, Nebraska.

Kathryn Maliot '87 is the managing director of logistics with the National Association of Realtors. She resides in Chicago.

Tammy Poole '87 earned an MBA from the University of Phoenix. She owns Palmer Tax Consulting

LLC. She and her spouse, Karen Goudy-Poole, reside in Phoenix, Arizona.

Adam Weiss '87 is a chiropractor and medical director of Weiss Health and Fitness Center. He has authored the book *StretchSmart: Dynamic stretching to improve the way you feel and move*. He resides in Kildeer.

Susan Eschrich '88, M.S. '93, is a licensed mental health counselor, distance credentialed counselor, board certified counselor and PTSD clinician. She works as a health science specialist with the Veterans Administration at the Veteran Crisis Line. She resides in Farmington, New York.

Jennifer (Snyder) Johnson '88 is the director of teacher preparation and development in the College of Education at Northern Illinois

University. She and her husband, Randy, are parents to a daughter who recently graduated from ISU. The couple resides in Geneva.

David Licata '88 is a high school government and economics teacher in Cincinnati public schools. He resides in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Lisa (Helton) Reigle '88, M.S. '94, teaches math at Thayer J. Middle School. She and her husband, Duane, reside in Aurora.

Todd Stalter '88, M.M. '90, is the director of bands at Eureka High School. He is a composer for Alfred Publishing Company. He and his wife, Angie, reside in Eureka.

Laura (Segovich) Chiavini '89 is a creative communications specialist at Kishwaukee College. She resides in Rochelle.

Missy (Nichols) Eilts '89 is the advanced sales director for Pampered Chef. She has been one of the top 10 sales people in the company for the past several years. She resides in Springfield.

Jennifer (Jungk) Heidbreder '89 is manager of Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital. She and her husband, Mark, reside in Lincoln.

Julie (Heavens) Jensen '89, M.S. '94, has taught 27 years. She teaches high school PE and driver's education classes, and is also the head girls' golf coach and junior high volleyball coach in Dwight. She and her husband, Kent, have two children who are also Redbirds. The couple resides in Dwight.

Kimberly Riddering '89 is a regional manager for Special Olympics Illinois. She resides in Cedar Lake, Indiana.

1990s

Corey Heath '90 is a special investigative agent with the Federal Bureau of Prisons. He resides in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

Brian Johnson '90 is a performance manager with Frito Lay. He and his wife, Heather, reside in Elora, Tennessee.

Aileen (Wrobel) Rominger '90 is the manager of regional sales for Ball Corporation. She and her husband, Joseph, were married last year. They reside in Elmhurst.

William Wille '90 is the media and public relations manager at the Academy of Osseointegration in Arlington Heights. He and his wife, Jennifer, reside in Yorkville.

Lisa (Edenburn) Frank '91 has been promoted to American Airlines Atlantic Region Cargo Sales based at O'Hare International Airport. She and her husband, Tony, reside in Naperville.

Amy (Atchison) McCarville '91, M.S. '94, works at Aon. She and her husband, Shawn, were married last year. They reside in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Ginger (Halberg) Edwards '92 is a crime analyst with the City of

Decatur police department. She resides in Decatur.

Rhonda (Schrock) Ellis '92 is the marketing specialist for the Danville Area Convention and Visitors' Bureau. She and her husband, Curt, reside in Danville.

Paige (Louderman) Hall '92 is the HR director at Bromley Companies. She and her husband, Mike, reside in Champaign.

Russell Novotny '92 is the senior end user and support specialist with Wilton Brands. He and his wife, Janet, reside in Woodridge.

Rachel (Bettin) Maxwell '93 completed a master's in music education from the University of Illinois and a second master's in educational leadership from Aurora University. She is the director of bands and webmaster at Traugher Junior High School in the Oswega School District. She is also the junior high performing arts and band coordinator for the district. She and her husband, Shawn, reside in North Aurora.

Ken Murawski '93 is the inventory and planning program manager for DuPont. He and his wife, Deborah, reside in Chesterfield, Virginia.

Peter Silman '93 is the product safety engineer within the fabric

care division of Electrolux major appliances. He ensures all laundry products are safe for use and provides technical assistance for all new product development. He and his wife, Michelle, reside in Concord, North Carolina.

Alicia Bettes '94 is the assistant news director at ABC in Birmingham, Alabama. She was chosen as one of nine emerging leaders within the Sinclair Broadcast Group, which owns the station. She is a certified nutrition specialist and a health coach. She resides in Pelham, Alabama.

Tiffany (Alexander) Brown '94, M.A. '98, is principal of Frazier Prep Academy. She and her husband, Eldridge, reside in Chicago.

Brandi (Peck) Kimball '94 is the vice president of operations with Four Seasons Health Club. She and her husband, Doug, reside in Bloomington.

Mark Malone '94 is a master planner with Suncoast Corporation. He resides in Bloomingdale.

Hans Muehler '94, '96, is a physics teacher in Community Unit School District 203 in Naperville, where he resides with his wife, Melissa.

Brenda (Juhnke) Steele '94 is a family support worker with the Center for Youth and Family Solutions. She and her husband, Gabriel, reside in Bloomington.

Jennifer (Weaver) Stilabower '94 is general counsel with the Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan. She and her husband, Craig, reside in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Beata (Piekutowski) Weiss '94, M.S. '96, is the vice president of human resources for Conversant. She and her husband, Todd, reside in Chicago.

Amanda Livvendahl '95 is the theatrical show rentals manager for Broadway Costumes Inc. Her husband, **Ryan Presern '94**, is a broadcast technician for the PGA. They reside in Brookfield.

Thomas Merrill, M.M. '95, is executive director of Festivals of Music, which creates music performance festivals for schools across the nation. He and his wife, **Jennifer (Torbeck) '96**, reside in Lake Villa.

Karen Short '95 is a social worker with JourneyCare Hospice. She resides in Loves Park.

Kristine (Wagner) Wahlgren '95 is a recreation center supervisor with the parks and recreation department in the Village of Romeoville. She and her husband, Kai, reside in Bolingbrook.

Brad Dearing '96, M.S. '02, is an engineering and technology teacher at University High School, which is one of Illinois State's Laboratory Schools. He and his wife, Jackie, reside in Bloomington.

Sara Deskins '96 is a self-employed realtor at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. She and her spouse, Chandrelle Walker, are parents of a daughter and reside in Los Angeles, California.

Jennifer (Hughes) Doerschein '96 is a transition coordinator at the Alexander Leigh Center for Autism. She and her husband, Keith, reside in Palatine.

Leigh Kimmel, M.A. '96, is a self-employed writer and entrepreneur who runs a small business and Indy publishing. She and her husband, Larry, reside in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mark Specht '96 is an environmental specialist with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' air pollution control program. He resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

Lisa Nally-Thompson '96, M.S. '01, is the vice president of Project Oz. She resides in Bloomington.

Derek Alford '97 is an aid at the National Archives and Records Administration. He resides in Alton.

Dawn Kelley '97 is the adapted physical education specialist at Parkside Junior High. She resides in Normal.

Kristi (Geary) Rogers '97 is an auto claim team manager with State Farm Insurance Company. She resides in Knoxville, Maryland.

Hugh Williams '97, M.S. '99, completed his juris doctorate at Southern Illinois University School of Law. He is an attorney with The Williams Law Firm. He is also an author of a zombie apocalypse



Fans and friends

Kappa Delta sorority sisters Becky Hines '80, MBA '94, of Bloomington, left, and Renee (Tarvid) Haebich '78 of Niles reconnected during the last basketball season. They attended a February game against Bradley at Redbird Arena. "I loved going to ISU," Haebich said, adding that she was thrilled to witness a part of the mens' record-breaking season.

series and is planning future detective novels. He resides in Carbon-dale.

Ryan Christensen '98 is a petroleum geologist with Kosmos Energy. He resides in Plano, Texas.

Michael Gilboe, M.S. '98, is the head athletic trainer at Lake Forest College. He resides in Wadsworth.

Fonzell King '98, MBA '00, is an account executive with Pfizer. He resides in Normal.

Seung-Hye Lee, M.M. '98, M.M. '99, is a music instructor at Seoul National University. She and her husband, Jaehoon Shin, reside in Korea.

Jennifer (Kuntz) Melic '98 is an attorney working as assistant chief counsel for the Illinois Department of Transportation. She and her husband, Thanh, reside in Pawnee.

Steven Brandstedt '99 is an attorney with Litchfield Cavo LLP. He was recognized in 2015 and 2016 by the Leading Lawyers Network as an emerging lawyer. The honor goes to 2 percent of attorneys in Illinois under the age of 40 and practicing less than 10 years. He and his wife have two children and reside in Chicago.

Christopher Green, M.S. '99, is a senior project manager with Terracon, an engineering consulting firm focused on environmental, geotechnical and materials construction projects. He is a licensed geologist and serves as vice president of the Society of American Military Engineers Nashville Post. He and his wife, Lisa, reside in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Shawn San Roman '99 is the archivist at the Museum of Northern Arizona. He and his wife, Amanda, are parents of a daughter. They reside in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Keli (Gallagher) Swierczek '99 completed a master's in social work at the University of Illinois-Chicago. She is a special education coordinator and lead social worker in District 114. She and her husband, Derek, reside in Palatine.

Mary Tosch, M.S. '99, is the student life manager of Waubonsee Community College. She resides in Oswego.



Team of ISU teachers

Illinois State was proudly represented at Cary Junior High on the day teachers wore attire from their university before the school year ended. There are 13 graduates from ISU's education program employed at the Illinois school that serves nearly 1,000 students in grades six through eight. Redbirds include, *front row from left*, Brooke Stronsky '12, Kristi (Shipler) Sargeant '91, and Mary (Boresi) Lane '81. *Middle row from left*, Sarah (Matteson) Edwards '81, Lisa Sparks '91, Anne (Bergslien) Fink '00, Kathy (Walthouse) Englund '83, Erin (Lange) Schurter '95, Anne (Mooney) Einecker '86, Kelly (McKewen) Lima '02, and Kayla Nelsen '13. *Back row from left*, Matt Donta '14 and Alex Carlson '12.

2000s

Gina (Pehlke) Fleming '00, '02, is the music and art teacher at St. Mary Nativity Catholic School and Holy Family Catholic School. She and her husband, John, reside in Minooka.

Barry Gidcomb, D.A. '00, is a history professor at Columbia State Community College. He and his wife, Debra, reside in Columbia, Tennessee.

Andy Harding '00 is a senior production agronomist with DuPont Pioneer. He and his wife, Kate, reside in Carlinville.

Beth (Martin) Heldmann '00 is the administrator of the full-day, pre-K program in West Aurora School District 129. She and her husband, Jonathan, reside in Bolingbrook.

Aja Holmes '00, M.S. '02, completed a doctorate from Iowa State University. She is senior associate director of residential life at California State University in Sacramento, California, where she resides.

Ryan Holmes '00 is senior coordinator of audit and compliance in the Grants and Contracts Office at the University of Illinois. He and his wife, Jana, are the parents of two children and reside in Savoy.

Sarah (Reinke) Kocunik '00 is the graduation/transfer coordinator at Waubonsee Community College. She and her husband, Keith, reside in Montgomery.

Kathy (McFeeters) Schierer '00 is a communication specialist with State Farm Insurance Company. She and her husband, Joe, have two children. Levi Aaron was born in May. The family resides in Bloomington.

Brian Shadix '00 is a human resources strategic business partner for the North American services division of the NCR corporation. He received an early career achievement award from ISU's College of Business. He and his wife, Colette, are parents of three children and reside in Cumming, Georgia.

Jennifer Wilkes '00 completed a degree in respiratory therapy after leaving ISU. She is a volunteer for Young Hearts for Life,

which performs EKGs on high school students at no cost. She chairs the board for the McLean County Golf Classic benefitting St. Jude's Research Hospital and the Midwest Affiliate. She resides in Bloomington.

Sylvia Christy (Craig) Germanis '01 is the marketing and public relations director with the McLean County YWCA. She and her husband, Alexander, reside in Bloomington.

Jade Lambert '01 has been named a partner at Perkins Coie, where she focuses on high-stakes commercial litigation and internal investigations. She represents and counsels corporate clients. She resides in Chicago.

Natalie Roseman '01 is an artist and owns a gallery. She resides in Bloomington.

Mark Nowakowski '02 is an assistant professor of music technology at Kent State University. He released a CD titled *Blood Forgotten* in June through NAXOS, the world's largest classical music distributor. He resides with his wife and three children in Canton, Ohio.

Joseph Bergman, M.S. '03, is the dean of math, science and engineering at Illinois Central College. He resides in Washington.

Kona (Taylor) Jones '03, M.S. '05, is the director of online learning at Richland Community College. She and her husband, James, reside in Argenta.

Kate (Anderson) Ristau '03 is a folklorist and has authored a young adult series titled "Shadow Girl." She wrote a middle-grade series titled "Clockbreakers." A piece about waiting for heart surgery to repair a hole in her son's heart ran in *The Washington Post* in April. She resides in Tigard, Oregon.

Melia (Suda) Creighton '04 is a teacher mentor specialist in School District U-46. She and her husband, Jim, were married in August 2016. They reside in Elgin.

Mark McLaughlin '04 is the director of community development for the Village of South Elgin. He resides in Fox River Grove.

Pamela (Kasher) Reineke '04 is president of DTS Insurance Inc. She and her husband, David, reside in Schaumburg.

Michelle Angileri '05 is marketing coordinator for Savant Capital Management. She has been chosen as one of Rockford region's 40 Leaders Under Forty. She resides in Rockford.

Joseph Humbrecht '05 is a civil trial attorney and partner with the law firm of Hassakis and Hassakis in Mt. Vernon. He has been recognized by Super Lawyers as a Rising Star for 2016-2017. The honor is bestowed on no more than 2 percent of Illinois lawyers under the age of 40 and practicing less than 10 years. He has been appointed to sit on the Illinois State Bar Association's Tort Law Section Council and the Civil Practice and Procedure Section Council. He resides in Benton.

Daniel Kaspar '05 is assistant counsel for the National Treasury Employees Union. He and his wife, Maria Gonzalez, reside in Chicago.

Erik Achramowicz '06 completed medical school and an emergency medicine residency in St. Joseph, Michigan, where he is a physician. His wife, **Alison (Post) '05**, completed a master's degree in curriculum and instruction. She is the director of Christian education at her church. They are parents of two children and reside in Stevensville, Michigan.

Kristen (Kelley) Aldrich '06 is the director of public relations at Golin. She and her husband, Brian, were married last fall with many Redbirds in attendance. The couple resides in Schaumburg.

Kendra Beckford '06 is the regulatory administrator with Alexian Brothers Medical Center. She resides in Schaumburg.

Katie (Guibault) Jacobs '06 is a regional sales manager for Haribo of America. She and her husband, Timothy, reside in San Antonio, Texas.

Susan Woollen, M.S. '06, Ph.D. '15, is the director of undergraduate studies and enrollment management for ISU's Criminal Justice

Sciences Department. She and her husband, Tim, reside in Normal.

Matthew Doherty '07 is the director of bands and the associate director of student activities at Lemont High School. He and his wife, Lindsey, reside in Lemont.

Brian Greenenwald '07 is a police officer with the Riverside Police Department. He and his wife, Allyson, reside in Lombard.

Carol Knight '07 is an editor and materials manager for Revenue Storm. She resides in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Joseph Peary '07, M.S. '09, is a field training officer with the Chicago Police Department. He and his wife, **Rebecca (Bandemier) '10**, reside in Chicago.

Ashley Petrey '07 is an associate with the Bergner Law Office in Carbondale, Colorado. She handles family, criminal defense, and civil litigation cases. She resides in Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

Heather (Feely) Barry '08 is the group voluntary and worksite benefits account manager at MetLife. She and her husband, Thomas, reside in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Amanda (Novy) Figge '08, M.S. '12, is a registered dietitian and department manager at Springfield Clinic. She and her husband, Luke, reside in Chatham.

Jonathan Hamby '08 is an accounting supervisor with Monsanto Company. He and his wife, Julie, are parents of twins. Elliot and Sienna were born in October of 2016. The family resides in Fairview Heights.

Meagan (Scheid) Kennedy '08 teaches in Chicago's Chinatown. Her husband, **Chris '08**, is a donations procurement coordinator for Habitat for Humanity's ReStore. They reside in Chicago.

Erin (Brophy) Lunz '08 is a student program advisor at the University of Illinois-Chicago. She and her husband, Ray, reside in Oak Lawn.

Debra Quain '08 is executive director of the Kankakee Area Special Education Cooperative. She resides in Bourbonnais.

Ian Bruckner '09, M.S. '13, is the project manager in administrative

technologies at ISU. He is a volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician. His wife, **Christine '09, M.S. '11**, is the assistant director for assessment, data management and grant writing in ISU's Center for Community and Engagement and Service Learning. They are the parents of two children and reside in Lexington.

Melinda (Benson) Chamberlain '09 is a high school English teacher at Legal Prep Charter Academy. She and her husband, **Ben '10**, met at ISU. They are the parents of one child and reside in Chicago.

Garrett Nichols, M.A. '09, is a professor of rhetoric and writing in the English Department at Bridgewater State University. He and his wife, Julian Pacheco, reside in Quincy, Massachusetts.

Jenifer (Hard) White '09 is an international brand manager with Becker Professional Education. She and her husband, Chris, reside in Hinckley.

2010s

Laura Brebner '10, M.S. '12, is co-founder of Advocatia Solutions

in Chicago. The company is dedicated to helping the uninsured and underinsured find coverage. She resides in Gurnee.

Brooke Burns '10, M.A. '13, is a graduate student at the University of San Diego. She is pursuing teaching credentials for high school English language arts. She resides in San Diego.

Lorena (Moreano) Chesebro '10 is the compliance coordinator at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. She and her husband, Lane, reside in Chicago.

Rachel (Farrer) French '10 is the assistant press secretary at the Illinois Secretary of State Office. She and her husband, Samuel, reside in Chicago.

Mark Montgomery '10 is the general manager of Charter Fitness. He resides in Hudson, Florida.

Kristin (Boffice) Naber '10 is the human resources administrator at Magnetic Inspection Laboratory Inc. She and her husband, Travis, reside in Peru.

Rob Wilkinson, M.A. '10, is principal at Banning Lewis Ranch Academy middle school in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He resides there with



Four decades later

Five young women who were on campus during the early 1970s and studying education gained far more than a degree, as they formed a friendship that has held strong for more than four decades. All December 1975 graduates, the ladies still find time to reconnect in person. Their most recent visit was earlier this year in Girard. They are, from left, Linda (Snowden) Carrow of Godfrey; Cathy (Williams) Rogers of Foley, Alabama; Marilee (Swain) Battaglia of Kansas City; Denise (VeZain) Kitchen of Mackinaw; and Cindy (Rappe) Carlson-Rice '75, Ed.D. '10, of Girard.

his wife, Audra, and their two children.

Erica Buster '11 is a development associate with SunConnect. She and her husband, Matt, reside in North Port, Florida.

Alicia Ferraris '11 completed a master's in college student development counseling at DePaul University. She is senior associate of college success with the Chicago Scholars Foundation. The nonprofit supports first-generation college students. She resides in Chicago.

Alison (Seck) Hess '11 is a middle school language arts teacher at Aldine Independent School District in Houston, Texas. She and her husband, **Bryan '12**, were married in July of 2016. He is a band director at the same school. They reside in Kingwood, Texas.

Luke Miller '11 completed a master's degree in education at Concordia University. He teaches eighth grade social studies in the Belmont Redwood Shores School District. He and his wife, Amelia, are parents and reside in Redwood City, California.

LeAnn Soderquist '11 is the human resource manager with Exelon. She resides in DeKalb.

Amy Wieland '11 is a school counselor with Township High School District 214. She resides in Rolling Meadows.

Jane Wojtulewicz '11 is the children's services clinical supervisor at Beacon Therapeutic. She and her husband, Alan Vana, reside in Crestwood.

Jennifer Wolter '11 teaches second grade at Everett Elementary School. She resides in Chicago.

Diana (Logisz) Cummings '12 is a registered nurse in surgical services with Northwestern Memorial Hospital and works in neurosur-

gery. She and her husband, Patrick, reside in Chicago.

Rachelle Gradt '12 is an intermediate cross categorical teacher with Prairie Grove Elementary. She resides in Lake Zurich.

Christy Johnson '12 is an excess transportation liability underwriter with Aspen Insurance. She resides in Chicago.

Nick Meyering '12, MBA '16, is the executive team leader of logistics at Target in Galesburg. He resides in Morton.

Sarah Pfluger '12 teaches science at Boylan Catholic High School. She resides in Loves Park.

Keri Soukup '12 completed a master's degree in organizational leadership at Lewis University. She is a senior student support specialist at Pearson and resides in Homer Glen.

Breanna Vrkljan '12 is a sales manager at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare. She resides in Chicago.

Kacy (Shanahan) Wallsmith '12 is an assistant tax and accounting manager with PFA Tax and Accounting Professionals. She and her husband, Matthew, married last fall. They reside in Springfield.

Lauren Barr '13 completed a master's in social work at Denver University. She is the assessment and intake clinician at Shiloh First Family Resource Pavilion in Centennial, Colorado.

Monica (Hamilton) Crouse '13 completed a master's in teaching secondary English language arts. She is a program leader of Campus Crusades for Christ Inner City. She authors and directs a Christmas musical at the Agape Community Center in the Roseland community of Chicago. She and her husband, Aaron, reside in Chicago.

Brooke Greenwood '13 is the fifth grade lead teacher for Rock Island

Milan School in District 41. She resides in Rock Island.

Stephani Hieronymus '13 is the finance and insurance manager for Anderson Ford of Clinton. She resides in Bloomington.

Arielle (Milashoski) Kinch '13 is a recovery specialist with Zurich Insurance. She and her husband, Ryan, reside in Huntley.

Amanda Reich '13 teaches fourth grade at Northside Independent School District. She resides in San Antonio, Texas.

Melissa Rittgers '13 is a board certified behavior analyst with By Your Side. She resides in Chicago.

Rishi Sheth '13 is a Java and integration developer in ISU's administrative technology. He began as a student worker and intern. He resides in Bloomington.

Colleen Thomas '13 is an account analyst with AIG. She resides in Wheaton.

Karen Travis '13 is a registered nurse with Advocate BroMenn. She and her husband, Kevin, reside in Bloomington.

Bryanna (Smith) Zimmerman '13 completed a master's in library and information science from the University of Illinois. She is the youth services director of the Rochester Public Library District. She resides in Farmer City.

Nayelli Cisneros '14 is the catalog manager with Cintas Corporation. She resides in Roselle.

Matthew Dixon '14, M.S. '16, is a forecasting and scheduling analyst in the claims area of State Farm Insurance Company. His wife, **Ellen (Vaughn) '14, M.S. '16**, is a speech pathologist at TMCSEA. They reside in Bloomington.

Gianna Melendez '14 is a patient care technician at Central DuPage Hospital. She resides in Naperville.

Isaac Steidinger '14 teaches high school PE and is the junior and senior high athletic director in Woodland CUSD 5. He and his wife, Brittany, reside in Pontiac.

Jessica Trumbo '14 is a registered nurse at Christie Clinic. She resides in St. Joseph.

Romeca Willingham '14 is an underwriting service assistant at State Farm Insurance Company. She resides in Bloomington.

Matthew Anzels '15 is an agronomy specialist with TC Enterprises LLC. He lives in Newark.

Lindsay Brightwell '15 works in the internal audit department of the Enterprise Risk Management Leadership Program at Discover Financial Services. She resides in Chicago.

Paul Bristow '15 is the business transient sales manager at Doubletree Suites by Hilton Columbus Downtown. He resides in Columbus, Ohio.

Ron Burse, M.S. '15, is an internship coordinator at the University of Louisville. He resides in Prospect, Kentucky.

Torey Davenport '15 is completing a juris doctorate at American University Washington College of Law. He and his wife, Jessica, reside in Washington, D.C.

Kendall Deter '15 is a project engineer with Estes Construction. He resides in Bettendorf, Iowa.

Carly Fisher '15 is a real estate agent in Chicago, where she resides.

Kathryn Gallagher '15 is an associate at Iowa Mutual, which is part of Motorists Insurance Group. She resides in Eldridge, Iowa.

Alyssa Klehr '15 is completing a master's in nutrition and dietetics, and is a graduate assistant at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas.

Joe Koppers '15 is a project coordinator at Krueger International. He resides in Chicago.

Ashley Krizik '15 is an early childhood special education teacher in the Kirby School District. She resides in Frankfort.

Samuel Lowers '15 is a grain merchandiser at Michlig Grain. He and his wife, **Lauren (Hoffert) '16**, reside in Walnut.

Kaitlyn (Rolwes) Pomerleau, M.S. '15, is a mental health specialist at Crider Health Center. She resides in Wentzville, Missouri.



REGGIE READS

Check out a column dedicated to book reviews of work by alums at IllinoisState.edu/Magazine. Click on Reggie Reads.

Heriberto Bautista '16 is a supervisor with UPS. He resides in Summit.

Carissa Brandon '16 is pursuing a master's of applied linguistics at Biola University. She resides in Rockford.

Ellen Schumacher '16 is a technical recruiter for TEKsystems. She resides in Bloomington.

Collin Snyder '16 is a production support specialist with Wilber and Associates. He resides in Normal.

Daxx Spera '16 is a fraud analyst with Zurich Insurance. He resides in Schaumburg.

Anna Spyrison '16 is a preschool teacher with Bright Star Learning Center. She resides in Columbia, Missouri.

Megan Trinh '16 is a registered nurse at Carle Foundation Hospital. She resides in Champaign.

Laura Bass '17 teaches band, choir and orchestra in the Miami-Dade public schools. She resides in Hollywood, Florida.

Our troops

Lloyd Simonson, M.S. '68, Ph.D. '74, is a retired research director with the U.S. Navy. He has been re-elected to a four-year term as a trustee on the village board of Spring Grove, where he resides.

Drew Doolin '82 retired as a colonel from the Marine Corps after 30 years of military service. He is a senior consultant for a not-for-profit public sector firm in Washington, D.C. He resides in Dumfries, Virginia.

Paul Whitmer '89 is retired from the U.S. Army. He and his wife, Karen, reside in Lexington.

Sgt. Sarah (Williams) Neubert '14 is in the Army as a musician. Her husband, Chris, holds the same Army rank and is also a musician. They reside at the Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington.

In memory

Faculty/Staff

John A. Crabill, Environmental Health and Safety; 4/17
Warren S. Crews, M.S. '51; Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance; 4/17
Susan M. Gibson, Communication; 3/17
John F. Hansen, Chemistry; 3/17
Elizabeth A. Hatmaker '91, M.S. '93, Ph.D. '03; English; 3/17
Willard J. McCarthy, Industrial Technology; 2/17
George F. McCoy, Psychology; 2/17
Max R. Rennels, Art; 2/17
John C. Shields, English; 4/17
Ralph L. Smith, Communication; 5/17

30s

Margaret (Hjemvick) Wix '37, '65; 3/17

40s

Margaret H. (Winter) Butcher '40; 11/16
Geraldine (Meteer) McGinnis '40; 3/17
Mary A. Morrissey '41; 3/17
Delma L. (Tornquist) Damos '43; 2/17
Earline A. (Benedict) Mottershaw '43, '55; 11/16
Alice P. (Ridenour) Olson '43; 2/17
Catherine A. Carter '46; 3/17
Alice M. (Wichman) Hitchings '46; 2/17
William L. Johnston '46; 12/17
Alberta "Jean" (McAtee) Kaiser '47; 2/17
Jacqueline M. (Brucker) Henry '49; 2/12

50s

Melvin R. Klitzing '50; 9/15
Donald J. Borofsky '51; 1/17
Lyle C. Miner '51; 2/17
James L. Olivero '51; 11/16
Nedra L. (Killam) Barron '52; 3/17

Harold R. French '52; 9/16
Jonas R. Lashmet '52; 1/17
Tannie (Sonopol) Mandel '52; 3/17
Patricia A. (Poundstone) Meyer '52; 3/17
Herbert F. Snook '52, M.S. '59; 4/17
Geraldine J. (West) French '53; 11/16
Lucille M. (Harms) Gunther '53; 3/17
James L. Peterson '53, M.S. '57; 2/16
Lois (Carnahan) Banning '54; 5/15
Margilee I. Jacobs '54; 2/17
Donna L. (DeLong) Peterson '54; 3/17
Roger R. Ruddy '56, M.S. '60; 3/17
Norma S. (Dezonias) Hackl '57, M.S. '79; 4/17
James H. Fenton '58; 3/17
Norman D. Miller '58; 4/17
Sandra J. (Shelby) Angel '59; 2/17
Charles R. Seipel '59, M.S. '66; 12/14

60s

Jo Ann (Knuppel) Block '60; 4/17
Douglas P. Blair '61, M.S. '64, Ed.D. '80; 3/17

David L. Babcock '62; 3/17
Grace I. (Hickey) Dean '62; 3/17
Michael S. Grose '62, M.S. '70; 12/16
James R. High '62; 2/17
Barbara L. (Extrom) Sabin '62; 1/17
Janet G. (Adams) Wolfley '62; 2/13
Marilyn H. (Koch) Poynter '63, M.S. '67; 2/12
Linda G. (Faulin) Vandemark '63; 2/17
Janice M. (Schultz) Johnson '64, M.S. '82; 4/17
Stanley F. Strainis Jr. '64; 3/17
Timothy M. Olmstead '65; 2/17
Gary R. Sudano '65, M.S. '66; 2/17
Jerold L. Birky '66; 3/17
Delores F. (Twist) Edwards '66, M.S. '69; 2/16
David J. Erickson '66; 10/13
Pauline A. (Branz) Hardesty Evans '66, M.S. '74; 4/17
Maralea O. (Keefe) Gangloff '66; 3/17
Susan D. (McLee) Goodale '66; 2/17
Ruth A. (Harms) Letzkus '66; 3/17
Marjorie L. (Morgan) Meils '66; 3/17



Three easy ways to submit your information

- 1) Go online to **Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/ClassNotes** and click on "class notes." Information submitted using this method will also be posted online.
- 2) Email your news to **sjblyst@IllinoisState.edu**.
- 3) Mail your news to Class Notes, Illinois State University, Alumni Relations, Campus Box 3100, Normal, IL 61790-3100. Please include your graduation year, major, maiden name when applicable, and daytime phone number for verification purposes. News releases and information from published news clippings may also be used. Engagements and pregnancies will not be published.

For additional information, contact Alumni Relations at (309) 438-2586 or (800) 366-4478, or by email at alumni@IllinoisState.edu.



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Virginia L. (Waters) Arnold '67; 2/17
Betty A. (Kapelke) Denk '67; 2/17
James A. Funderburk '67; 3/17
Raymond E. Belcher, M.S. '68; 2/17
Thomas J. Guilfoyle '68; 4/17
Connie S. (Miller) King '68; 3/17
Jane E. (Hendren) Leathem '68; 3/17
Mary A. (Kipling) Blakesley '69; 4/17
Linda K. (Chestnut) Fitzsimmons '69; 4/17
Kent L. Freeland '69; 3/17
Thomas S. Shea '69; 4/17

70s

Joseph T. Burdeau '70, M.S. '72; 4/17
Cindy L. Smith '70, M.S. '86; 2/17
Ross E. Vogel '70, M.S. '71; 9/14
Rachel M. E. (Trummel) Wise, M.S. '70; 3/17
Mary L. (Rafferty) Breedlove '71; 2/17
Elizabeth E. (Martin) Chaney, M.S. '71; 2/17
Ruth M. Elston '71; 4/17
Genevieve L. (Padgett) Farnsworth '71; 2/17

Judy A. (Klein) Gillespie '71; 2/17
Gloria A. (Nyland) Holt '71; 3/17
Richard L. Hunter, M.S. '71; 3/17
Judith V. (Eaton) Mason '71; 5/17
Meri S. (Tendall) Rhodes '71; 3/17
Dennis A. Studinski '71, M.S. '73; 2/17
John E. Unger, M.S. '71; 4/17
Katheryn A. (Bogner) Cranmer '72, M.S. '73; 3/17
Alvin "Sam" W. Fanning '72; 9/16
Ronald L. Fuchs '72; 4/17
Annette (Linnen) Kohl '72; 5/17
Robert M. McKay, M.S. '72; 2/17
Robert E. Preller, Ph.D. '72; 5/17
David P. Stephen '72; 2/16
James E. Mitchell '73; 3/17
Louise M. Picco-Branney '73, M.S. '82; 3/17
M. Michael Waters '73; 2/17
Loren K. Wiseman '73; 2/17
Verle R. Austin '74; 2/17
Mary Beth (Hanley) Gunier '74; 2/17
Nancy E. (Richter) Lashbrook '74; 2/17
Herbert S. Ragsdale '74; 4/17
Jean A. Hamilton '75; 5/17
James G. Moore Jr. '75; 3/17

Michael J. O'Rourke '75; 2/17
Almyra "Toodie" (Butzer) Montgomery Powell, M.S. '75; 3/17
James H. Williams, M.S. '75; 2/17
Susan M. (Walton) Fairgrieve '76; 3/17
James Farina '76; 7/16
Catherine M. (Sterner) O'Leary '76, M.A. '77; 6/16
Benjamin T. Bailey '77; 12/16
Rita M. (Sasseti) Farina '77; 7/16
Kimberly A. (Broshous) Jordan '77, M.S. '79; 2/17
Emmy L. (Heintzman) Murawski '77; 4/17
Mary C. (Beddard) Roberts '77; 9/16
Huu N. Pham '78; 3/17

80s

John Bradford '80; 5/17
Mark McCullagh '80; 11/16
Elijah Thomas Jr. '80; 3/17
Gregory L. DePauw '82; 3/17
Mark P. Foley '82; 3/17
Vickie (Gottemoller) Geiger '83, '88; 1/17
Randolph Lloyd '83; 2/17

David W. Matz '83; 3/17
Robert J. Vail '83; 2/17
Julia A. (Cline) Casey '84; 4/17
James C. Forstall, Ed.D. '85; 3/17
Mary J. (Hinton) Harris, M.S. '87; 2/17

90s

Steven R. Tamburini '90; 4/17
Carolyn R. (McCormick) Kolbus '91; 2/17
Cynthia L. (Wellington) Bach '92; 2/17
Julie L. Dunlap '93; 2/17
Craig H. Pope '95; 3/17
Roberta "Bobbi" L. Lyons '96; 2/17
Matthew B. Mascal '96; 4/17
Genevieve M. (Kelly) Shelton '96; 5/16
Kristine M. Boschert '97; 2/17
Melinda J. (Smith) Dabels '97; 3/17
Michael D. Smith '97; 3/17
Vicki K. Kammeyer '99; 2/17
Daniel C. Risley '99; 3/17

10s

Richard L. McLain '10; 2/17



Thanks to you!

Tyler Wolf graduated in May with an immediate plan to advance his future as a glass artist. He is attending the Pilchuck Glass School, an international center for glass education that is north of Seattle, Washington.

The opportunity was made possible through alumni, who attended sessions at the ISU Glass House during the spring semester. Beyond learning about the University's glass program, each participant helped sculpt their own glass paperweight. They also contributed to a scholarship fund needed to cover Wolf's expenses. Alumni Relations hosted 90 graduates total at three events, raising \$1,800.

The event "brought exposure to the Glass House, raised money for this wonderful scholarship, and brought students and alumni together to share in talent and memories," according to Alumni Relations Director Jamie Sennett '99.

Wolf, one of the instructors during the event, worked with Shirley McCauley '07, *above*. He was pleased to meet graduates and for the opportunity to express directly his gratitude for their support. He also enjoyed sharing his love of glass with fellow Redbirds.

"Glass is fascinating. The ability to use light, see the progression, and understand transparency is very therapeutic," said Wolf, who will further develop his passion at Pilchuck. He never envisioned having the opportunity to study and network with people from all over the world who share a love of glass artistry.

Will you make a difference by supporting your passion? Make a contribution online at IllinoisState.edu/Giving, or call (800) 366-4478.



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Fun on the field

Athletics provides the opportunity to see a free movie from the field of Hancock Stadium each summer. Community and campus members come together with family and friends to view a Hollywood hit shown on the scoreboard. This year's event was held in June, with the animated feature *Sing* the chosen film.

