Walt’s wizards
Redbirds make magic in all corners of Disney’s world
First Word

Illinois State is often described in terms of what buildings now exist, which academic programs have been added, how many external grants fund research initiatives, or who has most recently included the University in a national ranking.

These measurements are certainly appropriate in discussing the institution. To fully capture the essence of the campus, however, requires knowing the stories of individuals who made Illinois State their collegiate home.

The University's primary focus has always been the people who devote their time and talent to gladly learn and teach. This motto has served as our fundamental mission since the first student arrived in 1857. His name was Enoch Gastman Jr. He was among the first graduating class of 10, whose accomplishments were recognized in the inaugural commencement held in 1860. Already a school teacher at the age of 23 when he started his ISNU studies, Enoch went on to serve as a school superintendent.

Nearly 100 years later, Thomas H. Hughes became the 10,000th graduate in 1959. He initially came to campus under the Navy’s V-12 program. After completing a master's degree as well in 1961, Thomas left campus to start a long and successful career in the field of education.

There are myriad others whose achievements while a Redbird created a campus milestone. Roy Williams, a starting lineman on the 1904 football team, was the first African-American athlete at the University. In 1908, Alma Mary Hamilton and Lillie R. Palesley were the first students to receive bachelor’s degrees. Another female, Charlotte Elizabeth Wilcox, was the first student to earn a graduate degree with completion of a master’s in education in 1945.

I share these vignettes as yet another way to tell Illinois State’s story, and indeed the most appropriate as we begin this month to celebrate the Alumni Association’s 150th anniversary.

Illinois State’s physical breadth and academic depth have expanded exponentially compared to what Enoch experienced. The alumni base that started with less than a dozen now stands at 188,000.

Graduates have scattered geographically and across professions, yet they remain proactive, supportive, enthusiastic ambassadors who exemplify the University’s excellence through their personal and professional success.

Listen to their stories and embrace their experiences. Voice your own memories. It is only through sharing what it means to be a Redbird that Illinois State becomes significantly more than bricks and mortar.
FEATURES

8 Immerged in Walt’s world
While most who visit the Magic Kingdom manage only a brief stay in the enchanted land of animated characters and entertainment, two alums make a living at Walt Disney World. Chris Chapman ’03 manages global creativity and innovation. His work ranges from designing merchandise to illustrating marketing material for Disney’s blockbuster movies. Steve Sulaski ’87 is the senior operations manager of Disneyland Paris. He oversees more than 14,000 employees in peak season and handles VIP tours for visitors such as Michael Jackson. Both men strengthen an ISU connection that exists through an ongoing internship program, which resulted in Chapman joining Disney immediately after graduation.

16 Praise for President Bone
Chosen as ISNU’s ninth president, Robert Bone took office at the close of the University’s first century. Enrollment quadrupled, construction mushroomed, and academic programs expanded as the campus changed its name and direction under Bone. Through it all he maintained a warmth and charisma so endearing he remains a beloved leader.

24 Long road home
An Air Force veteran who served in Afghanistan, Jordan Schupbach ’07 knows the journey back from the war zone is a tough transition. Re-entry is especially difficult for those returning with an injury or emotional trauma. Involvement in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, which Schupbach promotes, helps many wounded warriors adjust to civilian life.

DEPARTMENTS

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Get more online
Readers can go directly online to view additional Illinois State content at IlliniosState.edu/Magazine.

On the cover: Disney vinylmation figures painted by the Illinois State graphic design team convey the fact there is a strong Redbird influence in Mickey’s world.
Chicagoans desiring an M.B.A. but unable to attend the full-time graduate program or travel to campus have an alternative: Illinois State's Chicago M.B.A. program.

Offered weekends at ISU's Chicago office on Michigan Avenue, the 19-month program is an alternative to the traditional M.B.A. degree.

The program is the same 12-course curriculum offered on campus and praised for its excellence by Princeton Review. The magazine’s 2013 ranking of best-administered M.B.A. programs in the nation lists Illinois State at ninth. ISU is the only public university in Illinois to be included in the top 10 in any of the categories.

“This latest ranking by Princeton Review is yet another national endorsement of the high quality programs offered at Illinois State University,” President Al Bowman said.

Rankings are based on surveys completed by more than 19,000 students at 296 business schools across the nation. The cost, flexibility and reputation of ISU’s College of Business were major selling points. Students praised faculty who provide them “learning experiences that effectively prepare us for the business world.”

Professionals already in that working world are targeted for the Chicago M.B.A. program, which will be taught by full-time faculty from the College of Business. Mid- to upper-level corporate managers, business entrepreneurs and other institutional leaders with undergraduate business majors or minors are the intended cohort.

“While other universities offer M.B.A. programs in and around Chicago, those programs offer a very condensed curriculum,” said S.J. Chang, COB associate dean for M.B.A. programs. “The cost of many executive-type M.B.A. programs is also believed to be prohibitively high for many potential M.B.A. candidates. Illinois State believes it can be the M.B.A. program of choice in the Greater Chicago area.”

Go to MBA.IllinoisState.edu for more information.
Search continues for ISU’s next president

The Board of Trustees of Illinois State University has formed a campus-wide committee to complete the work of finding ISU’s next president. The goal is to have an individual named yet this year as the successor to Al Bowman, who announced in December his plans to retire.

Board Chair Michael McCuskey has stated the goal is to hire a president who brings high energy, a great personality, a love of the University and a vision to continue ISU’s advancement. He noted it will be difficult to find a president who embodies all that Bowman brought to the position.

Bowman, who will remain in office until the next president is in place, surprised the campus community with his decision to step down after serving as president for nearly a decade. He cited a desire to lighten his work schedule and stresses to protect his long-term health.

“My love and respect for Illinois State and its people is profound. The University has been the center of my life,” said Bowman, who came to campus in 1978 as a faculty member in what was then the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology. “I will continue to be a proud Redbird and hope to make Illinois State University an important part of my life for many years to come.”

Clinic treats sport injuries, teaches students in training

Students with orthopedic-related injuries can now receive rehabilitation treatment from trained professionals without leaving campus, thanks to the Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Therapy (SMART) Clinic.

The clinic opened last fall in McCormick Hall and is available to all students through a referral from the University’s Student Health Services medical staff. There is a $10 fee for each visit. Services include therapeutic rehabilitation for a variety of musculoskeletal, neurological and soft tissue injuries. Students also learn how to prevent injuries.

A large rehabilitation area includes equipment for the diagnosis and treatment of an array of injuries such as strains, sprains, tendinitis, fractures, dislocations, concussions and post-surgical injuries.

The clinic is directed by Kinesiology and Recreation Assistant Professor Justin Stanek. The clinical coordinator of the undergraduate athletic training education program, Stanek is a board-certified and Illinois-licensed athletic trainer.

Clinic staff includes graduate student Ashley Keck, who is also a certified and Illinois-licensed athletic trainer. Several undergraduate athletic training students assist in the clinic under the direction of Stanek and Keck.

Illinois State advances in annual university rankings

ISU again placed in the top 100 public universities in the nation, advancing two spots to 83rd in the U.S. News & World Report rankings of “Best National Universities” released last fall. The University’s average freshman retention rate rose, while the percent of large class sizes went down.

“These numbers are a reflection of Illinois State’s commitment to giving students the highest quality education in an environment where they can thrive. They are a validation of our priority of keeping class sizes low,” President Al Bowman said.

The report showed a higher selectivity of applicants, with a reduction of 4 percent in Illinois State’s acceptance rate from the previous year.

The rankings are based on 2011 statistics of academic quality and excellence.

Psychology faculty named best professor in Illinois

Psychology Professor Gary Creasey was named the 2012 top professor in Illinois by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. One professor from each state is chosen to be honored as a U.S. Professor of the Year.

The assistant director of the TEACHER+PLUS program at ISU, which helps generate teachers for urban and underserved areas with a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Creasey is dedicated to preparing education majors beyond providing additional health services on campus, the sports clinic is a valuable learning tool for kinesiology and recreation students.
to teach in the Chicago Public School system.

A graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, his research focuses on developmental psychology with a specialization in adolescent development. He is the author of numerous books and publications.

He has earned ISU’s Outstanding College Teacher Award, the Provost’s Faculty Excellence Initiative Award, Outstanding College Researcher Award, Outstanding University Teaching Award, and been named a State Farm Teaching Technology Fellow.

University study center focuses on veteran needs

The University’s commitment to those who serve our country was reaffirmed with the dedication of the Veterans Study Center last fall.

Located in Moulton Hall, the center provides a place for students to gather and study. It is also a venue for programs designed to assist student veterans. The center is available for use by student veterans, those currently serving on active duty and students in the Military Science/ROTC program.

The center was created through a combined effort across campus.

ISU among nation’s best in civic engagement lessons

The University is one of only two dozen colleges in the nation to be named a Civic Learning Leadership Institution by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), the leading voice for the student affairs profession. The designation comes as the University offers a new leadership and community service-based certification program called ISULeads.

“At Illinois State, students are encouraged to develop the ethics of giving and service, which will enrich communities across the country as our students find their place as citizen leaders in those communities.”

The new ISULeads program helps reach that goal. An outgrowth of the American Democracy Project, it is a campus-wide effort that requires students to complete the program’s three pillars of civic engagement, global perspectives and leadership.

Grads’ low default rate among best in nation

Three years after they started paying back their loans, only 3 percent of ISU students defaulted, a rate significantly lower than the 14.4 percent Illinois average and the 13.4 percent nationwide average released last fall by the U.S. Department of Education.

ISU officials attribute the impressive record to the University’s high-achieving students, who are more likely
to graduate and find employment in their fields. ISU’s average ACT score is near 24 with a graduation rate of 71 percent, the second highest graduation rate in the state among public institutions.

“Students are borrowing more money, there’s no question about it, but they are getting jobs and have the ability to repay a relatively modest student loan debt,” Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education Jonathan Rosenthal said.

The average loan debt for an ISU student is $22,720, well below state and national averages. Illinois State has increased the amount of financial aid provided. The University offered about $26 million in institutional scholarships and grants this academic year. ISU’s Foundation funds more than 600 scholarships.

**Faculty benefit from new teaching fellowship**

Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Kenneth “Buzz” Shaw and his wife, Mary Ann, have established the Kenneth A. and Mary Ann Shaw Teaching Fellowship at Illinois State University.

“The campus community is grateful to Kenneth and Mary Ann Shaw for their significant investment in teaching excellence at Illinois State University,” President Al Bowman said.

Kenneth Shaw, retired president and chancellor of Syracuse University, earned his bachelor’s in social sciences education at ISU in 1961. His 40-year higher education career began at Illinois State, where he assisted former presidents Robert Bone and Samuel Braden. He also served as president of the University of Wisconsin, chancellor of Southern Illinois University and president of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

Mary Ann Shaw has been a longtime supporter of education and served as a reading specialist for many years. She helped create the Syracuse University Literacy Corps and the Center for Public and Community Service at the university. She played a key role in bringing a children’s hospital to the University of Wisconsin-Madison and chaired a campaign to help establish the new Golisano Children’s Hospital in Syracuse.

Their ISU investment of $100,000 recognizes teaching excellence and will have an immediate impact in the classroom. Two College of Arts and Sciences faculty members will receive a minimum of $3,500 annually for professional development through the fellowship. The first recipients are Daniel Breyer of philosophy and Gina Hunter of sociology/anthropology.

**National grant empowers College of Education center**

ISU’s Center for the Study of Education Policy is a partner in a $15 million national program for early childhood education. The program is funded through a U.S. Department of Education Investing in Innovation grant.

Housed in the College of Education, the center will provide guidance to six school districts across Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois—including Chicago public schools. The districts are taking part in implementing Child-Parent Centers (CPCs), which work to give children a fluid transition from early childhood education to school.

“There are a lot of logistics that go into implementing a CPC, from who is involved to where to meet,” said Erika Hunt of ISU’s center. “We will help organize and facilitate the districts involved in setting up pilot CPCs.”

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**Mail**

To the Editor,

The November Illinois State is another great issue! I particularly appreciated the article regarding elder care reform (“Aged to Perfection”).

As a student who studied communication and aging while at Illinois State and someone who works in the healthcare sector, I think educating alumni about important topics like these is critical. It is a testament to ISU’s commitment to lifelong learning and the exploration of deeper, more difficult subject matter.

Steve R. Smith ’89, M.S. ’93

This is an awesome hire (“Rules of the Game,” November 2012). You couldn’t ask for a better guy (Dan Muller ’98) to coach Redbird basketball for the long run!

Online comment
Steve Klokkenka ’97

Sad news for the University (Bowman retiring), however, health and family come first. I will miss you, President Bowman. You’ve been the best president we could ask for in these tough times. Always so positive and helpful!

Online comment
Becky Mentzer ’93, M.S. ’96

“Al Bowman has done more to elevate Illinois State University than anyone in recent memory. He has correctly assessed ISU can compete with any state university in Illinois. …Thank you, President Bowman, for adding value to my degree and for changing the landscape of Illinois State University forever. Enjoy retirement and speaking as a former student leader, I am grateful to know you. All the best.”

Online comment
Brian Bernardoni ’91

Great president, even greater man. ISU is a better institution of higher education because of his tireless determination, dedication and Redbird spirit. Go you Redbirds!

Online comment
Jeff Charnogorsky ’85

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The men’s basketball team started the season enthused by incoming head coach Dan Muller ’98 and the strength of returning players. Among them is senior Jackie Carmichael, who has been identified by *Sports Illustrated* as a Future Game Changer.

The magazine profiled Carmichael last fall and posted a video on SI.com, noting his ranking as one of the nation’s top college forwards.

A preseason All-Missouri Valley Conference selection, Carmichael started the season as the eighth-best rebounder in the country on the ESPN.com Top 10 Rebounders list. CBSSports.com ranked him 30th-best big man in the country on its list of Top 50 Big Men, and the 79th best player in the country.

Carmichael has an athleticism and rebounding that puts him in an elite class. “He really wants to do what’s best for the team,” Muller said. “You put that together with his physical ability and he’s just been a joy to coach.”

Carmichael credits his mother for his love of the sport. His passion explains his work ethic.

“I am the guy who is going to bring his hard hat and lunch pail every single day and just work hard. I feel like that’s what really gets basketball players to that next level and where they want to be in life,” Carmichael said. “I live by the quote that hard work beats talent when talent doesn’t work hard.”

He brings the same attitude to his family and consumer science major. While his goal is to continue playing after graduation, he plans to work with athletes in the apparel industry. He’s already ahead in that game as well, designing the men’s team uniforms introduced this season.

**Praise for Carmichael**

Find out more about Jackie Carmichael’s talent and role as a Redbird by viewing the *Sports Illustrated* profile online at IllinoisState.edu/Magazine.
Arch Madness tourney
is around the corner

Alumni and fans from the 10 Missouri Valley Conference member schools will gather in St. Louis for basketball tournaments during the first two weekends of March.

Head coach Dan Muller and the men’s team will attempt to reach their third championship game during the 2013 MVC tournament at the Scottrade Center from March 7-10.

The Embassy Suites in downtown St. Louis will be the official ISU team hotel. Make your reservations by calling toll-free (314) 269-5900. Reference the Illinois State fan block for the MVC men’s tournament.

Head coach Stephanie Glance will lead the women’s basketball team March 14-17 at the Family Arena in St. Charles, Missouri. The Redbirds will stay at the Sheraton Lakeside Chalet in Westport, Missouri. Reservations can be made by calling toll-free (888) 627-7066. Mention the ISU fan block.

To order tickets for either tournament, visit GoRedbirds.com or call the ISU Athletics tickets office at (309) 438-8000.

Volleyball alumna has arena banner raised

A banner honoring volleyball player and ISU’s Athletics Percy Family Hall of Fame member Julie Mueller Paska ’84 was unveiled at Redbird Arena last fall.

Paska earned second-team All-America honors as a senior. An All-Gateway selection from 1982-1984, she led the Redbirds to conference titles and NCAA tournament berths all three seasons.

A member of the 1985 World University Games team, she was selected to the MVC All-Centennial Team and competed in professional indoor volleyball for the Chicago Breeze.

Paska was an assistant ISU coach. She coached at Northern Illinois, Illinois Wesleyan, youth volleyball camps, and the club and high school levels. She is an ISU Athletics academic advisor.

Football season ends with playoff win

For the first time since 2006, the Redbird football team extended the season with play in the NCAA Division 1 Football Championship Division last fall. The team’s 8-3 record and perfect 5-0 road tally resulted in the fourth NCAA playoff appearance in school history.

The Redbirds earned a first-round bye, starting the tournament with a 38-37 OT win against Appalachian State in North Carolina. They played Eastern Washington in the quarterfinals. They tied for third place in the Missouri Valley Conference and finished the regular season ranked No. 16.

The team was No. 3 in the country in pass efficiency defense and No. 15 overall in total defense. ISU tied for fourth place with 35 sacks on the year.

Head coach Brock Spack was one of 20 finalists for Coach of the Year in the Football Championship Subdivision. Senior quarterback Matt Brown was voted the Conference Offensive Player of the Year.

Two women’s teams repeat as Valley champs

The women’s cross country and soccer teams defended their conference titles in 2012, capturing Valley championships last fall.

ISU placed four runners in the top eight, defeating second-place Wichita State. It was the first time since 1984 that the Redbirds defended their title from the previous year.

Jeff Bovee was named the 2012 Women’s Coach of the Year. Athletes Rachael Brewer, Elise Sigg, Kim Christiansen and Kelly McShea earned All-Valley honors for top-10 finishes.

The soccer team also won the Valley championship for a second consecutive season, defeating Indiana State. Two-time MVC Player of the Year Rachel Tejada was named MVP. Anna Stinson, Lauren Koehl, Aimee Wronski, Kyla Cross, Aryn Newsom and Rachel Bostick were also named to the All-Tournament Team.

The win earned the Redbirds an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

News, photos, on-demand video, and more available on Illinois State Redbirds Sports app

Visit the “Fan Zone” on GoRedbirds.com to learn more.
A journey to the Magic Kingdom is on many a bucket list. Parents budget and plan for many months, while children impatiently dream of the day they will finally enter Mickey’s magical kingdom. Once they arrive, the look of awe on each little one’s face and spontaneous squeals of delight make for memories that last a lifetime.

Fulfilling such lofty expectations is serious work, as Illinois State graduates and students alike can affirm. A paid internship program that has existed between the University and the Disney College Program for decades still prepares students for unexpected opportunities.

For Chris Chapman ’03, the internship experience resulted in a job immediately after graduation that led to his current position as Disney’s global creativity and innovation director. Fellow alum, Steve Sulaski ’87, turned his ISU international studies into an opportunity to live in France and become the senior operations manager of Disneyland Paris.

The adventures of the ISU cohort reveal that Disney is an enchanted place, not only for those who come to play but also for the ones who make it their business to deliver those magical moments.
Walking in the footsteps of “Uncle Walt”  
by Tom Nugent

Chris Chapman ’03 grew up in the Chicago suburbs as a huge fan of Walt Disney cartoons and Walt Disney World in Florida. As an adult, he helps carry Walt’s legacy forward by finding new ways to tell wonderfully exciting stories that will entertain the entire family.

He does so as the global creativity and innovation director for the $40 billion-a-year Walt Disney Company global empire.

At the tender age of 32 and just 10 years after graduating from Illinois State with a fine arts degree in graphic design, Chapman has achieved the kind of success most entertainment-industry wannabes only imagine.

A talented artist who has won plaudits for designing retail merchandise and illustrating marketing materials linked to such Disney cinema blockbusters as The Lion King, Chapman has risen rapidly through Disney’s creative ranks. He is now one of more than 150,000 employees working to keep Uncle Walt’s dream of a worldwide Magic Kingdom a thriving reality.

Chapman signed on for an internship at Walt Disney World after his junior year at ISU. When Disney’s brass saw how good he was at creating story-driven merchandise based on their characters, movies, and theme parks, they offered him a job right out of college.

He joined the Disney team as a graphic designer in 2003, starting at the entertainment giant’s Orlando Animation Building. The congenitally upbeat ISU grad began climbing the ladder during his six years there. After several early successes at designing Disney products—including the popular Vinylmation series of cartoon-based figurines—Chapman was tapped in 2011 to head the company’s West Coast Creativity and Innovation Department.

The unique assignment requires leading creativity and innovation sessions aimed at bringing out the best in writers, animators and designers at Disney divisions around the globe.

Operating out of the company’s Creative Campus in Los Angeles, Chapman directs wide-open brainstorming sessions for an outfit that easily ranks as the largest entertainment entity on Planet Earth. Walt’s numerous production units include Disney Parks, Walt Disney Imagineering, ABC Television, Walt Disney Studios and Walt Disney Animation Studios.

His work can be found at Disneyland Resort, Walt Disney World Resort, Disney Cruise Line, Hong Kong Disneyland, and World of Disney Stores.

What’s it like to spend your days jetting between Orlando and Los Angeles as well as around the world to Paris, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Barcelona and London to lead high-octane innovation projects with the top execs running Disney’s vast enterprise? Chapman answers with a burst of laughter.

“I’ve got a great job, that’s for sure. The work I do is so creative and exciting, and the people I work with are so talented . . . well, there are times when I just have to stop what I’m doing and pinch myself,” said Chapman, who has been working in Los Angeles the past two years. “What our team does, es-

“I know Disney is here to stay and that we’re going to continue to push the envelope in creative entertainment.”
sentially, is help other groups at Disney come up with imaginative big ideas and then bring them to life.”

Describing how his “blue sky creativity sessions” work, Chapman talked excitedly about a series of meetings in which he coached studio and marketing executives on how to ramp up this summer’s scheduled release of the next Disney Muppets movie. The widely publicized event will be accompanied by a massive global sales blitz of Muppet-related toys and other products.

One of Chapman’s favorite strategies during creativity sessions is to hand participants a crayon to smell. How does a round of crayon-sniffing help managers get in closer touch with their own creative energy?

“It’s simple,” said the ebullient innovator. “According to several recent psychological studies, many people associate the smell of ordinary crayons with childhood experiences in which they were able to express their natural creativity in comfort. The nostalgia from crayon-sniffing activates Alpha brain waves that allow for free-flowing thoughts.”

Another favorite tactic is to give “ideation session” participants a loaded water gun. As the action heats up and creative ideas are explored, the water guns can be fired at anybody who downplays a concept with harsh criticism.

“That’s a very interesting process to watch. What usually happens is that when somebody tries to shoot down an idea with language like ‘can’t’ and ‘won’t work’ and ‘leadership won’t go for it,’ everybody else grabs their water gun and squirts ’em! Usually it doesn’t take more than a few squirts before attitudes start to change,” Chapman said. “And when that happens, everything starts to open up and the creative ideas really begin to flow.”

Chapman tapped into his own spontaneous creativity while completing ISU graphic design courses in the late 1990s, when “some really gifted teachers like (associate professors) Julie Johnson and Peter Bushell told us that the key to success in design was to ‘make mistakes rapidly’ that we could learn from them and then move on.”

The approach paid off in a 3D fundamentals course, Chapman recalled. “Each student had a 3D design project due right at the end of the semester. I had come up with a nifty design-idea that I called ‘The Hand in the Cookie Jar.’ To make the design, I had to craft a human hand out of plaster. But then, the night before the project was due, right in the middle of the drying process, the fingers started to fall off!”

Because he’d been schooled in class to “embrace failure,” Chapman kept his cool. “It was already 2 a.m. and it was due at 7 a.m., but I refused to panic. Instead, I asked myself: ‘Okay, what do I have here, and what can I do with it?’”

“Within a few minutes, I came up with an entirely different concept: ‘The As a boy, left, Christopher Chapman was thrilled to meet the Dream Finder and Figment during a family visit to Walt Disney World in 1984. He now delights children with his designs, including a poster created for a 2009 Disney Haunted Mansion special event, center. The creative flair of Disney’s empire is revealed in even street signs, right, with the sign post from Dopey Drive and Mickey Avenue on the Walt Disney Studio lot shown.
Hand of the Dictator.’ What I did was make a bunch more fingers and then scatter them around like they were marching off to war or something. Then I created a stand for the fingerless hand, a dictator-poster that stood behind the hand, and I hid a tape recorder that played blaring dictator music. My professor was thrilled when I told her how I’d turned a disaster into a creative opportunity.”

Chapman went into the Disney internship empowered by this new appreciation for rapid failure. Once hired, he experienced a meteoric rise. He earned rave reviews while crafting a series of Disney toys, purses, logos, brands, games, candy and T-shirts.

He nailed down his first supervisory assignment as art director for the Tinker Bell brand. Soon after he was tasked with translating movie-hit blockbusters such as *Pirates of the Caribbean* into retail products. Such early success led to his current role that impacts the entire company. He is now poised for a dazzling career with potential for remarkable achievement as a Disney director and designer.

“I know Disney is here to stay and that we’re going to continue to push the envelope in creative entertainment,” Chapman said when asked to predict the future of the world built around Mickey and Minnie.

“The Walt Disney Company is doing amazing things, and we recently broke ground for a new park in Shanghai,” he said. “I think that kind of remarkable growth is based on our continuing determination to remain creative and innovative. At the same time, we never want to forget our basic mission, which is to provide magical story-driven quality entertainment for the entire family. We will continue to grow and remain innovative with our deep well of creative minds.

“Really, I think Walt said it best, himself, when he predicted: ‘Disneyland will never be completed. It will continue to grow as long as there is imagination left in the world.’”

Vinylmation is one of Chapman’s major Disney successes. A designer toy in the shape of Mickey Mouse that took 18 months to develop, vinylmation figures are a three-dimensional canvas that allow for individual artistic flair. The basic form, left, was used by Illinois State graphic designers to create this issue’s cover. Since their release in 2008, vinylmation figures have become collectibles. Chapman’s design of the Mad Hatter, center, was part of one series offered by the parks. He also created a one-of-a-kind piece for Trade City in 2010. The Steampunk inspired figure named Dr. Frumberlockle, right, was auctioned at the event.
Next time you go to Walt Disney World Resort in Florida, that “cast member” serving your meal or ringing up those Mickey ears in the gift store could be an Illinois State University student.

About 15 to 20 students take part every semester in the Disney College Program, a paid internship that immerses participants in “the Disney way” of doing business.

The Disney program opened a lot of doors for Brad Nagel ’07, a business administration major who is now manager of fan services for the Chicago Cubs. He worked for some of the resort hotels and the Blizzard Beach water park during his 2006 stint in Orlando. He said it was valuable experience and a “great resume-builder” because the Disney brand resonates well with other organizations.

“It just showed the importance, for me, of working in a corporate culture where both the employees and the guests—or customers or fans—both enjoyed being there,” Nagel said.

Senior human resources management major Jeremiah Hughes completed the program last semester. In addition to his jobs selling merchandise in the Magic Kingdom and doing package pickup and delivery, the Bloomington native took two Disney education courses in people management and guest services.

“It’s a great way to enhance my own personal skill set, and it’s just a fun place to work,” Hughes said.

Depending on the major, a student can get up to 12 hours of course credit, said senior Jenny Ewan, who completed the program in 2011 and later recruited others as a Disney on-campus representative.

Ewan worked primarily in food and beverage, but her most valuable takeaway was learning time-management and personal organization skills—a glimpse of the real world while working in a fantasyland.

“I definitely feel like I gained a lot of independence while I was there,” she said.

Jeremiah Hughes

Sulaski’s life in the Magic Kingdom began at Illinois State University in 1986, when the business administration major studied abroad in Angers, France. As a child, Sulaski’s bedroom had a map on the wall and a radio on the bedside table, which he used to try and tune into stations from farther and farther away. At Illinois State, the Peoria native, who spent his first year at Monmouth College playing football, was always most at home with the international student community.

“I always wanted to travel, to see different things,” said Sulaski, now 47.
job right away, doing hiring, purchasing and giving visits to government officials. There were only 600 employees then. Now, during the busy season, the park about 35 minutes east of Paris employs more than 14,000.

Sulaski has done stints on various Disneyland Paris projects, from setting up the ticketing system to developing the FastPass line-management system. The Redbird is now senior operations manager of the parks.

While the Jackson family visit was an “interesting experience,” Sulaski’s most rewarding role came in 2005, when he was put in charge of the park’s daily parade. It’s a big responsibility, with oversight of about 150 people, including actors, make-up artists, dance captains and drivers.

The average age for the parade staff was 21. Not everyone spoke the same language, and emotions ran high.

“There were a lot of passionate, energetic and artistic people that needed to be managed,” said Sulaski, who drove a float on occasion. From that vantage point, he got a good look at all that mattered—the look on a smiling kid’s face as the parade passed by.

“It’s a lot about organizational skills, a lot of respecting deadlines, building a team of people you can rely on,” he said. “Because every day, you’re putting on a show. Every day you’re doing something to make people happy.”

Disneyland Paris, comprised of Disneyland Park and the newer Walt Disney Studios Park, draws more than 15 million visitors every year, making it one of Europe’s most popular tourist destinations. Disneyland Paris celebrated its 20th anniversary last year.

Those 20 years haven’t been without challenges, most notably an up-and-down financial performance. That means Sulaski and other employees are under a lot of pressure to be efficient, especially when it comes to labor and when to hire and let seasonal workers go. And in France, unions are more commonplace than in the U.S., putting labor relations, safety and working conditions among the top issues at Disneyland Paris, Sulaski said.

“But any day, I can step out of my office and watch someone watch the parade, and I know why I’m doing my job,” Sulaski said.

Pressure to be efficient means Sulaski is often talking shop with other theme parks around the world, looking for solutions to universal problems in the tourism and hospitality industry. That information-sharing goes both ways, as Sulaski found out when Disneyland Paris officials helped London prepare for the 2012 Summer Olympics.

In addition to ticketing and signage, the Olympics organizers were “very interested” in how Disneyland Paris trained its younger employees to be outgoing, and how the theme park managed “guest flow” and decided how wide certain walking paths should be. London is notoriously rainy, and Disneyland Paris’ delegation was able to share tips about how to keep guests happy during a downpour disruption by creating water-based entertainment—playing “Singing in the Rain” music, for example, or doing pretty much anything having to do with rain.

“It was a very enriching experience, which peaked during the Games when we saw some of the ideas that we suggested were actually put in place,” Sulaski said.

He travels often to Florida and California, home to Disney’s two flagship resorts. The biggest differences between the American sites and Disneyland Paris, he said, are the cultural, language and behavioral differences of the guests and employees. Sulaski’s guests come from all over Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa, while employees from more than 100 nationalities speak more than 20 languages.

Everyone’s habits are unique. Middle Eastern guests don’t eat pork or drink alcohol, while Muslim employees are fasting throughout the day for Ramadan. German guests eat a lot of meat for breakfast, while Spanish guests don’t eat dinner until well after 8 p.m. Plus, Europeans tend to travel on staggered vacation periods, not to mention the diverse spending patterns from guest to guest.

“That means that we are constantly adapting, adjusting and learning from each other,” Sulaski said.

He returned to ISU last summer with his two teenage children, including a son who is a senior in high school and eager to study in the U.S. someday.

Sulaski’s Redbird roots run deep. While a student, he shared an apartment with his brother, also a student. His sister attended Illinois State too, and his uncle, William Sulaski, was chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1996 to 2003.

When they were young, Sulaski recalls bringing his children to work with him in the “City Hall” area of Disneyland Paris, at the front of the park.

“On the playground, they had a lot of street cred, when you can say your father works at Disney. They got a lot of mileage out of that,” Sulaski said.

He traces his journey at Disney back to his decision to study abroad while an Illinois State student.

“Because of this wonderful opportunity provided by Illinois State and the help from my professors, my life has been truly enriched.”
Disneyland: A magical history

Disneyland remains one of the most-visited tourist destinations in the U.S. and tops the list in Europe. The timeline reveals milestone moments as Walt’s dream became a reality.

July 1955
Disneyland opens to the public in California, with general admission $1 and attractions costing 10- to 35-cents.

December 1957
The park welcomes its 10 millionth guest.

1961
Tinker Bell is added to the Fantasy in the Sky show.

June 1965
Construction begins on It's a Small World.

June 1972
Main Street Electrical Parade debuts.

March 1987
The Walt Disney Co. signs the Euro Disneyland Project agreement with French government officials to create the resort.

November 1990
Dumbo Flying Elephants replaced in California park, with elephants set to go to Disneyland Paris.

April 1992
Disneyland Paris Park officially opens to the public.

October 1994
Following its first financial restructuring earlier in the year, Euro Disneyland changes its name to Disneyland Paris.

November 1999
Introduction of the FastPass system in California park.

March 2002
The resort’s second park, Walt Disney Studios Park, opens its doors in Paris.

February 2005
Another financial restructuring wraps up, with money set aside for construction of four new Paris attractions: Buzz Lightyear Laser Blast, Cars Race Rally, Crush’s Coaster and the Twilight Zone Tower of Terror.

August 2008
Disneyland Paris celebrates its 200 millionth guest.

April 2012
Disneyland Paris begins yearlong 20th anniversary celebration.
More than four decades have passed since Robert Gehmann Bone served as Illinois State's ninth president, and yet he is far from forgotten. His legacy as an exceptional educator, administrator, friend and family man is still appreciated on campus—especially during the celebration of Founders Day each February.

The annual day of reflection inevitably leads to praise and respect for Bone's efforts and ability to move ISU forward. The decisions he made during his decade as president positioned Illinois State to become the University it is today.

Bone took office in 1956, just as the University was beginning its second century. The campus had grown to 25 buildings and enrollment was near 3,000. When he retired in 1967, Old Main had been demolished. New construction totaled 15 buildings and 10 additions. The work, completed at a cost of $60 million, tripled the campus class size. The student body swelled to nearly 13,000, with the number living in residence halls jumping from 1,032 to 5,070. Six administrative units were created and doctoral programs added as the institutional mission shifted from strictly teacher education. The new direction was cemented when the name was changed from Illinois State Normal University under Bone's watch.

More impressive than the fact Bone navigated a restructured, repurposed, and revitalized institution with a soaring enrollment and expanded reputation was the way he accomplished the feat. Despite such monumental and often contentious changes, Bone made Illinois State a warmer, friendlier place.

"President Bone was the kindest, most empathetic man I have ever known," said Syracuse Chancellor Emeritus and Distinguished Alumnus Kenneth "Buzz" Shaw '61, who was awarded an honorary degree from ISU in 1987.

“He viewed his presidency as a call to duty, which is why he..."
was ‘Mr. ISNU’ when I was a student and later ‘Mr. ISU.’ He cared about his university and its people, resisted growth for growth’s sake, and worked to ensure that it would remain a caring institution long after it experienced growing pains and the move to a multi-purpose university.”

Others who knew Bone and his wife, Karin, concur that outreach was their forte. A consistent presence at university events, the duo had an infectious friendliness, sense of humor and enthusiasm.

“He genuinely liked people and believed it was important to connect with them on a personal level,” said Roger Cushman ’62.

Now retired from his position as ISU’s director of Media Relations, Cushman was an undergraduate when he met Bone. He knew Roger’s name and spoke as if they were already friends.

“He was famous for greeting faculty and students by name at his first campus reception. It was an amazing feat. Everyone thought he had a photographic memory, although later he said he had spent hours studying yearbook photos so he could match names to faces,” Cushman said, praising Bone as “the epitome of what a college president should be.”

“He was distinguished in appearance, dignified in manner, yet down to earth and utterly without pretense. He was affable, friendly, warm, and possessed a great sense of humor,” Cushman said, recalling how Bone stood out at Redbird games in his red vest, matching socks and a bow tie.

“It amazed me how he could maintain his dignity while riding a camel in...
a Homecoming parade, or dressing in outlandish costumes while appearing in student stunt shows,” Cushman said.

“But he did.”

Bone had such a welcoming manner that he would wait until the campus was full of students before taking a regular morning walk. Distinguished Alumnus James Fisher ’56, M.S. ’57, still recalls struggling to keep up with Bone on those jaunts across the Quad.

“He was the most naturally charismatic person I have ever known,” said Fisher, who served as Bone’s assistant before becoming president of Towson State University. “He cared: about students, faculty, staff and others, and defined his every decision in terms of the best interests of students.”

Many were shocked to have Bone help them move into a residence hall, which was just one of many ways he exemplified his belief in lending a helping hand wherever possible. Such demeanor resulted in students adoring their president.

“Twice they thronged the Quad to give him surprise greetings,” Cushman recalled. “Once on his return from abroad to the tune of ‘Hello Dolly’—substituting the words ‘Hello Bobby’—and another time on his birthday. It was a milestone celebration as he reached 60.

Bone’s campus persona was a genuine representation of the man he was at home, according to the youngest of two sons, Robert “Chip” Bone Jr., M.A. ’82.

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Bone’s campus persona was a genuine representation of the man he was at home, according to the youngest of two sons, Robert “Chip” Bone Jr., M.A. ’82.

He was very much the same person in private that he was in public.

“He was very much the same person in private that he was in public,” said Chip, who works in ISU’s Conference Services. “What you saw was who he was. It wasn’t just a mask he wore in public. He genuinely liked people and believed it was important to connect with them, and he really cared about students.”

That fact was just one trademark of Bone’s life, which began in Springfield in 1906. He grew into an inveterate traveler, lifelong educator and global citizen. Soon after graduating from Wooster College, he led student trips around Eu-
rope. He lived and taught for three years in Alexandria, Egypt. Upon returning to the U.S., Bone completed a master’s at the University of Illinois, where he also earned a doctorate.

During WWII he completed officers’ training school in the Army Air Corps and went on to train pilots in Texas. Bone married Karin in 1944. That same year he journeyed overseas again as a member of the Headquarters Staff of the U.S. Forces in Europe. It was there he helped found the American University at Shrivenham, England, where he served as head of the history department.

Bone held administrative positions at the University of Illinois as well, where he taught for 20 years and was so loved by students they voted him the “most popular teacher on campus.” He was assistant to the provost when he accepted the presidency at Illinois State.

“He saw that he could implement his ideas and make a difference,” said Chip, who was only 9 years old when his family relocated to Normal. “And I think he saw it as an interesting challenge.”

In a sealed letter written on the eve of his inauguration, Bone outlined his priorities: to create a long-range planning committee, including a subcommittee on future academic dreams; employ all people, especially administrators, to the best of their abilities; govern with humility; and give credit to others. He also focused on the scope of academic programs, writing that the Education Department must be “greatly revised if we are to move ahead.”

“His greatest legacy was allowing change,” said former Vice President of Finance and Planning Warren Harden. He points to Bone’s ability to build consensus from a position of neutrality on the most contentious issues as integral to his success, even as his own personal convictions were rudder and compass to progress and change.

While many of the campus old guard were committed to the Normal school focus on education, Bone saw a brighter future for a diversified, liberal arts university. He foresaw change and above all, remained committed to the students. They ultimately were decisive in helping advance his goals.

“He encouraged students to participate and be heard, take an active role and join campus committees, the Vidette, and other organizations to make their opinions known,” Harden said.

Their involvement was especially crucial to the debate surrounding the University’s name change. Harden worked closely with Bone on the issue as a faculty member in the Economics Department and president of ISU’s American Association of University Professors chapter.

His greatest legacy was allowing change.

President Bone and Warren Harden watched Governor Otto Kerner sign the University’s name change into law on August 23, 1963.
Changing opinions was a slow and deliberate business. Bone consequently insisted that all campus opinions be heard and varying perspectives examined. The campus debate stretched from 1959 until the change was approved in August of 1963 by then Illinois Governor Otto Kerner.

By the time it took effect on January 1, 1964, the accomplishment left many in awe of Bone’s ability to maintain civility and restore unity while moving the University forward so significantly.

“That he did so with consummate skill and astute diplomacy was key to his lasting success. To this day, I don’t think a lot of people realize that one of his main goals from the outset was to delete ‘Normal’ and change it to a four-year liberal arts university with a doctoral program,” Chip said. “It wasn’t in the founding documents that ISU had to be a teacher’s college.”

Bone did not, however, arrive on campus with certainty as to what he could accomplish. “I pray that these goals, if they are good, will be realized before I leave,” he wrote. “I think most of them will be, as most of the personnel of this school are as eager as I to push toward ‘The Promised Land.’”

“I think all of his goals were realized,” said Chip, who is pleased that his parent’s legacy remains strong on campus so many years after his father’s presidency and death. Bone died in 1991 at the age of 84. Karin lived another six years to the age of 89.

The University still recognizes the top undergraduate students as Bone Scholars, the Karin Bone Athletic Study Center serves student-athletes, and the Bone Student Center was so named to honor the couple’s dedicated service to Illinois State.

Perhaps the most significant reminder of Bone’s remarkable presidency is the Hand of Friendship given by the Class of 1967. The bronze sculpture stands on the Quad just outside of Hovey Hall as a tribute to the unique leader, who Shaw described as “a wonderful role model, but impossible to emulate. There is,” as he said, “only one Bob Bone.”

A look at the legacy
The impact of President Bone’s life and leadership has been captured in an historical video that can be viewed at IllinoisState.edu/Magazine.

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A hidden gem at Illinois State, the College of Fine Arts glass program was created in 1970 by renowned glass sculptor Joel Myers. Students have spent hours coaxing raw materials into inspired creations that come to life in sparse working conditions. The program’s first location also served as golf cart storage. Since 1982 the program has been housed north of the football field in a former agriculture building. The college hopes to one day have a facility designed specifically for glass artists. Until then, faculty and students remain committed to learning their craft, enduring sweltering heat as they shape masterpieces that define the excellence of ISU’s unique glass program.

1. School of Art Associate Professor John Miller
   Miller is ISU’s resident glass master. He has crafted glass for more than 25 years, with 10 spent at ISU. He teaches students the fundamentals of working with glass and instills a creative spark through his own work. Miller has completed more than 100,000 pieces that range from small goblets to full-size human figures.

2. If you can’t stand the heat...
   The temperature in the hot shop can reach 130 degrees—not surprising given three furnaces burn at up to 2,000 degrees. These torrid ovens melt raw glass shards and pellets, which are then gathered by the artists like honey. Every furnace has been built by Miller for $6,000 each. A prebuilt furnace can cost up to $40,000. Way to go, John!

3. Sam Simpson
   Simpson became involved with the glass program during the spring of 2012 so she could cross it off her bucket list. A photography major graduating in May, she dreams of owning a photography studio. She plans to continue working with glass at a studio in Ottawa.

4. Safety first
   Safety is a major priority for the program. Many systems are in place that automatically shut down furnaces and gas lines in the event of any power surge or malfunction. Students are taught to respect the craft and use much caution and care in looking out for themselves and their peers while sculpting with the hot glass.

5. Megan Fank ’10
   Fank began working at the Glass House as an artist assistant after completing her studio art degree. She uses her expertise to help train the next generation of studio glass artists. She is at ease in the hot shop and the cold shop, which is where items are machined, polished and finished.

6. Mike daPonte ’12
   Drawn to glasswork because he enjoys the challenge and physical labor tied to the craft, daPonte has spent two years training in the Glass House. Although
now at ease around the molten glass, he has had his share of burns. All the students understand they will get burned at some point. The first time they do, classmates mark the rite of passage with a round of applause.

7. Medieval mace
Created by daPonte, this mace features a cast glass head with fabricated steel spikes in the skull. Even the handle of the mace itself was crafted by daPonte. Once he welds the chain, it will be battle ready—or prime for a gallery exhibit. The Glass House has two shows a year where the projects created by students and Miller are sold. Half of the proceeds fund speakers and raw materials for classes. The other half goes to the students to use for art projects and study materials.

8. Punti rods
Punti rods are essential for artists to heat, reheat and mold a project. Blowing into one of these rods can expand the glass, allowing shape and size to be controlled. Be careful not to tap a punti rod while work is in progress, or you’ll be sweeping up glass shards.

9. Joe Waropay
A studio art major, Waropay has been with the program for one year. He appreciates the unforgiving nature of glass and relishes sculpting in 3-D. During his first year with the program, Waropay learned to make fundamental shapes with glass and other basic skills such as using powered chrome, manganese, and cobalt to give glass color.

10. Pair of jacks
Jacks are used in shaping the red hot glass right as it comes from the furnace. Like most of the other tools in the Glass House, the jacks were made in Murano, Italy. Fun fact: Murano has been a glassmaker haven since 1291, when glass foundries in Venice were forced to move to avoid fires.

11. Glory hole
The fiery chamber where glass can be reheated as it is being worked is called the glory hole. (Yes, that really is the official technical term for the type of furnace used by glass artists.)

12. Heat shields
The Glass House heat shields are made from sheet metal and serve as a safety measure to protect students from the furnace heat. A second purpose? They are a place where designs can be drawn for easy reference.

13. The writing on the wall
The students and staff like to leave messages for one another. Sometimes they are helpful tips, but often they are playful jibes. No matter what is written, it is guaranteed to be noticed. The words on this day were “cabeza de queso,” which translates from Spanish as “cheese head.”
“Now what?”

That’s the dilemma facing veterans who return home from war after losing a limb or being rattled by post-traumatic stress disorder. It’s a question without an easy answer, one that looms so large that it can leave a frustrated veteran sitting on a couch—or worse—rather than re-entering his or her life.

Jordan Schupbach ’07 helps disabled veterans find the answer to that question. The public relations major is a veteran himself, serving in the Air Force during the early days of the war in Afghanistan.

Schupbach works for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, leading outreach efforts for three of the VA’s six national events centered on therapeutic rehabilitation. One of them is the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, which will enter its 33rd year in Tampa, Florida, this coming July.

“The obvious fact for a soldier who suddenly finds himself in the disabled veteran category is that things are very different, but that shouldn’t equate to letting go of the dreams and goals you want to achieve in life,” Schupbach said. “Our events and programs are designed to move the vets from injured to active, and get them back in the game.”

Schupbach, who grew up around the Midwest but considers Bloomington-Normal his hometown, enlisted in the Air Force in 1998. He played a combat support role during two Middle East deployments, first to enforce a no-fly zone over southern Iraq in 2000, then during Operation Enduring Freedom in the months after the September 11 terror attacks. Operating out of a base on Masirah Island, Oman, he would handle troop movements,
provide convoy support and helped protect senators, generals and other dignitaries when they visited the war zone.

Schupbach left the Air Force in 2002 and worked as an emergency medical technician in Colorado before transferring in 2006 to Illinois State University, where both his parents and a brother are also alumni.

But like the veterans he would later work with, Schupbach’s transition back to civilian life came with some challenges. During one of his first classes at Illinois State, sitting in an unfamiliar environment, he saw a freshman with her friends become emotional about missing her mother back home. Schupbach, who was then 23 with a wife and child, had just spent two years on the other side of the world.

“My perspective was just so much different,” said Schupbach, now 35 and living in Centennial, Colorado, near Denver. “My transition back to civilian life was laden with those kinds of examples.”

Schupbach moved back to Colorado after graduating from Illinois State and first worked for the Paralyzed Veterans of America. He moved over to the VA for a public affairs job in 2009 after the National Veterans Wheelchair Games came to Denver.

“It’s great to work literally hand-in-hand with my fellow veterans,” Schupbach said. “Some were wounded last year in Iraq, some are World War II veterans. Our programs serve them all, and we see veterans from all eras at our events.”

The National Veterans Wheelchair Games started in 1981 in Richmond, Virginia, drawing 74 veterans. Last summer, when the Games returned to Richmond for a homecoming of sorts, 540 veterans competed in 17 medaled events, from archery to hand cycling to basketball. They also test-drive a new event every year in exhibition; last year, it was boccia.

Schupbach works with media outlets, coordinates and supervises public affairs teams for the events, builds marketing materials and organizes outreach events to generate interest among potential athletes. “Each day is different,” he said. “It’s one thing I love about the job.”
Typically, a quarter of the competitors have never before participated in any type of organized wheelchair sports competition.

“Some of them are into it immediately,” Schupbach said. “With others, it may take a little more encouragement to show them what these programs are really about.”

There are about 3.4 million veterans with some type of service-connected disability, or about 15 percent of all veterans, according to Census data. The VA embraces new and non-traditional approaches to the holistic healing of those injured veterans, Schupbach said. If that means pitting two teams of veterans against each other in a violent game of quad rugby, so be it.

“These guys and girls have a competitive spirit. They love the camaraderie of it. They love the physical challenge,” Schupbach said. “When they leave, we want them to not be thinking about the next event in 2013, but the next 51 weeks and how they’re gonna use those weeks to prepare.”

There’s no shortage of success stories. Schupbach recalls a veteran who came back from Iraq with leg and back injuries suffered in an improvised explosive device blast. He came to the National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic in San Diego, where newly injured veterans get a taste of the wide world of adaptive sports, including sailing, surfing, track and field, kayaking and cycling.

The injured veteran, who walked with a cane and a limp, made great strides in just a week, Schupbach said. Now, he competes in mixed martial arts fights—and not in a disabled-fighter category.

“He was so motivated by what he could do, he just went all out,” Schupbach said. “That's really the story of our events. That's our office motto—Mission Redefined—in action.”

Not every injury is physical. The number of U.S. veterans getting compensation from the VA for service-connected post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) increased 222 percent, to 386,882, from 1999 to 2010. And the VA's huge national events, which draw thousands of athletes, family members and volunteers, present a unique challenge for those with PTSD, Schupbach said.

HELPING VETERANS

About 584 veterans, on average, attend Illinois State University every year.

Veterans Services is often the first point of contact for student-veterans and dependents, but various offices, such as Academic Advising, Career Center and Student Counseling Services, have a designated staff member to assist veterans with their unique needs.

Since rating began in 2009, Illinois State has been included in the Military Friendly Schools list published by G.I. Jobs magazine. This list recognizes the top 15 percent of colleges, universities, and trade schools that are supporting the educational pursuits of veterans.

The Veterans Memorial on the Quad was dedicated on November 11, 2011. The Veterans Study Center, a designated area to meet, study, or relax between classes, opened last September.

For more information on Veterans Services visit Veterans.IllinoisState.edu.
“For a person with post-traumatic stress disorder to be able to make that leap is sometimes difficult,” Schupbach said. “That’s the most rewarding part of my job, to see that transition, from someone who is so closed up from the emotional scars of battle, to move into a position to engage, compete, laugh and struggle in such an open environment.”

Schupbach’s own reintegration to civilian life was anchored by Illinois State. He praised the University’s Veterans Services for helping him navigate his benefits, including the GI Bill, which meant he didn’t have to work outside of his studies and could spend time with his young family.

He said having that flexibility was critical. “It’s like my classes were my job.”

Schupbach also credits Illinois State’s public relations program in the School of Communication for focusing on the theory behind his craft—not just the mechanics of writing a press release. He said that’s been vital in his current role helping disabled veterans navigate their redefined life mission.

“Illinois State didn’t give me the Public Relations Manual,” he said. “Instead, instructors like John McHale and Joseph Zompetti taught me how to creatively consider audiences, outlets and stories in order to craft messages that were unique and exciting. It follows the old ‘teach a man to fish’ analogy.”

2012 wheelchair games
Check out more photos and video from the 2012 National Veterans Wheelchair Games at IllinoisState.edu/Magazine.

Around 540 veterans competed in 17 medaled events at the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, above, last year in Virginia.

GET INVOLVED
Find more information about the 2013 National Veterans Wheelchair Games set for July 13-18 in Tampa, Florida, or to register, visit www.WheelchairGames.VA.gov.

/VeteransAffairs @VAadaptivesport jordan.schupbach@VA.gov
I SU’s Alumni Association marks its sesquicentennial this year. The milestone was noted during this month’s annual Founders Day with a celebratory alumni luncheon. Many alums were chosen to participate in the traditional bell-ringing event.

The 156 individuals who rang the bell represented the strength of Illinois State’s graduates, who first came together after commencement in 1860. The 10 members of that first graduating class gathered at Majors Hall.

In 1863, the first formal meeting of the Illinois State Normal University (ISNU) Alumni Association occurred when members of that first graduating class assembled in Old Main. Graduates shared intentions for giving back to the University.

The association established its wider purpose through the years. Friendship and service were reinforced when a new channel of alumni communications appeared with the Alumni Quarterly, first published in February of 1912 as the precursor to Illinois State. The collective voice of alumni proved powerful through the years, especially when the continuation of ISU’s Agriculture Department was threatened with extinction by the state legislature in 1991. The tradition of pride in and advocacy for their alma mater began when members of the Class of 1860 planned the first alumni reunion decades ago. Since then graduates have become advocates who not only attest to the grandeur of the University’s past, but are prepared to lift Illinois State even higher in the years that lie ahead.

Successful alumni and students continue to reflect, in no small measure, the efforts of the Alumni Association in promoting the University and contributing to the public’s perception of the institution that has evolved to provide the premiere undergraduate education in Illinois.

For more on the Alumni Association’s 150th anniversary, visit Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/150.
Monograph details decades of influence, change

Individuals looking for a succinct history of the Alumni Association will be interested in The First 150 Years: ISU Alumni Association Celebrates a Legacy of Service.

The online document authored by Barbara Sealock traces the association from its start, documenting the significant decisions and efforts of alumni through the many years. From recalling campus celebrations and the start of traditions to periods of controversy and change, the publication chronicles how alumni have invested their time and talents to ensure Illinois State University excels.

Alumni return for annual campus reunion

Graduates from the Class of 1963 will celebrate their 50th class reunion on June 14 and 15 during the annual Half Century Club event. A variety of activities will take place across campus, including luncheons, tours, and information sessions. The Class of 1963 will be inducted into the Half Century Club on Friday evening.

Members of the classes of 1958, 1953, 1948, 1943, and 1938 who will be celebrating their 55th, 60th, 65th, 70th, and 75th reunions from ISNU will be honored at the Saturday luncheon and receive a special recognition gift.

Two major issues addressed include the struggle that surrounded the University’s name change debate. Other ways alumni have had an impact are also discussed, from mentoring and recruiting to providing financial support.

With content pulled from historical documents as well as multiple interviews with alumni, administrators, and staff, The First 150 Years is a tribute to all who have a passion for Illinois State. Find it, an historical video, photos and alumni testimonials online at Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/150.

Don’t miss an issue of the Illinois State alumni newsletter.

Update your information at Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/update.

Save the date

Homecoming 2013 will take place September 30–October 6. Plan now to attend! Visit IllinoisStateHomecoming.com for video and photos of the 2012 event.

Seeking memories of one-room schoolhouses

With the University’s focus solely on training teachers for decades, the earliest alumni found themselves leading students in one-room schoolhouse settings.

The story of how ISNU’s oldest cohort of teacher alums managed to work with students across ages and lessons while keeping the building heated and pathway cleared is one Illinois State wants to capture.

Do you have a memory from having taught in such a setting that you are willing to share? Is there someone you can suggest the magazine staff contact to learn more about those days of teaching and learning?

Submit your stories and ideas to Editor Susan Blystone by email at sjblyst@IllinoisState.edu or by calling (309) 438-2667.

Deadline approaches for awards nomination

Each year the Alumni Association honors individuals during Founders Day celebrations. Recipients of the Distinguished Alumni, Outstanding Young Alumni, Alumni Achievement, E. Burton Mercier Alumni Service and Senator John W. Maitland Jr. Commitment to Education awards are recognized.

Individuals chosen for each honor are selected through a nomination process. The deadline to nominate someone as a 2014 recipient is approaching, with all submissions required by the end of May.

Do you know an alumnus who deserves to be recognized? Make a nomination today by going online to Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/awards. For more information, call (309) 438-2586.

February 2013 Illinois State 29
On his first Saturday night at college, when nervous freshmen go out and mingle or bond with their new roommates, Brian Zisook ’06 was starting his career in the music business.

The Skokie native asked Illinois State University’s student-run radio station, WZND, if he could pitch in. As fate would have it, the late-night disc jockey had to miss her shift, so the eager Zisook filled in.

Ten years later, Zisook is still making bold moves, now as vice president and editor in chief of DJBooth.net, a fast-growing online music magazine that’s pulling more than a million unique visitors per month.

Zisook, now 28, actually wanted to be on television as a kid, dreaming about hosting The Price is Right—or at least being paid to speak.

“My entire life, my parents told me I talked a whole lot,” Zisook said. “They said, ‘You better find a job where someone pays you to do it.’”

After working all eight semesters at WZND and building up what he calls a “ridiculous Rolodex” of industry contacts, the mass communications major got a job at a radio station in 2006 but was let go only six months later because of the station’s financial problems.

Instead of taking another radio gig, Zisook decided to devote himself to DJBooth.net, then just a side project with the site’s creator, Dave Macli.

“There was no better time in my life to roll the dice,” Zisook said. “That was tough mentally, but I knew I could take it on and succeed.”

Zisook put in 80-hour workweeks, building content that attracted 700,000 monthly visits within a year and a half. Today, the site has five full-time employees and its rankings, reviews, and downloads make it the seventh busiest among the Complex Media Network’s 102 Web properties.

Zisook remains connected to the campus, returning to Illinois State to speak at Communication Week career day events.
Pause for applause

Meritorious Marine

Marine Corps Captain Aaron Fisher ’01 has been awarded a Bronze Star for his work during a seven-month deployment in support of the war in Afghanistan. Fisher, 34, is a criminal justice sciences graduate from Bloomington. He was awarded the medal last fall at a base in Japan. Fisher’s company played a key role in completing more than 45 engineering projects, including construction of a key land bridge and resupply access route. “The Marines pulled together and they did an amazing job,” Fisher said. “It’s not something I did. It is something the company did.” He and his wife, Erin, have five children.

Musician’s high note

Emily (Nunemaker) Bressler ’99, M.S. ’06, was the 2012 Illinois High School Association nominee for the National Federation of High School Associations Outstanding Music Educator Award. Only one music educator is nominated from each state for the prestigious honor that recognizes an individual’s contributions to a high school program. Bressler is the West Carroll High School band director and an adjunct professor at two community colleges. Beyond performing with several bands, she was the principal clarinetist on the premiere performance and recording of David Holshinger’s “Reagan of Illinois.” The piece was commissioned to celebrate Reagan’s 100th birthday. Bressler and her husband, Mark, have two children.

Counting on Chipotle

Jack Hartung ’79, M.B.A. ’80, always played with numbers. In grade school, he won math competitions so he could teach class for a day. He’s still working with numbers as chief financial officer for Chipotle Mexican Grill. The fast-casual restaurant chain has more than 1,300 locations. Hartung is proudest of bolstering Chipotle’s business operations so it can pursue its “Food With Integrity” goals, including the use of natural-raised meats. “I’ve got more energy now than I did in my 30s,” he said. “A lot of that comes from working at Chipotle.” Hartung lives in Naperville with his family but commutes weekly to Chipotle’s Denver headquarters.

Major player in Chicago sports

Described as the Chicago organization devoted to preserving and honoring great moments in sports history, the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame pays tribute to sports legends. Illinois State alum Jay Blunk ’86 is now among them. He was inducted in 2012. Blunk worked more than two decades as vice president of marketing and broadcasting for the Chicago Cubs. The experience prepared him for the challenge of helping to revitalize the Chicago Blackhawks. Two years after joining the hockey franchise, the team Chicagoans had nearly forgotten captured the Stanley Cup in 2010. Blunk remains with the team as executive vice president.

40s

Phyllis Hrehovcsik ’48 is retired and widowed. She resides in Oceanside, California.

60s

Eugene C. Foley ’62 is a math professor at Collin College in Frisco, Texas, where he resides.

Bill Sharp ’65 served as the elected register of deeds in Grafton County, New Hampshire. He is a retired musician who leads the Mad Bavarian Brass Band, which plays Oktoberfest music. He resides in Lebanon, New Hampshire.

Theresa Ripley ’66 has published several books and is now an ebook author and publisher. She resides in Eugene, Oregon.

Michael Askew ’67 is a retired industrial technology specialist. He and his wife, Carol, reside in Poughkeepsie, New York.

Ray Fenton ’67, M.S. ’68, has served as Webmaster of the National Association of Test Directors. He received a special service Award for NATD in 2012. He and his wife, Donna, reside in Tucson, Arizona.

Carol Horan ’68 has authored the book A Family’s Secret: Bipolar Disorder on Treetop Lane. She resides in Goodyear, Arizona.

Joseph A. Kotarba ’69 is a professor of sociology and director of the Center for Social Inquiry at Texas State University-San Marcos. He and his wife, Polly, reside in Wimberley, Texas.

Gerald Lott ’69, M.S. ’74, teaches math at Waushesa County Technical College and Madison College, both in Wisconsin. He and his wife, Veronique Berger, reside in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

70s

Janet (Bressner Barnard) Kilgus ’70, M.S. ’77, has been elected to a three-year term as chair of the Illinois Education Association. Retired. She serves as president of the organization, which has nearly 10,000 members and is part of the IEA. She resides in Fairbury.
How we met

In November of 1975, Sherry Vass was eating in Southside’s Feeney Dining Center when she asked a simple question of a friend, “Who’s that cute boy?”

“That’s Don’s ‘little’ roommate,” she was told. Even though Vince Winkler, the “little roommate” in question, was a freshman, the sophomore Sherry didn’t mind.

The two first talked at a party in the basement of Whitten Hall later that month, but it wasn’t until they attended cultural events on campus to fulfill a requirement for a shared class that Sherry and Vince came together.

Vince asked Sherry to attend a performance of The Marriage of Figaro. With her father something of an opera buff, Sherry enjoyed the date on February 7, 1976. It was the first of many moments the two shared, as they soon became a couple.

After graduating from the English Department in 1978, Sherry worked at the Daily Pantagraph in Bloomington for a year before moving to Chicago to work for Gorman Publishing Company. The pair stayed together, even when Vince graduated from the College of Business in 1979 to work for his father’s construction company in Washburn. The distance created an absence that made their hearts grow fonder, as they continued to visit each other on the weekends.

For Christmas of 1982, Vince gave Sherry a marriage proposal. The newly engaged couple picked out rings on New Year’s Day. A little more than seven years after applauding Figaro’s marriage, Sherry and Vince had a ceremony of their own. Their wedding was on October 22, 1983, with many Redbirds on hand to celebrate.

“Both our families went to Illinois State,” Sherry said, “so there was a connection to the University. It was kind of a sign that we both ended up there.”

Parents of two children who are now adults, the couple lives in Washington. Sherry works in the composition department for Courier Newspapers, while Vince owns and operates Winkler Construction Company.

They maintain strong ties to the University. They attend Illinois State basketball games regularly and are able to keep up with the changing campus. Although saddened to hear of Southside’s planned demolition, the memories they constructed as undergraduates are strong. For as Sherry notes with gratitude, “ISU gave us a both an amazing experience.”
Walt Smith ’79 retired from the Decatur Boys & Girls Club after serving as executive director 30 years, during which time attendance soared. He and his wife, Ingrid, reside in Decatur.

80s

Tom Bressner ’80 is executive director of the Wisconsin Agri-Business Association. It has more than 350 member companies in the grain, feed, fertilizer, seed, equipment and farm supply business across the state of Wisconsin.

Kevin Ostendorf ’80 is vice president/lending for the Niles Township Teachers Credit Union in Morton Grove. He and his wife, Mary, reside in Crest Hill.

Stan Rosenbahl ’80 completed an M.B.A. at Roosevelt University. He is vice president of the Middle Market Healthcare Team for Fifth Third Bank in Chicago. He previously served as a vice president for Harris Bank. He resides in Wilmette.

Royal DeLegge ’81 has completed a doctorate at Walden University. He is the director of environmental health for the Salt Lake Valley Health Department in Salt Lake County, Utah. The Bureau of Food Protection within the division won the 2012 Samuel J. Crumbley Consumer Protection Award. It is given to a local environmental health jurisdiction that demonstrates unsurpassed achievement in providing outstanding food protection services. He and his wife, Susan, reside in Murray, Utah.

David Kolb ’81 is an attorney and has opened a general practice law office in Joliet. He concentrates on family law, real estate, and injury matters. He and his wife, Marilou, reside in Plainfield.

Janet Pioi ’81 is president of the Intellectual Property Law Association of Chicago for 2012-2013. She is an intellectual property attorney and shareholder at Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione in Chicago.

Luke Robins, M.S. ’81, is the sixth president of Peninsula College in Washington. He previously served as chancellor of Louisiana Delta Community College in Louisiana. He and his wife reside in Port Angeles, Washington.

Isaac Camargo ’82 is president of Premier Corporate Printing, Inc. He and his wife, Shirley, reside in Miami Lakes, Florida.

Roger Daniels ’82 obtained a master’s of divinity, a doctorate of ministry, and a second master’s in counseling. An ordained minister, he is a licensed professional counselor and a certified pastoral counselor. He is statewide director of counseling ministries for the Arizona Baptist Children’s Services. His wife, Alice (Tate) ’82 is a personal trainer and fitness/rehabilitation consultant. They are the parents of two adult daughters and reside in Tucson, Arizona.

Teresa Louise Gibson ’82 is the director of human resources for Emerson Energy System. She is completing an assignment in Singapore.

John V. Gillies ’82 completed four decades in law enforcement, including 29 years with the FBI. He retired to enter the private sector in the Midwest.

Mary L. “Lyn” Landon ’82 is a CPA working as a financial reporting specialist at 1st Farm Credit Services. She and her husband, Joseph, reside in Bloomington.

Vicki Draksler, M.S. ’83, is dean of students at Midstate College. She has taught at the college since 1970 and served as the director of Student Success. She resides in Peoria.

Deborah Louvar ’83 earned a juris doctorate at Thomas Jefferson School of Law. She is an adjunct professor at Seminole State College in Sanford, Florida. She resides in Winter Park, Florida.

Dennis N. Vaughn ’83 completed a professional certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) from San Francisco State University. He resides in San Francisco, California.

Mark Victor ’83 has retired from a teaching career that began in 1978. He served in several districts, and most recently taught band and drivers education at Seneca Township High School. He resides in Seneca.

Catherine (Hutchison) Boyd ’84 is a designer and space planner at bioMerieux, Inc. She and her husband, Kevin, reside in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Kim Clnyes ’84 is the director of sales and marketing for PolhmanUSA Court Reporting, which is a litigation support firm based in St. Louis. She resides in Eureka, Missouri.

Carlos Escapa ’84 is the cofounder and CEO of VirtualSharp Software. He has extensive expertise in virtualization, having previously worked at VMware, where he was a senior executive in Europe. He resides in McLean, Virginia.

Karen Kiefer ’85 completed a master’s in education administration. She is executive director of learning and support services for Rockwood School District. She resides in Grover, Missouri.

Julie (Richardson) Neill ’85 is a teacher and director of the Pre-K program at William Holliday School in Fairview Heights. She and her husband, Scott, have two sons and reside in Lebanon.

Peter Schmale ’85 is the head Web developer for Hagie Manufacturing. He and his wife, Karen, reside in Mason City, Iowa.

Scott Stephens ’85 is a State Farm Insurance Companies agent in Illinois. He and his wife, Joyce, have been married 27 years and have two daughters. They reside in Oregon.

Randall T. Wikoff ’85, M.A. ’07, is a detective sergeant with the City of Bloomington Police Department. He was the 2011 recipient of the College of Applied Science and Connected across continents

Julie (Neymark) Travers ’83 met her husband, Chris, M.B.A. ’86, in an ISU French class. They reside in Elmhurst. His college roommate, Thierry Tremblay, M.B.A. ’86, was an exchange student at ISU from France. He met his wife, Mary Petkoff ’86, at ISU as well. They now live in France. The four have remained friends for more than 20 years, during which time their children have also formed a close bond. The families connected last fall. The Tremblays are on the left of the back row. Julie is third from left, front row, with Chris far right.

Reggie Reads

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

Neither Ruth Herold ‘59 nor Merle Lemon ‘59 realized their decision to attend Illinois State would result in a family legacy across generations.

They met when Ruth served Merle’s table at Cardinal Inn. Their first date was conversation over a Coke. They attended football games, dances and movies. It was at a drive-in theater in the fall of 1958 that they became engaged.

“If we are going to get married, I guess I’d best give you this” Merle said, handing Ruth an engagement ring. They wed over an October weekend and moved into Cardinal Court. Their used furniture cost $100 and rent was $20 a month.

The two graduated in 1959, Ruth in music and Merle in agriculture. She taught elementary students for 38 years. Merle worked for Farm Bureau, taught junior high science and farmed. They now reside in Jacksonville and are parents to two children. Both are ISU alums who also met their spouses on campus.

John Lemon ’85 married Diane (Dombek) ’84. They live in Lake Saint Louis, Missouri. Marcia (Lemon) Brandt ’81 married Jamey ’81. They reside in Bradley and are parents of Karen Brandt, a current ISU senior.

Karen is consequently a third generation Redbird on both sides of her family. “She owes her very existence to ISU with her parents and all four grandparents meeting there” Ruth said, noting that the campus connection has grown to include cousins and nephews as well.

The University is such a part of their lives that Ruth and Merle chose to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at a campus Madrigal dinner in 2008. The evening included the jester reading a poem Marcia and John wrote as a tribute to their parents.

The surprise became just one more ISU memory cherished by this Redbird family.

Technology Academy of Achievement Award. He and his wife, Marcy, reside in Bloomington.

Ann Nobis ’86 is vice president of services delivery at Geneca, a custom software development firm. She resides in Libertyville.

Daniel Sale ’86 is CEO of the Capital Area Association of Realtors in Springfield. He was recently named to the Dr. Almon R. (Bud) Smith, RCE, AE Leadership Society of the National Association of Realtors. His wife, Dena (Atteberry) ’86, works for the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Human Services. They have been married 25 years and reside in Chatham.

Jim Zook ’86 is executive director of the Michigan Corn Office. He previously served as the crops agent for Michigan State University Extension. He resides in Mason, Michigan.

Michael Barla ’87 completed a doctorate in education from Maryville University. He is director of early childhood education for the Rockwood School District. He and his partner, Rich Leighton, reside in St. Louis, Missouri.

Lynne Mikulich ’87 is an information technology project management consultant and project management professional training expert. She and her husband, David, reside in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Bob Parkhurst ’87 is vice president of administrative services for Goodwill of Central Illinois. He is a member of the Peoria Symphony Orchestra board of directors and involved with Corn Stock Theater. He resides in Germantown Hills.

Charles Pierce ’87 is self-employed in landscaping. He resides in Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin.

Lorona E. Armstrong ’88 completed a doctorate from George Washington University. She is an assistant professor at Norfolk State University in the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Exercise Science. She resides in Hampton, Virginia.

Debra Bethard-Caplick ’88 is a managing partner and public relations executive with Quicksilver Edge Strategic Communications. She has been presented a life membership as an Illinois Jaycees Ambassador. She and her husband, James, reside in Chicago.

Anthony Gonzalez ’88 is technology director architect for BlueMetal Architects. He previously worked for Microsoft Corporation. He resides in Chicago.

Laurie (Shirck) Monfiletto ’88 is vice president of human resources for PNM Resources, an energy holding company in New Mexico and Texas that provides electric utility services to 730,000 customers. She and her husband, Tony, reside in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Steven Robb ’88 is vice president and general manager of LaSalle Solutions. He is responsible for the development of LaSalle’s LAMP product, Mobility Solutions, which includes the patent-pending LAMP Scan. He resides in Northbrook.

Cam (Lobb) Cacciatore ’89, M.S. ’91, is the director of communications and marketing for the Colorado Veterinary Medical Association and PetAid Colorado, where she has worked four years. She and her husband, Stephen, reside in Westminster, Colorado.

Rick Pearce ’89, M.S. ’92, Ph.D. ’06, has worked for the Illinois Board of Education and Illinois Valley Community College. He is vice president for learning and student success at Heartland Community College in Normal.
90s

Judith Abbott '90 completed a juris doctorate at the University of Iowa. She has served as a juvenile and domestic violence prosecutor. She is a senior lecturer in criminal justice, the pre-law student advisor and mock trial team coach at Culver-Stockton College. She received the college's 2012 Helsabeck Prize for Excellence in Teaching. She resides in Quincy.

Carolyn M. (Chambers) Callaghan '91, M.S. '98, completed a doctorate at Pennsylvania State University. She is an associate dean. She and her husband, Eric, reside in Fayetteville, Pennsylvania.

Dasha N. Kelly '91 is a performer, lecturer, and instructor. She has published the novel All Fall Down and has been named by Written Word magazine as one of the Top Ten Up-and-Coming Writers of the Midwest. She resides in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Mark Sergot '91 is the vice president of global sales for Fairmont Raffles Hotels International. He and his wife, Cynthia, reside in Ontario, Canada.

Martha Stroud-Merry '91 attended the ISU 1980s madrigal singers reunion event, which included a performance at an ISU Shakespeare Festival alumni event at Ewing Manor. She and her husband, Dana Merry, reside in Georgetown, Texas.

Christina Boehle '92 is employed by the National Park Service as a communication and education specialist. She and her husband, Brian, are the parents of a daughter. Celeste Claire was born in January of 2012. They reside in Boise, Idaho.

Virginia J. McMath '92 received an M.B.A. from the University of Phoenix and is now completing a doctorate in education. She has one son and resides in Nashville, Tennessee.

Rich Zielke '92, M.S. '94, was appointed executive director of the Oswegoland Park District. Rich and his wife, Wendy, reside in New Lenox.

Teddy Brodie Osantowski, Ed.D. '93, is a supervisor at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. She has authored The Little Survivor, The Black Landed Gentry of Montgomery County, and God Made Me. She and her husband, Russell, reside in Henderson, Nevada.

Kathy (Harris) Albert '94 worked in education as a high school English teacher and high school principal. She now raises alpacas on a farm in Illinois. She resides in Rio.

Tim Frank, M.S. '94, is the chairman of Sany America. He is responsible for manufacturing, sales, marketing and support for all Sany equipment products in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and Central America. He resides in Asheville, North Carolina.

Robin (Wink) Pearson '94 is the STEP coordinator for Northwest Special Education Cooperative in Freeport. She and her husband, Pete, reside in East Dubuque, Iowa.

Sheryl Lang DeMott '95, M.S. '03, is deputy director of clinical services at the Lois B. Deberry Special Needs Facility, which is within the Tennessee Department of Correction. She resides in Nashville, Tennessee.

Suzanne (Hunsley) Knisley '95 completed her Certified Benefits Professional Certification from World@Work. She is the defined contributions benefits analyst at Caterpillar. She and her husband, Kevin, reside in Henry.

David Mistic '95 is vice president and relationship manager with Fifth Third Bank in Chicago. He previously worked as vice president for US Bank in the Windy City. He is an active volunteer with Bethel New Life and ISU's Educational Investment Fund. He resides in Chicago.

Kerin Motsinger '95 teaches gifted elementary students in the Chicago area. She was one of only six educators chosen in 2012 as a Lowell Milken Center Fellow-ship recipient. She resides in Glen Ellyn.

Brent Roberts '95 is senior manager of communications at the Appraisalal Institute. He and his wife, Sara (Silverton) '95 are the parents of two children. They reside in Mundelein.

Michael "Mickey" Seward '95 is the national director of communications for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He and his wife, Kristie, reside in Kansas City, Missouri.

Elizabeth Wittig '95 received a teaching certificate from Arizona State University. She is a teacher in the Kansas City school district. She has one son and resides in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Corey (White) Murphy '96 worked as a juvenile probation officer and is now a stay-at-home mom. She and her husband, Christopher, are the parents of a daughter and son. Kenton Curtis was born in September of 2011. They reside in Fox Lake.

Karen Rothbardt '96 is a freelance writer/editor for educational publishing. She has a daughter, Elliana, and resides in Buffalo Grove.

Teresa Hill '97, M.S. ’00, Ed.D. ’08, is superintendent of schools for South Holland School District 151. She and her husband, Anthony, reside in Flossmoor.

David Lueble '97 completed a master's in education administration at Governors State University. He is a special services teacher at Lincoln-Way Central and was named the district’s 2012 Teacher of the Year. He serves as a dean and a coach for the wrestling and football teams. He resides in Morris.

Curt Oldfield '97 completed a master's at the University of Illinois. He taught high school agriculture classes at Spoon River College, where he was dean of instruction. He was vice president of academic affairs at Northeast Iowa Community College before being named president of Spoon River College in Canton.

Julie (Musselman) Oost '97 is an economist with Kelley Drye & Warren LLP. She served as a senior policy advisor and economic analyst at the Illinois Commerce Commission. She and her husband, Kevin, are the parents of triplets. Liam, Noah, and Izaac were born
in January of 2012. They reside in Mokena.

Sarah (Gentry) Aubry ’98, M.S. ’04, is an English teacher and reading tutor at Cowman International School in Haiti. She and her husband, Mark, founded Hoops for Haiti. They and their daughters, Mark, founded Hoops for School in Haiti. She and her husband, Dan, reside in Ashland and are the parents of two sons. They reside in Ashland.

John Centko, M.S. ’99, is provost at Conception High School and athletic director for Immaculate Conception High School in the Marana Unified School District in Arizona. He and his wife, Maggie, are the parents of two sons and reside in Bourbonnais.

Michael Knight ’01 is a prosecutor working as an assistant state’s attorney in the Juvenile Justice Bureau in Chicago. He and his wife, Christie, reside in Aurora.

Tessa Samuelsen ’01 is principal of Stark County Elementary School in Illinois. She and her husband, Dan, are the parents of three children. They reside in Moweaqua.

Tom Schergen ’01 completed a master's in educational administration at St. Xavier University. He is the athletic director for Immaculate Conception High School and resides in Evergreen Park.

Ihonda (Stencil) Verdegan ’01 is an assistant professor of kinesiology at St. Ambrose University. She and her husband, Jon, reside in Eldridge, Iowa.

in the country. The award recognizes leadership, management, and success. Her husband, Steve ’97, works at Caterpillar, marketing products globally. They reside in Edwards.

Licia Johnson ’98 is the author of Strength to Speak: One Woman’s Struggle to Make Peace with her Past. She resides in Chicago.

Roger Kilpatrick, Ph.D. ’98, has retired after serving as District 709 superintendent. He worked 17 years in the banking business and as a CPA. He and his wife, Linda, have four grandchildren and reside in Morton.

Scott McNinnis ’98 is a staff engineer at Mitsubishi Motors North America. And his wife, Trissy, reside in Heyworth.

Patricia Adkins, Ed.D. ’99, has served as an education administrator at several community colleges. She was president of Yuba College in California before accepting the position of president at Ashland Community and Technical College in Kentucky.

Melissa (Duhr) Davis ’99 authored the paranormal romance In Flames, which was released this year under the alias Elissa Daye. She resides in Bloomington.


Kelsey (Harmon) Finn ’99 is the executive director of the ASUC Auxiliary at the University of California in Berkeley. She and her husband, Brian, reside in Point Richmond, California.

Avada Douglas ’02 graduated from New England Law and passed the Massachusetts bar exam. She is the program administrator at the Legal Advocacy & Resource Center and resides in Boston, Massachusetts.

Kris Kamen ’02 is an engineer for an architectural millwork company. He and his wife, Emily, reside in Schaumburg.

Johnny Reynolds ’02 is a higher education professional. He and his wife, PaKisha (Buchanan) ’02, married in April of 2011. Although on campus at the same time, they met after each relocated from Chicago to Georgia. They reside in Stockbridge, Georgia.

Sue Wheeler, M.S. ’02, is Peoria Park District aquatics supervisor. She received the Heartland Heroes Lifesaving Award from the Central Illinois Chapter of the American Red Cross for saving a 77-year-old man from a swimming pool. She resides in Peoria.

Kelli Brabson ’03 earned a master’s in teaching and learning and educational leadership. She is principal at Chillicothe Elementary Center and Junior High. She and her husband are the parents of two sons. They reside in East Peoria.

Matt Fairchild ’03 is vice president of Commercial Banking with Hickory Point Bank & Trust. He serves commercial clients in Decatur and across Central Illinois.

Linda Smith ’03 is a visiting professor at Texas Southern University. She resides in Houston, Texas.

Chris Baumann ’04 is president of AAA Northgate Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc. in Peoria. He resides in Morton.

Dawnyelle Brown ’04 is a marketing and public relations specialist at Four Seasons Health Club. She and her husband, Jarrod, reside in Bloomington.

Ryan Buite ’04, M.S. ’09, is principal at St. Thomas More in Champaign. He has also coached. He and his wife reside in Bloomington.

John Carter, Ph.D. ’04, has served as a math teacher, assistant principal and principal. He has been an adjunct professor of education at Lake Forest College. Carter is prin-
STATEside is the new daily blog from the staff of Illinois State magazine. The STATEside crew brings you unique stories about today's Illinois State experience, told through the eyes of our accomplished students and alumni. STATEside is powered by photo galleries, video and social media, putting you back on campus with a fresh story, every day, between issues of Illinois State magazine.

What kind of stories are on STATEside?

- Photos and video from today’s campus
- Interviews with students about their passion projects
- Alumni spotlight stories from all over the world
- Vintage photos and ‘This Week in History’ features
- Social media recaps from major on-campus events

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principal of Westlake High School in Illinois. He resides in Vernon Hills.

Zachary L. Kamish ’04 passed the CPA exam and is licensed in the state of Florida. He is employed at Fabricant, Weissman & Darby, P.A. CPA’s in Tampa, Florida.

Angela (Basehoar) Krause ’04 and her husband, Steve, are the parents of two children. Olivia Marie was born in July of 2012. They reside in Atkinson.

Maria (B orn) Reed ’04 is a sales representative for American Marketing and Publishing for Central Illinois. She and her husband, James, were married in May of 2012. They reside in Arlington.

Mike Riopell ’04 is the Illinois statehouse reporter for the Daily Herald, based in the Chicago suburbs. He and his wife, Sarah, reside in Springfield.

Stacey (Heath) Egan ’05 is an elementary school speech-language pathologist. Her husband, Matthew ’05, is a medical researcher at Washington University in St. Louis. They are the parents of a daughter, Quinn Harper, who was born in April of 2012. They reside in Glen Carbon.

Kimberly Jones ’05 is completing an M.B.A. at the University of Northern Illinois. She is the Village of Shorewood community development director. She resides in Darien.

Matt Markelz ’05 is an athletic trainer. He and his wife, Vanessa, reside in O’Fallon, Missouri.

David Sollish ’05 revived the theatre program at Blackburn College and is now assistant professor of theatre at Waldorf College. He and his wife, Kelsey, were married in May of 2012. They reside in Newton, Illinois.

Mike Aho ’05 graduated from Illinois State University. He is the Illinois state representative for the Professional Convention Management Association. He resides in正常 Heights.

Andrew Neiman ’10 is event manager of Disaster Kleenup International. He resides in Willowbrook.

Laura Swingle ’10 works for Abbott Laboratories and resides in Willow.

Eric Brunner ’11 is a tax consultant at Deloitte. He resides in Greendale, Wisconsin.

Karieanna Lee Gangi ’11 works at Curtain Up Classroom Acting Studio in Glen Ellyn. She resides in Glen Ellyn.

10s

Benjamin P. Brooker ’10 completed a master’s in geology from the University of Minnesota. He is employed at M2 Technical Services. He and his wife, Elizabeth (Ward) ’12, were married in July of 2012. They reside in Spokane, Washington.

Alison Carlson ’10 is teaching at Woodruff Career and Technical Center. She resides in Peoria.

Nathan Coon ’10 teaches music for students in first through fifth grade in Barrington CUSD 220. He and his wife, Stephanie, reside in Palatine.

Jeff Eisinger ’10 is a senior recruiter at BottomLine Recruiting. The boutique sales staffing firm is in Chicago, where he resides.

Danielle (Varrassi) Lambert ’10 is a marketing coordinator. She and her husband, Jason, were married in June of 2012. They reside in Crystal Lake.

Louis B. Leugens ’10 is a paralegal/law school student and resides in Champaign.

Ashleigh Yarcho ’09 is the cheer and dance coach at Lincoln College. She resides in Lincoln.

dated Grain and Barge. She and her husband, Dustin, were married in 2012. They reside in Polo.

Tiffany Rentner ’09, M.S. ’12, is the middle school speech pathologist at Manteno Middle School. She is an assistant swim coach for the North Aquatics Sharks swim club in Frankfort. She resides in Tinley Park.

Ashleigh Yarcho ’09 is the cheer and dance coach at Lincoln College. She resides in Lincoln.
Scott Gleeson '11 works for USA Today sports and resides in Centreville, Virginia.

Cassandra E. Rice '11 is an associate software engineer at Accenture. She and her husband, Joshua, reside in Chicago.

Lindsey A. Weaver '11 is a business development assistant with Ag Medical Systems, Inc. She resides in Crystal Lake.

Ben Barth '12 is the assistant principal at Heyworth Jr./Sr. High School. He and his wife, Megan, are the parents of a daughter. They reside in Clinton.

Kyle Brant '12 is the ticket sales representative for the Orlando Magic. He resides in Orlando, Florida.

Kelsi Grubisch '12 is a junior high math teacher at St. Dominics Elementary School. She resides in Crest Hill.

Kevin Omanen '12 has joined Ostrow Reisin Berk & Abrams, Ltd., which is one of Chicago's largest accounting firms. He resides in Tinley Park.

Alicia (Welborn) Seaton '12 and her husband, Dustin, are the parents of a daughter born in January of 2012. They reside in Sandwich.

Marcus Skjervem '12 is the director of marketing for Totino-Grace High School in Fridley, Minnesota. He resides in Blaine, Minnesota.

Michael Smith '12 is a middle school teacher. He resides in Shorewood.

Andrew Steckling '12 works part-time at the Journal & Topics Media Group based in Des Plaines. He resides in Prospect Heights.

Alyssa Stried '12 has accepted a year-long position teaching English in Seoul, South Korea.

Robert Vodicka '12 completed an M.B.A. at Northwestern University’s Kellogg Graduate School of Business. He is a private equity associate. He and his wife, Candance, reside in Chicago.

Pierre Yapo '12 is an international tax consultant with Deloitte Tax LLP and a CPA candidate. He resides in Waukegan.

Our troops

U.S. Army Reserve Col. David Rabb '83, Commander 113th Medical Detachment (Combat Stress Control), is nearing completion of a one-year tour in Afghanistan. His unit is featured in the documentary Mindzone: Therapists Behind the Front Line. He previously commanded the 785th Combat Stress Company in Iraq from 2004-2005. He works for the Veteran Health Administration in Washington, D.C., when not on active duty. He and his wife, Kim, are the parents of five children. The family resides in Mountain View, California.

Terri Tunis '96 has served in the United States Air Force for 20 years. She resides in East Peoria. U.S. Army National Guard 2nd Lieutenant Jason W. Hitch '01 graduated from basic combat training at Fort Benning in Georgia. He also graduated from Officer Candidate School at Fort McClellan in Alabama. He resides in Normal.

Adam Bolliger '08 is an Army officer. He and his wife, Erin, reside in Lacey, Washington. U.S. Army National Guard Specialist James Redmon '09 graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina.

Joseph Charles Lengerich '11 left his position as senior lab technician in Abbott Labs Pharmacogenetics Department to join the U.S. Navy. He joined the Hospital Corpsman program to further his training and education in biology. He resides in Lake Zurich.

In memory

Faculty/Staff

Helen L. (Krueger) Cooper, Health Services; 7/12
Peter D. Couch, Management and Quantitative Methods; 9/12
Paul E. Curry Jr., Bowling and Billiards Center; 6/12
Carol B. Diller, M.S. '51, Mennonite College of Nursing; 6/12
Raymond H. Hunt, Chemistry; 7/12

Floyd S. Kiper, Physical Plant; 8/12
Grace (Dickerson) Miller, Food Services; 8/12
Robert L. Phillips, University Police; 9/12
Mildred I. Sirls Pratt, Social Work; 8/12
Patricia L. Schnitker, Graduate Services; 7/12

Anna (Darling) Tussing, College of Business; 6/12
Robert P. Wheat, Facilities Management; 9/12
David T. Want, Administrative Services; 7/12

20s

Lucille L. (Kauffman) Hart ‘29; 8/12

30s

Carol A. Gabehart ’32, ’58; 6/05
Walter I. Murray ’32; 1/78
Jean M. Benz ’33; 8/01
Margaret W. Milburn ’33; 8/04
Willard D. Unsicker ’33, ’40; 9/08
Ruth K. Weakly ’34; 9/12
Ann H. Brown ’35; 7/12

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Bonnie Meers Brill ’40; 8/12
Elizabeth (Grate) Parkhurst ’40; 4/07
Julia I. Marten-Toten ’41; 10/11
Matthias Michels Sr. ’41; 6/07
Elizabeth J. Thorndike ’42; 12/11
Jean Hoffman Mehler ’43; 7/03
Leslie J. Wehling ’43, ’46; 3/03
Bette C. Taylor ’44; 8/12
Sarah J. Pratt ’45; 11/06
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Lorrain F. Muffley ’48; 9/12
Georgia A. Parsons ’48; 4/10

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Brittany L. Judy ’08; 8/12
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to you

From those who created the Presidential and Bone scholarships to legal legends who stoked his passion for law, Scott Kording ’02 benefitted from Illinois State alumni who gave back.

“If we want that to continue, we need to do something,” Kording said. And he has, making a financial investment in ISU virtually every year since graduation—even during law school.

ISU is where Kording was student body president, a national mock trial competitor, and met judges through the University’s Attorneys Advisory Board, on which he now sits.

Those experiences—achieved without the burden of student loans—gave him an advantage in law school and when he opened a Bloomington practice.

Illinois State is also where Kording met his wife, Melanie (Bertilson) ’02. She gives to the College of Education, while Kording’s giving focuses on the prelaw program.

“It’s about giving as you can, irrespective of the amount,” said Kording, who also invests his time. He teaches three classes annually, including mock trial, and coordinates the 12-hour Law School Admission Test preparation course.

Consistent giving like Kording’s is what ISU’s newly established Loyalty Circle celebrates. Annual support, regardless of the amount, is critical to the University’s ongoing ability to provide an affordable, quality education to deserving students today and in the future.

You can make a difference again this year, or for the first time, by making a contribution online at IllinoisState.edu/Giving, calling (309) 438-2592, or emailing lwey@IllinoisState.edu.
Seasonal changes are just one of the highlights of campus life at Illinois State. Winter is a favorite time of year for students who appreciate a good snowball fight on the Quad, including psychology major Jacob Yard.