

Illinois State

alumni magazine

VOLUME 10 • NUMBER 1 • SUMMER 2009



Joseph Reynolds '03 and Kelli Pribel '09 have people across the country on the run with the Great Urban Race.

Run the race at Homecoming!
SEE PAGE 19.



The First Word

May is always a time of celebration on campus, as another class reaches the goal of graduation. Illinois State's annual spring commencement ceremony is marked by tradition that goes beyond academic pomp and circumstance. It is a time when generations gather to proudly applaud a major accomplishment in the life of a loved one.

Amidst this joy is always a bit of angst and uncertainty, as our students transition from the campus to the workplace. Anxious moments are inevitable at the start of any career. This year's graduating class, however, has the additional stress of pursuing professional dreams at a time when the nation's economy is faltering.

And yet I know from conversations with members of the Class of 2009 that our newest alums are going forward with a spirit of optimism and determination despite discouraging headlines. They are ready to face the challenges of a recession, eager to become part of the solution by working and leading in their respective fields.

We have a student body that sets a high standard for academic performance, as demonstrated in the statistic that only one in four applicants is now accepted to the University. Those chosen complete rigorous degrees, as our programs in education, business, science, fine arts, nursing, and applied sciences have earned national distinction and international praise.

Such excellence separates the University from our state and regional counterparts. It means Illinois State faculty and staff go beyond the necessary fundamental curriculum to instill in students confidence and courage needed to not just survive but thrive, no matter how uncertain the future.

Alumni are another reason I am assured our newest graduates will succeed. I applaud and appreciate the myriad graduates who, once established in their professions, are willing to stand as mentors. They provide invaluable internships, networking avenues, and employment opportunities to our students and young alums.

The University helps graduates and prospective employers find each other through the Career Center (www.careercenter.ilstu.edu) and online outreach, such as an Illinois State page on LinkedIn (www.alumni.ilstu.edu/linkedin). Take advantage of these resources to find or fill a position.

Confidence in your alma mater is never more apparent than when you hire an Illinois State graduate. Alumni who are willing and able to extend such a helping hand teach our newest graduates one of their most important collegiate lessons: the Redbird bond reaches far beyond campus, and continues long after commencement.

Al Bowman
President, Illinois State University

Illinois State

alumni magazine

Volume 9, Number 4, Spring 2009

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The business of racing

Interested in Redbird nostalgia with a twist? Joseph Reynolds '03 has the challenge for you during Homecoming 2009. As the Great Urban Race creator and owner of Red Frog Events, Reynolds has a dozen clues that will send you across campus and around the community. For you, it's fun. For him, it's a successful business.

Cover: Chicago was the city Reynolds chose for the first race.

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Illinois State students find multiple opportunities to gain a competitive advantage. For Jamie Siegel and Kim Richfield, the chance to intern at Johns Hopkins Children's Center was life changing, both personally and professionally. They also made history, as never before have two students from the same campus been chosen for the elite internship.

12 FROM CAMPUS TO COMBAT

As an undergraduate active in the Reserved Officers' Training Corps and the Big Red Marching Machine, Col. Yvette Nonte '83 had no idea how her campus activities would influence her career. After serving as director of intelligence in Iraq, Nonte is now a key player in the federal government's intelligence community.

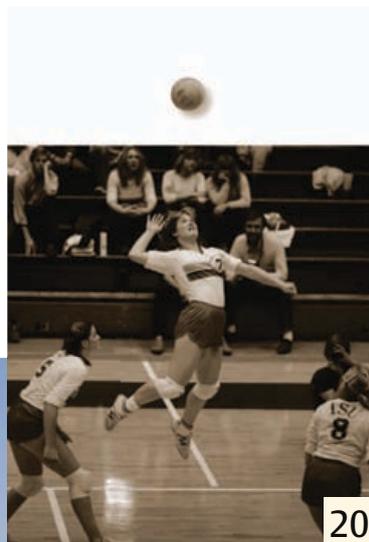
20 A TIME OF TRANSITION

Title IX mandated opportunities for female athletes, but it took individual effort on college campuses to open doors. Jill Hutchison, M.S. '69, and Linda Herman, M.S. '72, Ed.D. '83, rose to the challenge as Illinois State implemented significant change. Their leadership was characterized by patience, an ability to compromise, and a vision for the future.

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UniversityNews

“The University’s skyline is changing, as construction continues to the west of central campus.”

Alumni who return to Illinois State for Homecoming this fall will find some major changes to the west side of the Quad, where the Student Fitness and Kinesiology and Recreation Building is taking shape.

Located where Dunn-Barton and Walker residence halls once stood, the new building will fill an entire city block before reaching across University Street to connect with McCormick Hall by an elevated walkway. The new facility will stand three stories, and provide 170,000 square feet when it is completed in the fall of 2010.

Estimated to cost \$50 million, it is the largest capital project in the University’s history. Approximately \$30 million of the project budget is derived from student fees, and the remainder covered by the University’s general resources.

With basketball courts, an indoor track, a racquetball court, aerobic spaces, and a climbing wall, the building will be appreciated by students as a significant upgrade from the much smaller recreation center currently located off campus. The center will also include classrooms, laboratories, and office space for the School of Kinesiology, which has been functioning out of McCormick and Horton Fieldhouse for years.

Work during the spring included major demolition at McCormick. The pool addition on the west side of the building was razed, the debris cleared, and the pool filled in. The main building also began to take shape by summer, with three exterior walls in place. The fourth wall was purposefully delayed because it will consist of primarily glass, and will consequently be the final wall erected. The building plans and renderings of the finished facility are available at www.facilitiesplanning.ilstu.edu/update.

Just across the street from the Student Fitness and Kinesiology Recreation Building is another project drawing the attention of the campus community. The St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Newman Center is undergoing a major renovation to update the structure that has stood since the 1960s. While not associated with the University, Newman Center has served as a place of worship for Illinois State students for more than 50 years.

A new 300-seat chapel is under construction, along with recreational, library, classroom, and office space. A more traditional church facade will also be added to the existing building located on Main Street and just south of Avanti’s. The project is expected to be completed later this year.



WEB EXTRA

Construction progress can be observed by going online to www.rec.ilstu.edu, and viewing images from a live Web cam.

For an overview of the Newman Center’s history and ongoing outreach, go to www.IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS PROGRAM AMONG BEST IN WORLD

The human resource program in Illinois State's Department of Management and Quantitative Methods (MQM) has been recognized as one of just 37 traditional undergraduate programs across the globe to meet the demanding curriculum and educational standards set forth by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).

"Certification by SHRM is a significant accomplishment for our HR program, and for the Department of Management and Quantitative Methods," MQM Chairperson Jim Jawahar said.

"Being among a select group of schools recognized for effectively covering the HR body of knowledge reinforces the value of our program in a powerful way," Jawahar said. He credits the achievement to the dedication of the HR faculty members, former MQM Chair John Lust, and Assistant Professor of Management Joseph Goodman.

SHRM is the world's largest professional association devoted to human resource management. The society created an initiative to define HR education standards within university business schools. The standards serve as a means to assist program development, and clarify general competencies HR students at the undergraduate and graduate levels should master.

MENNONITE COLLEGE WELCOMES NEW DEAN TO CAMPUS

Janet Krejci joined Illinois State in August as dean of Mennonite College of Nursing. She replaces interim dean Sara Campbell, who is a professor in the college.

Krejci earned her Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her research and teaching focuses on nursing leadership development, nurse retention, workforce diversity, and enhancement of acute and long-term nursing care.

She served as associate dean for undergraduate programs at Marquette University College of Nursing from 2004 until 2007, when she accepted an American Council on Education (ACE) Leadership Fellowship. She was named a Robert Wood Johnson Nurse Executive Fellow in 2008.

"Janet Krejci's experience in obtaining highly competitive national awards is a tribute to her exceptional energy, leadership, and scholarly abilities", Provost Sheri Noren Everts said. "Her passion for nursing education and leadership development for nurses at all levels, as well as her commitment to diversity, position the college well in these important endeavors."

DAILY VIDETTE SUPPLEMENT WINS NATIONAL AWARD

The staff of Illinois State's student newspaper, the *Daily Vidette*, produces a back-to-school supplement each year. The *Survival Guide* created in August of 2008 did more than inform new and returning students. It also captured national attention.

The College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers, Inc., chose the guide as Best of Show at a spring convention. The professional organization's membership includes students and advisers working with business and advertising departments in college and university newspapers across the United States.

Ad sales manager Michelle Flanigan, a junior from Paxton; ad production manager Jamie Blass, a senior from Sugar Grove; and their staffs were responsible for the national award-winning supplement. Rick Jones is general manager at the *Vidette*. Amy Gorczowski, a junior from Cary, is the editor-in-chief.

The newspaper's classified section won second place nationally for best section, as well as a third-place award for classified promotion for its seniors' page last spring. Artist Anna Negrusz, a senior from Glen Ellyn, was the classified designer. Staff also captured a national third place for best newspaper promotion.

FINANCE VICE PRESIDENT FINISHES YEARS OF SERVICE

Steve Bragg retired from his role as vice president for Finance and Planning in the spring. University Advancement Vice President Dianne Ashby has oversight of the division while a national search is underway for the University's next chief financial officer.

"I can think of no one who has provided more important leadership to this University over the past 10 years than Steve Bragg," President Al Bowman said.

Bragg became interim vice president and then vice president of the division after serving as the director of Planning, Policy Studies and Information Systems. Prior to that he served the Illinois Board of Higher Education in Planning and Analytical Studies.

During his tenure Bragg guided Finance and Planning through several years of budget cuts, mid-year rescissions, hiring freezes, and a seven-year stretch without a state capital spending plan.

Bragg established financing precedents in acquiring and developing the new Alumni Center in partnership with the Illinois State University Foundation, and working with private developers in financing the new Student Fitness and Kinesiology and Recreation Building.

During his tenure a *Campus Master Plan* was completed, several new facilities opened, remodeling projects were tackled, and steps taken to save millions in energy expenses.

Bragg also worked to streamline Human Resources and Information Systems processes, which led to the implementation of a four-year tuition guarantee plan prior to the passage of Illinois' Truth-In-Tuition laws.

UNIVERSITY TRAINS INFORMATION ASSURANCE SPECIALISTS

Illinois State has been chosen as a Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education for academic years 2009-2014. The designation is based on the depth and quality of teaching and research in the School of Information Technology, and across the University.

The National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security sponsors the centers, which prepare professionals with information assurance



Vice President Emeritus
Steve Bragg

expertise in various disciplines to manage and secure information systems in public and private sectors.

Universities chosen as a center must treat information assurance as a multi-disciplinary science, collaborate with other educational institutions, encourage faculty and student research on the subject, and practice information assurance principles in its everyday operations.

“This designation shows that Illinois State is part of an exclusive group of universities uniquely positioned to teach a topic that is increasingly important,” said Douglas Twitchell, who serves as director of Illinois State’s center.

Illinois State will serve as a regional center of information assurance expertise, providing programs aimed at retaining current federal and state information technology personnel. Students attending these designated schools are eligible to apply for scholarships and grants

through the Department of Defense Information Assurance Scholarship Program, and the Federal Cyber Service Scholarship for Service Program.

FEDERAL FUNDING ADVANCES RESEARCH PROJECTS ACROSS CAMPUS

Illinois State has received more than \$500,000 in federal funding for projects that will enable rural communities to reduce water pollution and generate renewable energy, help Illinois businesses expand into overseas markets, and create a business incubator to promote Central Illinois economic development.

The University’s Livestock and Urban Waste research team has received \$475,000 in federal funding for a project to improve the water quality for the Village of Lexington, while exploring ways to generate alternative energy on a local level. Team members are developing a test plot for growing a variety of grasses and plants, called a biomass, that will act as a filter to improve overall water quality. Faculty are also investigating ways to produce energy by converting biomass into ethanol, and combining it with local livestock manure in a methane digester.

Another \$100,000 in federal funding has been received to expand the Export Project, which helps small and mid-sized companies in Illinois expand their operations into overseas markets. Teams of students and faculty members work with companies to identify, evaluate, and actively develop international business opportunities. Teams prepare realistic export plans, act as consultants, and prepare targeted marketing studies for specific countries.

An additional \$95,000 will allow for the creation of a business incubator facility to help with local economic development efforts. The project involves the City of Bloomington, Town of Normal, and the Economic Development Council of the Bloomington-Normal Area.

“Funding for these projects represents a validation of Illinois State’s growing and positive reputation in Washington, D.C.,” said Rodney Custer, associate vice president for Research, Graduate and International Studies.

Gunn helps students celebrate efforts to go green

Fashion expert and *Project Runway* cohost Tim Gunn came to campus in the spring as a College of Applied Science and Technology guest. He was a keynote speaker during a week of college events that focused on sustainable urbanism, getting kids into nature, and agriculture’s role in a green economy.

Gunn was a special guest at the college’s Apparel Merchandising and Design Association Green Chic Fashion Show. The program featured the work of 28 students, who designed clothing using only organic or recycled materials, including bedspreads.

The work drew praise from Gunn, who deemed the student work incredible.

Approximately 1,400 from campus and the community attended the event and listened to Gunn tell how he rose from an insecure child with a stutter to become an icon in the world of fashion.

He got his start as chair of the Department of Fashion Design at Parsons The New School for Design in New York, where he transformed the curriculum. Under his direction the program became the best in the nation and a leading program internationally.

Beyond serving as cohost of the reality television show that gives designers a chance to compete in the industry, Gunn is now chief creative officer at Liz Claiborne Inc. He stars in his own show titled *Tim Gunn’s Guide to Style*. He is also the author of *Tim Gunn: A Guide to Quality, Taste, and Style*.



Fashion icon Tim Gunn inspired design students during a campus visit.

ILLINOIS STATE CHOSEN FOR HEMINGWAY EXHIBIT

A photographic exhibit depicting the life of Nobel Prize winner Ernest Hemingway is on display at Milner Library through September. Titled *Picturing Hemingway: A Writer in His Time*, the exhibit has traveled internationally.

The exhibit's photographs depict a timeline of Hemingway's life in a narrative format. It was created by the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institute, in Washington, D.C., in collaboration with the Ernest Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park.

Hemingway is one of the nation's most famous novelists, a short-story writer, essayist, and journalist. Among his more popular works are *A Farewell to Arms*, which was made into a movie. He died in 1961.

The exhibit is free and open to the public, as is a keynote address by Susan Beegel at 6:30 p.m. on September 3. Her presentation is titled "Hemingway's Personal Farewell to Arms." For more information contact literature librarian Jean MacDonald at (309) 438-3516 or by e-mail at jmacdon@ilstu.edu.

Alumni

ANNUAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETING ANNOUNCED

All alumni are invited to attend the Alumni Association annual meeting at 9 a.m. on September 19 at the Alumni Center. Agenda items include the election of members to the association's board of directors and board officers. Action items include a proposed revision to the Illinois State University Alumni Association Constitution to amend language relating to term limits.

The proposed amendment states that individuals appointed to unexpired terms will no longer have that partial term of service counted in the total years of board service allowed under the constitution's term limit provision. If the revision is approved, a board member's length of service will begin when he or she is elected for the first time to a full,

three-year term. Appointments cannot exceed 12 years total.

Alumni with active membership status in the Alumni Association are eligible to vote at the annual meeting. This status requires that a gift to the University has been made through the Illinois State University Foundation in the current or preceding fiscal year.

For more information contact Alumni Relations at (309) 438-2586 or (800) 366-4478 or e-mail Alumni Relations Executive Director Stephanie Epp, Ed.D. '07 at saep@IllinoisState.edu.

ALUMNI CAN ACCESS CAMPUS NEWSLETTER ONLINE

The Illinois State University *Report* is a newsletter printed weekly throughout the academic year to provide news updates to the campus community and retirees. Beginning in August, *Report* will join the digital age and be published exclusively online.

Alumni who have an e-mail address registered with the University may sign up to receive the electronic publication, which will be sent out each Tuesday. Get on the *Report* distribution list by contacting Kathy Beal in Media Relations at kjbeal@illinoisstate.edu.

The online version of *Report* will differ from the printed format. There will be one or two lead story abstracts in the e-mail, with Web links provided to the full stories. While some events will be detailed, others will only be mentioned. Readers will be sent directly to the University calendar for more information.

This change in *Report* helps Illinois State in its sustainability efforts by saving the paper, ink, and energy required to create the printed piece. The University joined 32 colleges and universities across the state in efforts to conserve when President Al Bowman signed the Illinois Sustainable University Compact three years ago. The compact represents a pledge to improve how the campus interacts with the environment and to promote ecology, encourage respect for life on earth, and highlight the growing concern for over-pollution of soil, air, and water.

VISIT THE UNIVERSITY WEB SITE TO STAY CONNECTED

If you're a distant alum—either in geography or in the amount of time elapsed since your last campus visit—you may feel that this magazine is your only real source for an Illinois State connection. You can also stay informed about university happenings, events, and services with regular visits to www.IllinoisState.edu/alumni.



The Alumni, Donor, and Friends Web site allows you to read news items of specific interest to alumni, see photos from events or activities soon after they occur, look up old friends, and access a wide variety of services available to alums. You can also keep your contact information current so that you can be found by other alumni.

Learn about special programs and activities by checking the events calendar regularly. For your convenience, the Alumni Web site provides quick links to a number of the most commonly needed services from other parts of the University, as well as to academic units that have a Web page specifically for alumni.

READERSHIP SURVEY PROVIDES ALUMNI MAGAZINE FEEDBACK

Alumni will now have the opportunity to critique Illinois State following the delivery of the magazine each quarter. A printed survey with a prepaid return envelope will be sent out to readers chosen randomly. Others will have the opportunity to provide feedback by going online to www.IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine.

Readers will be asked to rate the features in each issue, identify which sections they most enjoy, judge the magazine's overall quality, and share what they would like to see changed in the publication.

"Alumni feedback will be of tremendous help to the magazine staff, as we work to make certain the publication meets the needs and interests of our graduates," said Alumni Relations Executive Director Stephanie Epp, Ed.D. '07.

Epp is also publisher of the magazine, which was converted to a full-color magazine 10 years ago. It is sent to all alumni quarterly at no charge, and is now available electronically as well as in print. Readers who prefer to read the publication online should contact Alumni Relations Director Annette States Levitt '96, M.S. '02, at aslevitt@IllinoisState.edu to be removed from the magazine's mailing list.

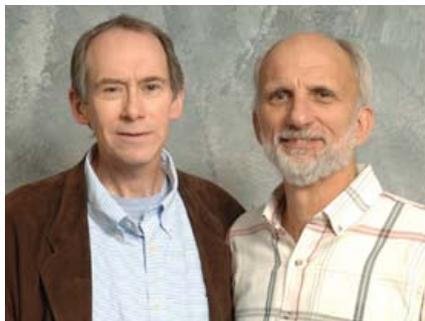
Development

SCHOLARSHIP HONORS TWO RETIRED ECONOMICS FACULTY

The Department of Economics has established the Dr. John Chizmar and Dr. Anthony Ostrosky Endowed Scholarship Fund, and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award.

The fund honors emeritus professors John Chizmar and Anthony Ostrosky. It will be used to provide a scholarship for undergraduate economics students, as well as financial support for an outstanding faculty member in the field of economics education.

Chizmar earned his doctorate from Boston College. He joined Illinois State's faculty in 1971, and received the University's Outstanding Teaching Award in 1988. He also captured the Henry H. Villard Research Award, which is a national research award that recognizes outstanding contributions in economic education research. Chizmar served as an assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, acting associate provost, and as associate



Retired Economics Professors John Chizmar, left, and Anthony Ostrosky

vice president for Business and Finance. He retired in 2002.

Ostrosky earned his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh, and came to Illinois State in 1973. He taught economic undergraduate and graduate students, as well as M.B.A. program students. He received Illinois State's Outstanding Teaching Award, an Alumni Association Distinguished Teaching Award, the Freshman Honor Society Favorite Professor Award, and the Outstanding M.B.A. Faculty Award. Ostrosky directed study abroad programs and taught overseas. Retired in 2004, he continues to teach at least one semester per year.

Additional information about the scholarship fund and faculty award may be obtained from Director of Development Mary Rundus by e-mailing merundu@ilstu.edu or calling (309) 438-7725. Gifts can also be made online at www.IllinoisState.edu/giving.

ENDOWMENT SUPPORTS PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES CENTER

An endowment has been established to support the Stanley S. Marzolf Center for the Psychological Assessment and Treatment Center of Children and Adolescents. The fund will allow the center to continue a legacy of service that goes back decades.

Marzolf developed a psychological counseling service in the 1940s as a faculty member in the Department of Psychology. He mentored graduate students, who worked in area schools to fulfill practicum requirements. The students provided diagnostic and counseling services to children and adolescents, and also served the mental health needs of university students.

Marzolf, who is deceased, served as director for 25 years. His contributions were acknowledged in the 1970s with the naming of the center in his honor, however, an official ceremony was not held until last fall.

A plaque was placed in the lobby of the center located in Fairchild Hall. The center continues to offer individual and group assessment and treatment, as well as parent education. The work is supported by donations to the center's endowment. Gifts can be made by contacting Executive Director of Development Joy Hutchcraft at (309) 438-8041 or by e-mail at jdhutch@IllinoisState.edu. Donations can be made online at www.IllinoisState.edu/giving.

PROFESSOR'S GIFT EXPANDS MILNER LIBRARY MUSIC COLLECTION

Thanks to a retired professor with an ear for Mozart, Bach, and Beethoven, Milner Library patrons will soon have access to a greatly expanded collection of musical recordings.

The Professor Emeritus Sol Shulman Collection consists of approximately 2,600 CDs that Shulman donated from his personal collection. The gift includes unique collections of klezmer and Russian military music, as well as classical music with a strong emphasis on concertos and opera.

The collection is made more valuable because it contains many comparative recordings of different orchestras and artists performing individual works. It will serve as a valuable resource for music faculty and students.

"Professor Shulman's donation increases our CD collection by 33 percent, replacing many performances we only had on LP, and adding wonderful new recordings by world renown artists," Milner's Music, Theatre, and Media Librarian Christine Kubiak said. "This is an amazing collection for all our music students, whether they are studying



Chemistry Professor Emeritus Sol Shulman

performance, composition, conducting, music therapy, or just performing in a campus musical ensemble.”

Shulman came to Illinois State in 1969 to serve as Department of Chemistry chair. After retiring in 1992 he served on the University's Foundation Board of Directors. He also played a critical role as a consultant in the design and construction of Illinois State's Science Laboratory Building.

Athletics

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STAR FIRST REDBIRD IN WNBA

As a star point guard, Kristi Cirone '09 became one of the most beloved players in Illinois State history. She lifted the Redbird women's basketball to new heights, and finished her career as possibly the greatest all-around player in program history.

Cirone's success caught the attention of the WNBA. She was invited by the Connecticut Sun to compete as a free agent in training camp last spring. She earned a spot on the roster as guard, becoming the first player from Illinois State to make the league.

The opportunity came not long after Cirone ended her Illinois State career at the semifinals of the Women's National Invitation Tournament.

The Redbirds had their deepest post-season run ever in the tournament. That success came after the team captured their first outright conference regular-season title in 20 years.

A Chicago native, Cirone graduated as the all-time leader in scoring, assists, and three-point field goals. A three-time Missouri Valley Conference Player of the Year, Cirone received a pair of All-American honors for the second-consecutive year.

Cirone will long be remembered by fans, who will see her jersey hanging from the rafters in Redbird Arena. Athletics Director Sheahon Zenger announced that Cirone's No. 10 jersey will be retired.

TWO MORE REDBIRDS ADVANCE TO PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Former Illinois State football players Walter Mendenhall and Tom Nelson each signed free agent contracts after the completion of the 2009 NFL Draft. Mendenhall inked with the Philadelphia Eagles, and Nelson signed with the Cincinnati Bengals. Both participated in their respective team's rookie camp.

They join three other former Redbirds in the NFL. Boomer Grigsby '07 has signed with the Houston Texans. Laurént Robinson '07 is with the St. Louis Rams, while Aveion Cason plays for the Detroit Lions. In addition former Redbird Jonathan St-Pierre '07 signed a three-year contract with the Saskatchewan Roughriders of the Canadian Football League (CFL) in the spring.

St-Pierre joins Kye Stewart '08 on the Roughrider roster, and will be the fifth Redbird to play in the CFL. The others include Kevin Glenn and Cameron Siskowic '07, both with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. Brandon Joyce plays for the Toronto Argonauts.

WOMEN'S GOLF TEAM REPEATS CONFERENCE TITLE WIN

The Illinois State women's golf team completed its second consecutive run to the State Farm Missouri Valley Conference (MVC) Championship at Lake Panorama National Resort in the spring. The Redbirds posted a final team score of 921 for the team's 10th conference title.

Junior Stacey Miller led the Redbirds with a nine-over-par, three-round score of 225, and won the individual title. Miller is the first Redbird to win medalist honors at the championship since 2006. Junior Marisa Milligan finished the tournament in third place, with a 54-hole score of 227.

Head coach Darby Sligh, who was named the MVC Coach of the Year for the second consecutive year, was proud of the team's accomplishments.

“We stuck to our game plan through very difficult and windy conditions, and it paid off for us,” Sligh said. “I am ecstatic for Stacey. She pulled through for us in the end, as did Marisa with birdies down the stretch.”

DEDICATIONS HELD FOR SOFTBALL, BASEBALL STADIUMS

The Illinois State Athletics Department held a naming dedication for the Marian Kneer Softball Stadium in the spring. Kneer joined University President Al Bowman and Athletics Director Sheahon Zenger for the festivities.

Kneer '49, M.S. '57, pioneered the inclusion of women's sports into the Illinois High School Association in 1970.



Marian Kneer '49, M.S. '57, far right, spoke at the dedication of the softball stadium named in her honor. Others who participated in the program included, from left, Softball Coach Melinda Fischer '72, M.S. '75; Athletics Director Sheahon Zenger; President Al Bowman; and Linda Bowman.

That was two years before the passing of Title IX, which mandated more opportunity for female athletes. A retired educator who resides in Plainfield, Kneer remains supportive of the University. She donated \$250,000 to Athletics in 2008.

Another dedication also took place in the spring. The new Illinois State Baseball Stadium was officially celebrated by Bowman, Zenger, Board of Trustee Chair Judge Michael McCuskey '70, L.L.D. '03, and State Representative Jay Hoffman '83.

Letters

Letters on issues discussed in Illinois State or relating to university news or policies are welcome. All letters should be limited to 250 words or less and are subject to editing. Send e-mail to sjblyst@illinoisstate.edu; fax to (309) 438-8411; or mail to Illinois State, Illinois State University, Campus Box 3420, Normal, IL 61790-3420.

Competitive advantage

Johns Hopkins internship prepares two stellar students

BY JOANNA PELLETIER '09

Since admitting its first class in 1857, Illinois State's mission has been to prepare graduates for their chosen field by blending a curriculum with practical experience. A semester of student teaching was the main source of workplace exposure for decades, as the University focused on teacher training.

As degree options expanded, so did the need for students to gain real-world training in diverse fields. From campus experiences to international opportunities, faculty and staff across disciplines have worked to place students in professional environments where textbook theories and classroom lectures come to life.

For Jamie Siegel and Kim Richfield, the capstone experience came through a child life internship with Johns Hopkins Children's Center (JHCC) in Baltimore, Maryland. The two Illinois State graduate students were the only ones chosen from a competitive national pool of applicants for the spring semester.

"An internship there is highly sought after," said Department of Family and Consumer Sci-

"Johns Hopkins is committed to excellence in patient care, teaching, and research," Brylske said. She noted that the program challenges students to take theory they have learned and "apply it to real-life settings."

The core of Illinois State's child life program—knowledge of family and child development theories and practical experience—increased Siegel's and Richfield's appeal as applicants.

"The key component is to be able to integrate the book knowledge, and use those concepts to make an assessment, develop goals, and achieve those goals," JHCC Child Life Training Coordinator Erin Munn said. He praised Siegel and Richfield, saying they were "among the best prepared interns we have seen."

"I would consider them both very strong with being able to make meaningful assessments so they can help children and families adjust to, and cope with, the healthcare experience," Munn said.

The JHCC program, which has three, 15-week rotations per year, allows students to explore mul-

This was the first time Johns Hopkins Children's Center chose two students from the same university.

ences Assistant Professor Julie Maschoff. JHCC Child Life Department Director Patrice Brylske noted this was the first time that the department chose two students from the same university to participate in their program.

As one of the oldest programs in the country, Johns Hopkins Child Life Department has served as a model for other hospitals. Its association with Johns Hopkins Hospital makes it one of the most prestigious internships in the competitive field of child life.

iple areas within the field. Each internship period is divided into two, seven-week rotations in an area of the intern's choosing. Students observe certified child life specialists in their practice, and work under their supervision.

"Part of our internship involved developing our own style of applying child life theories to practice," Siegel explained. She and Richfield were also required to spend one week observing at other hospitals to learn how programs differ.



Jamie Siegel, *left*, and Kim Richfield gained a competitive advantage by completing an internship at Johns Hopkins Children's Center during the spring semester. The two graduate students put theory to practice as they helped children cope with illness.



Siegel has a bachelor's degree in family and consumer communications from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She learned about child life through a family friend. “After working in the communications field I realized I was missing... the rewarding experiences and feelings I had with my previous

volunteer activities with kids,” Siegel said.

She explored the child life field and was “immediately drawn to the dynamic, creative, and therapeutic elements of the profession.” Siegel chose Illinois State's program because of the thought-provoking coursework, and the opportunity to gain practical experience through a graduate assistantship.

“It's been a great experience, and I think that faculty have a lot to do with that,” Siegel said. She noted that the family and child development theories taught at Illinois State served as a foundation for her first two rotations.

Siegel started at Johns Hopkins in the pre-surgical unit, where she helped ready patients for upcoming procedures through psychological preparation, medical play, and other therapeutic

interventions that help children cope with stress and anxiety related to hospitalization.

The inpatient oncology unit was Siegel's second rotation. There she learned how to initiate a deeper rapport with families, and build upon the interventions she used in her first rotation. “The outpatient setting was a faster pace and more scheduled than the inpatient unit. In this setting a patient can be in from one day to several months,” she said, which allows time to build a deeper rapport.

Siegel provided families in both units with emotional support. As a result she gained a deeper understanding of how a parent's or family member's anxiety can influence a child's stress levels.

“Some children might be used to a household where there is high stress. Depending on the circumstances, different interventions are applied to help support families throughout a hospitalization,” she said. “Helping the parents often helps the children.”

Working in the pediatric oncology unit was a test of Siegel's emotional strength. She found that being brave, supportive, and thinking positive thoughts is the key to getting through. “It's challenging at times,” she said. “My thought is that these people need my help more than ever.”

Richfield, who holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Wisconsin–La Crosse, learned about child life during a senior capstone class. “I thought it sounded interesting, so I went home, found the Child Life Council Web site, and fell in love with it from there. I really like the psychosocial, emotional part of it.”

Richfield applied to many different programs across the country. She became convinced that Illinois State would give her the strongest advantage. “When it came down to it, Illinois State is specifically a child life program,” Richfield explained. “Not a lot of other places can provide you with that experience.”

Like Siegel, Richfield supported families during both of her rotations. She spent her first weeks in the Harriet Lane Clinic, which offers healthcare services, treatment for acute conditions, and psychological support for families insured through Medicaid.

She spent much of her time in the waiting room or the play area, where she talked to children, built a rapport with the families, and asked questions to assess which families needed the most attention. “A lot of times I’d follow up with them in the exam rooms, and if there was anything that came up that they were stressed about, I tried to help them through that,” she said.

She used her knowledge of child and family development theories as a foundation for the assessments she made about the families she met in the clinic. “I got a lot of the child development theories when I was in undergrad,” said Richfield. “It wasn’t until ISU that I got the family theories.”

Richfield has grown in her ability to analyze family dynamics as a result of her internship. “Some parents were very involved,” she said, noting they would bring things for their children to do and ask them questions while they were waiting. “Other families were in greater need of assistance. I often modeled appropriate interactions in hopes that parents would pick up on ways that they could support their children in the future.”

Her second rotation in the medical surgical school age and burn unit was a lesson in time management, family intervention, and learning her own unique approach to providing children with the appropriate interventions. “In this area, the procedures were a lot more invasive and stressful,” Richfield said.

“It definitely was a different pace,” she said, noting she would typically see a child only once and worked with minimal information. It was important to make an impression on the families and perform her interventions in a short amount of time.

Richfield was also responsible for helping the certified child life specialists prepare children psychologically for medical procedures and bandage changes. The effort involved anything from engaging the children in medical play to showing them books about what they might experience based on the five senses.

“One of the things we can do is give the child a cloth doll so they can create a buddy with the same condition they have,” she said. “We always tell the kids that there are two guidelines in this hospital: first, there are no surprises, and second, we will always tell you the truth.”

The specialists encouraged the children to be honest about their condition so that their emotional needs could be addressed. “The overarching



ing goal of child life is to reduce the stress and anxiety of children when they’re in the hospital, clinic, or any kind of healthcare environment,” Richfield said.

Both she and Siegel are now even more empowered to do exactly that as they enter the work place. They have grown exponentially in their journey to become child life specialists by blending their Illinois State studies with the Johns Hopkins internship experience. Each has gained a competitive advantage and a genuine enthusiasm as they realize the difference they can and will make in the lives of young patients and their families.

“It’s definitely a rewarding profession. I see a lot of smiles,” Siegel said. “I am constantly in awe of the resilience and magic I see in the children.”

Johns Hopkins Children’s Center in Maryland offers an internship that is one of the most prestigious in the field of child life. Siegel and Richfield were well prepared for the experience from their Illinois State courses, and beat out a pool of national applicants.

Securing the nation

Alumna plays pivotal role in military intelligence

BY BOB AARON

Samarra, Iraq. February 22, 2006. 6:55 a.m.

Twin bombs rocked the Askariya shrine, one of Shia Islam's holiest sites. The mosque with its trademark golden dome, located 65 miles from Baghdad, was shattered by the explosion. Political tensions between Shiite and Sunni Muslims grew after the attack, fueled by retaliatory strikes that claimed the lives of about 165 people.

Blame for the Askariya tragedy was pointed at al-Qaeda in Iraq, a terrorist group associated with Osama bin Laden, who was made infamous with the 9/11 attacks on the United States. Many viewed the Samarra blast as a ploy to trigger civil war in Iraq.

For Col. Yvette Nonte '83, a Peoria native and the first female commander of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Redbird Cadet Corps, the Askariya attack was a key event in her notorious Army career. Nearly seven months earlier, Nonte found herself being choppered into Iraq under cover of darkness at the request of Lt. Gen. David H. Petraeus, then commander of the Multi-National Security and Transition Command in Iraq.

Wearing full-body armor, she arrived before dawn to link up with members of her new team. They endured a five-day journey to Phoenix Base, near the Iraqi Defense Ministry. Affectionately dubbed "Sticky-ville," it was rumored to have been a training academy for toppled Iraqi strongman Saddam Hussein's anointed inner circle. It served as a command and control base for the Multi-National Security and Transition Command when Nonte arrived.

Nonte's mission: Director of Intelligence. Her mantra: "Knowledge for Battle."

Eager to start working for Petraeus, Nonte's first few months in Iraq were grueling but rewarding. Often referred to as "Phoenix 2," she made it through her assignment by relying on a personal philosophy developed at Illinois State: learn, lead, and make a difference.

Learning her desert environment was fraught with challenges, including leading a team of joint service military professionals. She worked to make a difference for America's coalition partners and Iraqi's citizens. Lt. Gen. Martin Dempsey, who assumed command from Petraeus, talked to Nonte about the chances of civil war in Iraq. Then came the Samarra bombing. The Iraqi landscape changed, and not for the better.

"It was a time of real violence," Nonte said. "Trouble had been percolating between the various religious factions, but now we were introduced to a demonstration of deep-seated cultural hatred, the depth of which we as Americans rarely see or can truly understand."

The Golden Dome bombing accelerated an unprecedented level of violence that would continue through what Nonte characterized as "the tremendously successful implementation of the 'surge of forces' nearly two years later." Baghdad's constant turmoil caused soldiers like Nonte to be ever vigilant.

"Constantly you had to be totally aware of where you were," she explained, "constantly scanning and focusing on your surroundings. You had to be situationally aware."

There were lighter moments during her tour as well, including when she was approached by a young Army captain in a mess hall. He smiled and



Photo by Jeffrey MacWilliam

introduced himself as a fellow Illinois State alum. “I’m Captain David Peterson, and I graduated in 1995. Surprise! I’m your assistant operations officer.”

It was comforting to have someone from home on her team, Nonte said. Another of her colleagues in Iraq was the then Lt. Col. Craig DeDecker ’85, who served as an Army contracting officer for the commander of Multi-National Forces, Iraq.

“The informal Redbird network kept us going,” Nonte said. “Craig and I would reach across boundaries to share information, equipment, or grab a quick cup of ‘Joe’ whenever we made it to each other’s area of operations.”

The Iraq tour was just one deployment for Nonte. A 26-year Army veteran, she calls her career choice “absolutely the best decision I ever made. Had I not joined the Army, my life wouldn’t have been as good.”

Nonte’s extensive Army career has taken her to Korea twice, where she was deputy director of counterintelligence for the 2nd Infantry Division, and later operations officer for the 532nd battalion in Seoul.

But first she was an Illinois State student. She proudly recalls her collegiate years, explaining that the University is “part of a very close loving community” that holds “very fond memories” for her.

Active in band since fifth grade, Nonte was a musician at Illinois Valley Central High School in Chillicothe. She was lured to Illinois State on the recommendation of her music instructor, Richard Sparks. She enrolled with two childhood girlfriends.

“I have very good memories of my time here coming into the music program,” Nonte said during a visit to campus earlier this year. She particularly recalls one time when she was involved in a production of George Frideric Handel’s “Hal-

Campus ROTC program launched Nonte’s career

Army Col. Yvette Nonte’s military career began at Illinois State University, where she was battalion commander of the Redbird ROTC unit in 1982-1983.

The Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) is part of the curriculum on many campuses nationwide. It teaches students leadership, motivation, and how to conduct military operations. It also provides a gateway into the military after graduation.

Among Army ROTC alumni are Colin Powell, former U.S. secretary of state and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; George Marshall, Army chief of staff during World War II; and Samuel Walton, founder of Wal-Mart.

Nonte’s father, who died when she was a high-school senior, had been an Army officer. “I reflected on that,” she said, recalling her ROTC days at Illinois State. Money was another motivation Nonte had for joining the ROTC. She worked a couple of jobs while an Illinois State student, but finances were tight.

As a member of the University’s ROTC detachment, Nonte spent six to eight weeks in summer training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. “Physically, I had to toughen up. It was very hot, and very hard. It was very challenging physically, and we learned new skills every day—from road marching, to guns, to navigation, to how to use a radio.



WEB EXTRA

Find out more about the University’s ROTC program by going online to www.rotc.ilstu.edu. Graduates will find special links, including one to submit an update and photos. These are being sought as ROTC works to build an alumni network.

“They were paying me to learn,” she added. “I really, really liked it.”

Nonte now resides in Silver Spring, Maryland. She is married to retired Army Col. Kent David Burstein. He is president of Sektor Solutions, a human resources consulting firm based in Washington, D.C.

A past participant in the famed Marine Corps Marathon, Nonte made history at Illinois State in February when she was one of seven graduates chosen as the first inductees into the College of Applied Science and Technology’s (CAST) Hall of Fame. She was chosen for her stellar professional accomplishments and service.

“I was completely stunned,” she said, when she received news of the award. “I couldn’t believe it. What an honor to be selected to the CAST Hall of Fame.”

lelujah Chorus” from the *The Messiah*, a lengthy oratorio sung in Latin.

“We did it for Christmas, after finals,” she recalled. “We sang in the freezing cold.” After it was all over she and a friend ordered a large pizza. They ate the whole thing and got sick. “It is a great memory,” she quipped.

Nonte performed with the Big Red Marching Machine for four years, playing the euphonium. “It was a great experience,” she said. A half-time performance at a Green Bay Packers’ football game is particularly memorable. She credits her success in the military to her band experience.

“Almost all the leadership skills I learned about movement involving large groups came from the experiences I had with marching bands in high school, and at Illinois State,” she said. “Some of the military skills I learned with the marching bands were how to manage big organizations and how to train, synchronize, and perfect things.”

She continued her education in the Army. Nonte spent one year in school to become an intelligence officer. She earned two master’s degrees from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the Defense Intelligence College, where she studied strategic intelligence.

The training prepared her well for her current post as the assistant director of intelligence for the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), which is the military’s top leadership. Her responsibilities include providing briefings, papers, and analysis for the Director of Intelligence, JCS; Adm. Mike Mullen, JCS chairman; Defense Secretary Robert Gates; members of the Defense Department; and Congress.

Nonte’s position is part of the Defense Intelligence Agency. The agency is part of the federal government’s intelligence community, which encompasses a grouping of 16 military and civilian agencies that provide the nation with its first line of defense. Its mission is to provide timely and objective military intelligence to war fighters, defense planners, and national security policy makers. The ultimate goal is to give the United States a comparative advantage in managing national security.

“There is much more coordination among intelligence agencies now as a result of the war on terrorism,” Nonte explained. “Everyday the whole intelligence community talks to each other, and passes along information. This is positive fallout from 9/11.”



Nonte was among the first alumni inducted into the College of Applied Science and Technology’s Hall of Fame. Among those who honored Nonte at the induction ceremony were Military Science Chair Lt. Col. Raymond Hart, left, and dean of the college, Jeff Wood.

Other members of the community include the Central Intelligence Agency, National Security Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Homeland Security, and the intelligence organizations of the military services.

Nonte was drawn to intelligence work by the problem-solving aspects of the job. She found collecting information and analyzing it to be “fascinating,” especially when the work can help to better the nation and be helpful to policy makers.

The ultimate goal is to give the United States a comparative advantage in managing national security.

“Our intelligence work is a global responsibility. It’s focused on defense of the nation,” said Nonte, who is passionate about the work at both a professional and personal level. She worked in the Army section of the Pentagon that was severely damaged on September 11, 2001.

“Twenty-two of my colleagues that I had just left were killed that day,” she said, “and I aided in recovery operations. I keep that in mind.”

That terrible day was so shocking it took her breath away. It also initially was confusing. “Local, state, and national authorities—civilian and military—were all trying to help,” she said. But everyone within the overlapping jurisdictions pulled together and that was comforting.

Several days after the 9/11 attacks, soldiers from her battalion left stones from the corridor near her old Pentagon office hanging on the door to her new office—a poignant reminder of the great loss suffered by the nation she continues to gladly serve.



Fun on the run

Business alum's inspired idea results in Great Urban Race

BY SUSAN MARQUARDT BLYSTONE

Joseph Reynolds '03 has amassed in his 29 years more amazing adventures than most people experience in a lifetime. He's traveled off the beaten path in 40 countries, exploring the world using income generated from a house painting company he started while at Illinois State.

The sale of that business gave Reynolds the opportunity to blaze yet another trail—this one as an entrepreneur who is energizing communities across the country with an event called The Great Urban Race (www.greaturbanrace.com).

"I was watching on television *The Amazing Race*, which was my original inspiration. I thought I could take that concept, which so many people love, and offer it on a local level," Reynolds said.

That lightbulb moment occurred in May of 2007. Within a few days Reynolds had content ready for a Web site, which was activated in July of that same year. With Chicago as his home, he chose that city for the first race just weeks later. Enough people showed up that he planned seven more races in seven cities around the country through the fall of 2007.



“It went well enough that I felt I could do it as a full-time job,” Reynolds said. He subsequently sold the company he’d launched his junior year, College Best Painting, and opted to put his money, time, and energy into the Great Urban Race (GUR). His instincts were good, as there was so much interest he offered 20 events last year and has 21 scheduled for 2009, including a race that will be held on campus this fall as part of Homecoming (see sidebar).

It’s the first time Reynolds has organized a campus race, which he intends to continue offering as an offshoot from GUR. He has so many other ideas for activities that he has created a company called Red Frog Events.

“I got the name from a moment I spent sitting on Red Frog Beach in Panama,” Reynolds said, recalling one of many exotic international locations he explored after graduating from the College of Business. He enrolled as a transfer student and graduated with an entrepreneur/small business degree.

“I’ve just always been interested in business,” said Reynolds, who proved his natural ability in the field while still an elementary school student. Upset that there was no community-wide tournament for his fifth-grade basketball team, Reynolds decided to create one himself.

“My parents supported me, especially when I needed a ride to the grocery store for the concession stand items,” Reynolds said. The event was such a success that he donated \$500 to the parks and recreation department in his hometown of Maple Park. Years later as a college student Reynolds remained focused on a future in business. He made his way to Illinois State as a sophomore, eager to hone his skills.

“I had a wonderful experience, and am thrilled I chose to go there. What made my experience great was being part of the business fraternity, Delta Sigma Pi,” said Reynolds, who served



as president of the group. “I learned so much, and met so many wonderful people. I don’t discount the fact that my time at ISU was important, and accounts for part of who I am today.”

His collegiate experience was enriched further by his painting business, which he started with just a few friends working over summers. They painted the exterior of houses in Bloomington-Normal. After graduating he expanded the business to include interior painting, with upscale Chicago homeowners as his targeted customers. Most of the work was still done during summer months, which gave him time to escape.

“For three years I traveled for several months each winter. I have seen many corners of the world,” Reynolds said. A Moroccan camel

Reynolds proved his natural business ability while a student at Illinois State.

trek in the Sahara Desert left him wanting more diverse cultural experiences, which he obtained by roaming from Europe and Africa to Central and South America.

One of his most memorable moments occurred while he was taking intensive Spanish classes in Guatemala, which borders El Salvador. “I had no definitive plans, and decided I wanted to see El Salvador in the best way possible,”

There’s rarely a dull moment in the office of Red Frog Events, which is based in Chicago. Joe Reynolds ’03, above, and Kelli Pribel ’09 use a map of the nation to keep track of Great Urban Race events that are scheduled across the country.

Opposite page: Ask any past Great Urban Race participants about their adventure chasing down answers to a dozen clues, and they will tell you one thing is certain: You will have happy memories at the end of the day.

“I wake up every morning, and I am thrilled to go to work. It’s just a pure love for what I do.”

Reynolds said. “So I bought a bike from a local vendor, took a bus to the border, and biked until I got to the other border.”

While many envy such opportunities to explore new places, few ever attempt the international treks Reynolds has enjoyed. That’s one reason his Great Urban Race idea became an immediate success. Reynolds found a way to bring a one-day adventure to neighborhoods across the country at a price that is affordable, and with such a mix of competition and comedy that the most intense athletes have as much fun as families.

Advertised as “part adventure, part scavenger hunt,” the race is open to all ages. Participants register as teams of two for as low as \$45 per person. The race starts with teams receiving 12 clues at

the same time. Teams then scatter to solve those clues in any order.

Some clues require a moderate physical challenge, while others are purely a mental exercise. Teams can use electronic devices to help complete the challenges or phone a friend, but nobody is allowed to use anything other than their feet or public transportation to complete the course that encompasses six miles or less.

The team that finishes with the best time and has all the clues solved correctly wins the race, which ends at the five-hour mark. The first two teams receive a cash prize. The top 25 qualify for an annual national race, where the winner receives \$10,000.

There are also prizes for best costume. “We had ninjas doing flips in Phoenix,” Reynolds said. He was even more impressed by the Boston team that competed in a full donkey suit on a hot summer day.

“It’s just a unique and fun experience that you really can’t describe,” Reynolds said. He makes the point by noting participants range from

Students benefit as business expands with Homecoming race

The fact Illinois State is the place Joseph Reynolds '03 will launch the collegiate version of his Great Urban Race is just one indication of the respect he has for his alma mater.

Another is his commitment to work with students, who he turned to for help when his business began to expand quickly. Reynolds survived his second year by relying heavily on five students chosen from Illinois State’s Delta Sigma Pi.

“I went back to my old business fraternity,” Reynolds said, knowing he would find capable, dependable staff from within the membership. From 40 resumes he chose Rees Mason '08, Zec Jagmin '09, Loren Leeberg '09, Matt Sessler '09, and Kelli Pribel '09 to complete a paid internship.

The five worked for a semester in 2008, handling everything from mailings and social networking Web sites to answering inquiries, accounting for boxes of receipts, and setting up an inflatable that serves as the finish line on race day. Travel was a significant perk of the internship, which turned into full-time employment for Pribel.

“It’s not always what you know, but who you know,” Pribel said, expressing her appreciation for the opportunity to meet Reynolds through the College of Business fraternity. He had already graduated when she arrived in 2005 to begin her degree in marketing and organizational leadership. Like Reynolds, she

too was an officer of the fraternity.

As an intern Pribel helped pick venues, wrote clues, marketed the races, and worked at some of the events. She is only the third, full-time person hired by Reynolds. Her job now is to oversee the campus races, beginning with the Illinois State event on Homecoming weekend.

The event will go beyond campus to points in Bloomington-Normal. Coming up with clues and locations is

a challenge for Pribel, who is determined to make the race nostalgic for alums without being too obvious.

She has the advantage of being familiar with her location, which is not typically the case. Races are created from the Red Frog Events office in Lincoln Park, with the Internet used to develop



Reynolds has relied on Illinois State students to help him build his business, beginning with Pribel as one of his first interns. His most recent interns include Stephanie Mezzano, a junior management major; and Alex Yount, who is completing a master’s degree in kinesiology and recreation.

serious athletes in training to relatives seeking a bonding moment.

“We have a lot of people who show up with no intent of even finishing. They just want to go out and have some fun with friends,” Reynolds said. The fun is so contagious that Reynolds credits word-of-mouth for much of the race’s success, with the recession a factor as well.

“We might be one of those few businesses benefiting from the economy, as people who would have gone on vacation will instead look for something fun to do locally,” said Reynolds, who is having as good a time as the race participants.

“I wake up every morning, and I am thrilled to get to work. It’s just a pure love for what I do. I can’t imagine a different job,” Reynolds said. “It’s growing so fast that it’s just been a fun and wild ride. It’s now way beyond what I ever thought would happen.”

The rapid success has kept Reynolds busy as he adds events coast to coast. It’s been so hectic he has not yet taken the time to write a formal business plan, which he knows from his days at



Illinois State is supposed to be the first step when launching a business.

“I have a clear idea of where everything is going,” he assured, “but I know my professors would not be happy.”

Reynolds will typically include a physical challenge in each Great Urban Race. He and his staff demonstrate one used in the past, which required teams to master tandem land skis.

clues and Google Earth to plot checkpoints. Race staff and volunteers arrive a few days in advance to go through the course, making certain the clues make sense and the distance is manageable.

Additional advance work involves finding a local charity to incorporate into the race, as Reynolds makes every event a fundraising opportunity for some community entity. Earlier this year in Austin, for example, GUR worked with the Mary Lee Foundation, which serves children and adults with special needs. As part of the race, each team had to collect and deliver to the foundation four canned food items. Approximately 50 special needs residents greeted the racers, who contributed about 900 cans to Mary Lee’s newly expanded food pantry.

There will be some kind of small-dollar activity included in the Homecoming race as well to raise money for the Illinois State University Student Foundation Service Award Scholarship. The fund is being created as a result of the event, with Reynolds giving a portion of all entry fees to the scholarship.

Just what participants will be asked to do is something Pribel won’t divulge. There are sample clues from past races on the race Web site, which gives a good idea of what to expect. But ask for details about the Homecoming event, and Pribel will consistently give the same response: “I can definitely keep a secret!”

The Great Urban Race at Homecoming

10 a.m., October 16 | Starts at Alumni Center; ends on the Quad

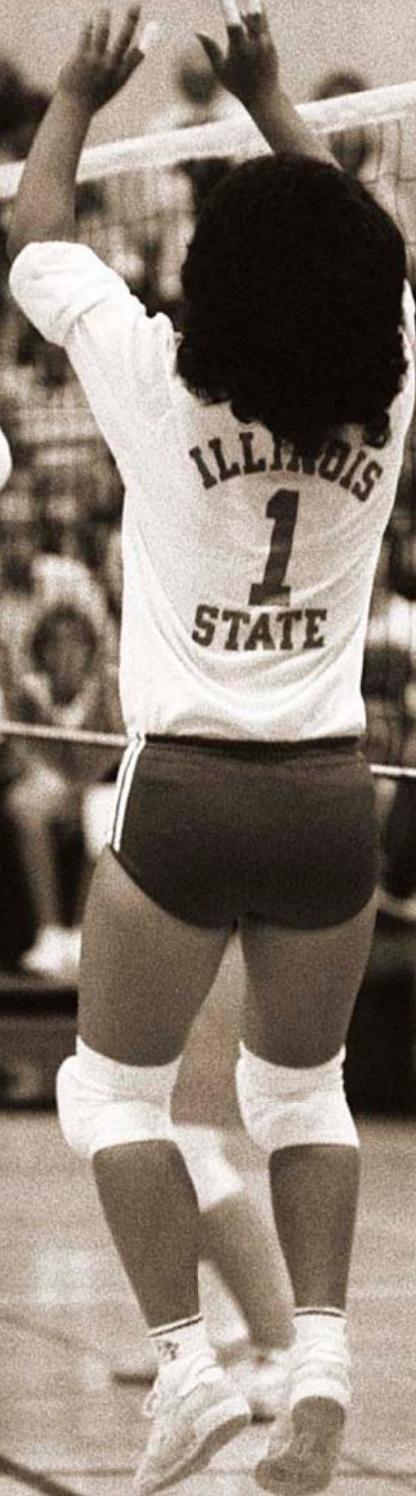
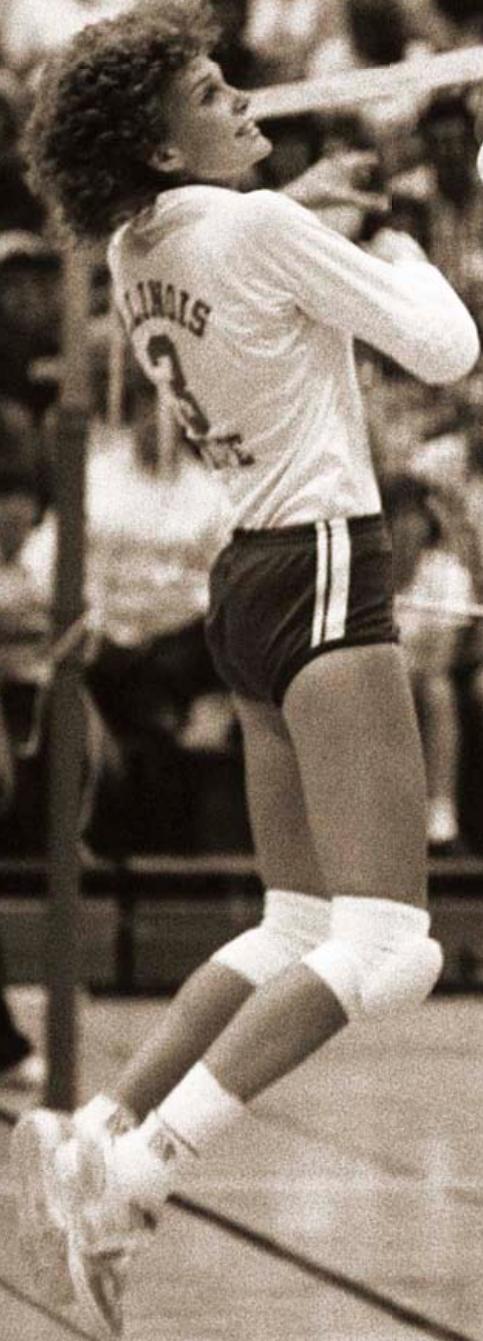
Prizes: \$300 and free entry to the New Orleans national championship for first place, \$150 and free championship entry for second place, free championship entry for third place, best costume, funniest pictures, and top family team.

Registration: Go to www.greaturbanrace.com to register. Cost is \$45 per person through September 21, with the fee then increasing to \$55 per person until October 15, and \$70 per person on race day. There is a \$1,000 cash prize to the group that signs up the most teams. The ISU Student Foundation Service Award Scholarship will be established with a percentage of the registration funds received.



C

Seasons



of change

Two alums led campus Title IX transition

BY BETH WHISMAN

Phebe Scott and Laurie Mabry were two early Redbird leaders who advocated for women in athletics and education long before Title IX was enacted. Their fight for equality was carried forward at Illinois State by Jill Hutchison, M.S. '69; and Linda Herman, M.S. '72, Ed.D. '83. Both were integral to advancing opportunities for female athletes before the groundbreaking law was truly enforced on college campuses.

Enacted in 1972, Title IX mandates equal opportunities for women and men in academics and athletics at any institution receiving public funds. Hutchison can attest that the law resulted in a time of transition that was tough.

"Cultural change is slow. It's much slower than you ever want it to be. And that's what Title IX was—a cultural change, not just for athletics. Females...crossing the gender barrier, that was huge," Hutchison said.

She experienced the shift from the perspective of a student-athlete to an administrator. Hutchison's Illinois State legacy spans four decades, as she went from graduate assistant to Hall of Fame coach.

Inspired by her coach, Elivira "Tiny" Vidano '42, Hutchison played high school ball in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She graduated from the University of New Mexico, then taught and coached at a junior high school before enrolling at Illinois State. As a graduate student she helped disprove the long-held theory that women's hearts were too weak to play full-court basketball.

"I had gotten interested in telemetry, which is an instrument where you hook electrodes onto

someone and monitor their heart rate while they're active. We hooked electrodes onto two players, and we played five-on-five basketball," Hutchison said.

"These two student-athletes maintained 180 beats a minute for easily 10 to 12 minutes at a time," Hutchison said, noting that it was believed that a heart rate exceeding 180 beats a minute was stressful. One of the athletes tested was Illinois State's head softball coach Melinda Fischer '72, M.S. '75.

"Melinda went up to around 210, and she wasn't even on the floor," Hutchison said. "Her electrode came off, and at halftime I went down to fix it. She heard the buzzer go off upstairs, meaning the second half was starting, and she wasn't up there on the court. Her heart rate just started racing!"

Hutchison's study helped convince the Women's Rules Committee that a female athlete could literally stand the stress of competition. It was one of many pivotal moments for Hutchison, who was named Illinois State's head women's basketball coach in 1970.

That was two years before Title IX became law. The rules wouldn't be set for several years, and the law faced immediate legal challenges. But in 1972 Illinois State proved to be a leader in women's athletics once again, as the University organized the nation's first collegiate basketball championship for women.



Female athletes from years ago, above and opposite page, were pioneers who put to rest the theory that women cannot be competitive.

The opportunity to direct the tournament opened the door for Hutchison's career within the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW). She helped establish the regions and the qualifying process for the tournament. "Surprisingly," she said, "the regions that we set up in 1971-1972 are almost identical to the regions we play in the NCAA now."

Hutchison left campus to earn her doctorate at the University of North Carolina Greensboro. When she returned, Title IX had officially arrived on campus, challenging the traditional funding equation for sports. President Emeritus David Strand weathered the storm.

"He was the executive officer. He was the man who got caught in the middle, and distributed money for both programs. It was never equitable, but he was trying to do the best he could do without dismantling the men's program," Hutchison recalled. "This was before Title IX was being fully enforced."

When the men's and women's programs merged in 1981, the women's basketball team moved from McCormick Gym to Horton Field House. Hutchison quickly realized there were even more challenges ahead.

"The facility manager hated the fact that women were there taking away the men's court time," she said. "I would bring brownies to the field house guys just to thank them for the little things they begrudgingly did for us. They were just as engrained in the system as anybody. You can't blame them."

The younger workers eventually became big supporters. She recalls fieldhouse workers gave her a chair embroidered with the season's record when the 1989 team won the conference, and

appearances, and three NCAA Tournaments. She was a Rawlings Missouri Valley Conference Coach of the Year in 1985, 1988, and 1996. Most important to Hutchison, every single senior on those teams graduated.

She has been inducted into the National Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, and a banner honoring her career hangs from Redbird Arena's rafters. A resident of Normal, Hutchison is a sports broadcaster. She offers analysis on WJBC during Illinois State women's basketball games, and on Missouri Valley Conference Television.

Hutchison was not alone in moving the campus forward under Title IX. Herman played an equally significant role in the University's history, as she served as associate director and senior women's administrator in Athletics from 1982 to 2002.

"I had the double title because the NCAA required a women's administrator to basically insure that every institution had someone responsible for the oversight of gender equity," she said.

The biggest challenges were always about finding equitable resources.

"It was really about convincing and influencing people to do the right thing for the right reason," she said. "You'd like to think some things would happen because they should, but you need legislation and rules to guarantee the opportunities continue to exist."

Herman grew up in Valparaiso, Indiana, where her father coached her and her brother on a county baseball team.

The team's arrival at a city baseball tournament delivered Herman's first brush with discrimination in sports.

"My dad was great. He treated me just like my brother. But when we advanced to the city tournament, girls couldn't play," Herman said. "We just accepted it, but deep down inside of me I thought something wasn't right. All the time we were growing up, it stuck in my head."

One of the only ways Herman could pursue a career in coaching was to teach. She graduated



Jill Hutchison, M.S. '69



Linda Herman, M.S. '72, Ed.D. '83

"It was really about convincing and influencing people to do the right thing for the right reason."

went on to the second round of the NCAA tournament. That was just one of many spectacular seasons for Hutchison, who is the all-time winningest Redbird basketball coach for both the men's and women's programs. Throughout 28 seasons she compiled a 461-323 record.

Hutchison's teams earned five Gateway Conference titles, seven AIAW state championships, two AIAW national tournaments, seven WNIT

from Indiana State University, and spent three years as a high school coach in Frankfort, Indiana. “I was hired to coach synchronized swimming, but I went on to start the first state high school tennis championship in Indiana. It was all about finding new opportunities for the kids.”

She earned her master’s degree from Illinois State, and became a teacher and coach at Oak Park River Forest High School. She returned to the University two years later. “That’s when I decided to go into full-time coaching,” she said. “I eventually accepted the head volleyball coaching position in 1975.”

Herman’s coaching success resulted in two team appearances in the AIAW national tournament. She finished her coaching career with a 267-112 record, spent seven years on the NCAA Volleyball Committee, and two on the NCAA Softball Committee.

“I coached some wonderful kids, but in my head I knew there was more. So I earned my doctorate at ISU while I coached. It took me seven years,” she said.

In 1982 Herman became the University’s senior associate director of Athletics. “I got out of coaching sooner than I planned, but I didn’t know when that kind of opportunity would come around again.”

There was an obvious lack of unity within the department among men and women at the time. The school was going through painful but necessary transitions under Title IX.

“That’s where I learned that leadership was a big factor. The process was just as important as

the final outcome,” Herman said. She recalled that the hardest part “was when we dropped junior varsity teams for both men’s and women’s sports, and decided to no longer sponsor sports like badminton, field hockey, wrestling, and men’s swimming. You get through it by making a decision that’s right for the institution. Those decisions were in the best interest of the long term viability of Illinois State.”

Herman retired in 2002, but she returned to Athletics in 2004 to serve as interim director for the fourth time in her career. She’s among a minority of women who have been at the helm of a Division I program. Today females make up only about nine percent of that group.

In 2003 Herman was inducted into the American Volleyball Coaches Association’s inaugural Hall of Fame class. The school’s annual scholar-athlete award is named after the Redbird pioneer, who resides in Normal.

She and Hutchison remain avid Illinois State fans, and maintain their interest in helping women advance against all obstacles. They know that Title IX was a huge step forward. Despite constant legal challenges, Hutchison has full confidence the law will prevail, creating even more opportunities in all realms for women in the future.

“It’s not just in sports. It’s in elementary school books that show women being doctors and lawyers and architects, instead of limiting us to being nurses and secretaries,” Hutchison said. “It’s much more widespread than sports.”



WEB EXTRA

A reporter with Bloomington radio station WJBC, Beth Whisman spoke with Jill Hutchison and Linda Herman for a special report that aired during Illinois State’s sesquicentennial. Go to www.IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine to download an audio file of the interviews.

Editor’s note: This is the second of a two-part series about Illinois State’s influence in opening the playing field for women. The first part appeared in the May issue of Illinois State.



AlumniServices

Horticulture Center grows as place for research, learning, and fun

Just three years ago, it looked like a field of sunflowers.

Now the University's Horticulture Center in Normal is taking shape as a botanical garden. What used to be 12 acres of rolling farmland has become a native prairie with themed gardens, fragrant viburnums, and a grove of native trees.

Jessica Chambers '93, the center's first director, wished the gardens had been there when she was a horticulture student. Agriculture students research, design, plant, and care for the gardens, which share a fence with the Weibring Golf Club.

Visitors are welcome anytime, but should especially stop by for the Annual Autumnal Festival on October 3. Just pull into the gravel driveway, wander through the gardens, maybe have lunch at a picnic bench, or sit on the hill and watch birds fly to the feeder at sunset.

You can't miss the children's garden, where kids wade through a pool of chocolate mulch, pick a strawberry, or lean over to smell the basil. There's also a vegetable garden, an herb garden, and a weed garden.

"I love the idea of a weed garden," Chambers said. "It's important to look at things in a different light."

The gardens help people connect, or reconnect with nature. Each year themes are added. A graduate student designed a conifer garden, featuring rare cone-bearing plants. And there are plans for a "literary" garden.

The center not only serves students as a living classroom, but is appreciated by the community. Last fall 27 families planted a tree to honor someone as part of the community's Children and Elder Forest project. The indigenous trees deepen the bond between generations.

A wind turbine and pergola with solar array panels are also on site. Students majoring in renewable energy study and collect data on the system, which provides enough electricity to power half of a small household.

Support is crucial to the center's continued growth. As funding becomes available, there are plans to add a LEED-certified building that would identify the Department of Agriculture as a leader in sustainable site development. Hopes for the future also include a greenhouse, conservatory, outdoor amphitheatre, field research plots, nursery demonstration plots, and more gardens.

Community volunteers help plant and maintain the gardens. There's no right or wrong way of doing things, Chambers tells them, no straight rows required. The youngest volunteer is 4 years old. On a summer's evening it looks like a garden of long ago, with three generations bending and stooping, all working together, occasionally stopping to watch a monarch land or catch a glimpse of the sinking sun.



QUICK REFERENCE

RESOURCE:

Illinois State Horticulture Center

COORDINATOR:

Jessica Chambers '93

WEB SITE:

www.HorticultureCenter.ilstu.edu

PHONE:

(309) 438-3496

STATE

your passion.

What's your Passion?

www.IllinoisState.edu/stateyourpassion

An alumni perspective

As a new student on the Illinois State University campus many years ago, I had no idea how important the University and its activities would become in my life. I was focused on settling into a new lifestyle, attending classes, and participating in a social life far different than anything previously experienced. While many of those things came with challenges, there were opportunities to develop meaningful personal relationships and participate in activities that developed great pride in the University.

One of those activities was attending athletic events—most specifically football and basketball games. I am certain that I participated initially because of the social opportunity, but it became a passion when the basketball team advanced in the NCAA Division II tournament. While many students followed the team out of state, those of us with less time and money available cheered from our dorm rooms as we listened to scores.

My husband, Dave, and I followed the University men's basketball accomplishments from those NCAA Division II days, and in early 1980 we became proud members of the Redbird Club. We have been season ticket holders since that time. Men's basketball



provided the spark, but we also follow and support other Illinois State Athletics programs. We cheer for Redbird men and women in basketball, volleyball, football, softball, baseball, and other sporting activities. It is just as rewarding now as it was in 1967.

While athletics has been the glue that has kept us connected to campus, the positive growth and expansion of programs at the University has kept both Dave and me committed to supporting Illinois State. As we are both graduates of the College of Business, we take great pride in the quality of the programs and the graduates who are making a positive impact on our country and world. We also take great pride in a family legacy of Illinois State University graduates, beginning with Dave's parents and grandparents, and continuing with our daughter, Marissa. Let the legacy continue.

Mary Ann (Wessland) Webb '78

AlumniEvents

Illinois State University Alumni Association

AUGUST

12 Alumni Travel to Alaska

Contact: Campus Office

Travel the scenic Inside Passage aboard the luxurious Seven Seas Mariner on this seven-day cruise from Vancouver, British Columbia, to Seward, Alaska. Encounter the people, culture, and natural environment of Alaska with an intimacy not possible on larger ships. Go to www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/travel for additional details and to make your reservations.

14 ISU Night with the Peoria Chiefs

Contact: Campus Office

Join Illinois State friends and alumni for a family friendly evening at a Peoria Chiefs' game. Pregame event and game tickets are available online at www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/chiefs.

15 Redbird Fan Fair

Contact: Redbird Athletics

You won't want to miss the kick-off to Illinois State football with this special evening that begins at 5 p.m. There will be live music, food, and family entertainment preceding the football fall scrimmage. Admission is free. More information is available online at GoRedbirds.com.

SEPTEMBER

2 Agriculture Alumni Farm Progress Show breakfast

Contact: Department of Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture and College of Applied Science and Technology will cohost an alumni breakfast at the Farm Progress Show. The nation's leading outdoor farm show, this event features state-of-the-art information and technology available for today's agricultural producers, as well as vendor exhibits. A Department of Agriculture update will be given at the event, which starts at 9 a.m. on the show grounds. Space is limited to 300. Go online to www.Agriculture.ilstu.edu for registration information.

12 Illinois State vs. Illinois Football game and tailgate

Contact: Campus Office

Cheer on the Redbirds as they take on the University of Illinois at Memorial Stadium in Champaign. The Alumni Association and

Here's a sampling of alumni events on campus and across the country.

For the most up-to-date event information or to register online, please visit www.IllinoisState.edu/alumni/events. Detailed information for all university events is available on the University Calendar at www.calendar.ilstu.edu.

the Redbird Club are cohosting a pregame tailgate. Kick-off is at 6 p.m. Don't miss this great opportunity to help Spread the Red! For more information go online to www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/football.

19 Alumni Association Board of Directors annual meeting

Contact: Campus Office

The annual meeting of the board of directors will be held at 9 a.m. in the Alumni Center. For more information, contact Alumni Relations Executive Director Stephanie Epp at saep@IllinoisState.edu.

19 CommUniversity at Redbird football

Contact: Redbird Athletics

Another exciting season of football begins with several community partners participating in CommUniversity prior to the Illinois State football game against Austin Peay. Tailgating in the Redbird Tent Zone begins at 4:30 p.m., with the game kick-off at 6:30 p.m. Tailgating rules and ticket information are available online at GoRedbirds.com.

OCTOBER

12-18 Homecoming

Contact: Campus Office

Mark your calendar for this fun-filled weekend that includes activities for everyone. Several celebrations are planned this year. See pages 27-29 for additional details and highlights. Go online to IllinoisState.edu and click on the Homecoming logo for the most current information on scheduled activities.

17 Uptown and Gown Gala

Contact: Campus Office

Join President and Mrs. Al Bowman for an evening of camaraderie, dancing, and celebration at the Uptown and Gown Gala. This black-tie optional event will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center opening in Uptown Normal.

The gala will recognize partnerships forged between Illinois State alumni and friends and members of the Bloomington-Normal community. Hors d'oeuvres and a dinner will be served. There will be a brief program, followed by performances by Tom Marko and Sally Weisenburg and the Famous Sidemen. Cost is \$50 per person, and reservations are required by September 18. Call (309) 438-3204 or go online to www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/gala.

NOVEMBER

7 Student Alumni Council/Peoria Alumni Network tailgate

Contact: Campus Office

Join members of the Student Alumni Council and Peoria Alumni Network for a pregame football tailgate during Family Weekend. Illinois State will take on Western Illinois. Tailgating begins at 10:30 a.m., with kick-off at 1 p.m. Guests are asked to bring a favorite side dish, snack, or beverage to share. The main course will be provided.

Contact Us

To register by phone or for more information, please call the office indicated for each specific event.

CAMPUS OFFICE
(309) 438-3204 or toll free (800) 366-4478

CHICAGO OFFICE
(312) 251-3500 or toll free (866) 366-4478

REDBIRD ATHLETICS
(309) 438-3803

Illinois State University

Rock the Red

Homecoming

Oct. 12-18, 2009



“Rock the Red” as Illinois State University celebrates its 89th Homecoming. Join the celebration by attending activities that include a mix of campus traditions and new events. Complete details, up-to-date information on all activities, and online registration are at IllinoisState.edu. Click on the Homecoming logo.

Alumni Networks and Reunions

Homecoming is the perfect opportunity to reconnect with your Illinois State friends. Plan your own reunion by using our online guide at www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/reunion. A sampling of what some of our networks have scheduled is as follows:

Alumni Band

Hey Big Red Marching Machine alums! Be a part of all the Alumni Band Homecoming activities. Visit www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/band for more information.



Mennonite Nurses Alumni Organization

The Mennonite Nurses Alumni Organization will be hosting a tailgate in Redbird Tent Zone at 11 a.m. Go to IllinoisState.edu/nursing for more information, e-mail Amy Irving at amirvin@ilstu.edu, or call her at (309) 438-7418.

Illinois State University Black Colleagues Association

The ISUBCA has a full weekend of activities planned, including a dance party and scholarship brunch. Go to www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/isubca for more information.

Alumni Ribbons

Campus Involvement Ambassadors will be recognizing alumni who served in Registered Student Organizations while at Illinois State. Pick up a ribbon in the Bone Student Center, and explore displays of current student organizations. Visit the Homecoming Web site for more information.

Find a Friend

Make the most of the weekend by getting a group together. If you need help reconnecting with old friends, use the Find a Friend locator service online at www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/friend.

Apparel

Get in the spirit and order your Homecoming 2009 apparel now. Go to <http://ilstu.bncollege.com> for more information. Items are also available at the Barnes and Noble College Bookstore on campus.



Need a room?

Go to IllinoisState.edu for a listing of local hotels offering room blocks for Homecoming.

Parking and Transportation

Visit the Homecoming Web site for a map and information regarding shuttles, alternative transportation ideas to get to campus, and parking information.



2009 REDBIRD WALK

Redbird Walk

Homecoming is the perfect opportunity to stroll the streets of Uptown Normal and Downtown Bloomington. You'll see exciting changes to both business districts. Your free Redbird Walk card entitles you to discounts and specials at a variety of locations in Normal and Bloomington during Homecoming week. Cards will be available during Homecoming week on campus. For more information go to www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/redbirdwalk.



Unable to make it back to campus for the Homecoming celebration? Here's what you can do to "Rock the Red!"

- Dress in your Illinois State spirit wear for work on Friday, October 16.
- Use the special Homecoming desktop wallpapers for your personal computer. Find them at www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/wallpaper.
- Listen to the football game online on All-Access via GoRedbirds.com.
- Become a fan of our Homecoming page on Facebook and watch for video and photo uploads. Find them at www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/facebookhomecoming.
- Visit the Homecoming Web site to check out opportunities to interact with the special event.

Schedule highlights

Friday, October 16

The Great Urban Race

10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Alumni Center for start
See pages 16-19 for information.

Alumni Day Luncheon

Noon
Bone Student Center Brown Ballroom
The Alumni Day Luncheon will feature the crowning of the alumni king and queen, Alumni Day guest recognition, and a keynote address. Tickets are \$15 per person. Preregistration is required.

College of Business Early Career Achievement Award Events

2:30 p.m.
College of Business Building
Caterpillar Auditorium
Students, faculty, staff, external partners, and alumni are invited to a networking reception where recipients of the 2009-2010 Early Career Achievement Awards will be recognized.

Torchlight Parade

6 p.m.
Quad
Join a Redbird tradition led by the Big Red Marching Machine and torchbearers in this march to Redbird Hoopfest and the Pep Rally events.

Hoopfest

7 p.m.
Horton Fieldhouse
Hoopfest is an exciting and fun-filled event with 3-point contests, a slam-dunk contest, intra-squad scrimmages, and several other surprises. Admission is free.

Pep Rally, Live Music, Bonfire, and Fireworks

8:15 p.m.
North of Redbird Arena
Support your Redbirds as they "rock" the crowd to prepare for Saturday's football game. Warm up by the annual Homecoming bonfire with free hot chocolate.

Prism Concert

8 p.m.
Center for the Performing Arts
A large cross section of talented faculty and students in solo, chamber, and large ensemble works perform. Call (309) 438-8833 for tickets.

Saturday, October 17

Town and Gown 5K Run

7 a.m.
Schroeder Plaza
Homecoming Saturday begins with a run through the campus and Uptown Normal. The first 250 preregistered runners will receive a Town and Gown 5K Run T-shirt. Visit www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/5k for more details.

Homecoming Parade

9:30 a.m.
Corner of College Avenue and University Street
Whether you're a spectator admiring from the street or riding on a float, you won't want to miss this. Walking, mobile, and float entry forms can be found online. Be sure to visit the online map for parking, transportation, and parade viewing options.



Redbird Tent Zone

11 a.m.

Plan your own tailgate with friends and family members underneath a tent in the green grass. Check out the Redbird Tent Zone! Visit GoRedbirds.com for pricing, order form, and more information.

Spread the Red Tailgate Tent

11 a.m.

Redbird Tent Zone

The Spread the Red Tailgate Tent is the perfect place for alumni and friends to catch up! There will be music and refreshments, including free mini-gondola snacks and a cash bar.

Illinois State football vs. Indiana State

2 p.m.

Hancock Stadium

Illinois State Athletics is offering a special alumni rate of \$13 per ticket for advance purchase of reserved seating on the west side of Hancock Stadium. Tickets are available August 17. The discounted rate runs through 5 p.m., October 2. Order tickets online at GoRedbirds.com. Choose 'TICKETS' from the top menu. Select 'PROMOTIONS' from

the left-hand toolbar. Enter 'ALUM09' as the promotional code. Select the desired amount of tickets and complete your transaction. Tickets will be mailed approximately two weeks before the game, or may be picked up at Hancock Stadium. For special requests or seating accommodations, or to order tickets over the phone, call (309) 438-8000.

Uptown and Gown Gala

6:30 p.m.

Uptown Normal Marriott Hotel and Conference Center

Celebrate Homecoming in style at the new Marriott Hotel and Conference Center. Join President and Mrs. Al Bowman and your fellow Redbirds for cocktails, a fabulous dinner, and special entertainment hosted by WGLT. Tickets for this black-tie optional occasion are limited.

Sunday, October 19

Twin City Tours

10:30 a.m. – Noon

Alumni Center

Take a fact-filled bus tour of Bloomington-Normal to see all the great changes occurring around campus and in the area. Preregistration is required and seating is limited.

Women's Soccer vs. Evansville

1 p.m.

Adelaide Street Field

Please visit GoRedbirds.com for more information.



Alumnus continues service after long road of recovery

Maj. Robert J. Tobin '79 has journeyed from college student to soldier to survivor.

During his undergraduate days at Illinois State, Tobin majored in anthropology and geology. He continued his education, obtaining a master's in geology at the University of Kansas, followed by a doctorate in paleontology at the University of Nebraska.

Tobin left academia to build a career in the military. He joined the Army more than 18 years ago. As an enlisted man, he was a paratrooper before becoming a commissioned officer. He has served in that commissioned capacity for more than 15 years, working half of that time in a tank unit.



He served as a staff officer when he was deployed to Iraq during the spring of 2007. Working with Multi-National Forces, his assignment involved planning the recruiting, training, and equipping of new brigades of the Iraqi Army.

"I spent about 75 percent of my time coordinating in Baghdad, and the remainder at an Iraqi forward operating base in Diyala Province," Tobin said.

On June 15, 2007, Tobin's life changed dramatically. "I was wounded by an enemy rocket that detonated 11 meters from me," Tobin said. "I spent most of 2008 recovering from surgery, and doing

physical therapy." Despite the grueling recovery, he considers himself fortunate.

"I was lucky. It could have been much worse," Tobin said. "I don't run as fast anymore, and I wear hearing aids now. But I have all of my limbs, and am not disfigured." His recovery allowed Tobin to begin working again as a technical writer.

Having now returned to his home in Nebraska, Tobin is teaching as an Army Reserve instructor in the Army Command and General Staff College. That college plays an essential role in the Army's leader development program, shaping the next generation to support the Army's operational needs and requirements.

Tobin finds it rewarding to help prepare those who will be called upon to perform the most difficult of duties as they serve the nation. With no plans to retire from the Reserves until 2015, Tobin will have ample opportunity to not only instruct but inspire countless soldiers.

40s

R. Vincent Johnson '43 is a retired developmental chemist who worked for Abbott Laboratories. He and his wife, Ann, enjoy time with their 14 grandchildren. They reside in Waukegan.

50s

Patricia H. Caliendo '59 was an adapted physical education instructor for 14 years. She worked eight years as a fitness and mobility instructor at Coastline Community College in Costa Mesa, California, where she was named adjunct instructor of the year in 2001. She works as a part-time instructor at Central Oregon Community College. She resides in Bend, Oregon.

F. Leon Rodgers '59, M.S. '63, is the retired superintendent of Mahomet-Seymour Schools. He is on the Illinois Association of Retired Teachers Board of Directors. He and his wife, **Judith (Rodgers) '61**, reside in Goreville.

60s

Charles W. Dunn '62 is past president of Illinois State's Student Senate, and chaired the committee to change the University's name from Illinois State Normal University. A past recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award, he is dean of the School of Government at Regent University. He has authored his 16th book on American politics,

The Future of Religion in American Politics. He resides in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Paula (Bergagna) Nezki '63, M.S. '68, is a professor of office information systems at West Shore Community College in Michigan. She was awarded the Michigan Business Education Associate Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year Award in 2008. She resides in Manistee, Michigan.

Robert I. Cardiff '64 retired from teaching after 29 years at Highland Park High School. He and his wife, Diana, reside on a farm in Galva, and have a summer home in Hayward, Wisconsin.

James C. Griner '64, M.S. '72, is the CEO of Griner Enterprises. He and his wife, Jean, are the parents of two sons and two grandchildren. They reside in Hoopston.

Bill O'Neill '64 has been inducted into the Missouri State University Athletics Hall of Fame. He served as assistant football coach and associate Athletics director at Missouri State for nearly four decades before retiring in 2008. His wife, **Ina (Ellertson) '69**, is a retired teacher. They reside in Springfield, Missouri.

Richard A. Manahan '65, M.S. '71, Ed.D. '75, is the vice president for University Advancement and president/CEO of the Foundation at East Tennessee State University. He is also a professor of accountability and of educational leadership and policy analysis. He has been chosen to serve on the Court of the



A student luncheon sponsored in the spring by the ISU Financial Management Association student organization and the Illinois State Alumni in Finance networking group connected students with finance alumni. Panelists at the Elmhurst event addressed finance career issues, and talked about job search strategies in the current difficult job market. Speakers included, from left, financial planner Paul Gantzert; broker Charles Sherburne '97; executive recruiter David Umlauf; commercial property lender Michael O'Keefe '97; portfolio manager Larry Lonis; and bank compliance officer Michelle Rojo '90. Lonis serves on the ISU Finance Advisory Board and has worked with ISU finance interns, as have Gantzert and Umlauf.

Share your good news

Alumni are encouraged to share news on job changes, promotions, special honors, retirements, marriages, births, and adoptions. Information will be published in the earliest possible issue, based on the order information is received and as space permits. Information submitted more than one year following the event will not be published. Engagements and pregnancies will not be published.

There are three easy ways to submit your information: 1) Go online to www.alumni.ilstu.edu, select "Redbird Connections," and click on "class notes." Information submitted using this method will also be posted online; 2) E-mail your news to sjblst@IllinoisState.edu or aslevitt@IllinoisState.edu; or 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.

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

Judiciary. The 15-member court investigates, hears, and determines charges regarding the discipline or removal of Tennessee judges. He and his wife, Lois, reside in Johnson City, Tennessee.

Robert N. Moore '66, M.S. '67, is a professor of English at the University of Arizona at Monticello. He has published six books of poetry under the name Red Hawk. He was also a Hodden Fellow in the Humanities at Princeton University. He and his wife, Chandrika, reside in Monticello, Arizona.

Jerry Vitton '66 received a lifetime achievement award from Geneva School District in recognition of his nearly 40 years with the district. He has taught science and helped coach several sports. He and his wife, **Janice (Scott) '66**, reside in North Aurora. They have two children and three grandchildren.

T. Daniel Heagstedt '67 owns and operates T. Daniel Productions with his wife, **Laurie J. Willets '70, M.A. '72**. They are internationally acclaimed mime theatre artists and performers with long careers creating to, and working with, classical music with orchestras and chamber ensembles. They reside in Chicago. **Beverly (Barke) Hart '68, M.S. '73**, is the assistant principal at Flanagan School District 4. She has been

selected as Voice of Democracy Teacher of the Year for the State of Illinois. She and her husband, Henry, reside in Wenona.

Starr L. (Bridge) Hull, M.S. '68, E.d.D. '86, retired in 2006 from her position at Bradley University as a certification officer, and coordinator of clinical and field experience. She has retired from the board of the Illinois Association of Colleges for Teacher Education after a decade of membership. She served as treasurer, vice president, and president. Hull received the Constituent Leadership Award from the University of Illinois Alumni Association in 2005. She resides in Sewickley, Pennsylvania.

Michael "Mick" P. Martin '68 worked as an educator for 35 years. He served as a teacher, coach, counselor, and dean in Illinois, Arizona, Colorado, and Bay Area of California before retiring as a dean of students. He and his wife, Terry Martin, reside in Prescott, Arizona. **Brenda K. (Bryer) Benepe '69, M.S. '00**, works part-time as the activity assistant at Imboden Creek Gardens, which is an assisted care facility in Decatur. She presents chalk talk programs in the community. She and her husband, John, reside in Blue Mound.

Donald F. Jeanes '69 performed with the U.S. Navy Band before teaching band in Fairfax County. He taught all grade levels, and led the high school band for 26 years. He has received two National Band Association Citations of Excellence. Now retired, he competes nationally on the golf course. He holds a *Golf-week/Titleist* national ranking of 12th among senior amateur golfers. He is the father of two daughters and two granddaughters. He and his wife, Sharon, reside in Fairfax, Virginia.

Joe Kotarba '69 is chair of the Sociology Department at the University of Houston. He is the recipient of the George Herbert Mead Award, which is the lifetime achievement award presented annually by the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. He is an author researching the areas of health and illness, and the sociology of culture. He and his wife, Polly, reside in Belaire, Texas.

Elaine (Bottcher) Mortensen '69 has retired after serving 12 years as a family and consumer science teacher and Family, Career, Community Leaders (FCCLA) of America advisor at Dwight Township High School. Her teaching career has spanned two decades, during which she has had six FCCLA students win first place at State Leadership Conference and advance to national competition. She and her husband, **Alan '69**, reside in Dwight.

Robert Toothaker '69, M.S. '72, is a licensed real estate broker in Illinois and Indiana. He is a charter member of the Indiana Commercial Board of Realtors, and is serving as chair of the Realtors Commercial Alliance of the National Association of Realtors. He is chair of Real Estate Management Corporation, AMO, and CB Richard Ellis Bradley, AMO. Toothaker has been chosen by the Institute of Real Estate Management to serve as the organization's representative on the Open Standards Consortium for Real Estate Board of Directors. He and his wife, Vicki, reside in South Bend, Indiana.

70s

Thomas Blount '70, M.M.E.'72, is retired from teaching after 36 years

of working as a band director at the junior high and high school levels. He now teaches leadership classes, and operational risk assessment and risk management for the U.S. Coast Guard. He resides in New Bern, North Carolina.

Lynn (Nagel) Rehberger '70 has been inducted into the Highland Illinois Area Schools Alumni Association Hall of Fame for her public service. She has served as head instructor of the Highland Community Pool swim program, and managed the synchronized swim team and shows for nearly 10 years. For the past 25 years she has been an active member in the Highland Historical Society, a member and president of the Junior Women's Club, served on the Library board, and was chair of the city's Planning Commission. She was a member of the Athletic Booster Club for many years. She and her husband, James, reside in Highland.

Stewart L. Adams '71, M.A. '74, Ed.D '03, is the student teacher supervisor at Aurora University. He was appointed by Illinois Governors Jim Thompson and Jim Edgar to serve as teacher representative on the Illinois Advisory Council on the Education of Students with Disabilities. He served as the vice chair for three years, and as chair for two. He currently serves on Congressman Phil Hare's Education Advisory Committee. He resides in Rock Island.

Barbara Jennings '71 has completed a doctorate in education and supervision at the University of Toledo. She resides in Ralston, Wyoming.

Barbara (Noble) McKeever '71 has retired after seven years as the Spanish teacher and Spanish Club sponsor at Dwight Township High School. She has taught elementary, junior high, and college students during her career. She and her husband, **Milton, M.S. '86**, reside in Odell.

Victoria L. Pelton '71, M.S. '79, teaches sixth grade at Dirksen Junior High School in Joliet. She has been recognized by the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry as an outstanding educator. She resides in Joliet.

Angelo Rinchiuso '71 has been inducted into the Illinois Track and Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame. A former Illinois State cross country and track athlete, he coached both sports at the high school level for 22 years before



The connection between current students and alumni remains strong in the School of Communication. Graduates of the school welcomed the chance to meet with students earlier this year at a luncheon sponsored by the Public Relations Student Society of America. Illinois State's chapter has 83 active members. Students who attended the event at the University's Chicago Office appreciated the opportunity to network with alums in the profession.

coaching at Millikin University. He is now cross country coach at Decatur MacArthur, and track coach at Mt. Zion high schools. Over the past 30 years he has had more than 100 state finalists in the two sports combined, and he coached nine NCAA All-Americans at Millikin. When not coaching he officiates at the high school, collegiate, and national levels. He and his wife, **Diana (Palmer) '71**, reside in Decatur.

Nancy J. Mactague '72, M.A. '96, is the librarian at Aurora University. She resides in Lombard.

F. Marcia (Foster) Carlier '73 has retired after teaching at Mahomet-Seymour junior high for 30 years. She also taught three years at Warrensburg-Latham high school. Carlier received the Educator's Award for Outstanding Contribution and Dedication. She and her husband, Daniel, reside in Urbana.

Wendel Hunigan, M.S. '73, retired from Carl Sandburg College as a sociology professor. He has been inducted into the college's Wall of Honor. Hunigan is a recipient of the ICCTA Faculty of the Year Award, and the Burlington Northern Faculty Achievement Award for teaching excellence. He has served as president of the African American Support Group in Galesburg. He and his wife, Elvria, reside in Galesburg.

Daniel R. Kuhn '73 received the 2009 Mental Health and Aging Award from the American Society

on Aging. He is director of the Professional Training Institute for the Alzheimer's Association in Chicago. He resides there with his wife, Nancy.

William Snavelly '73 taught for 30 years at Miami University in Ohio. He is now the director of the School of Communication at San Diego State University. He resides in San Diego, California.

Bill Harazin '74 is a principal in the law firm of William D. Harazin, PLLC, and an adjunct associate professor in the School of Textiles at North Carolina State University. He received the 2009 John J. Dortch International Service Award from the International Law and Practice Section of the North Carolina Bar Association. The award recognizes lawyers who have served as a role model for international law attorneys, demonstrated the highest level of ethical standards, and shown professional competence. He and his wife, Becky, reside in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Diane (McClay) Hickey '74 teaches at the Suburban Christian School in Indianapolis, Indiana. She has two adult children. She resides in Greenwood, Indiana.

Margaret "Peggy" Jones '74 has retired as principal of Sebastian River High School in Florida. Prior to accepting that position in 1999, she opened a middle school and served as an assistant principal at the junior high level. She and her

husband, Elliott, reside in Vero Beach, Florida.

Rita McLaughlin Moore '74 is the librarian at the Roman Catholic High School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She and her husband, Michael, reside in Media, Pennsylvania.

Linda Rosenbaum '74, M.S. '85, has retired from Dwight Grade School after teaching for 35 years. She taught fourth and second grades. She has coauthored several articles on cooperative learning for *Arithmetic Teacher* magazine. She has been nominated for *Who's Who of American Women*, *Who's Who in American Education*, and *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. She resides in Dwight.

Marvin Carlton '75, M.M. '77, is a music teacher for Hamilton County Unit 10 in McLeansboro. He was listed in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* in 2000, 2005, and 2007. He conducted the Centralia Philharmonic Orchestra for four years. Carlton composed *Trio* for oboe, English horn, and bassoon. The work was premiered at the International Double Reed Society Convention in Utah in 2008. He also composed *Gloria* for chorus, woodwind quintet, and piano. He resides in McLeansboro.

Phil Fox '75 has retired from Downers Grove South High School, where he worked as a physical education teacher. He also coached baseball and football. The Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association named him Man of the Year in 2007. He was inducted into the IHSBCA Baseball Hall of Fame in 2008. He and his wife, Penny, reside in Downers Grove.

Bill Skridulis '75, M.S. '81, has retired after teaching art at Dwight Township High School for 34 years. He also coached wrestling, football, and soccer for the Streator community. He has been a class sponsor, coached Scholastic Bowl, and produced a yearbook for 29 years. He and his wife, **Sally Robertson '74, M.S. '79**, reside in Streator.

Dianna (Smoot) Kirk '76 has been named associate superintendent for Danville District 118. Kirk started in the district in 1984, serving as the vocational occupational technical education center job training partnership coordinator. She later served as principal and director of the center. She and her husband, **Kevin '76**, reside in Catlin.

Lynn (Zipfel) Venhaus '76 is a freelance correspondent, columnist, and entertainment reviewer. She has an online blog on movies, and is active in local theater productions. She resides in Belleville.

Ben Walters '76 is the vice president of 1st Farm Credit Service. He has been named the Outstanding Agribusiness Person by the McLean County Chamber of Commerce. He resides in Bloomington.

Darryl One '77, M.M. '79, is the conductor of the Victoria Symphony Orchestra in Texas. He and his wife, **Debra (St. Pierre) '83**, reside in Modesto, California.

Suzanne Russi '77 is a QA Team Lead for Reed Elsevier in Maryland Heights, Missouri. She resides in Saint Peters, Missouri.

Lynne L. Helmholtz '78, M.S. '83, is a claims examiner for Chubb Insurance. She taught for 10 years before entering the insurance field, and is now a fully licensed adjuster. She has one son, and resides in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Byron Wilkins '79 is the owner of TR-1 Studios, which is a multimedia consulting company. He worked for 30 years in video production. He now is the artist of the comic strip titled *1977 the Comic*. Read online around the world, it can be found at www.1977thecomix.com. Wilkins and his son reside in Montgomery.

80s

Angela Beck, M.S. '80, has been a winning basketball coach at the high school, college, and professional levels. She is the girls' basketball coach at Clear Lake High School in Houston, Texas. The team captured its first regional tournament championship in 16 years this year. She has also excelled as a real estate professional. She resides in Austin, Texas.

Phillip Nevels '80, M.A. '82, is a teacher with McLean County Unit 5 Schools. He was named Regional Junior High School Boys Basketball Coach of the Year in 1998 and 2003. He is a recipient of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards recipient, and a McKnight Black Doctoral Fellowship. He and his wife, Susan, reside in Bloomington.

Gregg McElroy '82, M.S. '84, is a senior trust officer with Heartland Bank and Trust Company. He has been a trust and investment professional for more than 20 years. His

Pause for applause

Lens on Lincoln

Dave Wiegers '73 of Gurnee is a Civil War history buff who has traveled more than 20,000 miles



to photograph Abraham Lincoln statues. For three years he's crossed the nation and flown to Hawaii to photograph more than 200 statues. His adventure will be shared in a forthcoming book with a working title of *A Life Worth*

Remembering: The Monumental Legacy of Abraham Lincoln. His photos are part of a traveling exhibit that opened this year in Washington, D.C. A New York City station also used his work on a Google map to promote the bicentennial film, *Looking for Lincoln*.

Documented success

Retired Allstate Insurance Assistant Vice President **Sharon Ross-mark '78** never aspired to be the executive producer and creative director of an award-winning



documentary, and yet her work has garnered an Emmy. Ross-mark partnered with her father,

David, to create a segment in *A Distant Shore, African Americans of D-Day*, which was shown on the History Channel. The program was also recognized by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Academy. Ross-mark made multiple trips with her father to the D-Day beaches in France, searched archival photos, and conducted numerous interviews that formed the heart of the documentary.

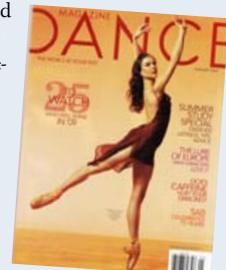
Pursuing justice

A former U.S. attorney who helped convict John Gotti, **Patrick Cotter '78** is now a partner on the White Collar Crime Defense Group of Barnes & Thornburg LLP's Chicago office. A political science major who went on to earn a law degree, Cotter served as a consultant to the United Nations Special Rapporteur investigating allegations of war crimes in the former Yugoslavia. He has been appointed by the International Tribunal on the former Yugoslavia to its Panel of Appointed Counsel. He has taught law at various universities, including in Ireland, and is a frequent media commentator on white-collar crime.



Leaping ahead

Marideth Wanat '04 has gone from Illinois State's Dance Theatre to the list of "25 to Watch" in 2009, as compiled by *Dance Magazine*. After completing a Spanish major, Wanat launched her career with Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago's Giordano II company. She held a performing apprentice position with Inside Chicago Dance before becoming a founding company member and rehearsal director of LehrerDance in Buffalo, New York. Described as athletic and "a bit of a daredevil," Wanat is praised for blending jazz and modern dance moves. She will perform the lead this fall in the rock opera *American Siddhartha: The Way Within*.



An Illinois State legacy

The Lambdin and Zindel families have been connected to Illinois State for 120 years. Hallie May (Johnston) Lambdin, an 1889 graduate, was the first generation to attend. Her daughter, Alice (Lambdin) Zindel '26, followed in her mother's footsteps. Both completed the two-year teaching program offered at that time.

Alice married and had six children. Two of her daughters—Elizabeth (Zindel) Teichman '52, and Evelyn (Zindel) Schmitz '62—also attended the University. Evelyn was a business education major. She works for the YMCA and resides with her husband Robert Schmitz in Wichita, Kansas. Elizabeth majored in business education as well.



Members of the Zindel family include, *front row, from left*, Debbie (Zindel) Wisdom '89, Evelyn (Zindel) Schmitz '62, Elizabeth (Zindel) Teichman '52, Mary (Elder) Zindel '51, and Carol (Zindel) Reed '78. *Back row, from left*, are Larry Reed '66, Jacob Zindel '08, Kevin Zindel '86, and Carissa Zindel, who is a senior.

"ISU was my campus of preference, partly because my mother had gone there, but also because it was accessible," Elizabeth said. "I really liked ISU because it was a small and friendly campus."

Elizabeth taught until she married Herbert Teichman. They reside in southwest Michigan, near Eau Claire, where her family owns and operates Tree-Mendos Fruit Farm. They were featured in the October 2008 edition of *Martha Stewart Living* magazine.

Ralph and Richard, brothers to Evelyn and Elizabeth, further extend the family's campus ties. Ralph chose alumna Mary (Elder) Zindel '51 to be his bride. She studied home economics, and taught the subject to high school students.

Their daughter, Carol (Zindel) Reed '78, also attended. She majored in accounting, and is a CPA working as an auditor for Macon County. She

resides in Forsyth with her husband, Larry '66, who graduated from the University with an industrial arts degree. He is now retired from the Decatur Public Schools.

The legacy continued with Richard Zindel, brother to Ralph, Elizabeth, and Evelyn. He and his wife, Carol, sent two children to ISU. Siblings Kevin Zindel '86 and Debbie (Zindel) Wisdom '89 are both graduates.

Kevin, of Chicago, earned a bachelor's degree in industrial technology. He is a project manager with a material transportation company that sells pneumatic tube systems for hospitals. Debbie graduated with a degree in finance, and spent 12 years in insurance claims. She resides in Peoria with her husband, Mike, and son, Drew.

The latest Zindel generation includes first cousins, Jacob Zindel '08, and current student Carissa Zindel. Jacob is Mary's grandson, and son of Ken and Susan Zindel. An elementary education major, he is currently substituting for Decatur Public Schools. Carissa, daughter of Carl and Debbie Zindel, will graduate in 2010.

While Carissa and Jacob have the most recent ties, other family members remain strongly connected as well with memories and visits. Elizabeth returned to campus for her 50th class reunion in 2002.

"So much has changed obviously," she said, "but the Stinko-Gingko tree is still there! It smelled horrible when I was a student, and it still smells now!"

wife, **Lori (Erickson) '84**, is an art director at CS&A in Bloomington. They reside in Normal.

Marina Scott '82 has been named principal of Libertyville High School, and is also an adjunct professor in the Loyola University, Chicago School of Education. She has served as a principal and associate superintendent. She received the Illinois State Board of Education's Those Who Excel education award in 2007. She and her husband, David, reside in Palatine.

Jami Simon, M.S. '82, and partner Kevin Kolack performed her two-person comedy revue, *Two for the Show*, at Shawnee Playhouse in Pennsylvania. Jamie was named the public address announcer for New York City's girls high school basketball quarterfinal games, and has worked on two episodes of *Saturday Night Live*.

Donsia Strong Hill '83 was inducted into Illinois State's first class of the College of Applied Science and Technology Hall of Fame. She became the first African American woman to join the Milwaukee-based law firm, Godfrey and Kahn, where she is a shareholder in the Business Practice Group. She and her husband, Rick, reside in Oneida, Wisconsin.

Renee McPherson '83 was recognized by the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry as an outstanding educator. She teaches third grade at Farragut Elementary School. She and her husband, Roger, reside in Minooka. They have two children.

Kevin H. Payne '84 is a reporter/anchor for WTAD in Quincy and WKAN in Kankakee. He was in the ensemble and chorus, and held multiple roles in the production of *Abe: The Musical* that was staged as part of the Lincoln Bicentennial celebration with the Muddy River Opera Company in Quincy, where he resides.

Greg Slome '84 is the chief financial officer of Sparton Corporation. He previously worked as the director of treasury and international finance for U.S. Robotics Corporation. He is a certified public accountant. He resides in Chicago.

Kim (Chrestman) Warmbier '84 is senior vice president of human resources at RadioShack Corporation. She is responsible for RadioShack's overall policy and strategy related to human resources. She held administrative



More than three decades have passed since five women met while students at Illinois State. They lived together off campus in the home of Marie Bright on Franklin Avenue, which led them to choose the nickname "The Bright House Babes." The women still connect to discuss memories that range from moments at The Cage and meeting boyfriends at Milner Library to streakers and the 1969 campus War Moratorium Peace Rally. A recent reunion was held in Venice, Florida. The friends are, from left, Betsy (Rajski) Cole '75, Brenda (Locher) Moore '73, Katie (Yackley) Asleson '72, Janet Sparks '72, and Joyce (Serola) Poindexter, who attended from 1967 to 1971.

positions with PepsiCo Sales and Frito Lay prior to her current position. She is a board member for the Center for Human Resource Management with the University of Illinois, and the Center for Effective Organizations with the University of Southern California. She resides in McKinney, Texas.

Greg Higginson '85 is vice president of development for Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida. He was chosen as Central Florida's Outstanding Fundraising Professional for 2008 by the local chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. He and his wife, Ann, reside in Ocoee, Florida.

Stephen Press '86, M.M. '89, has been promoted to associate professor and received tenure at Illinois Wesleyan University, where he is on the School of Music faculty. He resides in Lincoln.

Trey Short III '86 is the assistant provost and chief technology officer at Illinois Wesleyan University. He and his wife, Terri, reside in Bloomington.

Gregg Brown '88 is a New Age folk rock artist. He has released an album titled *Another Time, Another Being*. He resides in Bloomington.

Kevin Kennel '88 is a registered nurse who has been named supervisor of OSF St. James Medical Center's emergency department. His and his wife, **Lori (McGowan) '88**, reside in Normal.

Bill Van Meer '88, M.S. '97, has been named superintendent for the Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan School District. He has served as a middle school principal, and an assistant principal at the elementary and high school levels. He has served on the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators Board of Directors. He and his wife, **Tina (Hesch) '89**, reside in Monroe, Wisconsin. They are the parents of a son.

Keith Beatty '89 completed a master's degree in human computer interaction at Indiana University. He resides in Carmel, Indiana.

Angela (Saraceno) Benton '89, M.S. '93, is a claims examiner with Broadspire. She and her partner, Laurie Benton, are the parents of a daughter. Lily Grace was born in August of 2008.

Michele Brown '89 completed a master's degree at Governors State University, and secondary certification at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is principal of Churchville Middle School in Elmhurst Community Unit School District 205. She previously served as an assistant principal at Waubonsie Valley High School. She taught math at the middle school and high school levels for 10 years before becoming an administrator. She resides in North Aurora.

Daniel J. Safarczyk '89 is a safety and compliance manager with Veolia Transportation in Fort Collins, Colorado, where he resides.

90s

Todd Hohn '90 is vice president of the strategic resources group with PureSafety. He previously worked for 18 years with CNA Insurance and Aetna Insurance with loss control and related software. He designed and implemented CNA's safety training program. He has completed the executive development program at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. He and his wife, **Nanci (Gannon) '90**, reside in Belvidere. **Jerry A. McBurney '90** works for the Peoria Pirates in corporate sales and sponsorships. He previously worked as the general manager of the IHL's Bloomington Prairie

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The cost of publishing and mailing *Illinois State*, the alumni magazine, continues to increase. Your tax-deductible gift of \$25 helps defray mounting costs during increasingly difficult budget times. Contributions are appreciated and may be sent to Alumni Relations, Campus Box 3100, Normal, Illinois, 61790-3100. You can also make your gift of support to the magazine online at www.alumni.ilstu.edu/magazinegift.



Thunder and UIF's Bloomington Extreme. He has also served as sales manager of the Miami Dolphins, worked with the San Diego Chargers, and was the chairman of the National Football League ticket sales committee. He was COO for the AHL's Utah Grizzlies, and was part of a management group that launched an Arena Football League in Salt Lake City, Utah. He resides in Bloomington.

Brian Phipps '90 is the vice president and creative director at Progressive Impressions International. He won an international ECHO award in 2008 from the Direct Marketing Association for a unique

and creative direct mail design. His wife **Laureen (Dorris) '87, M.S. '91**, is as an assistant director of marketing at Heartland Bank and Trust Company. They have two sons, and reside in Bloomington.

Terry Harvill '91, M.S. '92, is vice president of energy policy with ITC Holdings Corp. He previously served as vice president of the energy policy for Constellation Energy Resources Inc., where he was responsible for the development and implementation of Constellation's federal and state government regulatory policies in North America. He was also the director of regulatory policy

and operation for DTE Energy. He served as the commissioner of the Illinois Commerce Commission, which is the state's public utility commission, and as former Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar's assistant for business and economic development. He and his wife, Shannon, reside in Novi, Michigan.

Michael T. Juneman '91 is the head of U.S. Options Exchanges at Citadel Derivatives Group LLC. He is a member of the Securities Traders Association, the Securities Traders Association of Chicago, and the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association. He has been named to the board of directors of the International Securities Exchange. He and his wife, **Christine (Carollo) '90**, reside in Elmhurst.

Troy Piper '92 is head coach of the girls' basketball team at Rochester High School. He has been with the school for 12 years as a physical education teacher, and on the coaching staffs for the football and girls basketball teams. He and his wife, **Nicole (Irwin) '92, M.S. '05**, reside in Rochester.

Beth Tokowitz '92, '93, is a physical education teacher at Independence High School. She also coaches both girls and boys swimming and diving teams. She resides in Gilbert, Arizona.

C.L. Cummings '94 is the senior vice president at Tompkins State Bank. He and his wife, Karene, reside in Knoxville. They are the parents of three children.

Gary K. Gross '94 is a shipping coordinator for Plastic Suppliers in Chicago Heights. His wife **Sharyn (Kurowski) '92, M.S. '94**, is a unit director at the Illinois Department of Human Services. They are the parents of two children. Their son, Cameron Andrew, was born in September of 2008. They reside in Bourbonnais.

Randy D. Niederer '94 has been named director of marketing with Unico Inc. He previously worked as a marketing manager at Thermo-dyne, where he managed products, pricing, promotions, and distribution for the U.S., Canada, and Latin America. He resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

Robert Parrott '94 completed a master's degree in educational administration from Northern Illinois University. He has been a special education instructor and administrator at Warren Township High

School, and is now principal of the school's Almond Campus. He and his wife, **Alyssa (Lux) '93**, reside in Gurnee. They are the parents of four children.

Christopher Rice '94 has been named principal of East Park Elementary School in Danville. He had served at the school as the assistant principal. He has taught middle school science and language arts for more than a decade. He also served as dean at North Ridge Middle School. Rice and his wife, Shelly, reside in Catlin. They have two sons.

Jeffrey Risch '94 received his law degree from the University of Tulsa College of Law. He has joined the law firm of SmithAmundsen LLC as a partner. He is part of the firm's Labor and Employment Practice Group, concentrating on representing employers in all aspects of employment and traditional labor law. He and his wife, Jennifer, reside in St. Charles.

Jenny Hahn Schnipper '95 and her husband, Lanny, are the parents of a daughter. Audrey Erin was born in August of 2008. They reside in Crest Hill.

Jane Thomas '95 is a registered nurse at Loyola University Medical Center. She received a nursing excellence award from Loyola University Health System for her work as a patient advocate. She resides in Brookfield.

Meredith L. (Steffen) Culp '96 is a project analyst with Ernst and Young LLP. She and her husband, David, were married in August of 2008. They reside in Carrollton, Texas.

Justin Fuller '96 has completed a master's in geography at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. He is a geography instructor and chair of the Geography Department at Central New Mexico Community College. He teaches biology part-time as well. He and his wife, Jenette, reside in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Timothy Kilrea '96, Ed.D. '98, is the superintendent of Lyons Township High School. He has more than 20 years experience in education, having served as a teacher, dean of students, principal, and assistant superintendent. He previously worked for 15 years as a history teacher, social science department chair, coordinator of deans/director of student activities, and associate principal for curriculum

Support our troops

Thank you to the individuals listed below for their service in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Names will be published as they are received. Submit information to Susan Blystone at sjblyst@illinoisstate.edu or by mail at Illinois State University, Campus Box 3420, Normal, IL 61790.

Capt. Elizabeth Adams '04
U.S. Army

Capt. Bart Daly '04
U.S. Army

Sgt. Matthew Erickson, current student
Illinois Air National Guard, Afghanistan

Spc. Raymond L. Haldorson Jr. '04
U.S. Army

Maj. Ralph E. Layman, M.D., '97
U.S. Army

Capt. Matt Moser '04
U.S. Army

Capt. Alex Payne '04
U.S. Army

Staff Sgt. Timothy St. Clair, M.S. '06
U.S. Army



and instruction. He resides in Frankfort.

Mark Crabtree, M.S. '97, worked as a clinical athletic trainer with AtheltiCo, a rehabilitation, fitness, and performance company in the Chicago area after interning with the Texas Rangers. He is now the director of the Explosion Sports Performance Program. He and his wife, Deborah, reside in Bolingbrook.

Kelly (Reichensperger) Hecksel '97 completed a master's in literacy studies from Western Michigan University. She and her husband, Eric, are the parents of four children. Their daughter, Lindsey Marie, was born in February of 2009. They reside in Coopersville, Michigan.

Candace N. (Elledge) Pond '97 is a corporate accountant of general ledger and fixed assets for the NAES Corporation. She and her husband, Adam, are parents of a daughter. Ruby Elocin was born in October of 2008. They reside in Issaquah, Washington.

Megan (Poulos) Dixson '98 is a team coordinator with HCR Manorcare in Brookfield, Wisconsin. She and her husband, David, reside in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

Benjamin Drane '98 is a commercial underwriting auditor for Lincoln General Insurance in Elk Grove. He resides in Naperville.

Bryan Erickson '98 teaches industrial technology classes at Seneca High School. He has been named head golf coach at the school, where he has served as an assistant golf coach and assistant varsity baseball coach since 2001. He and his wife, **Jamie '97**, reside in Coal City.

Grant A. Gallinger '98 works in sales with Badger Fluid System Technologies in Brookfield, Wisconsin. His wife, **Amy J. (Struble) '99**, is a teacher with West Bend School District. They reside in Fox Point, Wisconsin.

Stacey (Craine) Kopiczko '98 taught special education for 10 years and is now a stay-at-home mom. She and her husband, Tim, are the parents of a daughter. Kate Ann was born in December of 2008. They reside in Lisle.

Michelle DelosSantos, M.S. '99, is a certified athletic trainer and co-owner of Twin Peak Performance, a personal and corporate fitness training company. She resides in Saginaw, Michigan.

How we met— Illinois State University connections

When Anna Boyce '90 met Jimmy O'Berto '89 she had no idea that Jimmy would later put her name in lights.

The two were introduced by mutual friends at a party in a backyard on South Fell. Much to Anna's disappointment, Jimmy didn't ask her out, so she decided to take matters into her own hands.

"I stalked him for weeks," she admitted laughing. "It's not as bad as it sounds. I got his schedule from his roommate, and just happened to be in the same building at the same time. It sounds crazy but it worked, and it's our big joke now."



Jimmy '89 and Anna (Boyce) O'Berto '90 have added two sons to their family—Christopher, 14, and Corey, 11—during their 18 years of marriage.

Three weeks later Jimmy finally asked Anna on a date. They shared a meal and conversation at Bennigan's on September 17, 1986—Anna's birthday—and continued dating all through college.

Jimmy managed a local pizzeria during his time at Illinois State, as well as later. Anna was a resident assistant on campus for two years before landing a waitressing position at a local landmark, Avanti's. Their hospitality experience while at the University would eventually come full circle, and lead them to their current business venture.

The two were married on June 1, 1991. Anna worked for Coopers Lybrand as an accountant before moving on to Abbot Laboratories, where she stayed for 11 years. Jimmy had a position with E.J Brach before joining G.E Rail Car, where he worked until 1997. That was the year he left the world of corporate business.

It was also in 1997 that Jimmy decided to open up his own business, Jimmy's Pizzeria. After the first year Jimmy opened another unit, and another one 12 months later when he decided to franchise his business. In doing so he was forced to change the name, because Jimmy's Pizzeria was already trademarked. Anna came up with Jimano's, a combination of their first and last names. Jimmy approved and told Anna, "Now that your name is in lights, you have to work harder."

It was then that Anna quit her job at Abbot Laboratories to become the franchise sales director of Jimano's Pizzeria. The couple now has 13 units total, including a recently opened Jimano's in Bakersfield, California. "Follow your passion," is what Jimmy advises. "It allows your work to be enjoyable and successful."

Thanks to Illinois State and Anna's determination to get Jimmy to ask her out, the couple has been happily married for 18 years. With two boys, Christopher, 14, and Corey, 11, as well as a successful business, both are grateful for their Redbird connection.



Two sisters, who just happen to both be Redbirds, did more than enjoy a vacation in Europe earlier this year. They helped Spread the Red! Mary (Marsh) Strle '84, left, and Theresa (Marsh) Gaffney '76, both of Bloomington, took an Illinois State banner along for their photos. They showed their university pride while posing near the famous bridge in London.

Larie Godinez '99 is superintendent of Dubuque Community School District. She and her husband, Vic, reside in Dubuque.

Kyle Harrison '99 is a real estate professional and member of the city council in Champaign, where he resides.

Ernie Hendrickson '99 is a singer and songwriter, and was a member of The Seed Band while at Illinois State. He is now a solo artist who has released an album titled *Walking With Angels*. He resides in Chicago.

John Hinton IV '99 completed a master's degree in educational leadership at Western Illinois University. He has taught at the elementary and middle school levels, and has coached wrestling and football. He is now the assistant principal at Central School in Kewanee. He resides in Cambridge.

Jamie L. Powers '99 is founder and owner of PowerToolz, which is an at-home visitation and therapy organization that works with families challenged by autism, attention deficit, cerebral palsy, and developmental issues. She resides in Naperville.

John Tovar '99 is a fight choreographer who helps stage productions across the country. He also teaches stage combat at Elgin Community College and the College of DuPage. He resides in Saint Charles.

00s

Kathleen (Leahy) Allen '00 and her husband, Lucas, were married in December of 2008. They reside in East Peoria.

Todd Andriik '00 completed an M.B.A. at Roosevelt University. He is vice president of marketing and public relations with Leopardo. He and his wife, **Hilary (Holloway) '01**, reside in Oswego.

Philip J. Jourdan, M.S. '00, is the assistant principal of Wando High School in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, where he resides.

Eric Krell, M.M. '00, is the director of orchestras at Cholla High Magnet School and Hohokam Middle School in Arizona. He and his wife, Elia, are the parents of a daughter. They reside in Tucson, Arizona.

Teresa Begley Stetler '00 and her husband, Michael, are the parents of a daughter. Kiera Rachel was born in December of 2008. They reside in McHenry.

Angela Niedermeier Bradt '01 and her husband, Jeremy, are the parents of two daughters. Jaclyn Grace was born in March of 2009. They reside in Rock City.

Jacob Strader '01 is one of the leading business development professionals in the healthcare industry. Now with Data Dimensions, he previously worked at The Sentinel Group as director of national business development. He and his wife, **Meredith (Marzullo) '00**, reside in Grayslake.

Brian Weidner '01 is the director of bands at McHenry High School. His wife, **Rebecca (Dueber) '00**, is a teacher with CCSD 15 in Palatine. They are the parents of twins.

Natalie and Noah were born in February of 2009. They reside in Wauconda.

Jennifer D. (Curto) Barker '02 is the MDS/CP coordinator and charge nurse of the Extended Care Unit at Graham Hospital. She and her husband, Jason, were married in October of 2008. Their son, Ashton Gage, was born in February of 2008. They reside in Pekin.

Jennifer Kabbes Fuente '02, M.S. '05, is the assistant volleyball coach at All Saint's Episcopal High School in Fort Worth, Texas. She resides there with her husband, Justin.

Mindy Walton Koechling '02 is an early intervention service coordinator with Child and Family Connections of DuPage. She and her husband, Ben, are the parents of a son. Noah Taylor was born in October of 2008. They reside in Winfield.

Mary J. (Edwards) Meehan '03 teaches fifth grade in Harmony-Emge District 175 in Belleville. She is completing a master's degree in administration at Lindenwood University. She was named *Who's Who Among Teachers* in 2008. She and her husband, Robert, reside in New Athens.

Scott J. Rosen '03 is a special education teacher in St. Louis County. He and his wife, Ann, are the parents of two daughters. They reside in St. Louis, Missouri.

Meredith Anderson '04 is employed with Midland Elementary School in Lacon, where she resides.

Shawn Beitz '04 is a soybean seed production specialist. He is part of the sales team with AgVenture WSC, and is responsible for territory in Southern Illinois. He resides in Harrisburg.

Jennifer (Hutchinson) Frobish '04 is a coordinator of student programs for the Honors Program at Illinois State. She and her husband, Steven, reside in Bloomington.

Andrew Hellermann '04 is a project engineer with Pepper Construction Company in Barrington. He and his wife, Maggie, reside in Naperville.

Christi (Franzen) Hellman '04 teaches fifth grade at Waltham Elementary School in Utica. She has received the Educator's Award for Outstanding Contribution and

Dedication to the schools of LaSalle County, and a teacher of the month award from a local radio station. She and her husband, Mark, reside in Ottawa.

Lindsey M. (Beckman) Kauffman '04 is a staff accountant for Caterpillar Inc. She and her husband, Keith, were married in October of 2008. They reside in Peoria.

Melissa M. (Miller) Mogler '04 is a teacher in the East Peoria area. She and her husband, Wesley, reside in East Peoria.

April (Williams) Murray '04 is a paralegal with Johnson, Blumberg and Associates, LLC, in Chicago. She resides in Park Forest.

Katherine O'Shea '04 is a preschool teacher with North Palos School District 117 in Palos Hills. She resides in Crestwood.

Michelle Roehrig '04 is an absence, health, and productivity consultant working with Zurich Services Corporation. She is a loss control representative specializing in worker's compensation. She resides in Wheaton.

Julienne (Epplin) Shamhart '04 is completing an M.B.A. at Eastern Illinois University. She is a financial advisor with Raymond James at Midland States Bank in Effingham, where she resides.

Valerie Sherman '04 completed a juris doctor from DePaul University College of Law. She is a member of the *Law Review* editorial board. She resides in Palatine.

Christopher Stroich '04 is the director of communications for the Outdoor Advertising Association of Illinois. He is a writer for the *Springfield Business Journal*, and owns a writing and public relations company. He resides in Springfield.

Jamie Boeckmann '05 is the marketing coordinator for Apex Physical Therapy. Her role includes marketing in St. Louis and Southern Illinois, providing support to eight Apex clinics. She resides in Breese.

Kyle Zaleski '06 left substitute teaching at Mundelein High School to join the Sioux Falls Canaries as a pitcher. The team is part of the American Association of Independent Professional Baseball. He and his wife, Lynette, reside in South Dakota.

Sam Alex '07 is a morning radio host at WBWB-FM in Bloomington, Indiana. He resides in Chicago.

Lisa Hardiek '07 is an emergency medical technician for Superior

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Ambulance Company in Elmhurst. She also works at the College of Dupage as an assistant to a student who has cerebral palsy. She resides in Westmont.

David McCoy '07 is the softball coach at Taylorville High School, which is his alma mater. He resides in Taylorville.

Megan Patterson '07 is an earth science teacher at Naperville Central High School. She received the Arlo Schilling First Year Teacher Award. She resides in New Lenox.

Brian Davey '08 is a field engineer with Barnhart Inc., in San Diego, California. He works with job site safety issues and design coordination. He resides in San Francisco, California.

Cooper J. Thomas Garland '08 is a personal trainer with performance exercise specialist certification. A member of the National Association of Sports Medicine, he is a strength and conditioning coach for Dion Riccardi's Victory Martial Arts Academy. He resides in Oak Park.

Elyse Heinrich '08 is a Vision Itinerant teacher working with Hawaiian students from preschool through

high school, as well as adapted living adults. She teaches Braille. She resides in Waimanalo, Hawaii.

Brian Holman '08 is a mathematics teacher at Newark High School, and is in charge of the school's baseball program. He resides in Seneca.

Jennifer Klicka '08 is a critical care registered nurse with Children's Hospital of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. She resides in Brookfield, Wisconsin.

Eric Knee '08 is a senior information technology associate with Discover Financial Services LLC in Riverwoods. His wife, **Amy (Starkweather) '08**, teaches fifth grade with Arlington Heights District 25. They reside in Arlington Heights.

Michael A. Krallitsch '08 is a dairy associate with Meijer Inc. in McHenry. He resides in Crystal Lake.

April (Archer) Leitshuh '08 works as an ELS department head and an assistant softball coach with Jefferson Parish Public Schools in Kenner, Louisiana. Her husband, **Michael '07**, teaches science at Jefferson Parish Public Schools in Avondale, Louisiana. They reside in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Sarah Leoni '08 teaches special education with Tilton Elementary School in Rochelle, where she works with children from grades three through five. She resides in DeKalb.

Kathryn Levine '08 is a registered nurse with Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital. She resides in Deer Park.

Lisa Lindner '08 is a data analyst who does physician peer review with Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield. She resides in Bartlett.

Mallory (Russell) Lindstrom '08 teaches early childhood education at Midland Elementary in Lacon. She resides there with her husband, Adam.

Beth Liston '08 works with auto claims payments at State Farm Insurance Companies in Bloomington, where she resides.

Meta Machulis '08 is a reporter, typesetter, copy editor, and photographer with The Paper in Dwight, where she resides.

Lauren Madsen '08 is a marketing coordinator for National Brands with John B. Sanfilippo and Son Inc. in Elgin. She resides in Western Springs.

Megan Serpette '08 is a senior clerk/administrative assistant with Komatsu America Corporation in Peoria. She resides in Morton.

Ashley N. Shear '08 is a math teacher at Sterling High School. She resides in Fulton.

Andrea Shifflet '08 is a communications specialist at Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg, where she resides.

Nadejda Sledneva, M.S. '08, is a due diligence manager at Trace International in Annapolis, Maryland, where she resides.

Jenna Smith '08 is a family and consumer science teacher with Indian Prairie School District 204 in Naperville. She resides in Lockport.

Eric Smolen '08 is a substitute teacher with Saint Gregory Episcopal School in Chicago. He resides in Mount Prospect.

Regina Stoerger '08 is an independent sales director with Mary Kay Cosmetics in Tuscola, where she resides.

Alexis (Gasser) Stoller '08 is an English teacher with Gateway Woods School in Leo, Indiana. She and

her husband, Jonathan, reside in Van Wert, Ohio.

Justin Stuva '08 is an energy advisor with Corn Belt Energy. He resides in Auburn.

Steven D. Swanson '08 works with Burbank School District 111. He resides in Burbank.

Kyle J. Talleur '08 became a certified public accountant in 2008. He works as a staff accountant with BKD, LLP. He resides in Decatur.

Lucas Taylor '08 teaches physical education at Miami Shores Presbyterian Church School. He resides in Miami, Florida.

Benjamin Tonner '08 is a teacher with Community School District 9 in Watseka, where he resides.

Bridget Tucker '08 is a special events assistant with Little Company of Mary Hospital in Evergreen Park. She resides in Oak Lawn.

Daniel Vasquez, M.S. '08, is an athletic trainer with Sport and Spine Therapy of Marin in Novato, California, where he resides.

Martin Vega '08 is a superintendent with Land and Lakes Company in Park Ridge. He resides in Rockdale.

Rachel A. Walker '08 is a desktop technician, graphic designer, and sports photographer with StarNet Digital Publishing in Bloomington, where she resides.

Jason M. Wallace '08 ran as the third-party candidate for U.S. Congress in the Illinois 11th Congressional District in the November 2008 election. He resides in Greeley, Colorado.

Linda Wastyn '08 is an associate vice president for advancement with St. Ambrose University. She and her husband, Ronald, reside in Davenport, Iowa.

Danielle Weaver '08 is an orthopedic aid/athletic trainer with CIO/NORC in Bloomington, where she resides.

Jordan (Macy) Weber '08 is a graduate teaching assistant with the School of Kinesiology and Recreation at Illinois State. Her husband,

Matthew '07, is a credit analyst with State Farm Insurance Companies. They reside in Bloomington.

Teresa A. (Cadreau) West '08 teaches sixth grade with Unit 5 School District in Normal, where she resides.

Mark Whitaker '08 is an analyst with Northern Trust in Chicago, where he resides.

Patrick M. White '08 is an operations section manager with Cat-

erpillar Inc. in Decatur, where he resides.

Michael P. Wille '08 is pursuing a master's degree in public policy at Georgetown University. He resides in Washington, D.C.

Marco Zabaneh '08 is a franchisee in training with H&R Block in Quincy, where he resides.

Brian Zimmerman '08 is a physical therapy student at Midwestern University. He resides in Palatine.

Ti'Akka R. Johnson '09 is an operations NCOIC with the U.S. Army. She resides in Richton Park.

In memory Faculty/Staff

Arthur I. Corry, Facilities Management; 3/09

Barbara C. Hall, Kinesiology and Recreation; 11/08

Henry M. Kidder, Facilities Management; 4/09

Zoe C. (Shinneman) Kirk, Health Services; 2/09

Ann E. Nolte, Health Sciences; 3/09

Helen E. (West) Conroy Payne, Computer Services; 2/09

George Petrossian, Foreign Languages; 2/09

Walter H. Smith Sr., Physical Plant; 3/09

Alumni

20s

Ida T. (Wabel) Harris '25; 2/09

Pauline (Whipple) Taylor '29; 3/09

30s

Doris LaMaster Mandeville '31, '33; 10/08

Erma V. (Thornton) Fredrickson '33; 3/09

Hildegard (Walty) Holtz '35, '37; 2/09

Laura M. Stephenson '35; 6/97

Eva Weinreich '35; 4/08

Winifred E. (Parker) Maxwell '37; 3/09

Mary A. (Dodds) Bale '38; 4/09

Ann (Miller) Bock '39, '82; 3/09

40s

Kathryn M. (Fuller) Laskowski '40; 3/09

William L. Preno '40; 4/09

Shirley M. (Forrest) Stewart '41; 2/09

Jane M. (Thorsen) Carson '42; 3/09

Noreen (Yocom) Cusey '42, '58; 2/09

Jeannette A. Nelson '42; 5/03

Genevieve M. Enders '43; 3/09

Evelyn J. Brashear '44; 9/08

Phyllis (Oko) Rouse '44; 4/09

Alice M. Rabenort '45; 4/09

Virginia (Brenkemann) Zook '45; 4/09

Jean Linn '46; 4/97

Emma N. Walker '46; 11/08

Zola R. Buford '47, M.S. '49; 11/08

Dean J. Martin '47; 4/09

Donald L. Adkins '48; 4/09

Benjamin S. Cottone '49, M.S. '56; 3/09

Joseph V. Naffziger '49, M.S. '50; 3/09

Ruth Slomer '49; 12/08

Dorothy L. (Arnette) Stoutenborough '49; 3/09

50s

Lorraine Probst '50; 8/08

Louis E. Glaser '51; 4/09

Betty Joan (Verhines) Lang '51; 4/09

Dale L. Lang '51; 3/09

John R. Samlin '51, M.S. '55, Ph.D. '67; 12/96

Grady R. Ward '51; 3/09

Anna C. Gottschalk '52; 2/09

Velma Hirstein '52; 3/09

Howard Chester Saar '54, M.S. '61; 2/09

Martin F. Berklan '55; 9/01

Phyllis J. Biggs '56; 2/09

Audrey P. (Hager) Michel '57; 3/09

Ronald C. Miller '57, M.S. '58; 2/09

Doris E. Nusbaum '57, M.S. '65; 3/09

Duane A. "Moose" Woltzen '57, M.S. '59; 3/09

Harley G. Brayfield '58; 2/09

Walter A. Schultz '59; 3/09

Franklin E. Tonkinson '59; 3/08

60s

Ronald K. Payne '61; 3/09

Linda S. Harvey Securda '61; 4/09

Charles W. Burton '62; 2/09

Joan (Kelm) Gaza '64; 3/09

Alice D. (Brant) Siebenthal '66, M.S. '90; 4/09

Ronald N. Satz '67; 3/06

John J. Domikaitis '68; 1/09

Meryl E. Rogers '68; 5/07

June E. Schultz, M.S. '68; 4/09

Helen Lind Quane '69; 4/09

70s

Deborah J. (Springer) Baker '71; 2/09

James M. O'Rourke, M.S. '71; 3/09

Terry L. Beranek '72; 4/09

Janet Boeh, M.A. '72; 3/09

Ronald J. Jones '72; 4/09

Kathleen M. (Finnegan) Sullivan '73, M.M.E. '82; 2/09

Gary L. McAllister '74; 7/04

Marianne T. (Moore) Stauffer '75; 2/09

Judy R. (Smith) Diamond '76; 3/09

Penelope (Wargo) Schwitters '76; 3/09

David R. "Coach" Himes '77, M.S. '87; 2/09

Ann (Deli) Miller '77; 3/09

Richard C. Wolf Jr. '79; 4/09

80s

Jack B. Nicholson, D.A. '80; 3/09

Harold F. Piccinelli '85, M.S. '87; 3/09

90s

Joy L. Brown '95; 4/09

Jason C. Wegman '97; 3/09

00s

Jessica A. (Erlandson) Lafser '00; 2/09

Jessica M. McCarthy-Schwindenhammer '02; 2/09

Diana (Jackson) Holderfield '03; 4/09

Camille Kalombo, M.A. '04; 2/09

Janie (Hamm) Houston '05; 2/09



Scholarship benefits students passionate about teaching

When Brandi Speerly found out that she was the recipient of the Kelly (Clint and Sue) Endowed Elementary Education Scholarship, she immediately called her parents with the good news. Speerly had transferred to Illinois State from Illinois Valley Community College, and sought any additional support she could find.

She was a natural pick for the scholarship created by Clint Kelly '36, who established the fund in memory of his wife, Sue (Cooke) '35. She taught grades three to five prior to her death in 1999. He decided to honor Sue by helping Illinois State students intending to teach grades one to five, and majoring in elementary education.

Kelly, who resides in Florida, was a teacher and later a principal. He has become an avid writer in retirement, authoring more than 40 books. *Romance for Life*, which focuses on his relationship with Sue and their devotion to education, will be released nationally this fall. Speerly mirrors the dedication and love for teaching that the Kellys demonstrated in their combined total of 64 years in the classroom.

“When I substituted for teacher’s aides while I went to community college, I did a lot of work in fourth and fifth grade. I like that age group. They are old enough to do things on their own, but still rely on their teachers. I clicked really well with students that age,” said Speerly, who will begin the Professional Development School program

this fall as a senior. She will start by working with her students in grades three to five, which is her favorite age.

“It’s really great because I’ll get to experience several different levels of education,” Speerly said. “You get to be in the classroom at the beginning of the year, and see how the classrooms are set up, and the challenges the teachers face at the beginning of the year.”

Outside of the classroom Speerly is involved in the campus ministry Encounter. She is a board member on the Council for Exceptional Children, which is a volunteer organization that assists children with special needs. She also works as a nanny, and assists individuals with disabilities through MarcFirst. The experiences are helping prepare her for that dream job as an elementary school teacher.

More than one life can be changed when you provide financial support that enables a student to complete an education and pursue professional dreams. Make a difference today by contributing to a scholarship. Contact Executive Director of Development Joy Hutchcraft at (309) 438-8041 or by e-mail at jdhutch@ilstu.edu to find out what you can do. Donations can be made online at www.alumni.ilstu.edu/giving.



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The Last Look



A new view

Alums returning this fall will find significant change in the business community just east of campus. Uptown Normal has been renovated and expanded to include a Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, which now stands near Watterson Towers. The center will be celebrated at an Uptown and Gown Gala during Homecoming weekend. See page 26 for details, or go to www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/gala to register.