Fans of *Glee* love the Sue Sylvester character, played by Jane Lynch ’82.
FirstWord

“You are known by the company you keep.”

How many times as a youth did we hear that from our parents? The mantra is one all adults with children in the house have inevitably repeated while guiding their own sons and daughters toward maturity.

The adage holds for institutions as well, which is why I am exceptionally pleased to report that Illinois State University has once again been ranked with prestigious schools such as the College of William and Mary, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Florida, and the University of Virginia.

For the seventh consecutive year ISU has been identified by Kiplinger’s Personal Finance as one of the 100 best values in public colleges across the country. As you will read in this issue’s news section, the criteria is a combination of quality and cost components.

The fact we have maintained excellence in the classroom while overcoming severe budget issues within the state is a testimony to the dedication and foresight of the campus community. State support has not only dwindled, but been increasingly slow to arrive. As we approach the end of this fiscal year, the University is still awaiting payment of approximately $75 million.

Despite such budget challenges, Illinois State stands firm in resisting the temptation to save money by curtailing educational opportunities provided to our students.

We could follow the pattern of making larger classrooms the norm, but I prefer to maintain our 19:1 student-faculty ratio. Doing so ensures our students gain personally and academically from a small-college experience that is not just advertised but delivered. And while other institutions have cut costs by employing graduate students to teach introductory courses, ISU still places faculty members at the front of the classroom.

These decisions cost more, but I firmly believe any savings that come as a result of shortchanging the educational experience are in reality too much of an expense—to students and the University.

Because we will not compromise our academic standards, Illinois State attracts high-achieving students who are committed to excellence. Their stellar performance results in higher retention and graduation rates, which lifts the University’s reputation even higher.

This mode of operation defines who we are and explains why it is that Illinois State consistently ranks among the best universities in the country.

Al Bowman
President, Illinois State University
FEATURES

8 Jane’s journey
Long before capturing an Emmy and Golden Globe for portraying coach Sue Sylvester on Fox’s series Glee, Jane Lynch ’82 honed her theatrical skills at ISU. She remains grateful to faculty who prepared her for a career that has taken her from Chicago’s stages to the top of Hollywood.

12 Inspiring student fitness
It took student passage of a referendum, campus partnerships, and years of patience to replace the makeshift Student Recreation Building. The wait ended this year with the opening of the $50 million Student Fitness Center and McCormick Hall, which immediately became one of the most popular campus spots.

18 Old Main’s mystique
For nearly 100 years Old Main stood on campus. Some still remember its grandeur, including Eugene Hunter, who holds the longest service record of any Illinois State employee. Hunter worked in what was the first classroom building. He and others are sharing their memories with a team researching the building through oral histories and artifacts removed from where Old Main once stood on the Quad.

26 Act one
Terry Kinney ’76 and Jeff Perry ’78 connected as two undergraduates passionate about acting. Their friendship and talent resulted in the creation of Chicago’s Steppenwolf, the nation’s premier ensemble theater.

DEPARTMENTS

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On the cover: Lynch's character is personified through a trademark look of sweats and bullhorn in hand.
©2009 Fox Broadcasting Co. CR: Patrick Ecclesine/FOX
In a 1930 letter, President Herbert Hoover referred to the qualities of Abraham Lincoln’s leadership as “touchstones of democracy and of practical government.” In more recent correspondence, President Barack Obama called Lincoln the president “whose moral compass pointed firm and true.”

The personally signed letters on White House stationery extolling America’s 16th president are part of Milner Library’s Harold K. Sage Lincoln Collection. Sage donated nearly 2,600 Lincoln items to Milner in 1979. The Hoover letter was among them, obtained as a result of a request Sage sent.

Current Milner librarian Maureen Brunsdale followed the tradition and wrote to the White House, hoping Obama would share his thoughts about Lincoln’s legacy. Obama obliged, writing that Lincoln is one of his personal heroes.

Obama reflects on Lincoln’s address at Gettysburg during the Civil War. “Because of the sacrifice of the soldiers resting there, and that of our beloved Lincoln, our Union stands indivisible since the time the Great Emancipator said it was so,” Obama wrote. He then flashes forward to modern terrorism, recession, climate change, nuclear proliferation and other challenges that threaten the nation.

“I was so excited to receive President Obama’s letter for the Sage Collection,” Brunsdale said. “It so eloquently brings a president of the past into contemporary times in a very substantial way.”

Words of admiration for Lincoln penned by Calvin Coolidge and Dwight Eisenhower are also part of the collection, which now has nearly 6,000 items. Students and scholars researching Lincoln may view the items in Milner’s Special Collections. For more information call (309) 438-3527.

Lincoln legacy lives on at Milner
Campus library extends collection of presidential comments

Learn about Lincoln
More information about Milner and this special collection is online at IllinoisState.edu/magazine.
University's excellence recognized by Kiplinger's

Illinois State is one of 100 best values in public colleges in the country, according to Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine. The report was released in January, marking the seventh consecutive year the University has been lauded by Kiplinger’s.

Illinois State is one of only two Illinois schools named, with the University of Illinois the other. ISU ranked 95th on the list, which includes the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Florida, University of Virginia, and College of William and Mary.

“The University’s combination of high quality academics at an affordable price has earned it a spot with some very prestigious universities around the country,” President Al Bowman said. “The strategic plan, Educating Illinois, will continue to guide our efforts to attract and retain the highest quality students, faculty, and staff.”

Rankings are based on ACT scores, admission and retention rates, student-faculty ratios, the percentage of faculty with the highest degree in their field, how much each school spends on instruction for each student, how much each school spends on library facilities, and graduation rates. Rankings are based on quality and cost components, with greater overall weight on quality.

Student team finalist in global competition

A team of Illinois State student computer programmers competed this year in the World Finals of the 35th annual Association for Computer Machinery’s International Collegiate Programming Contest (ACM ICPC) in Egypt. Coached by School of Information Technology faculty member Mary Goodwin, the team was one of 100 from across the globe invited to the World Finals and one of only 20 North American teams.

ISU’s Onward and Upward team included seniors Ryan Newman, Clint Riley, and Sarah Steffen. They earned the World Finals invitation after a fourth place finish out of 142 teams in the regional competition last fall. Four other ISU teams placed in the top 50 in the regionals.

Worldwide more than 7,000 teams entered this year’s regional contest, including 1,113 teams from North America. Other U.S. teams at the finals were from Princeton, MIT, and Duke. Teams had five hours, one computer, and between seven and 10 programming problems to solve.

Physicist honored with University Professor title

Physics Professor Q. Charles Su has been named University Professor, which is a rank that honors faculty members who are nationally recognized scholars and teachers.

Su is a computational and theoretical physicist specializing in laser-atom interactions. The codirector of ISU’s Intense Laser Physics research group, Su has obtained external funding of more than $1 million and shared the 2006 Prize for Faculty Research in an Undergraduate Institution given by the American Physics Society.

Su and Distinguished Professor Rainer Grobe discovered a new form of atom called cycloatoms. Su’s research group has expanded into theoretical and experimental study of laser scattering in biological materials. The work has potential for application to noninvasive medical imaging of tumors.

Su has more than 120 refereed articles with many in the flagship physics journal, the Physical Review. He referees for eight major journals and three agencies. He has presented at international conferences and research institutes in 16 countries. His students have coauthored more than 50 refereed journal articles, and presented at national and international conferences.

Campus mourns loss of beloved chemistry professor and chair

Chemistry Professor Emeritus Sol Shulman died in December at the age of 81. A memorial service was held on campus in January.

Shulman was born and raised in the Soviet Union. As a Russian partisan fighting the Nazis, he was awarded the Partisan Warfare Medal for heroism. He immigrated to the United States, earning a Ph.D. in chemistry at North Dakota State before joining ISU as Chemistry Department chair in 1969.

He retired in 1992 yet stayed involved, serving on the Foundation Board of Directors. He worked as a consultant on the design and construction of Illinois State’s Science Laboratory Building. Shulman designed and developed a fume hood for the building’s labs, with the caveat that the company refer to the design as the “ISU Fume Hood.”

Shulman’s dedication to ISU was recognized in 2008 with the dedication of the Dr. Sol Shulman Atrium in the Science Laboratory Building. A scholarship in the Department of Chemistry bears his name. Donations can be made online at IllinoisState.edu/giving. For more information call (309) 438-8041, or send an e-mail to jdhutch@IllinoisState.edu.
Grant creates opportunity for educators of deaf

A $1.07 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education will empower Illinois State to prepare professionals for work with infants and toddlers with hearing loss, and their family members.

The grant will fund a graduate course to prepare early intervention professionals with current degrees in deaf education, speech and language pathology or audiology to work with infants and toddlers who are deaf and hard of hearing. The year-long sequence is aimed at enhancing the auditory and spoken language skills in the child with hearing loss; and developing the competencies specific to working with infants, toddlers, and their families.

College of Business stays in national spotlight

The College of Business has been included in U.S. News & World Report magazine’s 2011 Best Business Schools listing. The publication recognizes schools with M.B.A. programs accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International.

Rankings are based on several factors, including placement success of graduates and mean starting salary. Details can be found online at http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-business-schools.

The magazine’s listing adds to the national recognition that the college has received. BusinessWeek has ranked the college as one of the country’s best undergraduate business schools. The college is currently listed among the top 100 schools nationwide, and among the top three undergraduate business schools in Illinois.

Where are they now?

I decided to become a teacher because when I was a senior at Pekin Community High School, I received a tuition-free scholarship to enter the teaching profession. I chose to attend Illinois State Normal University (ISNU) upon the recommendation of my high school teachers. I have never regretted either decision, as ISNU was the premiere place to become a professional educator. The University still is in 2011.

I finished a degree in social sciences education in 1958 and went on to teach speech, debate, drama, American history, American government, and sociology in Chicago suburban public high schools for 13 years. After completing my Ph.D. at the University of Illinois in Urbana, I taught at Eastern Illinois University. In 1976 I came to ISU, where I taught a variety of communication courses.

Teaching was my full-time profession for 36 years and part time-effort for four additional years. I had roles in the classroom, in administration, and in governance. It was the classroom which provided the most satisfaction.

Sometimes when I attend alumni events I get my hats mixed up. Do I wear my alumni hat or my retiree hat? At those events I see former classmates from ISNU. We enjoy remembering the days when the campus was 3,300 students. I also see former students. I enjoy hearing where they are and what they have been doing.

I met my wife, Joann (Swanson) ’68, M.S. ’73, while we were both undergraduates. We live in Bloomington, but winter each year in Florida. Our retirement hobbies are ballroom dancing, consumption of classical symphony music, reading, and walking, while Joann enjoys quilting. I have published four books of fiction and enjoy the creative process of fiction.

Ties to the campus remain strong. Our three children all have one or more degrees from ISU, so between the five of us we have received eight degrees from the University.

Contact us by e-mail at Tuttle996@aol.com.

Web extra

Go online to illinoisState.edu/magazine to learn more about George Tuttle’s career and read the story of how he and Joann met as undergraduates.
Student Affairs VP ends long ISU career

After serving Illinois State University for 35 years—the last five as vice president for Student Affairs—Steve Adams will retire in June. A national search has begun.

During his tenure the division led construction of the Student Fitness Center and McCormick Hall, renovated residence halls and dining centers, enhanced the Bone Student Center, and paved the way for the ISU's first-ever public and private student housing initiative. The division also implemented an emergency texting system and added a security force to augment campus police patrols.

Adams previously served as assistant vice president for Enrollment Management and Academic Services, director of Admissions, and interim director of Financial Aid, among other leadership positions. During his 11 years as director of Admissions, Adams helped raise the new student academic profile to record levels.

He has held many professional state positions and been given many honors, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Illinois Association for College Admission Counseling. He is a member of the Illinois Basketball Hall of Fame and the Illinois State University Athletic Hall of Fame. He has served for 35 years as the “Voice of the Redbirds,” and will continue those duties for Redbird Athletics.

Interim director named during Athletics’ search

Larry Lyons ’86 has been named the interim director of Athletics at Illinois State University following the resignation of Sheahon Zenger, who accepted a similar position at Kansas.

Lyons, who is in his 24th year at Illinois State, had been serving as executive associate director in Athletics. In addition to business operations, his duties have included facility operations and the Weibring Golf Club, while supervising athletic training, athletic equipment, and strength and conditioning. He also provides administrative leadership for men's and women's golf and baseball, while working with men's basketball and football.

Lyons will continue to oversee the business operations while serving as the interim director, during which time a national search will be conducted.

Biology faculty named Distinguished Professor

Biological Sciences Professor Paul Garris has been named a Distinguished Professor, which is ISU’s highest faculty honor.

Garris came to Illinois State in 1996 after earning his Ph.D. in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics at Indiana University School of Medicine, and completing postdoctoral research at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

His research focuses on dopamine neurons. He questions the view that dopamine is a “pleasure chemical” in the brain, exploring that it may instead be a learning signal associating rewards to predictive cues. He has also established research programs on Parkinson's disease.

Garris has gained international recognition, with his work published in Nature. He has garnered more than $3 million in external funding from such agencies as the National Institutes of Health. He has also been instrumental in teaching and mentoring students during his career.

Mail

To the Editor,

As I read the alumni memories (“Dining Haul,” February 2011), I was immediately brought back in time to one of my fondest memories—1967 at Hamilton Hall and 1968-1970 at Hewitt Hall when I worked in the dorm cafeterias as everything from dishwasher to line server to the very-desired position of “condiment girl!”

While our food was good then (we especially loved the cheese sauce for veggies), it wasn’t the food that made my remembrances so treasured. What made it so special was the camaraderie of all the workers, students like myself. We became a huge group of good friends, many of whom remain close still. This special group—probably more than 100 people by senior year—were there for each other. We dated, we cried on each other’s shoulders, we played cards on rainy days, and we partied heartily!

After graduation we attended weddings, a couple funerals, and reunions around the state. Even 40 years later, I cherish those bonds of friendship, all created in a college cafeteria.

Thank you for the article that brought it back to life for me!

Judith M. Henzel ’71

To the Editor,

I read with interest your comments about Paul Rosene (February 2011, Where are they now?). He was a leader for the exceptional child but I remember him as a Chenoa High School band director who was an exceptional teacher and human being. He made a difference in and touched so many lives.

Marcia Baker ’63

Jay brought the Stanley Cup to ISU Homecoming 2010. What a thrill for Central Illinois to share in that stellar Blackhawk winning season! I am so glad our ISU magazine staff chronicled his career. Thanks and job well done!

Facebook comment Patty Jarrell ’75
The spring semester is a busy time for the Redbird football program. From National Signing Day in February to practices in March and the annual Red-White spring game in April, the coaches and team members have been working hard for the upcoming season.

The schedule is set, with six home games slated. The action begins September 1 against Eastern Illinois University. The entire schedule is available online at GoRedbirds.com. Season tickets are also now available. Get yours on the website or by calling Illinois State's Athletics Ticket Office at (309) 438-8000.

Head coach Brock Spack has added 20 new Redbird recruits to the team. The group includes three offensive linemen, tight ends, and defensive backs; two defensive linemen and wide receivers; and a quarterback, linebacker, and running back. Within the mix are 14 high school seniors and six junior college transfers. They come from each coast and across Illinois, with eight from the Chicago area.

“Our goal is to continue to broaden our recruiting base each year and improve each class from the previous one,” Spack said. “Our last two classes have been very good, and several of those players have made immediate contributions to the team on the field. I expect several of this year’s signees to do the same.”

Several of the new recruits are “from programs that are used to winning on a yearly basis,” Spack said. “We like to have that winning attitude in our players. I think they will mesh well with the success and attitude we are developing at Illinois State.”

Beyond new players, Spack has added to his coaching staff as well by naming Steve Szabo as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach. Szabo has coached the defensive line, linebackers, and defensive backs at both the college and NFL levels. He coached in the Super Bowl and twice in Rose Bowl games that decided the national collegiate champion.

Spack has already tallied two winning years at Illinois State, and is eager to take the field this fall. Be there for the action and show your Redbird pride by joining other fans in cheering the team to a strong season!
Honor given to family of faithful supporters

It’s hard to find anyone more loyal to Redbird Athletics than Parker Kemp and his family members, who have been actively involved with the University’s program for nearly three decades.

For more than 27 years, the Kemps have been faithful in cheering on student-athletes at numerous ISU athletics events. Three children—Tony Jenkins, Rene Shafer, and Nick Kemp—enjoyed following the Redbirds while each was on campus completing a degree.

The Kemps have also been consistent in supporting the Weisbecker Scholarship Fund, which provides for student-athlete scholarships and promotes the development of Intercollegiate Athletics at Illinois State. Their contributions over time have made a very significant and positive impact in the lives of numerous student-athletes.

Redbird Athletics showed appreciation for the Kemp family’s support by naming them the 2011 recipient of the Joseph F. Warner Golden Redbird Award. The highest honor bestowed by the Illinois State Athletics Department, the award recognizes individuals for dedication and loyal support of the Weisbecker Fund and Illinois State Athletics through exemplary service, leadership, and financial support. It was renamed in 2003 after the death of Joe, a Weisbecker Scholarship Fund leader who died in a plane crash.

Illinois State Interim Athletics Director Larry Lyons and Rose Stadel, Joe’s widow, presented the award to the family at halftime of an Illinois State and Bradley University basketball game in February.

Two golf classics set for summer months

Two annual golf events are slated at Illinois State. Plan now for the Redbird Golf Classic, which will be held Friday, June 10, at the Weibring Golf Club at Illinois State University. Reservation forms can be printed online at GoRedbirds.com.

The Kilborn Classic returns August 24-25, with proceeds benefiting the men’s and women’s golf programs at Illinois State. Harland Kilborn coached three ISU Missouri Valley Conference Championship teams, produced 30 all-conference golfers, and was a four-time MVC Coach of the Year before retiring in 2004. Register online at www.isugolf.com.

For more information about either event contact Annie Campbell at (309) 438-3803.

Illinois State coach chosen for national hall of fame

Head softball coach Melinda Fischer ’72, M.S. ’75, has been inducted into the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Hall of Fame. This is the second association award for Fischer, who was the first recipient of the NFCA Distinguished Service Award in 2002.

Fischer is in her 26th season at the helm of the ISU softball program. Prior to the start of the 2011 season, she had amassed 849 career victories, which ranked 40th on the all-time Division I softball coaching wins list.

She has directed Illinois State to seven postseason appearances, including an NCAA Regional berth last season. ISU has won nine regular-season Missouri Valley Conference (MVC), championships, three MVC tournament titles, and two Gateway regular-season championships under her guidance.

Six MVC Coach of the Year awards, two regional coach of the year citations, 17 All-Americans, five College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-Americans, and countless other honors have been captured under Fischer.

Want more Redbird football news?

Get full details on all of the football recruits at GoRedbirds.com, as well as the complete schedule for the 2011 season.
It could be the funniest scene ever presented on television.

In this classic screamer from the current TV mega-hit series *Glee*, superstar actress-comedian Jane Lynch ’82 (while playing a tyrannical high school cheerleading coach named Sue Sylvester) confronts her nemesis—actor Matthew Morrison (playing a dweeby Spanish teacher who’s just agreed to serve as director of the school’s glee club).

“So you’re starting a glee club?” barks the six-foot-tall Lynch, looking thoroughly pugnacious in her gleaming, cobalt-blue sweatshirt.

The dweeb nods uneasily.

“Let me demonstrate something for you,” says Sylvester. A moment later, she’s placing an apple on her desk. Then, while glaring fiercely at the dweeb: “This is the self-esteem of your average glee-clubber.

“And this...[while lifting a huge trophy from a nearby shelf] is me—the internationally ranked cheerleading coach, Sue Sylvester.”

Using her trophy as a hammer, she crushes the defenseless apple into fragments.

“Get the picture?”
The dweeb stares forlornly at her.

“I think you missed a piece,” he finally says woodenly.

She glowers. “Did I?” Grabbing one of the larger apple fragments from the desk, she slowly and triumphantly eats it.

Welcome to the hilariously entertaining world of Lynch—the former Illinois State School of Theatre undergrad who went on to become one of the funniest and most successful TV and movie performers in the world of contemporary showbiz.

After starring in half a dozen smash-hit motion pictures, including 2000’s *Best in Show* and the 2008 blockbuster comedy *Role Models*, the 50-year-old Lynch now ranks as one of the most accomplished screen stars in Hollywood.

Having nailed down a shelf full of acting awards—including a coveted 2010 Emmy and a Golden Globe earlier this year for Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series for the Fox chart-buster *Glee*—Lynch has become an entertainment supernova. But she’s a star who remains singularly unimpressed by her own success.

Although she’s deadly serious about her acting, Lynch maintains a refreshingly light-hearted outlook on the subject of her own achievements, while frequently guffawing out loud at the thought of her own undeniable stardom.

Take that thrilling moment in Los Angeles last August, for example, when they handed Lynch one of television’s most striking symbols: the gleaming silver trophy with the word Emmy carved across its glittering surface.

The euphoric Lady Jane told a worldwide TV audience, “I’m an actor, and we do it because we’re compelled to do it. We have no other choice—or marketable skills.”

Just before thanking “my wife Lara”—she’s very proud of her same-sex marriage to Florida psychologist Lara Embry last year—Lynch triggered roars of laughter by also thanking the Illinois folks who brought her up.

by Tom Nugent

May 2011 Illinois State
“I want to thank my parents on the South Side of Chicago for raising us,” she clamored to surging applause. “Yeah, South Side! I want to thank my parents for raising us to the sounds of musical theater, and for being so unintentionally funny.”

Lynch was born and raised in Dolton, just south of Chicago, as the daughter of a hard-working banker and a homemaker. They gave her a keen appreciation for Broadway musical comedy and the joys of unbridled laughter at the dinner table.

A born entertainer with a knack for breaking her friends up with zany one-liners, Lynch descended onto Illinois State’s campus in 1978. It wasn’t long before she fell under the sway of legendary ISU theatre professor Jean Scharfenberg.

“She was wonderful,” Lynch recalled in a recent interview, while describing the terror that the ISU “Dragon Lady” inspired in her acting students. “She wore layers and layers of clothing, and she had a big voice. When this woman walked down the hall, the kids would part like the Red Sea!”

The late Scharfenberg remains an iconic figure who taught drama at ISU for more than 30 years. When remembering her, Lynch admits to some very mixed feelings: “She was a scary presence, but you wanted her attention, and you wanted her to approve of your acting. Sometimes, when people ask me today if I’m ‘channeling’ somebody from my past [while playing tyrannical characters such as Sue Sylvester in Glee], I think of the Dragon Lady and I wonder if that might be true.”

Another major influence at ISU was longtime directing professor Don LaCasse, who remembers Lynch as having “a lot of talent and a lot of presence” in his theatre classes. “Even back then, Jane was a really funny gal,” he said, “as well as a very hard-working student. I wasn’t at all surprised later when her acting career really took off.”

Having departed Normal in the summer of 1982, Lynch went on to earn a master’s degree in theatre at Cornell. What followed were several years of struggle in which she earned her “chops” as an actress with a natural talent for comedy. An imposing presence, Lynch radiated fearlessness and soon proved to be enormously effective in roles that called for an aggressive, in-your-face female with a redwood-sized chip on her shoulder.

By the late 1980s Lynch had already debuted on the silver screen with a mini-role in a “body-switching” comedy entitled Vice Versa. She did stage work in the Windy City, including a scintillating 1991 performance as Carol Brady in the Chicago Annoyance...
Theatre presentation of *The Real Live Brady Bunch*. Lynch also spent several years winning major laughs and making some important showbiz connections with Chicago's Second City improvisational comedy acting troupe.

Next came a minor role with Harrison Ford in the 1993 film *The Fugitive*, followed by what most Hollywood historians now clearly describe as her breakthrough picture, *Best in Show*, for which Lynch played an outrageously pushy personal dog handler.


The next step was to parlay Lynch’s soaring comic stature into a TV series that would decimate the Nielsen ratings, which is precisely what happened with *Glee*. The show is built around a fictional, small-town Ohio high school where the football players—and their viciously aggressive cheerleading coach Sue Sylvester—do their best to terrorize the dorks, dipsticks, and dweebs in the school’s “show chorus.” As such, *Glee* is the perfect vehicle for the scowling, sneering, maniacally belligerent persona created by Lynch.

Morrison, Lynch’s costar on the show, says she’s not at all like the gruff, butt-kicking Sue Sylvester that *Glee* fans have come to loathe and adore. “She’s actually the sweetest woman you could ever meet,” he said in a recent interview. “She’s so great… I crack up in her face a lot [during rehearsals]. When I heard that we were going to improvise [during taping of the show], I was terrified. But over the last year, she’s raised the expectations I have for myself.”

Ask Lynch to reflect on her astonishing success in showbiz and the laughter-loving comic actor will reply by pointing out that she’s managed to succeed as the coach of the *Glee* “Cheerios” cheerleading squad almost in spite of herself given she “can’t sing or dance” a lick and never could.

“I have to start 10 rehearsals earlier than everyone else,” she says with a jab of typically self-deprecating humor, “because I’m no dancer, for sure. But I do enjoy it. It really is the most wonderful job—even if I have to work harder than everyone else at the dancing!”
Junior chemistry major Dan Groves finds the 47-foot climbing wall a fun challenge.
Dawn Sanner, M.S. ’87, understands how campus recreation programs impact a college student’s life. There’s the obvious health benefit, as well as social and networking aspects. But involvement in Illinois State’s program did even more for Sanner—creating leadership opportunities that resulted in a career-changing epiphany.

Sanner worked with campus recreation as a graduate assistant while completing a master’s degree in health physical education and recreation. She had already diverted from her undergraduate plan to work as a computer programmer, thinking she’d prefer an athletic director’s position.

As she rose to the rank of leisure lifestyle coordinator during the 1980s, Sanner embraced the challenge of opening the University’s Student Recreation Building. The work convinced her to change professional directions again.
“I knew then that Student Affairs was my calling,” said Sanner, who built a career in the field with positions at the University of Tennessee, University of Missouri, and North Carolina State.

Those years prepared her for a return to Illinois State in 2009 for her dream job as the executive director of Campus Recreation. Among her many duties was the enormous task of overseeing completion of the University’s Student Fitness Center and McCormick Hall. The chance to help her alma mater reach a long-held goal of creating a fitness center on campus to replace the off-campus facility she worked to open 23 years ago was a thrill for Sanner, who manages the new building.

By the time she arrived two years ago, the $50-million facility was under construction on the site where Dunn-Barton and Walker residence halls once stood. The exterior was completed, and planning for the 170,000-square-foot interior nearly finalized. What remained was the monumental task of blending part of Student Affairs’ offerings and the academic programs within the School of Kinesiology and Recreation into one facility.

The work culminated in January of this year with the opening of the Student Fitness Center and McCormick Hall. The Kinesiology and Recreation program is largely housed in the extensively renovated McCormick Hall. The University’s Health Promotion and Wellness Program now lives there as well. McCormick Hall is attached by a walkway to the fitness center space, which is where Campus Recreation offices are located.

The majority of space is allocated for use by students as a recreation center that includes a pool, basketball courts, an indoor track, an indoor dual floor hockey and soccer rink, group fitness space, weight rooms, exercise rooms, classrooms, and a 47-foot climbing wall.

All fee-paying ISU students can use the facility by showing their ID, which gets them free entry. Equipment has been carefully selected so that the facility is accessible to everyone regardless of ability.

Memberships are available to faculty, staff, retirees, and graduates.

With plenty of sunlight streaming in, the pool area is inviting for serious lap swimmers and recreational activities. Students are thrilled to have expansive open space, ample equipment with individual television screens, above left, and a popular Jamba Juice in the Bob and Julie Dobski Welcome Center, above right.
an abandoned ice rink converted to serve as a temporary solution.

“It was makeshift because the University couldn’t afford anything else,” said Facilities Planning and Construction Director Dick Runner. He has meeting notes about the need for a rec center going back to the 1990s, and confirms that the new facility as it stands today was conceived “at least 10 or 12 years ago” but stalled due to financial constraints.

“The University was originally contemplating a building funded by the state and student fees, but the state stopped allocating capital money the last six to eight years. So it became a question of how can we move this forward,” Runner said.

The students provided the answer in 2002 when they approved a referendum to increase fees, in essence taxing themselves to create the building fund. To avoid collecting from students who would graduate before the facility opened, the increase was not implemented until planning began in 2006, and then in increments depending on class year.

Construction began in 2008 based on plans created through a committee that included representatives from the academic side of campus as well as Student Affairs, and of course student leaders. Members toured campus and community facilities in Illinois and other states for ideas.

The team faced unique planning challenges because it is the exception to blend recreation with academics on university campuses. College of Applied Science and Technology Dean Jeff Wood said the decision to do so at ISU made sense, as there is “a natural affinity” between kinesiology and recreation programs and campus fitness programs. Sanner agreed.

“There is an easy collaboration with the School of Kinesiology and Recreation, as we have a similar mission and many of their students work in our programs,” she said. “We can each exist without the other, but why would we not pool our resources and build something that helps both programs?”

The benefits are numerous for the school, which Runner noted existed in some of the worst academic spaces on campus. Beyond being scattered in various buildings, many faculty struggled in laboratories created from “the innards of Horton Field House.”

As one of the largest academic programs with about 1,000 majors, the space constraints were limiting.
excellence. Now exercise science and athletic training laboratories have been significantly upgraded, and a sports psychology laboratory created. The total lab space is four times what existed previously.

“We couldn’t be happier,” Wood said. “We are one of the best undergraduate programs in kinesiology and recreation in the country, and we have a strong master’s program. We are now better equipped with everything in place to recruit a whole new cadre of talented faculty and students.”

Wood is pleased that the program is under one roof, which enables faculty to not only connect more easily with students but collaborate on research endeavors.

“My hope is that all this combined helps faculty be even more productive than they are. Our scholarship is high, but this new facility will serve as a springboard in expanding our graduate program,” said Wood, who now sees the addition of a doctoral sequence as a realistic goal.

Doorways from Dunn-Barton and Walker halls were restored and used in McCormick. Columns that stood in front of Walker Hall were made into limestone benches placed around the facility, and a time capsule from the residence halls went into the fitness center area.

“There are a lot of alumni with a strong connection to Dunn-Barton and Walker halls. They had good experiences in those residence halls. The University needed to go forward in a respectful manner to preserve the past,” Student Affairs Vice President Steve Adams said.

With more than 30 years of service at ISU, Adams has been keenly aware of the need for this facility. The project has been on his desk the entire five years he has served as vice president.

“The decision was made early on by the University to preserve McCormick Hall. The exterior of the historic building is primarily unchanged. Although the interior has been extensively renovated, pieces of history remain.

Student enthusiasm was palpable as the doors opened in January. David Marquis, student body president, joined Reggie Redbird in cutting a red ribbon at a grand opening event that gave students the opportunity to tour the building the evening before the spring semester began. The event included a game of tag with hundreds participating, and a simultaneous climb up the rock wall by President Al Bowman and Marquis, who is a junior studying political science.

The wall is a “wow” factor that was important to the students, who were an integral part of the entire process. “We have one of the most

This building is something this campus has needed for many years.

See what’s so exciting!
Plan to take a tour of the building during your next campus visit. Until then check out video coverage and more photos online at IllinoisState.edu/magazine.
influential student groups in the nation because of the way our administration always treats us,” Marquis said. “They allow us to be really involved, and when there is a problem or a concern they really listen.”

It was the students who said they wanted such a building years ago, and who worked to pass the referendum that made it possible. “It was something we were lacking compared to other campuses,” Marquis said.

And while the students didn’t get all they had on their wish list—racquetball courts were, for example, cut from the budget—the building truly is a dream come true. “It’s something really spectacular,” Sanner said.

The fact his peers agree is obvious by usage numbers, which has exceeded 5,000 individuals a day during peak times. The excitement is apparent from student expressions, especially those who see the facility for the first time. Sanner has witnessed jaws dropping repeatedly during tours, which are now included as part of any prospective student visit.

“When students pick an institution, the student rec facility is three to five in the order of what they care about,” Sanner said. She is confident Illinois State now has yet another competitive advantage with a building that is “a gorgeous place of energy and activity.”

With Sanner in charge there will also undoubtedly be unexpected opportunities for students. Some may even follow in her footsteps and find their lifelong passion while pursuing all that is now available at the Student Fitness Center and McCormick Hall.
By Cassie Monroe and Kate Arthur

ARTIFACTS
MEMORIES

Stories of Illinois State’s history

There are certain aspects of the University’s past that have been shared over so many generations that they are now legendary. It is, for example, hard to find a graduate who hasn’t heard about the ghost of librarian Angeline Milner. And who doesn’t know that the school started as a place to train teachers?

Old Main is another romanticized piece of the campus fabric. For the majority of students, knowledge of the building comes from a plaque placed on the Quad adjacent to the bell from the clock tower. ISU researchers know there is much more to learn. Through their efforts precious memories of that first and grand structure on campus are now being preserved.
Jessica Griffin sits in what looks like a closet in Schroeder Hall, steadily sifting through a cardboard box filled with pieces of broken glass bottles. The work is typical for Griffin on a Friday afternoon. An archaeology master’s student, she has teamed with archaeology professor Jim Skibo and cultural anthropology professor Gina Hunter on a quest to reveal the campus of yesteryear by examining artifacts from the University’s first building.

What once stood as grand Old Main has been reduced to bits and pieces lying beneath flower-beds on the Quad. Nearly 100 boxes of artifacts are now all that remain of the first classroom and administrative building to open on the Illinois State Normal University (ISNU) campus.

The materials were unearthed in a 1981 dig on campus by then graduate student Keith Barr, M.S. ’83. Along with a team of excavators, Barr tore up a good deal of the Quad nearly 30 years ago to remove what was left behind from Old Main’s demolition in 1958. Now Griffin is picking up where Barr left off, going through 40 boxes of glass, 11 boxes of ceramics, five boxes of metal, and one box of faunal remains uncovered in Barr’s dig.

“This is mostly a process of ‘work with what you have,’” Griffin explained as she pulled shards of broken glass from one of the boxes. Once she pieces together the remains, she will be able to statistically calculate how many objects have been uncovered. The results of her research will be revealed in her thesis, *In the Shadow of Old Main: Consumer Behavior at Illinois State University from 1917 to 1932.*
The timeframe was pinpointed from items thrown into a cistern uncovered by Barr. At the bottom was a lamp, patented in 1917. Several objects were piled on the lamp, but at the very top of the heap was a glass prescription bottle made in 1932.

The opportunity as a graduate student to engage in research so meaningful to the school is a thrill for Griffin, who is especially pleased to be building on the work of an earlier graduate student.

“It’s funny, I feel like I’m working with Keith Barr even though I have never met him,” Griffin said.

Barr completed his master’s degree in history with an emphasis in historical archaeology. While at ISU he worked for the Midwestern Archaeological Research Center (MARC) as a historical archaeologist and principal investigator. MARC director Edward B. Jelks initiated the Old Main archaeological explorations and involved Barr in the project.

“The building itself was an icon when it was still there and is a grand memory for anyone who ever saw it,” Barr said. “It would be difficult to decide what building, if any, still standing on campus holds the same place in the hearts of the ISU family.”

Now working as a historian with the Air Force Reserve Command History Office at Robins Air Force Base in Georgia, Barr is pleased to know the Old Main project continues. “I am very glad that professors Skibo and Hunter and others have become interested in the Old Main site,” Barr said. “I believe it is an important part of the ISU campus.”

Skibo and Hunter agree and are confident more can be learned about Old Main from the boxes of fragmented items that now line Griffin’s office wall. Studying the excavated materials is the best way to learn about the real history of the building, which is discussed at length in the University’s official records yet remains a bit mysterious to generations.
who never had the opportunity to set foot in the campus landmark.

“There has been a great deal written about Old Main, but we don’t really know the whole story,” Skibo explained. “There is always an official story, one people want to tell, but there is always another story too. It will always be the official story unless we find another one.”

To gain a more complete understanding, the research team is also working to tap into the memories of alumni and community individuals who had campus ties during the years that Old Main still stood.

Oral histories have been gathered from graduates who attended between 1933 and 1942, which puts some of them close to reaching the century mark. Griffin has also interviewed some of the faculty and staff members who worked in the building up until the late 1950s.

Speaking with people who walked Old Main’s halls has brought life to the project. “It’s exciting and interesting to hear people talk about Old Main,” Skibo said. “The alumni are a rich data source, and time is ticking by.”

Continued on page 24

The facts and figures recorded in the University’s archives about Old Main give a good sense of the building’s grandeur, but they can’t convey the emotion tied to such a significant campus landmark. For that it takes personal experience and memories, such as those still cherished by Eugene A. Hunter.

Hunter holds the employee service record at Illinois State University, starting at 20 and changing his last fluorescent light at 72. He worked under nine presidents and knew the people several buildings are named for, including Arthur Watterson, Nelson Smith, Ruth Stroud, Pop Horton, Howard Hancock, Dean Schroeder, and Clyde Hudelson.

He met Carter Harris, the beloved building service worker who was employed at ISU for 48 years. Harris is honored to this day with a physical plant building that bears his name. Only 11 at the time they met, Hunter didn’t say anything to Harris but smiles at the thought of having broken his service record.

When Hunter started, a street ran through the Quad. Hovey Hall, Milner Library, and Hancock Stadium didn’t exist. Neither did the towering residence halls. “The campus you’re looking at now is the second campus,” he said.

Now 80, Hunter still has a vivid mental picture of Illinois State Normal University, and especially Old Main. He worked in the building and remembers it as his most difficult assignment. There were no elevators or air conditioning. At night he had to close all the windows on three floors, a task that took two hours.

Yet Hunter never gave a thought to working anywhere else, grateful for a job that paid well and offered security. He was particularly pleased to keep his strong campus ties, which go back to his youth.

Hunter attended Thomas Metcalf School and University High School when they were still housed in Moulton Hall on the Quad. He rode his bike home for lunch because the restaurants that ringed the campus wouldn’t serve him as an African-American student.
An athlete at U-High, he can still remember he ran the 100-yard dash in 10.3 seconds, and the name of the boy who ran faster. His dream was to run track and play football at Illinois State while studying industrial arts. The campus already felt like home as his father, Eugene F. Hunter, worked at ISU as a foreman for 29 years and until his death in 1971.

Eugene began his 52 years of service under President Raymond Fairchild, who hired him for second shift maintenance in 1950. There were only 1,500 students at that time. Hunter cleaned residence halls that African-Americans weren’t allowed to live in.

“It was rough, very segregated,” he said. “It hurt me, it hurt my family.”

But he was treated well on campus and loved his job, which was interrupted by a draft notice only four months into it. Fairchild promised Hunter if he returned safely from the Korean War, where he served in Ansbach, Germany, he’d have a job for life. Two years later Hunter was home, injured but healthy enough to work.

He swept floors and emptied trash in Smith Hall, which was filled with 52 men, many of them veterans. And he built relationships, including one with Dean of Men Ralph Linkins, who often asked Hunter for advice.

“I’d tell him to do what he thought he should, but do it in the right way,” said Hunter, who gained respect of the campus community throughout his years of service. He is remembered by former coworkers, students and faculty as loyal, private, quiet, steady, and able to get along with everyone.

Never married, Hunter cared deeply about the students. He chose to work in Manchester Hall for so long that he watched a second generation of students move in. He stayed because he thought he could make a difference to students, Rick Lewis said.

Now associate dean of students, Lewis met Hunter while serving as a residence hall coordinator in Manchester. He remembers and appreciates Hunter’s involvement in the lives of students.

“Gene taught them humility, grace, and what it meant to be a man. He taught students more about life than they learned in the classroom,” Lewis said. “For many of those students, their first encounter with an African-American was Gene. He worked on some of the toughest floors in Manchester but students kept them up because of their respect for Gene. He was the most popular guy on the floor.”

When Hunter reached 50 years of service, there was a celebration. President Vic Boschini presented him with an Illinois State letter jacket and a University High School class ring, which replaced the one that was stolen when his home was robbed.

He was honored with the Distinguished Service Award in 1981, which is the highest accolade given to staff. “It meant that I accomplished all the good deeds at ISU that I could,” Hunter said. “I thank ISU and the students and the faculty and my coworkers for that.”

Hunter retired in 2003 and now lives in Bloomington only a couple of blocks from where he grew up, along a brick street with modest homes that have wrought-iron railings, screen doors, and scattered gardens. He still goes to First Christian Church, where he started serving as a deacon when he was only 12. And he still enjoys visits to the campus that he has watched evolve as construction projects over time have changed the landscape.

Perhaps the biggest change was the loss of Old Main. A memorial marks where the building once proudly stood on the Quad. The bell also remains on the Quad and is rung on special occasions. Hunter was chosen as a bell ringer during a past Founders Day bell ceremony—a celebration with special meaning for the man who gladly served the University, including in the halls of Old Main.

Eugene Hunter interview
Listen to Eugene Hunter share his vivid campus memories. Video from his interview can be found at IllinoisState.edu/magazine.
Hunter explained how joyous she felt to find alumni eager to help the historical project. “I think we have a lot to learn from the alumni,” she said. “The one theme that we kept hearing over and over again was ‘we were so lucky to go to school.’”

Alumni interviewed have talked less about what they learned in Old Main’s classrooms and more about the hallways, stairways, clock tower, and friendships they made with people from differing backgrounds.

The stories and overall project have increased the sense of pride Hunter and Skibo have for the University, as well as sparked ideas for other areas of Illinois State they would like to examine. Hunter is interested in studying domestic life on campus and the history of ISNU women. Both are intrigued by ISU’s integration of minority students over the years, given Illinois State was one of the first universities to open its doors without regard to race.

Shortly after the University was established in 1857, plans for construction began on property located in what was then Bloomington. The site was chosen for its proximity to the crossing of the Illinois Central and the Chicago and Alton railroads.

The first building planned was Old Main. To fund the project, Illinois State administrators secured subscriptions from various people and sold real estate. McLean County residents pledged $70,000 of the $150,000 needed for construction.

Ground was broken in September of 1857 and the cornerstone laid that same year, signaling that the project was ready to move forward. The situation changed within months, however, with a financial panic similar to the Great Depression. Enthusiasm for the building died down. People who had made promises to pay could not or would not provide the funding. For 16 months, nothing was done on the building.
Even Barr came up with another research project. “Perhaps Cook Hall,” he suggested. “I nominated Cook Hall for the National Register of Historic Places and it was accepted about the same time I was doing the Old Main work.”

As for the possibility of continuing the Old Main project with another excavation, there are no plans as of now. The responsible thing to do is to go through the information Barr found first, Skibo said, noting he would be thrilled with the opportunity to gather more artifacts from the Quad.

“It would be good to show we have research to do on campus about our campus,” Skibo said. Another dig would also bring an opportunity to engage more students in the project, which is something both Skibo and Hunter would welcome.

“Students always need projects and research experience,” Hunter said. “This is an opportunity for hands-on research, which is the best way to learn. The topic is a great one, and it’s right here at our fingertips.”

Griffin knows from experience how a project such as the Old Main dig would serve as a great learning tool for future students. “It would remind people of what’s buried just below the surface,” she said, while sipping from a glass bottle of ice tea she had purchased before beginning work that afternoon.

“It’s amazing to think that I’m just drinking this on an average Friday,” she said holding up the bottle to examine it closer, “but in 70 years someone like me could be agonizing over the manufacturer’s label on the bottom to figure out something about the past.”

Get involved in the project.
Do you have an Old Main memory or story to share? Go online to Old Main. IllinoisState.edu/involved, call (309) 438-7397, or send an e-mail to OldMainProject@IllinoisState.edu.

Charles Hovey, Illinois State’s first president, decided to take action. He created a building committee with the goal of seeing Old Main completed. Members of the committee signed personal financial notes and made compromises with earlier subscribers to secure funding. Hovey purchased $30,000 of “swamp land” in Illinois, helping to create a land boom in the area.

Construction began in 1859, with the building first used for commencement in 1860. The building was completed by 1861 at a cost of $200,000.

Old Main was 160 feet long and 100 feet wide. It reached a height of 140 feet and included a clock tower that could be seen for miles. A three-story building, it contained a large lecture hall and several classrooms.

The basement held laboratories for the science department on one side, and the janitor’s living quarters on the other.

The first floor had classrooms for the University’s model school and offices for the education department. The 270-seat lecture hall was in the middle of the second floor with 10 classrooms around it. The third floor housed a museum, the library, Normal Hall, and rooms for the Philadelphian and Wrightonian speech societies.

In 1946 the clock tower was declared unsafe and was removed. That summer the third floor was also removed. The building fell into such a state of deterioration that it was torn down in 1958.
What is now lauded as the nation’s premier ensemble theater had humble beginnings with two Illinois State alums. Terry Kinney ’76 and Jeff Perry ’78 partnered with Gary Sinise to create Chicago’s Steppenwolf Theatre Company in the mid-1970s. They did so out of a resolve to continue developing as actors, never anticipating they would ultimately change the face of American theatre.

“Our beginnings were just an extension of the kind of work we did here” at Illinois State, Kinney said during a panel discussion with Perry. The two returned to campus in February to receive honorary doctorate degrees at Founders Day. Both have also been added to the newly created College of Fine Arts Hall of Fame.

Reflecting on Steppenwolf’s start, the two praised Illinois State faculty for creating the opportunity to learn what it means to be an artist. “We had this permission and inspiration of that gift that the department gave us in its curriculum, which was basically saying ‘Go learn how to fish,’” Perry said.

As undergraduates the two were empowered to write, cast, design, and direct productions. Kinney still fondly remembers playing a sloth for an entire semester in Jean Scharffenberg’s class. He still invokes the advice of professor Don LaCasse, who preached “Don’t just do something, stand there” when teaching the art of creating a character that listens on stage. And both remain grateful for the wisdom of John Kirk, who emphasized that characters are formed in the space between actors.

Such teaching instilled “this crucial expectation to figure out what it meant to be an artist,” Perry said. He and Sinise, who was a Chicago high
ISU’s theatre program prepared Steppenwolf founders school classmate, enlisted Kinney in conversation about how they could continue that quest after graduation.

They found the answer by starting their own theatre company in the basement of a Catholic church in Highland Park. Eventually nine other ISU peers were involved in the effort, including John Malkovich ’76 and Laurie Metcalf ’76. The name Steppenwolf surfaced because one of Perry’s friends was reading the Hermann Hesse book by the same title at the time.

“We started our own theatre company by throwing ourselves at each other. We never did readings of first plays. We flung ourselves around the room. And we didn’t stage violence. We hit each other,” Kinney said.

Such raw emotion was funneled into four plays initially, two of which were eventually staged by invitation at St. Nicholas Theatre in Chicago. Critics gave good reviews, cementing the foundation Steppenwolf needed to build a strong future.

That was 35 years ago. Perry and Kinney have since established remarkable careers as actors and directors. Steppenwolf has grown to 43 members who still stage groundbreaking productions that capture national acclaim and accolades, including nine Tony Awards.

The success is sweet for Perry and Kinney because the company remains true to the trio’s initial vision, which was “to tear down the fourth wall” and “be hyper-real” in representing aberrant society. “We were good at portraying those people that broke our hearts. That’s the kind of work we chose,” Kinney said.

“I think there is something incredibly uplifting about doing a play about desperate characters who don’t know what to do next,” Kinney explained. “The importance of art for me is to go to the theatre, turn off the lights, and see our lives reflected back in metaphor and storytelling. It helps to make sense of the things we suffer through every day. That was our mission from the beginning.”

*The journey from Allen Theatre.*

Hear Terry Kinney and Jeff Perry discuss their ISU years and their rise to star status. Video from their panel discussion is online at IllinoisState.edu/magazine.
The annual Alumni Night at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival has been scheduled for Friday, July 29. The theatre will be reserved for alumni and their guests, who will enjoy a performance of Romeo and Juliet. One of the most well-known of Shakespeare's works, Romeo and Juliet focuses on the story of two young and reckless lovers torn apart by rival families. They sacrifice everything for their love—family, friends, and even their lives.

If you have never experienced the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, this is the perfect opportunity to enjoy theater under the stars! Not only will you see one of Shakespeare's most beloved plays, you will also get the “inside scoop” from festival personnel, including a backstage tour and a photo opportunity with some of the actors.

The cocktail hour and theatre tours begin at 5:30 p.m. A buffet dinner will be served on the lawn of Ewing Cultural Center. A program will follow at 6:30 p.m., with remarks by President Al Bowman. The show begins at 8 p.m.

The Alumni Relations office has negotiated discounted prices for alumni for this special evening. Tickets for the show range from $25 to $35 depending on seat preference. Tickets for the buffet dinner only are available for $16. To reserve tickets or request additional Alumni Night information, call Alumni Relations at (309) 438-2586. Tickets are available at Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/shakespeare.

Individuals unable to attend the alumni event may still wish to catch a show during the 2011 season, which includes productions of The Complete Works of Shakespeare (Abridged) and The Winter’s Tale. The season runs from June 23 through August 6. A special fundraising night for WGLT with music and a meal is slated for August 7.

In addition to the plays, the festival will once again include preshow entertainment and activities, including jazz in the courtyard and picnic dinners in the beautiful Genevieve Green Gardens.
Nominations sought for Homecoming royalty

Nominations for the alumni king and queen, prince and princess for the 2011 Homecoming court are being sought. Applications are available at IllinoisStateHomecoming.com/royalty or by contacting jedunca@IllinoisState.edu. Nominations are due by July 1.

The alumni king and queen will be crowned at a luncheon on October 14. They will reign over events throughout Homecoming weekend. Alumni who have celebrated their 50th class reunion, have a strong ISU connection, and are able to attend Homecoming events throughout the full weekend are eligible.

The Homecoming prince and princess will help lead off the annual parade and other events on Saturday. Children of ISU graduates between the ages of four and seven at the time of Homecoming 2011 are eligible. Nominees must display Redbird spirit, pride, and enthusiasm.

Begin planning summer and Homecoming reunions

The Alumni Relations office has compiled a planning guide to assist alumni who are interested in coordinating a reunion. Whether the intent is to get together with former classmates or club members, this guide will make reunion planning easier.

Simply visit www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/reunion for more information or contact alumni@IllinoisState.edu. Hard copies of the reunion planning guide are also available at the Alumni Relations office on campus.

Transcript orders available online

Illinois State offers an online transcript ordering service through the National Student Clearinghouse. To order visit www.registrar.ilstu.edu/transcripts. Select the link that says ‘login to Clearinghouse secure site’ and follow the ordering steps. The necessary form that will be provided can be sent directly to the Clearinghouse as an e-mail attachment. You can also print it out and either mail or fax it.

There is a 2.25 online processing fee per mailing address, in addition to the $6 fee per ISU transcript. Requests are generally processed within two business days. Expedited shipping is also available.

Call Clearinghouse at (703) 742-7791, or contact ISU’s Registrar’s Office at (309) 438-2188 or email registrar@IllinoisState.edu with questions.

Alumni Association awards program now seeking nominations

Do you know of an alumnus who deserves to be recognized? Nominate the individual for an award!

The Alumni Association awards program recognizes professional and service accomplishments of alumni. Award recipients will be honored on Founders Day in February of 2012. Nominations are due by May 31.

Details and an online nomination form are available at www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/awards. Contact Gina Bianchi at gbianc@IllinoisState.edu or by calling (309) 438-7380 with questions.

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News for a lifetime

Never miss out on an event again. Visit us online at IllinoisState.edu to sign up for lifetime e-mail forwarding.
The Asian carp is destroying the Midwest rivers’ ecosystem, threatening the Great Lakes, sparking lawsuits between governmental agencies, and injuring fishermen by knocking them out of boats.

Geology alum Bill Bolen ’80 is working to tackle the species. After graduating, Bolen worked as an oil exploration geologist in Texas before moving to Chicago and beginning an environmental career as a private firm consultant.

“I conducted mostly hazardous waste investigations, landfill investigations, and a lot of property assessments for contamination,” said Bolen, who joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Superfund Program in 1987.

He rose through the agency to become a senior advisor and regular correspondent with the White House. He obtained one of the highest profile positions in his regional office—emergency response program manager—before transitioning to the Great Lakes National Program Office.

“I wanted to apply my rapid response training to help stop invasive species,” he said. That’s exactly his goal with the Asian carp, which has already devastated the ecosystem in several river ways. Breeding rapidly, the fish eats all the native species’ food sources in sight. If it were to enter the Great Lakes, the damage could be irreversible.

“I’m primarily responsible for planning, coordinating, budgeting, tracking, and monitoring operational implantation activities for all Asian carp activities for local, state, and federal agencies,” Bolen explained.

The Army Corps of Engineers has constructed electric barriers between the Mississippi River basin and Lake Michigan. Construction on the third barrier began last fall with hopes of adding another engineering barrier to stop the carps’ progress.

Commercial fishermen are helping as well. They are employed by Illinois to use nets to pull Asian carp out from beneath the barriers. A Chinese company imports 50 million pounds of carp fillets annually.
30s

Elizabeth “Bette” A. Burchfield Bates ’34 worked as a Girl Scout camp director and trained leaders for the program before retiring after 20 years. She also worked as a naturalist for Ore Dunes Recreation National Park. An avid hiker until she reached 90, she has visited all U.S. national parks and has traveled internationally. Now a widow, she had four foster children. She resides in River Bend, Oregon.

Taylor Vaughn ’58 completed a master’s degree in guidance from Governors State University. He taught for 45 years, specializing in math and English. He also taught social studies to middle school students. During summers he worked in steel mills. He has been recognized by Cambridge Who’s Who Among American Teachers for demonstrating dedication, leadership, and excellence in education. He resides in Chicago.

Pause for applause

Satiric sweets

After completing his business degree, Jordan Zweigoron ’87 headed to a Silicon Valley career that ended with his decision to reinvent the corner doughnut shop. In 2009 he opened Psycho Donuts in the San Francisco Bay area. “We’re the world’s most unusual donut shop, with lines out the door and international media attention,” said Zweigoron, who has since opened a second store in San Jose. Themed as a light-hearted asylum complete with a padded cell, the business ranks among the Top 10 Donuts Coast to Coast according to Maxim Magazine. The menu, online at www.psycho-donuts.com, includes such unusual offerings as the hamburger donut.

Fight for freedom

International student Fatemeh Masjedi, M.S. ’05, returned to her homeland of Iran after completing a graduate degree in history at Illinois State. Determined to make a difference throughout her country, Masjedi became a campaign and women’s rights activist in Qom. She worked with the One Million Signatures Campaign, which was launched to persuade lawmakers to vote for change. She was arrested while working on the project and charged with spreading propaganda against the state. Initially sentenced to one year of prison, Masjedi has been fined $200 and given a six-month suspended imprisonment. Iran uses suspended sentences to silence critics of the government.

One farmer’s fame

Farming in Illinois is not unique, but the way agribusiness-horticulture alum Mac Condill ’99 goes about it is unusual. Condill is a nationally recognized cucurbit expert, specializing in melons, gourds, pumpkin, and squash. Continuing a family tradition of more than 150 years on 200 acres in Arthur, Condill does more than entertain tourists at his annual Great Pumpkin Patch, Homestead Bakery, and Homestead Seeds. He is often a featured guest of Martha Stewart, most recently appearing on her Hallmark Channel program last October. That same month he was invited to decorate the White House lawn, joining President Obama’s family in handing out Halloween treats.

Drawn to music

An artist known for her amazing ink-on-paper drawings, Jessica Benjamin ’99 could not imagine her work would one day inspire an album cover. After completing her degree in studio art and printmaking, she relocated to Colorado and ultimately New York. There she honed her skill and showcased her work in numerous exhibits. One significant work was the American Series, which involved painting a portrait of the United States by painting composite portraits of its residents. Jazz great Wynton Marsalis used the paintings to illustrate his album From the Plantation to the Penitentiary. The two collaborated for a second album, He and She.

Reggie Reads

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

40s

Catherine Cole Di Paolo ’41 is a retired teacher. She is widowed and resides in Morris.

60s

Judith L. (Meyer) Maxwell ’60 is a retired educator. She received the 2010 American Cancer Society Volunteer of the Year Hope Award for Citrus County, Florida. She and her husband, Donald, reside in Citrus Springs, Florida.

Phyllis Lockwood Foster ’61 has retired and is volunteering as a court appointed special advocate with children in the St. Louis County court system. She and her husband, Darrell, reside in Kirkwood, Missouri.

Heather Hanlon ’61 retired in 2006 after 43 years of teaching K-12 art, music, and art education. She resides in Boise, Idaho.

Marsha Turner Hill ’62 is a theatre director and board member with Country Theatre Workshop in Cisna Park. She and her husband, Viril, reside in Bourbonnais.

Larry K. Krannich ’63, M.S. ’64, is professor emeritus in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Alabama. He is executive director of the Alabama Academy of Science. He is also an elected member of the American Chemical Society Board of Directors, serving a three-year term as the District IV director. He resides in Birmingham, Alabama.

Allen Pickering ’64 is a former member of the Redbird basketball team and is a member of the Illinois State Athletics Percy Family Hall.

50s

Barbara Ray Tyler ’50 is retired and enjoying international travel. She has toured Italy and Ireland. She is widowed and lives in Decatur.

Dorothy L. (Edwards) Moore ’53 is retired and writing her memoirs. She appeared as an extra in the movie Patch Adams. She resides in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

JimAnn Smith Oliver ’54 is a retired supervisor of education research with the U.S. Department of Education. She created a program for the mentally disabled for the Cherokee Nation in the 1950s and was the first teacher in Oklahoma with a degree in special education. A widow, she has 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A daughter, Lanette, has been chosen as one of the Pathfinder 7, which will take the first team of teachers into space. She resides in Temple, Texas.

Leo Kiesewetter ’58, M.S. ’63, has authored two novels. The first is The Story of Love and the Missing Lara. The second is a sequel titled The Murder of George. He resides in Bloomington.
How we met

When Emily Kabbes ’06 met Josh Kauten ’06 walking to class one day from Wright Hall, she didn’t know he would share her passion and steal her heart.

Emily was an elementary education major, while Josh was in the exercise science and fitness program. Although they had no classes in common, they eventually did an assignment together.

“Emily was working on a paper at the Karin Bone Athletic Study Center and she somehow lost the computer copy,” Josh said. “I stayed at the study center with her for a few hours helping retype the eight-page paper.”

They came to find that they both shared a love and aptitude for sports. Emily played volleyball and Josh played baseball for Illinois State. They began dating. They cheered each other on at games. Their relationship became stronger with time.

“We dated for six years before we got engaged, so we got to know each other very well,” Emily said. “After college Josh played professional baseball, so the time we spent in a long distance relationship made us realize how important our relationship was.”

The two married in July of 2010. Many of their Illinois State comrades were there to support them. Reggie Redbird even made an appearance.

They now reside in Normal and are never far from the field of sports. Emily teaches kindergarten in Unit 5 and is also the head volleyball coach at Central Catholic High School in Bloomington. Josh is the pitching coach and fitness and recreation center coordinator at Heartland Community College.

Illinois State remains significant to Emily and Josh because they found not only a wealth of friends but each other. “We wouldn’t have met if it weren’t for ISU, especially ISU athletics.”

of Fame. He served as the men’s basketball coach and director of athletics at Lincoln College for 31 years. He has been inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Hall of Fame. He and his wife, Jeannine Kiesling, M.S. ’97, reside in Lincoln.

Lester A. Davis ’65, M.S. ’70, taught at Rich Central High School in Olympia Fields prior to becoming a special agent with the FBI. He completed 25 years of service before retiring in 1994. As an agent he investigated criminal, internal security, and civil rights cases. Beyond teaching professional courses to new agents and state and law enforcement, Davis was an adjunct faculty member at the University of Virginia. He is national president of the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI. He resides in Jeffersononton, Virginia.

Cheryl L (Grater) Bielema ’67 has retired from the University of Missouri-St. Louis, where she worked in the Center for Teaching and Learning. She continues to teach in the university’s teacher certification program as an adjunct assistant professor. She and her husband, Ron, reside in Canton.

William H. Matens ’67 worked for 28 years with the FBI before retiring in 1997. He worked terrorism cases for 18 of those years, forming and coordinating the Denver Terrorist Force and later the Fugitive Task Force. He was a SWAT team member, bomb technician, firearms and defensive tactics instructor, and hostage negotiator. He is now vice president of Chicago-based Quest Consultants, which is an investigative group made up of retired FBI special agents and other law enforcement officers. Matens serves as North Central Regional Vice President of the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI. He resides in St. Charles.

Bruce Darnall ’68 writes with his son and current graduate student, Mark Darnall. The two authored an article about Adam Wainwright titled “Cardinals Right-Hander is Thriving in His Work and Calling.” Wainwright is a pitcher for the St. Louis Cardinals and 2010 NL Cy Young runner-up. The article appeared in Athletics In Action, which is an online publication of Campus Crusade for Christ. The article can be found at www.athletesinaction.org/news. Bruce resides in Lake Mills, Wisconsin.

Janet (Moore) Huff ’68, ’92, enjoys writing during her retirement years. Her work was included in the Upper Room publication in the fall of 2010. She has also had poetry published in a vocal therapy textbook for an organization called Songshine. Included in the textbook was music she composed for the published poem. She was named 2010 Photographer of the Year by the Sun City Palm Desert Camera Club. She and her husband, Terry, reside in Bloomington.

William M. “Mike” Orrison ’68, M.S. ’78, has retired after a 42-year teaching career. He taught 32 and one-half years at Mid-County / Midland High School in Varna before retiring in 2000. He then taught nine and one-half years at Kernersville Middle School in Kernersville, North Carolina. He resides there with his wife, Linda Jeanne (Jungels) ’71. She retired from Mid-County/Midlan in 2000 after 30 years of teaching service. They have two daughters who are also graduates: Susan Piotrowski ’89 and Julie Setlak ’96.

Bob Rush ’68, M.S. ’79, has retired from COUNTRY Financial after serving the organization for 12 years. He started at the company as executive vice president of the IAA Trust Company. He retired as senior vice president of COUNTRY Trust Bank. He and his wife,
Annette (Bateman) ’69, M.S. ’91, reside in Bloomington. They are the parents of three sons and have five grandchildren.

Susan (Fellhauer) Savion ’69 has retired after 41 years of teaching. She taught in Illinois for more than 12 years, in Pennsylvania for five years, and in New York for 20 years. She has published four teacher resource books titled *Quotes to Stretch Your Mind, Quotes to Spark Discussion,* and *Quotes to Make History Come Alive.* She resides in Syracuse, New York.

**70s**

Diana (Leapley) DeWees ’70 completed a doctorate in physical education at the University of Iowa. She taught and coached for many years before working in human resources. She is the parent of two sons and resides in Ladera Ranch, California.

John W. Foltz ’70 is actively practicing law in Monticello, where he resides with his wife, Jean. They are the parents of two daughters.

Linda C. Vincent Grzyb ’70, M.S. ’76, worked as an elementary education teacher and reading specialist in Mississippi, Illinois, and Wisconsin before retiring in 2010 with 40 years of service. She received the Pat Bricker Research Award from the Wisconsin State Reading Association, and has published in their journal. She was also named the Ann Baum Teacher of the Year while at Foster Elementary School in Appleton, Wisconsin. She and her husband, Gerry, reside in Neenah, Wisconsin.

Michael Latta ’70 completed a doctorate in psychology from Iowa State University. He is the William J. Bailey Jr. applied business professor at Coastal Carolina University. He has been named associate dean of the E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration at the university. Prior to joining the university in 2005 he owned and operated YTMBA Research, which specialized in predictive analytics. He resides in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Thomas Tegtmeyer ’70 has retired as vice president of sales for Anixter International. His wife, Betty (Wilson) ’69, died in 2002. He resides in Ottawa.

Larry Watters ’70 retired from State Farm Insurance Companies in 2010 after 41 years of service as an agent. He and his wife, Diane, reside in Naperville. They are the parents of five children.

Carol Chase ’72 is a mystery novelist who writes under the pen name of Kate Charles. She has been inducted into The Detection Club, which is the oldest crime fiction organization in the world. It was founded by the Golden Age luminaries in 1939. Founding members include Agatha Christie, Dorothy Sayers, and Arthur Morrison. Membership is by election and is considered a great honor. Chase resides in England.

Lawrence R. Johnson ’72 has retired from the Hewlett-Packard Company. He and his wife, Cathy Davies, are on a celebratory adventure. They are traveling 29 countries and 40,000 miles on motorcycles over an eight-month period. Their adventures are shared online at www.2by2Wheels4theWorld.com.

Darlene A. Kluka ’72, M.A. ’76, has completed two doctorates, one earned at the University of Pretoria in South Africa. She is interim dean of the School of Human Performance and Leisure Sciences at Barry University. She was inducted into ISU’s College of Applied Science and Technology Hall of Fame in 2010. She resides in Davie, Florida.

Michael Lockett ’72, M.S. ’75, Ed.D. ’92, retired after 33 years in public school education. He was in the classroom for 21 years and an administrator for 12 years. He is now a full-time professional storyteller, and has given more than 3,000 programs across the country as well as overseas. He has completed six tours of Taiwan, two of Hong Kong, two of China, and two of South Korea. Lockett has authored six children's books. Originally published in Taiwan, they have English on one side and Mandarin on the other. All come with an audio CD in both languages and became available in the U.S. this year.

Diane (Wegner) Miller ’72 retired in 2009 after 35 years of teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. For 31 years she taught at Escanaba High School in Escanaba, Michigan. She resides in Rock, Michigan.

Steven Burgauer ’73, M.S. ’74, is a science fiction author. His most recent book is *The Grandfather Paradox.* He resides in Peoria.

Michael Saul ’73, M.M.E. ’80, is the director of middle school bands for the Hannibal Public Schools in Missouri. He has been named associate director of the Hannibal Public Schools in Mississippi, Illinois, and Wisconsin. He is the William J. Bailey Jr. applied business professor at Coastal Carolina University. He has been named associate dean of the E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration at the university. Prior to joining the university in 2005 he owned and operated YTMBA Research, which specialized in predictive analytics. He resides in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

In 1970 three women met at Pi Beta Coop as undergraduate education students, beginning a friendship that has now spanned 40 years. Marriages, careers, children, and miles later, the women still see each other annually—despite the fact one lives abroad. They remain grateful for the friendship built at Illinois State. Their most recent reunion was held in late 2010 in Chicago. They are, from left, Joy (Vandoske) Croker ’73 of Citrus County, Florida, and Kathy (Winke) Drees ’72 and Rosemary (Bak) Troxel ’72, both of Chicago suburbs. Joy’s daughter, Nikki, also attended.

Marc Loro ’74 is a graduate of the School of Law at Washington University in St. Louis. He is the senior legal adviser with the Department of Administrative Hearings within the Illinois Office of the Secretary of State. He represents the office in driver’s license hearings and coor-
Redbird legacy

The Goodwin family ties are made stronger by the fact 17 relatives share an Illinois State experience. Recreation management graduate Dan Goodwin ’07, now a graduate student in Kinesiology and Recreation, is continuing an ISU tradition that started with his late father, Tom Goodwin ’75.

Tom met his wife, Anne (Kitchen) ’77, working at a Burger King on Main Street. Neither one could have predicted the Illinois State legacy their family would create.

Tom’s brothers followed in his footsteps. Jim Goodwin ’82 and Mark Goodwin ’84 both met their wives at ISU as well. Jim and Lauri (Meents) ’82 reside in Woodridge, while Mark and Jana (Mayberry) ’84 are now in Danville.

Anne’s siblings, Art and Kathy Kitchen, also attended, as did the children of Anne and Tom. Beyond Dan, two other sons enrolled. Matt Goodwin ’01, M.S. ’03, is now living in New Hampshire. Bryan Goodwin ’04, M.S. ’07, is living in Plainfield with his wife, Melissa (Wons) ’05. They also met at ISU. Melissa’s younger brother, John Wons, is now enrolled. Patrick Goodwin, the son of Mark and Jana, is also a current student.

“When you grow up and hear so much about Illinois State, you know it’s where you want to go,” said Dan, who has yet another cousin graduate. Darren McEvilly finished a marketing degree in 2007 and resides in Channahon. Dan’s mother has remarried and her current husband, Cliff Kinate, is a 1966 alum. They reside in Danville.

The family’s unique ISU heritage is enriched by the fact many have ties to Campus Recreation. Bryan, Matt, and Melissa, all worked there, as do Dan and Patrick currently. Dan is hopeful even more family will attend the University.

“It would be nice to build that family tree even more,” he said. “The foundation started here. Illinois State is very unique to us. It connects us all together.”

Plenty of memories

Read more about the Goodwin family legacy online at IllinoisState.edu/magazine.

Some members of the Goodwin family who are also Redbirds include, from left, John Wons, Melissa (Wons) Goodwin, Bryan Goodwin, Dan Goodwin, Matt Godwin, Anne (Kitchen-Goodwin) Kinate, Cliff Kinate, Lauri (Meents) Goodwin, and Jim Goodwin.
Sandra (Ashley) Stringham ’77 teaches first grade at Lowrie Elementary, which is part of the Elgin School District Unit 46. She earned National Board Certification in early/middle childhood literacy in the fall of 2010. She and her husband, Wayne, reside in Carol Stream.

Sandy (Gorman) Amato ’78 retired in 2010 after teaching 30 years. For 27 years she was in Fort Lupton, Colorado, with the remaining years at the Academy of Our Lady/Spalding Institute. She taught French and some English in both schools, taking students to New Orleans and France several times. She and her husband, Lee, reside in Fort Lupton.

Kuburat O. Olaniran ’78 is a social worker with the Lagos state government. She resides in Chesapeake, Virginia.

Bryan Bloodworth ’79 is vice president of business operations for Arizona Sundogs of the Central Hockey League. He resides in Prescott, Arizona.

80s

Robert L. Bruce ’83 is a certified project management professional, employed with Frost Brown Todd, LLC, which is a leading Midwest corporate law firm with 1,000 employees located in 10 offices. He and his wife, Claudia, reside in Goshen, Kentucky.

Mychal Coleman ’83 completed a doctorate in organization development and has published research on cooperative learning, mergers and acquisitions, self reflection and change, and continuous improvement. He is the vice president of human resources and senior lecturer for the College of Business at the University of Idaho. Prior to accepting the position he was the director of the HRIR program at the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota.

Linda Perkins Gonsoulis ’83 has published her first novel, titled Drama-In-Law. She resides in Houston, Texas.

Daniel Kobina Koomson ’83 is employed by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development in West Africa. He holds the position of principal secretary in the Ghana Civil Service. He resides in Ghana, West Africa.

Brigitte M. (Hill) Smith ’83 is the confidential assistant to the acting director of the Illinois Department of Corrections. She is the mother of two sons. Her husband, Richmond “Jeff” attended ISU in 1983. He died in October of 2010. She resides in Springfield.

Debra D. (Beck) Bush ’84 received her International Public Management Association for Human Resources Certified Professional/Specialist Certification. She is a human resources coordinator for the Happy Hour Guidebook, which highlights the top happy hours in Portland, Oregon. The book also includes objective ratings of 400 restaurants, as well as maps and coupons. She also produces the Oregon Wine Country Guidebook, which is a reference to 200 wineries in the state.

Scott A. Carr ’85 is a financial representative with Northwestern Mutual, which helps clients achieve financial security. He received the 2011 Central Region Managing Director Leader Award. He resides in Long Grove.

Bob Border ’86 completed an M.B.A. at Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management. He has been named senior vice president, chief information officer with Lawson Products. Border has more than 25 years of technology organization, his primary responsibility involves creating a sustainable competitive advantage for Lawson Products. Border has more than 25 years of technology expertise in various industries. He resides in Naperville.

Christopher Catani ’86 is the director of sales, marketing and customer service with Hardy Diagnostics in Santa Maria, California. He is a medical technologist and a registered microbiologist. He is also a black belt in karate. He and his wife, Catherine, reside in Solvany, California.

Glenn Greenberg ’86 spent 12 years working with Southern Company in Atlanta, Georgia. He is now an associate with Booz Allen Hamilton, which provides learning solutions to the U.S. government. He and his partner, Bill, reside in Washington, D.C.

Dennis R. Clodi ’87 is a doctoral faculty member with the University of Phoenix, which provides online leadership classes and on-site residency classes around the country. He and his wife, Connie, reside in Bourbonnais.

Paul D. Held ’87 has been at Taylorville High School for 22 years, with the past six spent working as the dean of students and athletic director. He has been recognized by the IADA as the Division 6 Athletic Director of the Year. He and his wife, Sylvia Dee, reside in Taylorville.

Tammy (Poole) Palmer ’87 is a senior manager with Moss Adams, LLP, in Scottsdale, Arizona. She resides in Anthem, Arizona.

Steven B. Shivak ’87 is executive director of the American Diabetes Association of Western Pennsylvania. He took the position due to a family history of the disease. His father was lost to a stroke caused by his diabetes. Shivak resides in Sewickley, Pennsylvania.

Marilyn Dorn Jirjis Griffith, M.S. ’88, has retired from Pekin Community High School. She and her husband, Bill, reside in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Jeff Archbold ’89 has been promoted to the position of regional criminal coordinator within the U.S. Department of Labor-Employee Benefit Security Administration. He and his wife, Monica, reside in Geneva.

Teresa B. Henning ’89 has been promoted to associate professor of English at Southwest Minnesota State University, and has been accepted to a doctoral program in humanities at the University of Minnesota. She and her husband, Rick, reside in Winona, Minnesota.

Alternative Spring Break

Spring break memories are still fresh in the minds of students, especially those who took their week from classes to participate in Alternative Spring Break. More than 1,000 students have been involved in the program since it began in 2000. There were 225 this year helping communities in Florida, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Georgia, and New Jersey. A group from a 2010 trip to Mullens, West Virginia, above, benefited from the experience that takes students beyond their comfort zone.

Christopher Catani ’86 is the director of sales, marketing and customer service with Hardy Diagnostics in Santa Maria, California. He is a medical technologist and a registered microbiologist. He is also a black belt in karate. He and his wife, Catherine, reside in Solvany, California.

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State University. She has been a faculty member there since 2006, teaching a range of courses from first-year and advanced composition to teaching writing for high school teachers. She has also served as director of the professional writing and communication major. Henning has presented at the Conference on College Composition and Communication, the International Writing Center Association Conference, and the Great Plains Computers and Writing Conference. She has published in the *English Journal*, *Teaching English at the Two-Year College*, and the *Journal of Effective Teaching*. She has also authored book chapters in *Writing* and the *iGeneration* and *What are We Becoming*. She resides in Marshall, Minnesota.

Robert Plank ’89 owns Chicago Computers. The business has grown during the past eight years, helping hundreds of individuals and small businesses in the DuPage County area. He and his wife, Lisa, reside in Lisle.

Lew Sauder ’89 is a project manager IT with the American Medical Association. He has authored the book *Consulting 101: 101 Tips for Success in Consulting*. He and his wife, Heather, reside in Plainfield.

90s

Rafaela Faly (Burmeister) Colaizzi ’90 is a sales manager for Catron. She has authored the book *Haunted Nights at Drumheller Castle: A St. Charles Tall Tale*. She and her husband, Mark, reside in Bartlett.

Margaret (Kidwell) Ethridge ’90 has written her first novel, titled *Paramour*. A paranormal romance, it was released in January of 2011 by Turquoise Morning Press. She resides in Arkansas.

Jennifer Jendras ’90 is a safety and occupational health specialist with OSHA. She works as an instructor of the OSHA training institute out of Arlington Heights. Her husband, Rich Graham ’85, is a corporate sales director with Now Foods. They are the parents of three children and reside in Lombard.

Backing the Redbirds

Fans of all ages enjoyed the annual Alumni Slam Dunk event held in January. Prior to the men’s basketball team taking to Doug Collins Court in Redbird Arena for a game against Wichita State, families headed to Horton Field House for a meal. The kids appreciated a visit with a balloon artist, time spent playing in inflatables, and of course the chance for a photo with Reggie.

Julie A. (Fuery) Jones ’90 ended 15 years in corporate America in 2010 and joined the law firm of Protecting Legacies, LLC. She is a legacy-designing attorney, working with individuals to create their legacy by planning their estate and building their wealth. She and her husband, Tracy, reside in Chicago.

Marcie (May) Zinn, M.S. ’90, is a neuropsychologist with the Department of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine at Stanford University Medical Center. She is the founder and executive director of the Society for Psychology in the Performing Arts, and also founded the Attainment Center for NeuroEducation. She is a member of the National Association of Professional Women. She and her husband, Mark, reside in Palo Alto, California.

Heather Neaveill ’93 joined the law Offices of Wayne & Jemilo as an associate attorney. The Chicago firm’s practice concentrates in family law.

Steven Peck ’93 is a financial representative for COUNTRY Insurance and Financial Services in the Chicago area. He and his wife, Sylvia, are the parents of two sons. They reside in Vernon Hills.

Donna Lee Swanson ’93 is an office professional, legal secretary, and transcriptionist with Express Personnel Services. She resides in Spokane Valley, Washington.

Larry Vannmersbergen ’93 is the author of *Guitar Chord Changes Made Easy*, which is in its third year of publication. He and his wife, Jamie Kramer ’94, reside in Aurora.

Leslie (Hagel) Brozovich ’95 completed a master’s degree in elementary education at the University of New Mexico. She is the only special education teacher at Beclabito Day School in Shiprock, New Mexico. She works on the Navajo Indian Reservation with Navajo children. She and her husband, Mark, were married in July of 2010. They reside in Cortez, Colorado.

Tina M. (Ashman) Beebe ’96 is a registered nurse at OSF St. James Hospital in Pontiac. She and her husband, Pete, are the parents of a son. Tyler Anthony Dennis was born in June of 2010. They reside in Pontiac.

Michael Cadden, D.A. ’96, is a professor and chair of the English Department at Missouri Western State University. He has authored *Telling Children’s Stories: Narrative Theory and Children’s Literature*. He and his wife, LuAnn (Aiello) ’93, reside in St. Joseph, Missouri.

David Paolotti ’96 completed a master’s degree in ecology at Oregon State University, where he is now an instructor of online courses in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. He and his wife, Tiffany, are the parents of a son. Greyson was born in February of 2010. They reside in Corvallis, Oregon.

Daniel Richter ’97, M.S. ’99, is a senior scientist in oncology and a site green chemistry leader with Pfizer in La Jolla, California. He resides in San Diego, California.

James H. Alstrum-Acevedo ’98 completed a doctorate in inorganic chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He works at the USPTO as a patent examiner. He is also a part-time law student at George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C. He resides in Annandale, Virginia.

Heather Marcom ’98 is a manager of talent acquisition for eBay, Inc. She oversees global recruiting for the company’s PayPal division. She resides in Chandler, Arizona.

Steven Brandstted ’99 is an associate attorney with the law firm of Litchfield Cavo, LLP, in Chicago. He specializes in complex litigation. He and his wife, Nicolette, are the parents of two children. Their daughter, Ella, was born in February of 2011. They reside in Chicago.

Beth Mayfield-House ’99 worked as an archivist at Gallery of History in Las Vegas, Nevada. She was also a volunteer and then a docent at Guggenheim Hermitage Museum in Las Vegas. She is now a fine art auction lister with the Seattle Goodwill online department in Washington. She resides in Bothell, Washington.

Emily Miller Kimmey ’99, M.S. ’01, and her husband, James “Jay,” are the parents of two sons. Spencer Lawrence was born in July of 2010. They reside in Glen Carbon.

Kevin Moran ’99 is regional sales manager with Follett Educational Services in Woodridge. He and his wife, Danielle, reside in Carol Stream.
Amber J. (Klinefelter) Simons '00 is a work life wellness specialist at Purdue University. She and her husband, Eric, are the parents of a daughter. Addison Kaylee was born in October of 2010. They reside in Lafayette, Indiana.

Cheryl Wisniowski '00 is the deputy director of development with Mujeres Latinas En Accion. She writes grants, plans events, raises funds, and helps create strategic partnerships for the agency. She resides in Oak Park.

Thomas Brock Jr. '01 has been named a branch supervisor with Heartland Bank and Trust Company. He oversees the branch in Washington. He and his wife, Kerry, are the parents of two children. They reside in Metamora.

Jennifer (Curto) Barker '02 is the director of development with Danville District 118. She and her husband, Brian, are the parents of four children. They reside in Danville.

Shelley Dexter-Thomas '02, M.B.A. '08, is a project manager with State Farm Insurance Companies in Bloomington. She and her husband, Jon, are the parents of a daughter. Brooklyn Marie was born in December of 2010. They reside in LeRoy.

Daniel Lopez '02 is dean of academic development at Northeastern Illinois University. He provides leadership, supervision, and support for the university's comprehensive academic support programs and services. He resides in Chicago.

Christina M. VanDeVelde '02, '04, is director of Farnsworth Group's interior design department and a certified interior design and facilities management specialist. A LEED accredited professional, she has been published in the International Journal of Construction Education and Research. She was awarded the National Ultron DOC Award for the interior design of the Citizenship and Immigration Services building in Denver, Colorado. A volunteer for the Juvenile Diabetest Research Foundation, she was included in the Class of 2010 Forty Leaders Under 40 in Peoria, where she resides.

Sarah (Hosken) Scott '03, M.S. '09, and her husband, Dylan, were married in October of 2010. They reside in Bloomington.

A.D. Jameson, M.S. '04, who is also known as Adam Jones, has published his first collection of short fictions titled Amazing Adult Fantasy, with Mutable Sound. His first novel, Giant Slugs, will be released this year. He resides in Chicago.

Jennifer (Chancellor) Beals '05, M.S. '06, has obtained her CPA. She is an audit supervisor with BKD, LLP. She and her husband, Andy, reside in Decatur.

Stephanie (Ridings) Ferguson '05 is a second vice president at Northern Trust. She and her husband, Brandon, were married in October of 2010. They reside in Chicago.

Katie L. Henry '05 is an account manager with Fishman Public Relations, which is the nation's largest public relations firm specializing in franchising. She resides in Wheeling.

Scott R. Sanders '05 is project manager and energy assessor at CEDA Weatherization. His work involves implementing energy saving strategies for low-income, multi-family residential buildings. He is also involved in coordinating the construction planning and documentation side of DuPage Habitat for Humanity's first LEED-H, Energy Star Indoor Air Plus, and Building America certified home. He and his wife, Allison, reside in Brookfield.

Lisa (Bielaga) Davis '06 completed a master's degree in education at Northern Illinois University. She is a teacher with Francis Howell School District in Weldon Springs, Missouri. She runs a program for children with visual impairments in St. Louis. She and her husband, John '05, married in October of 2010. He is a financial analyst with Save-A-Lot. He completed his M.B.A. at Lewis University. They reside in St. Charles, Missouri.

Rodney Knuppel '06 is the athletic director for the junior high and high school in Hartsburg. He and his wife, Carlye, were married in July of 2010. They reside in Pekin.

Zach Koutsky '06 is a graduate student in the College of Urban Planning and Policy at the University of Illinois. He resides in Chicago.

Jennifer Newman-Marks '06 is a human resources consultant with MetLife. She completed a master's degree in human resources management in 2010. She and her husband, Nick, reside in Richmond.

Hillary N. Specketer-Barrett '06 has completed a master's degree in human services at the University of Illinois-Springfield. She is a juvenile probation officer with the Mason County Probation Department. She and her husband, Jimmy, were married in June of 2010. They reside in Havana.

Carolyn Buglio '07 works as coordinator at Silver Chalice Ventures, focusing her time on business operations, marketing digital assets, and client support. She resides in Orland Park.

Ricia A. Chansky, Graduate Certificate '07, Ph.D. '09, is the associate director of the Department of English at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez. She is the coeditor of the scholarly journal a/b: Auto/Biography Studies. She and her husband, Eric D. Lamore, M.A. '04, Ph.D. '07, were married in December of 2010. He is a professor in the Department of English at the same university in Puerto Rico. He has authored two books: New Essays on Phyllis Wheatley and Teaching the Interesting Narrative of Olaudah Equiano. They reside in Rincon, Puerto Rico.

Alieta (Smith) Guntly '01 is a patient access representative with Aurora Health Care. She and her husband, Tim, are the parents of a son. Michael Allen was born in October of 2010. They reside in Union Grove, Wisconsin.

Jennifer (Curto) Barker '02 is a registered nurse. She is the MDS/CP coordinator and charge nurse at Graham Hospital. She and her husband, Jason, are the parents of two sons. Drayton Pax was born in April of 2010. They reside in Pekin.

Marcus Skjerven, M.S. '02, is the director of brand experience development in the Division of Enrollment and Marketing at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota. He resides in Elk River, Minnesota.

Rica A. Chansky, Graduate Certificate '07, Ph.D. '09, is the associate director of the Department of English at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez. She is the coeditor of the scholarly journal a/b: Auto/Biography Studies. She and her husband, Eric D. Lamore, M.A. '04, Ph.D. '07, were married in December of 2010. He is a professor in the Department of English at the same university in Puerto Rico. He has authored two books: New Essays on Phyllis Wheatley and Teaching the Interesting Narrative of Olaudah Equiano. They reside in Rincon, Puerto Rico.
Matthew Damschroder, M.S. ’07, is completing a doctorate at Illinois State in the Department of Educational Administration and Foundations. He is involved with Kiva.org, which enables individuals to contribute micro-loans for people in developing countries. He resides in Bloomington.

Shelly Dobbins ’07, M.S.W. ’09, is a residential counselor at Youth Villages in Bartlett, Tennessee. She resides in Cordova, Tennessee.

Elizabeth Hart ’07 is a senior project specialist with the American Osteopathic Association in Chicago, where she resides.

Brandon P. Joyce ’07 is a former ISU offensive lineman who played with the Minnesota Vikings before joining the practice squad of the Toronto Argonauts in the Canadian Football League. He spent the 2009 season with the Las Vegas Locomotives of the United Football League. He signed a free-agent contract with the St. Louis Rams of the National Football League in 2010.

Mark A. Cassata ’08 is a commercial real estate broker. In his first year with NAI MLG Commercial, he was named Rookie of the Year Broker. The company is the largest commercial real estate firm in Wisconsin. At age 24 he was named in Business Magazine “40 under 40” within Madison, Wisconsin, where he resides.

Bernard Heine ’08 is a third-year associate with Price Waterhouse Coopers LLC in Peoria. He and his wife, Kaylee (Egan) ’09, were married in September of 2010. She is a mental health associate with Methodist Medical Center in Peoria. They reside in Gernantown Hills.

Melissa Hoebbel ’08 is a communications development and Smiles Across America coordinator with Oral Health America. She resides in Chicago.

Nicole Nalls ’08 is a self-employed writer and the social media manager for VenusZine magazine. She resides in South Holland.

James Arvidson ’09 works at Catholic Charities Veterans Employment Program, where he helps unemployed veterans in the Chicago area find jobs. He also works with companies that are looking to hire veterans and helps them find qualified candidates. He resides in Chicago.

Martin S. Coopwood ’09 has completed a master’s degree in gerontology at the University of Missouri in St. Louis. He will be enrolling in a doctoral program at Kansas University in Lawrence, Kansas. He and his partner, Greg Vanover, reside in Granite City.

Kymberly A. Forsythe ’09 is an assistant branch manager with JP Morgan Chase. She performed in the top 20 percent nationally in 2010, earning her way to the National Sales Conference. She participated in the 2010 Beta Gamma Sigma Student Leadership Form as a mentor, helping students approaching graduation work through career concerns. She resides in Lakemoor.

Sarah Lance ’09 teaches first grade with the Glen Ellyn CCSD 89. She resides in Wheaton.

Kelly Snyder ’09 is a communication analyst with State Farm Insurance Companies in Bloomington. She is a member of the Bloomington-Normal Alumni Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota music fraternity chapter for women. She is also co-vice president of communication for the Bloomington-Normal Association for Women in Communication. She resides in Normal.

Alum helps stage Super Bowl halftime show

Super Bowl XLV was especially memorable for Brian Skelton ’79, M.B.A. ’85, of Coppell, Texas. He volunteered to work the game and was chosen for the halftime show. Beyond moving stage pieces needed for the Black Eyed Peas performance, Skelton worked the pregame show setup and post game show presentation. “It was a fascinating experience to see and be involved in learning all the backstage preparation for a show of that magnitude,” Skelton said. “The post game show was equally thrilling due to the experience of meeting Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers on the field. It doesn’t get much better than that.”

Our troops

Maj. Christine J. Queen ’74 retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1998. She has been appointed chair of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association. The international association has more than 600 members, including officers and enlisted, retired and active duty. They have covered numerous wars as journalists, photographers, and cameramen. They have also brought music to those stateside and overseas. Queen has more than 30 years of experience as a public relations consultant, including with the Air Force, Northrop Grumman, and private clients. She resides in East Peoria.

Chase Crabtree ’03 served in Operation Enduring Freedom. He is an ROTC advisor and training officer at the University of Portland in Oregon. His wife, Sarah Bucher-Crabtree ’03, is a stay-at-home mom. They are the parents of two children. Their daughter, Makayla, was born in December of 2009. They reside in Vancouver, Washington.

Brian J. Willey ’07 graduated from the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence as an CH-47D Chinook pilot. He is an aviation platoon leader with the Illinois Army National Guard. He has been promoted to assistant trainmaster with Norfolk Southern Railway. He and his wife, Sarah, reside in Enterprise, Alabama.

In memory

Faculty/Staff

Margaret I. Curry, Physical Plant, 2/11
Jeanette (Mitchell) Duzan, Dining Services; 1/11
Helen I. Evans, Dining Services; 11/10
Vera M. (Maurer) Foster, Building Services; 1/11
Charles G. Kearfott, Dining Services; 12/10
Douglas J. Litwiller ‘74, Comptroller; 12/10
Elizabeth McMahan, English, 2/11
Mary A. Richmond ‘39, Laboratory Schools; 11/10
Three easy ways to submit your information

1) Go online to www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/news and click on “class notes.” Information submitted using this method will also be posted online.

2) E-mail your news to sjblyst@IllinoisState.edu.

3) Mail your news to Class Notes, Illinois State University, Alumni Relations, Campus Box 3100, Normal, IL 61790-3100. Please include your graduation year, major, maiden name when applicable, and daytime phone number for verification purposes. News releases and information from published news clippings may also be used. Engagements and pregnancies will not be published.

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

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In addition to above, please list any career changes, awards, honors, marriages, births, or memorial information that you would like reported in Illinois State. Please report only events that have occurred. Announcements will appear as soon as possible.

Signature (required)

Return to: Illinois State University, Alumni Relations
Campus Box 3100, Normal, IL 61790-3100
Facsimile: (309) 438-2858 • E-mail: alumni@IllinoisState.edu
As the first teacher in Amanda Losch’s social work major, Patty Berndt’s passion for her field opened Amanda’s eyes to her future career. A graduate herself in the School of Social Work, Berndt ’98 returned to campus to teach in 2001.

Despite Berndt’s untimely death in May of 2010, she continues to inspire her students. She has had an especially positive influence on Losch, who received financial assistance through the Patty Berndt Memorial Scholarship.

A first generation college student, Losch knew affording school would be difficult. She not only managed to complete her undergraduate degree at ISU in social work this spring, but is set to begin her master’s study this fall at the school of her choice—George Williams College of Aurora University.

Without Berndt’s scholarship and inspiration, Losch never would have had such an opportunity.

“I probably wouldn’t be where I am without her in that very first Social Work 170 class, telling each and every one of us that we can do it and we just had to put our minds to it.” Losch said. “I know that she was right.”

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

It's a subtle gesture but moving the tassel from right to left during the commencement ceremony carries huge significance, as it marks the transition from student to graduate. Approximately 5,000 will join the ranks of the Alumni Association this year. Welcome to the next chapter of Redbird life!