

## Old school

Memories from the era of the one-room schoolhouse

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### RULES FOR TEACHERS 1872

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste.
4. Teachers may take one evening each week for visiting purposes, or evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
5. Teachers in school, the teachers may visit the State or other good schools.

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# FirstWord

## I had the privilege of presenting my first

State of the University address to the campus community in the fall. At the time, Nancy and I had been a part of Illinois State exactly two months and two days.

The moment created an opportunity for me to share my observations as one new to the University, someone who can see and experience with fresh eyes what those who have called ISU their home for years may overlook.

I shared then and want to convey to you now my assessment that Illinois State is a potent university—a diverse institution of great achievement and even greater potential.

There are literally hundreds of public and private universities around the country that would give anything to have the students we enroll, the faculty and staff that work here, and the capacity to move closer to the measures of success we have already achieved.

There are ample statistics to support our claims of excellence, from a talented freshman class with a 3.4 GPA average to a graduation rate of 71.5 percent, which is the second highest in the state and among the best in the nation.

And yet, there are challenges that make it imperative we do not rest on our laurels. One of these is the need to continue attracting talented students to Illinois State.



While our total enrollment remained strong this year, on-campus enrollment dipped slightly. This is not surprising, given Illinois is one of the top exporters of college students to other states—and the competition for students from border state universities is fierce.

So although we do a tremendous job of keeping students who choose Illinois State as their collegiate home, we face the challenge of engaging prospective students to make that decision. Those who attend are quick to note the excellence and opportunity exceed what they anticipated, which tells me we need to do a better job of sharing our story.

I know of no better way to accomplish this task than to enlist you, our proud alumni, to become even stronger ambassadors for your alma mater. You know the lasting impact Illinois State has had on you personally and professionally. Will you share your memorable moments with others? Your partnership is needed and appreciated as we recruit and welcome future generations to the Redbird family.

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



ILLINOIS STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
*Illinois' first public university*








## FEATURES

- 8 When there is no cure**  
Bobby Rice faced the reality that flesh-eating bacteria had ravaged his leg so badly, amputation appeared to be his only option. Dr. Spence Misner '73 envisioned a different outcome. A specialist in saving limbs, Misner delivered an expensive experimental treatment that restored Rice's life and limb.
  
- 12 Five decades later**  
It's been 50 years since the institution's name changed to Illinois State University. The emotion and concern voiced when the controversial decision was debated is revisited. Those involved remember the pivotal moment that altered ISU's path. And yet, there is evidence the University has not veered from teacher preparation as opponents feared.
  
- 18 Little school on the prairie**  
One-room schoolhouses are long gone but far from forgotten. Former students still relish those simpler times, which challenged the teachers. The routine required to manage eight grades simultaneously is shared by four graduates from the 1930s. Each remembers well the task of preparing youngsters in the quaint educational system of yesteryear.
  
- 25 Back to baseball**  
Redbird standout pitcher Neal Cotts went from a World Series celebration with the Chicago White Sox to watching major league play from the sidelines. Injuries kept him out of any lineup from 2009 until last season with the Texas Rangers. Cotts' return to professional baseball is deemed as unlikely as his initial arrival.



### What's trending on **STATE** side

-  Student-athlete's search for birth parents has happy ending
  -  11 reasons we needed the new Redbird Vintage line
  -  Meet the Redbird cheerleaders who got engaged at halftime
- Read these stories and more at [IllinoisState.edu/STATEside](http://IllinoisState.edu/STATEside).

## DEPARTMENTS

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**On the cover:** The Lura Eystone School Museum on the ISU campus maintains the look of the nation's first classrooms.



## Evidence of ISU's excellence

Graduation rate among best in the nation

**I**llinois State's graduation rate has hit an all-time high of 71.5 percent, which puts ISU among the top 10 percent of all U.S. universities. The statistic reflects the percent of 2007 freshmen who graduated within six years. The graduation rate also rose specifically for minority students.

The graduation rate for 1992's freshman class was, by contrast, just 52.6 percent. The national average for public universities today is only 56 percent.

The ability to meet graduation goals means lower student debt. ISU's rising graduation rate means bragging rights for older alumni too, as the statistic is a factor in national rankings.

It's also good news for competitive alums. Illinois State's graduation rate in 2012—the most recent year for comparable data—topped every “directional” school in Illinois (Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Western), as well as other schools such as DePaul and the University of Illinois-Chicago.

“The more people look at ISU's stats now, the more valuable their degrees are from back when they were here,” Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education Jonathan Rosenthal said.

How did ISU do it? It's a combination of increased academic standards for incoming students and retention efforts for students once they're on campus, Rosenthal said.

He credits on-campus academic resources and programs for helping raise graduation rates. Personal relationships are also key, as is financial support from alumni, who play a big role in shaping the academic success of today's students.

The new record-high graduation rate “speaks volumes to the institutional quality that our students are getting,” ISU Alumni Association President Jerry Kerber '74 said, citing the small class sizes and student-to-faculty ratio of 19:1.

“This shows alumni what's going on within their University, and that anything they can do to help is worth their time and investment, because we're showing the results right here.”



## Two faculty chosen as Fulbright participants

Associate Professor of History Andrew Hartman and Associate Professor at Milner Library Dallas Long have received the prestigious honor of joining the Fulbright program.

Hartman is the 2013-2014 Fulbright Distinguished Chair in American Studies at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense. He began the appointment during the summer and will remain overseas until June 2014. His research and teaching focus on 20th-century U.S. intellectual history and cultural history.

An author, he presents his research in the U.S. and internationally. The founding president of the Society for U.S. Intellectual History, Hartman edits the organization's blog, which won the 2010 Cliopatria Award for Best Group Blog.

Long is a Fulbright specialist in library science. He will join a competitive, peer-reviewed roster of specialists for a five-year term. His work will involve participating in librarian training and advising libraries on program development and library operations. His regions of focus will include the Balkans, Turkey and North Africa.

## Recycled electronics help budgets, landfills

The University's sustainability initiatives are expanding with the addition of electronic device recycling. Administrative Technology has initiated the eRecycling program as part of a property control program.

In the month of July alone, eRecycling saved 3,422 pounds of technology equipment from hitting the landfills. The equipment included laptops, desktops and monitors.

"We take university equipment that has been turned in to property control and refurbish it," eRecycling supervisor Bart Lytel said. "We clean them, wipe the drives, test them, ensure that they are functional, and offer them at no charge to the departments on campus or elsewhere in the state."



Student workers Christopher Hinds, left, and Bruno Raoufi, right, help eRecycling supervisor Bart Lytel.

A team of students help make certain each piece of equipment undergoes a series of diagnostic tests, which ensures university data is protected. Departments are able to upgrade existing equipment from the eRecycling inventory instead of spending budget dollars to purchase new. The program has resulted in a savings to the University of \$223,829.

"The eRecycling unit is a perfect example of how one institution can make a statewide impact on budgets, the environment, education and the multitude of social services that are provided by state-funded programs," Sustainability's Assistant Director Melissa Nergard said.

## ISU's value is lauded by national publication

Illinois State was ranked among the top 50 universities in the country in *Washington Monthly's* 2013 Best Bang for the Buck Rankings. It is one of only two Illinois public universities to be included in the top 50.

The publication ranked Illinois State at 47. The University was noted for its 71.5 percent graduation rate, which is far above the national average

for public universities, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

The publication also praised ISU's affordability and low loan default rate of 3 percent, which is significantly lower than the 14.4 percent Illinois average and the 13.4 percent nationwide average.

"While Illinois State is already well known for its student success rates, this ranking recognizes our focus on helping graduate students while keeping debt under control," said Troy Johnson, Illinois State's associate vice president of enrollment management.

Financial Aid Director Jana Albrecht said about one-third of students will graduate with no debt. Illinois State offered more than \$34 million in institutional scholarships and grants last year to more than 7,000 students, with more than 78 percent of students receiving some type of financial aid each year.

## ISU among nation's best in support of veterans

Illinois State has again been included in the Military Friendly Schools listing published by Victory Media. The 2014 Military Friendly Schools list honors the

## Where are they now?

The College of Business was in its infancy when Max Rexroad was hired to teach accounting. He joined the faculty in 1969 at the age of 27, expecting to remain until completing his dissertation at the University of Illinois. Plans changed when he realized the potential to help shape ISU's program.

"I was on the ground floor of something brand new. We had a department to build, and I really liked that," said Rexroad, who had previously worked for Arthur Andersen. Rexroad took a leave from the firm to complete his graduate work, which gave him an opportunity to teach an accounting class. "I decided I loved it."

His affinity for ISU was equally strong. He taught primarily financial accounting and devoted 20 years to teaching a CPA exam review course. He teamed with colleagues to focus on fraud detection and deterrence as a research interest, gaining national accolades.

His school spirit was obvious with a red derby he wore as a result of serving as advisor to the students' accounting society for a decade. Rexroad wanted a way for the group to be identified while completing community service. One student found the red hats in a St. Louis store, and the tradition was born.

Retired since 2004, Rexroad still owns a derby collection. He and his wife, Elaine, reside in Congerville. He remains active in professional accounting organizations. An ISU accounting scholarship has been created in his name. He returns to campus often, as he enjoys departmental events and interacting with students. Contact him at (309) 467-3572 or [wmrexro@ilstu.edu](mailto:wmrexro@ilstu.edu).



Accounting Professor Emeritus Max Rexroad

top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are supporting the educational pursuits of veterans. Criteria include a strong commitment to recruiting, retaining and providing financial, academic and social services to student veterans.

The University provides student veterans with a variety of academic, advisement and financial support services. The Veterans Services office is the first point of contact. The office assists with Veterans Administration education benefits, helps students transition to life on campus and provides referrals to other veterans services within the community.

### Communication programs recognized for excellence

The School of Communications has been praised by the National Communication Association (NCA) as providing an Outstanding Master's Degree Program. In addition, the school's public relations program has gained certification.

The NCA awarded the graduate program for its excellent quality in developing research and teaching, and mentoring students well in their personal and professional growth.

Professor Emeritus Sandra Metts received the Outstanding Mentor in Master's Education Award from the NCA.

The PR program is the first in Illinois to receive certification from the Public Relations Society of America. ISU's program is one of only about 40 worldwide to receive the Certification in Education for Public Relations credential.

The accreditation confirms the program is rigorous, opens the door for resources, and bolsters the degree's value for students and alums.

In addition, the Communication Institute for Online Scholarship has reported that the graduate faculty in the school are among the most productive communication scholars in the nation.

### Legal studies program has association's approval

The legal studies major at ISU has been granted approval by the American Bar Association (ABA). This marks the second time in three years the ABA has endorsed an ISU paralegal education plan of study.

"This will be immensely helpful in attracting students to Illinois State University and the program," Department of Politics and Government Chair Ali Riaz said, noting the ABA endorsement is a benchmark for many employers who hire paralegals. About 50 students participate in the program each year. Professor Tom McClure '76, M.S. '01, an attorney and assistant professor of the department, directs the program.

At the beginning of the summer, the department petitioned the ABA for approval of a legal studies major as a new program option. The department will begin offering the major to incoming students this fall.



## Study of Latin back through new minor

Latin will be reborn this fall in a new interdisciplinary minor known as classical studies. Taught by English, history, art and philosophy faculty, the minor will explore the Latin language and the world it encompassed.

“Latin is the basis of so many humanities disciplines. With resources scarce, it has been 10 years since we employed a full-time classicist,” said Jonathan Druker. He is director of undergraduate studies for the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, which is home for the minor.

In addition to 12 hours of Latin, students will find electives in ancient, Medieval and Renaissance history; philosophy; and art and architecture. “Interdisciplinary curriculums really help students think outside the box,” Druker said. “Colleagues from across the campus realize the importance of studying and teaching Latin.”

## Budget for buildings approved by trustees

Illinois State has a list of capital project requests totaling \$273.7 million. The governing board approved the FY2015 budget request last fall, along with approximately \$85 million in general revenue. Legislators and the governor must approve both budgets.

Projects on the capital wish list are the same as from last year, as no new funds were given to ISU to support the work. The list includes remodeling of Milner Library to add space for stacks and study areas.

Funding for a new Mennonite College of Nursing building is also again requested. With enrollment doubled in the past 15 years, Edwards Hall is no longer adequate for the college’s needs.

Other projects include replacing Thomas Metcalf Laboratory School and University High School, as well as remodeling DeGarmo and Williams halls.

# Mail

To the Editor,

Usually I celebrate this magazine’s alumni stories. Your last issue, though, included “Riding the oil and gas boom,” which described the successful careers of geology majors participating in the fracking boom. This boom brings trouble. Fracking offers uncertain careers that contribute to the climate change crisis, a terrible threat seen most recently with the devastating Philippine typhoon.

While this magazine has written about students and wind energy—a choice I applaud—the editorial board should not equate wind energy workers with fracking workers as if the careers are equally valuable and/or equally harmless to the environment.

Your November journalism majors’ story describes alums, faculty and students retooling for a changing world. While “Riding” acknowledges geology students’ discomfort with fracking, the article does not describe how some geology majors choose non-oil and gas careers.

The oil and gas boom has brought to other states decreased home values, polluted water, environmental health problems, and ruined agricultural land. The successful careers of some geology majors should be weighed against the harsh realities all of us will face when hydraulic fracturing arrives in Illinois.

Please publish an article about the many ISU professors, students and alumni fighting to keep fracking out of Illinois, and/or bringing information about the need for altered lifestyles in the face of climate change’s dangers.

**Sandra Lindberg '77, M.S. '78**

*Editor’s Note: The article ran as part of a series on the role alumni play in the business of energy. The first article, “Illinois State helps fuel the wind energy revolution,” focused on alums working in wind energy and ISU programs preparing students for that field (May 2013).*

To the Editor,

The cover story in the November issue (“Print Purgatory”) was a great article, but I feel it missed exploring an industry niche: community newspapers.

Community newspapers cover the news in small towns across America that dailies can’t or choose not to explore. Many community papers have gone from five days a week to one or two issues a week, but if communities embrace the newspaper and the staff embrace the community, the publication can succeed and thrive!

I’ve worked for community newspapers most of my career. I currently work for an organization that owns nearly 80 community newspaper across the United States. Our first love is print, but we recognize the need to accept and jump on board with digital and are initiating a program that will include both!

I hope new graduates will consider small town community newspapers in their career search. We offer the opportunity to learn every facet of the industry that may not be experienced in other mediums. We can be a stepping stone in their careers or, opportunity to move up!

**Katy O’Grady-Pyne '81**

### Correction

Alumna Jackie Ferree '83 is global upstream finance manager for Chevron. Ferree was the first woman to join the company’s San Francisco-based international auditing staff. Ferree also worked on Chevron’s \$4.5 billion acquisition of Atlas Energy. Ferree’s last name, title, role on the auditing staff, and cost of the Atlas acquisition were incorrectly stated in November’s issue of *Illinois State* magazine (“Riding the oil and gas boom”). The magazine staff regrets the errors.

# Redbird Athletics



## The voice of men's basketball

First season for new Redbird announcer

**W**ith the departure of longtime public address (PA) announcer Steve Adams, men's basketball fans have been hearing a new voice—one that may already be familiar to many local Redbirds.

Jon Belsaas, also known as JD Justice, took over as the new PA announcer for men's basketball when the season began in the fall. Belsaas is cohost of Justice and Faith in the Morning on the Bloomington-Normal WBWN B104 country music radio station.

A radio veteran of more than 20 years, Belsaas is not new to calling sports

action. He spent 10 years announcing for the Quad Cities Steamwheelers arena football team, and has assisted with PA for the Quad City Mallards hockey team as well as a variety of other events.

Connecting with collegiate sports has been a priority for Belsaas since moving to the Twin Cities area.

"I wanted to work in college sports because I love the atmosphere," Belsaas said. "They are so real, and everyone is so dedicated."

Belsaas tried out for the PA announcer position on the recommendation of Adams, following a radio interview covering his retirement. After learning that he had been selected from the long list

of potential candidates, Belsaas began prepping for the role before the start of the 2013–2014 season. He mastered the player roster and attended Hoopfest and other events to get a feel for the games.

As the season has progressed, Belsaas has enjoyed having a part in Redbird basketball.

"If I can be half as good as Steve Adams was in the role, I'll be doing pretty good," Belsaas said. "I've been to a few basketball games announced by Adams, and I thought he did a tremendous job. When people say, 'You have some big shoes to fill,' I say I'm not going to even try. I'll have to make my own."



## Athletics mourns loss of two key contributors

The University community lost a pair of dedicated Redbird supporters and employees in the fall. Jim Johnson, M.A. '64, and Bob Kief '70, M.S. '72, made significant contributions to the campus and impacted student-athletes for many years.

Retired in 2002 after a 35-year career as a psychology professor, Johnson became a volunteer academic coordinator with the Karin L. Bone Athletics Study Center. He continued leading an introduction to psychology class, teaching large numbers of student-athletes. Affectionately known as "Dr. J," he led study skills workshops and worked with individual student-athletes. He was inducted into the Illinois State Athletics Percy Family Hall of Fame as a Campbell "Stretch" Miller Award recipient.

Kief served in the military, enrolling at ISU at the age of 39 and earning degrees in physical education and athletic training. He was a faculty member and athletic trainer for eight years before becoming a full-time assistant athletic trainer. He retired in 1989 as the head athletic trainer for men's Athletics. One of the first 50 licensed athletic trainers in the state of Illinois, Kief was voted into the Illinois Athletic Trainers Association Hall of Fame. He enjoyed coming up with new concepts for preventive and post-injury care and was fondly known as "Doc."

To make a donation to honor either Johnson or Kief, go to [IllinoisState.edu/Giving](http://IllinoisState.edu/Giving) or call (309) 438-8041.



*Everybody needs a little Reggie.*

Find the perfect gifts for all the Illinois State fans in your life at [RedbirdGear.com](http://RedbirdGear.com)



### Time to plan for March

The Missouri Valley Conference basketball tournaments will again be in the St. Louis area during the first two weekends of March.

Head coach Dan Muller and the men's team will attempt to reach their third championship game during play at the Scottrade Center March 6-9. The Embassy Suites in downtown St. Louis will be the official ISU team hotel. Call (314) 269-5900 and reference the Illinois State fan block.

Head coach Barb Smith will lead the women's basketball team March 13-16 at the Family Arena in St. Charles, Missouri. The Redbirds will stay at the Sheraton Lakeside Chalet in Westport, Missouri. Call (888) 627-7066 and mention the ISU fan block.

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

### Redbird soccer team wins fifth valley title

The ISU soccer team clinched the Missouri Valley Conference regular-season championship outright with a 3-0 victory over Drake last fall. The title is the ninth in program-history for ISU, and fifth for head coach Drew Roff in his seven seasons at the helm.

"After coming in second last year, this is definitely something we wanted to accomplish," Roff said following the clinching win. "Another shutout was key. We've shown the ability to not give up goals during this run, which is huge."

The Redbirds defeated Indiana State in the championship game of the 2013 MVC Soccer Championship to earn the league's automatic NCAA Tournament bid. ISU defeated Louisville in the first round but was unable to get past Michigan in round two.

by Steven Barcus

# Critical

*Alum uses cutting-edge stem cell treatment to restore man's leg*

**B**obby Rice never expected that cutting his foot could reshape his entire life. The Dalton, Georgia, carpet layer was walking trash to the dumpster outside his apartment when he stepped on broken glass. Rice felt no pain and because of his profession, was used to dealing with scratches and cuts. He bandaged his foot and didn't think any more of it. At least he tried not to.

But the glass had created a hole in his foot that constantly drained, ruining his socks. Rice was still not in any pain, so he decided to use a remedy that he had success with many times before. He superglued the wound shut.

The draining ceased, but the real problems were just beginning, as the wound quickly became infected. The infection began traveling up through Rice's foot, ankle, and eventually lower leg. His leg began to swell and change color from shades of blue and green to patches of black. Yet it was still easy for Rice to ignore since he wasn't in any pain.

Eventually fevers of 104 degrees, nausea, and shaky limbs accompanied Rice's discolored flesh. His nausea was so severe that he went more than 21 days holding down nothing except Sprite. Finally, after blacking out on the floor in his apartment, Rice knew that something was very wrong. He called a cab and was taken to the hospital.

Doctors examined Rice and quickly identified the problem. Rice's leg had become infected with necrotizing fasciitis, more commonly known as flesh-eating bacteria. An undiag-

nosed diabetic, Rice also suffered from diabetic neuropathy, which had destroyed the nerves in his legs and explained why he couldn't feel what should have been a painful injury.

The decision for the physician examining Rice's leg was clear: amputate.

"I didn't want to lose my leg," Rice said. "I asked to see someone who didn't want to cut my leg off."

Given the severity of Rice's situation, Dr. Spence Misner '73 was called in. Misner, who had been practicing foot and ankle pathology for more than 30 years, specialized in limb salvage, treating high-risk patients with critical wounds on the verge of losing a leg.

If Rice was hoping for a different answer from Misner, he would be disappointed. Misner initially came to the same conclusion as other physicians. Rice would lose his leg.

"The usual standard for treating a flesh-eating infection is immediate amputation," said Misner, a 1973 psychology alum. "You would rather lose a leg than lose a life."

Misner knew that in taking Rice's leg, he would also be





# care

taking his livelihood. The doctor brought Rice into surgery twice, each time cutting away more infected flesh. By the time he finished, barely anything aside from tendon, bone, and an open wound remained from 6 inches above Rice's ankle to his toes. Weeks of advanced wound care yielded little progress. Despite Misner's skill, the situation was beginning to look hopeless.

Fortunately, Misner had a breakthrough. One of the sales representatives that he was acquainted with mentioned a company he worked with, Osiris Therapeutics, that developed several stem cell products. Misner called the company and explained Rice's situation. Osiris agreed to donate anything that Misner needed, however, a stem cell tissue transplant on this level had not been attempted.

"I told Bobby he had a choice," Misner said. "We can either amputate your leg, or we can try a procedure that has never been done. If it works, you have a leg. If it doesn't work, you are not out anything."

Rice agreed to give it a try.

With Misner agreeing to donate his time, and Osiris agreeing to donate nonembryonic stem cell products

Grafix and Ovation, Misner prepared to begin the treatment. When the first of the stem cell products arrived, Misner took them to the -75 Fahrenheit cold storage at the hospital, where he opened the container to inspect what he would be working with.

What Misner found were 2x2 tissue squares half the thickness of Saran wrap that contained stem cells, connective tissue, growth factors, and skin growing cells. What he didn't find were recommended procedures for administering the stem cell treatment.

"I called the company because no protocol was included," Misner said. "Osiris responded that the reason we are giving these to you is there is no protocol. However, being in wound care I had extensive experience in using biologic skin. This was similar."

The tissue transplant was a slow, tedious process. The squares, which thawed slowly, were peeled off of their backing and placed directly on what was left of Rice's leg using microscopic forceps.

"It sounds simple, but it can be a difficult substance to work with," Misner said. "It is similar to Saran wrap in that it balls up. But it is 10 times harder to work with because you can't throw it away since each square is expensive." Each is valued at approximately \$2,000.

Covering a wound as large as Rice's required 10 or more squares. With the treatment being repeated every three weeks for more than six months, the cost for the stem cell products alone



*Above:* Treatment of Rice's foot was completed every three weeks for more than six months. *Below:* Misner describes the next stages of treatment to Rice at the clinic in Dalton, Georgia.



quickly rose above \$250,000, making the products donated by Osiris a significant investment—especially when considering that the case was unprecedented and Rice lacked health insurance.

metatarsal, so he doesn't have a completely normal foot. But if he wants to go for a walk, he can. If he wants to work, he can work. He has a leg with a very minimal disability."

"Osiris is at the forefront of significant breakthrough medicine," said Osiris Therapeutics Chief Operating Officer Lode Debrabandere. "As a result, the most catastrophic medical cases are brought to us. When you have people who can't afford the products, you can put your money better into donating products than into marketing and advertising. Our products need to be used. That is more important."

The investment Misner and Osiris made in Rice's foot slowly began to yield results. Between December 2011 and May 2012 the stem cells regenerated tendon, ligament, fat, bone, and skin.

"Stem cells have been used before to regenerate these components individually—but they have never been used in complex care," Misner said, "never to address all of these tissue parts at one time."

An additional surprise came during a later treatment session when a nurse tickled Rice's foot. Rice jerked his foot slightly and exclaimed that it tickled. The words passed without notice, until Rice realized the significance of the moment.

Feeling had returned to his leg. The stem cells were regenerating his long-damaged nerves. In time, after more than 10 treatment sessions over six months, Rice's leg was almost completely healed.

"Bobby is walking again," Misner said. "I did have to amputate fifth toe and fifth



Rice is also pleased with the outcome of the treatment.

“Dr. Misner is a great doctor. Without him I wouldn’t be here right now. He isn’t just a doctor to me—he’s a friend.”

Moving forward, Misner will be sharing his findings with the medical community. He has already received requests worldwide for findings on his procedure, as well as several requests from patients with similar precarious conditions. Misner is eager to see the work continue, but knows it will take more than him to find the future of stem cells in limb salvage.

“The work has to be replicated, it has to be improved on,” Misner said. “We have to change the mindset that if you have necrotizing fasciitis, you amputate to save the life. Now we can move from amputation to limb salvage.”



Visit [IllinoisState.edu/Magazine](http://IllinoisState.edu/Magazine) to see how Dr. Spence Misner transformed Bobby Rice’s foot from a limb riddled with gangrene and flesh-eating bacteria to a new, healthy appendage.

**WARNING:** The gallery contains graphic images that may be unsettling to some viewers.



# STEM CELLS

## From controversy to optimism

While stem cells were once a charged topic, issues over their use have cooled. Since companies such as Osiris Therapeutics have found that there is a greater benefit in using stem cells derived from adults, the public is beginning to accept the possibilities the medical technology has to offer.

“Years ago when stem cells were breaking ground, the cells came from embryos,” Misner said. “However it has been discovered that embryos are not a good source for stem cells.”

Stem cells derived from placenta are nonimmunogenic, preventing the body from rejecting them. In addition, while also being plentiful, placentas are typically discarded after birth. Rather than discarding the material, patients can sign a consent form donating the placenta, which in turn can be used in stem cell treatments.

Likewise, stem cells derived from bone marrow are more effective than embryonic stem cells, and can be extracted from marrow donated by adults. Despite these new methods, misunderstanding of the technologies still lead some to believe the cells should not be used. Misner received hate mail accusing him of being a “baby killer,” and even Rice had initial confusion on the sources of the stem cells.

“People still relate stem cells to embryos, and embryos to babies,” Misner said. “Even the placenta used in creating stem cells can only come from C-sections, as the vagina is lined with bacteria.”

As more work is done with stem cell technologies, it is increasingly apparent that stem cells could be the future of medicine.

“We are just at the beginning of stem cell technologies, so the future is unknown in many ways,” Osiris Therapeutics Chief Operating Officer Lode Debrabandere said. “There are still things that have to be proven. There is still a lot of clinical research to be done to understand the quality of the technologies.”

“More companies are becoming involved in the field, and that’s a good thing. It is not something that one company or economic institution can do. You need lots in lots of different countries. All of these products have to go through the same vigorous FDA testing,” Debrabandere said. “The bar is set very high, and it’s not easy. More players coming in and more research dollars being spent will result in a better understanding of the future of these technologies.”

# The End of

# N

## 50 YEARS LATER, FIGHT OVER

ISU/ISNU name change

*resonates*

by Ryan Denham





# FIFTY YEARS — AND —

## THREE CAREERS LATER, Carolyn (Heckert) Shawaker '62 STANDS BY HER LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

She wrote it in August 1962, at the height of a vigorous five-year campus fight over whether to remove the “normal” from Illinois State Normal University. Shawaker was a supporter of the change, and it was personal. In her letter to the *Vidette*, she recalled her then recent trips to Washington, D.C., and Texas, in which others openly disrespected ISNU just because of its name—slights she still remembers today.

Shawaker’s involvement in the grassroots political campaign to change the name stuck with her. After a 40-year teaching career, she became mayor of her town in Maryland, then an administrative law judge.

“If we wanted to be a grown-up university, we had to name ourselves as though we were,” she said in a recent interview. “I still feel the same way.”

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Illinois State’s name change, from ISNU to ISU, a formative moment to reflect upon as campus celebrates Founders Day this month. On the surface, the name-change battle that ended January 1, 1964, pitted feisty young male faculty against the veteran female educators who valued ISNU’s history. Yet there were larger forces at work too—sometimes covertly—and undercurrents in higher education so strong that change was all but inevitable.

ISU won out, of course, and that symbolic pivot set the University on the path it traveled for the next five decades—one that never veered as far from teacher preparation as opponents feared.

“Everything you see today, I would contend, was due to that change in name and subsequent change in the structure of the University,” said Warren Harden, a former economics professor and administrator who led the name-change efforts. “It would not be like this today if it hadn’t happened.”

ISU was founded in 1857 as a “normal” school to train teachers—the word “normal” a reference to the French term for “model”—before evolving into a teachers’ college at the turn of the century.

In the 1950s there were big changes taking shape in higher education, increasing demand for college degrees—and professors—at ISNU and elsewhere. A postwar, post-Sputnik mindset was freeing up more tax dollars for campuses. A changing economy meant businesses needed more trained manpower. At ISNU the number of undergraduates doubled to 6,055 students from 1957-1963.

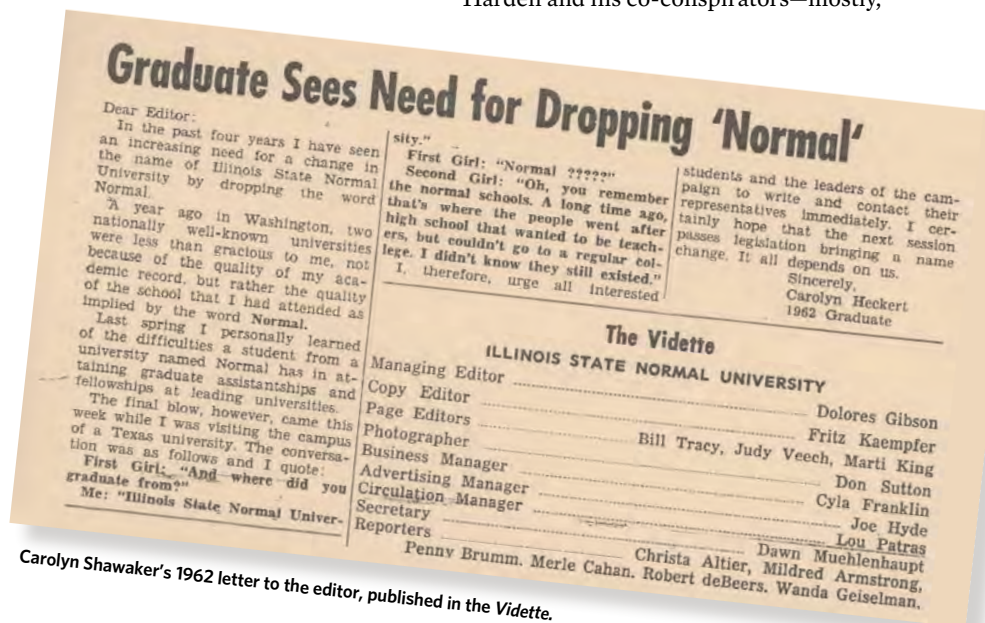
After World War II—punctuated by the Manhattan Project—there was new respect for the educated person, said Daniel Clark, an associate professor at Indiana State University who has researched the ISNU name change.

“That impacts the ISU debate, because there’s this new crop of faculty on campus, with freshly minted Ph.D.s from big schools, and they don’t want to teach only at a teachers’ college,” Clark said.

ISNU was one of five state teachers’ colleges, but Carbondale, Macomb, and Charleston changed their names in 1947, DeKalb in 1955. Why was ISNU so late to change?

“ISNU was the first public higher education institution in Illinois. They had a very proud tradition of training teachers,” Clark said. “That insulated it. They didn’t feel like they had to change. It’s remarkable that ISNU didn’t, that these pressures didn’t move upon it earlier.”

That’s where Harden comes in. He was hired at ISNU as an economics professor in 1954. By 1962 he was elected president of an influential faculty group on a ticket promising a name change. Harden and his co-conspirators—mostly,



Carolyn Shawaker’s 1962 letter to the editor, published in the *Vidette*.

1857

ISU founded as a “normal” or “model” school to train teachers

SIU, WIU, and EIU change their names

1947



1955

NIU changes its name

but not exclusively, young male professors—felt that the “normal” name was not just antiquated, but that it was hindering faculty recruitment, faculty research, and their ability to get grants.

Harden got to work recruiting some of his students, including two who would go on to become student body presidents—Charles Dunn '62 and James Koch '64. Harden was a “sparkplug” who didn’t back down and wasn’t afraid to make enemies on campus, said Dunn, whose travels around the state as a student leader made him see ISNU in a new light—one with growing prestige, and not just in teacher education.

“They had a lot on the line,” said Dunn, who coined the influential “ISU in 62” catchphrase.

There was healthy opposition to the change. In fact, a serious push in 1959 proved unsuccessful. Opponents “have a right to be outraged that we should be deprived of our alma mater for a silly name change that will do nothing to improve the quality of education received even while it does improve the status of those attending,” wrote one alumna in a letter to the editor of the *Vidette* in 1962.



“By no means was there complete unanimity among faculty, alumni and students” on the change, with many concerned about undermining ISNU’s “great reputation” or that it would lead to change in “purpose,” wrote distinguished campus historian and author Helen Marshall in *The Eleventh Decade*, chronicling ISNU/ISU from 1957-1967.

In his sesquicentennial campus history book, *Educating Illinois*, Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus John Freed lays out the gender politics at play behind the scenes. ISNU was, after all, an institution where women held great power, at a time when that was rare. But missing historical records make

it difficult to answer key questions about the full scope of the opposition and their motivations. Dunn respected the opposition’s central point—normal schools had a great history in the U.S.

“The opposition had an excellent case,” Dunn said. “But our side was saying yes, this is a great history, but ‘ISU in 62’ will build on this history. It’s a logical next step.”

The tactics were sometimes less than fair. At the time, Harden denied his push for a name change meant he wanted to change ISNU’s mission. Today, he says that’s exactly what he wanted.

And Marshall, a major opponent to the change, in her campus history book *Grandest of Enterprises* selectively omits statements from university founders that show their broader intents for the university beyond teacher training. If she hadn’t, “it would have been game over,” Freed said.

Then-ISNU President Bob Bone was publicly neutral but privately supported the change—a political decision that ultimately paid off. In fact, Bone listed “deleting Normal from name and public’s image of ISNU” and the creation of a graduate college and doctoral programs on a document he wrote in 1957 called “My Ten Year Goals for ISNU,” a document only recently released by his family. Bone preferred leaders like Harden carry the ball.

“They (the opponents) were fighting the inevitable,” Freed said.

Hancock Stadium and Horton Field House opened in 1963, expanding campus westward, and those changes coupled with the increase in enrollment were palpable, said Lynda Lane '66. The “normal school” concept had an old-fashioned connotation, she said, in light of all those changes.

“We were education majors,” said Lane, a longtime teacher and former



Serious name change push proved unsuccessful

1959



1963

Lawmakers in Springfield approve the change in the summer

Name-change takes effect January 1

1964





president of Illinois State's Alumni Association. "We were proud of what we were doing, and I think we wanted it all to look and feel and be a more progressive (name)."

Lawmakers in Springfield approved the change in summer 1963, but it didn't take effect until January. The institution was technically named Illinois State University at Normal until 1967.

At first, the changes were small. Lane remembers having to adjust to the pace of a different I-S-U chant at football games—one letter shorter. Bill Tracy '64, a former *Vidette* editor who reported on the name-change debate, was in the first class to graduate under the ISU banner.

"Everyone was really excited about that," said Tracy, who taught English before going into counseling. "We were proud to be the first class to be able to graduate with ISU on our diplomas."

ISU's bigger changes began in 1966,

when it was recognized formally as a multipurpose "developing" liberal arts university by the Illinois Board of Higher Education, only to have its teacher-training mission partially reinforced by that same board five years later—just as the job market for teachers sank. That lack of a clear mission contributed to ISU's struggle to find an identity in the 1970s and 1980s, Freed said.

And ISU kept growing: Campus added 1,000 new students every year between 1958 and 1970. By 1976, only half of ISU students planned to pursue a career in education, as other colleges such as business and arts and sciences grew. By that time, the economy crashed and state support was drying up.

All that turmoil leads to "what if" speculation: What if leaders had changed the name five years earlier, or five years later, or fought harder to keep its mission? What if leaders had chosen a different name?

It took some time, but ISU would eventually become the University that Harden and his colleagues envisioned—one in which faculty research, teaching, and public service work together as complementary institutional strengths, not as either-or choices. And by changing when it did, the centrally located ISU never became a "directional school"—Central Illinois University was kicked around as a possibility—and is a premier undergraduate institution.

"In the long run, the mission we've now gotten for ourselves has turned out to be a very good one," Freed said. And that mission still includes teacher preparation. Today, about one in four first-year public school teachers hired in the state come from ISU, which touts the largest teacher preparation program in Illinois.

"The fears that the opposition had did not materialize," Dunn said. "We still do a great job on education. But we've added to it."

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A look at some of the other names for ISU that were in place, considered, and/or rejected over the years:



Illinois State Normal University

1967

Technically named Illinois State University at Normal until then

Illinois State University at Normal

Illinois State University for Teacher Education

Central Illinois University



# Inside Look

More than just a place to change into their uniforms and receive pep talks before games, the locker room is a key part to the student-athletes' success on the court and off the court. Private gifts designated to repurpose a former weight room have transformed this space into an area where the Redbirds can hold team meetings, review past games, study, and rest. In this room these players become friends, and these friends become a team.

## 1. A gift that keeps giving

This Redbird Arena men's locker room was made possible thanks to supporters of Athletics including, Tom '72 and Kay Cross; Darrell '64 and Karen Kehl; Larry '69, M.B.A. '70, and Karen Clore; the Don Franke '71 family; and an anonymous donor. Redbirds can be found here around the clock doing homework on the computer stations, watching games on

the two flat screen TVs, reviewing plays, or grabbing some Zs on one of the official Redbird couches. Since the locker room opened, team members spend more time shooting around on the court outside of practice, lending weight to the phrase, "If you build it, they will come."

## 2. Team theatre

This small theatre serves as a perfect place for the team to review footage from past games and analyze their opponents. Once in a while the coaches will even show inspirational sports movies to get players pumped for upcoming games and help the team bond.

## 3. Jamaal Samuel

The 6' 9" sophomore transferred to Illinois State from South Plains College in Texas this season to play forward. He works hard to maintain the student-athlete balance. "You have to have the

mindset that you have to take advantage of the privileges that we have," he said. "Our coach is on top of everything so that push definitely helps us stay on task." Samuel gets psyched before a big game by listening to Lil Wayne.

## 4. Nick Zeisloft

As a sophomore finance major, Zeisloft decided to leverage his natural talent for math and follow his parents into the business field. Maintaining the student-athlete balance can be challenging, which is okay with this shooting guard, who likes to keep busy. "It is more than people expect it to be. It is constantly from one thing to the next. There is not a lot of down time, which is good, because we don't like a lot of down time."

## 5. Bobby Hunter

A junior university studies major, Hunter has been playing basketball since he





was 5. Like his other teammates, the point guard spends the majority of the day in the locker room. Outside of his studies, Hunter likes to keep an eye on SportsCenter to assess the competition and look out for teammates. According to Hunter, the locker room is “kind of like a home outside of home.”

#### 6. Play hard

When they are not studying or practicing, the athletes like to cut loose by playing videogames. Some of their favorites are Call of Duty, FIFA Soccer 13, and NBA 2K13.

#### 7. Always room for improvement

Tightening their individual games is always on top of the team members' minds. The coaches have placed lists of habits for each Redbird to break, so that whether they are relaxing after practice

or playing a game with their friends, they always are reminded of how to improve. Players work hard to break these habits, which are punishable by a bleacher run during practice.

#### 8. Secret door

The locker room used to serve as a weight room. When it was remodeled, contractors had to work with the space they had. These wooden panels emblazoned with the Redbird also hide a secret room. What's inside you ask? Just spare equipment... What did you expect?

#### 9. The lockers

Every locker has a personalized name plate for each player listing his name, number, and where he is from. With teammates hailing from Barbados, Canada, and from all across America, these plates remind them not only where they have come from, but that they all are

here for the same reason. Lockers each contain three practice uniforms, shoes, water bottles, towels, and personal items that vary from player to player.

#### 10. Big shoes to fill

Practice, workouts, and games wear down shoes quickly. Each team member keeps around five pairs of Nikes on hand.

#### 11. Before and after

Preparation for a game begins hours before with stretching, light drills, a team meal, and finally putting on their gear. After every game, the team gathers back in the locker room where Coach Dan Muller '98 talks for 15–20 minutes about what the team did well and what needs to improve. It's a tradition that helps the team stay focused and ready to play even better during the next game.



A large, framed document or chart hangs on the wall, possibly a calendar or a list of names. It contains multiple columns of text.



# EARLIEST EDUCATORS

## REFLECTIONS OF ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE TEACHERS

BY SUSAN MARQUARDT BLYSTONE

The mission was clear.

Illinois State Normal University, founded in 1857 as the ninth state teacher training institution in the nation, existed to prepare educators. For the first four decades, the only curriculum offered was a fundamental teacher preparation sequence that required three years to complete. After 1900, a two-year degree was added, which was sufficient for those planning to teach in rural schools.

The need was great.

ISNU's 1935 catalog states "rural teachers of strong personality and who have also acquired adequate training are in demand. Better trained teachers in Illinois are needed for the 10,000 one-room schools...It is believed that the field of teaching in the rural school offers the greatest opportunity to render service."

The two-year diploma for one-room schoolhouse teachers required 68 credit hours. Beyond the fundamental subjects of math, English, literature and geography, required classes included hygiene, recreational activity, curricular problems and problems in classroom teaching.

Tuition was free to those who pledged to teach in Illinois, and totaled \$37.50 for all others. The cost to a student paying all expenses was approximately \$350 a year. Included in that total was housing, which was \$2 and up for students who stayed with a local resident. Boarding costs were an additional \$4 to \$5 weekly. Students staying on campus in Fell and Smith halls paid a comparable fee.

Supervised observation and student teaching were a requirement, with one-room schoolhouses as the training ground for those who planned to lead such a school after graduation.

ISNU provided transportation for the student teachers. The catalog assured they would be given "ample opportunity to apply practical rural sociology, help in playground activi-

ties, and to become familiar with the basic principles of good teaching methods as they apply in rural school organization."

The training was crucial to providing a comfort level to graduates, who were often not much older than the children they instructed. ISNU enrollment was allowed at age 16, with 15-year-olds admitted with the dean's permission.

Students attending the schoolhouses were as young as 5 and as old as 18. Enrollment could be as large as 25 or as small as four. Boys often only participated in the winter months, as they were needed to help with family farming in the spring and fall.

Most ISNU graduates went straight from the campus to the one-room schools, which began to appear in Illinois following a state legislature act in 1818. In the mid-1800s, female teachers were paid approximately \$14 a month, with the men earning twice that amount. Each gender had strict rules of behavior that grew more lenient over time.

One-room schoolhouses remained the backbone of American education for more than 200 years. By the time of World War II, the era was waning and the little schools were closed as a trend toward consolidation began. Most of the early structures have since been demolished, with some converted into small museums.

While the buildings are largely gone, the memories remain treasured by both those who attended and taught in the setting they acknowledge was primitive. And yet, the one-room schoolhouse proved to be more than sufficient, as ISNU alums will attest.

They vividly recall the enormous workload and are equally quick to speak of the reward. Their stories reveal that the benefits reaped—by student and teacher alike—were without a doubt worth the effort required.





Named after an alumna and retired teacher, the Lura Eystone School Museum is located west of Redbird Arena. Built in 1899, it was among the first of McLean County's nearly 300 one-room schoolhouses. On campus since 1964, it is furnished with wooden desks, chalk slates and a coal stove.

### Trained to master multiple grades

The percentage of individuals who taught or attended a one-room schoolhouse is dwindling to the point that most who hear of the arrangement wonder how it ever worked to teach eight grades in one room. Roy Schilling '35, '40, of Decatur, can answer that question: structure and routine.

Schilling, who will be 100 in June, started teaching at Maple Grove south of Springfield immediately after graduating. He credits his ISNU education for preparing him well.

"I had never attended a rural school, but after two years of intensive training at Illinois State Normal University, I felt very much able to teach. I had such good teachers," said Schilling, who can still name his instructors and the classes he completed in Old Main. "All of my teachers had been excellent motivators and kind, compassionate persons. I was determined to be like them."

There was initially some hesitancy to hire a male teacher, but Schilling landed the job for \$80 a month. He had 18 children from nine families under his watch that first year of teaching.

"They came on horseback, in cozy-cab, buggy, and on foot," Schilling said. He remembers one first grade lad he snatched from the back of the father's

horse and pulled through an open window each morning.

The day started promptly at 9 a.m. for the children, with a morning session going until 10:30. Following a 15-minute recess, lessons began again until lunch at noon. The afternoon routine was similar. Classes were in session from 1 p.m. until a 2:30 recess. The final portion of the day ended at 4 p.m.

"The first graders were tired, so at 3:30 they were done and I let them nap," Schilling said. Most students eagerly listened to the work of the other grades, allowing them to get a solid seven years of education.

"I taught 32 classes a day," Schilling recalled. "Keenly aware that education resulted from the process of teaching and learning, I felt a heavy responsibility as I planned and listened to more than 30 daily recitations."

The work was done without much interruption due to misbehavior. While it took some extra attention when the students went to their separate outhouses away from the school, most understood and met expectations.

"Good discipline was assumed to be the chief order of the day by children and parents, as well as by the teacher," Schilling said, remembering one student who had a propensity for telling lies about her classmates. "There were several occasions which demanded diplomatic attention in order to provide a happy learning environment for all."

He found illness to be more of a struggle than student antics, recalling that he caught mumps, malaria fever and scabies from the children. His absences were rare, however, as finding a substitute was difficult and required that he pay his replacement from his own salary.

Roy Schilling remembers 1935 well, as it was his first year teaching in a one-room school. Dressed in a suit and tie, he is seen standing second from left with his Maple Grove students.







His income jumped significantly when he took a job at a city school, going from \$640 a year to \$800. Schilling stayed in education up to his retirement in 1979, and remains tied to ISU through scholarships he and his wife, Rachel, established.

“The happiness and success of my first year induced me to continue my education and remain in teaching and elementary administration for 44 years,” he said. “For years, when September 1 came around, I wanted to go back to school.”

### The teacher’s work was never done

After experiencing the one-room schoolhouse as a student and a teacher, Verna (Legner) Ahearn ’32 knows firsthand how much easier the education routine is today with buses, electricity and a janitorial staff. The 102-year-old Dwight resident speaks from experience when she recalls the hardships tied to keeping the school of yesteryear comfortable and functional, not to mention the journey required for an education.

“We walked one mile to school. And we were at school most of the time, through the snow and over the drifts,” Ahearn said, explaining that schoolhouses were strategically placed within each county so that no family would journey more than two miles one way. Schools were carved from a corner of a farmer’s field and typically named after the land’s owner.

She attended Borquin School near Odell in Livingston County for eight years, returning in 1932 as the teacher. During the 11 years she ran the one-room school, Ahearn did much more than prepare lessons for students across eight grades.

“You had to sweep the floor and in the cold weather, you made the fire.” Ahearn remembers the school was one large room with a stove in the corner that wasn’t always adequate in removing the winter chill that seeped through the row of windows found on each side. The heat did not reach the entry, where children left their coats and lunches.

“There was a coal and a cob house out away from the school. The cobs got the fire going, and I would use scraps of paper. Then I’d add chunks of coal to burn. My fingers hurt many a morning.”

Sometimes Ahearn relied on the boys to help carry the pails, including those filled with water, as that routine wasn’t any easier. Full buckets often weighed as much as the teacher.

“We got water from a well that was close to the schoolhouse. I pumped a pail and would bring it in. We would wash in a basin and then throw that water out the door.”

The floor was to be swept in the morning and often needed it again in the afternoon. The blackboards had to be cleaned, windows washed, and the sidewalk cleared of snow during winter months.

“I left home early, and I took work home with me,” Ahearn said.

There were lesson plans and worksheets to be made for all the grades, which she did by hand and later with an old typewriter that she still owns. There was also the work of each child to review, as every teacher’s career hinged on the ability of students to advance.

Ahearn lived with her parents to save money during the Depression years. That meant she also had the homestead to help with, planting the family garden and partnering with her mother on the housework. “Everything was hard. It was just hard times and we worked,” Ahearn said.

While teaching was a respected profession, with Ahearn earning a starting salary of about \$80 a month, the job didn’t mean life was easier. In fact, she was not paid her first year because the school did not receive any tax revenue.

“There wasn’t any money. The banks closed the first month I taught school. I got a little piece of paper saying I was owed so much money,” she said. “If I hadn’t been living at home, I would have been out begging.”



Ken Janda '57 attended Moulton School south of Wilmington in Illinois. He is bottom left in the classroom photo from the 1940s.

Raymond Bruzan, M.S. '70, attended Hopewell School in Southern Illinois. The one-room schoolhouse, shown center in 2000, has been demolished.

Ruth Ryder shared a photo of the Monticello schoolhouse, right, which stood not far from her Illinois birth home.

Donald Gruber, Ed.D. '98, shared two photos of the schoolhouse where his mother taught in the 1940s. School Number 2 in Nelson County, North Dakota, was last used in the 1960s and now stands abandoned.

Verna Ahearn recalls children would fight for the chance to help clean erasers. She fondly remembers her students, shown at the schoolhouse near Odell.

## Remembering rigid classes and students' tough tests

Ask Ruth (Blacker) Ryder '38 about the focus on testing in classrooms today, and she will share a history that proves one-room schoolhouse students faced a more intense curriculum and exams than often now exist.

Ryder, 96 and living in Normal, knew the rigors as a student. She attended Prairie Dell in Piatt County for eight years. She taught there as well, hired at \$75 a month immediately upon receiving her two-year diploma from ISNU.

She still has it and the curriculum book from her first year of teaching, a document created by the county superintendent to detail what was expected of every student and each grade level.

"A suggested rotation of classes was listed in the Course of Study, and teachers were advised not to vary from this except in special circumstances,"

Ruth Ryder remembers the school year started at Labor Day and concluded in April. She is shown at far right with her students from 1939.



Ryder said. The fifth and seventh grades were taught every other year, which meant some students took reading and history out of sequence.

The county superintendent determined the required texts, which each student purchased at a local drugstore or acquired from an older sibling. Ryder ordered reprints of famous paintings at a cost of two cents each for the study of art.

"We had no specialized teachers of the fine arts. The teacher was expected to teach not just the academic subjects but also music and art," Ryder said, recalling her struggles as one who "couldn't carry a tune."

Beyond the core academic subjects, students had orthography lessons to learn Latin and Greek roots of English words. They had Nature Study, which was based on agricultural issues given the farming society of the day. Ryder especially remembers the lectures on Morals and Manners.

"I taught proper behaviors and such things as how to introduce oneself and how to answer a telephone, which was new to many students or not yet in their homes," Ryder said. "Lessons covered topics such as good character, industry, obedience, punctuality, good manners, frugality, courtesy and truthfulness,"

She had no problem keeping order in the classroom, as the students had seatwork when other grades were being taught, and they knew her rules of behavior. "I directed each group of students

### 1872 RULES FOR TEACHERS

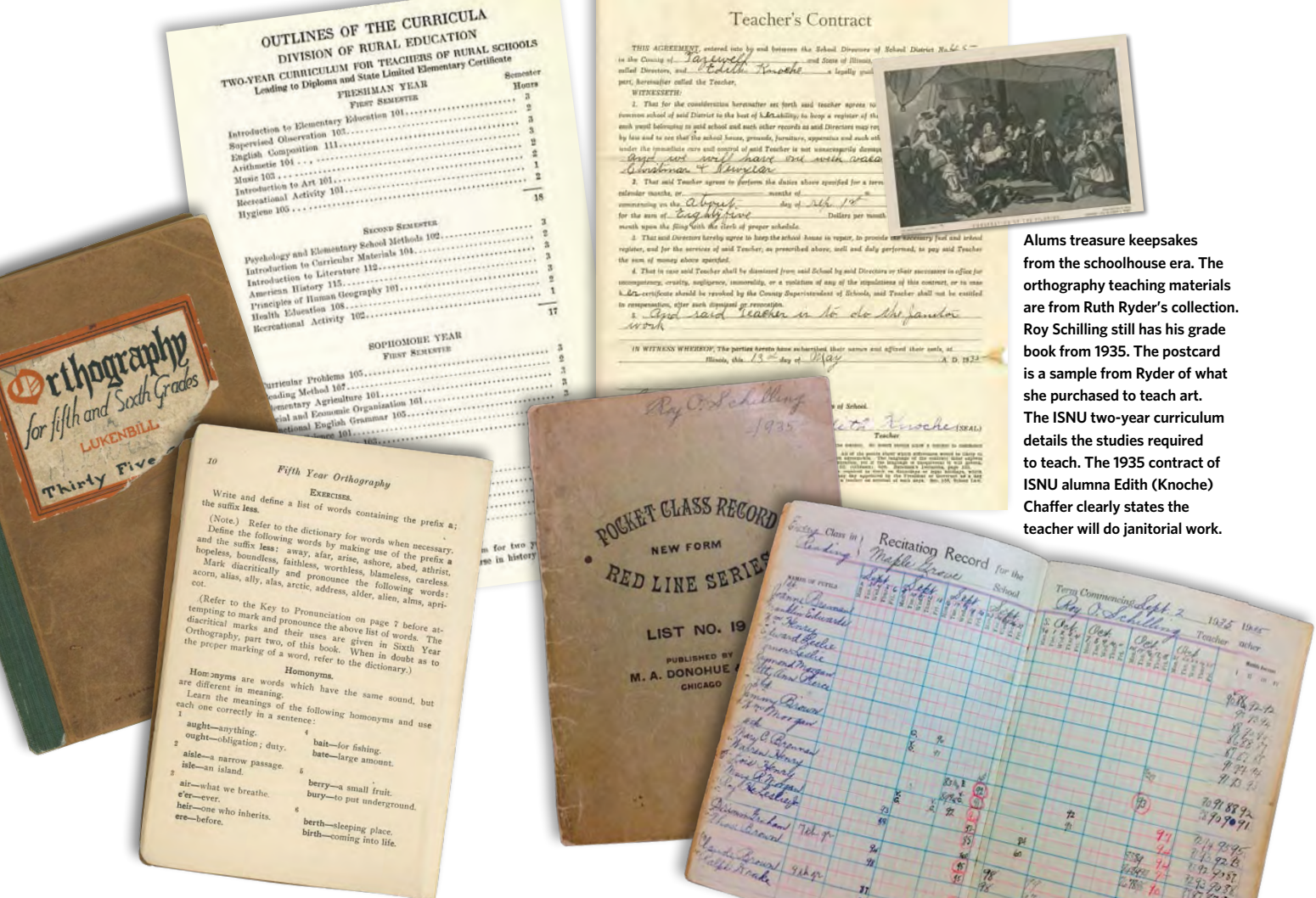
1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
5. After ten hours in school, teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each day's pay a goodly sum of his earning for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.

### 1915 RULES FOR TEACHERS

1. You will not marry during the term of your contract.
2. You are not to keep company with men.
3. You must be home between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. unless attending a school function.
4. You may not loiter downtown in ice cream stores.
5. You may not travel beyond the city limits unless you have the permission of the chairman of the board.
6. You may not ride in a carriage or automobile with any man unless he is your father or brother.
7. You may not smoke cigarettes.
8. You may not dress in bright colors.
9. You may under no circumstances dye your hair.
10. You must wear at least two petticoats.
11. Your dresses must not be any shorter than two inches above the ankle.
12. To keep the school room neat and clean, you must sweep the floor at least once daily, scrub the floor at least once a week with hot, soapy water, clean the blackboards at least once a day and start the fire at 7 a.m. so the room will be warm by 8 a.m.

*Taken from One-Room Schools of Knox County, by the Knox County Retired Teachers Association*





Alums treasure keepsakes from the schoolhouse era. The orthography teaching materials are from Ruth Ryder's collection. Roy Schilling still has his grade book from 1935. The postcard is a sample from Ryder of what she purchased to teach art. The ISNU two-year curriculum details the studies required to teach. The 1935 contract of ISNU alumna Edith (Knoche) Chaffer clearly states the teacher will do janitorial work.

with the order, 'Turn, Rise, Pass.' They would turn from their desks, rise, and proceed to the recitation bench, books in hand."

Most students benefited from hearing the upper grade lessons and they were diligent, as they knew test day was coming.

"Quarterly exam questions were written by the county superintendent and sent by mail to the teacher," Ryder recalled. "Of greatest importance were the seventh and eighth grade exams. These were county-wide exams, given on a Saturday at the county seat, and students were required to pass them before progressing to the next grade."

An intense review was provided for the students, as a rural teacher's future depended on the student exam performance. "One of my directors would not confirm my contract would be extended for a second year until after he saw the county exam results," Ryder remembered.

She wonders if students today could pass the tests. They were so rigorous, it was not unusual for many students to end their education at the eighth grade.

## Fun and frolic created happy memories

While the plethora of extra-curricular activities that students expect today didn't exist during the era of one-room schoolhouses, children still had ample opportunities to do more than learn the required lessons.

Wilda (Yoder) Kennedy '39, '59, enjoyed the special programs and games that remain some of her fondest memories from her days as a student in two different one-room schools. She also taught, initially at Phelps School south of Fairbury and later at Metz School near Forrest, where her mother had led students years earlier.

The cozy atmosphere of a one-room schoolhouse is what Wilda Kennedy most enjoyed as both a student and teacher. She had 11 students total in 1939, shown at Phelps School near Fairbury.







Recess games were simple but fun. Ruth Ryder remembers many detailed in the book shown above, including Fox and Goose, Dare Base, and Bad Man. Children often opted for the traditional game of baseball or just enjoyed the winter weather, as shown in photos from Wilda Kennedy's teaching days.



Kennedy had 13 students her first year on the job, with enrollment down to seven her second year. Her salary was approximately \$90 a month, with another \$3.75 negotiated to serve as a pension.

"We earned our money, but it was fun," Kennedy said. She relished the opportunity to interact so closely with each child. They would huddle with her when eating their lunches, which were brought from home. A recess scheduled each morning and afternoon also created special memories, as the teachers joined in the games.

"We played with them, and not only to control them better," Kennedy said, remembering the enjoyable moments shared. Not even the dresses required for the girls kept them from heartily engaging in competition that varied from a challenge on a baseball diamond to games long forgotten, including Anty Over, which Kennedy still knows well.

The children split into two groups, each on separate sides of the schoolhouse. The shout "Anty, anty over" meant the ball was coming across the top of the building. If caught, the team would chase around the school to tag classmates. If not caught, the cry would go out again and the ball would come across from the other side.

Kennedy remembers the suspense, not only of the wait to find out if classmates were about to charge, but the worry of an errant throw knocking out a window. Order was always quickly restored, however, with a hand bell that she still possesses and treasures.

Ruth Ryder and Roy Schilling appreciated the opportunity to visit the Lura Eyestone School Museum on campus. Both affirmed that the classroom closely resembles the one-room schools where they happily taught.



She has equally fond memories of the holidays, including Valentine's Day, Halloween, and the end-of-year picnic. The Christmas program was always a highlight. The entire community gathered for the event, which had to be planned and practiced in addition to the daily routine of studies.

"There were guidelines published," Kennedy recalled. "We were admonished to make the program grow out of school activities, be worth taking school time for, be built around some central theme, include some music, have variety, have appropriate...staging and costuming, and have as much participation by all, audience included, as possible."

Her first year teaching, Kennedy chose a Christmas Around the World theme. In addition to the standard carols of the season, she added a new song titled "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

"I recall that I received a copy from Montgomery Ward as a promotion, so we learned it too and they all loved it," said Kennedy, who is now 98 and lives in Chenoa.

"People were good about attending and the parents were involved. School was a part of the social life for the community, as there was no television," said Kennedy, who ended her work as a one-room schoolhouse teacher when she married, as that remained an unspoken rule of the era.



### In their own words

View a video of the four featured alumni at [IllinoisState.edu/Magazine](http://IllinoisState.edu/Magazine). Thoughts from others who responded to an Illinois State request for one-room schoolhouse memories are also shared.



Former  
**REDBIRD**  
★ ★ STAR ★ ★



*makes*  
UNLIKELY RETURN  
TO  
**BIG LEAGUES**

*by Kevin Bersett*

Texas Rangers relief pitcher Neal Cotts needed only a few minutes and six pitches to get three consecutive outs May 21, 2013, against the top of the Oakland A's order. It was a nice one-inning outing for Cotts. What made it remarkable was that he was appearing in his first major league game in four years.

Cotts, who starred at Illinois State from 1999 to 2001, made his Arsenio Hall-like return against the same team that had drafted him and eight seasons after he helped the Chicago White Sox win their first World Series in 88 years. Elbow and hip injuries had kept him out of the big leagues since May 2009.

“I was really nervous, just getting back in there,” Cotts, 33, a native of Lebanon, Illinois, said in a clubhouse interview in Chicago. “Once I got the first out, everything calmed a little bit.”

The rest of the season Cotts made hitters nervous. He surrendered only seven earned runs all of last season. He had the lowest ERA (1.11) on his team and the fifth lowest ERA among American League relievers with at least 20 innings pitched. His eight wins led American League relievers.

Those who know Cotts well aren't surprised by his comeback, which has garnered widespread media attention.

“One of the things that I respect about Neal is that he is a realist,” said David Bergman '78, who is the only Redbird to be drafted higher than Cotts and the only other Redbird to play in a World Series. “When he told me, ‘David, I think I can still pitch in the big leagues’—when he says that, I absolutely believe him.”

Redbird pitching coach Tim Johnson.

But by his sophomore year Cotts had become the top pitcher on a staff that featured three other major league prospects, Stewart said.

“We knew what we had in Neal,” Stewart said.

Cotts was athletic and pitched with good deception, movement, and velocity.

But the intangibles were what set him apart. Stewart said the only other player whom he had coached that could match Cotts' competitiveness was Jeff Brantley, a former Missis-

## WHAT A STRANGE TRIP IT'S BEEN

**JUNE 5, 2001**

Drafted 69th overall by the Oakland Athletics, making him the second highest draft pick in Illinois State history.

**DECEMBER 16, 2002**

Traded to the Chicago White Sox.

**AUGUST 12, 2003**

Makes major league debut at age 23, a start in which he gives up two runs in 2.1 innings.



**OCTOBER 26, 2005**

Wins World Series as a key reliever for the White Sox.

**DECEMBER 15, 2005**

Wins Setup Man of the Year Award for season in which he finishes 4-0 with a 1.94 ERA.

**NOVEMBER 16, 2006**

Traded to the Chicago Cubs.

**JULY 2009**

Undergoes season-ending Tommy John surgery. Doesn't pitch in another big league game until 2013.



His former Redbird head coach, Jeff Stewart, is now a San Diego Padres scout. A scout told Stewart that he thought Cotts was the best left-handed reliever in the major leagues. Stewart thought Cotts was pitching better than he did early in his career when he earned a compliment from one of that era's top hitters.

“Rafael Palmeiro told me, ‘Stew, when Neal throws the ball, I swear it seemed like I couldn't see it till it got to the circle. He's deceptive,’” Stewart recalled. “He said, ‘Cotts' 90 (mph pitch) looked like 100.’ He was pitching back then, usually like 88 to 92, while now he is 90–94, maybe bumping 95. The slider that Neal threw wasn't a great one. And now the scouts are telling me that they think it's a cutter. It's an out pitch against hitters from both sides of the plate.”



Cotts' return to the major leagues was as unlikely as his arrival. He didn't think he had a shot at the pros until his junior year at Illinois State. He had been lightly recruited out of high school, and only got a look from the Redbirds because his high school coach knew then-

sippi State star who pitched for 14 seasons in the major leagues.

“Brantley was so competitive, so driven, so focused,” Stewart said. “Well, that's Neal. When you gave Neal the ball at the beginning, he didn't want to talk to you again until the game was over.”

Cotts' best season at Illinois State was in 2001. He led the Redbirds to a 31-22 record, had a 2.89 ERA, and struck out 113 batters (second highest in school history). That performance persuaded the A's to draft him in the second round.

Cotts was eventually traded to the White Sox, who brought him up to the majors in 2003 and switched him from a starting pitcher to a reliever. He had a magical 2005 season, helping the White Sox to the championship by not



giving up a run in the postseason and winning Game 2 of the World Series. After the season, he was named the Setup Man of the Year.

Cotts struggled in 2006 and was traded to the Chicago Cubs the following year. He bounced between the Cubs' major league and minor league clubs for three seasons before he hurt his elbow in 2009. Tommy John (elbow) surgery was followed by hip surgeries and a related infection. He was subsequently signed and released by the Pittsburgh Pirates and the New York Yankees.



and by working toward a finance degree at Illinois State. Cotts had been a good student during his collegiate career and was twice named to the Missouri Valley Conference's Scholar-Athlete

resented the Rangers' top prospect at the time, Jurickson Profar, may have helped him get a look from the team.

"I had no idea what was going to happen to be honest with you," Cotts said. "I didn't want to end it where I never ever got back on the mound and I would have been sitting at home going, 'Well what would have happened? What could have happened?'"

Cotts almost made the major league team but got injured on the last day of spring training.



**JANUARY 4, 2010**

Signed by the Pittsburgh Pirates.

**FEBRUARY 20, 2012**

Signed by Texas Rangers to a minor league contract.

**JUNE 2010**

Undergoes hip surgery.

**APRIL 3, 2012**

Assigned to Texas Rangers' top minor league team after injuring left lat muscle.

**NOVEMBER 19, 2010**

Signed by the New York Yankees.



**MAY 21, 2013**

Pitches scoreless inning for Texas Rangers in first major league appearance in four years.

**SEPTEMBER 30, 2013**

Finishes season with 8-3 record and 1.11 ERA.

**OCTOBER 5, 2013**

Named a finalist for the Hutch Award, given annually to player who displays honor, courage, and dedication.

**DECEMBER 2, 2013**

Tendered a contract by the Rangers.

"It was difficult after he got released," Stewart said. "Heck, there were teams working him out, watching him throw the snot out of the ball, and nobody would do anything because of the fear that they may get involved with a workmen's comp situation because of the hip or they might turn Neal into a cripple."

The Yankees cut him abruptly, in 2011, after a doctor reviewed his medical record.

"They weren't the only ones," Cotts said. "I had a physical with the Phillies. My agent had conversations with different teams. Once the medical stuff got there, it kind of ended. In fairness to them, it's a business; it doesn't look real pretty probably on paper."

Cotts took advantage of the time off by spending time with his two young children and his wife, who live in Chicago,

first team. He gave back to Illinois State by turning over a signing bonus that helped fund improvements at the University's baseball field.

Bergman had urged Cotts to go back to school to prepare for life after baseball. Stewart had introduced the pair when Cotts was drafted so he could get advice on money matters from Bergman, a financial advisor, and the two have become good friends.

"Illinois State couldn't have a better ambassador for the University than Neal Cotts because he is a very humble young man who has a heart of fire," Bergman said.

Cotts held out hope for a major league return even though his agent told him he couldn't find him a team. But then in 2012 the Rangers invited him to spring training. Cotts said the fact his agent rep-

He recovered and ended up pitching for the Rangers' top minor league team in 2012. He returned healthy last year and had a microscopic 0.78 ERA in the minors when the Rangers called him up in May.

"It's been exciting," Cotts said. "You never think about it as a hard job or hard to come back from. I just always wanted to get back out there and compete and see if my body could hold up. It was a challenge."

The Rangers ended their season by losing a one-game playoff for a Wild Card spot, a game in which Cotts threw another scoreless inning. The Rangers have tendered him a contract for this season, with the details yet to be worked out as this story went to press.

"Remember now, he's got a fresh arm," Bergman said. "He could pitch another six, seven, eight years."

# AlumniConnections



## Graduates appreciate Alumni Center

Campus site remains inviting gathering place

**A**fter waiting decades to have a campus home for graduates, the University opened an Alumni Center in the summer of 2008. Now nearly six years since the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the building that welcomes visitors as well as alumni is still appreciated.

Located on North Main Street and situated just off of the local interstate interchanges, the Alumni Center is within a mile of the Quad. It creates a campus gateway, increases visibility of the Alumni Association, and provides a home for alumni as one means of strengthening their connection to campus.

The Illinois State University Foundation made the building possible, forming

a real estate entity to purchase what had been vacated property and creating a leasing agreement with the University. Today there are offices for nearly 100 staff members in Alumni Relations, the Foundation, Development, University Marketing and Communications, and Conference Services.

There are also myriad visitors throughout the year, as the center is a popular place for individuals to schedule personal and professional events. The building was specifically designed to offer options not available at other campus sites, with three conference rooms of varying size available. Each has sophisticated data and presentation wiring, with

wireless Internet connection also available in the center.

All of the open spaces are flexible, allowing for functional meetings or sophisticated meals. There are 200 parking spaces adjacent, and an ambiance that is relaxing. A fireplace made of natural sandstone and soft seating throughout the great hall and entrance make the center inviting.

Opportunities still exist to bring your group to the Alumni Center this year. For more information about rental prices and availability, call (309) 438-2403 or email [jtvanhe@Illinois State.edu](mailto:jtvanhe@Illinois State.edu). And the next time you visit campus, take time to tour the Alumni Center. It remains a place for all Redbirds to call home.



## Alumni return for milestone anniversary

Graduates from the Class of 1964 will celebrate their 50th class reunion on May 2 and 3 during the annual Half Century Club event. A variety of activities will take place across campus, including luncheons, tours, and information sessions. The Class of 1964 will be inducted into the Half Century Club on Friday evening.

Members of the classes of 1959, 1954, 1949, 1944, and 1939 who will be celebrating their 55th, 60th, 65th, 70th and 75th reunions from ISNU will be honored at the Saturday luncheon and receive a special recognition gift.

The annual program gives alumni an opportunity to catch up with classmates, make new acquaintances, participate in exclusive behind-the-scenes tours, and learn what's new at Illinois State. The events are not exclusive to the honored years. Any alumnus or friend of the University is invited to attend any or all of the Half Century Club activities.

For additional information, contact Alumni Relations at (309) 438-2586 or (800) 366-4478, or email Stephanie Duquette at [saduke@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:saduke@IllinoisState.edu).



## Vintage contest ends with two alum winners

Alums appreciate the opportunity to purchase Redbird attire that reflects the ISU look from when they attended. The Redbird Vintage line offers merchandise that features logos from the University's first use of a redbird insignia in the 1930s through the appearance of the "thumb's-up" Reggie in the 1980s.

Many graduates who still have photos of themselves wearing the dated look of yesteryear shared their pictures during a contest that ended in January. The winners were chosen after the deadline for this issue of *Illinois State*. Learn about them and see a gallery of submitted contest photos at [IllinoisState.edu/Magazine](http://IllinoisState.edu/Magazine). To purchase vintage items, go to [IllinoisState.edu/Vintage](http://IllinoisState.edu/Vintage).

## Deadline approaches for awards nomination

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

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

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

## Chi Omega chapter celebrates campus legacy

Students involved in ISU's Greek community remember March for a much different reason than basketball. It's the month for a dance show that began in 1976 when the women of Chi Omega hosted a competition among the Greeks to honor member Jody Swanson.

Swanson was diagnosed with cancer and treated at the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Peoria. Competition proceeds went to St. Jude that year and until the early 2000s, when Chi Omega started supporting the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

The March Madness dance competition continues to unite ISU's Greek

community to benefit a wonderful cause. Fraternities and sororities practice for months to battle for first, second and third place awards. During the show, a Make-A-Wish child tells about a dream that came true through the foundation. Last year's event raised \$27,000, with the goal expected to increase annually.

This year, as the show marks 38 years, the Chi Omega Rho Kappa chapter celebrates its 40th anniversary. Members will host events April 11-12. Alumni are invited to participate in campus tours, dinners, and chapter home visits. Go to [Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/ChiOmega](http://Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/ChiOmega) for more information.

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

Update your information at [Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/Update](http://Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/Update)

The advertisement features a red background. On the left, a smartphone displays the newsletter's mobile version. On the right, a tablet displays the desktop version. The newsletter content includes a headline about a student becoming the youngest graduate and a section about a speaker offering personal insights to new students.

# ClassNotes



## Teaching global life lessons

Alumnus joins students in outreach to Uganda

**M**atthew Clifford '05, M.S. '07, has a passion for giving back and an interest in global events, which is not surprising given his work as an international studies teacher. After completing degrees in history, he joined the teaching team at Vernon Hills High School, where he also helps coach girls track. He eagerly became involved in the school's project to construct St. Jerome School in Kapeeka, Uganda. He and his wife, Julie (Wodzien) '06, had previously sponsored a child in Africa. He was ready to do more.

"Our school had been sponsoring the construction there for about five years, and I wanted to do some good. There were two trips with teachers and

students, and I felt like I couldn't pass up the opportunity," Clifford said. He joined a Vernon Hills team in late July of last year. The 15-day trip was supported through an Illinois Catholic program called COVE Alliance.

"It's a great way for kids to look at a different role in the developing world," Clifford said of the journey. Seeing the work in progress was exciting for the students, as Vernon Hills had raised money used to construct a building for first through fifth graders at St. Jerome in 2009. Fundraising has continued since that time.

When Clifford and the others arrived in Kapeeka, they immediately noticed how the children were poor-

ly clothed. Clifford reached out to Illinois State, and the Office of Admissions donated several T-shirts. The children only have about one or two shirts to wear for an entire year. ISU's donation was consequently "received with happiness and gratitude," Clifford said. He also gave an ISU flag to a teacher at St. Jerome, who had the students carry it at a local soccer tournament in appreciation of the University's generosity.

"Being in Uganda and living among such poverty was one of the most humbling experiences of my life. Helping the students and families of Kapeeka was one of the greatest honors I have ever experienced," Clifford said. "It was wonderful that ISU could be a part of that."



## 60s

**Ray Rogina '69, M.S. '72**, is mayor of Saint Charles, where he resides.

## 70s

**Elaine (Edwards) Boyer '70** retired after teaching elementary school for 38 years in Downers Grove. She and her husband, Jim, reside in Naperville.

**Ronald Hughes '71, M.S. '72**, worked for more than 40 years in higher education admissions, beginning at Illinois State. He has retired as the director of enrollment services and registrar from Macomb Community College in Michigan. His wife, **Elizabeth (Pickering) Hughes '71, M.S. '73**, retired from Henry Ford Community College after nearly 19 years. They reside in Livonia, Michigan.

**Douglas Bammann '73** retired from Sandia National Laboratories as a distinguished member of the technical staff. He has been honored for an invention noted as one of the top 100 in the world. He is the Billy J. Ball Professor of the Bagley College of Engineering at Mississippi State University. A scuba diving instructor, he resides in Starkville, Mississippi.

**Carole Halicki '73** is marketing/promotions manager for PZAZZ Catfish Bend Casino FunCity in Burlington, Iowa. She is a former *Vidette* editor and resides in Pekin.

**Irvin Howard '74, M.S. '78, Ed.D. '80**, is professor emeritus of the College of Education at California State University. He has been elected president of the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. His term extends through October of 2015. He is also director of grant programs for the California League of Schools. He resides in Redlands, California.

**Joanne (Weglarz) Schochat '75** is an educational consultant and resides in Forest Park.

**Toni Armstrong Jr. '76** is the founder of BLAST (Bi, Lesbian and Straight Together) Women of the Palm Beaches, a women's network that has more than 1,300 members. She and her partner, Janis Kidder, reside in Riviera Beach, Florida.

**Edward M. Bury '76** is a communications professional. He has been appointed coordinator of public information at the Urban Transportation Center, a research unit at the University of Illinois-Chicago. He resides in Avondale.

**Mark Murphy, M.S. '76**, is the vice president of finance with Aramco Services Company. He has been with the company 30 years and previously taught at ISU. He and his wife, Denise, are the parents of three children and reside in Houston, Texas.

**Rebecca "Reb" (Oldham) Reed '76** retired from Springfield District 186 after teaching adapted physical education for 31 years and serving two years as the assistive technology instructional leader. She coached Special Olympics all 33 years in the district. She and her husband, David, reside in Edinburg.

**Michael (Ludens) Williams '76** is a hearing itinerant with Ogle County Educational Cooperative. She and her husband, Brian, reside in Stillman Valley.

**Debbie Mallaney '77** teaches at Christ Our King, Stella Maris School. She resides in North Charleston, South Carolina.

**Deborah Yates, '77, M.S. '82**, is a registered nurse. She is clinical nutrition manager for Sarasota Health and Rehabilitation Center. She and her husband, **Richard '77**, reside in Sarasota, Florida.

**Kaye (Freehill) Coit '78** retired from teaching elementary music for Monticello CUSD 25 after 34 years. She and her husband, Ron, reside in Farmer City.

**Gordon Duguid '78** is a foreign service officer with the U.S. Department of State. He is serving as deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade, Serbia.

**Debbie (Flittner) Schrader '78** is the educational liaison on the pediatric cochlear implant team at House Research Institute in Los Angeles. Her husband, **Brian '79**, is a senior project manager at Bank of America in Pasadena. They reside in Burbank, California.

**Mark Travers '78** is the principal and executive vice president for global

# Pause for applause



## Leading while learning

**Lora John '11** is getting a leg up in her career as an ambassador for the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) for the current academic year. The biology graduate is the only ambassador chosen in New York. She serves on the national board as the liaison between APTA and students enrolled in the Doctor of Physical Therapy and Physical Therapy Assistant programs across New York. A student herself in the doctoral program at Clarkson University, John has the honor of making APTA presentations as well as completing a physical therapy advocacy project and making a legislative visit at the state or national level.

## Willing and able



Illinoisans participating in the primary election next month will find a Redbird on the ballot, as **Dan Rutherford '78** is in the running for governor. A Republican in a solid Democratic state, Rutherford is the only candidate from his party to have already won a statewide election. He is currently Illinois State Treasurer and has held that office since 2010. His political career began as an Illinois legislative assistant. He went on to serve a decade in the Illinois House of Representatives. A conservationist and adventurer who has visited all continents, Rutherford is also a pilot, skydiver, and certified scuba diver.

## Recognized role model

**LaVerne Council, M.B.A. '86**, is CEO of Council Advisory Services LLC; former corporate vice president and chief information officer for Johnson & Johnson's Global IT Group; and chair of the March of Dimes Board of Trustees. She has been honored as an outstanding corporate and community leader, role model, mom and inspiration to the African-American community by being named the 2013 Phi Beta Sigma Image Award recipient. Her influence was noted by *Black Enterprise* in 2010 and *Business Trends Quarterly* that same year. Her involvement in the March of Dimes began at age five, and grew with the premature birth of her son.



## Global health fight

Health education graduate **Alan Janssen '75** has been working to combat polio and eliminate the disease in Nigeria through his position as the health communication specialist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Center for Global Health in Georgia. He received the agency's Excellence in Frontline Public Health Service-International award for his efforts in working toward polio elimination. Part of the multi-year project involves helping enhance polio communications and social mobilization efforts. The Nigeria team's effort is supported by collaborations with Rotary International, UNICEF, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Health, and World Health Organization.



## How we met

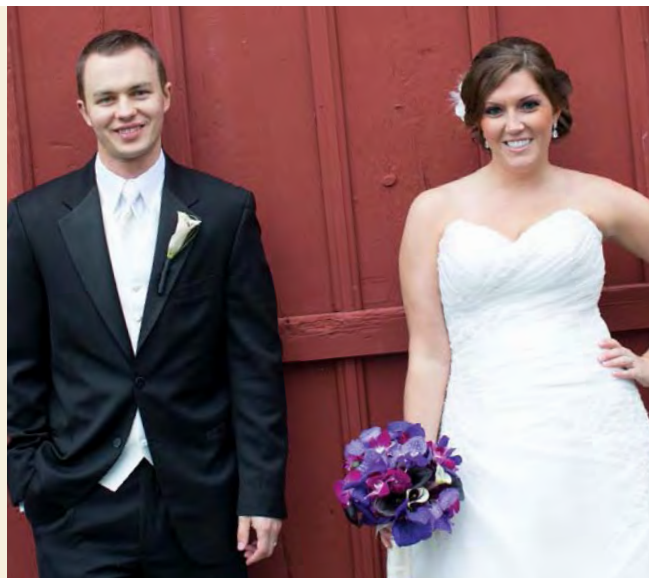
Brad Melzer '08 and Lauren Leggett '08 met in Elk Grove Village while attending Stevenson Elementary School. They not only attended school together, but also played soccer for the park district. In fourth grade, Lauren moved away. She expected to never cross paths with Brad again.

After a year of attending a small private college in Iowa, Lauren transferred to Illinois State for her sophomore year in 2005. Brad immediately recognized her as his old elementary school friend and reached out to her. The two soon began seeing each other.

Friends teased Lauren about her first date: Brad escorted her to the top of Watterson Towers. They made things official shortly after and became a serious couple. "We have so many fun memories of our time together at Illinois State. We especially loved to walk around the Quad and talk for hours," Lauren said.

Brad graduated with a double major in political science and history, going on to attend law school in Indiana. Lauren began working in Naperville after graduating with a degree in insurance.

After five years, Brad proposed to Lauren and the couple wed in September 2012. Brad works as the assistant state's attorney in Kane County, while Lauren is the regional technology director at Hanover Insurance. They both love reflecting on their time at ISU, realizing that if they had not each chosen to attend the University, their childhood bond would not have been rekindled.



practice development of ENVI-RON Holdings, Inc. He travels the globe routinely with his wife, Nancy. They reside in Singapore.

**Bill Pence '79** is a manager in the IT department of State Farm Insurance Companies. He and his wife, Tammy, reside in Normal.

**Kim (McDonough) Zinman '79** has retired from Wheeling School District 21 after 33 years as an educator. She was a bilingual teacher, bilingual coordinator and elementary school principal. She is widowed and resides in Park Ridge.

## 80s

**Linda (Kotte) Adams '80** retired from Gibbs High School after 24 years as a high school library media specialist. She served another 14 years in other locations. She and her husband, Tim, reside in Knoxville, Tennessee.

**Jeffrey Kraft '81** is the managing director of Marketing Works, Inc. He and his wife, Frances, reside in River Forest.

**Sandra A. (Miller) Radvanyi, M.M. '82**, is the artistic director and plays the character of Dr. Merry Kay

with Fools for Health Clown-Doctor Program in Ontario. The charity entertains hospital and long-term care patients. She directs the choirs at Central United Church. She and her husband have two adult daughters and two granddaughters. The couple resides in Amherstburg, Ontario.

**Brian Kierna '83** is a general manager for Demeter LP/Seegers Grain Division. He is the president of the Grain and Feed Association of Illinois. He and his wife, Nancy are the parents of two daughters and reside in Woodstock.

**Steve Preis '83** has completed 38 years as an educator and is in his ninth year as principal at Desert Meadows School in the Laveen Elementary School District. He resides in Phoenix, Arizona.

**Dave Wozniak '83** is principal operations manager for Nova Services, Inc., which is a construction engineering firm. He and his wife, Kelly, reside in San Diego, California.

**Mary (Aaker) DeMaegd '86** is an elementary school teacher with Round Lake School District 116. She resides in Lake Villa.

**Susan Hagerty '86** has planned more than 1,600 weddings in her 20 years as an event planner. She is manager of Donley's Village Hall Banquets in Union.

**Samuel Mungo '86** is voice area coordinator and director of opera studies at Texas State University. His production of Ibert's "Angelique" was named Opera Production of the Year for 2012 by the National Opera Association. He and his wife, Brigitte, are the parents of two children and reside in Kyle, Texas.

**Vicki Vaughan '86** taught and coached for 11 years at the Colorado Springs School. She was the only PE teacher in Colorado Springs to be certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in physical education in 2012. She is True-Sport Curriculum and partnership manager with the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. She resides in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**David Portree, M.S. '87**, is manager of the NASA/USGS Regional Planetary Information Facility, U.S. Geological Survey Astrogeology Science Center in Arizona. He participated in the first Friends

and Partners in Space Workshop in Russia, and has worked as an author and historian. He promotes child car safety after an accident that killed his wife and injured his daughter. He resides in Flagstaff, Arizona.

**Toni (Wood) Seminick '87** is a program management senior advisor in infrastructure service delivery for Dell, Inc. She and her husband, Mike, reside in Bradenton, Florida.

**Bernard Beoletto '88** is advertising manager at *The Pantagraph*. He and his wife, Holly, reside in Bloomington.

**Jennifer Bloom '88** is a clinical professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policies at the University of South Carolina. She was featured in a *Chronicle of Higher Education* ad to help launch the newspaper's social media initiative. She and her husband, Steve Sanderson, reside in Gilbert, South Carolina.

**Adriana Mino-Garces, M.S. '88**, is working at the Unidad Educativa Julio Verne in the Inclusive Education project. She resides in Ecuador.



**Scott Brouette '89** is the assistant director for student services at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities. He and his partner, **Joseph Rives, M.S. '90, Ph.D. '94**, reside in Moline.

**Martha (Norris) O'Sullivan '89** is a freelance writer and author. Her trilogy opener, *Second Chance*, was released in September from Red Sage Publishing. The others, *Chance Encounter* and *Last Chance*, were released in October and November, respectively. She and her husband, Dan, reside in Lithia, Florida.

**Karen Pope '89** is information services coordinator for McLean County Center for Human Services. She resides in Bloomington.

**Raymond Russell '89** has retired as superintendent of CUSD 709. He and his wife, Nanette, reside in Morton.

## 90s

**William McKinley '90** completed a master's of divinity at Fuller Theological Seminary. He anticipates serving as an ordained minister in the Lutheran faith. He resides in Pittsburg, California.

**Theresa Ferguson '92** was selected from runners across the country to participate in a national running program in 2013. She worked with a former Olympic trial marathoner and together they ran a marathon last fall. She and her husband, **John '92**, are the parents of six daughters and reside in Wheaton.

**Ingrid (Dowell) Peelle '92** retired from teaching and is now a physical therapist. She directed "Evil Dead: The Musical" at a local theater last fall. She and her husband, Brian, are parents and reside in Peoria.

**Amy Bleich '93** is a licensing sales specialist with American Academy of Pediatrics. She resides in Elk Grove.

**Steven DePasquale '93** has been named Kankakee Community College's John M. Fulton Distinguished Alumnus. He is a history professor at the college and resides in Manteno.

**Molly (Scott) Nichols '93** is senior account executive with Cumulus Media. She and her husband, Eric, reside in Jefferson City, Missouri.

**Michael Overby, M.B.A. '93**, is the director of direct sales at COUNTRY Financial. He has earned Chartered Financial Consultant and Chartered Life Underwriter designations and Project Management Professional certification. He and his wife, Karen, are the parents of two sons and reside in Bloomington.

**Margaret Tennis '93** is an Illinois Wesleyan University associate professor emeritus. She and her husband, Richard, reside in Eureka.

**Kyle Hendren '94** is the marketing programs manager with Ply Gem Windows. He and his wife, Angie, reside in Wake Forest, North Carolina.

**Thomas Hunter Sr. '94** is director of community relations with Davidson County Sheriff's Office in Tennessee. He began his career in the sheriff's office as an offender treatment counselor. He is also an associate minister at Saint James Missionary Baptist Church. He is an active community volunteer and resides in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Gretchen Peters '95** has completed an M.B.A. at The Kellogg Graduate School of Business at Northwestern University. She is vice president of ecommerce at Catamaran, Inc. She and her husband, Andy Stump, reside in Naperville.

**Christopher Zervic '95** is an attorney with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in the Department of Homeland Security in Essex, Vermont. He is the father of three children. He and his wife reside in Norwich, New York.

**Marselus Martin '97** teaches seventh grade language arts and coaches the eighth grade girls' volleyball team at Spring Forest Middle School. He resides in Houston, Texas.

**Jerry Myers '97** is associate professor of music at St. Louis Community College at Meramec, where he serves as the director of choral activities and coordinator of music. He and his wife, Laura, are the parents of two children. Leanna

Elizabeth was born in July of 2013. They reside in Fenton, Missouri.

**Adam Clark '98** is the clinical sales director of the California region for Intuitive Surgical, makers of the da Vinci robot. He and his family reside in Thousand Oaks, California.

**Scott Mousty '99** is a logistics manager with Caterpillar, Inc. He and his wife, Hope, reside in Morton.

**Janaye (Dzurny) Smith '99** is an underwriter with Guarantee Trust Life Insurance Company. She and her husband, Roy, reside in Grayslake.

## 00s

**Sharon (Foss) Grosshauser '00** is an editor at DeVry University. She and her husband, David, are the parents of a daughter. Sierra Skye was born in July of 2013. They reside in Winfield.

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

**Jeremy Schenk '01** is the director of the university student commons and activities at Virginia Commonwealth University. He and his wife, Kate, reside in Chesterfield, Virginia.

**Heidi (Scher) Pevos '03** completed a graphic design degree from The Art Institute of Michigan. She is an art teacher with Abrakadoodle of Wayne County. She and her husband, Edward, reside in Novi, Michigan.

**Steve Woods, M.S. '03**, directs enrollment support services at the Culinary Institute of America in California. He previously worked in the registrar's office at Boise State University. He and his wife are the parents of two children and reside in Santa Rosa, California.

**Mariah Dale-Anderson '04** is a special services manager with Illinois Farm Bureau. She and her husband, Greg, reside in Clinton.

**Brianne (Swiech) Jones '04** is a graduate student in nursing anesthesia at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. She and her husband, Chris, reside in Glen Carbon.



### Roaming Redbirds

When planning a trek to Ireland last year, a group of graduates and friends of the University made sure to include in the suitcase a symbol of their Illinois State pride. The travelers took a moment while in the fishing village of Kinsale to Spread the Red. Members of the group include, from left, Rob '73 and Marta (Fidler) Eynatten '78 of Bloomington; Tina Kohn of Normal; Gina Bianchi, M.S. '09, of Normal; ISU retiree Mike O'Grady and his wife, Connie, both of Hudson.

# Redbird Legacy

Last May, Anna Riederer became the third generation in her family to graduate from Illinois State, where she pursued a bachelor of science in medical lab sciences. While she chose to attend the school because the University had the program she was looking for, she also knew that her mother and grandmother were proud to have another Redbird in the family.

Anna's mother, Diana (Schutt) Riederer '73, graduated from ISU with a degree in elementary education. Her grandmother, Maxine Schutt '49, who held a degree in kinesiology from ISU, experienced the most joy watching Anna walk across the stage.

"My grandma was a very proud alum. She watched all the basketball games and cheered for her Redbirds," Anna said. The family unfortunately lost Maxine in August, which made it even more meaningful to Anna that she was able to attend the commencement ceremony.

"I was very excited for my mother and grandmother to see how campus and school have changed. After the ceremony, my mom and I took my grandma around, and she told us how much it had changed since 1949," Anna explained.

Diana added, "Mom was surprised by how many things had changed but also by how things hadn't. There were 1,500 students total when she attended ISU, and now that's the size of just one school here. She had some wonderful memories of ISU. She always told me, 'I didn't have a choice but to go to ISU. I was the first in the family to go to college, but I'm not going to be the last.'"



Maxine Schutt, *forefront*, and her daughter Diana Riederer at commencement in Redbird Arena last May.

**Samantah (Allen) Loyet '04** is the creative director of Solar Site Design. She and her husband, Jason, reside in Mount Juliet, Tennessee.

**Sue Rovens '04** is a stacks maintenance manager at Illinois State's Milner Library. She has authored a book titled *In a Corner, Darkly*. A second book was released last fall. She resides in Normal.

**Melissa Zimmerman '04** is a project manager with Walgreens. She resides in Gurnee.

**Courtney Flanigan '05** is a coordinator with Enterprise Fleet Management. She resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

**Jeffrey Kuznekoff '05** is an assistant professor of communication at Miami University-Middletown. He resides in Miamisburg, Ohio.

**Megan (Coit) Sischo '05** is a personal fitness instructor at Elgin High School. She and her husband, Joel, reside in Montgomery.

**Tara (Dunsing) Thompson '05** is a branch manager at PNC Bank. She and her husband, Jeff, reside in Lake Zurich.

**Kristen Massey '06** is the alumnae services and programming coordinator for Pi Beta Phi Fraternity. She resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

**Joe Meersman '06** is a business teacher at Boylan Catholic High School. He resides in Rockford.

**Sandra (Albrecht) Stiegemeier '06** is a mathematics teacher at Ball-Chatham CUSD 5. She and her husband, Drew, reside in Springfield.

**Nicole Taft '06** has published a fantasy romance titled *Blood for Wolves*, and is writing the second in the series. She resides in Blue Springs, Missouri.

**Tracy (Warner) Wehrle '06** is the professional practicum coordinator in the Department of Criminal Justice Sciences at Illinois State University. She and her husband, Mason, reside in Toluca.

**Justin Dassie '07** is a post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Iowa. He resides in Coralville, Iowa.

**Douglas Hughes '07** is a financial advisor with Hughes and Hughes Financial Advisors, Inc. He resides in Wilmington.

**Nick Kempfski '07** is an English/AVID teacher at West Chicago High School. He and his wife, Katie, reside in Aurora.

**Kathleen Maki '07** is a corporate and group sales manager with Broadway Across America. She and her husband, Chris Spendlove, reside in Seattle, Washington.

**Brett Nielsen '07** completed a doctorate of chiropractic from Palmer College of Chiropractic. He practices in Bettendorf, Iowa. He and his wife, Kim, are the parents of one child and reside in Le Claire, Iowa.

**Jill North '07** is the associate program manager for Google Maps with Street View. She resides in Pacifica, California.

**Mieczyslaw Swiatkowski '07** is a senior tax accountant with Shepard Schwartz and Harris. He and his wife, Allison, reside in Orland Park.

**Patrick Allen '08** is the athletic director and physical education teacher at Wallace Grade School. He resides in Ottawa.

**Cheryl Berezan '08** is a medical laboratory scientist with Swedish Edmonds Hospital. She resides in Everett, Washington.

**Andrea Bertagna '08** is a physical education and health teacher at Jewel Middle School in North Aurora School District 129. She resides in Carol Stream.

**Gabrielle Blossom '08** is an environmental engineer with Evonik Goldschmidt. She resides in Peoria.

**Lauren (Farragher) Christopher '08** is a senior lab analyst and lab safety coordinator at Caterpillar. She and her husband, Luke, reside in San Jose.

**Rachel (Heuss) Clark '08** is a special education preschool teacher with Mattoon Community School District 2. She resides in Mattoon.

**Elise (Brass) Cochran '08** is a special education teacher at Lockport Township High School. She and her partner, Danielle, reside in Diamond.

**Caitlin (Farrell) Cotton '08** is a public health educator and data manager with the Illinois Department of Public Health Office of Women's Health. She and her husband, Daniel, reside in Bloomington.

**Thomas Cranmer '08** is a social studies teacher and head coach of the



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### Growing gathering

What started more than two decades ago as an annual luncheon for a few ladies from the Class of 1960 drew more than 20 graduates in 2013, pictured above. The group now meets in the Bone Student Center on the first day of events scheduled by the University for the Half Century Club celebration. Alums from the class are invited to attend this year's informal gathering on May 2. Call Alumni Relations at (800) 366-4478 or (309) 438-2586 for more information.

boys' soccer team at Joliet Catholic Academy. He resides in Plainfield.

**Michael Enneking '08** is a teacher with Rockford Public School District 205. He resides in Rockford.

**Sarah (Wesley) Feltes '08** is a kindergarten teacher in Franklin Park. She and her husband, **Adam '09**, are the parents of a daughter. Sophia was born in June of 2013. They reside in Oswego.

**Jeremy Flowers '08** is an educator with Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School District. He resides in Bradley.

**Brian Fonte '08** is project manager at F.E. Moran. He resides in Hickory Hills.

**Alice (Riddle) Froemling '08** is a high school English teacher at St. Charles CUSD 303. She and her husband, **Todd '08**, were married in June of 2013. Both are *Vidette* alums. He is a Web communications graduate assistant at North Central College. They reside in Aurora.

**Katie Gibbs '08** teaches language arts in grades six through eight in Springfield District 186. She resides in Springfield.

**Angela Glowacki '08** is a medical technologist at St. James Hospital. She resides in Burbank.

**Jessica Grunstad '08** is a special education facilitator and resource teacher at Butler School District 53. She resides in Naperville.

**Sarah (Humphrey) Haske '08** is a math and biology teacher at Zion-Benton Township High School. She and her husband, Jordan, reside in Beach Park.

**Haley (Hatfield) Havenga '08** is a business teacher at Grant Community High School. She and her husband, A.J., reside in Round Lake Beach.

**Leslie Hohenstein '08** is self-employed with his business, Dr. Leslie L. Hohenstein Educational Consulting and Resources. He and his wife, Cathy, reside in Springfield.

**Eileen Huellen '08** completed a master's degree in curriculum and instruction and English as a Second Language at Concordia University. She teaches fifth grade at East Aurora School District 131 and resides in Batavia.

**Amanda (Dennin) Johnson '08** is a senior communications manager at

the Radiological Society of North America. She and her husband, Jay, were married in June of 2013. They reside in Joliet.

**Shanel Jones '08** is a registered dietitian at DMH Wellness Center. She and her husband, Dustin, reside in Bloomington.

**Kim (Behrens) Kaufman '08** is a news anchor and reporter at WMBD 31. She and her husband, Andrew, reside in Normal.

**Jayne Kirchner '08, M.A. '10**, is a tour consultant at Celestial Voyagers, Inc. She plans and organizes leisure and academic tours. She resides in Astoria, New York.

**Cari (Flynn) Labok '08** is a preschool teacher at Kindercare Learning Center. She and her husband, Ron, reside in Highland, Indiana.

**Andrew Lawrence '08** is a physics teacher at Central Catholic High School. He and his wife, Kathryn, reside in Normal.

**Robert Luciano '08** teaches fourth grade in School District 58. He resides in Downers Grove.

**Julia Macholl '08** is a theatre teacher and director at North Shore Country Day School in Winnetka. She is an active actor in the Chicago community and resides in Morton Grove.

**Lindsey (Kling) Zum Mallen '08** is a registered nurse at Advocate BroMenn Medical Center. She and her husband, Robert, reside in Fairbury.

**Kyle Matas '08** is a quoting engineer with Manchester Tank and Equipment. He and his wife, Sarah, reside in Quincy.

**Kristina Mazzaferro '08** is an English teacher at Naperville North High School. She and her husband, Harold Menger III, were married in June of 2013. They reside in Aurora.

**Kevin McCleish '08** teaches in Lincoln-Way Community High

School District 210. He resides in New Lenox.

**Gordon McKavanagh '08** is completing a master's degree in American and European history. He is a high school social sciences teacher with Beardstown School District 15. He resides in Rushville.

**Amanda McLaughlin '08** is a student ministry assistant at Wheaton Bible Church. She resides in West Chicago.

**Deanne (St. John) Meyer '08** is the secretary to the business manager for Hannibal Public Schools. She and her husband, Benjamin, reside in Hannibal, Missouri.

**Heidi Nees '08** is a visiting assistant professor at Miami University. She resides in Piqua, Ohio.

**Nick Nottoli '08** is an account supervisor with Grisko. He resides in Chicago.

**Molly Ostman '08** teaches in Rutherford County Schools and resides in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

**Jill Paluch '08** is an intervention teacher and gifted and talented representative in Denver Public Schools. She resides in Denver, Colorado.

**Brittany Parsons '08** is a marketing category management analyst with Rust-Oleum. She resides in Round Lake Beach.

**JoAnn Percel '08** is a retired principal who works as a consultant for Chicago Public Schools. She and her husband, Stanley, reside in Chicago.

**Jeffrey Riley '08** is a business education teacher at Joliet Township High School District 204. He and his wife, **Brittani (Warning) '11**, reside in Joliet.

**Kim (Crouse) Scrima '08** is a meeting planner for American Express meetings and events. She and her husband, **Joe '07**, were married in September of 2012. They



## REGGIE READS

Check out a column dedicated to book reviews of work by alums at [IllinoisState.edu/Magazine](http://IllinoisState.edu/Magazine). Click on Reggie Reads.



met while working at WZND and reside in Naperville.

**Lauren Seghi '08** is an English as a Second Language teacher at Plainfield South High School. She resides in Geneva.

**Marcea Seible '08** is an assistant professor of developmental writing in Hawkeye Community College. She and her husband, Ken Pfiffner, reside in Waterloo, Iowa.

**Bailey Slechta '08** is a student relations assistant with American Dental Hygienists Association. She resides in Lombard.

**Nathan Stock '08** is an executive health program coordinator at Metro Health Hospital. He and his wife, Allison, reside in Grandville, Michigan.

**Marissa Tiburtini '08** teaches fifth grade at Bower Elementary School. She resides in Wheaton.

**Amanda (Madden) Toomey '08** is a middle school core teacher with CCSD 21 in Wheeling. She resides in Schaumburg.

**Taylor (Nix) Victor '08** is a case manager with AccuQuote. She and her husband, **David '08**, were married in October of 2013. He is an orchestra teacher with District 300. They reside in Elk Grove Village.

**Debbie (Novotney) Wietfeldt '08** is a registered nurse working with Dr. Kent Taulbee. She and her husband, Marty, are the parents of a daughter and reside in Bloomington.

**Allison (Gordon) Willits '08** is a registered dietitian with UnityPoint Health. She and her husband, Jason, reside in Bettendorf, Iowa.

**Brent Ziegler '08** is a social studies teacher and athletic director in the Lamaille CUSD 303. He resides in Cherry.

**Heather Bunting '09** is a compliance officer associate with The Options Clearing Corporation. She resides in Chicago.

**Ashley Cobert '09** is a public relations account executive with Primum Marketing Communications. She resides in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

**Jenny Dinelli '09** is a speech language pathologist who trains

teachers in Haiti. She resides in South Wilmington.

**Katherine (Rockwell) Kelly '09** is a fifth grade teacher at University Schools. She and her husband, Philip, reside in Loveland, Colorado.

**Matthew Koster '09** is a social studies department head and teacher, as well as student council sponsor, at South Pekin Grade School. He resides in Pekin.

**Tim Martch '09** is a smoke stack technician with ARI Environmental. He resides in Homewood.

**Candice Peterson-Esquivel '09** is an associate recruiter with Applied Systems. She resides in Park Forest.

**Cary Ruklic '09** is the director of bands and chair of the music department at Lincoln-Way West High School. He and his wife, Christina, reside in Lockport.

**Andres Rupnick '09** is a technology teacher at Lake Park High School and resides in East Dundee.

**Sarah (Siefker) Walk '09** is the Farm Bureau manager for Cumberland County. She and her husband, Tyler, reside in Neoga.

**Cyrus Winnett '09** is a legislative and public policy analyst with the Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities. He resides in Springfield.

**Christine (Cooney) Yee '09** is a teacher at Bright Horizons/Takeda Center for Child Development. She and her husband, **David '09**, were married in July of 2013. He is a financial analyst for ADP. They reside in Schaumburg.

## 10s

**Nicholas Bonarek '10** is a GIS Technician at Integrys Business Support. He resides in Chicago.

**Wesley Burris '10** is a division safety specialist with Ameren Illinois. He resides in Maryville.

**Alison Carlson '10** is a shift manager at Noodles & Company in Peoria, where she resides.

**Christina (Lindsey) Drauden '10** is a seventh and eighth grade math teacher with Mansfield Independent School District. She resides in Mansfield, Texas.

**Jenna Goldsmith '10** is an English doctoral student at the University of Kentucky, where she is also an instructor. She resides in Lexington, Kentucky.

**Katelyn (Hollis) Green '10** is manager of The Sun Room. She and her husband, Roger, reside in Mason City.

**Brian Hawkins '10** is a liability claims representative with Enterprise Holdings. He resides in Chicago.

**Lindsay (Tuegel) Mertes '10** is a social studies teacher at Boylan Catholic High School. She and her husband, Bryce, reside in Palatine.

**Bradley Redding '10** is a claims support supervisor with State Farm Insurance Companies. He resides in Austin, Texas.

**Kira Shelton '10** is a human resource officer with Illinois State University. She resides in Bloomington.



### Winning the test of time

Six ladies who settled into Hamilton/Whitten in 1967 formed such a strong friendship that they remain connected four decades after finishing their degrees. All graduates of 1971, the women have met annually since leaving campus. They include their spouses in their reunion events, and had their children join in as well through the years. The group includes, *front row, from left, Julie (Keller) Stranz, Charleston; Sheryll (Renken) Rockway, Grayslake; and Marilyn (Kula) Tournier, Cary. Back row, from left: Diana (Strotheide) Osterwisch, Highland; Alice (Allen) Woll, Omaha, Nebraska; and Sandra Holstine, Dover, Ohio.*

**Benjamin Kotenerg '10** is an instructional designer at the National Association of Tax Professionals in Appleton. He resides in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

**Brad Kurtzweil '10** is a Village of Bolingbrook police officer. He and his wife, **Kaitlyn (Harrison) '11**, were married in August of 2013. She is an elementary school special education resource teacher in Wheaton. They met through Encounter at ISU and reside in Naperville.

**Jamie (Hazekamp) Kutzke '10** is a financial analyst with AFNI, Inc. She and her husband, Kory, reside in Normal.

**Rodney McCalister '10** is a UPS supervisor. He resides in Lockport.

**Nichole (Meisenheimer) Stratton '10** is the social media and community outreach coordinator at Memorial Hospital. She and her husband, **Michael '13**, were married in October of 2013. He is a math teacher at Columbia Middle School. They reside in Freeburg.

**Mackenzie (Rayburn) Frizzell '11** is a law student at Southern Illinois University. She and her husband, Paulie, reside in Carbondale.

**Daren Johnson '11** is a print production manager with NPN360. He resides in Buffalo Grove.

**Ryan Lindberg '11** is a chemistry teacher and the wrestling and football coach at Niles North High School. He resides in Waukegan.

**Stacy Robillard '11** is a child life specialist with Lee Memorial Health System. She resides in Fort Myers, Florida.

**Colin Rogers '11** is a research assistant with Monsanto Company. He resides in Omaha, Nebraska.

**Allyson Ryband '11** teaches bilingual early learning at Fulton Elementary School in Tinley Park, where she resides.

**Mrittika Sengupta, Ph.D. '11**, is an assistant professor at UTU. She and her husband, Chitrakalpa Sen, reside in India.

**Ryan Tripicchio '11** is a high school history and technology teacher with the West Grand School District. He resides in Kremmling, Colorado.

**Adriana Aguilar '12** is a special education teacher with Community High School District 218. She resides in Villa Park.

**Mary Bahl '12** is a registered nurse at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center. She resides in Metamora.

**Kathryn Bergschneider '12** is a speech-language pathologist with Springfield Public School District 186. She resides in Williamsville.

**Katrina Best '12** is a teaching assistant at Northern Illinois University. She resides in DeKalb.

**Christina Bissey '12** is an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Orangeville Jr./Sr. High School. She resides in Orangeville.

**Trisha Blood '12** is a mathematics instructor at Illinois Valley Community College. She resides in Ottawa.

**Renee Changnon '12** is a guerilla marketing specialist with Jimmy John's Corporation. She resides in Champaign.

**Jon Coluzzi '12** is a personal trainer at X-Sport Fitness. He resides in Naperville.

**Rachel Craigmile '12** is completing a doctorate in chemistry at the University of Texas at Austin and working to improve the teaching assistant training across the department. She and her husband, Aaron, reside in Austin, Texas.

**Michael Crosse '12** is an applied technology instructor at William Fremd High School. He resides in Naperville.

**Delia Daly '12** is a registered nurse at Rush University Medical Center. She resides in Naperville.

**Adisn Dankha '12** works in IT technical support at Walgreens corporate offices. He has been chosen to participate in the company's sustainability division. He resides in Skokie.

**Victoria Davis '12** teaches English at Kaneland High School. She resides in Geneva.

**Annelise (Krolczyk) Demkowicz '12** is a high school French teacher with East Aurora School District 131. She and her husband, Ryan, reside in Hoffman Estates.

**Benjamin Dickinson '12** is a medical laboratory scientist at Memorial Medical Center. He resides in Springfield.

**Sarah Dolan '12** is the assistant director of residential and student life at Lincoln College. She and her husband, Skylar, reside in Normal.

**Joe Drover '12** is an eighth grade social studies teacher with CUSD 200. He resides in Westmont.

**Danielle Dybas '12** is the director for "The Morning Show" and the weekend news at WCIA 3 News. She resides in Champaign.

**Christina Elder '12** is a music teacher in Litchfield Park Elementary School District. She resides in Goodyear, Arizona.

**Kaile Erickson '12** teaches in the Pekin Public School District. She resides in Dunlap.

**Kyle Freeman '12** is the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction with Mascoutah CUSD 19. He and his wife, Amy, reside in Belleville.

**Jamie Gatto '12** is a registered nurse at Rockford Memorial Hospital. She resides in Naperville.

**Jonathan Gauerke '12** is chief operating officer at ADDWC in Eureka. He and his wife, Maegan, reside in Bartonville.

**Diamando Giba '12** is an assistant operations manager at Windy City

Fieldhouse, which is a corporate event planning company. She resides in Chicago.

**Maria Concetta Gomez '12** is RTI support staff at Thomas Metcalf Elementary School, which is one of two ISU Laboratory Schools. She resides in Normal.

**Julie Gordon '12** is a physical education teacher at Rupley Elementary School. She speaks in both English and Spanish while teaching. She resides in Western Springs.

**Marissa Gracia '12** is a Two Rivers Headstart KEYS teacher. She resides in Carpentersville.

**Caitlin Hanselmann '12** is a freelance stylist with Evoke Productions. She resides in Sleepy Hollow.

**Jessica (Bunnell) Hartman '12** is a teaching assistant at Epiphany Catholic School. She and her husband, Rudy, reside in Bloomington.

**Danielle Hunt '12** is a special education teacher with Kirby School District. She resides in Joliet.

**Mallory Jones '12** is a registered nurse in the intensive care unit at Memorial Hospital in Carbondale, where she resides.

**Rebecca Kijek '12** is a social sciences teacher at Jane Addams High School. She resides in Lockport.

**Megan (Sage) Kimmel '12** is a bilingual speech language pathologist with Staffing Options and Solutions. She and her husband, Jon, reside in Libertyville.

**Caitlyn Kopec '12** is a grade school science teacher at Pawnee School District. She resides in Springfield.

**Ryan Kotecki '12** is a software engineer at Discover Financial Services. He resides in Gurnee.

**Katherine Kram '12** is an elementary physical education teacher with Joliet District 86. She resides in Countryside.

**Matt Kubsch '12** is a commercial loss control representative with COUNTRY Financial. He resides in Normal.

**Amanda Lutes '12** is an account executive and marketing consultant with LaSalle County Broadcasting. She resides in Magnolia.

**Kathleen Malloy '12** is a junior high teacher at St. Agnes School. She resides in Chicago.

**Katie Meersman '12** teaches second grade in the public schools of Rockford, where she resides.

**Matthew Mitchell '12** is a special education aide with Bryan Middle School. He resides in Naperville.

**Lee Murray '12** is an actuarial analyst with Mercer. She resides in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Sara Neumann '12** is a clinical audiologist at Hearts for Hearing. She is active in research and coauthored an article on hearing aids for *Volta Voices* magazine. She is coauthoring a textbook chapter on pediatric hearing aids. She resides in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

**Maggie O'Malley '12** is a nurse practitioner with Swedish American. She resides in Byron.

**Kevin Pajor '12** is a social studies teacher at Sandwich Community High School. He resides in Oswego.

**Ara Peterson '12** is a surgical clinical registered nurse reviewer focused on quality improvement at Advocate BroMenn Medical Center. She and her husband, Steve, reside in Normal.

**Joshua Pfeuffer '12** is a jewelry consultant at Bremer Jewelry. He resides in Normal.

**Sarah Pfluger '12** teaches math and science at Hiawatha High School. She resides in Rockford.

**Lisa Piehl '12** is a registered nurse with Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital. She resides in Lisle.

**Amy Pierce '12** is a contract merchandise assistant with Sears Holdings Corporation. She resides in Aurora.

**Michelle Pierson '12** is a first assistant manager in women's shoes at Nordstrom's Old Orchard store. She resides in Westmont.

**Melissa Pinter '12** is a teacher of the hearing impaired in the Quincy Public School system. She resides in Peru.

**Susan Randle '12** is an admissions specialist II at Illinois State Uni-



versity. She and her husband, Paul, reside in Normal.

**Rebecca Rea '12** teaches fourth grade at Glen Oaks Elementary. She resides in Orland Park.

**Allison Riddell '12** is a legal assistant with Freedman Anselmo Lindberg, LLC. She resides in Naperville.

**Adam Rodgers '12** is an elementary music teacher with District U-46. He resides in Streamwood.

**Dustin Rothbart '12** has been acting with several theatre companies in Chicago. He was a 2013 company member for Canterbury Summer Theatre in Michigan City, Indiana. He resides in Northbrook.

**Suzette Rush-Drake '12** is a nurse practitioner with Striedinger Medical Group. She and her husband, Gregory, reside in Northbrook.

**Carrie Schrader '12** is an elementary Suzuki string teacher and the high school orchestra director for the Pekin School District.

**Brittaney Schwichtenberg '12** is a sixth grade math and science teacher at Park Ridge-Niles School District 64. She resides in Elk Grove Village.

**Catherine Siefert '12** is a seventh grade ELA teacher in Carbondale Middle School. She resides in Carbondale.

**Jennifer Siefferman '12** is a design lead for Weston Hospitality Solutions. She resides in Clarendon Hills.

**Samantha Siemiawski '12** teaches in the Valley View Public Schools. She resides in Homer Glen.

**Justin Smith '12** is a ComEd distribution dispatcher. He resides in Chicago.

**Michael Smith '12** is a language arts teacher in Gardner Community Consolidated School District 72. He resides in Joliet.

**Lina Smulkaitis '12** teaches eighth grade math in Crete-Monee School District U201. She resides in Westmont.

**Jamie (Hendrix) Smythe '12** is a WIC clinical dietitian at Truman Medical Centers. She and her husband, Daniel, reside in Olathe, Kansas.

**Claire (Christiansen) Southard '12** is a teacher in the Herscher School District. She and her husband, Brandon, reside in Bourbonnais.

**Matthew Spaw '12** is an associate industrial hygienist with ENVIRON International Corporation. He resides in Chicago.

**Stephen Stanger '12** is an English teacher in Unit 4. He resides in Champaign.

**Christie Suligoy '12** is a registered nurse working at Presence St. Joseph Medical Center. She resides in Channahon.

**Shane Svitak '12** is a loan representative II with Lending Solutions, Inc. He resides in North Aurora.

**Kristen Syndram '12** is a marketing coordinator with Hult Marketing. She resides in Eureka.

**Sam Tonner '12** is a personal trainer with The Workout Company. He resides in Normal.

**Wanda Turk '12** works in intervention services at Albertville Middle School. She resides in Albertville, Alabama.

**John Twork '12** is an assistant Athletics communications director at Illinois State University. He resides in Normal.

**Lauren (Jump) VanNatta '12** is a visiting instructor at the University of Illinois. She and her husband, Andrew, reside in Effingham.

**Amy Vasel '12** is a music teacher at Dee-Mack Schools. She resides in Tremont.

**Kelly (Brummel) Webb '12** is a speech-language pathologist at Morton Community Unit School District 709. She and her husband, Brad, reside in East Peoria.

**Meghan Wilson '12** is a child life specialist with Phoenix Children's Hospital. She resides in Longmeadow, Massachusetts.

**Cory Worthey '12** is an exercise specialist in cardiac rehab at Proctor Hospital. He resides in Peoria.

**Jennifer (Williams) Wrigley '12** is a biology teacher at East Peoria Community High School. She and her husband, Ryan, reside in Pekin.

**Cody Yochum '12** is an emergency/trauma nurse practitioner with Mid-America Emergency Physicians. He resides in Mattoon.

**Daniel Bontz '13** works in maintenance with the park district in Dixon, where he resides.

**Lauren Downs '13** is a credit analyst at Heartland Bank & Trust. She resides in Normal.

**Chad Fox '13** is vice president of wealth management at Merrill Lynch. He and his wife, Stacy, reside in Westmont.

**Laura Kiel '13** is a middle school special education teacher. She resides in Tinley Park.

**Elizabeth Peterson '13** is a hearing itinerant teacher with the Tazewell/Mason Counties Special Education Association. She resides in Pekin.

**Sarah Prokop '13** is a children's services associate with the Naperville Public Library. She resides in Naperville.

**Deborah Seale '13** is an assistant professor of health informatics and information management at Saint Louis University. She resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

## Our troops

**Michael Filipek '08** is a pilot with the U.S. Air Force assigned to the Illinois Air Guard. He resides in Mt. Prospect.

## In memory

### Faculty/Staff

Dana W. Bahan, Chemistry; 8/13  
Teresa A. (Brown) Barnes, Building Services; 8/13

Martha J. "Marty" Boudeman '75, Stevenson Center; 7/13

Walter H. Friedhoff, Psychology; 8/13

Elizabeth L. Harris, M.S. '70, Measurement and Evaluations; 10/12

Sharon A. Hartzell-Smith '73, Milner Library; 8/13

Reginald D. Henry, Agriculture; 8/13

Merle R. Howard, Speech Pathology and Audiology; 7/13  
Jacquelyn J. (Goldsberry) Kephart, Information Systems; 8/13

Roger S. Kiper, Building Services; 8/13

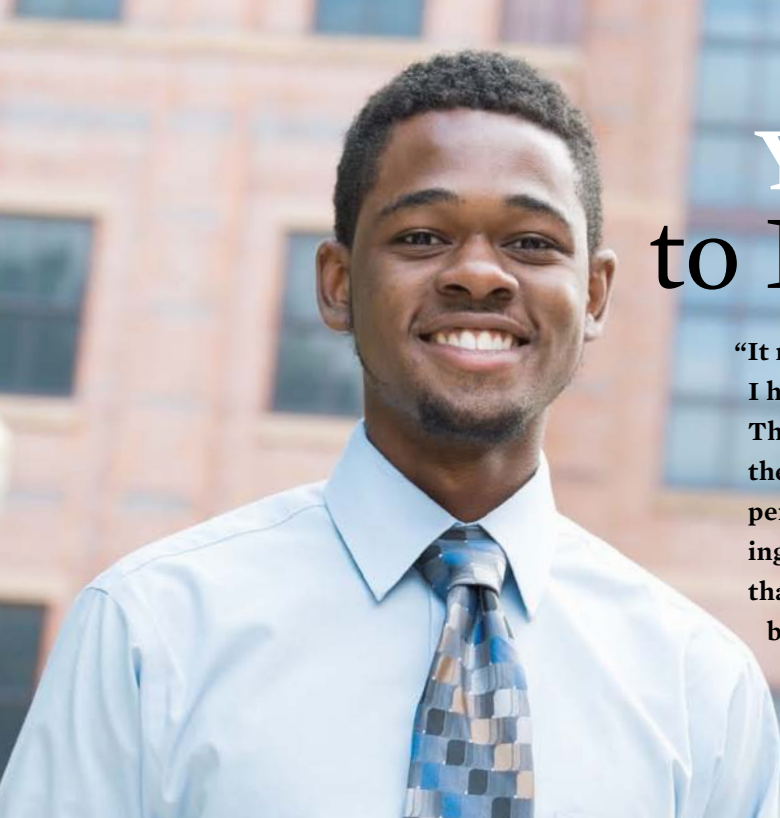
Jane E. (Manthe) Knepler '60, M.S. '64, Geography; 8/13

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- 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.

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Nancy R. Leben '91, Health Services; 7/13  
Richard F. Miller, Building Services; 9/13  
Virginia (Allin) Moreland '70, Printing Services; 7/13  
Gordon M. Redding, Psychology; 8/13  
Robert E. Saunders, Food Services; 8/13  
Linda Smith, University Center for Learning Assistance; 10/12  
Wilbur R. Venerable, Admissions; 7/13

### 30s

Mary Adeline Stevenson Killey '30, '37; 6/13  
Dorothy (Ford) Benjamin '31; 8/13  
Rose A. (Kral) Booth '33; 7/13  
Rosamond (Tierney) Gorman '34; 6/13  
Lloyd E. Cunningham '35; 8/13  
Charles F. Hall Jr. '35; 6/13  
Crystal M. (Farley) Stoll '35, '56, '61; 6/13  
Cyrus R. Shockley '39; 8/13

### 40s

Eleanor (Dalton) Newmister '40, '43, M.S. '73; 8/13

Robert L. Cramer '41, M.S. '52; 8/13  
Margaret (Bach) Bahnfleth '42; 7/13  
Marjorie (Lynds) Geiger '42; 8/12  
Eileen E. Hammann '42, '59; 2/06  
Avis (Moeller) Ramsey '43; 8/13  
Marjorie A. Holmes '45; 8/13  
Iva Jean (Schmidt) Krug '45; 5/13  
Marion H. Barnett '46; 7/13  
Donna V. (Racobs) Davis '48; 8/13  
Reeve Norton '48; 1/13  
M. Maxine “Max” (Crump) Schutt '49; 8/13

### 50s

Phillip H. Weber '50; 8/13  
Paul C. Reeves '51, M.S. '71; 7/13  
JoAnne Paton '52; 7/13  
Patricia A. (Pombier) Patrizi '52; 2/13  
LaRee (Barr) Jacobson '53; 8/13  
Patricia R. Tobias Xanders '53; 8/13  
Irvin W. Seelye '54, M.S. '56; 7/13  
Edward Stock '54; 6/13  
David W. Patton '56, M.S. '67; 7/13  
Elsie M. Sheetz '56; 12/08  
E. Duane Elbert '57; 8/13  
Shirley E. (Roose) Birmingham '58; 4/13  
Barbara E. (Harris) Sears Brightup '58; 5/13

Edward E. Lyon '58, M.A. '59; 12/12  
Clara B. Prichard '58; 7/13

### 60s

Thomas O. Hillesheim '60; 7/13  
Donald L. Hilscher Sr. '60, M.S. '64; 1/10  
Margaret G. (Dunn) Joyce '60; 7/13  
Richard K. Peterson '60; 6/12  
Judith A. Judy '61, M.S. '68; 8/13  
Lawrence W. Ellis '62; 7/13  
Donna (Weiden) Kinczewski '62; 8/13  
Wini (Wraye) Goben '63, M.S. '70; 7/13  
June C. (Gealow) Nagel '63; 8/13  
Joseph R. Harding, M.S. '66; 7/13  
Robert A. Riker '66, M.S. '71; 7/13  
James R. Sharp, M.S. '66; 8/13  
Kenneth Gardner '67; 8/13  
Nancy L. (Bruun) Fulton '68; 7/13  
Michael J. Legerski '68, M.S. '71; 4/13  
Mary S. Annis '69; 5/12  
Wilma J. (Gandy) Douglas '69, M.S. '76; 8/13

### 70s

Alan B. Rickey '71; 7/13  
Victoria (Nordheimer) Ronna '72; 7/13

Janel S. (Hiland) White '72; 8/13  
Gordon W. “Tad” Foreman '73; 8/13  
Kathleen M. (Nihan) Leonard '73; 7/13  
Jim Allen '74; 1/13  
E. Michael Jones '74; 6/13  
John G. Frazier '75; 7/13  
Laurie J. Sanderson '75; 8/13  
Steven K. Brown '76; 7/13  
Gary L. Lincoln '76; 6/13  
Don P. Hinspeter '77; 8/13  
Jeanne M. Petkus '77; 7/13  
Kenneth Watson III, M.B.A. '77; 6/13  
Lisa (Rudolph) Kacevicius '78; 7/13  
Mark Zinman '78; 2/13  
Charlotte J. Brucker, M.S. '79; 7/13  
Jerry A. Smith, M.S. '79; 4/13

### 80s

Susan K. (Tharp) Morck '80; 9/13  
Rick Belle '88; 3/13  
Linda M. Curless '88; 9/13

### 90s

Wilesha F. Clay '90; 9/13

### 00s

Sean P. O'Brien '00; 9/13  
Jason D. Levan '07; 8/13



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## Flocking together

A group of friends who happen to be Redbird fans gathered to show their spirit as classes ended for the day at Thomas Metcalf Elementary School. The mascot knit beanie is spotted frequently on campus and in the community during the winter months. Order one for yourself at [GoRedbird.com](http://GoRedbird.com), [Fanatics.com](http://Fanatics.com), or [VonMaur.com](http://VonMaur.com).