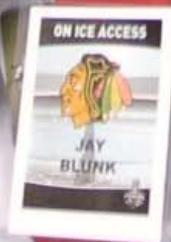


ILLINOIS STATE

A Remarkable Turnaround

Many doubted the Chicago Blackhawks could rebuild and win the Stanley Cup. ISU alumnus Jay Blunk was more than a believer. He became a change agent for the team.



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**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**
Illinois' first public university

FirstWord

With March Madness about to begin,

the spotlight is on collegiate basketball. Our own Redbirds are gearing up for the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament in Missouri, where I hope you will join me in cheering on our teams.

I am always impressed by our student-athletes. They work diligently as individuals to achieve their personal academic goals, then come together and exert even more effort as competitors determined to bolster pride in the University while battling for points on the scoreboard.



Our athletic events are perhaps the most obvious example of excellence through teamwork at ISU, yet there are stellar “players” assembled across campus. Let me take a moment to shine a proverbial spotlight on the team behind the scenes.

Within the Admissions and Financial Aid offices, for example, there are staff who spend days, nights, and weeks traveling throughout Illinois—tirelessly telling the Illinois State story as they recruit and retain high school graduates with proven potential.

Faculty work year round to advance the University’s mission by challenging these students to exceed their expectations as they pursue their passion. As a teacher myself I appreciate how much effort it requires to keep current in your discipline, then to patiently and practically bring that knowledge to the classroom.

Add to the mix the research, committee work, and public service commitments, and I am confident in saying that although we don’t have the largest faculty in the state, we have the hardest working and most productive.

There are myriad others on staff who support students with a wide spectrum of programs and services. They keep students healthy and safe. They keep our campus cozy and make certain our buildings are not just clean but wired for technology. Because of our dedicated employees’ efforts students are able to register for classes, enjoy exceptional meals, find encouragement, travel abroad, gain leadership skills, and get involved in community service.

Every time I talk with students, alumni, or friends of Illinois State I hear heart-warming stories of how members of the ISU family make a difference in the lives of others. I hope that you will take a moment today and express your appreciation. I know it is not often enough that I pause and voice my own heartfelt gratitude for everything our exceptional team members do to make Illinois’ first public university its finest university.

Al Bowman
President, Illinois State University



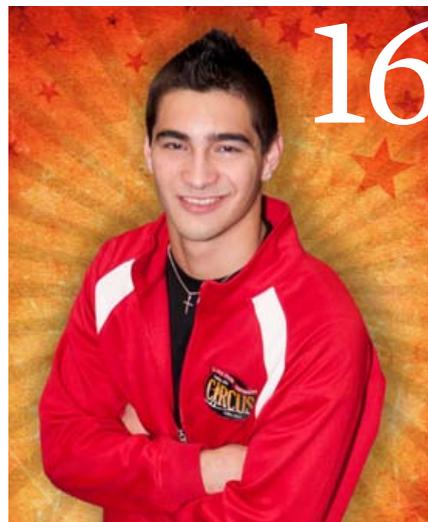
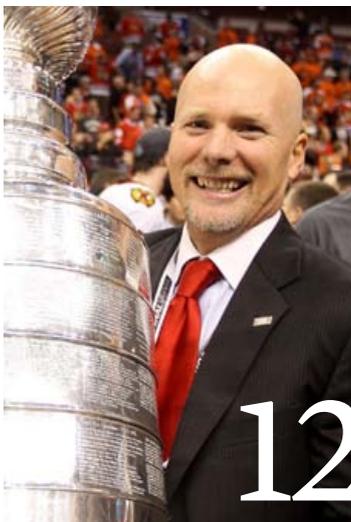
FEATURES

8 One powerful pen
The adage that a picture is worth a thousand words has been proven by alumnus Eric Rohmann '80, M.S. '85. The illustrations in his children's picture books captivate young and old readers alike. Rohmann's extraordinary talent has earned him the highest national honor in children's literature.

12 Reheating the ice
Jay Blunk '86 left his Chicago Cubs vice president position to work at rebuilding a hockey team Windy City fans had nearly forgotten. That goal was accomplished as the Blackhawks captured the Stanley Cup with a 2010 season considered "the most remarkable turnaround in the history of sports in the U.S."

16 A literal stand-out
Christian Stoinev was born to perform. He acquired international fame before joining ISU's Gamma Phi Circus. Now a sophomore, Stoinev wows audiences with his ability to complete complicated contortions with one hand, while balancing his pet dog.

20 Sparkling venue and menu
The transformation within Campus Dining Services will surprise even recent graduates. Expansive options and improved dishes are served in a restaurant atmosphere. Upgrades have resulted in a more environmentally friendly operation that now more than ever is a plus in recruiting students.



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Take Illinois State with you anywhere you go. Just go to IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine on your mobile device.

On the cover: Blunk will never forget the thrill of celebrating the Blackhawks' first Stanley Cup championship since 1961.



Bell replica enriches Founders Day tradition

Faculty trio creates unique campus treasure

Each February individuals from across the campus community participate in a Founders Day bell ceremony. The bell rings for each year since the University was established in 1857.

The ceremony is especially meaningful for Carson and Iris Varner from the College of Business, and College of Fine Arts instructor Randy Reid. They united to create a replica of the Old Main Bell that sits on the Quad.

The Varners, who joined the University in 1975, gave a financial gift for the solid bronze bell. Carson teaches in finance insurance and law. Now retired, Iris was a management and quantitative methods faculty member. She was director of the International Business Institute. Together they developed the interdisciplinary international business major that helped make ISU the center of international business education in Illinois. Their daughter,

Katrin Varner, joined the College of Business faculty in 2000.

Reid '87, M.S. '91, M.F.A. '96, is an instructor and bronze-casting specialist. "As an Illinois State alumnus, I knew it would be a very special casting," he said, noting the bell was cast in the University's foundry. The strong ISU ties please the Varners.

"We are so proud to be part of a university whose mission is to give the premiere undergraduate educational experience in Illinois," Carson said.



Building a replica

Go online to IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine for coverage and photos from this year's Founders Day celebration, as well as a video of the work involved to create the Old Main Bell replica.

State Farm recognized with building name

The long-standing partnership between State Farm Insurance Companies and Illinois State University has been recognized with the naming of the College of Business Building as the State Farm Hall of Business.

Illinois State has received support from State Farm Companies Foundation over the years, with more than half of their funding going to programs within the College of Business. In 1999 a grant of \$9 million provided seed money that helped to leverage additional funds for construction of the College of Business building, which opened in 2005.

“State Farm’s financial support made it possible for us to construct a state-of-the-art building for our College of Business, which is ranked as one of the top 100 undergraduate business schools in the nation,” President Al Bowman said. “The company’s ongoing support of academic programs and research has played an important role in helping the College of Business establish its excellent reputation.”

State Farm CEO Ed Rust said the company is “honored to be recognized for its ongoing commitment to the College of Business. We’re proud of our long-standing relationship with the University, and of the fact that more than 4,000 Illinois State alumni work at State Farm today.”

Science work enriched with scanning microscope grant

ISU biologists, physicists, chemists, and geologists have a powerful scanning electron microscope at their disposal thanks to a \$285,000 National Science Foundation grant. The microscope, located in the Science Laboratory Building, is capable of magnifying objects up to 1 million times.

Associate Professor Martha Cook in biology was a lead author on the grant proposal for funding the new FEI Quanta 450 microscope, which provides detailed



Nick Tardi, a graduate student in the School of Biological Sciences, uses the new scanning electron microscope.

digital image results without a lengthy preparation process of specimens. The scanning process allows scientists to understand such things as surface topography and chemical composition of a specimen.

It is being used at ISU in many ways, including for elemental analysis; the study of structures in plant and animal specimens; and quality control testing for delicate, custom-made scientific probes made by a chemistry faculty member.

University increases financial help for students

Committed to doing even more to attract and retain academically talented students, President Al Bowman has earmarked an additional \$500,000 annually for merit-based scholarships, beginning this year.

“This is an important step that I know will make us even more competitive than we are today,” Bowman said. “At

Illinois State our students have demonstrated that it is an investment that yields high returns.”

Illinois State awards merit-based scholarships through the Presidential and University Scholars programs, and provides assistance to hundreds of students through scholarships funded by gifts to the Illinois State Foundation.

More than 20 percent of students receive need-based assistance through the state’s Monetary Awards Program (MAP). The University will use more than \$7 million of its own resources to supplement MAP grants for students. More than \$1 million in federal grant funding provides financial assistance for low-income and first-generation college students.

Donor dollars continue to help students reach their potential by empowering them to complete a degree. Make a scholarship contribution today by going online to IllinoisState.edu/giving.

Where are they now?

I retired in August of 1990 after nearly 25 years as a supervisor of student teaching in music and a professor in the School of Music teaching music therapy, handbells ringing, instrumental techniques, conducting, and music for the exceptional child.

My wife, Doris (Mehrkens) '71, and I moved permanently to Florida. We settled in our new home in Lady Lake, Florida. I became the director of music ministry at a church in nearby Leesburg, and soon organized a handbell choir. My interest in handbells was well known at ISU. I founded the Handbell and Choirchime Ensemble and directed the ISU groups for more than 20 years.

Doris is also a retired music teacher. She is a member of our church handbell/choirchime ensembles. I play trumpet in the church orchestra, tuba in the brass ensembles, and French horn in the cantata group.

I miss the Illinois State community and teaching, for I always enjoyed university life and the intellectually stimulating activities. Soon after arriving in Florida, I was asked to teach short courses at the University of Central Florida and at the College of St. Leo's.

While there I taught instrumental techniques and music for the exceptional child courses. Then the state of Florida asked me to lead a band director's "refresher course," which was required of experienced Florida band directors. I am a frequent guest conductor for festivals and lead many clinics and workshops.

We recently relocated to Orlando to be near our son, Richard, and his family. We enjoy our new lifestyle in Florida, where it is warm—most of the time!

Contact the Rosenes by e-mail at rosenebell@aol.com or by writing to 822 Pinar Drive, Orlando, FL 32825. To find out how you can support the School of Music, go online to IllinoisState.edu/giving or call (309) 438-8041.



School of Music Professor Emeritus Paul Rosene



Return of the bells

Learn more about Paul Rosene and the return of the ISU handbell choir online at www.IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine.

Alumni invited as ISU hosts national speech tournament

ISU Forensics Union alumni are invited to serve as an individual events or Lincoln-Douglas debate judge during the National Forensics Association national tournament. The competition will be held on the University's campus April 15-18. More than 100 college and university teams are expected to participate.

There are 40 students on the speech team, which won the tournament in 1995, 1999, and 2000. ISU placed third in the national competition in 2010, continuing a tradition of excellence that began when the Forensics Union was formed in 1857.

School of Communication Assistant Professor and Forensics Director Kevin Meyer is planning a reunion event on April 16 for alumni as part of the tournament week. Alumni are also invited to judge the tournament and attend reunion events that will be held throughout the weekend.

For more information e-mail kmeyster@IllinoisState.edu or go online to www.Forensics.IllinoisState.edu. Individuals interested in supporting the team financially can do so online by going to www.Advancement.ilstu.edu/sc/forensics.

Paralegal Studies Program gains national endorsement

The American Bar Association (ABA) has granted approval to the University's Legal Studies Program. The ABA endorsement is a benchmark for many employers who hire paralegals.

The approval enhances the profile of the University's Legal Studies program at the regional and national level, and makes the graduates more competitive in an increasingly tough job market.

The Department of Politics and Government initiated the approval process in August of 2008. Department Chair Ali Riaz called the approval a "milestone"

in the history of the department and the program. The approval enhances the profile of the University's Legal Studies Program at the regional and national level, and makes the graduates more competitive in an increasingly tough job market.

The Legal Studies Program began in 1975 and is currently offered as a minor, a certificate with a bachelor's degree, a certificate without a bachelor's degree, and an interdisciplinary studies major. About 50 students participate in the program annually.

Art professor works as repeat Fulbright

Distinguished Professor of Art Emerita Frances Anderson is working as a Fulbright Senior Specialist in Pakistan. She is using her expertise in art therapy to help young children who have been dis-

Mail

To the Editor,

Just a short note to let you know how much I enjoy getting my Illinois State alumni magazine when it comes. Being approximately 1,700 miles away from Normal, this helps me feel connected though I have been gone for almost 18 years. It is good to see the campus flourishing and thriving, and continuing to make a positive impact on so many people.

Rob Festenstein '92

To the Editor,

I am a retired English professor who unfortunately failed to keep his class rosters after retirement and relies on memory to identify former students—a risky matter in an old man. Risk aside, though, I believe Kate Norcross was a student in one of my dozens of lecture sections of British Literature and Its Contexts. I recall especially her initiative, diligence, and enthusiasm. I commend Neil and Joan Styczynski for their generosity (Foundation Annual Report, November 2010).

Russell Rutter

“What a great story!”

 **Facebook comment**

(Shurr Legacy Family, November 2010)

James Huddleston '60, M.S. '67

“ISU open house was amazing. It definitely helped me in deciding I want to go there. Redbirds class of 2015, here I come!”

 **Facebook comment**

Brittany Paduch

placed and traumatized by the massive flooding in that country.

Anderson is presenting art therapy workshops in Islamabad, Pakistan, for U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) workers and other non-governmental organization staff who have been overwhelmed by the huge number of flood victims. Local volunteers and university graduate psychology students are also attending the workshops.

This is an unprecedented fifth Fulbright for Anderson, who is the former director of the University's graduate art therapy program and a founding member of the American Art Therapy Association.

She was the first art therapist in the U.S. to receive a Fulbright Scholar Award, and spent months teaching art therapy in Argentina, Taiwan, and Thailand.

Campus Habitat for Humanity chapter ranks as best across the nation

The ISU-IWU Habitat for Humanity chapter was chosen as the 2010 Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter of the Year from among more than 500 campus chapters in the country.

The Illinois State University and Illinois Wesleyan University chapter formed in 1994. In partnership with Habitat for Humanity of McLean County, the chapter has built at least one home every year since 1995.

Students are completing their 17th house. They are involved with every aspect of the building project except tasks that require skilled labor, such as the electrical and plumbing systems.

Gary Klass, associate professor of Politics and Government and project director for the chapter, hopes students can begin to build two houses annually. The key to that is fundraising. The collegiate chapter raises money in the Bloomington-Normal community to pay for construction, which averages \$60,000 to \$70,000 per home.

More information about the ISU-IWU Habitat for Humanity chapter is online at <http://lilt.ilstu.edu/habitat>. Donations to support the chapter's work can be made online at www.Advancement.ilstu.edu/support.

Graduate continues global actuarial award tradition

Emily Byrnes '10 received a 2010 John Culver Woody Scholarship from the Actuarial Foundation last fall during her



Emily Byrnes '10

final semester at Illinois State. The scholarships are awarded to only a handful of graduating actuarial students around the globe.

“It's such an honor to receive this prestigious scholarship. I wouldn't have received it were it not for the actuarial program here at ISU,” Byrnes said.

Byrnes is the fifth ISU student in the past six years to receive the award. That's a record that has only been matched by one other university in the world. Past ISU students to earn the award were Carol Sorenson '05, T.J. Turner '06, David Prevo '08, and Thomas Lauren '09. Each has moved on to a successful career at agencies across the state.

A graduate of the Katie School Leadership Program, Byrnes completed an internship at State Farm Insurance Companies and is continuing her career there as an actuarial analyst trainee.

Redbird Athletics



Join fans and Spread the Red

Basketball teams headed to MVC tournaments

For the first two weekends of March, Missouri Valley Conference fans will invade St. Louis with the hope of watching their team punch the ticket to “The Big Dance.”

Join fellow Illinois State alumni and fans in cheering on the Redbirds for each of the State Farm Missouri Valley Conference tournaments. The men’s competition is March 3-6 at the Scottrade Center. Head coach Tim Jankovich and the men’s basketball team will attempt to play in their third Valley Tournament championship game in four seasons.

The Redbirds will stay at the Millennium Hotel in downtown St. Louis. To reserve a room at the team hotel, call (800) 325-7353 and reference the Illinois State Fan Block for the MVC men’s tournament. Make reservations online at www.millenniumhotels.com/millenniumstlouis and use the promo code 1103MVC-FAN. Tournament information is available at www.archmadness.com.

March 10-13 first-year head coach Stephanie Glance will have the women’s basketball team ready for the women’s edition of Arch Madness at Family Arena in St. Charles, Missouri.

The Redbirds will stay at the Sheraton Lakeside Chalet in Westport, Missouri. Make your reservation by calling (888) 627-7066 and reference the Illinois State Fan Block for the MVC Women’s Tournament. To make reservations online, visit www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/illinoisstatefan. Go to www.mvcst-charles.com for more information.

Tickets for either tournament are available online at GoRedbirds.com, or by calling the Illinois State Athletics Ticket Office at (309) 438-8000.

MVC tournament pregame events planned

Illinois State Athletics and Alumni Relations will host a pair of send-off parties for both the Redbird men's and women's basketball teams prior to their first games in the 2011 State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Tournament.

The men's event will be held in the lobby at the Millennium Hotel in St. Louis prior to the Redbirds' first tournament game. The pregame send-off is free to the public and includes complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

A similar event will be hosted at the Sheraton Lakeside Chalet in Westport, Missouri, prior to the women's tourna-

ment. This event will also be free to the public with hors d'oeuvres provided, along with a cash bar.

Alumni Relations and the Athletics Department will also host "welcome-backs" and "send-offs" for each subsequent game the Redbirds participate in at both tournaments. These additional events will include the availability of a cash bar.

For more information about these events, go online to GoRedbirds.com or contact the Redbird Development Office at (309) 438-3803.

Athletics Internet site redesign complete

Four months of planning, design, and implementation culminated with the relaunch of the Internet site GoRedbirds.com during the fall of 2010. The site is the No. 1 source for all things regarding Illinois State Athletics, and now boasts a sleeker, more compact look. Fans will find expanded offerings in video streaming and audio podcasts. The site still offers the typical almanac-type information, such as rosters, schedules, and player bios.

Illinois State Athletics also launched RedbirdExperience.com to assist the coaches in their recruiting efforts. The "Redbird Experience" offers a chance to experience what Illinois State Athletics is all about. If you haven't already, make a point to visit GoRedbirds.com and RedbirdExperience.com.



Redbird baseball team receives championship rings

After claiming its first regular-season Missouri Valley Conference championship and its first Missouri Valley Conference tournament title since 1994, head coach Mark Kingston presented the Illinois State baseball team and support staff with championship rings to remember the historic run.

The Redbirds earned the automatic bid to the 2010 NCAA Tournament and were selected as the No. 3 seed at the Louisville Regional. With ISU's 8-3 win over Saint Louis on day two of the regional, the Redbirds earned their first NCAA Tournament victory since 1976.

The rings were designed and produced by Josten's.



Great gifts for Redbird fans

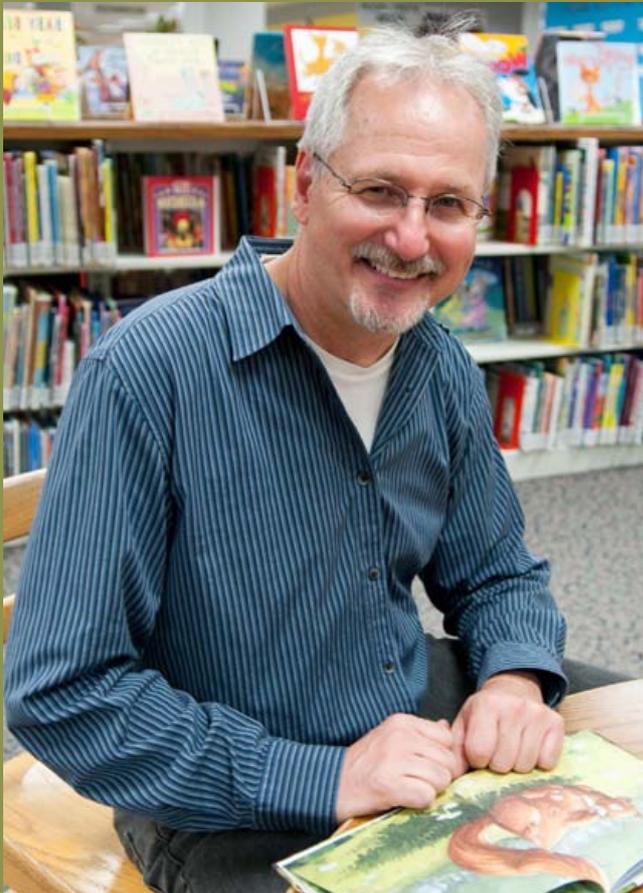
Show your Redbird pride with framed prints from Illinois State Athletics. Visit the Photo Store at GoRedbirds.com and order yours today.

Picture Perfect



Blend of story and art makes alum powerful voice in children's literature

by Joanna Stephens Mink



In elementary school Eric Rohmann '80, M.S. '85, drew dinosaurs, monsters, and knights, as well as fanciful machines. His imagination was influenced by authors he read as a boy: Wanda Gag, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Maurice Sendak, and J. R. R. Tolkien.

Now youngsters are reading Rohmann's books, finding inspiration in the stories and illustrations that have placed him among the elite of children's literature authors.

One of his books, *My Friend Rabbit*, received the prestigious Caldecott Medal in 2003. The honor recognizes the most distinguished children's picture book published in the U.S. in a given year. His first book, *Time Flies*, was rejected 15 times before being published by Roaring Brook Press. It subsequently was named a Caldecott Honor book.

"It proved I could make a book that kids would want to read," Rohmann said of the wordless picture book that tells the tale of a bird trapped in a dinosaur exhibit at a natural history museum. The bird enters a dinosaur's



Above, illustration by Eric Rohmann for his 2002 book *My Friend Rabbit*

mouth and eventually escapes as the story unfolds through images so stellar that *Time Flies* became a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year and was named Best Children's Book by *The New York Times Book Review*.

His success came as no surprise to faculty at Illinois State's School of Art, where Rohmann enrolled as an undergraduate in the late 1970s. The skills he developed while growing up in the Chicago suburb of Downers Grove impressed Professor of Art Emeritus Harold Boyd, who became Rohmann's mentor.

Boyd recalls meeting Rohmann during his junior year in a printmaking class. Rohmann's talent and creativity were apparent immediately, as well as his "root in the traditional skills." Rohmann's interest in writing and illustrating intersected with Boyd's, and their connection as teacher/student continued as Rohmann completed a master's degree in studio art.

Rohmann made wonderful paintings, said Boyd, who taught studio art for about 35 years. A few years ago they collaborated in a mentor/student exhibition at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. Boyd exhibited as Rohmann's mentor, and Rohmann exhibited with a student he himself had mentored.

Other faculty also inspired Rohmann, including Professor of Biology Emerita Lauren Brown; Professor of Art James Butler; Professor of Art Emeritus Louis Steinburg; and Col-

lege of Fine Arts Professor Ray George, who is now deceased.

Richard Finch, another of Rohmann's ISU art professors, recalled that "Eric was an excellent student and I enjoyed having him in my classes. He's kind, intelligent, talented, generous with his time, and he always makes me laugh."

Rohmann especially remembers his printmaking class, which got him interested

"I make books for kids because they are the best audience: children are curious, enthusiastic, impulsive, generous and pleased by simple joys. They laugh easily at the ridiculous and are willing to believe the absurd."

in lithography and bookmaking. He went on to complete a second master's in printmaking/fine bookmaking at Arizona State University. Steinburg's painting class engendered his love for making paintings. But Boyd was most influential, encouraging Rohmann's interest in telling stories with pictures.

"Pictures are a language in themselves," said Rohmann, who was attracted to illus-





Illustration from Rohmann's 1994 book *Time Flies*

trating books for young children because “things can happen in picture books you don’t expect.”

Stories and pictures have to communicate. Rohmann has mastered the craft in his books that target youngsters age 8 and younger. He wrote and illustrated *The Cinder-Eyed Cats*, *Pumpkinhead*, *Clara and Asha*, and *A Kitten Tale*. He writes and draws the pictures as the storyline develops. The narrative comes to life with the addition of universal cues in his illustrations, such as frowning eyebrows.

The results are enthralling. One critic describes *The Cinder-Eyed Cats* as “a sumptuous feast for the eye and a virtuoso feat of picture storytelling.” *Clara and Asha*, which has been translated as *Clara y Asha*, is heralded as “a captivating book about the special world of a child’s imagination—where a giant fish might come to visit, and the things you do and the things you feel with an imaginary friend are intensely real.”

Rohmann also illustrates texts written by others, including *King Crow* and *The Prairie Train*. In his most recent book, *Last Song*, Rohmann’s watercolor paintings enrich an old Scottish poem. His work is in the permanent collections of several institutions across the U.S. and in Europe. But it’s the world of children’s literature that remains his passion.

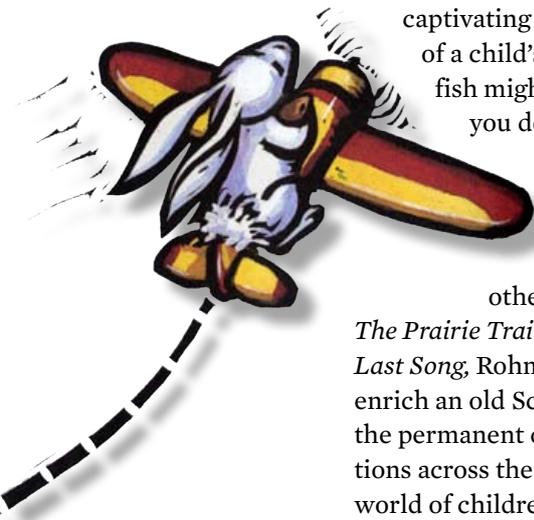
“The art faculty and students formed a community. We may have disagreed on a lot, but in the end we supported one another with our enthusiasm for the work being made by all of us.”

“I make books for kids because they are the best audience: children are curious, enthusiastic, impulsive, generous and pleased by simple joys. They laugh easily at the ridiculous and are willing to believe the absurd,” Rohmann said. “Children are not ironic, disillusioned or indifferent, but hopeful, open-minded and openhearted, with a voracious hunger for pictures.”

He still makes fanciful drawings—perhaps successors of the dinosaurs and monsters he himself drew as a child—in workshops and presentations he enjoys bringing to elementary schools. With a quickly added line or circle of a felt-tip marker, the white board teems with sharks, pigs, and other fanciful animals, enthralling children and entertaining adults.

Rohmann has always loved to draw. He was a huge fan of Universal monster movies and comic books as a youth. By the time he was in high school, his drawings were of complex space battles and animals.

He began to recreate what he observed as a high school volunteer in the Brookfield Zoo’s children’s section. Cleaning enclosures and feeding the animals inspired remarkably





accomplished drawings.

These early works reveal the genesis of Rohmann's fascination with animals. He originally minored in biology and anthropology at Illinois State, studies that reinforced his perception of the connection between science and art.

"The reason I draw is because I want to know what's going on in the world," he said, explaining that a picture is like a still from a movie. It's part of a narrative structure, and he views each picture similar to a film director considering a scene.

Perhaps that explains why the print rooms in the Center for Visual Arts became one of Rohmann's favorite places as a student on campus. "I spent a huge amount of my life in them," he recalled.

"The art faculty and students formed a community. We may have disagreed on a lot, but in the end we supported one another with our enthusiasm for the work being made by all of us," Rohmann said. "The core group of people I went to grad school with are still somehow involved in the arts."

The 2004 recipient of Illinois State's Alumni Association Achievement Award, Rohmann's ties to Illinois State remain strong. "Life is like a circle, I keep finding my way back here," he said of his frequent visits to campus to share his work experiences with students.

Rohmann has fond memories of his days in Walker Hall. He proudly proclaims that not only did his floor—2 North—win the flag football and softball championships, but they also had the highest GPA. He enjoyed working as a receptionist in Dunn-Barton.

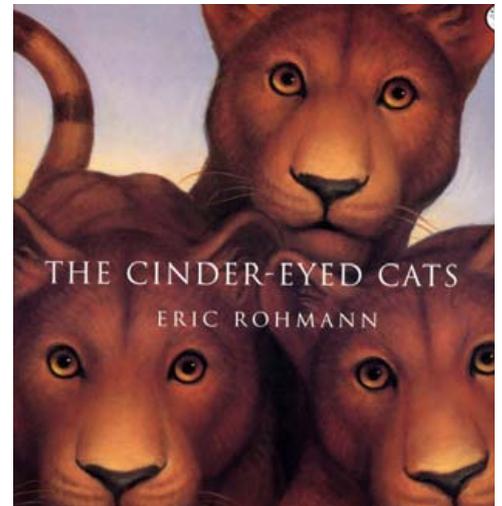
His role as graduate advisor for New Friends of Old Time Music and the Entertainment Committee is another fond memory because he interacted with all kinds of performers, such as Steve Goodman and Phil Collins. "MTV was just kicking in, and we got bands you wouldn't normally have seen here," Rohmann recollected.

The years since those collegiate days have proven to Rohmann that you can make a living pursuing your passion. Now living in Oak Park with children's author Candace Fleming, Rohmann enjoys traveling. He has been on the faculty of schools in Massachusetts and Minnesota, and taught with Fleming in Korea and Singapore. He's often outdoors with binoculars, observing and being inspired by the world around him.

And he always makes his way back to his artist's studio, which he acknowledges is his sanctuary and playground. "I like what I do even if it's not easy and even when I fail," Rohmann said. "I am serious about my work, but I never let that seriousness interfere with creativity and the joy of making art."



Rohmann's Illinois State ties remain strong. He connected with his former art professor, Richard Finch, above, after speaking at an event at Normal Public Library in the fall. His illustrations give animals personality, as seen in the cover of his 1997 book *The Cinder-Eyed Cats*, below.



POWER PLAY

BY MICHAEL BOYD

ALUMNUS HAD KEY ROLE IN BLACKHAWKS' TURNAROUND

To a sports fan, Illinois State alumnus Jay Blunk '86 had it all. For more than 22 years he promoted the Chicago Cubs as the team's vice president of marketing and broadcasting. He and former Cubs' president John McDonough helped skyrocket the Cubs' brand to a nearly international level.

And then McDonough announced he was switching teams. Blunk was not far behind, making the leap in 2008 from Wrigley Field to the United Center. Blunk joined the Blackhawks as senior vice president of business operations, seizing the opportunity to bring bold new marketing strategies to a team that Chicagoans had nearly forgotten.

Blunk helped the Blackhawks achieve what forbes.com called "arguably the most remarkable turnaround in the history of sports in the United States." The success was apparent throughout the 2009-2010 campaign. Fans once again cheered as the Blackhawks captured the Central Division title for the first time since 1993. The team reached the Stanley Cup finals for the first time since 1992, and brought the coveted Stanley Cup back to Chicago after a 49-year drought.

Reaching that unforgettable moment required effort that went far beyond players working on the ice. "We had to restaff and retool the entire organization. We had to change the culture of the organization, and we had to re-establish the Blackhawks as a mainstream entity in Chicago," Blunk said.

"The Blackhawks had become completely irrelevant in regard to advertisers, season ticket holders, and the professional sports landscape. We missed a couple generations of kids and the Blackhawks brand was really unknown."

The decline occurred during the 41-year tenure of former chairman Bill Wirtz. Upon his passing in 2007, his son Rockwell "Rocky" Wirtz took control and began a new era of Blackhawks hockey.



Blunk played an integral role in the team's rebirth. Drawing from his mass communication education at Illinois State and his near quarter century with the Cubs, Blunk had an expertise in sports advertising that the Blackhawks needed. He brought myriad ideas with him to the Madhouse on Madison—as the United Center is known to Chicago hockey fans.

One of the most important strategies involved listening to fans, who asked for all games to be televised. The Blackhawks organization delivered that and more, working out a contract with Comcast SportsNet, WGN-TV and Chicago's WGN Radio 720 to broadcast all games on television and radio.

Fans also asked for more on-ice talent on the roster. That became a reality as the team acquired some of the youngest and brightest stars in the league, such as center Jonathan Toews, right winger Patrick Kane, and defenseman Duncan Keith. They also brought in veteran free agents, including right winger Marian Hossa and defenseman Brian Campbell.

“When you see what we did to lock up our core group of young guys, that was in response to what our fans wanted. We went out and got the top-notch free agents, the finest players in the world to show we are committed to winning a championship,” said Blunk, who got busy implementing innovative promotions never before seen in an NHL franchise.

Blunk marketed the players' personalities through the use of the Blackhawks Heritage Series, Blackhawks TV, and the “One Goal” campaign. Fans were able to personally connect with players and the team.

“We knew we were going to have to try some things that had never been done before in professional



sports. The players buy into that,” Blunk said. “I give them so much credit. We ask them to do a lot of things in the community—endorsements, signings, appearances, commercials—and these are all things they enjoy doing.”

One idea in particular that Blunk helped bring from the Cubs was a team convention at the end of each season, an idea originally hatched by team president McDonough from their days together at the Cubs. The event unites fans for games and activities that include meeting the players and talking with the coaches. Blunk also introduced cross-promotional partnerships with the Cubs and the White Sox to tap into millions of potential fans already cheering for a Chicago team.

“We needed a way to still connect with the fans during the offseason. We didn't just want to go away for six months,” Blunk said. “When you're at a Cubs or Sox game, we have advertisements on the message boards. We have guys do the seventh-inning stretch or throw out the first pitch. There are more than six million baseball fans in this town alone, so you are going right to the



Chicagoans took to the street to welcome home the Blackhawks, inset above, after they captured the Stanley Cup at the end of the 2010 season. Jay Blunk '86 shared the victory with the campus in a Homecoming visit to ISU, at which time he presented President Al Bowman with a team jersey, above. The players, right, had plenty to celebrate, as the Blackhawks had not captured the cup for 49 years.

heart of sports fans in advertising your product.”

It took some big events to gain momentum as well. A turning point occurred when Blunk and McDonough, along with the National Hockey League, brought the 2009 Winter Classic to Wrigley Field. On New Year's Day, Blunk and McDonough sat in the skybox with Mayor Richard Daley and watched as a capacity crowd attended a Chicago first.

“We wanted something that would draw mainstream sports fans and mainstream Chicagoans into the Blackhawks tent,” Blunk said. “The Cubs were terrific in the planning of it and were very cooperative in our quest to get this game there because Wrigley Field is a very special place.



It's a Norman Rockwell painting in the winter or summer."

Although the 'Hawks fell to the Detroit Red Wings 6-4, Blunk believes the game was monumental in the Blackhawks' surge to stardom. It put the team in front of millions of people who might have never seen a Blackhawks game before.

With mounting fan support, the team's success grew. In the 2008-2009 season, the Blackhawks clinched fourth place in the Western Conference and made it to the conference finals for the first time since 1995. Although they lost to the Red Wings, the hype carried over to last year's stellar season, which ended with a Stanley Cup championship over the Philadelphia Flyers.

"The intensity built little by little with each game as we went through the playoffs. By the end it was almost unbearable," Blunk recalled.

On the road in game six he watched from his skybox as the Flyers tied the game with only four minutes remaining in regulation and sent it to overtime. Game seven seemed imminent until Kane slipped a wrist shot past Philadelphia goaltender

Michael Leighton and dashed across the ice, throwing his stick and gloves in the air as mass confusion swept through the Wachovia Center.

"I turned to John and said, 'I think it's in.' But we weren't sure because the goal light never came on and the referee never signaled. NBC had a replay so we turned around in our box and when we saw the replay it was clear it went in. That's when we all jumped up and down like little school kids. It is something I will never forget," Blunk said.

Celebrating the Blackhawks' first Stanley Cup championship since 1961 was no easy task. The Blackhawks organization privately planned the victory parade with Mayor Daley's staff. More than two million fans lined Chicago streets to get a live look at professional sport's most recognizable trophy.

"It was one of the great days in the history of Chicago sports. I don't think I'll ever see something that remarkable in the city of Chicago for the rest of my life," Blunk said.

"People were hanging from bridges and light poles. It was absolutely stunning and almost indescribable to hear the cheers and the roar from the crowd. It was dream-like, nothing short of incredible."

Soon after Blunk was promoted to executive vice president. He credits his success in large part to Illinois State and his longtime association with McDonough. An internship arranged through the University with the Cubs in 1986 got him started on his career path, as the Cubs offered him a marketing position immediately after graduating. Today Blunk maintains strong ties to campus. He not only serves as an advisory board member for the School of Communication, but welcomes ISU interns and enjoys working with fellow alums on his staff.

"I'm very impressed with the communication department. It's very progressive. They are connecting students with people in real-life situations, not only for networking purposes but also for advice. I'm so fortunate because I'm a great example of someone who got help and advice from a lot of people. So I feel an obligation to return that."

He brought the cup back to his alma mater as part of the University's Homecoming celebration in October. Blunk welcomed the opportunity to talk to alums who are also Blackhawks fans. He assured them that although the organization's "One Goal" has been accomplished, the journey is far from over.

"We still feel like we have a long way to go and we need to sustain this momentum," Blunk said.

It's a task he is ready and eager to tackle.



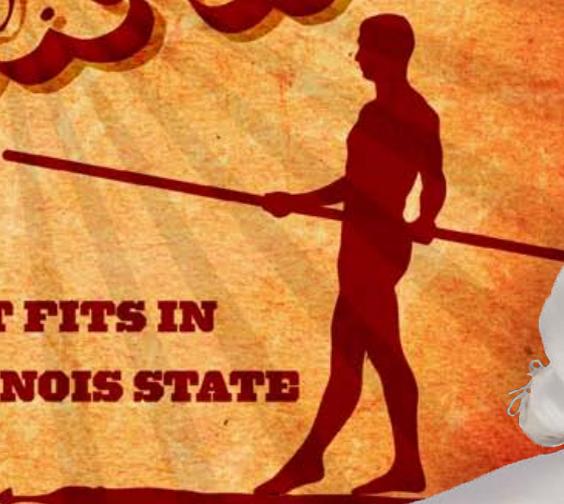
Jay and the Blackhawks

Visit IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine/JayBlunk for a special video featuring Jay Blunk and the Blackhawks.



WANNERS & FEATS

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FITS IN
AS HE STANDS OUT AT ILLINOIS STATE**



BY **CASSIE MONROE**



Whether balancing his role as a star performer in the Gamma Phi circus with school-work or his Chihuahua on his back during a show, Christian Stoinev manages to shine.

A sophomore broadcast journalism major, Stoinev did not have the typical upbringing of most college students. He is a fifth-generation circus performer on his mother's side. His family's 122-year-old circus legacy continues with his grandfather and two uncles running the biggest show in Mexico. Stoinev began performing when he was 5. Now he has a star role in Illinois State's circus.

Prior to joining Gamma Phi, Stoinev travelled the world competing in festivals. He appeared in television commercials, on America's Got Talent, and opened for Britney Spears on her "Circus" tour. His story has been chronicled in the PBS documentary *Circus*, which aired last fall.

And yet his most memorable performance took place as a freshman at Illinois State University during Gamma Phi's April Home Show.

"The feeling when I performed at ISU was a big deal. It was my first full standing ovation,

and it was in Redbird Arena, which is pretty big with 12,000 people. It was huge and it wasn't about a competition. I was working with my peers. I wasn't worrying about how I was going to rank up against the others. This was just about having a good time, and living it up," Stoinev said. "That performance on Saturday night, it was

amazing. It was just the best feeling ever."

One of Stoinev's most popular tricks is his ability to balance his whole body on one finger placed in a wine bottle. After discovering Stoinev's unusual balancing talent through international competitions and festivals, Stoinev's parents moved the family when he was 7. His father began performing with the Big Apple Circus, and four years later Stoinev joined him in the show.

He attended grade school and high school in the trailer of a semi truck with about 10 other performers. Stoinev's college search began during the twelfth grade. The Big Apple Circus' teacher gave him an interesting assignment. Since he intended to major in broadcast journalism, he was to write an article to *White Tops Magazine*, a popular circus publication.

Stoinev wrote about pursuing a circus career in college. When the editor of *White Tops* saw it, he told

Stoinev about Illinois State's Gamma Phi Circus. "Going into college I didn't really expect that there would be a circus program, neither was I counting on it. My main goal was to get a broadcast journalism degree. After writing the article is when I found out that ISU had Gamma Phi," Stoinev said.

The editor of *White Tops* knew Al Light, who at that time was Gamma Phi's director, and helped Stoinev get in touch with him. "And now I am here," Stoinev said gesturing around the Quad. "That is how my journey began."

For those familiar with the circus business, Stoinev is very well known for his amazing feats as a hand balancer and for performing with his dog Scooby, who came into Stoinev's life when he was 10 years old. Like most kids that age, he really wanted a pet. His father sug-





gested maybe the pet could be used in his act. Stoinev agreed, instantly seeing his opportunity slipping away if he did not.

Stoinev did not initially try to teach Scooby any tricks, but the dog knew what it meant to be in a circus family. While Stoinev was lying on the floor playing with Scooby, Stoinev rolled over and Scooby crawled across his chest, similar to a lumberjack running on a log in water.

From there Stoinev and Scooby began training together and learning more tricks. Now Scooby is part of the balancing act as well, perched on Stoinev's back or feet in several acts.

"I get more nervous when I'm with the dog because it's not just me. If I fall by myself, only I fall. But with Scooby, it's somebody else's life. He's

"THE FEELING WHEN I PERFORMED AT ISU WAS A BIG DEAL. IT WAS MY FIRST FULL STANDING OVATION."

like my family member," Stoinev said.

Despite his established act and acclaim, Stoinev looks up to his fellow performers in Gamma Phi, which is the oldest collegiate circus in the United States. It began in 1926 when Clifford "Pop" Horton, a gymnastics instructor for the University, gathered a group of men to perform during basketball and football games. In 1929 Gamma Phi was founded as a fraternity, not a circus. The first Home Show took place in 1931, and the tradition has continued since then with generations of talented students.

"Anybody who is involved in circus who didn't start off in a circus family, which includes

Christian Stoinev mesmerized the audience during his first Gamma Phi Home Show appearance at Redbird Arena in April of 2010. He performed with Scooby, *left and center*, and did his signature move of balancing on a wine bottle with one finger, *right*.

most of my peers here, I respect a lot just because I know sometimes circus has an image of being like a carnival or something like that, and it's not like that. It's really not. It's family you know," Stoinev said.

Family is what Stoinev misses most about home in Kissimmee, Florida. His mother, father, and brother Christopher, now 11, moved there after Stoinev stopped performing with the Big Apple Circus and was headed to college.

There are only two colleges in the nation with circus programs: Gamma Phi and The Flying High Circus at Florida State University. Accepted at both universities, Florida State seemed like the obvious choice since it

is closer to his family—until Stoinev visited Illinois State's campus.

He came to ISU for the two days of Preview and met Light. While showing Stoinev around the campus, Light took him out for ice cream with some students in Gamma Phi's summer camp.

"It was two hours of bonding," Stoinev said. "Everyone knew my name and who I was, and was very open to meet me, which was not what I expected. I was recruited here."

One of Stoinev's biggest fears about going away to college was not fitting in, since he has a unique upbringing and international background. He didn't want people to assume he was arrogant because he is a well-known performer. Those worries subsided as he settled into Colby Hall's third floor.

"C-three, as we call it," Stoinev said. C-three also happens to be the title of a Lil'

Wayne CD that he and his friend Cornell Freenev enjoy. A sophomore elementary education major, Freenev does the German Wheel in Gamma Phi and endures intense workouts with Stoinev. The entire circus practices three nights a week from 7-9:30 p.m. Every session begins with group conditioning, and once a week the whole circus has a meeting.

In order to maintain his hand balancing ability, Stoinev makes that his focus for 60 to 90 minutes at every practice. When he isn't training with Gamma Phi, he works out at the Recreation Center or the Atkin-Colby gym with Freenev.

Although Stoinev is an amazing hand balancer he also trains for different acts, which he doesn't always master on the first try. Last year he started on the Russian Swing—an act that has the performer catapult off the swing, do a flip, and land on his feet. A spotter stood close by to catch him.

On his first try Stoinev flew off the swing into the flip and smacked his head into the spotter's chin. It hurt and he was nervous, but Stoinev wasted no time heading back to the swing. The second time he flew into a flip and smacked the same part of his head on his spotter's chin for a second time.

"I think I blacked out a little bit that time," Stoinev said. Eventually he got it right through effort that shows Stoinev's dedication to what he does. "At this point it's not like I'm doing this, performing, for someone else. I do this because I love to," he said.

As for Stoinev's plans after graduating, his dream is to perform for a whole season in his family's circus in Mexico, with his college degree as a backup, "so I don't have to be 55 with a sore body and still trying to do a handstand," he said.

While at ISU, school work and getting good grades is his main objective. "We all know what our priorities are here, and that's school," he said. "We all know that if we're not going to be in school, we're not going to be in circus."



See the show!

Stoinev and Scooby will be part of the annual Gamma Phi show at Redbird Arena April 15-16, with special seating reserved for circus alumni. Go online to GammaPhiCircus.IllinoisState.edu for more information. A video of Stoinev's act is online at IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine.



CIRCUS ALUMNUS HAS DREAM JOB AS GAMMA PHI DIRECTOR

"Most people never thought I could make a career out of circus performing, and it's just amazing that I get paid to do this. It's phenomenal," Director of Gamma Phi Circus Marcus Alouan said.

Although this is Alouan's first year as director, he is no stranger to Illinois State or its on-campus circus. He performed while an undergraduate prior to receiving his bachelor's degree in middle-level math education in 2001.

"I came in to Gamma Phi with no experience. I was a soccer player, but it was a natural fit for me," he said.

After training Alouan began performing on the tight wire, which has always been his favorite but not his only act. He discovered something he loved even more than balancing on a thin wire several feet above the ground.

"I started to get out in front and work off the crowd, and that just became the thing I loved the most about the circus—to see the awe in the audience's faces," Alouan said of his experience as emcee.

During his time at Gamma Phi Alouan also learned juggling, unicycling, the German Wheel, acrosport, adagio, flying trapeze, fire breathing, and fire eating. He mastered the flying trapeze at a circus camp. Once Gamma Phi obtained flying trapeze equipment, Alouan was able to help teach others how to perform on it.

"I knew I wanted to coach, and I wanted to stay involved in circus," he said.

After graduating Alouan travelled to the University of Colorado and the University of Nebraska to pursue his other passion—volunteering for campus ministries. After two years he came back to Illinois to teach in the Peoria Public School District.

Alouan had already decided to return to Illinois State to begin working on his master's degree when the founder and director of the Junior Gamma Phi Circus, Tom Romance, retired. The new director did not have circus experience, so Alouan became the Junior Gamma Phi assistant director in 2007. Shortly after Al Light, former director of Gamma Phi, departed and recommended Alouan take the job.

Alouan has many goals for Gamma Phi. One is for it to become such a well-known campus entity that the University uses the program to recruit potential students, which worked in Christian Stoinev's case. Other priorities include involving alumni.

"One of my goals as an alumnus of circus is to really reach out to our circus alumni. There has kind of been a period of time where we have lost contact, or people have pulled themselves out of the loop for a while," Alouan said. "I'm really hoping to bridge some gaps, get our alumni back involved, and let them know that they are a very important part of our family."

Gamma Phi is working on developing an alumni section of their website so that former circus members can reconnect and see what their friends have been doing since their crowd pleasing days. Gifts of support can be made at IllinoisState.edu/giving.

"We're really hoping to reach out to our alumni as much as possible," Alouan said. "They have been so important."



DINING By Kate Arthur HAUL

**Innovative campus
cuisine experience
enriches student life**



Maybe they've never tasted quinoa or lifted a forkful of salad nicoise with freshly grilled tuna. Maybe they prefer squirting ketchup over a burger to squeezing lemon over salmon on spring greens.

But at least Illinois State students now have a choice, one nonexistent years ago when campus dining meant steam tables and sneeze guards protecting stiff mashed potatoes scraped from metal pans.

You could only eat breakfast at breakfast. If you had a class over the

lunch hour, you could pick up a sack lunch, but only if you called a day ahead and showed your class schedule. By the late 1980s and early 1990s salad bars arrived, along with taco bars, chicken nuggets, and soft serve ice cream.

But those weren't the good ole days—these are. Days when students settle near a stone fireplace with a cup of coffee while slicing into warm Belgian waffles or waiting for their custom-made Panini chosen from a menu that rarely repeats in 28 days. There are hundreds of choices that range from wood-fired pizza to prime rib and lobster bisque. With anytime dining now the norm, students easily fit meals around their schedule and can eat those Belgian

waffles for dinner if they want to.

Junior Meg Murphy lives off campus, which usually means macaroni and cheese for dinner. But at the Marketplace at Linkins Center, she recently filled her plate with rosemary roast beef, a potato medley, and fresh berries with whipped cream, describing it as “better than mom’s.”

Bringing better cooking to campus, along with restaurant-like settings that encourage students to socialize, is all part of today’s dining experience, said Arlene Hosea ’82, M.S. ’84. As assistant to the vice president for Student Affairs and director of Campus Dining Services, Hosea knows students expect a variety of cuisine at college. That’s

why when choosing a school, food ranks third behind academics and location.

“They grew up eating out and ordering what they wanted,” she said. “They are savvy consumers.”

That puts the pressure on Executive Chef Tim Gump, who refers to ISU’s 7,600 meal plan holders as “guests.” He believes in scratch cooking, which means chicken nuggets are rolled in batter after they arrive.

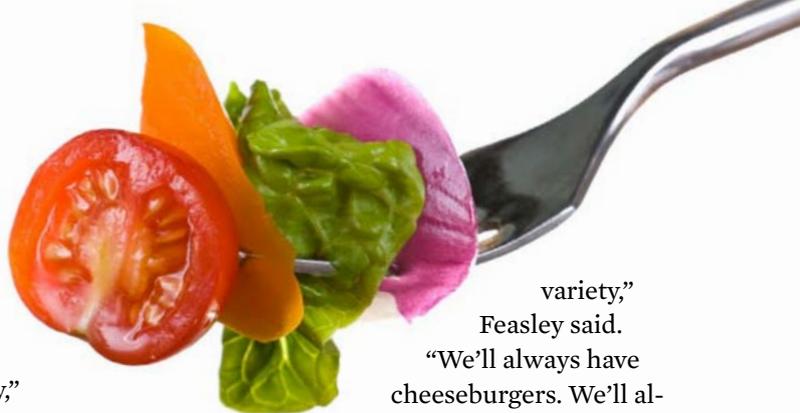
Presentation is important to Gump. Chicken breasts and tuna steaks are grilled because he wants to see grill marks. There’s a standard for stacking deli tomato slices. Muffins must have a rolling crown, not a peak. The 7,200 pounds of bananas used monthly should be light green,

with just a tinge of yellow.

“That’s how meticulous you have to be when you’re serving 14,000 meals a day,” Gump explained. “We want to achieve the finest dining service on a college campus in the industry, and we’re on our way.”

Working alongside him is Registered Dietitian Dianne Feasley, who helps create recipes, calculates nutritional information, and works with students who have special dietary needs. If a student wants a computerized diet analysis, she provides that too.

“Campus dining always has been and always will be about



variety,”

Feasley said.

“We’ll always have cheeseburgers. We’ll always have pizza and we’ll always have fried chicken strips, but we don’t want students to feel like that’s all they have to choose from.”

Comfort foods haven’t changed much over the years. Macaroni and cheese is so popular it appears on the menu twice each month. There are 10,000 pizzas and 31,000 chocolate chip cookies devoured in a month. But staff also encourage students to sample black bean quesadillas, tortilla crusted tilapia, and Key West vegetables.

“We want to achieve the finest dining service on a college campus in the industry, and we’re on our way.”





From flat screen TVs to a stone fireplace, students appreciate the ambiance created as a result of a \$10 million renovation in Watterson Towers.

Teaching students how to cook sometimes becomes part of the job as well. Fire trucks have rolled more than once when a smoking Panini press triggered an alarm. One student quickly discovered you shouldn't use the press to warm a chocolate chip cookie.

Recipes are taste-tested by

students and tweaked. Once on the menu, they're followed exactly "so we have quality and consistency throughout campus, and can assure students that the nutritional information is consistent," Gump said. "The culinary staff really does a phenomenal job."

The busiest dining center, Watterson Dining Commons, recently underwent a \$10 million renovation. Students can click on a traffic cam to see how busy it is before they head

over. A greeter directs students to 10 dining venues, from a pantry with 16 cereals to the grill; pasta bar; deli; salad station; a display cooking area; and a growing favorite, Fresh Bites, which has healthy choices.

Students dine in several "neighborhoods," from the quiet area by the stone fireplace to in front of plasma TVs. There is also plenty of school spirit apparent, from waffle irons with Reggie Redbird imprints to photos of the Quad foliage.



Meet the man behind the menu

After overseeing the preparation of as many as 14,000 meals daily, you'd think the last thing ISU Executive Chef Tim Gump would want to tackle when he gets home is dinner. You'd be wrong.

"I do every bit of the cooking," he said of the meals he makes for his wife and 7-year-old daughter. His menu is likely to be what Gump calls "good simple food," from roasted chicken to a tender steak or plump burger. "My wife and daughter do the hard part, cleaning the kitchen." So does he ever do something really simple, like macaroni and cheese?

"Never," he said. "The only time my wife and daughter have macaroni and cheese is when I'm not home. There is something in this little brain of mine that just thinks macaroni and cheese is so, so wrong," he said, with a laugh.

Gump ended up at Illinois State because he left early from a cocktail party he was cohosting while at a Toronto national food conference.



Mixing in some TLC

The staff at Campus Dining have done more than focus on improving the traditional meal experience. Extra effort has been made to give students that home-away-from-home feeling by offering some special services, including the following.

Free meals for parents

Parents of meal plan holders can join their student for a free meal anytime they're on campus by making a reservation seven days in advance through the Parents RSVP program. Go to www.Dining.ilstu.edu for more information or to make a reservation.

Recovery Meal Kits for ill students

Students who aren't feeling well can have meals delivered to their residence hall room once a day for three days. Items available include water and juices, oatmeal, soup, crackers, pudding, fresh fruit, and sandwiches.

Sweet treats

Whether it's for a birthday, holiday, a lift during finals week, or a special event, loved ones can send their student a surprise treat. Cakes, cookies, brownies, Rice Krispie treats, and a fruit basket can be ordered for delivery to the residence hall, or for pick-up if the recipient lives in off-campus housing. Go to www.Dining.ilstu.edu/treats for more information.

More of the cooking is being done in front of the students. "All of us take such an interest in our guests, and we're very open to showing them exactly what they're getting," Gump said.

As the population of students with food allergies and dietary preferences grows, the menu adapts. There are gluten-free dishes, along with vegetarian and vegan choices. Senior Sarah Smetana was pouring soy milk over her Lucky Charms one morning.

"I'm lactose-intolerant," she explained.

Feasley used to buy individual cartons of soy milk at a local health food store, but now has 5-gallon bags for the milk dispensers because of the demand. Dispensers also offer rice and almond milk.

Campus Dining will become even healthier when the Culinary Innovation Center in the John Green Food Service facility is complete. Planning is underway for a full-service bakery and central production facility with a cook-chill system and research and development center that will produce foods with fewer additives and fresher ingredients. Items like homemade soups and sauces will be chilled and packaged, much like in a manufacturing plant.

"We want the highest quality product. When you make it from scratch you're able to take a look at the additives, the sodium, the fats," Gump said.

He shuttled back to the hotel and sat across from Susan Jones, senior associate director of Campus Dining Services. When she asked what he did, he told her he was the corporate chef for U.S. Foodservice. She told him the University was looking for an executive chef.

That was about four years ago. Now he works with Registered Dietitian Dianne Feasley to plan 28-day menus that'll please the sweet-loving palates of students—whether serving up tuna with Jamaican corn relish or a pan of Snickers brownies. His signature dish is chilled cavatappi marinara salad and roasted sausage with grilled red peppers and onions.

If his parents could have influenced his career, Gump wouldn't have stepped foot in a kitchen. His father hoped he'd be a doctor, lawyer, or engineer. But the boy who started sweeping restaurant parking lots in Ohio at age 5 couldn't stay away from stainless steel counters. At 13 he began an apprenticeship at a Marriott hotel in Cleveland, and eventually became the youngest certified chef in America. His food service career has included restaurants, hotels, and cruise lines.

Today Gump is dealing with a different guest, one that might want a spicier buffalo chicken, which is why it's not uncommon to find him taste-testing popcorn chicken at 8 a.m. It's the challenge of perfecting recipes guaranteed to please the palate that makes the job rewarding for Gump, who is "very proud to be a chef."



Campus Dining also wants to continue to be known for being “green.” The department has won awards for sustainability efforts, including a revised meal plan that encourages dining in, reducing the use of bottled beverages and takeout containers. The centers also went to trayless dining to save water and energy. Food waste heads to the University Farm for composting.

“We are very conscientious of the role we can play in being a green campus and are committed to sustainability,” Hosea said.

Doing fewer dishes doesn’t just save the University money but is attractive to students like Tony Peronti, a junior who still eats on campus after moving into an apartment.

“I got a meal plan because I like being able to eat something right away when I’m hungry,” he said. “I save money on groceries and I don’t have to do the dishes.”



Friends gathered for a good time over dinner at Linkins recently. Dining Services has restructured the entire residence hall meal experience to make it easier for students to eat across campus at times that fit their schedule.



There’s more to devour

Wondering how many ingredients Chef Tim Gump purchases in a month? A shopping list is online, as well as some of his favorite recipes. You’ll also learn how Dining Services is purposefully linked to the classroom. Check out additional photos too at IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine.



Alumni memories

Ron Weingartner ’60

“My food story is getting the dining hall ready for the sophomore girls when I worked at Fell Hall. I think I got \$1 and all the mashed potatoes I could eat.”

Susan Morrison ’69

“Warm glazed doughnuts is what I remember. I had early morning classes so I was up when the rest of the world was sleeping, and I was always delivering them to somebody else. You had to be dressed in dresses or skirts. The only time you could wear jeans was on Saturday and Sunday.”

Gary Tiffany ’74

“I remember the hamburgers, floaters we’d call them. We’d go down to the cafeteria in Watterson and they’d have these stainless steel pans with hamburger patties already cooked

and they’d be sitting in warm water. They’d pick them out and throw them on a bun and then pour a ladle of melted cheese over them. That was your cheeseburger.”

Janessa Williams ’89

“The food was scary. We never knew what it was so we called it mystery meat. We had a salad bar and that was often the safest bet. You could only go through the line one time. Once a semester we’d have a steak and shrimp night and you’d spend a lot of time trying to figure out how to get a second helping.”

Bradley Hofferkamp ’00

“I would wake up on Saturday and Sunday mornings and go down to the cafeteria to have my waffles. I gained a lot of weight because of those waffle irons, but life was good!”



A new beginning

There are approximately 180,000 alumni scattered across the country and around the world, which makes the goal of keeping graduates informed and involved with the University difficult. Illinois State meets the challenge in part by sending all alumni a quarterly publication at no charge.

For years graduates have appreciated receiving regular updates on the changing campus and collegiate experience, reading of stellar individuals and programs, learning of ways to reconnect with ISU friends and faculty, and realizing opportunities to actively participate in initiatives.

Over time the alumni publication changed from a bare-bones tabloid to a full-color magazine, which has engaged graduates for the past decade. This issue marks the start of yet another era for *Illinois State*, as the magazine has been revamped to showcase in a more vibrant way the pursuits and passions that define your alma mater.

Show your Redbird pride by sharing the publication, which is available online at IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine. Go there today to view additional content, as well as complete a readership survey. We value your feedback as we create a magazine that empowers you to remember and reconnect.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Illinois State University

Alumni Awards

The Illinois State University Alumni Association will honor five award recipients during Founders Day celebrations on the 17th of this month, as well as during a dinner program. For video of this year's awards program, visit www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/awards.

Distinguished Alumni Award

Laurie Metcalf '76

Actress, International Creative Management
Valley Village, California

Laurie Metcalf '76 grew up in Edwardsville. Her mother was a librarian and her father Southern Illinois University's comptroller. An ISU theatre major, she honed her talent on the University's stages before becoming recognized as one of Hollywood's most enduring actors.

At ISU Metcalf met fellow students John Malkovich '76, Jeff Perry '78, and Terry Kinney '76. Together with Gary Sinise they founded Steppenwolf Theater in 1976, initially staging productions in a Highland Park church basement. Today Steppenwolf is one of Chicago's most recognized theaters, consistently garnering national acclaim.

Metcalf has starred in more than 30 productions at Steppenwolf, including *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, *My Thing of Love*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Little Egypt*, and *Purple Heart*. Her role in *Balm in Gilead*—in which she delivered a 30-minute monologue—earned her the 1984 Obie award for best actress and the 1985 Theatre World award.

She is most famous for playing Jackie Harris on the ABC sitcom *Roseanne*. She captured an Emmy for best supporting actress in 1992, 1993, and 1994 for that role. Metcalf's television success continued during the three years she appeared on the ABC sitcom *Norm*.

Fans have also seen her on *Saturday Night Live*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Frasier*, and *3rd Rock from the Sun*. Metcalf's film roles include *Blink*, *Chicago Cab*, *Desperately Seeking Susan*, *JFK*, *Runaway Bride*, *Secret Life of Houses*, *Scream II*, *The Long Island Incident*, *Toy Story*, and *Uncle Buck*. She has appeared on Broadway in *Brighton Beach Memoir*, *My Thing of Love*, and *November*, for which she received a Tony nomination.

A recipient of Illinois State's Alumni Achievement Award in 1993, Metcalf resides in California with her husband, Matt Roth, and their three children.



Outstanding Young Alumni Award

Dori Byard '96

Global Sourcing Manager,
The William Wrigley Jr. Company
Evanston

Dori Byard '96 majored in agricultural business and economics. She was an active member of Phi Eta Sigma Freshman Honor Society, Alpha Zeta agriculture honors society, and Alpha Lambda Delta.

Byard gained experience with trading, sales, and management oversight at several companies, including Grain Merchandiser, Bulk Oil Division, Archer Daniels Midland, and Kraft Foods.

Her efficiency in strategic sourcing of company products led to promotions, as Byard saved companies millions of dollars and consistently met sales goals. Her experiences prepared her for her current role as the global sourcing manager for the William Wrigley Jr. Company in Chicago.

She manages the supply chain for Wrigley's products, driving cost savings while maintaining brand quality. She also seeks out the flavors, colors, coolants, and menthol for the popular chewing gum and candies manufactured in 14 countries.

Byard has an assertive role in corporate America, yet remains connected to Illinois State. She speaks to students and has recruited alums. Making her family proud ranks as her greatest achievement. She is a diligent and committed woman loyal to her family, her profession, and herself.



Nominations are needed

Send us the names of graduates you think are worthy of an alumni award. Nomination forms are available online at www.Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/awards.



Dori Byard



Rose Stadel



Alan Chapman



Walter Warfield

Alumni Achievement Award

Rose M. Stadel '01
Vice President of Operations, Heritage Enterprises
Normal

Rose Stadel '01 is a Licensed Practical Nurse and Licensed Nursing Home Administrator. She majored in health education and devoted 40-plus years to health care.

Stadel partnered with Menonite College of Nursing (MCN) to develop the Joe Warner Teaching Nursing Home Project, for Alzheimer's residents at Heritage Manor-Normal. Named in honor of her late husband, the project is an MCN and Heritage Enterprises collaboration. She also developed the Children of Aging Parents support group.

Stadel oversees resident care at Heritage Manor nursing homes of Bloomington, Normal, El Paso, and Gibson City; and Adelaide Retirement Apartments and Evergreen senior living communities.

A Certified Health Education Specialist, Stadel has taught First Aid, CPR, and nonviolent crisis intervention classes. She serves on the advisory boards of MCN, Heartland Community College, and the Maitland/Warner Long Term Care Scholarship Board.

Stadel received the Illinois Society for Public Health Educators Donald B. Stone Outstanding Service Award, the YWCA Women of Distinction Award, and was named Cornbelt Health Educators' Association's Health Educator of the Year. ISU's Health Sciences Department presented her the Outstanding Achievement in Scholarship and Distinguished Alumni Award.

E. Burton Mercier Alumni Service Award

Alan Chapman M.S. '75, Ed.D. '84
Retired McLean County Unit District No. 5 teacher/
administrator and superintendent
Normal

Normal Community High School (NCHS) alum Alan Chapman graduated from the University of Illinois and served honorably in the U.S. Army before earning educational administration graduate degrees at ISU.

He served 31 years in Unit 5 as a teacher, coach, dean of students, assistant principal, and ultimately NCHS principal. After a year as interim, he was appointed Unit 5 superintendent in 2004.

He is past president of the Illinois State Deans Association, and served on the Illinois High School Association Board of Directors.

He remains a member of the Illinois State Deans Association, Illinois Principals Association, National Association of Secondary School Principals, and Illinois and American Associations of School Administrators.

Chapman and his wife, Kathie (Campbell) '69, M.S. '97, give generously to ISU. He served on the Department of Educational Administration and Foundations (EAF) Alumni Advisory Council and the college's Capital Campaign Fundraising Advisory Committee. Chapman was awarded the ISU Foundation Fellowship by EAF, and inducted into the College of Education Hall of Fame. He is a member of ISU Community Partners and The Weisbecker Scholarship Fund.

Senator John W. Maitland Jr., Commitment to Education Award

Walter H. Warfield, Ph.D. '78
Scholar in Residence,
University of Illinois at Springfield
Clearwater, Florida

Walter Warfield, Ph.D. '78, completed two degrees before earning a doctorate at Illinois State. He dedicated 42 years to working with students as a teacher, coach, and principal at the middle school and high school level.

He was a research assistant for ISU's Center for the Study of Educational Finance before becoming superintendent of schools in Decatur, Mattoon, and Fairfield. Warfield was the Illinois Association of School Administrators' executive director before becoming a scholar in residence at the University of Illinois-Springfield.

Warfield served on various Illinois State Board of Education committees. At ISU he was president of the Administrator's Club, on the Educational Foundation and Administration Graduate Advisory Committee, on the Alumni Board, and a charter member of the College of Education Hall of Fame.

Warfield served as national president of the Horace Mann League and remains on the board, and as national president of the Association of State Executives. He is executive director emeritus of the Illinois Association of School Administrators.

He and his wife, Catherine, give generously to Illinois State and remain strong advocates. Two of their three children are ISU graduates.

AlumniConnections



A familiar and friendly place

Half Century Club event sparks memories of college life long ago

Cook Hall is still standing, the Big Red Marching Machine plays on, the Quad is still beautiful, and the academic programs offered at Illinois State remain stellar. These all give alumni of yesteryear the assurance that their alma mater remains a familiar and friendly place.

And yet the change graduates from 50 years ago or more have witnessed at Illinois State University is astonishing. From the way students communicate to the rock concerts that have replaced those memorable Big Four dances, the collegiate experience is radically different from

what students experienced from the 1930s to the 1950s.

The chance to reflect on how things used to be is just one of the reasons older alums appreciate Illinois State's Half Century Club, which honors all alumni whose classes graduated 50 or more years ago. There are no dues to belong. An annual program gives alumni an opportunity to catch up with classmates, make new acquaintances, and learn what's new at Illinois State.

This year's program is scheduled for June 9 and 10. Members of the Class of 1961 will celebrate their 50th class reunion on the 9th during

the annual Half Century Club event in the Alumni Center. They will be inducted into the Half Century Club at a dinner and join the Half Century Club for a full day of activities on the 10th.

Members of the classes of 1956, 1951, 1946, 1941, and 1936 who will be celebrating their 55th, 60th, 65th, 70th, and 75th reunions from Illinois State Normal University will be honored at the Friday luncheon and receive a special recognition gift.

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

Black Colleagues Association continues scholarship support for students

Members of Illinois State University's Black Colleagues Association (ISUBCA) continue their efforts to support students financially. Funds from scholarships were awarded last fall during Homecoming, including the Judge Russell R. DeBow Scholarship and Vincent Lionel Davis Scholarship.

Senior Lorryn Neely of Flossmoor, junior Gordon Booker of Gurnee, junior Raven Nance of Chicago Heights and freshman Jazmin Summerrise of Alsip received \$1,000 from the DeBow fund. Neely, Booker, and Nance are past recipients. They maintained a grade point average of 3.0 or higher to receive the scholarship on a renewable basis. Formerly known as the Black Colleagues Scholarship, the fund was renamed to honor DeBow, who graduated in 1935. He was instrumental in the founding of the organization and is a charter member.

Junior Nicole Black of Chicago was awarded \$1,000 from the Davis scholarship. Established by his family, the fund

honors the memory of the 1981 graduate. He died in the line of duty as an employee of the Dallas fire department.

Freshman Briani Bell of Quincy received the President's Book Scholarship, funded by the Office of the President. Sophomore Tiara Mackins of Decatur; freshmen Hana Ayele of Bloomington, Darius Hennington of Chicago, and Lester D. Hudson II of Peoria all received the Vice President for Student Affairs Book Scholarship. It has been awarded since 2008.

The recipients of each scholarship are selected by the ISUBCA. Entering and continuing African American undergraduate and graduate students are eligible. Applications are available online at www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/isubca or by e-mailing khowell@IllinoisState.edu. The application deadline is May 1. Contributions to the DeBow and Davis scholarships can be made online at www.Advancement.ilstu.edu.

Annual alumni survey slated for spring

Members of the graduating classes of 2010 and 2006 will be receiving a letter from Illinois State University President Al Bowman as an invitation to participate in the Annual Alumni Survey. Personalized instructions will be included in the April mailing.

Information provided through the online survey will be used to improve the educational experience at Illinois State. Participants will be eligible to win a VIP Homecoming package, including two nights at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Uptown Normal, two tickets to the Redbird football game, tailgating opportunities, entrance for two to the Homecoming Gala, and free admission to a variety of other Homecoming events.

For additional information contact University Assessment Services by calling (309) 438-2135 or by e-mail at assessment@IllinoisState.edu.



Alumni hosts sought for Redbird Welcome Parties

Alumni are being sought in strategic Illinois locations to host a Redbird Welcome Party in their home or local venue for incoming freshmen and their families this summer. The parties offer an opportunity for alumni to impact current and future students at Illinois State.

Parties vary in size. Alumni may cohost the gathering with other alumni to share the cost of expenses and planning responsibilities. Interested alumni are encouraged to call Alumni Relations at (309) 438-2586 or e-mail alumni@IllinoisState.edu.



Alumni networks
CONNECT
Redbirds

Alumni Relations provides resources to help alumni establish new networks or connect with an existing group. Contact alumni@IllinoisState.edu for more information or go online to www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/networks.



Stay connected to campus

It's easy to connect with campus by receiving a monthly e-newsletter. To get these updates send an e-mail to alumni@IllinoisState.edu or complete the e-mail preferences form online at Advancement.IllinoisState.edu/e_prof.

ClassNotes



A passion for people overseas

International study leads to graduate student's life mission

Emily Pozo traveled to the Galapagos Islands to study. She stayed to become a change agent.

Pozo planned a healthcare career while a nursing student in Wisconsin. She completed graduate work in Spanish at Illinois State, where she taught the language and recruited for international education.

She relocated to Galapagos to teach and married a native, Mauricio. Pozo found the land Charles Darwin studied while forming his theory of evolution was in ruins, with 36,000 people living in subpar

conditions. Schools and hospitals were unequipped, in part because the vast majority of conservation efforts are aimed at preservation of the islands. She changed that by founding the Galapagos ICE Organization (Immerse-Connect-Evolve), which focuses on citizens.

"Galapagos ICE aims to improve the quality of healthcare and education in the Galapagos Islands," Pozo said during a campus discussion with ISU students last fall. "Our conservation is dealing with the people. We are the only nonprofit organization in the Galapagos Islands that does."

Drugs and alcohol, domestic violence, and teen pregnancy are all prevalent issues. Drinking water has to be boiled for 20 minutes to make it safe, and newspaper is used in homes for insulation. First aid in a hospital might mean pouring alcohol from a juice bottle. Youth have too much time on their hands.

"The biggest problem is kids don't learn about where they live. It's not a part of the curriculum," she said. "The Galapagos Islands were put at risk the day humans set foot on the islands. Now that we have that footprint there, we have to figure out what to do."

1940s

Frances Peifer Alverson '40 has retired as a first grade teacher and tax accountant. Both jobs were in Port Charlotte, where she resides. She is widowed.

1950s

June E. (Bradley) Faehnrich '52 is the founder and director of Concerned Citizens for Animal Welfare. She also owns the Flag Specialty Shop in Conneaut, Ohio, where she resides. She is widowed.

JimAnn (Smith) Oliver '54 retired in 2010 as a national supervisor of research for Westat, Inc., which is a contractor of the U.S. Department of Education. Smith worked 21 years supervising the gathering of data for *The Nation's Report Card*, *Early Childhood Longitudinal Study*, *The International Math and Science Study*, and other reports. She now travels; manages a rentals business; and enjoys time with her five children, 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Her daughter, Lanette Oliver, is one of the Pathfinder 7 astronauts-in-training, the first team of Teachers in Space. She resides in Temple, Texas.

John Swalec '56, M.S. '58, Ph.D. '75, wrestled at Illinois State, placing in numerous conference tournaments. He coached at the high school and junior college level, mentoring state and national champions at each level. He coached the college contingent in the 1964 Olympic Trials. Retired as president of Waubensee Community College, he has led national rules committees for the sport and worked as a high school official. He is a member of Illinois State's Athletic Hall of Fame and is an ISU Distinguished Alumni Award recipient. In 2010 he was honored by the Illinois Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame for lifetime achievement. He resides in Cuba.

1960s

Charles O. Ellenbaum '65 retired as a professor of anthropology and religious studies from the College of DuPage after 35 years of service. He taught part-time at Wheaton College and is an ordained Anglican Priest. He is now assistant pastor at Resurrection Anglican Church in West Chicago, and a spiritual director for discipleship at St. Mark's Church in Geneva. He resides there with his wife, Gail. They celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary in 2010.

Terry Shoup '67, M.S. '71, retired from San Bernardino City USD in 2010 after a total of 43 years in education. He also taught in Illinois. Shoup owns a sailboat and anticipates cruising the Pacific Ocean during his retirement. He resides in Redlands, California.

Bruce Darnall '68 writes with his son and current graduate student, Mark Darnall. The two have authored articles about Chicago White Sox relief pitcher Scott Linebrink, Cleveland Indians first baseman Matt LaPorta, San Diego Padre Adrian Gonzalez, and Green Bay Packer Aaron Rodgers. The articles appeared in *Athletes in Action*, which is an online publication of Campus Crusade for Christ. Bruce resides in Lake Mills, Wisconsin.

Eric E. Magnuson '68 retired from the Lee County School District where he was a kindergarten teacher. He previously worked for the Illinois State Board of Education division of early childhood. He resides in Fort Myers, Florida.

Samuel M. Gore, Ed.D. '69, was a member of the art faculty at Mississippi College for 59 years. He is also a painter and sculptor. A retrospective exhibit of his work was exhibited at Gore Galleries at the college in 2010. He resides in Clinton, Mississippi.

Pause for applause



Shining on stage

Central Illinois audiences saw rising star **Leslie Ann Sheppard '07** perform in many faculty and student productions, as well as the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, while she completed her undergraduate degree in acting. Now she is impressing Chicago theatre patrons. Sheppard has been on Windy City stages since graduation. She appeared in *Harriet Jacobs* at the Steppenwolf Theatre, and also had a leading role in the musical *The Hundred Dresses* with Chicago's Children's Theatre. Her work has earned her mention as one of 10 actors to watch on Chicago-area stages, as chosen by the *Chicago Tribune* in the summer of 2010.

Chicago win benefits blind



William Burfeind '95 has many titles, including business development manager with Turner Construction in Chicago. A recruiter on campus for his employer, which is one of the largest construction companies in the world, Burfeind's a member of two advisory boards in ISU's College of Applied Science and Technology. He serves on the Chicago Loop Alliance Board of Directors, which nominated him for the One Man Chicago charity competition. He was chosen in 2010 as the young man who embodies the best of Chicago from community involvement, intelligence, personality, and fitness. He donated his \$10,000 win to Prevent Blindness America.



Fighting for women

While on military duty in Afghanistan, **Michelle Johnson '05** saved the life of a 13-year-old pregnant girl by helping the teen deliver her stillborn baby. The experience inspired Johnson to start Afghanistan Midwifery Project. The Chicago-based nonprofit organization provides midwife training and medical kits, as well as health education classes to ensure women in Afghanistan have medical care and safe childbirth. Beyond the supplies and training, the organization is empowering women in the war-torn country that has a high maternal mortality rate. Johnson's mission has put her in the national spotlight, with *Glamour* magazine chronicling her story in the August 2010 issue.



Making the grade

Daniel Traeger '70 majored in political science at Illinois State, but found his calling to be education. Initially a teacher and basketball coach at the high school level, he is now principal of West Broward High School in Pembroke, Florida. Traeger is passionate in mentoring students and staff, exemplifying the school's slogan of "Educating today's students for tomorrow's world." Traeger's commitment to students has him involved not only in their classroom efforts, but their extracurricular activities as well. His excellence and efforts are noted and appreciated, as the Florida PTA named him Outstanding Principal of the Year in 2009.



Reggie Reads

Check out a column dedicated to book reviews of work by alumni. Go online to IllinoisState.edu/alumni-magazine and click on Reggie Reads.

How we met

Masara Beukinga '03 and Eric Browning '03 didn't expect to find a spouse at Illinois State, but when they met through mutual friends in 2001 there was a lasting impression.

Eric pursued Masara. While spending time abroad, he sent letters from her dream vacation spot in Paris, France. He even bought her a souvenir.

"After he rode his bike to my dorm in the rain with a framed piece of art from Paris, I knew he had won me over," Masara said.

They became an inseparable pair, enjoying lunches on the Quad, the zoo, basketball games, and tailgating. They supported each other.

"Eric walked me hand-in-hand to many of my classes," she said. "He thought I was obsessed with grades, which I was, but he would still quiz me with my homemade note cards and edit all of my papers for me."

Both were committed to excellence. Outside the classroom Masara tutored children through the Normal Public Library. Eric joined Delta Tau Delta fraternity and worked with *The Daily Vidette*.

"I was once very close to a deadline for a story on the food selection at ISU," Eric said. "I needed a source badly. Masara came through and gave her input. That moment seemed to be a precursor for the rest of our lives together. She's always been in my corner."

They married on July 22, 2004, in Riviera Maya, Mexico. They live and work in San Bernardino, California. Eric teaches middle school English, while Masara teaches first and second grades. They have two sons—Dylan, 3, and Gavin, born in June of 2010. The boys are already becoming familiar with ISU, which remains a cherished memory for Masara and Eric.

"Illinois State allowed both of us to develop socially, academically, intellectually, and personally," the couple concurred. "We simply took advantage of the numerous opportunities the University and community offered. From those opportunities, we found that we shared many of the same core principles and beliefs. And we had a great time in the process!"

Editor's note: February is Redbird Romance Month at Illinois State's telefund. Students will be calling alumni couples to gain their support.



Charles Pagels '69, M.S. '70, retired as the assistant superintendent for personnel at Glenbard High School District 87 in Glen Ellyn. He and his wife reside in Hertford, North Carolina.

1970s

Raymond Bruzan, M.S. '70, retired as a chemistry professor at Benedictine University at Springfield. He completed 42 years of teaching at the high school and collegiate levels. He and his wife, Pamela, reside in Rochester.

Joseph F. Hagenbruch '71 is a dentist working in a private practice. He is a fellow in the American College of Dentists, the International College of Dentists, and the Academy of General Dentistry. He is past president of the Illinois State Dental Society and in 2010 was installed as a trustee of the American Dental

Association. He will play a major role as the organization works to be America's leading advocate for oral health. He resides in Harvard.

Thomas B. Shaffer '71, M.M.E. '78, taught instrumental music in Illinois prior to moving to North Carolina. He has been a real estate property manager for 28 years. He is a founding member of the Durham Community Concert Band, Triangle Wind Ensemble, Pure Brass Quintet, and has conducted the Durham Community Concert Band for 18 years. He and his wife, Faye, have been married 40 years. They reside in Durham, North Carolina.

Barry Farnham, Ed.D. '72, retired in 2010 after 48 years as a teacher and administrator in public, international, and independent schools. His last position was as head of school at Saint John's School in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Named one

of the top 100 school executives in North America by *Executive Educator* magazine in 1985, Farnham served as head of the International School of Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia. He and his wife, Vanessa, reside in San Juan.

Thomas L. Howard '72 is president of the Financial Planning Association of Illinois, which is a 1,000-member organization of certified financial planners. He resides in Streamwood.

Betsy Meyers Maaks '74, M.A. '76, is a senior technical writer and contractor for CARA Group in Oak Brook. She resides in Naperville.

James R. Mounier '74 is the first vice president of investments and a wealth management advisor with The Mounier & Larson Group, which is a Merrill Lynch financial advisory team. He is a certified financial planner, certified investment management analyst, and

Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor. Mounier is a member of Merrill Lynch's Circle of Excellence Club. He authored *The 50 Questions You Need to Ask to Achieve the Financial Advisor Relationship You Deserve*. He resides in Caledonia.

Mark B. DalPozzo '75, M.M.E. '83, retired in 2010 as the director of bands for Hillsboro CUSD 3. He taught instrumental music for 35 years, with the last 23 at Hillsboro. He resides there with his wife, Mary.

Janet Jacobi Madden '75 has retired from her position as a high school teacher. She has competed for more than 50 years in water sports. In 2010 she placed third in the nation in women's three-event water ski jumping and third overall for her combined slalom, jump, and trick scores. She and her husband, Ray, reside in Homer

Glen. They are the parents of Andy, who is currently an Illinois State student competing with the University's Water Ski & Wakeboard team.

Stephen K. Van Den Eeden '75 has been named adjunct professor of urology at the University of California in San Francisco. He is also a lecturer in epidemiology at Stanford University and a research scientist III in the division of research at Kaiser Permanente Northern California. He resides in Kensington, California.

Edward M. Bury '76 has been appointed director of marketing and communications at the Building Owners and Managers Association of Chicago. He manages all aspects of internal and external communication, including growing partnerships with Chicago-based companies and nonprofits. He previously served as the senior director of public relations at the Certified Commercial Investment Member Institute. He resides in Chicago.

Catherine Heenan '76 received the Illinois Outstanding Citizen Award at the College of Lake County 2010 commencement ceremony. She is a news anchor/reporter at KRON-TV in San Francisco. In addition to many regional Emmys, she has won a national Emmy and a Peabody Award. She resides in San Jose, California.

William J. Howat '76 is a senior category manager of fermentation and animal feeds with Sensient Technologies in Indianapolis, Indiana. He and his wife, Julie, reside in Carmel, Indiana.

John L. Sullivan '76 completed his juris doctorate at Washington University School of Law. He has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for banking law since 2003. He is also recognized as a Missouri/Kansas Super Lawyer. Sullivan is a partner at Armstrong Teasdale LLP, where he is leader of the firm's financial institutions practice group. He has extensive experience in all areas of financial, consumer credit, banking, real estate, and uniform commercial code law. He is chairman of the Missouri Bankers Association

Bank Counsel Advisory Board. He resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

Keith O. Hilton '77 is president and senior partner of INVR Standards/HHEW, which is an African-American media, education, and leadership consortium in Stockton, California. The organization has an ejournal, the *Journal of Unabridged Genius*. He also publishes a news publication, *Central Valley Drum News*. Hilton is the creator of TALO Leadership Theory. He and his wife, Sandra, reside in Stockton.

Sally K. Pyne '78, M.S. '87, Ph.D. '99, is an academic advisor and community liaison with the Center for Adult Learning at Lincoln College's Normal site. She was presented the Athena Award by the Women's Division of the McLean County Chamber of Commerce in 2010. The award recognizes women for their devotion to the advancement of women in leadership opportunities and in the workplace. She resides in Normal.

Daniel C. Walls, M.S. '79, retired in 2010 as the director of admissions at Emory University. He has accepted a new position at Pace Academy as senior associate director of college counseling. He resides in Chamblee, Georgia.

1980s

Matthew Hand '82 is a senior vice president of Bank of America in Chicago. His work is in the commercial lending sales area. He previously worked for 24 years with GE Capital. He and his wife, Christy, reside in Schaumburg. They have three children, including a daughter currently attending Illinois State.

Sandra A. Miller Radvanyi, M.M. '82, is the artistic director and clown-doctor/familial-clown "Dr. Merry Kay!" with Fools for Health, which is the premier clown-doctor program in the counties of Windsor and Essex in Ontario. It is a registered charity for which Radvanyi cowrote a major government grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. Using a second grant from the foundation, Fools for Health has a new initiative called Laughter-



Alumni recruiters seek talented seniors

There's a unique bond between Illinois State alumni that creates a powerful professional network. Nobody knows the benefit of these connections better than graduates who come back to campus as recruiters for their employers. A large group returned for a job fair in October at Redbird Arena, eager to help seniors find their place in the workforce.

Boss. The program sends familial-clowns to train staff at senior residences to carry on therapeutic humor between the clown's visits. She and her husband, Mark, reside in McGregor, Ontario. They became grandparents in 2010.

Marueen McCarthy '83 earned a master's degree in human services administration from Spertus College in Chicago. She is executive director of Norwood Life Care Foundation. She has extensive background in nonprofit fundraising, having led development activities at the Illinois Humanities Council, Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago, and the Alzheimer's Association Greater Illinois Chapter. She and her husband, Sidney, reside in Chicago.

Lucinda M. Baier '84, M.S. '87, is chief financial officer of Central Parking in Nashville, Tennessee. She resides in Lake Forest.

Kenneth Harris Jr. '84 completed a doctorate in leadership studies at Marian University. He is chief executive office of LRC Publications, Inc., in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He resides there with his wife, Carla.

Bridgett LaMar Carter '85 is a health educator senior with the Cook County Department of Public Health. He resides in Richton Park.

Judith Bogdanski Epcke '85 completed a program at Johns Hopkins University to earn her administration and supervision certification. She is a district technology facilitator with Northbrook District 28 in Northbrook. She coauthored *Comic Life for Educators*, which is a book for teachers. Epcke presented at the International Society for Technology in Education's ISTE 2010 conference. She is also cochair of Illinois Computing Educator state educational technology conference in 2011. She and her husband, William Jr., reside in Des Plaines.

Denise Hager '85, M.S. '88, is a corporate writer and producer with WEEK-TV in East Peoria. She is also an instructor in the Department of Communication at Illinois Central College. She has one son. They reside in Morton.

Jennifer S. Harrison '85 is a pharmacist with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Hines VA Hospital in Hines, where she resides.

Timothy Loest '85 is a nationally known composer and arranger of concert band music. He is the band director at Itasca School District 10 and a composer/arranger for the FJH Music Company, Inc. He has published 47 works, including *Warm-Ups and Beyond: A Compre-*

Redbird legacy

Staying in the collegiate environment may seem like a dream come true for some upcoming graduates. For Carol Cortilet-Albrecht, '91, M.S. '93, it is reality.

Cortilet-Albrecht, Ed.D., completed her doctorate in educational psychology from National-Louis University. As the associate vice chancellor for enrollment management at Purdue University-Calumet in Hammond, Indiana, she spends every work day at a university. And where did her passion for higher education start? At Illinois State University.

The decision to enroll as a freshman was never a hard choice for Carol because her two older sisters had showed her the ropes. Her oldest sister, Karen (Cortilet) Harjung '80, graduated with a degree in psychology. Her second oldest sister, Judy (Cortilet) Wierman '87, was a senior during Carol's freshman year.

"Judy helped me learn how to get things done on campus, and now that's what I do for students," Carol said.

As a freshman she was "an average student," mostly spending time getting to know people and not involved in university activities until she was older. Her first ISU job was in the Psychology Department as an aide. She also worked in Student Health Services as a file clerk. She was a graduate assistant for the Office of the University Registrar, and taught freshmen composition for the English Department.

The combination of knowing ISU's faculty and staff and learning how higher education operates helped steer Carol's career interest toward higher education. "When you are a student, you don't really understand how complicated higher education can be," she said. "I was lucky to have had those experiences at Illinois State."

Each of the sisters enjoy rewarding careers. Karen works at Elisabeth Ludeman Developmental Center in Park Forest, and resides in Frankfort. Judy is the director of HR for the Global Energy Services Division at Nalco Company in Naperville. She has two children and lives in Plainfield.

Even though the three Cortilet sisters have moved on from Illinois State, their legacy has continued with Kelly Harjung, Karen's oldest daughter of four children. Kelly is a junior social work major expected to graduate in 2012.

The University's influence remains strong within the family, as the sisters continue to appreciate their collegiate experience. "ISU inspired me to choose a career in higher education," Carol said, "and to contribute in a positive way to the success of students through that."



Three sisters have a bond made stronger through their ISU memories. The Cortilet sisters are, from left, Judy Wierman, Karen Harjung, and Carol Cortilet-Albrecht.

hensive Rehearsal Book for Developing Bands, which sold more than 80,000 copies. He coauthored with ISU percussion professor David Collier the book *Measures of Success: A Comprehensive Musicianship Band Method*. He was guest conductor at the 2010 Laurens-Dublin Honor Band Festival in Dublin, Georgia. He and his wife, Cynthia, reside in Wheaton.

Mike Prior '85 played 13 seasons in the NFL, including six as a defensive back with the Indianapolis Colts. He went to the Super Bowl after helping the Green Bay Packers win two NFC titles. He works with youth as the Colts youth football commissioner. He resides in Carmel, Indiana.

Michael A. Barla '86, M.S. '87, is completing a doctorate in educational leadership at Maryville University in St. Louis. He is the director of the early childhood education

program at Rockwood School District in Chesterfield, Missouri. He and his partner, Rich, reside in St. Louis, Missouri.

Chris Dillman '86 is an executive recruiter for JP Morgan Chase in Chicago. He and his wife are the parents of two children. They reside in North Aurora.

Martin A. Koehler '86 is managing director of Koehler Koehler, Inc., which is a full-service employee benefits and financial consultancy in the Chicago area. He resides in Wheaton.

Brian J. Wagner '87, M.B.A. '92, is a customer relations coordinator with the U.S. Postal Service in Peoria. He has been elected to a two-year term as National Secretary-Treasurer of the National Association of Postal Supervisors. He is responsible for managing and administering the organiza-

tion's finances, communication, and membership. He and his wife, Carol, reside in Dunlap.

Timothy Lee '88 is the assistant vice president at JP Morgan Chase in Chicago. He resides in Park Forest.

1990s

Scott Jones '90 completed a doctorate at Purdue University. He is chair of the Department of Humanities and an associate professor of new media communication at Indiana University in Kokomo. He and his wife, **Mary (Goerg) '90**, have two children. They reside in Westfield, Indiana.

LeW Girmscheid '91 is principal of Batavia School District 101. He and his wife, Amy, reside in Batavia.

Scott Martin, M.S. '91, is a professor of sport and exercise psychology

at the University of North Texas. He coedited the 2010 Texas Youth Fitness Study Supplement to the *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*. The two-year fitness study found higher physical fitness is related to higher state academic test scores and higher attendance, fewer negative school incidents, and overall school quality. He resides in Denton, Texas.

Tammy V. (Thurman) Morgan '91 is an assistant professor at Lewis University. She resides in Chicago.

Sharon E. Peterson-Kokkas '91 has worked as an embassy nurse with the U.S. Embassy in Athens for the past 14 years. She and her husband, Alexandros, are the parents of four children. They reside in Greece.

Dawn Trube Gould '92 is a promotional consultant with Cedric Spring & Associates in St. Charles. She resides in Oswego.

Lorraine S. Muhammad '92 works at State Farm Insurance Companies. She authored the book *588 Days! Balancing Act of Faith, Family, and Finding Time for ME*. The book chronicles her 588-day weight loss journey, during which time she lost more than 60 pounds. She resides in Bloomington.

Nicole Benson Vinsone '93 is an RHIA at Lake Regional Hospital in Osage Beach, Missouri. She resides in Camdenton, Missouri.



Fell Hall friendship endures

Friendships formed as Illinois State undergraduate students living in Fell Hall have remained strong for one group of women. The ladies returned to the University last fall for a visit that rekindled fond campus memories. The alums include, *front row, from left*, Lorraine "Lorry" (McElroy) McIntyre '70, M.S. '04, of Normal; and Jan Brown '69, of Lansing. *Second row, from left*, are Diane (Sutherland) Zawislak '69 of Rochelle, Carol (Gembariski) Mortier '69 of Schaumburg; Betty (Elder) Mackay '69 of Del Rey Oaks, California; and Karla (Byram) Jones '69 of Pekin.

Kevin M. Gross '94 is a senior litigator and trial attorney with GEICO Insurance Company's staff counsel office in Chicago. He and his wife, Michelle, were married in August of 2010. They reside in Chicago.

Carol L. (Lindamood) Harlow '94 is deputy executive campaign director for the National Museum of the United States Army capital campaign. She and her husband, Richard, are the parents of a son. Chase was born in August of 2010. They reside in Washington, D.C.

Kelly Klobucher '94 is executive director of Hegeler Carus Foundation in LaSalle, where she resides.

Jamie Maravich '94 completed a master's degree in telecommunications management from Keller Graduate School of Management. She is regional president of Harris, responsible for the bank's efforts in the far northwest suburbs of Chicago and overseeing 10 branches. Maravich is a member of the Leadership Council of the McHenry County Economic Development Corporation. She resides in Lake Zurich.

Jeffrey Risch '94 completed his juris doctorate at the University of Tulsa. He is chair of the Labor & Employment Practice Group at SmithAmundsen, LLC, which is a law firm headquartered in Chicago. He was named to the "Top 40 Under 40 To Watch" list of lawyers in the state of Illinois in 2010. The prestigious list is published annually by the *Law Bulletin* Publishing Company. He and his wife reside in St. Charles.

Kymerly Harris, M.A. '95, earned an M.F.A. at Actor's Studio in New York. She began TheatresCool, which teaches acting to children

and adults. She produced and acted in *Using*, a feature length independent drama about betrayal, addiction, and a father's struggle to save his daughter from self-destruction. The production was filmed in Chicago during the summer of 2010. She resides in Bloomington.

Suzanna Henshon, M.S. '95, teaches creative writing, advanced fiction, and composition at Florida Gulf Coast University. She authored the book *Mystery Science: The Case of the Missing Bicycle*. She resides in Wilbraham, Massachusetts.

Kevin Nolan '95 is president and CEO of Ecogistics, which is a third-party logistics company that offers a multitude of highly customized, environmentally conscious logistics solutions to marketplace. He resides in Rock Island.

Alicia Ray '95 is a marketing specialist with Jones Lang LaSalle. She resides in Chicago.

Brent Roberts '95 started his own company, BDR Public Relations, in 2010. He and his wife, **Sara (Silverton) '95**, are the parents of two children. They reside in Mundelein.

Kristopher Smith '95 owns and operates Midwest Life Brokerage in Naperville. The life insurance brokerage agency has more than 50 partner insurers and 300 partner independent agents. *Naperville Magazine* awarded the firm its 2010 Best Insurance Agency designation. His wife, **Margaret (Reilly) '95**, is owner of Inner Strength Doula Services. They are the parents of two children and reside in Naperville.

Jason Kuhl '97 is library operations director with Arlington Heights Memorial Library in Arlington Heights. He resides there with his wife, Laura.

Amy (Trembacz) Smathers '97 teaches forensics at Johnston Community College in Smithfield, North Carolina. She and her husband, Kevin, reside in Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina.

James H. Alstrum-Acevedo '98 completed a doctorate in chemistry at the University of North Carolina

at Chapel Hill. He is a part-time law student at George Washington University and is also a patent examiner with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office in Alexandria, Virginia. He resides in Annandale, Virginia.

Lazaro Lopez '98 completed a doctorate in curriculum and instruction at Aurora University. He is the principal of Wheeling High School. Lopez received the 2010 Dr. Elizabeth Ennis Innovative Educator Award for implementation of the school's STEM for ALL initiative. He resides in Hoffman Estates.

Angela Batka Banks '99 teaches seventh grade at Jack London Middle School in Wheeling. She and her husband, John, are the parents of twins. Madelyn Elena and Nathan Henry were born in December of 2009. They reside in Bartlett.

Matt Ritter '99 is a principal in Pinnacle Real Estate Advisors, which is a commercial real estate firm in Denver, Colorado. He and his wife, **Tracy (Zabel) Ritter '98**, reside in Englewood, Colorado.

Anne M. Conway Whitmore '99, '07 is a teacher with Sylvan Learning Center in Peoria. She and her husband, Josh, are the parents of a son. They reside in Dunlap.

Terrence M. Yuen '99 was named CEO of the Superior Court of California in the county of San Francisco in 2010. He is responsible for overseeing the state court for the county. He and his wife are the parents of two children. They reside in San Francisco, California.

2000s

Melissa Anderson '00 earned a medical degree at Southern Illinois University and completed residency training at Indiana University, where she is completing a fellowship in nephrology. She served for a year as the medicine chief resident at IU Hospital. She resides in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Jennifer L. (Barnett) Harrah '00 is a registered nurse and clinical educator at Union Hospital, Inc., in

Terre Haute, Indiana, where she resides.

Jolene (Dust) Hoke '00 is a companion animal technical sales specialist with ADM Alliance Nutrition, Inc. She supports the company's U.S. and Canadian sales team with a focus on ingredients and blends for pet food manufacturers. Her husband, **Jeremy '02**, is a logistics coordinator with ADM. They are the parents of a daughter. Lucy Marie was born in March of 2010. They reside in Bethany.

John Hooker '00, M.A. '02, completed a doctorate at Purdue University and is an assistant professor of communication at Illinois State. His wife, **Amy T. Munson '98, M.A. '01**, is a tenure-track instructor at Heartland Community College. They are the parents of three children and reside in Normal.

Carole Masse '00 is a senior graphic designer at WellPoint in Chicago. She and her husband, Adam, are the parents of a son. Leonard "Leo" Masse Nemec was born in July of 2010. They reside in Oak Lawn.

Nicholas Wennerstrom '00 has been promoted to regional program manager at TAPFIN Process Solutions, which is a Manpower Company in Waukegan. He oversees Abbott Laboratories' contingent worker managed service program for the central region. He previously served on the board of education for Warren Township High School District 121 and the Village of Gurnee Planning Commission. He and his wife, Natalie, reside in Libertyville.

Cheryl Wisniewski '00 is the deputy director of development with Mujeres Latinas en Accion in Chicago. He resides in Oak Park.

Gretchen (Rainey) Anderson '01 is a family nurse practitioner at Mayo Clinic and Northeast Regional Medical Center in Rochester, Minnesota, where she resides with her husband, Ezekiel.

Tracy (DeBlaey) Kelley '01 and her husband, Ryan, are the parents of a daughter. Addison was born in May of 2009. They reside in St. Louis, Missouri.



Marine alumnus serves with Redbird pride

U.S. Marine Corps 1st Lt. Scott Sasser '08, standing at left, is a College of Business graduate who was part of *The Daily Vidette's* advertising sales staff. He carried his Illinois State University flag with him when deploying to Afghanistan last year. He served as leader of a Tactical Psychological Operations Team, and posed with his Marine team members in Uruzgan Province. Sasser's tour ended in the fall. He is now at his home duty station in Okinawa, Japan.

Amanda (Moore) Tucker '01 is the mother of a son. Brayden Allen was born in August of 2010. They reside in Champaign.

Karla (Sturtevant) Turney '01 is an inpatient clinical pharmacist with the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Iowa City, Iowa. She and her husband, Lee, are the parents of two sons. Paxton Eli was born in July of 2010. They reside in North Liberty, Iowa.

Gina (Gilliland) Cox '02 is an elementary general music teacher at Eugene Field Elementary School in Rock Island. She and her husband, Dallas, were married in June of 2010. They reside in Milan.

Nicole Kulak Flood '02 is a human resources specialist at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Hines VA Hospital in Hines. She and her husband, Joseph, are the parents of four children. Abigail Grace was born in April of 2010. They reside in Chicago.

Scott Kording '02 is the managing attorney with Kording & Hall, LLP, which is a law firm in Bloomington. He also serves as an instructional assistant professor in Illinois State's Department of Politics and Government. He teaches

law-related courses and serves as head coach of the University's award-winning Mock Trial Team. His wife, **Melanie R. (Bertilson) '02** is a seventh grade math and English teacher at Deer Creek-Mackinaw Junior High School. She is also an equestrian clinician. They reside in Bloomington and are the parents of a daughter.

Erin Law '02 is a neonatal intensive care nurse at Central DuPage Hospital. She earned certification by the National Certification Corporation. She resides in Downers Grove.

Elizabeth Marvin '02 is a development outreach and communication officer for the US Agency for International Development (USAID) in Afghanistan. Her husband, **Nicholas Vivio '02**, is a deputy director in the Office of Policy and Program Development with USAID in Kabul, Afghanistan. After completing their two-year tour in Afghanistan, they will be posted to the USAID office in Budapest, Hungary.

Steven M. Miller '02 is a project manager of strategic initiatives with Navistar. He and his wife, **Andrea (Muscari) '03**, reside in Bartlett.

John Schumacher '02 completed a master's in teaching and leadership from St. Xavier University and a second master's degree in library and information science with School Library Information Specialist Certification from Dominican University. She is a school librarian with Butler School District in Oak Brook.

Kyle Bowen '03 is a police officer with the St. Louis Metro Police Department. He resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

Amber M. Gore '03 has completed a doctorate in physical therapy. She is working at The Therapy Tree in Lake Villa, where she provides physical therapy for children who are newborns through age 21. She resides in Antioch.

Samantha Hoffman '03 is a trust assistant with Heartland Bank and Trust Company in Bloomington, where she resides.

Jamie Jeffries '03 is a sales manager with Marriott International and resides in Kissimmee, Florida.

Jessica (Thompson) Rau '03 is a manager of U.S. communications with McDonalds in Oak Brook. She and her husband, Ryan, were married in August of 2010. They reside in Naperville.

Stacey Costabile '04 completed a master's degree in library science from Indiana University. She is a children's services librarian at Naperville Public Library. She is also a freelance graphic designer. She resides in Orland Hills.

James Davidsmeyer '04 is studying fiction writing in a low-residency master's degree program at Antioch University Los Angeles. He is a VISTA volunteer at Riddle High School in Oregon, where he is developing a scholarship and college readiness program. He resides in Myrtle Creek, Oregon.

Heather (Prasse) Debelak '04 is a senior project manager with TNS in Lake Zurich. She and her husband, Kevin, were married in October of 2010. They reside in Westmont.

Sarah E. (Baker) Lukach '04 is a commercial lending service officer in the agribusiness department of 1st

Farm Credit Services in Normal. She and her husband, George, are the parents of a son. John Tyson was born in June of 2010.

Megan McCann '04 is a senior associate in the media relations department at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. She resides in Chicago. **Nick Timme '04** completed a master's degree in physics at Indiana University. He is completing a doc-

Kimberly (Hradek) Burla '05 has been promoted to district manager of Abercrombie and Fitch in the South Chicago area. She advanced from general store manager for the Abercrombie stores in Orland Park, Woodfield, and the Chicago Water Tower Place location before taking her current position. Her husband, **Jay '05**, works in systems support at Motorola in Schaumburg. They reside in Lockport.



Illinois State representatives visit Shanghai

President Al Bowman, *third from right*, led an Illinois State delegation last fall to Shanghai University in Shanghai, China. The group met with Shanghai University representatives to discuss the potential for enhanced faculty and student exchange programs. Illinois State has a relationship with Shanghai University through the College of Business. The 2010 trip continued discussions on expanding that partnership in the college, as well as other Illinois State programs.

torate in physics at IU. He and his wife, **Elizabeth (Johnson) '03** were married in August of 2010. She completed a degree at the University of Illinois Law School. They reside in Indiana.

Karen Wennerberg '04 is a transplant and hepatology staff nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, where she resides.

Jeff Blackburn '05 is a photojournalist with KPNX-TV in Phoenix, Arizona. He resides in Tempe, Arizona.

Shaun M. Brady '05 is a branch manager for a rental car company. He has been promoted seven times since starting with the company in 2005. He resides in Austin, Texas.

JaMar D. Jefferson '05 is an underwriter with Liberty Mutual Insurance in Warrenville. His wife, **Candra (Morgan) '06** is a safety specialist with Occupational Safety and Health Administration. They reside in Aurora and are the parents of a daughter.

Paulette J. Hammer Stalter '05 is a junior high reading specialist with Metamora Grade School. She and her husband, James, reside in Metamora.

Michelle Hoos '06 is a staff accountant with Swift Prepaid Solutions, Inc., in Buffalo Grove. She resides in Arlington Heights.

Jamie Hughes '06 is an assistant professor at Daemen College in

Amherst, New York. She resides in Cheektowaga, New York.

John Rohan '06 is a property field catastrophe representative with Travelers Insurance Company. He and his wife, **Rebecca Ogrady-Rohan '06**, reside in Volo.

Kyle Bush '07 joined the staff of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 2010 as a program assistant in the Institute for Learning, Access, and Training. He uses his music education experience in Central Illinois public schools to help develop and deliver several of the institute's learning programs. They are designed to increase the presence of music in Chicago area schools, as well as develop nonmusic teachers' abilities to integrate music into their classroom. He and his wife, **Katie (Floeter) '07**, reside in Cary.

Quintin Hecht '07 is a captain in the United States Air Force. He and his wife, **Guadalupe Rosales '09**, reside in Cibolo, Texas.

Becky Hughes Windberg '07 is a hall director and director of student involvement at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin. She resides there with her husband, Chris. They were married in July of 2010.

Kyle Anderson '08 is a management trainee for Enterprise Rent-A-Car in Loves Park. He resides in Rockford.

Bridget Barry '08 teaches first grade. She has published a children's book titled *Sweet Dreams*. The book is an adventure bedtime story for kids ages 3 to 8. She resides in Oak Lawn.

Erin Diamond '08 is an assistant program coordinator with Clayton Residential. She oversees the psycho-social programming at the private residential facility for adults with schizophrenia. She also runs the employment program and assists residents in getting the city services they are entitled to use due to their disabled status. Diamond trains at the Improv Olympic in Wrigleyville with the hope of performing in the future. She resides in Lakeview.

Deidre N. Graham '08 is a juvenile justice specialist with the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice.

She supervises the daily activities of youth and provides input to the development of individualized service plans. She resides in Naperville.

Brad Heurung '08 is a legal assistant in Burr Ridge. He and his wife, **Lisa (Groves) '08**, were married in July of 2010. They reside in Bolingbrook.

Kimberly L. (Pertle) Kelonsky '08 is a sales associate with JMB Insurance. She and her husband, Steven, reside in Chicago.

Lisa A. (Jacobson) Lyons '08 teaches third grade at Coyote Ridge Elementary School in the Glendale Elementary School District, Arizona. She and her husband, Curtis, were married in March of 2010. They reside in Peoria, Arizona.

John Wierzbicki '08 is an assistant facilities coordinator with Buffalo Grove Fitness Center. He performed so well at the 2010 USA Beach Volleyball High Performance tryouts that USA Beach Volleyball invited him to participate in the first ever USA Beach Volleyball High Performance Championships in California last summer. There were only 32 players in the age 26 and under division chosen to compete. He resides in Lindenhurst.

Lauren Fitts '09 is an archaeologist with the Illinois State Archaeological Survey in Jacksonville. She resides in Springfield.

Cassandra Hulett '09 is an English teacher at Fieldcrest High School in Minonk. She resides in Normal.

Bill Johnson '09 is a financial advisor with Waddell & Reed in Oak Brook. He resides in Lemont.

Loren Leeberg '09 is the director of campus selection with Northwestern Mutual. He does all recruiting for the company's internship program, which he runs. He resides in Wheaton.

Catherine Myler '09 completed a year of service with AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps in 2010. She worked on service projects in West Virginia, Virginia, Louisiana, and New Jersey. She did a variety of work, including trail maintenance, state park

conservation, and home construction. She ended her service year with a community greening and tree planting project in Baltimore, Maryland.

Samantha L. Brown '10 is the HRIS coordinator at Growmark in Bloomington, where she resides.

Jeffrey Graham '10 is a program assistant for student recruitment at Heartland Community College in Normal, where he resides.

Jennifer LaFever Savage '10 and her husband, Jonathan, were married in June of 2010. They reside in Columbia, Maryland.

Our troops

Col. Michael Warren Haerr '85 with the Illinois Army National Guard is a leader of the Bilateral Embedded Staff Team, known as BEST A7. The team will deploy this spring for a six-month assignment in the Ghazni province of Afghanistan after completing training in Poland. Made up of senior personnel from across Illinois, BEST A7 handles higher level missions. Haerr resides in Eureka. His daughter, Emily, is a current ISU student.

In memory

Faculty/Staff

Donna Banner '71, M.S. '74, Registrar; 8/10

Beatrice M. (Evans) Bell, Physical Plant; 6/10

Charles Bolen, College of Fine Arts; 7/10

David W. Borst, Biological Sciences; 9/10

Roger J. Champagne, History; 8/10

Esther M. (Graves) Dawson, Food Services; 6/10

Albert H. Eckert, Mathematics and University High School; 10/10

David Kephart, Information Technology; 8/10

Lois J. (Chaddon) Komnick, Milner Library; 10/10

Joe Kraus, Milner Library; 7/10

Lois Jean (Richhart) Landis, Accounting; 7/10

Harriet A. (Jackson) Lay, Physical Plant; 8/10

Edith Lenora (Phillips) Leicht, Health Sciences; 6/10

Mary F. Lewis, Management and Quantitative Methods; 7/10

Kathryn M. Marr, College of Education; 8/10

Thomas B. Martin, Finance and Law; 10/10

Mark R. Moran, Social Work; 7/10

Stanley D. Phillips, Motorcycle Safety; 7/10

Margaret C. Waimon, Research Services; 10/10

Virginia E. (Evans) Wirick, Physical Plant; 7/10

Martin A. Young, Speech Pathology and Audiology; 10/10

20s

Sarah M. (Unsicker) Schultz '24; 7/10

30s

Velma V. Salisbury '30; 9/10

Louis P. Smolak '32; 9/10

Leona (Oltmann) Gilchrist '33, '66; 9/10

Marguerite (Whitney) Hazzard '33; 8/10

Marna Forbes Hedden '34; 7/10

Evelyn O. Bloomquist '35; 10/10

Nina Chesebro '35, '42; 11/10

Katherine M. (Armstrong) McClain '35; 7/10

Esther K. (Volle) Spaulding '36; 8/10

Agnus (Monsen) Caruso '37; 7/10

Beulah E. (Fosnaugh) Kammeyer '37; M.S. '62

Gladys L. (Cox) McCallister '37; 6/10

Gilbert D. Veach Sr. '37; 9/10

Pauline L. Williams '37; 8/10

Charles F. McCannon '38; 8/10



Reggie makes Homecoming trip to Miller Park Zoo

There is always something for every age at Homecoming. Last fall's celebration included a partnership with Miller Park Zoo in Bloomington. Alumni, students, and community members enjoyed a discounted entry fee. Beyond examining the exhibits, children were especially excited to interact with Reggie Redbird.

Cleo (Melvin) Newman '38, '63; 10/11

Margaret A. (Dressler) Savidge '38, M.S. '60; 5/10

Helen C. (Weicker) Sutherland '38; 7/10

Evelyn E. (Durham) Wright '38; 5/09

Albert N. Hieronymus '39; 9/07

Lamberta (Taylor) Kuster '39; 7/10

Evelyn L. Warren '39; 10/09

40s

Elaine (Bryant) Bader '40; 9/10

James R. DePew '41; 9/10

Mary E. (Lawrence) Fulton '41; 6/10

Anna M. (Schupbach) Gudeman '41; 7/10

Lois M. Marx '41; 6/10

Myrna Harms '42; 3/10

William G. Hooper '42, M.S. '49; 8/10

Marian Jensen Storm Leach '42, '66, M.S. '72; 7/10

Leonard W. Mueller '42, M.S. '49; 7/10

Dorothy L. (Freed) Sypult '42; 7/10

Elsie Mae (Crosby) Trigg '42; 8/10

Reva E. (Emery) Culp '43; 10/10

Marian G. (DePew) Gallagher '43; 7/10

Doris I. (McDermith) Morton '43; 9/10

F. Dean Selmeier '43; 7/10

Jean E. (Frey) Maurer '44; 9/10

Marjorie L. Gordish '45; 8/10

Eva Van Winkle Oetting '45; 6/10

Phyllis G. Smith '45; 9/10

Lavila S. "Vi" Bains '47; 8/10

Warren L. LaBounty, '47; 8/10

Charlotte A. Bennett '48; 7/10

Rosemary (Wise) Evers '48; 10/10

Elaine (Lundberg) Hancher '48; 8/10

Eduene E. (King) Keidel '48; 7/10

Russell Wessels '48; 6/08

Georgia J. Wolfe '48; 10/10

Robert L. Maurice, '49 8/10

Ara L. (Ward) Pearson '49; 6/10

Jack Persky '49, M.S. '51; 4/09

Roselyn M. (Zulke) Teske '49; 9/10

Robert "Tub" Thomas '49; 7/10
Robert T. Trumpy Sr. '49, M.S. '51;
10/10

50s

Nellie Jean (Leggett) Cusey '50;
7/10
Audrey M. (Miller) Grubel '51; 9/10
Homer R. Herink '50, M.S. '56; 3/10
James H. Kettleborough '50; 9/10
Audrey M. Miller Grubel '51; 9/10
George A. Pownall '52, M.S. '57;
6/10
William G. Duvall Sr., M.S. '53; 8/10
Howard B. Justus '53; 9/10
Louis E. Fiorini '54; 10/10
Savilla B. Palmer '54; 9/10
Jean E. Ahlberg '56, 8/10
James E. Noah '56, M.S. '57; 10/10
Robert Holnback Waller '56; 7/10
Carol J. (Brubaker) Kaliher '57; 7/10
Ronald W. Onken '57, M.S. '65; 9/10
Ronald R. Riek '57; 7/10
Lenore F. Taliaferro '57; 8/10
John N. Wilson '57; 9/10
John M. Campbell '58; 9/10
Judith E. Geiger '58; 7/10
David L. Guiliani '58; 10/10
Pauline E. (Hardman) Hall '58; 7/10
John F. Scholfield '58; 9/10
Mary M. (Kellenberger) Blackburn
'59

60s

James L. Cassani '60; 8/10
Ronald D. Hinton, M.S. '60; 7/10
Marilyn G. Robinson '60; 7/10
Evelyn L. (Mill) Baaskerville '61;
8/10
Nancy K. (Langbehn) Hayden '62;
6/10
Norman W. Shoopman '62, M.S.
'71; 9/10
Margaret (Malone) Barr '63; 9/10
Charles J. Ostermeier '64; 9/10

Patricia Foerster Smith '64; 7/10
Genevieve (DeLong) Antonacci '65;
6/10
Thomas D. Guinnee '65; 7/10
John A. Hamann '65, M.S. '66; 8/10
Delia L. (Alden) Rellis '65; 7/10
Barbara A. (Olson) Bohannon '66;
7/10
Roselyn K. Jensen '66; 6/10
Janet (McSweeney) McDaniel, M.S.
'66; 7/10
Richard M. Peters '66, '70, Ed.D.
'81; 10/10
Robert L. St. John '66; 9/10
Samuel J. Van Scoyoc '66; 7/10
Robert J. Borvansky '67; 7/10
George L. Mills '67; 10/10
Judy "Duder" (Vaught) Isted '68;
8/10
Larry L. Jones '68; 9/10
Janice K. Leibel-Cikel '69; 1/09
George S. Richmond, Ed.D. '69; 7/10
David H. Smith '69, M.S. '73; 8/10
Marilyn Lestilie Wilson Trefzger
'69; 8/10

70s

Martha J. (Shenbarger) Joy '70;
9/10
Steven E. Tunell '70, M.S. '71; 7/10
Patricia Frye-Geitzen '71; 2/10
Meredith Fahler Knopf '71; 9/10
Diane M. (McCue) Komiskey '71;
7/10
Susan Ralston Preston '71, M.S.
'76; 7/10
Lester L. Whisler, M.S. '71; 11/09
Harold D. Woody '71; 10/10
Janice E. (Burnett) Larson '72;
8/10
Diana J. (Maurer) Peckham '72;
9/10
Joel C. Martens '73; 9/10
Terry Steinhor '73; 10/09
David W. Capodice '74; 7/10
Karen E. (Newberry) Cooper '74;
10/10

Susan J. Jablonsky M.S. '74; 8/10
Katherine Keogel, M.S. '74; 10/10
Ronald L. Palmer '74; 10/10
Donald F. Phillips Jr. '74; 7/10
Mark A. Stivers '74; 8/10
Linda A. Tudor '74; 10/10
Craig S. Damisch '75; 10/10
Karen S. Nelson '75; 9/10
Richard W. Joyce '76; 7/10
James L. Leach, Ph.D. '76; 8/10
William A. Moore Jr. '76; 9/10
Paul M. McWilliams '77; 8/10
John Skubal '77; 10/10
Thomas J. Urban '77, M.S. '89; 10/10
Ellis Randle Jr., M.S. '78; 10/10
Cynthia Siefert '78; 11/09
Debra (Runyan) Sullivan '78; 8/10

80s

Dan L. Monge, '82; 7/10
Thomas M. Bradley, Ed.D. '83; 10/10
Vicki B. Wheeler, D.A. '83; 10/10
Gregory J. Cooper '84; 7/10

James J. Dutton '85; 8/10
Ann (Pitstick) Gavenda '86; 6/10
Rebecca J. Tucker '87; 9/10
Jerry D. (Cummings) Dellinger,
M.F.A. '88; 8/10

90s

Gary M. Kelly '90; 9/10
Darci L. (Lindsay) Patton '90; 9/10
Gladys M. Mohr '91; 8/10
Phillip S. Smith '92; 6/10
Kevin L. Harrington '94; 10/10
Darin P. Berg '97; 8/10
Carol A. Stypolkowski '98; 8/10
Steven R. Golladay '99; 8/10
Karen Erickson Shepherd '99; 10/10

00s

Linda A. Lytle, M.A. '00; 6/10
John C. Butler '01; 6/10
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Thanks to you

Jackie Carmichael entered his second season on the men's basketball team having already posted impressive numbers as a freshman. The physical education major set the University's freshman standard for blocked shots and posted eight double-digit scoring games. He was named to the 2010 Missouri Valley Conference All-Freshman Team.

There's one more ISU statistic that means just as much to Carmichael. He was named the 2010 recipient of the Bob and Audrey Weber Endowed Scholarship.

The Webers enjoyed Redbird athletic events. Bob established the fund in honor of his late wife as a way to support a student-athlete. Carmichael takes both roles seriously, and appreciates the opportunity to attend on a full scholarship.

"I don't see academics and playing on the team as separate. It's just another homework assignment when I step on the court," he said.

Knowing a Redbird fan has made a financial commitment that opens doors of opportunity is something Carmichael will always appreciate. "It is an honor, a privilege, and a really big help," he said. "I just want to say thank you for making an investment in me."

You can make a difference by providing financial support to deserving students such as Jackie. Make a contribution online at IllinoisState.edu/giving, call (309) 438-8041, or send an e-mail jdhutch@IllinoisState.edu.



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