Profession in Pieces

Print journalists are left with one question. What’s next?
FirstWord

From the moment Nancy and I arrived on campus

August 8, we have been impressed by the warm and welcoming attitude of everyone we have encountered in the campus and local community. We enjoyed meeting faculty, staff members, students, alumni and retirees. We assisted students as they moved in to residence halls and apartments, and enjoyed a cookout with student-athletes. In every instance, we felt the genuine excitement that greets the new academic year.

The fall semester began with on-campus enrollment slightly lower than last year. New numbers show more students are taking classes at off-campus locations in Chicago and downstate Illinois.

The academic quality of our students is on the rise, with ACT and grade point averages well above national averages and among the highest in the state.

The numbers and academic quality of students from underrepresented groups continues to grow as well. Enrollment for students from underrepresented groups is up 11 percent over last year. The average ACT score and GPA also moved slightly higher.

Financially, Illinois State began the fall semester in stable condition. The University’s FY2014 state appropriation is about $74 million, which represents level funding from FY2013.

While that doesn’t exactly sound promising, this is the first time in several years we and the other Illinois public universities did not endure a funding cutback. Illinois State’s tradition of low debt, conservative spending and careful planning has allowed the University to maintain and even grow academically.

It was a true pleasure to take part in my first Homecoming celebration and learn about the different traditions that have reflected student life from the 1940s through today. In addition to the electric atmosphere created by hundreds of returning alumni, the Hancock Stadium renovation highlighted this year’s events.

With the stadium project completed, new construction initiatives will take center stage, including planning for the Fine Arts Complex, renovation work in Edwards Hall, and a new Art Gallery at Uptown Station in partnership with the Town of Normal.

If you have not been back to the University, I encourage you to plan a visit. You will be amazed and pleased by the energy and enthusiasm that defines the Redbird experience.

Timothy J. Flanagan, Ph.D.
President, Illinois State University
FEATURES

8 Journalism’s dark days
The once thriving field of print journalism has taken a tricky turn. With newspapers shutting down and huge layoffs occurring, the idea of who and what a journalist is and will be is changing. Alums, faculty and students discuss what it takes to adapt to an ever-changing and uncertain future within their field.

14 Life in the oil industry
The recent surge in the oil and gas industry is creating adventures and challenges for Illinois State geology majors. Traveling around the world, working for major companies like Exxon Mobile, and utilizing new technologies are just a few of the opportunities graduates encounter in work that can be controversial.

20 A helping hand
The future isn’t always bright for college students, who often lack the finances to finish a degree. Their graduation dreams are often realized through an investment made by another, who knows the value of a college education. Read how private gifts have impacted people and programs at Illinois State.

28 From WZND to WLS
A famous Chicago radio personality and film critic who partnered with Roger Ebert, Richard Roeper’s success began at Illinois State. Always a talented writer, Roeper ’82 was encouraged by faculty to use his voice. They put him on the path to become the nationally known media figure he is today.

DEPARTMENTS

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On the cover: The traditional image of a newspaperman toiling at the typewriter has been torn apart by changing technology. Illustration by Mike Mahle.
Donald McHenry, a former American diplomat who was the top envoy to the United Nations during the Iranian hostage crisis, has made a $3 million gift to fund a visiting professor of diplomacy and international affairs.

McHenry ’57 studied social science at the dawn of the Civil Rights revolution. He pursued doctoral studies at Georgetown University, where he is a Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy at the School of Foreign Service.

A recipient of ISU’s Distinguished Alumnus Award and an honorary degree, McHenry served under President Jimmy Carter as Ambassador and U.S. Permanent Representative to the UN from 1979 to 1981.

Prior to the appointment, he served as Ambassador and U.S. Deputy Representative to the UN Security Council. He has served in the U.S. Department of State and also joined the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

“The world has no borders,” said McHenry, who appreciates helping the University make global issues a part of every student’s curriculum. The post could be filled by a diplomat or federal government official, a leader from an international/regional organization, or a multinational corporation.

“It is my hope that this professorship will inspire students to see the possibilities and become engaged leaders, whether in their communities or in regional, national and international initiatives.”

McHenry’s gift continues his ISU legacy. A champion debater on the forensics team, he was named the nation’s most outstanding debater in 1956. He helped launch and lead a local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The author of Micronesia: Trust Betrayed, McHenry has pledged his personal papers to Milner Library. They chronicle a career that includes his service on several major corporation boards. He is a director of the Coca Cola Company, trustee emeritus of the Mayo Clinic and Columbia University, and chairman emeritus of Africare.
State Farm remains strong in support of ISU programs

State Farm Companies Foundation is investing nearly $1.9 million over the course of two years to support programs across the University, including the Actuarial Science program in the Department of Mathematics.

Information technology scholarships are also funded, as well as computer equipment upgrades for labs in the School of Information Technology, and curriculum and faculty development activities.

Through America’s Promise Alliance, State Farm supports numerous education initiatives in elementary and secondary schools. The New Innovation for America’s Promise project in Menno-nite College of Nursing creates partnerships between nursing faculty and students. The funds also help students prepare for the nursing licensure exam.

The College of Education’s Little Village and Auburn Gresham project benefits as well. The program works with Chicago public schools to increase urban teacher recruitment and improve preparation and retention of inner-city teachers.

Foundation funding enhances programs designed to introduce local school children and community members to live theatre and the works of Shakespeare through the Illinois Shakespeare Festival.

State Farm also supports the Karin L. Bone Athletics Study Center, which provides academic services to student-athletes.

Efforts to enhance the recruitment, retention and graduation rates of students from underrepresented groups are also getting a boost thanks to the Foundation’s contribution to the Minority Achievement Program, which brings first-generation college students to campus.

State Farm has been a long-time supporter of the University and currently employs more than 4,000 Illinois State graduates.

Faculty research project results in rare Lincoln find

Mathematics professors Nerida Ellerton and Ken Clements were searching for examples of early American arithmetic exercise books when they found two pages of math problems written by a teenage Abraham Lincoln.

The married couple found the book leaf at Harvard University. Until recently, only 10 leaves of the oldest manuscript prepared by Lincoln were thought to have survived. The arithmetic document dates back to approximately 1825, when Lincoln was 16.

“The solutions to the mathematics problems in Lincoln’s manuscript show that the young Abraham not only knew what he was doing, but also that he understood the mathematical principles he was applying,” Clements and Ellerton said. “Almost all of his problem solutions were correct.”

Guided by their knowledge of the arithmetic curriculum in U.S. schools in the early 19th century, Ellerton and Clements have shed light on the ordering of the 11 leaves, and on the mathematical content of the pages. Their analysis reveals that Lincoln’s mathematical achievements were greater than previously reported.

“The discovery of an 11th leaf of Lincoln’s oldest manuscript is an exciting addition to the corpus of Lincoln’s early writings,” said Daniel Stowell, director of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln project. The leaf will be added to the collection of more than 100,000 documents.

Go online to IllinoisState.edu/Magazine to see an image of the manuscript and an excerpt from the news conference where the professors announced their find.

School spirit spreads with new street signs

Red and white street signs began appearing in Normal over the summer months along Main Street, which is the primary route to campus from the surrounding interstates. The University plans future signs for other areas of campus.

The Town of Normal approved replacing the city’s standard green and white street signage for the signs that were suggested through the Redbird Pride Committee. The signs were paid for through Illinois State licensing royalties and will be installed by the town’s public works employees as schedules permit.

“This is really a joint effort. We are able to purchase the signs with no tax dollars, no tuition or student fee dollars—just the royalties recouped from sales of branded items,” Director of Trademark and Licensing R.C. McBride said.

“We’re extremely excited to see the Town of Normal and the University partner to show off our shared Redbird pride,” McBride said. “This is a great way to let visitors to town and campus know they’ve arrived in Redbird country.”

Grant program empowers Illinois science teachers

Illinois teachers learned new ways to approach lessons about science this summer thanks to ISU initiatives coordinated by the Center for Mathematics, Science and Technology (CeMaST). The work was supported by several grants
Where are they now?

When Donald Adkins ’48, a high school teacher I admired, heard I wanted to become a teacher, he advised me to go to Illinois State. I enrolled in September 1957, the year of the University’s centennial. Full summer school programs allowed me and my Fell Hall roommate, Linda Webster Bean, to graduate a year early in 1960 in business education. One fond memory is in the attempts by my Walker Hall-One North Corridor mates, including Linda, to hop-scotch over the dropped and incredibly stinky fruit from the Gingko tree in front of Cook Hall on our way to classes at Schroeder Hall. Another memory is Professor Helen Cavanagh’s requirement for us to subscribe to Time or Newsweek in her history course. She integrated the study of history with current events. I chose Time, and I carry that same subscription today. After graduate school and 18 years at the Illinois State Board of Education, I had the privilege of returning to ISU in 1990 as Educational Administration and Foundations chair before serving as the College of Education dean. I retired in 2011, and my husband and I remained in Bloomington-Normal. For several years I consulted with Illinois education groups, including a policy study on educational leadership conducted at ISU. I have seen my younger son hired in the College of Arts and Sciences as Spanish faculty and three granddaughters graduate from U-High. One of whom, like her father, chose ISU for undergraduate education. I wrote a memoir, An American Orphan, and now spend time enjoying family, friends, traveling, water aerobics, reading and ISU fine arts events. With three generations of my family calling ISU home, Adkins’ advice more than 60 years ago proved auspicious in shaping my career and destiny. Reach me at 29 Pembrook Circle, Bloomington, IL 61704; sallypancrazio@frontier.com; or friend on Facebook.

from the Illinois State Board of Education totaling nearly $480,000.

The grants funded intense training workshops and follow-up seminars for teachers across the state. The sessions will be repeated next summer as well. The programs assist middle and high school teachers in creating lessons as defined by the national Next Generation Science Standards. The standards emphasize cross-cutting concepts of science that include energy, research and real-world applications.

“‘There is a huge shortage of educated personnel—in Illinois and across the country—in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, known as STEM fields,” CeMaST Director William Hunter said. “The first step to alleviating that gap is to help teachers understand the science and engineering practices, so they can guide their students.”

This year’s workshops helped teachers understand real-world applications of energy, with visits to a nuclear power plant and a look at the inner workings of a wind turbine. The world of science was explored with aerospace developers, hot rod designers and ice rink engineers.

Illinois State advances in annual university rankings

Illinois State University remained in the top 200 schools in the nation, and moved up in the category of public universities, according to U.S. News & World Report rankings of “Best National Universities” released in the fall.

Among public universities, Illinois State jumped to 81st in the nation, up from 83rd last year. The University is 152 overall, moving up four spaces from 156 last year. The category includes 281 American universities offering undergraduate and graduate degrees.

ISU rose in the subcategory of smaller classes offered on campus. The report notes 33 percent of classes are 20 students or under, up from 32 percent last year. The University maintained a graduation rate of 71 percent, far above the national average of 56 percent for public universities, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

“Simple numbers rarely give the complete picture of success for a university,” President Timothy Flanagan said. “Student success is one of the hallmarks of a great university, and Illinois State will continue on its path to provide an exceptional experience for our students.”

Peace Corps recognizes stellar grad program

The University is eighth in the nation in the 2013 rankings of Peace Corps Master’s International and Paul D. Coverdell Fellows graduate schools. This is the third time the Peace Corps program has been recognized, as ISU ranked among the top 10 nationwide in 2011 and 2009.
ISU became a Master’s International partner in 1997. Since then 42 students have earned degrees in applied economics, political science and sociology. Each also completed an interdisciplinary sequence in applied community and economic development.

There are 15 Master’s International students serving as Peace Corps volunteers in the program that is housed in the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development.

“Students learn about and then experience development issues in a variety of contexts—domestic and international, urban and rural, government and nonprofit,” said Associate Director Beverly Beyer. “Each year, our local community benefits from their service and research, and then they use those experiences to work in developing countries from Albania to Panama to Zambia.”

The Master’s International program allows students to incorporate Peace Corps service as credit into their graduate degree. The Coverdell Fellows Program provides returned Peace Corps volunteers with scholarships, internships and stipends to earn an advanced degree after they complete their Peace Corps service.

Solar car team places second in national race

Illinois State’s solar car team captured second place in one of the closest finishes in the history of the American Solar Challenge. The 2013 national Formula Sun Grand Prix was held in June at a closed-course in Texas.

Eleven teams entered the race that requires students design, build and race a solar car. This is the second time in three years that the Illinois State team placed second. They raced a car dubbed Mercury IV.

Oregon State University won the competition by only one lap, with Iowa State just four seconds from completing a lap that would have tied ISU. Other schools involved include the University of Texas at Austin, Georgia Tech and Northwestern.

ISU has competed since 2005. The team is organized through the Department of Physics and involves students from majors across campus. Learn more about the program and how you can support it at www.SolarCar.ilstu.edu.

WGLT station changes program format, schedule

The University’s public radio station, WGLT, has begun broadcasting more news and informative programming. The changes are in response to research indicating listeners appreciate expanded news service.

“WGLT will retain a mix of talk and music, but with a different emphasis,” said program director Mike McCurdy. While daytime weekday GLT Jazz has been replaced by news and information programming, jazz continues to air weekday evenings from 9 p.m. through the overnight. GLT Blues programming is still broadcast Friday nights, Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings.

“As with any change, we recognize some listeners will be pleased and others displeased,” WGLT General Manager Bruce Bergethon said. “We’ve tried to do the best job possible of balancing divergent listener interests and changing usage patterns.”

The station’s schedule is available online at WGLT.org. Listeners can stream the broadcast from that website, or tune in at 89.1 or 103.5 FM.

Mail

To the Editor,
Thank you for the wonderful article on Hazle Buck Ewing and Ewing Manor (August 2013). I was pleasantly surprised to read the part about Mrs. Ewing giving permission to use her tennis courts at what was then called Sunset Hill.

During my residency at Smith Hall, Dean Linkins asked me to be the greeter when Mrs. Ewing came to that beautiful home and gardens. She always arrived in her limousine, dressed to the nines and helped out by her chauffeur.

He would escort her up the long walk to our door and I would assist her inside to where she would be visiting each time. It might have been a piano recital, lecture, or lessons in proper etiquette. Many will recall Dean Linkins’ passion for proper etiquette ‘for the boys.’

After her visit, I would escort her to her car. She was always an interesting conversationalist. One of the first times with her, she quizzed me about smoking and then said “You may use my tennis courts at any time, provided you use the can to discard the butts.” I felt very privileged, not knowing that she apparently did the same for many folks.

Mrs. Ewing’s life and living in the manor has always fascinated me. It’s time now to revisit the online material and do a personal visit to the house.

Don Lindquist ’63

Carl Thacker (“Inside Look: Instrument Repair Shop,” August 2013) is a master craftsman. I’ve seen him do some amazing things. He can make an instrument look brand new after years of neglect.

Online comment
Jim Fraley ’85

Great job Larry and Patrick (“Teacher’s Aide,” August 2013)! This was a wonderful story and your family’s commitment to teachers has served you well. May God continue to bless all you put your hands to.

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Donald Lawson ’80

November 2013 | ILLINOIS STATE

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November 2013 | ILLINOIS STATE
The 1962 football season was the final year of play at McCormick Field, which had been home for the Redbirds since 1937. Hancock Stadium opened in 1963 with seating for more than 10,000. Hancock became the first stadium in Illinois with artificial turf. It was home to some of ISU’s greatest football players, including Dennis Nelson ’70, Guy Homoly ’70, Estus Hood, Mike Prior ’85, and Boomer Grigsby ’07. All went on to National Football League careers.

Hancock became the first stadium in Illinois with artificial turf. It was home to some of ISU’s greatest football players, including Dennis Nelson ’70, Guy Homoly ’70, Estus Hood, Mike Prior ’85, and Boomer Grigsby ’07. All went on to National Football League careers.

The playing surface was replaced several times, a permanent scoreboard installed, and the Kaufmann Football Building added to give coaches and players a permanent home. But time took its toll.

Plans to improve the facility were stalled until a $25 million renovation was approved in 2011. The primary focus of the renovation was the facility’s east side, given nine million cars pass Hancock Stadium annually.

The new east grandstand includes a two-story enclosed structure with eight suites, a club level with 500 seats, and a media and event production facility.

The work was completed in time for this season’s first game. ISU head coach Brock Spack and his players are thrilled, knowing how important the renovations are for the program’s future.

“There is a race when it comes to facilities for student-athletes, and it plays a major factor in the recruiting process,” Spack said.

“These new renovations will help us significantly in the process of bringing talented and high-achieving student-athletes to the program and the University.”

Football program enters new era
Hancock Stadium renovations are complete

8 coolest things about the new Hancock?

STATEside’s tour shows off the new stadium’s must-see features. IllinoisState.edu/STATEside.
Alum ready to take Athletics forward

When Larry Lyons ’86 states his goals as Athletics director, he references Redbird Renaissance. The $39-million plan from 2006 detailed facility improvements.

One of Lyons’ first tasks has been to grade the previous plan. The new baseball field and tennis complex are done and Hancock Stadium renovation completed.

What is missing?

“We say we want to do these things. But we need to give ourselves a scorecard so that we keep accountable to our student-athletes, coaches, fans, donors, and alumni,” Lyons said.

Moving forward means evaluating past priorities and setting new ones. Lyons has several in mind, including soccer field lights so ISU can host MVC tournaments, an indoor track replacement for Horton Field House, a new softball complex, a team store, Hall of Fame space, and more Redbird Arena office space.

He also wants to continue building stronger ties with students to engage them as fans, reorganize his administrative team, bolster support for student-athletes, and keep top-notch coaches and staff.

Lyons joined Athletics in 1987. The Pontiac native’s 26 years has meant his family is part of the team. He and his wife, Maureen, have two adult children, Matt and Kristin. Matt, M.S. ’10, now works for the Redbirds as the assistant Athletics director for development.

With so many years and such family involvement, it’s no wonder Lyons has blended his personal and professional life. “It’s not a job,” he said of his ISU career, “it’s a lifestyle.”

Linda Herman chosen for top Valley honor

Linda Herman, M.S. ’72, Ph.D. ’83, will be inducted into the 2014 Missouri Valley Conference Athletics Hall of Fame’s Lifetime Achievement category in March.

Herman worked 30 years in ISU Athletics, serving as the interim director four separate occasions. While an administrator, the Redbirds won 117 Missouri Valley Conference championships and 16 league all-sports trophies.

She coached the Redbird volleyball team seven seasons and posted a 267-112 record, including a pair of national Associate of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Tournament finishes.

A national pioneer in women’s athletics, Herman served on the NCAA Volleyball Committee and the NCAA Nominating Committee. She is a member of the American Volleyball Coaches Association Hall of Fame and ISU’s Percy Family Hall of Fame.

Hall of Fame inductees honored at Homecoming

Athletics welcomed five former student-athletes into the ISU Percy Family Hall of Fame during Homecoming.

The 2013 inductees include Stacey (Anderson) Stewart ’90, M.S. ’92, the 1989 Gateway Conference Player of the Year in volleyball; and Jill Hollembeak ’91, M.S. ’03, a gymnast who was the 1990-1991 ISU Athlete of the Year.

Others include softball champion Nicole Kurth-Duncheon ’02, M.S. ’09, a two-time All-Missouri Valley Conference First Team selection; golfer Tim Sipula ’92, an individual medalist at the 1992 Missouri Valley Championship; and Sam Young ’01, who helped ISU earn its first-ever Gateway Championship.
n 2007, Jan Dennis ‘77 was in his dream job. He had left The Pantagraph in Bloomington after 24 years to become the Peoria bureau chief for The Associated Press, one of the oldest and most respected news organizations in the world.

He left behind his managing editor post, where he was starting to have to lay off longtime colleagues because of the paper’s declining fortunes. He also no longer had to write or edit run-of-the-mill stories that bog down a newsman.

“At AP I used to joke that the standard whether it was news or not is that it has to be equal to a 747 hitting a bus-load of nuns. Then it’s news,” Dennis said. “I was incredibly happy at the AP. That’s a career highlight for me.”

But after only five years, Dennis left for what many in the news business consider an escape hatch: public relations.

“I saw the clouds building in the industry,” said Dennis, who is in media relations at the University of Illinois. “In the AP, the Peoria bureau wasn’t New York City or Jerusalem, so if times had gotten bad that would have been one of the first places they would have looked to cut. It speaks volumes that after I left, they never filled it.”

In the last two decades, hundreds of newspapers across the United States have closed, newspaper jobs have been shed, and readers have disappeared. Denver and Albuquerque lost two Pulitzer Prize-winning daily newspapers that had been in business for a combined 236 years. New Orleans’ main daily, The Times-Picayune, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 2006 for its coverage of Hurricane Katrina, was reduced to printing three times a week last year.

Entire newspaper companies, like the Tribune Co., have filed for bankruptcy. Other news chains cut thousands of jobs, skimmed on supplies, chopped journalists’ salaries, ushered in unpaid furloughs, slimmed down print editions,
and closed papers while giving executives lucrative bonuses and attempting to pay off debt incurred to buy newspapers the chains ended up gutting.

There are many causes for newspapers’ struggles. Most are blamed on a decline in advertising and classified ad revenue, especially since the Internet’s emergence, and a decades-long fall in circulation. The crisis has led to talk of government intervention and to the proliferation of nonprofit news organizations.

Newspapers’ free fall has made it hard for even the most idealistic reporters—those public watchdogs of democracy—to keep their heads up. In April, CareerCast.com ranked newspaper reporter as the worst job of 2013 with the combined worst environment, lowest pay, most stress, and bleakest outlook. A month earlier, Kiplinger listed journalist as one of the worst jobs of the future, urging reporters to find work in public relations. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that in this decade, reporter jobs will decline by 8 percent.

“If we lose our watchdogs in the Bloomingtons in the world, that’s bad for people,” Dennis said. “You don’t just need watchdogs in Washington. The decisions that a city council or a school board makes are far more direct on people’s lives than what the Obama administration is doing.”

**INSIDE THE INDUSTRY**

In light of this newspocalypse, a couple of questions beg asking: Why does Illinois State University still teach print journalism, an industry that may share the future of the pony express? And if Illinois State’s journalism program is going to continue, what is it doing to adapt to this changing news world?

Such questions are not academic for Chris Grimm ’96, a copy editor and graphic designer at the GateHouse Media-owned Peoria Journal Star.

“What is the future of journalism?” Grimm asked. “Is it the Web? I think it can be a component. Right now revenue is the problem with that. Is it paper? You can make an argument the paper is still going to be relevant because that is where the majority of the money is still being made. Or—this is where I tend to lean—is it somewhere in between? Is it something like the tablet? I’m a big fan of the iPad and that aspect of journalism. And I think that is where we are probably going to end up. The problem is nobody knows. But eventually something’s going to happen.”

It’s a warning he issues to students at Bradley University, where he teaches journalism part time.

“It’s not my job to tell you, ‘Don’t do this.’ I do believe it is my job to tell you to have a backup plan. If you are headstrong and this is really what you want to do, then you need to be well-rounded. You need to be able to write, edit, design, shoot photos, and shoot videos.”

Versatility has indeed become a survival skill for journalists. Since 2007, GateHouse Media has cut the Journal Star’s newsroom staffing in half, Grimm estimated. It’s not that newspapers like the Journal Star aren’t making money. It’s that many newspapers are not making as much money as they used to, and not enough to make stockholders happy or to pay off debt.

Grimm might not be in the business long enough to see what’s next. GateHouse Media has adopted a cost-cutting measure that has become common. It is consolidating copydesks into central locations, called design hubs or houses, where multiple newspapers in the chain are laid out and edited. Next year, plans call for the Journal Star’s design responsibilities to be transferred to a hub. One in Rockford already designs GateHouse Media’s other Midwest papers. Grimm doesn’t think he will go to another newspaper if he loses his job because of the switch.

“This is what wears you down,” Grimm said. “I have gone through the downsizing of one newspaper; I don’t want to go through it again.”

Neither did John Plevka. He left the Peoria Journal Star, where he was managing editor, to become the general manager of The Vidette in 2012. Illinois State’s 125-year-old student-run newspaper is where alums like Grimm gained the type of real-world experiences that allowed them to seamlessly enter the news business. Plevka is not oblivious to the irony: He is training students to enter a field he just fled.
"I try to preach the message that storytelling still matters," he said. 
The Vidette has been forging ahead on the online and social media fronts since Plevka arrived. In January, The Vidette launched a smartphone application, and reporters have been integrating Twitter. The paper also hired its first full-time Web editor to beef up its website with photo galleries, video, and online supplements to the print edition, said Grace Johnson, a senior English major who was The Vidette's editor-in-chief last school year.

"What I like here, versus at the Journal Star, is we will figure this out," Plevka said. "We will succeed or fail, or somewhere in between. The Vidette will decide. Local thinking, local strategizing, in Peoria on those questions was out of the question. It was all preordained. It was just cut, cut, cut your way through this thing. That's not a key to any success."

The changes come as The Vidette is having to make difficult decisions about its print publication due to declining ad revenue and a need to keep up with college students who prefer electronic media to the newspaper. In August, The Vidette cut its Friday print edition in order to save an estimated $40,000 annually, Plevka said. The paper, which is now printed Monday–Thursday, had been producing five editions a week since 1976.

Will The Vidette eventually stop printing the paper altogether?

"Potentially. I do think that will be a longer ways away. Going strictly Web, I don't think will be for five to 10 years because we don't have the ability to get people online. We get spikes of interest when there is a tragedy. Other than that we don't get consistent numbers online," Johnson said, but added that the smartphone app has been downloaded more than expected.

Johnson is worried she might not get a journalism job once she graduates, but thinks she could adjust to an electronic only world. Even now former print reporters are finding jobs as bloggers at online publications like the Huffington Post, Slate, and SB Nation, and as reporters for television and radio stations and their websites.

Other Redbirds have proven an ability not only to adapt but flourish in the business.

Kristen McQueary '95, a member of the Chicago Tribune's Editorial Board, has followed in the tradition of several Illinois State alumni--Chicago Sun-Times Editor-in-Chief Jim Kirk ’90 and The New York Times congressional correspondent Carl Hulse ’76—in reaching the upper echelons of the newspaper business.

"There is no question that newspapers are just not hiring as many people. And it is a tough business. I have watched so many good reporters and writers do something else because the money is not great. It's hard to raise a family. And it's very disheartening to watch your colleagues get laid off," McQueary said.

"The upside is that I don't know too many journalists who don't land on their feet doing something else because your skill set is so well-rounded: You can write, interview, research."

Though she considers herself print-first, McQueary is not some curmudgeon sitting in a smoke-filled office banging out diatribes against politicians. She tweets, appears on public radio talk shows, and participates in talking-head round tables in a television studio inside the Tribune's newsroom.

"I'm sort of the board big mouth," she said. "I think it is important. The people who are following us on Twitter are the movers and shakers in government and politics who should be reading what we are writing."

She advises universities to teach the basics while preparing students to do everything.

"The basics are all still there. You need to be credible; you need to be accurate. You need to be curious and creative," McQueary said. "But nowadays—I don't know much they are doing it in the Chicago Tribune newsroom but certainly in the newsroom I just came from—writing your own headlines, shooting video when needed, taking pictures when needed, writing cutlines. The paper I just left we actually kind of laid the page out that our stories were going to be on. There is a lot you need to know now that you didn't when I was just running around with a pen and a notepad."

McQueary started her career as a cub reporter for The Pantagraph before moving to the crime beat at the Peoria Star Journal. In 1999, she became a political columnist for the Southtown Star, whose newsroom was cut to about 10 employees from a staff of 40 in the dozen years she was at the Chicago newspaper.

In 2011, she was hired as the statehouse reporter for the Chicago News Cooperative. The News Cooperative was an attempt, mostly by former Chicago Tribune reporters and editors, to produce news using a nonprofit model. The staff produced news for a website and for a special section in The New York Times.

"They did really remarkable work," she said, yet the News Cooperative folded after three years due to funding problems.
“Fifteen years, yes,” Executive Director Larry Long said. “Beyond that, I’m not really sure.”

Illinois State’s journalism major is a relatively recent development, born in 2004 with the emergence of three sequences: news and editorial, broadcast, and visual communication. Before that, the University produced journalists who majored in mass communications or an unrelated field.

“It became very clear to us at the time we were doing the right thing, but all of a sudden we were behind again,” Long said.

Now the plan is to merge all three sequences into one in spring 2014 in order to train students in all different media. There are also plans in the works to have all the University’s media entities—TV10, The Vidette, and WZND and WGLT radio stations—collaborate in what is still a developing concept, a media convergence center.

“Business in the news industry has converged, and as technology has converged, our degree program has converged,” Long said.

He envisions, for example, WZND using audio and print product produced by The Vidette when a radio station reporter can’t be live at an event.

“We will always be news,” Long said. “People want to know what is going on in the world. But the way it is packaged is going to continually change.”

Andrew Steckling ’12 is betting his career on such optimism. Steckling entered the journalism program just as the economic and newspaper meltdowns reverberated across the country.

“It didn’t give me pause,” said Steckling, who served as news editor at The Vidette. “It gave my parents pause. Sophomore year of college was when a lot of these newspapers were shutting down. They were kind of like, ‘Uh-oh, he’s going to enter an industry that doesn’t exist.’ I know I won’t be making a lot of money, but I don’t care.”

Steckling has become the type of all-around journalist that the program is trying to develop. He learned design, editing, and how to write editorials, columns, and articles at The Vidette. He built on that with an internship at the Daily Herald in the Chicago suburbs, where he used social media, videography, and photography in his reporting.

They called us mojos, mobile journalists,” he said. “You have to go out and pretty much produce the story from the field. You can’t sit behind a desk and make calls. You have to experience it.”

Steckling’s dream job is to become a movie critic. But for now he is in the trenches—one of six editors from the 14 during his time at The Vidette who have found work in the newspaper business.

He works at GateHouse Media’s design house in Rockford. But not for long. He learned during the spring that the design house will close in January to make way for a bigger hub in Austin, Texas. He has been guaranteed a job in the company, but he isn’t sure whether he will go.
1 Baton Rouge, Louisiana
In July, The Advocate, a Baton Rouge newspaper, announced it was buying out up to 19 veteran employees. In the previous year, The Advocate had been strengthening its New Orleans bureau in order to compete with that city’s main newspaper, The Times-Picayune, whose ownership, Advance Publications Inc., cut back the formerly daily newspaper to three print editions a week and laid off more than 200 employees in 2012.

2 Boston, Massachusetts

3 Chicago, Illinois
In May, the Chicago Sun-Times laid off its entire 28-person full-time photography staff, including Pulitzer Prize winner John White.

4 Cleveland, Ohio
In July, Advance Publications Inc. cut back home delivery to three days a week at The Plain Dealer, Cleveland’s main daily newspaper, and laid off nearly 50 newspaper employees, or about one-third of the news staff.

5 Durango, Colorado
In March, Ballantine Communications Inc. announced the largest round of layoffs in company history when 11 employees were let go at the Durango Herald and its affiliated newspapers in southwestern Colorado.

6 New York City, New York
In May, two editors at the Village Voice quit instead of cutting a quarter of the newspaper’s 20-person staff, and the Daily News eliminated about 20 employees in two rounds of layoffs. In June, the New York Post, owned by Rupert Murdoch’s News Corp., laid off 13 full-time employees.

7 Nashville, Tennessee
In August, The City Paper, a weekly newspaper, closed after 13 years in business.

8 Phoenix, Arizona
In August, the Gannett Co. laid off 29 employees at The Arizona Republic, the state’s largest newspaper, as part of layoffs Gannett orchestrated at newspapers across the county that cost 223 jobs, according to the Gannett Blog.

9 Portland, Oregon
In June, Advance Publications Inc. laid off more than 90 employees at The Oregonian, which has been published in Portland since 1850. Home delivery of the daily newspaper was also cut to four days a week. The moves, like those at The Plain Dealer and The Times-Picayune, were part of Advance Publications’ plan to focus on its digital products.
INSIGHT FROM A MANAGER’S PERSPECTIVE

Most journalists live under the threat of layoffs and cuts. Jim Kirk ’90 is one of those doing the cutting.

The Vidette alum and Chicago newspaper veteran was named senior vice president and editor-in-chief of the Chicago Sun-Times in 2012, taking over a newspaper whose former ownership sought Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in 2009.

Kirk made national news in May when he laid off the newspaper’s entire full-time photography staff, including a Pulitzer-Prize winner. His decision to replace seasoned photographers with freelancers and do-it-all reporters could be a sign of the future at bigger dailies where large—some would argue, bloated—staffs have been the rule.

While Kirk did not comment directly on the layoffs, he did offer insight into the ongoing struggle within newsrooms. The questions have been abbreviated.

Q: WHAT ARE THE CAUSES OF THE INDUSTRY’S PROBLEMS?
“This is a business that has been losing circulation for four decades. That necessarily hasn’t been the major issue. It has been more about how advertisers are choosing where to spend their money. What the Internet has provided advertisers is a way to reach people across a wider spectrum. The number of advertiser competitors we have has multiplied. That has put pressure on the business.”

Q: WHAT MUST REPORTERS DO TO BE SUCCESSFUL?
“It’s not enough to write a story. You have to be a multimedia journalist.” Kirk is also looking for reporters who have branded themselves using social media. “If you come to a newspaper looking for a job and you already have a specialty or an audience with you to bring, that is going to be valuable to a newspaper.”

Q: DO YOU THINK CORPORATIONS WILL CONTINUE TO BE A DOMINANT OWNERSHIP FORCE IN THE NEWSPAPER BUSINESS?
“I do because I think that content is still king. And if you produce enough compelling content, there are business models out there that can support that because you will get viewers and you will attract advertisers to those viewers or readers.”

Q: WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?
“We’re in a stage—I call it the Great Transition—where you have to be very flexible in terms of the newest technology coming down the road ... I think 15 years from now we will all be getting our information in a much different way than we are today.” Kirk also predicts some newspapers will cut back on the number of days they print, but will likely keep profitable days, like the Sunday edition, for the foreseeable future.
Erin Roche and Drew Carlock can turn little rocks into big stories. They’re geologists, trained to dig deep into the Earth’s physical past and turn heaps of data into a narrative about what’s below. These days, the stories they’re telling are heard by giant oil and gas companies—their employers. Both were hired by the booming industry right out of Illinois State.

In the four years since, the engaged couple’s work has taken them to some exotic locales, including Dubai, Australia, and Chile. The globe-trotting is among the nicest perks, but it’s the chance to study the Earth that really excites Roche ’07, M.S. ’09; and Carlock ’07, M.S. ’09. That opportunity might not exist were it not for some profound changes now reshaping the oil and gas landscape.

“We’re very aware of the fact that this industry does change with whatever global situation or energy revolution is going on at the time,” Carlock said. “We’re really aware of that, and also aware that it could go...
down again. We just try to position ourselves as best we can.”

Roche and Carlock are among many Illinois State alumni whose careers have been bolstered by a resurgence of U.S. oil and gas production. It’s meant more digging for the geologists, more number-crunching for the financial analysts, and more lobbying for the policy experts.

But the same developments that led to that resurgence—namely the expanded use of controversial technologies such as horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing—have put their industry under increased scrutiny from environmentalists and, in states such as Illinois, lawmakers.

These concerns put the alumni interviewed for this story, at times, on the defensive about their life’s work. But it also gives them a unique perspective on the most complex energy issues facing policymakers, ones that are often unfairly distilled into black or white, right or wrong.

One thing is clear: The U.S. is producing significantly more oil today than it has in decades. Reversing a decline in production dating back to the early 1990s, domestic oil production hit 7.4 million barrels per day earlier this year. By around 2020, the U.S. is projected to become the largest global oil producer, according to an International Energy Agency report last year. Perhaps most surprisingly, U.S. dependence on foreign petroleum has actually declined since peaking in 2005, due in part to decreased demand and increased production, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The increase in U.S. production is largely tied to the unlocking of new reserves of oil and gas found in previously untapped shale rock through horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing. That latter process, known as “fracking,” uses a high-pressure mix of water, sand, and chemicals to crack open the rock. Both
technologies have been used for decades on porous sandstone, but it wasn’t until creative scientists took a “conceptual leap of faith” that they tried it on the tougher shale source rock, Geology Professor David Malone said.

“When you’ve got $100 a barrel oil, companies can afford to pay scientists a lot of money to be creative,” Malone said. “Once you get a couple of breakthroughs, it’s contagious.”

These days, almost all of Malone’s master’s degree graduates go into oil and gas. It’s not uncommon for a new college grad with a master’s in geology to find a starting salary in the six-figures, Malone said.

When Roche and Carlock graduated in 2009, there weren’t a lot of jobs available in environmental consulting. So they both interviewed for oil and gas jobs in Houston, where they live today.

Roche was hired by ExxonMobil and has worked in exploration and production. Her first job brought her to East Texas, drilling 6,000-foot wells in shale using horizontal drilling and fracking. She’s now on a unique “special studies” team that tackles some of the trickier geologic problems facing her company. Carlock works for BHP Billiton’s oil and gas arm and is doing exploration work in Australia, mostly offshore.

“We do what we love every day. We apply everything we learned every day,” Roche said.

Surviving the lean years

Geologists haven’t always had it so good. Chuck Wiles ’80 calls his generation of geologists the “survivors.” On a Friday back in 1986, during the oil glut when prices fell to less than $10 a barrel, he found out he was going to have a daughter. On Monday, he lost his job with the independent producer he worked for in southeastern Illinois.

Wiles has been an independent geologist ever since, helping companies with a well site they’ve already identified or by evaluating untapped acreage for its potential. Wiles’ area of expertise is the Illinois Basin, which covers 60,000 square miles across Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky.

The odds of finding oil are stacked against you, Wiles says. But in 1997, Wiles helped a company win the prestigious “Wildcatter of the Year” award from the Illinois Oil and Gas Association for his role in finding several productive wells in an unproven field near Effingham.

“That’s kind of fulfilling, when you do put something together like that,” Wiles said. “I’ve also been on the other side of the fence, where it’s taken some time, and you get a dry hole. It’s just part of the business. …I’m self-employed, so if you don’t bring it in, you don’t make anything.”

When oil and gas companies are doing well, like they are now, they drive up capital spending on exploration and production, said Jackie Ferree ’83, Global Upstream finance manager for Chevron.

“When we front a lot of money just to get the rights to explore, and then we have to pay a lot to explore, so you better hope the research is accurate,” said Ferree, an accounting and business administration alumna who previously served on Illinois State’s College of Business advisory council.

Ferree has spent her entire career at Chevron, mostly in California. She recently began an assignment in Lagos, Nigeria, as Chevron’s manager of internal controls and compliance, the first woman to hold that post. Back in 1991, Ferree also became the first woman to join Chevron’s San Francisco-based international auditing staff.

She’s gotten to see the world, and the chance to switch jobs within the same company is a good fit for someone who gets “antsy” after a couple years in one place. Ferree spent a year working on a team to record Chevron’s $4.5 billion acquisition of Atlas Energy, a major player in shale gas, in 2010-11.

“I lived and breathed that one,” she said.
Changing the conversation

But as any motorist who’s seen gas prices jump 30 cents overnight knows, things can change in a hurry.

When economics grad Emily Hickey ’08, M.S. ’10, first started working in the natural gas industry, there were concerns about meeting demand and the need to import gas. But the production of natural gas from shale has changed everything, as many have seen on their heating bills. Natural gas prices have plunged from highs above $10 per million BTUs in 2005 to around $4 per million BTUs today.

In just a few years, the conversation has shifted to exporting natural gas and other innovative uses, said Hickey, who was hired by Nicor Gas as a rate design analyst after graduating. She now works for Atlanta-based AGL Resources, which acquired Nicor in 2011, handling regulatory and policy issues.

“It’s really exciting because we’re having discussions about energy independence and natural gas vehicles,” she said. “It’s really interesting to be involved in that. It’s really relevant to our country.”

Critics say that a rejuvenated U.S. oil and gas industry comes at a steep environmental cost, particularly fracking, arguments laid out most publicly in such films as Gasland and Promised Land.

In Illinois this year, lawmakers passed some of the strictest fracking regulations in the country, crafted with the help of industry and some environmental groups. They require operators to submit chemical disclosures to the state both before and after fracking, as well as require the companies to conduct water testing before the fracking process and then again after it is completed.

For those working in oil and gas every day, these concerns can seep into family gatherings or their inboxes when a friend emails an article about fracking, said Roche, the geologist. If you’re being responsible, drilling like you should be, and following the rules, there shouldn’t be any issues, she said.

“It’s a little frustrating,” Roche said. “You can’t help but argue with it and try to clear up opinions.”

That was David Sykuta’s job for more than 37 years. The 1972 political science grad was the chief lobbyist for the state’s largest oil producers and refineries and head of the Illinois Petroleum Council.

He got into government work as a legislative intern at the urging of some professors. He found the inside of government fascinating and thought his knack for public speaking might make him a good lobbyist.

“It’s not a career for someone with thin skin, or a low boiling point,” said Sykuta, who retired from full-time lobbying work last year. “But it took me places I never dreamed I’d be, and I interacted with people I never thought I’d meet, and it all started on the third floor of Schroeder Hall.”

His industry’s environmental record is not perfect, but it confronts problems and fixes them, Sykuta said. But the industry’s story is hard to tell, he says, “because almost everything we do is out in the middle of nowhere, or underwater, or underground,” with little direct interaction with consumers.

“Nobody anywhere would be living the lives that they live, with the abundance they have, were it not for reasonably priced energy, particularly oil and natural gas,” Sykuta said.

As a scientist, Malone understands the concern about the environmental impact of modern oil and gas production practices.

“There’s always a competition between quality of life and quality of environment,” Malone said.

Editor’s note: This article is part two of an ongoing series on the role Illinois State students and alumni play in the business of energy. To read part one about wind energy, visit IllinoisState.edu/Magazine.
Master’s program gives grads leg up in oil, gas jobs

This isn’t Texas, but Illinois State’s hydrogeology master’s program still provides graduates with a unique skill set that helps them stand out in oil and gas jobs, according to several alumni.

Grad student Stephen Flaherty spent last summer interning with Apache Corporation in Oklahoma. He searched for oil in his large study area using massive amounts of data and powerful computers, alongside other geologists, engineers, drillers and land men. Flaherty also coordinated efforts to determine if a well would make money for the company and presented potential drilling locations and finances to regional executives.

So while underground water is at the core of Illinois State’s program, there’s overlap between hydrogeology and petroleum geology.

“Hydrogeologists can become great petroleum geologists partly because they have an understanding of how fluids are moved and stored underground,” Flaherty said.

Flaherty long dreamed of being a geologist and wanted to do environmental work until he started on his master’s thesis, a geologic mapping project in Illinois. That exposed him to some of what petroleum geologists do—making maps and models, drilling holes, analyzing data, creating a geologic story. Plus, the booming oil and gas industry is hiring lots of geologists.

“I especially enjoy building geologic models, and that is part of the search for oil,” Flaherty said.

Illinois State’s geology program graduates around eight master’s and 20 bachelor’s students every year. It also offers some eye-opening field trips, including one to the Permian Basin in West Texas, an iconic geologic field where many major oil companies send their new hires for training.

Erin Roche and Drew Carlock, both 2009 master’s graduates, said their unique backgrounds in hydrogeology helped give them a leg up when they got hired by ExxonMobil and BHP Billiton, respectively, and as they’ve worked on exploration and production teams ever since.

Illinois State also gave students access to Petrel, a very expensive geologic software program that Roche and Carlock used for their theses and now “every single day” on the job.

“It’s the first thing we open, other than Outlook, every morning,” Roche said.

Board of Trustees member Jay Bergman ’70 is president and CEO of Petco Petroleum Corporation, a mid-level independent oil and gas producer with fields all over the U.S. He employs around 225 employees, including two geologists he hired right out of Illinois State.

“They’re trained very well,” Bergman said.
An attitude of gratitude

PRIVATE FUNDING OPENS DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY ACROSS CAMPUS

An undergraduate degree is an automatic step for myriad high school students, who never question that they will walk from the commencement stage directly to a college campus.

Others have the same desire but lack the means. Their path is more uncertain and slowed by obstacles that are all too often tied to a family budget already strained without the additional cost of a college education.

Illinois State University President Timothy J. Flanagan understands the frustration and discouragement that comes when it seems a degree is beyond the realm of possibility. He shares a special bond with such students, given he was once in that same situation himself.

“I went to school on a needs-based scholarship,” Flanagan said, reflecting on his days as an undergraduate at Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania. “I certainly would not have earned a bachelor’s degree without the assistance received from the college.”

Flanagan’s college education was put in jeopardy at age 13 with the death of his father. His mother faced the challenge of raising Flanagan and his two siblings on Social Security benefits and a Navy pension.

“She went to work at a couple of jobs, but there was no extra money,” said Flanagan, who held various jobs himself while in college even with the scholarship support. He served as a resident assistant for two years, worked in a manufacturing plant, and changed mufflers at Kmart.

“I talk with students today who are working two or three jobs and I know exactly what they are going through. They are trying to not only get the degree, but avoid taking on a mountain of debt while doing it,” Flanagan said.

Having such a load as a young man would have hindered his ability to go on and complete a master’s and doctorate, which is why Flanagan understands that every dollar borrowed has an impact on decisions and opportunities following graduation. He is consequently a strong advocate of private support, appreciating those who invest in higher education, and specifically Illinois State.

Each academic year there are literally hundreds of examples of how Redbirds are empowered to pursue their passion because another individual invested in the University. Some share their story here to reinforce the fact that every donation—regardless of size—impacts a program or a person in a way that can never be envisioned.

Like Flanagan, each person who has benefited from another’s generosity has an attitude of gratitude.
A brain tumor robbed Mennonite College of Nursing student Casey Patton of her late teenage years. Treatment almost derailed her nursing career.

By fall 2012, Casey had recovered from a brain tumor for the second time in six years. But chemotherapy and radiation treatment after a relapse in 2011 left her with excruciating headaches and fatigue so draining that the former high school volleyball player and triathlete had trouble walking stairs.

“It was just a debilitating exhaustion from the moment I woke to the moment I went to bed,” said Casey, 23, of Woodridge. She consequently almost dropped out of ISU’s nursing program. A scholarship that made attending the college possible was key to keeping her in school.

Casey was diagnosed with the tumor at 16, just days after completing the Chicago Triathlon and six months after experiencing vision problems that led to the diagnosis. The tumor was inoperable, so she underwent 13 months of chemotherapy. She completed high school at home and felt healthy enough to move on to college. Casey had always wanted to sing on Broadway. She enrolled at Illinois Wesleyan University on a vocal scholarship in 2008, but left after one semester because her weakened immune system succumbed to pneumonia. Without a support system nearby, psychological wounds from her cancer bout surfaced.

She realized her tribulations had to be for something, which led her to pursue a nursing career. Casey enrolled at Illinois State, planning to enter the rigorous nursing program. Three semesters later her cancer returned.

In January 2011, she and her mother moved to Boston for radiation therapy. The treatment worked and more good news arrived that spring: Casey had been accepted into Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN).

Later that summer, she received the Joslin Scholarship. The award, established by Roger and Stephany “Stevie” Joslin of Bloomington, provided a year of full financial support. “Truly, I hadn’t had such a good piece of news, such a motivation in years,” Casey said. “It gave me the resources to do something that I might not have otherwise been able to do.” The scholarship covered an entire academic year and was a necessity due to her medical bills and inability to work because of treatment side effects.

“It gave me the resources to do something that I might not have otherwise been able to do.”
Tuition, food, a place to sleep, books, incidentals, gas and pocket money—from the big expenses to the little ones, higher education takes planning. Unfortunately, the best laid plans can be upset in the blink of an eye, as Brandon Jeralds can attest.

Brandon transferred to Illinois State during his sophomore year to study environmental health. The Eagle Scout knew he’d made the right choice in his major and in the school he chose.

“I liked it right away. I realized how broad the major itself is,” said Brandon, now a senior. “Whether you want to go into public health, environmental health, or industrial hygiene, you are not just tied down to one area. You can take classes in multiple areas and find out what you want to do.”

Brandon excelled in his studies, while also serving as president of the American Industrial Hygiene Association and as a member of Student Environmental Health Association. He purposefully tackled an ambitious course load and leadership roles to ensure he would stand out from other job-seeking students following graduation.

While the semester was going well, there was trouble at home. Richard Jeralds, Brandon’s father, had been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer seven years earlier. Richard overcame the illness after intensive radiation therapy, but passed away in March from a combination of lung cancer, pneumonia, and radiation-induced osteosarcomas.

In addition to the grief, Richard’s death meant the family struggled to cover medical bills and tuition costs for Brandon’s senior year. Finding additional work outside of class was not an option for Brandon, who already held jobs at the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, Sonic, and as an umpire.

Wanting to make sure her son made it through his final year at Illinois State, Brandon’s mother, Vicki, suggested that he seek aid from the Red and White Scholarship.

Financial Aid uses the scholarship to provide assistance when students face bills that go beyond what is covered by federal, state, or university sources.

Vicki learned about the scholarship when a student Telefund worker called her years ago to ask for a donation. The fund immediately struck Vicki as one that could provide a great impact, which motivated her to make an investment. She had no idea the same fund would one day provide the financial assistance Brandon needed to finish his degree.

“I thought it was absolutely wonderful,” Vicki said. “It was a weird twist of fate. The only reason we knew about that scholarship fund was because we donated to it. It was one of those weird things that happened.”

Jana Albrecht, director of Financial Aid, knows all too well how jarring unexpected crises can be to students.

“Families come to us for help who have had a death in the family or serious medical conditions,” Jana said. “We try to help by going for a state or federal grant, but there are a significant number of instances where we can’t do it. You’re wanting to cry with the families, but you’re unable to help them.”

The Red and White Scholarship gives Financial Aid counselors a way to give students assistance in extreme circumstances. The fund supports costs such as books, a train ticket home, and has helped a disabled veteran purchase a computer for an upcoming semester. It has also provided support for students such as Brandon, who experience a major loss while at Illinois State.

“There are a significant number of students who lose their parents when they’re here,” Jana said. “This fund is just a little bit of light that comes through in a difficult situation.”

Thanks to the Red and White Scholarship Fund, Brandon will be able to finish his time at Illinois State without burdening himself with more private loans—guaranteeing that he can focus on his studies and that his family can focus on healing from their loss.

by Steven Barcus

November 2013 Illinois State 23
An investment IN CHANGE

Sometimes all it takes is one person, passion for a cause, and the desire to make a difference. There’s no predicting how many lives will be transformed as a result.

Case in point: A fund created through the ISU Foundation will significantly bolster the preparation of educators working to build better schools in the 21st century.

The impact will forever be traced back to College of Education Distinguished Professor Emeritus Paul Baker and his wife, Sharon, who established the Leadership in Educational Administration for the Development of Schools (LEADS) Fellowship for Doctoral Students.

The fellowship assists Ph.D. candidates with a research project addressing a real-life Illinois school problem. The recipients in the college’s Department of Educational Administration and Foundations (EAF) will benefit immediately. Down the road, those PK-12 students who depend on public schools will gain from the investment—a cohort that may number in the hundreds of thousands.

The gift reflects Paul’s belief in the need for school improvement and a desire to help doctoral students—most of them full-time educators—find time to complete school-based research or an independent study project. It also gives busy doctoral students an opportunity to connect with a faculty member.

“I believe the LEADS Fellowship is a symbolic and tangible way for helping the EAF Department become a strong center for educational leadership in Illinois,” said Baker, who taught departmental graduate courses.

“Educational leadership is urgently needed in the public school system of Illinois,” he said. “I hope the LEADS Fellowship helps to strengthen the vital connections between Illinois State University and the public schools of the state.”

Regardless of the areas explored, the private support will enable the department to continue its long-standing emphasis on school-based action research to identify ways to improve public education. The fellowship further elevates possibilities through the EAF program, which is committed to strengthening PK-12 public schools through graduate education.

“The LEADS Fellowship has real implications for change,” said EAF interim chair Wendy Troxel. “The benefit of our program is that we have practitioners in the classroom who really support and learn from each other while being in the real world. This fellowship will provide financial support for them, further solidify connections with our faculty, and provide a lasting level of support so that we remain at the cutting edge of educational research.”

Baker knows from experience the impact that ISU has on statewide educational reform, having directed 40-plus dissertations.

“Our doctoral students are seasoned teachers or educators, leaders in their communities and school districts. ISU attracts highly committed professionals with tremendous capacity to make significant changes in schools,” Baker said, noting the need for school improvement has never been greater.

“We’re in the midst of the largest single era in American history to try to revitalize American public schools,” he said. “ISU stands at the crossroads as a statewide leader in this area. The fellowship is our way of saying, there’s nothing more important than to develop better schools.”

by Mary-Margaret Simpson
Setting THE STAGE

The acoustics are so good inside the Center for the Performing Arts (CPA) Concert Hall that senior music education major Tyler Sutton has to describe it in visual terms.

“Think of your standard high school auditorium like a child’s finger-painting, he said. The Concert Hall is a Monet. “It’s that much of a difference,” said Sutton, who’s performed inside the 650-seat Concert Hall more than a dozen times.

The $19.8 million CPA, which also houses the 500-seat Theatre, opened 11 years ago. The high-tech venue was built after students supported a 1996 fee referendum. It was an immediate game-changer for the College of Fine Arts.

Now the college is focused on building a new fine arts complex, with the state earlier this year announcing $54 million in funding. Illinois State has a world-class performance space with the CPA, but lacks the top-notch instructional and rehearsal space to match, said Brian Gawor, who served as the college’s director of development for four years. He knows it will take more than just state dollars to build the improved facilities.

The spaces needed are more like high-tech, well-equipped science labs than traditional classrooms—and that can be expensive. “Private support will be crucial for establishing this new fine arts complex as a premier arts education facility for generations to come,” Gawor said.

The stage for such support has already been set with the CPA, as well as the new University Galleries’ primary exhibition space opening soon in the Uptown Station. Today, the CPA Theatre hosts six productions annually as the primary performance space for the School of Theatre and Dance, featuring state-of-the-art technology such as a hydraulic orchestra lift, mechanical fly system with a 73-foot fly loft, and an in-house sound board.

The Concert Hall, perhaps best known for the “Music for the Holidays” shows, hosts around 60 performances a year. It is also home to an electronic organ, donated by Harriet (Gove) ’55, M.S.E. ’57, and Phares O’Daffer ’55, M.S.E. ’56. Private giving has made a big impact elsewhere in the CPA, including an ongoing seat campaign that kicked off with construction.

“That was a great way for people to get involved in making the Center for the Performing Arts work—and happen,” said Pete Guither, assistant dean for the College of Fine Arts.

Illinois State uses the CPA year-round. It’s home to summer’s Illinois Shakespeare Festival when it’s too hot or stormy to perform outdoors. It’s not uncommon to stumble across a stage combat class practicing in the spacious lobby.

But before a performance or exhibit can open, students need fully functional classrooms, labs, and work spaces.

“All that hard work is happening during the week, in these smaller spaces,” Guither said. “But none of the spaces we’re using were designed for the ways we’re using them.”

For example, there’s no rehearsal space available that’s as wide as the CPA Theatre stage. Stage managers tape off a floor at 80 or 90 percent of scale, which throws off blocking.

Senior theatre major Kyle McClevey has performed twice in the CPA’s Theatre, and praises the professional space. But Illinois State lacks the smaller spaces for students to work on material, McClevey said. He is president of Theatre of Ted student organization, which is working on raising money to ensure student groups have their own space in the new complex.

It will be home to students across the college’s majors—art, arts technology, theatre, dance, and music. Right now, music students are in multiple campus buildings. Students often wait for a practice room. It’s difficult to find a recital space, meaning students sometimes move them to off-campus churches.

Currently space is such a premium that music classes are held in Cook Hall. Having everyone under one roof could lead to some interesting cross-disciplinary collaborations.

“This new complex will function as an intellectual community for fine arts,” Guither said.

The complex is in the beginning part of the design phase. Support the project at FineArts.IllinoisState.edu/Complex or by contacting Joy Hutchcraft at (309) 438-8041 or jdhutch@IllinoisState.edu.

by Ryan Denham

Tyler Sutton, senior music education major
The fiscal year that ended June 30 was notable with regard to the level of investment individuals made to the University. There were increases within a number of key groups, with high giving participation rates and increased generosity from alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of Illinois State. Trends, breakthroughs, and important numbers shared here reveal a growing culture of philanthropy at the University. Thank you to all who provided their support, which makes it possible for ISU to continue providing a quality education for current and future generations.

$14,758,061
TOTAL FUNDRAISING

Nearly $15 million in new cash and commitments were received in the past fiscal year, making FY13 the third largest fundraising year in Illinois State history.

10,151
ALUMNI DONORS
ANNUAL FUND HIT AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE, BREAKING THE 10,000 ALUMNI DONOR MARK JUST PRIOR TO FISCAL YEAR END.

4.9%
INCREASED DONORS
THE OVERALL NUMBER OF DONORS TO THE UNIVERSITY ROSE NEARLY 5 PERCENT.

A HISTORY OF PHILANTHROPY
Over the last five years, fundraising at Illinois State has increased 44.99 percent. Although gift dollars accrued from wills and estates were lower, stronger participation from alumni, faculty and staff, and students helped end the year near the $15 million mark.
35% Faculty/Staff Participation

Members of the graduating class set a new record, as 10 percent participated in the Senior Giving Campaign.

67% Direct Mail Donor Increase

Annual Giving’s direct mail program saw a 67 percent donor increase, which resulted in a 98 percent increase in dollars generated by the program.

$2.2M Wills and Estates

The University experienced a drop in accrued bequests in FY13. These are typically gifts made through the settlement of wills and/or estates.

$2.4M Giving Disbursed to the University

In fiscal year 2013, $2.4 million dollars of the endowment was disbursed to support scholarships and the mission of the University.

4 Ways to Invest in Your Passion Today
1. Visit IllinoisState.edu/Giving  2. Call (309) 438-8041  3. Email jdhutch@IllinoisState.edu  4. Use the enclosed envelope

2011 | $2.9 | $13.25
2012 | $2.9 | $14.9
2013 | $0.68 | $14.76

Wills and estates in millions

Overall fundraising activity in millions


November 2013
Richard Roeper '82 has his dream job—all three of them. With a regular column in the Chicago Sun-Times, a gig as a national movie critic, and a radio show on WLS, this media giant is living his dreams.

The secret to his success? Years of hard work that began at Illinois State.

Growing up in the Chicago south suburb of Dolton, Roeper already had the makings of a great journalist when he arrived on campus. He was an avid reader and writing came naturally.

“My parents would always take me to the library,” Roeper said. “They instilled that love of reading in me. My dad worked downtown and would always bring back the Sun-Times or the Tribune, and even as a kid I would look at the sports pages and other sections.”

Roeper carried his natural curiosity and penchant for the written word to Illinois State, where he majored in mass communications.

“I knew Illinois State had a good communications program. I had friends who were already there, so I would go down and see what a great campus it was,” Roeper said. “I felt like I’d get more hands-on treatment there.”

The aspiring journalist was involved with WZND and encouraged by station advisor Dwight Brooks to also consider radio.

“It’s hard to believe, but I was relatively quiet when I came to college,” Roeper said. “Brooks told me that I had a good voice but needed to work on breath control and delivery. He showed me that I could communicate verbally as well as through the written word.”

After graduating, Roeper took up residence in the nicest place a 20-something college graduate could afford—his parent’s basement.

“People ask me all of the time, ‘Who did you know when you broke into the business? What were your connections? Don’t you have to know somebody?’” Roeper said. “I didn’t...

By Steven Barcus
know anybody. I didn’t have any connections. I didn’t grow up with money. I didn’t go to Yale and have some sort of big fraternity of helpful brethren getting me jobs.”

Instead Roeper pounded the pavement to get a foot in the newspaper world. He accepted freelance writing jobs. He mailed writing samples and resumes, bought lunch for editors, and showed up unannounced to see if there was a place for him.

Eventually the *Sun-Times* offered him a position as an editorial assistant. His duties? Get coffee, answer phones and sort mail. Roeper jumped at the opportunity knowing that the job did one key thing: It put him in the building.

“That was how I got my main break, getting my foot in the door,” Roeper said. “It was a great job because I was walking into the *Chicago Sun-Times*, one of these legendary newspaper businesses, with writers I had grown up reading.”

Once part of the team, Roeper found opportunities to write for the paper. He proved his mettle, earning a job as a city reporter covering everything from hard news to human interest stories. His first byline in the paper was a story on a travelling Elvis memorabilia museum—a story that was mocked later that day on WLS. Rather than respond with humiliation, Roeper considered it a landmark moment. Not only had he gotten a *Sun-Times* byline, he’d made mention on the super station.

“I couldn’t believe it,” Roeper said. “It was a moment when I thought I might be able to have a career in this.”

Today Roeper still reaches the masses through his syndicated column in the *Sun-Times*. He uses the forum to tackle current events, sports, technology, politics and entertainment—often through the outrageous yet sobering lens that is his trademark.

Roeper brought that same rapier wit and no-holds-barred personality to his work in reviewing movies when asked to join legendary film critic and *Chicago Sun-Times* columnist Roger Ebert. He sought a new cohost following the death of Gene Siskel in 1999. The search involved teaming with more than 25 critics and Hollywood personalities before Roeper was selected as cohost.

“I’ll never forget the moment Roger Ebert personally told me I had the job,” said Roeper, who served 10 guest stints with Ebert. “We were on Wabash Avenue coming out of a screening and Roger tells me, ‘I can’t let you linger for this long. You got the job. It’s going to be you.’”

Ebert & Roeper at the Movies—renamed Ebert & Roeper followed by At the Movies with Ebert & Roeper—ran from 2000 to 2008 and is largely responsible for Roeper becoming synonymous with movies. But in such a high-profile role, even a critic is not safe from criticism.

“My first show with Roger Ebert was reviewed on the front of *Variety, Entertainment Weekly*, and major newspapers. Even David Letterman was making jokes about the show,” Roeper recalled. “So I think unlike most other critics, I know what it is like to be on the other side. And that’s a valuable thing. You have to be able to take it if you’re going to dish it out. I try not to get personal most of the time. It’s about what the person is doing in their work or their public life.”

Since parting ways with the show, Roeper has been reviewing movies on the ReelzChannel. The segments appear to be filmed on a high-budget set, yet are actually done on a miniature studio built in a spare bedroom of Roeper’s Chicago pad that is complete with grey screen, camera, stage lighting, and an iPad teleprompter.

One thing you won’t find in the critic’s apartment is a personal theatre room with a robust movie collection.

“Watching movies is work. It’s great work, but it’s work,” Roeper said. “I do miss the fun of going to the movies with others. Sometimes screenings I go to will include people who are attending because they won a contest, and they are very excited to be there. It’s good for a critic to be reminded that it is entertainment. Seeing a movie is an expensive investment. Their Saturday night is my Tuesday morning, and I try to keep that in mind.”

Roeper typically sees six movies a week. When not critiquing the silver screen, he is sending his voice across the airwaves as cohost of WLS-AM’s The Roe & Roeper Show. He has teamed with radio veteran Roe Conn since 2010, bringing in authorities to speak on the latest issues in politics, sports, media, and entertainment.

“One of the things I love about radio is the immediacy,” Roeper said. “During this show we have had news that is tragic, breaking, and sometimes fun. But instead of waiting to get it out there, you have an immediate voice.”

The fact Roeper grew up listening to WLS adds meaning to his work.

“No matter where people are from there are a few call letters everyone knows, and WLS is one of them,” Roeper said. “That excitement never wears off.”

Check out Richard Roeper’s reviews and columns at RichardRoeper.com. *The Roe & Roeper Show* airs from 2–6 p.m., Monday–Friday, on WLS 890AM.
Professor directs play about autism off-Broadway

Deaf trombone player powers Big Red Marching Machine

Proud alum works on Illinois State Police protective detail

Mom goes back to school—and ends up in class with her daughters
Illinois State’s student-run television station, TV-10, broadcast its first live newscast on March 4, 1974. From that historic moment to today, TV-10 has helped launch the careers of broadcasters, producers, and journalists across the country.

Currently housed in the lower level of Fell Hall, TV-10 has given students hands-on training for 40 years. The station has evolved to keep pace with the changing industry.

Images are no longer shown on black and white film, which is just one of many ways technology has revolutionized production. Viewers can find content online as well as on television screens.

Current news director Laura Trendle Polus knows that despite such advances, much remains unchanged at the station that broadcasts midday Monday through Friday.

“TV-10 started as a working newsroom with practice space to help students prepare for the real world, and that hasn’t changed,” Polus said. “Technology has evolved, programming has evolved, but much is still the same.”

Students work as reporters, anchors, producers, photographers, writers and editors. Graduates can be found in TV markets across Illinois and around the country, with some working at the network level for CNN and Fox News.

Because TV-10 helps students hone skills that are critical in any profession, it isn’t hard to find station alumni working in fields that range from preschool teachers to pastors.

To help celebrate the long legacy of student achievement and involvement, the station is hosting a reunion on campus March 21-22, 2014.

For details on 40th anniversary events and how to register, contact Alumni Relations at (309) 438-2586. Information is also available online at Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/TV10.
Two honored as royalty at Homecoming

This year’s Homecoming marked the end of the Alumni Association’s 150th celebration, which made the opportunity to serve as king and queen even more meaningful for Andrew Purnell and Lois (Zimmerman) Young.

Purnell ’57 completed a degree in mathematics and enjoyed a lengthy career as a teacher and administrator before retiring. He served in the military and is a founding member of ISU’s Black Colleagues Association. Purnell is a past member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and a recipient of the E. Burton Mercier Alumni Service Award. He resides in Matteson.

Young ’60 graduated from the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. She retired as a teaching assistant with Normal Unit 5 school district. She is an active member of the University’s Half Century Club and has taken the lead in keeping home economics graduates from across decades connected. She and her husband, Gary, reside in Bloomington.

Purnell and Young participated in Homecoming events in October. Go online to IllinoisStateHomecoming.com to find photos and video clips from the week of activities.

Alumni Association offers student scholarships

Alumni are the University’s best ambassadors, sharing with prospective students Illinois State’s excellence. As you encourage others to attend, mention scholarships available through the Alumni Association.

The association supports current and future ISU students. While some scholarships are reserved for children of ISU alumni, others are available to any Redbird. The Alumni Association Scholarship is awarded to students who demonstrate a financial need and exhibit outstanding academic achievement and leadership. Other scholarships are provided by alumni groups, including the Marion H. Dean Legacy Scholarship.

For details on what scholarships exist and how to apply, as well as how to support the funds, visit Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/Scholarships.

Bowmans appreciate send-off from alumni

Graduates from across generations and states responded to a call for words of thanks that were shared with President Emeritus Al Bowman at a retirement dinner held in July. He and his wife, Linda (Althoff) ’81, M.S. ’83, received a framed card that gave alums the chance to share personal memories and express gratitude.

Comments were sought in the May issue of Illinois State. The entries that were selected can be seen online at IllinoisState.edu/Magazine, where the card’s interior is posted. Photos of the Bowmans receiving the gift can also be found on the site.

Update address before relocating for winter

Are you headed to a warmer climate for winter? Make certain you receive this magazine and other important Illinois State mailings while away from your home address. You’ll also receive information about alumni events in the area you are visiting.

Your name, phone number, email address, seasonal address and the start and end dates for the relocation are needed. The information can be submitted by email to Alumni@IllinoisState.edu or by mailing to Illinois State University, Migrating Redbirds, Campus Box 3100, Normal, IL 61790-3100.

Are you an author?

If you’ve written a book that has been released by a publishing house within the past decade, submit it for review by Professor Emerita of English JoAnna Stephens Mink ’73, M.S. ’75, D.A. ’85.

All books received will be added to a collection of work by other graduates on display in the Alumni Center. Autographed copies are especially appreciated.

Send your book to Illinois State editor Susan Blystone at Illinois State Alumni Center, Campus Box 3420, Normal, IL 61790. The column can be found at Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/Magazine. Click on the Web extra button under Illinois State to find the Reggie Reads link.

November 2013  Illinois State  33
Jonathan Feipel, M.S. ’99, was faced with an unusual choice after finishing his bachelor’s degree at a liberal arts college in Wisconsin: Should he pursue a career in economics or theater?

It was a fork in the road of life that led Feipel to Illinois State and later, the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC), a key regulatory agency where he is now executive director. When you turn on a light switch, a faucet, or your stove, it’s Feipel’s agency that regulates those utilities.

Yes, he chose the path toward economics, earning a master’s degree in the Department of Economics’ electricity, natural gas, and telecommunications sequence. Today he directs a team of about 250 staffers around Illinois who work under five commissioners.

“There are so many different facets of everybody’s everyday life that the Commerce Commission touches in one way or the other,” Feipel said.

He chose Illinois State for his graduate work because he was impressed with the course offerings in international trade and the intriguing electricity, natural gas, and telecommunications program.

“The work they do is highly respected, both inside the state and across the country,” Feipel said of Illinois State’s Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies and related academic programs.

Feipel, 37, said his Illinois State professors taught him a way of critical thinking and analysis that now allows him to “attack any situation and be able to verbally explain and write about it. I have used that technical writing class I took almost on a daily basis,” he said.

An ICC internship in the summer of 2009 led to a seven-year stint in the agency’s telecommunications division. Feipel most recently oversaw the Illinois Energy Office within the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity before being named executive director of the ICC in July 2012.

Feipel lives in Springfield with his wife, Sheila, and has built a career in public service.

“I’ve always felt that as much as I could,” he said, “I wanted to give back to society.”
50s
Robert B. Townsend Jr. ‘58 is retired from College of Lake County, where he was an associate professor of sociology/anthropology. His son, Tim, has climbed the highest elevation in all 50 states. Townsend resides in Gurnee.

Barbara (Turek) Kohut ‘63 retired from teaching and administration in Cicero District 99. During her career she worked with Title I grants, taught grades one through five, taught junior high reading and social studies, and oversaw Title I and media departments in different districts. She and her husband, Henry, have two sons and one granddaughter. They reside in Homer Glen.

Don Korte ‘63 is a retired educator who is active as an IHSA track official. Now in his 41st year of officiating, he has been inducted into the Illinois Track and Cross Country Officials Association’s Hall of Fame. He and his wife, Judy, reside in Park Forest.

Barbara LaCost ‘64 is a professor at the University of Nebraska. She and her husband, Lee, reside in Lincoln, Nebraska.

John McKenzie ‘65 completed his 10th year as crowd control associate for the Chicago Cubs, checking personnel into the ballpark. He is also a substitute teacher. He and his wife, Doris, reside in North Aurora.

Carolyn (Wharton) Cammenga ‘68 is a retired pastor. She and her husband, Sydney, were married in May of 2013. They reside in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

James Knecht ‘68 is a State of Illinois Appellate Court Justice. He has served as a judge for 38 years, is a member of ISU’s Foundation board and has been an ISU adjunct for decades. He received an honorary degree from Lincoln College in the spring when serving as a commencement speaker at the school. He and his wife, Ruth, reside in Normal.

Susan Gordon ‘69 retired after more than 34 years of teaching elementary and high school students. She is a published poet working on a book. She is also the first female president of the Lena Lions Club. Her husband, Virgil, is a past president. They raise registered Highland cattle at the home in Orangeville.

Cheryle (McCracken) Nix ‘69 has retired as a teacher in District 200 in Woodstock. She and her husband, Dennis, reside in Lakewood.

Raymond P. Rogina ‘69, M.S. ‘72, has been elected the 18th mayor of the City of St. Charles, where he resides.

70s
Alan Fox ‘70 received his doctor of chiropractic degree from Logan College of Chiropractic. He has completed specialty in advanced orthospinology upper cervical chiropractic and is certified to provide this specialty care. His clinic, Advanced Upper Cervical Chiropractic Wellness, is located in Boise, Idaho, where he resides.

Robert Walling ‘70 is the president of HigherEdAdvisors. He and his wife, Susan, reside in Surprise, Arizona.

Linda (Ellis) Katmariant, M.F.A. ‘71, retired as a supervisor of technical publications at Clear Channel and began a new career as a fiction writer. Her debut novel is Dreaming of Laughing Hawk. She and her husband, Krilkor, reside in Southern California.

Mary (Parker) Nourie ‘71 is a retired teacher and author. Her counting book for children, The Deep, Deep Puddle, was released this year under her pen name of Mary Jessie Parker. She resides in Newman.

Cheryl (Miller) Scott ‘71 owns Davis Bros Pizza restaurant in East Peoria. She created a frozen pizza product line to facilitate online sales and is now establishing distribution to retailers nationwide. She and her husband, Steve, reside in Mountain Home, Texas.

Lawrence Witek ‘71 is a self-employed fitness trainer. He was

Pause for applause

Best of care
Mennonite College of Nursing alum, Teresa Valerio, M.S. ‘03, received the 2013 Nurse Practitioner State Award for Excellence from the American Association for Nurse Practitioners. Only one nurse practitioner is chosen from each of the 50 states, with Valerio representing Illinois. Her dedication and excellence in clinical practice earned her the award. Now an assistant professor at Mennonite, Valerio researches the relationship among students’ sleep quality and factors such as emotional health, stress, and academic performance. Her work has been published in many scholarly journals. She also serves as a staff nurse practitioner with Illinois State’s Student Health Services.

Face of fitness
Anthony Lattimore ‘98 has created a following of healthy fans since graduating with a kinesiology and recreation degree. Determined to be a fitness superstar, Lattimore moved to California and became known as Tony the Marine on the popular P90X’s KenpoX workout videos. Featured in multiple workout infomercials, Lattimore is completely dedicated to health and fitness. In 2012 he was featured in a Time article entitled “Does God Want You to Be Thin?” for his work with Saddleback Church. Led by Rick Warren, author of The Purpose Driven Life, Saddleback members began an initiative to make fitness a major part of their lives.

Made in the USA
The efforts of College of Business alum Lisa (Anderson) Waller ‘93 to improve American exports has been applauded by the White House. Waller is vice president of BDG International, Inc., which received the President’s “E” Award for Export Service. The award notes the company’s significant contributions to the expansion of U.S. exports and outstanding international trade consulting. Located in Egin, BDG has worked the past 30 years to create reliable and efficient international supply chains that improve local economies by bolstering the demand for American products. The company was one of only 57 organizations across the country to receive the honor.

Staged to perfection
Sociology major Tom Chiola ‘74 served for 15 years as a Chicago Circuit Court judge, becoming the first openly gay candidate elected to public office in Illinois. Now retired, he pursues his passion for theatre. A member of the Pride Films and Plays Organization in Chicago, he developed and produced Under a Rainbow Flag. The musical, which chronicles the lives of gay soldiers during and after WWII, received two Joseph Jefferson Awards for Best Musical Production of the Year and Best New Work. The Jeff award is Chicago’s equivalent to the Tony, which is given for excellence in Broadway productions.
How we met

Rose Gassner ’11 and Joe Grimm ’11, were freshmen when they met at Milner Library, unaware that their study session was a set-up by mutual friends.

“Here’s Rose studying chemistry and I’m bored so I’m doing a Where’s Waldo book,” Grimm said. “She hated me at first.”

The next night the group played snow-volleyball on the court located in the mini-Quad between their neighboring residence halls. Joe lived in Whitten and Rose in Barton.

“I let him borrow my gloves because it was freezing,” Gassner said, “and he goes to the side of the building and pees with them on. I couldn’t believe it! He wasn’t winning any points, but throughout the week we kept running into each other.”

“She still didn’t think I was the coolest guy in the world,” Grimm said. Things took a happy turn through some unfortunate events for Joe on a group date at the Olive Garden. Falling on ice on the way into the restaurant, the whole group laughed at his expense, Joe included. Later, a server with eight ice waters tripped and spilled all of them on Joe.

“I started cracking up,” he said. And that’s when Rose changed her mind.

“If a person can laugh at themselves, they must not be that bad,” said Gassner, who was a nursing major. “Being able to make jokes about himself was what made me give him a chance.”

“That was the first finals week of our college career,” said Grimm, who studied general finance. “We’ve been together ever since.”

Five years later, they married on December 8, 2012. Now living in Naperville, Rose is a nurse at Central DuPage Hospital and Joe is a financial representative at Premier Wealth Group. Both are thrilled for their upcoming anniversary, and remain grateful for many fond memories of their experiences together at Illinois State.
was honored with a day of service by students and alumni. More than 100 gathered to complete service projects in what will become an annual event. She and her husband, Phil, reside in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Reynold Becker ’75 leads government relations for Combined Insurance, which is a subsidiary of ACE Group. He resides in Palatine.

Herr Thomas Schumacher ’75 retired as the director of behavioral health programs and PTSD/War Trauma Outpatient Treatment Program at the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs. He created the program, which was the first of a kind in the nation. He works for the federal Puget Sound Health Care System as the mental health coordinator of the VA Fee Service Outpatient Program. He and his spouse, T.J. Reinoso, reside in Olympia, Washington.

Thomas McClure ’76, M.S. ’01, is an assistant professor in the Department of Politics and Government at Illinois State. He is also the director of legal studies. He received the 2012-2013 University Service Initiative Award. He authored a book chapter titled “The Roberts Court and the First Amendment: The First Six Terms.” It appears in the First Amendment Rights: An Encyclopedia. He resides in Bloomington.

Stephen Schimpler ’76 has retired from the U.S. Department of Defense. He and his wife, Penny, reside in Pasadena, Maryland.

John Walton ’76, M.S. ’78, is a professor at Northern Illinois University’s College of Law. He was featured on Jay Leno’s Garage earlier this year for a universal jack stand that he designed. He toured the garage and enjoyed cruising with Leno in one of his vintage cars. Walton resides in Batavia.

Michael Friedman ’77 is an architect with Pregis Corporation Network. He resides in Northbrook.

Jim Reynolds ’77 has been the play-by-play voice of the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga for 33 seasons. He broadcast his 1,000th basketball game as the voice for the Mocs during the 2013 season. He resides in Ooltewah, Tennessee.

Joan Snapp ’77 retired from Honeywell. She volunteers in her community and enjoys her work with the Girl Scouts. She resides in Freeport.

Stanley Hall ’78 is the chief operating officer at Peru Community Schools Corporation in Peru, Indiana. He resides there with his wife, Barbara.

Stephen J. Heine ’78 is a lawyer and partner with Heyl, Royster, where he chairs the firm’s railroad practice and the property insurance practice. Named a Super Lawyer and designated a Leading Lawyer in Illinois, he received the 2013 Distinguished Member Award from the Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel. He resides in Peoria.

Michael Foltz ’79 is a wealth manager with Balasa Dinverno Foltz LLC. He and his wife, Kim, reside in Wheaton.

Michael Kukla ’79 works for Motorola Solutions. He resides in Naperville.

Robert Lopez ’79 is the associate athletic director for football at the University of Michigan. He and his wife, Nancy, reside in Saline, Michigan.

David Palinski ’79 is the vice president and controller of Georgia Aquarium. He resides in Suwanee, Georgia.

Holly Robinson ’79 is a retired police sergeant for the city of Chicago, where she resides.

80s


Mary (Mulhall) Cowdery ’80 has retired from Illinois State University, where she served as the associate director of publications in University Marketing and Communications. Her husband, Ken ’81, for boys and girls at Plainfield and Morris high schools. He retired from coaching with 422 victories in girls boxing, which was the second highest total in Illinois at the time. He and his wife, Kimberly, reside in Morris.

Steven McMullen ’81 is a partner with KPMG LLP. He resides in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Mark G. Pelletier ’81 is a health care executive with more than 25 years experience in hospital operations. He is the chief operating officer in the division of accreditation and certification operations for the Joint Commission, which is the nation’s oldest and largest accrediting body in health care. He resides in Chicago.

Catherine (Emat) Boll ’82 is the enterprise database administrator for Aurora University. She and her husband, John, reside in Aurora.

Peter Brust ’82 is the director of fleet security for Holland America Line and Seabourn Cruise Line. His wife, Sandy (Goodwin) ’82, is a financial analyst for Honeywell Have diploma, will travel

Jessie Swiech ’12 put her theatre degree to use immediately as a member of Theatrino, the touring theatre company of the Associazione Culturale Linguistica Educational’s project, which teaches English through theatre education. She toured Italy from January to June of this year, presenting with a group of actors from around the world to more than 10,000 students. She also found time to take in landmarks, including the Tower of Pisa.
Redbird Legacy

It’s fair to say the members of the Sampson and Stephens families swelled with pride when Andrew Sampson ’13 graduated from Illinois State, as he represents the fourth generation of Redbirds.

His legacy began with his great-grandmother, Ethel (Peart) Hume, who took teaching classes at the University in the 1910s. She taught in the Morris area between 1917 and 1922 until she married.

Ethel’s daughter, Janice Hume, also chose to study at Illinois State. She completed a home economics education degree. Her future husband, Gordon Sampson, was a business education major. The two graduated in 1952, then married and began teaching at Minooka High School. They retired in 1986, ending their careers at Romeoville High School.

The son of Janice and Gordon, Brian Sampson ’82, extended the ISU connection. He graduated with a bachelor’s in geology and is an IT project manager at Arrow Electronics. He met his future wife at ISU, Natalie Stephens ’83, who earned an accounting degree. She works for Aldi as a corporate consolidations accountant. They reside in Batavia.

Illinois State was familiar to Natalie, as her mother is also a graduate. Maxine (Haase) Stephens completed a business education degree in 1956. She taught in Piper City, Gilman, and Bloomington high schools before retiring in 1994. She currently resides with her husband in Normal.

Andrew is the son of Brian and Natalie. He received his degree in information systems. A resident of Downers Grove, Andrew works as a programmer for the American Academy of Sleep Medicine.

Brian was pleased his son chose to continue a family tie to campus that goes back a century. “I’m proud to be a part of the Redbird tradition,” Brian said. “College is a special time in everybody’s life. ISU is a common bond between the different generations of the family. We hope there is a fifth generation.”

Janice (Ganz) Gilligan ’84 is a home health aide with Quality Home Health. She and her husband reside in Morris.

Susan Martin ’84 is a special education teacher in Joliet District #86. She and her husband, Sam, reside in Minooka.

Gregory Godsil ’85 is a sales manager in the industrial division of American Roland Food Corporation. He resides in Chicago.

Robert Jones ’85 is a learning technologies analyst with State Farm Insurance Companies. He and his wife, Jill, reside in Bloomington.


Roger Burton ’86 is the art director of Weber Shandwick. He resides in the United Kingdom.

Karen Jensen, M.B.A. ’86, is the president and CEO of Farnsworth Group, Inc. She and her husband, Brian, reside in Dunlap.

Kim (Langford) Thurman ’86 is the director of new business for Insperity Retirement Services. She and her husband, Anthony, reside in Rosenberg, Texas.

Gary Brashear ’88, Ed.D. ’12, is the superintendent of Deland-Weldon CUSD #57. He and his wife, Pamela, reside in Weldon.

Curt Gruber ’88 is vice president of sports and event marketing with KemperLesnik, a leading public relations sports marketing and events agency. He previously served as the vice president of business development for the Chicago Wolves hockey team. He resides in Park Ridge.

Tom Lamonica, M.S. ’88, has been with Illinois State for 34 years. He retired from Athletics communications in 2006 and has since been teaching public relations in the School of Communication. He also coordinates the internship program for the school. He and his wife, Claire, reside in Normal.

Stephanie Cresap ’89 is a sponsored research business analyst with the University of Illinois-Champaign. She resides in White Heath.

Tammy Dillard-Steels ’89 is the director of constituent services for the Academy of General Dentistry. She resides in Chicago.

Lisa (Pauley) Grab ’89 works for the Federal Aviation Administration as a front line manager at the Hillshoro Air Traffic Control Tower. She resides in Portland, Oregon.

Kirk Salmela, D.A. ’89, is the principal of Buchanan Middle School in Wray, Colorado. He and his wife, Debbie, reside in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Robert Zmudka ’89 is vice president and group executive of North American sales and marketing for GATX Corporation. He is president of the National Freight Transportation Association, board chair of the Metropolitan Club of Chicago, and serves on the Pro Football Hall of Fame national advisory board. He cochaired the
Reason to celebrate

Friendships that formed when several young women met as residents of Walker Hall in 1956 remain strong today. Annual reunions are planned by members of the Class of 60, and special events celebrated. Five of the women gathered in June to mark their 75th birthday. They toured campus, pausing for a photo at Fell Hall. The group includes, clockwise from left, Lois (Zimmerman) Young, Bloomington; Elsie (Hartman) Grisalone, Burlington, Iowa; Patricia (Wiley) Haney, Wood Dale; Elmarie (Lindsey) Stiers, Batavia; and Carolyn (Moore) Key, Tremont.

2013 Pro Football Hall of Fame Chicago Salute to Greatness. He resides in Winnetka.

90s

Beth (Van Marter) Farrell ’90 is a realtor with William Raveis Real Estate. She and her husband, Kevin ’90, were both at The Vidette as students. They reside in Sudbury, Massachusetts.

John Zubeck ’90 is a high school teacher in Weeki Wachee. He resides in Spring Hill, Florida.

Michael McCall ’91 is the quality assurance specialist for the Brownsville Public Utilities Board. He and his wife, Patricia, reside in La Feria, Texas.

Rebecca (Presson) Sharenow ’91 is the senior art director with TPH Global Solutions. She and her husband, Evan, reside in Roselle.

They travel often and reside in Carrollton, Texas.

LuAnn (Aiello) Cadden ’93 is a teacher with Saint Joseph School District and a writer with SJC Copywriting Solutions. She has authored a second book, Traveling Through Illinois: Stories of I-55 Landmarks and Landscapes Between Chicago and St. Louis. She and her husband, Mike, reside in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

Jay Ciavarella ’93 is the division manager of local planning and programs at the Regional Transportation Authority. He and his wife, Lynnette, are the parents of a daughter and reside in Chicago.

Elisa (Knowa) Jung ’93 is a senior e-commerce merchandise manager for Bonton Stores, Inc. She and her husband, Al, own Dunn Bros Coffee. They are the parents of a son and reside in West Bend, Wisconsin.

Jennifer (Winhold) Martin ’93 is an injury prevention coordinator with the Illinois Department of Public Health. She oversees a federal government grant to implement youth suicide prevention strategies in Illinois. She and her husband, Hector, reside in Sherman.

Rachel (Bettin) Maxwell ’93 is the director of bands at Traughber Jr. High School and the district junior high performing arts coordinator for Oswego School District 308. She and her husband, Shawn, reside in North Aurora.

Adam Mittleman ’93 started a healthcare consulting firm and is now CEO of CAVO Consultants, LLC. He works with large healthcare organizations implementing Epic software. His roles include business analyst and principal trainer. He and his wife, Celestine, reside in Aevworth, Georgia.

Kevin Holt ’94 is a project control specialist with Honeywell International. He resides in Avon, Indiana.

Ralph Roach ’94 is an infrastructure senior tech analyst with CitIFinancial/One Main Financial. He resides in Kagarville.

Nathan Wenzel ’94 is the director of internal auditing at Growmark, Inc. He resides in Normal.

Jenn (Tintilll) Kupers ’95 is the senior manager of talent acquisition at Sears Holdings in Hoffman Estates. She resides in Buffalo Grove.

Leslie Steele ’95 is an elementary teacher in Chicago Public Schools. She resides in Chicago.

Cynthia (Salzman) Golsby ’97 is a loan servicing specialist with Wells Fargo Home Mortgage in Springfield, where she and her husband, Randall, reside.

SuriThong Srissa-Ard, Ph.D. ’97, is the academic resource center director of Maharashanam University. She and her husband reside in Thailand.

Clay Beckner ’99 completed a Ph.D. in psycholinguistics with distinction at the University of New Mexico. He is completing a post-doc at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand. He and his wife, Danielle, reside in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Peter Goerne ’99 is a building services contractor with GRBS, Inc. He resides in Holland, Michigan.

Benjamin Johnson ’99 is a software implementation consultant with Dean Evans and Associates. He and his wife, Amy, reside in Lone Tree, Colorado.

Scott Miller ’99 is a portfolio manager with Romano Wealth Management. He resides in Arlington Heights.

00s

Brian Budzynski ’00 is editor of the books division with Allured Business Media. He authored a novella, The Remark. He resides in Lombard.

Nichole DePaul ’00 is completing a doctorate in curriculum and instruction in secondary science education at Capella University. A chemistry teacher, she is a member of the New Members Committee.

November 2013 ILLINOIS STATE 39
Redbird Watch Party

One of the easiest ways for alumni to stay connected with the campus regardless of where they now live is to participate in a Redbird Watch Party. This group of graduates gathered in Smyrna, Georgia, to watch an ISU men’s basketball game during the past season. To find out how you can join or host a Redbird Watch Party, contact the Alumni Relations office at (309) 438-2586.

for the Division of Chemical Education in the American Chemical Society. She resides in Baytown, Texas.

Gregg Duenn ’00 is a photojournalist with KDFW-TV, FOX 4 and resides in Dallas, Texas.

Bridget C. Duigan ’00 completed her juris doctorate at The John Marshall Law School and is an associate attorney at Latherow Law Office. She focuses on medical malpractice, construction negligence and personal injury. She has been elected to the Board of Governors of the Illinois State Bar Association. She resides in Chicago.

Jeff Freeman ’00 is a photojournalist with ABC 7 in Chicago. He resides in Des Plaines.

Dave Maiden ’00 is the corporate investigator for CDW in Chicago. He and his wife, Cheryl, are the parents of three children and reside in Grayslake.

Crystal Thiele ’00 is a National Board Certified fifth grade teacher in New York. She previously taught English in Japan. She was one of 14 teachers chosen to spend time this summer in the Arctic as a Lindblad Expeditions National Geographic Grosvenor Teacher Fellow. She resides in Brooklyn, New York.

Andrea Zirkamer ’00 is the senior vice president and director of risk management at Heartland Bank and Trust Company in Bloomington. She resides in Peoria.

Hilary (Holloway) Andrlik ’01 has taught art for 10 years in Hinsdale School District 181. She was named the 2012 Illinois Elementary Art Educator of the Year by the Illinois Art Education Association. She resides in Oswego.

Carin Cadek ’01 is corporate counsel with Zurich North American. She resides in Elgin.

Michelle (Barker) Dilworth ’01 is a part-time recreation therapist at Advocate Christ Medical Center. She and her husband, Adam, are the parents of two boys and reside in New Lenox.

Emily (Miller) Kimmey ’01 is the director of development for Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois. She and her husband, Jay, reside in Glen Carbon.

Michelle L. (Demoss) Kronfeld ’01 is the associate director of graduate admissions and services at St. Ambrose University. She is a doctoral candidate in educational policy and leadership studies at the University of Iowa. She received a Graduate Student Enrollment Management Research Grant for her proposal, “Timing and Sequence of Major Life Events Related to Post-Baccalaureate Enrollment.” She resides in Eldridge, Iowa.

Michael O’Brian ’01 is a concept estimating engineer with Intelligated. He resides in Savannah, Texas.

Brad Smetanko ’01 is a network engineering supervisor with Frontier Communications. He and his wife, Cortney, reside in Heyworth.

Amanda (Moore) Tucker ’01 and her husband, Kevin, are the parents of two sons. Rylan Christopher was born in May of 2013. They reside in Champaign.

Mark Albrecht ’02 is a lab technician at the University of Florida. He and his wife, Dehlia, reside in Gainesville, Florida.

Nathan Ambuehl ’02 is an administrative services supervisor at State Farm Insurance Companies. He and his wife, Holly, are the parents of a son and reside in Bloomington.

Lindsey (Peterson) Bensman ’02 and her husband, Brad ’02, are the parents of two children. Jack was born in May of 2013. The family resides in Libertyville.

Sarah (Weier) Dee ’02 is a director of events for the Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation. She resides in Roeland Park, Kansas.

Nicole Joutras ’02 is a doctor of chiropractic. She resides in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota.

Eric Nichols ’02 is a commercial production coordinator in sports operations with Learfield Communications. He and his wife, Molly, reside in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Josh Palmer ’02 is a field service technician II with Advanced Technology Services. He resides in Simpsonville, South Carolina.

Mark Schaeve ’02 is a litigation attorney with Schaeve Law Office. He resides in Chicago.

Ryan Gilbert ’03 is a technical agronomist with Monsanto. He resides in Columbus, Wisconsin.

Lana Gundy ’03 is an educator with Peoria Public School District 150. She had a professional blog published on EDWEEK. It was featured on an edition of the ASCD SmartBrief. She resides in Mackinaw.

Christopher Hattan ’03 is a chemist with BASF and resides in Tucson, Arizona.

Travis Zuver ’03 is a project manager with General Electric. He resides in Woodridge.

Patrick Doyle ’04 is a guidance counselor at Indian Prairie School District #204. He resides in Plainfield.

Matt Goldberg ’04 completed an M.B.A. at William Paterson University. He is a financial services representative at TD Bank and resides in North Haledon, New Jersey.

Laura Moyle ’04 is an academic chair at Kaplan University. She resides in Princeton.

Joseph “Joey” Wilson ’04 is the communication technology coordinator for the Le Roy Christian Church. He resides in Le Roy.

Amber (Pellum) Duncan ’05 is the management and program analyst for the Department of Justice. She and her husband, Justin, reside in Alexandria, Virginia.

Abby (Tulin) Eckhoff ’05 is a senior sales associate with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. She and her husband, Kyle, reside in Italy.

Mitchell Elatkin ’05 is the assistant principal of KIPP Renaissance High School in New Orleans, Louisiana, where he resides.

Jamie (Williams) Froman ’05 is a pre-kindergarten teacher in the Shawnee Mission School District. She and her husband, Jeff, reside in Kansas City, Kansas.

Rory Nolan ’05 is a senior analyst at State Farm Insurance Companies. He and his wife, Selena, are the parents of a son. Ryker Lee was born in August of 2012. They reside in Bloomington.

Chris Brandon ’06 is a lecturer at Fordham University. He resides in New York, New York.
Amanda Byczynski ’06 has completed a second master’s degree in educational technology from the University of Central Missouri. She is an assistant professor of history at Edison Community College and resides in Piqua, Ohio.

James Semmelroth Darnell ’06 completed a master’s of divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary. He is a prospect research analyst at George Washington University. He resides in Alexandria, Virginia.

Matt Rock ’06 is a prospect research analyst at JC III and Associates. He and his wife, Breann, reside in Wesley Chapel, Florida.

Robert Halbeck ’06 is an engineer with Haibeck Automotive. He resides in Elmhurst.

Jamie (Weatherhead) Higgins ’06 is a department manager at Walmart. She resides in Braceville.

Matt Rock ’06 is president and co-owner of MATCO Fire Protection, Inc. He and his wife, Amanda, are the parents of two daughters and reside in Paxton.

James Sutter Jr. ’06 is a New York region account manager with AIG.
tendant director at Rogg’s Learning Place in Normal and resides in Bloomington.

Jacque Oram-Sterling, Ph.D. ’09, is dean of Mico Graduate School of Education in Jamaica. The school is the oldest teacher training institution in the Western Hemisphere. She previously was on ISU’s College of Education faculty. She resides in Jamaica.

10s

Vincent Boyd ’10 is an associate professor at Missouri Baptist University. He resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

Omar Castillo, Ed.D. ’10, is the superintendent of schools for Mokena School District 159. He and his wife, Maria, reside in Bolingbrook.

Julia Drauden ’10 is an assistant editor for the textbook publisher Goodheart-Willcox Publisher, handling the topics of business, marketing and career education. She resides in Joliet.

Adam Hitzeman ’10 is the Internet marketing manager for Computer Systems Institute. He resides in Hanover Park.

Karina Johnson ’10 is a customer account executive with Comcast. She resides in Calumet Park.

Amanda Landers ’10 completed an internship at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory and a master’s degree in work environment from the University of Massachusetts. She is the environmental health and safety leader at Advanced Filtration Systems Inc. in Champaign, where she resides.

Nick Ragusa ’10 is a physical education teacher with UNO Charter Schools. He resides in Naperville.

Emily Brinkmann ’11 completed a master’s degree in dietetics at Eastern Illinois University. She works as a diabetes educator and registered dietitian. She resides in Flowood, Mississippi.

Megan Daly ’11 is an office assistant at Loyola University in Chicago, where she resides.

Jacque Davidson ’11 is a systems analyst at Aon Hewitt. She resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

Selina Elliott ’11 is a chemist with Wrigley/Mars. She resides in Duluth, Georgia.

Emily Flanders ’11 is the program director for the Boys and Girls Club of the Portland metropolitan area. She resides in Portland, Oregon.

Matthew Ford ’11 is attending veterinary school at Michigan State University. He and his wife, Kelly, reside in Lansing, Michigan.

Brent Harper ’11 teaches eighth grade science at JW Eater Jr. High in Rantoul, where he resides.

Lisa Juliano ’11, M.S. ’13, is the assistant director of marketing for the Sun Devils at Arizona State University. She resides in Tempe, Arizona.

Taylor Lawless ’11 is a server at Venice Yacht Club. She and her husband, Zach Jones, reside in Englewood, Florida.

Kendra Maxwell ’11 is a German teacher and head of the foreign language department at Weymouth High School in Massachusetts. She resides in Boston.

Olivia Myers ’11 is a marketing analyst with Acuity A Mutual Insurance Company. She resides in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

Kerry Shanahan ’11 is a fourth grade teacher at the Academy for Urban School Leadership and Chicago Public Schools. She resides in Chicago.

Sarah (Reinhofer) Strickley ’11 is a high school English and English as a Second Language teacher in the Chicago Public Schools. She and her husband, Michael, reside in Chicago.

Lauren Terzis ’11 is completing a master’s degree at Saint Louis University. She resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

David Tobias ’11 is a plant food processing and control supervisor with Growmark. He resides in Bloomington.

Janelle Czapar ’12 is a science teacher at El Paso Gridley High School. She and her husband, Paul, reside in Bloomington.

Andy Hudson ’12 served as assistant musical director at The Little Theatre on the Square in Sullivan during the summer. He resides in Charleston.

Jacey Johnson ’12 is the resource center business manager for The Hon Company. She resides in Arlington, Virginia.

Breanna Staples ’12 is an assistant manager with Uniqlo USA. She resides in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Jayme Toler ’12 is a producer at WJFW Newswatch 12 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin. She resides in Concord.

Ryan Wrigley ’12 is quality manager at Hagel Metal Fabrication in East Peoria. He and his wife, Jennifer (Williams) ’12, reside in Pekin.

Kayode Adegoke ’13 is the coordinator of special programs for the Illinois High School Association. He resides in Bolingbrook.
Our troops

Maj. Scott Huesing ’97 has retired after serving more than 20 years with the U.S. Marine Corps. He completed eight deployments, including four combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He served the nation in more than 45 countries and now plans to work as an operations and training consultant. He and his wife are the parents of a daughter and reside in California.

Maj. Christopher Rozhon ’00 is with the U.S. Army Directorate of Weapons and Ammunition Modernization Saudi Arabian National Guard. He and his wife, Lori, reside in Great Lakes.

In memory

Faculty/Staff

William H. Adams, Media Relations; 4/13
Lois H. Biedenharn, Dining Services; 4/13
William “Larrry” Brewer, Facilities; 3/13
Jolene Woodard Eatherly, Psychology; 5/13
Joseph C. “J.C.” Hall, Building Services; 5/13
Loretta LaBounty, Milner Library; 5/13
Paul “Fred” Mattingly, Geography/Geology; 5/13
Gloria J. Mott, Food Services; 6/13
Marilyn (Stehlik) Parmantie ’56, M.S. ’59, Mathematics; 5/13
John T. Rehm, School of Music; 2/13
Murray M. Short, Metcalf Elementary School; 5/13
Nettie E. Hulvey Strohkirch ’73, ’81, Milner Library; 6/13
Beth J. Thomson, Agriculture; 4/13
Joseph L. Toth, Physical Plant; 2/13

30s

Susan K. Satterfield ’33, ’64; 1/13
Georgia (Smiley) Brockhouse ’34; 9/10
Teresa (Power) Brewer ’36; 6/13
Marjorie L. (Cloyd) Gown ’36; 5/13
Lola M. (Schertz) Basinger ’37; 3/13
Virginia J. Tuley ’37; 4/13
Marjorie E. Wilson ’37; 4/13
Pauline Wisdom ’37; 11/03
Lucille A. Chapman ’38; 1/07
Jane M. (Stubblefield) Huppert ’38; 4/13
Fanny Jirsa ’38; 11/06

40s

Catherine A. (White-Cole) DiPaolo ’40; 3/13
Flora (Morris) Kirtley ’40; 5/13
Moreen K. McBride ’40; 6/13
Virginia S. McCollum ’40, ’42; 6/13
Raymond W. Pettigrew ’40; 2/13
Maudie I. Crafts ’41; 1/08
Eugenia R. (Velde) Merry ’41; 4/13
Wilda J. (Wesson) Gilbertson ’42; 5/13
Beatrice L. (March) Luthman ’42; 5/13
Josephine H. (Callahan) Pruitt ’42; 6/13
Althea “Sue” (Nash) Blomgren ’43; 4/13
Ruth A. Harms ’43; 12/12
Frances C. Petri ’43; 12/11
Mary Olson Ahlrich ’45; 5/13
Shirley Y. Barfield ’46; 4/13
Sue (deGafferelly) Christiansen ’46; 6/13
Kenneth R. Miller ’47; 5/13
Margaret A. (Stipp) Woodfill ’46; 6/13
M. Jeanne Bartelt ’47; 5/13
Glenn Bradshaw ’47; 3/13
Roy L. Crone ’47; ’54; 3/13
Carolyn R. (Clauond) Barling ’48; 6/13
Eleanor Blackstone ’48; 3/13
Barbara M. Ellison ’48; 4/13
Eleanor L. Minick ’48; 10/12
Margaret (Fenton) Gibson ’49; 5/13
Norman J. Halford ’49; 6/13
Stephen A. Paynic ’49; 1/13

50s

Dominic Bertinetti Jr. ’50, M.S. ’60; 5/13
Melvin A. Lindauer ’50; 4/13
Calvin U. Parmele ’50; 12/12
Richard D. Veselack ’50, M.S. ’56; 3/13
Louise (Clayberg) Yemm ’50; 8/12
Marlene R. Perry ’51; 6/13
Berrence J. Wessel ’51, M.S. ’66; 4/13
Marilynn Boussum ’52, M.S. ’60; 7/12
Beverly I. Liddle ’52; 6/13
Nancy (Malkus) McGovney ’52; 3/13
John C. Pedroni ’52; 10/10
Eugene D. Aimeone ’53, M.S. ’57; 10/12
Roy Schoenborn ’53; 3/05
Mary Ann Shipston ’53, M.S. ’69; 6/13
Kenneth Arneson ’54; 4/13
Dorothy (Antey) Ryan ’54; 10/12
John A. Goodwin ’55; 3/13
Russell C. Knudson ’56; 4/13
Wes Retzlaff ’56; M.S. ’71; 4/13

60s

Sheila R. Caskey ’61, M.S. ’65; 4/13
Karen P. Pfeifer ’61; 4/13
Judith A. (Johnson) Rodgers ’61; 12/12
Richard L. Gauger ’62, M.S. ’66; 6/13
Gary E. Luallen ’62, M.S. ’70; 5/13
Virginia R. Harmon ’63; 3/13
Alberta E. Reiterman ’64; 2/13
Susan C. Karayanakis ’65, M.A. ’67; 5/13
Fred Litwiller, M.S. ’66; 6/13
James O. Ropp ’66, M.S. ’71; 5/13
Paula J. Shutt ’66; 3/13
Leron K. Farnam ’68; 4/13
Naomi V. Ross ’68; 10/10
Esta C. (Wenneborg) Brehm ’69; 4/13
Thomas Niemi ’69; 3/13
Gary J. Palmer ’69; 9/08

Three easy ways to submit your information

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

2) Email your news to sjblyst@IllinoisState.edu.

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

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

Another holiday is quickly approaching, which means efforts to find that perfect gift for family members and friends have begun again. Think beyond the traditional shopping routine this year. A gift to Illinois State is a unique way to honor a loved one, while also creating an opportunity for students to soar in the year ahead. Support your passion with an investment in the University.

Finalize your gift by December 31 to gain tax benefits. Use the envelope enclosed in this issue of Illinois State, visit IllinoisState.edu/Giving, or call (309) 438-8041.
Thanks to you

Gordon Schroeder ’59 has had a strong connection with Illinois State since starting at University High School at age 14. He transitioned to a mailroom job at State Farm after graduating in 1950, working two years before being drafted.

Home again from Korea, Schroeder returned to State Farm and completed a degree in business education. During his undergraduate years, Schroeder dated Carol (Cathcart) ’60, who became his wife.

They made Bloomington-Normal their home. She dedicated her career to teaching elementary students. He remained at State Farm, becoming the assistant director of accounting. Both are now retired, but remain actively engaged with the University that they have consistently supported financially for 30 years.

“When we married, money was short. As our income became more significant, we increased our giving as we were able,” said Schroeder, who is a distinguished alum of U-High.

The goal in giving was never to become one of the leaders in ISU’s Loyalty Circle, but rather to show appreciation for the education and memories tied to the University.

“Illinois State created a good foundation for us in our careers,” Schroeder said, noting the pride he and his wife share for the school has not waned. They remain staunch Redbird fans who also support the arts.

Find out how you can be a part of the Loyalty Circle by contacting Lora Wey at (309) 438-2592 or lwey@IllinoisState.edu.
Meet and greet

There’s always time to share a smile with a friend on the Illinois State campus. Math major Jelymar Mejia reconnected with Joseph Clark, who is studying family and consumer science. The two enjoyed a conversation on the stately staircase in Williams Hall.