

ILLINOIS STATE

Gladly he served

After a decade as president, retirement is a bittersweet decision for Al Bowman.

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FirstWord

A reason, a season, or a lifetime.

I'm certain many of you are familiar with the words of the poem that examines how people and places come into our lives and hold meaning for varying purposes and periods of time.

I've reflected on this sentiment quite a bit since announcing in December my retirement from the presidency. The words most definitely ring true when applied to my experience at Illinois State.



I came to the University in 1978 with a specific purpose. In the final stages of completing my doctorate in speech and hearing science, I was eager to start my faculty career. ISU gave me the opportunity to pursue my passion as a teacher and scholar in a field that I still find fascinating.

With family ties in Colorado and a love for the mountains, I frankly did not envision Illinois State would become my permanent professional home. And yet before long, my reason turned into an extended season.

I became the personification of ISU's motto, as I truly did gladly learn and teach. To this day I find nothing more rewarding than working with students in the classroom as they question,

explore and ultimately build a foundation in their areas of interest.

Although I was not seeking a shift into leadership, I accepted the role of departmental chair when asked. The challenge was so fulfilling and rewarding, I easily migrated to the realm of administrative work. And yet, never did I envision those duties would prepare me for the future responsibilities of serving as the provost and eventually the University's president for a decade.

While growing professionally at Illinois State, I also gained so much personally. Beyond the friendships and partnerships of colleagues across campus and the community, I found the love of my life. Linda and I married and welcomed into our lives two beautiful daughters, Laura and Natalie.

The story as written is not what I had remotely scripted when I settled into my faculty position 35 years ago. I look back on the decades that have passed and am overwhelmed with gratitude for the friendship, counsel and inspiration received by all who share my love and respect for Illinois State.

As I leave the presidency, know that my commitment to the University and its people is profound. I will continue to be a proud Redbird and maintain close ties to Illinois State for many years to come. For although I came to campus with a reason, I enjoyed such a blessed season at the University that I am now gratefully bound to Illinois State for my lifetime.

Al Bowman
President, Illinois State University



ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Illinois' first public university

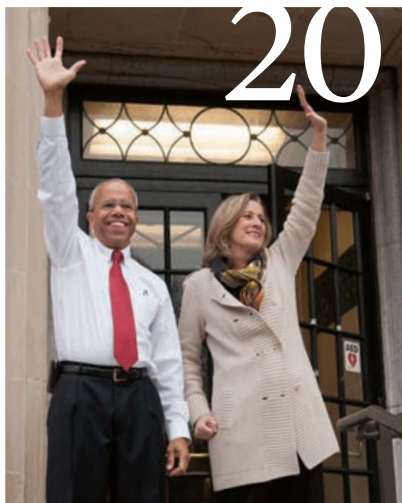
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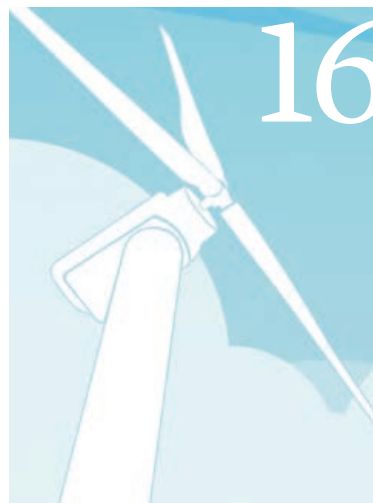
8

8 A menu of memories
 For decades taste buds have been satisfied and friendships solidified at Avanti's. The famous Gondola sandwich and loaves of bread have made dining on a student budget a pleasant experience for 40 years. The eatery is as much a part of ISU life today as when the doors first opened in 1971.

12 The days before Darryl
 Craig Robinson '94 made his campus friends laugh. They encouraged him to try stand-up comedy, which led to a Hollywood career that rocketed with his portrayal of Darryl Philbin on *The Office*. The series has ended, yet Robinson's star shines bright. He takes the lead role in a movie set to release this month.



20



16

16 Winds of change
 As the nation turns to wind energy as an alternative fuel source, the renewable energy industry increasingly looks to Illinois State for leadership. The University's Center for Renewable Energy and an interdisciplinary renewable energy academic program have faculty and students playing a key role in shaping wind developments and public policy nationally.



12

20 Time of transition
 In the six months since announcing his retirement from the presidency, Al Bowman has contemplated the challenges and rewards of serving as Illinois State's leader. He leaves Hovey Hall with a sense of gratitude, contentment and confidence that the positive momentum of the past decade will continue well into the future.

DEPARTMENTS

- 2 University News
- 6 Redbird Athletics
- 26 Alumni Awards
- 28 Alumni Connections
- 30 Class notes

ONLINE BONUS FEATURES at IllinoisState.edu/Magazine

Willing worker
 Lynda Lane '66 has dedicated decades of service to the Alumni Association.

Shattering expectations
 Early glass program graduate Jack Schmidt, M.S. '73, is a pioneering artist.

On the cover: Al Bowman, at commencement, has energized ISU with his enthusiastic leadership.

University News



Kyle Waznis, center, participated in commencement a semester early, thanks to the intervention of Jess Ray and Penelope Long. Their action allowed Jim Pruett, inset, to see his son graduate. Pruett passed away in March.

An unusual graduation gift

Professor's intervention guarantees family celebrates milestone

Graduation day came early for senior Kyle Waznis, who completed his degree this spring but participated in December's commencement ceremony to ensure his father could witness the milestone.

Waznis' father, Jim Pruett, learned in October that he had an aggressive tumor the size of a tennis ball in his brain. Pruett was given only few months to live. Waznis quickly did the math and came to an awful realization: His father wouldn't live long enough to see him walk at commencement.

That sorrow was quickly erased as faculty and staff partnered on Waznis' behalf. Their intervention started when

Waznis shared his situation with Penelope Long, a School of Communication faculty member and director of advisement.

Long reached out to University Registrar Jess Ray '91, M.S. '95, to see if Waznis could walk in the December commencement so that his dad could be there. Ray said yes. The decision was especially meaningful to Waznis, as it was his dad who insisted he earn a degree.

"If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't be here," Waznis said.

While his father's mental state had declined since the diagnosis, Pruett

was able to make it through the whole December ceremony. The best part of the day was when Waznis joined his parents after the event.

His dad, who could no longer speak full sentences, told him: "I'm so proud of you." The cancer had already robbed the family of so many memories of shared life events that would never happen.

"I thought I'd lose graduation too," Waznis said. "But they gave me one more weekend."

"In the grand scheme," said Ray, "we didn't do anything out of the ordinary."



The rest of the story

Read more about Kyle's special commencement moment on STATESide at IllinoisState.edu/STATESide, including how the University helped meet his family's financial needs.

Federal grant funding will prepare specialists

Special Education Professor Maribeth Lartz has been awarded a \$1.1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education for a project that provides advanced preparation to education professionals who serve infants and toddlers with hearing loss.

Funding continues through 2018 for the project that is an extension of work Lartz and project coordinator Tracy Meehan began in 2006. Their work addresses the critical shortage of those qualified to provide early intervention services to young children and their families. The project focuses on high-need and underserved areas across the state, including Chicago and rural areas.

“Many areas of Illinois have families waiting for early intervention services because there are no providers in their area,” Lartz said. Providers include speech language pathologists, audiologists and teachers of the deaf, who will complete a five-course program and supervised home-based and clinic-based practice. Classes will be held at ISU and in Chicago.

English faculty named Distinguished Professor

English Professor Roberta Trites has been named a Distinguished Professor, which is ISU’s highest faculty honor.

Trites came to ISU in 1991 and has since built an international reputation in the world of adolescent literature. She has authored several books, including *Waking Sleeping Beauty: Feminist Voices in Children’s Novels* and *Disturbing the Universe: Power and Repression in Adolescent Literature*. She is credited with reinventing the field of children’s literature studies with her work.

Beyond outstanding scholarship, Trites is dedicated to developing undergraduate and graduate students. She has received several teaching awards for her work while at ISU, including recognition as Outstanding University Teacher. She has accepted various administrative



Illinois State partners with the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago. Caroline Banda’s son, Gabriel, works with a speech pathologist at the school as he adjusts to bilateral cochlear implants.

roles for the department and is involved in national and international scholarly societies, lecturing around the world.

Policy change limits outdoor smoking areas

The University has a new policy that bans smoking in outdoor high-traffic areas, such as the Quad. The change took effect with the start of the spring semester and as a result of a 2011 student referendum.

Students favored the further smoking restrictions, which prohibit smoking in Milner Library Plaza, the State Farm Hall of Business Courtyard, the DeGarmo Hall forecourt, Schroeder Hall Plaza, and the College Avenue pedestrian bridge.

The Student Government Association proposed the changes, which were approved by the Academic Senate. Among the concerns addressed by the new restrictions are that students with lung illnesses can be adversely affected by secondhand smoke and that students shouldn’t have to deal with smoke on the way to class. It was also a move to keep the campus clean.

The University has taken an incremental approach to restricting smoking. President Thomas Wallace banned smoking in and near campus buildings in 1993. One exception was residential housing. A ban there did not come until 2001, which was prior to a statewide mandate.

Hispanic graduation rates among best in nation

The University is one of the top 25 public institutions in the nation—and the only public university in Illinois—lauded by the Education Trust for gains in Hispanic student graduation rates.

The nonprofit released last fall a report that lists Illinois State at 19th in the nation for public universities making gains in graduation rates for Hispanic students, while keeping graduation rates for other students steady or improving. The University also placed 19th for closing the graduation gap between Hispanic students and fellow students.

“This report is a reflection of our efforts to create an inclusive environment at Illinois State, and our goal to

Where are they now?

Professor Emerita of Art Naomi Towner has faced many difficulties since her days teaching the fiber arts, but she has come out smiling.

In 2011 Towner contracted an infection that doctors said would take her leg. After surgeries and time recovering in a rehabilitation center, she made an amazing recovery. She is now travelling the long road to healing, starting with the very basics of learning to walk again.

Towner has made the best of a tough situation. After her initial diagnosis, she sent notice she would have to drop her involvement in the local Neighborhood Watch to take care of a medical situation. The response was remarkable with people she had only had contact with through emails sending her their well wishes, offers of rides and homemade lasagnas. "I'm amazed how people are so generous and kind," she remarked.

Uncontrollable change is one of the most challenging things in life, but when faced with such difficulty Towner is firm in her encouragement. "I've been through a lot and done it all and I realized that the only thing I can control is my attitude," she said. "You get bad days, but never let it get you too down."

Though she can no longer continue with her weaving, she has found a creative outlet in intricate needlepoint. "I just do what I can," Towner said "I won't do substandard work either, like the singer who has lost his voice."

Her advice for anyone faced with a seemingly insurmountable situation is "don't give up," a mantra that keeps her standing today.

Towner can be reached at n.towner@comcast.net.



enroll and retain high-achieving, diverse and motivated students," Provost Sheri Everts said.

Campus joins effort to assist Syrians

Illinois State is one of 33 colleges, universities and organizations across the globe offering academic support to Syrian students and scholars threatened by that nation's unrest. The help is through the Institute of International Education (IIE), which has committed more than \$1.3 million in emergency assistance.

The IIE Syria Consortium for Higher Education in Crisis has been formed as a partnership between IIE, the Syrian economic and social development organization Jusoor, and the Illinois Institute of Technology. Members are based in the United States, Canada, France, Hungary, Mexico and the United Kingdom.

Scholarships for Syrian students have been pledged by members, who will serve as host campuses for professors and senior scholars. Illinois State is

offering partial tuition waivers for up to five Syrian undergraduate students who may wish to apply to the University.

"Through our participation in this program, we continue to show our support of Illinois State's advancing global education efforts in the midst of emergency situations and crisis," Assistant Provost Rita Bailey said. "By joining other institutional partners in this initiative, we are part of a global action that will have local impact and a local action that can have global impact. We are very happy to be able to support these students in their time of need."

Senior IT cyber whiz captures national title

Chris Spehn, a senior information systems major from Freeburg, won the 2012 National Cyber League (NCL) Championship. Spehn defeated 23 other finalists from around the nation in the cyber security competition last winter.

Spehn was initially one of 264 participants in the Midwest conference to

face three rounds on Web security, log file analysis, and cryptography. He placed third out of 61 to advance to the finals.

The championship rounds involved 25 challenges in Web exploitation, cryptography, log file analysis, and other fields—tricky tasks that were left unsolved from three preliminary rounds of NCL competition.

Spehn, who helped start Illinois State's Information Security Club and serves as its president, will graduate in December. He already has a job offer from Discover as a result of work done during two summers. He was the first security intern to ever join the financial service's team.

Two faculty honored as University Professors

Sociology and Anthropology Chair Fred Smith and English Professor Tim Hunt have been named a University Professor, which is a rank that honors faculty members who are nationally recognized scholars and teachers.

Mail

To the Editor,

Back to the future? When I attended Illinois State, smoking was not allowed anywhere on campus, a holdover from Jesse Fell's rules. But this did not stop dedicated smokers from going across the street to the old Pilgrim during class breaks. Everyone I know quit smoking eventually, which might explain why so many of us are still around.

Pat (Johnson) Evelsizer '54

To the Editor,

Back to the past! When I arrived in August of 1955, Illinois State Normal University did not allow smoking by any student. If you were caught smoking, you could be expelled from school. Also, if you were caught drinking, regardless of your age, you could also be expelled—even if you were married, a veteran from WWII or Korean conflict with children and was discovered drinking at Lake Bloomington. Most teachers would not allow a student to chew gum in class. I came to college from a small Central Illinois high school and thought I was grown up, but not according to ISNU rules.

Ed Linder '62

To the Editor,

I had the honor of being selected as a Bone Scholar. I was a biology and French double major. Dr. and Mrs. Bone were present at the awards ceremony. He greeted and congratulated me in well-accented French. Years later I was introduced to Chip Bone and shared the vignette with him, remarking on his father's command of the language. To my surprise, Chip laughed and related that Dr. Bone, upon learning of my selection, learned just enough French to facilitate our chat during the ceremony. One of a kind indeed! This remains among my most treasured memories of my ISU days.

Wallace Anderson '83

Smith joined ISU in 2008 and has maintained a prolific research and teaching career while serving as an administrator. He has distinguished himself in his field of paleoanthropology and training the next generation of anthropologists.

He is internationally recognized for his work with Neandertals and the broad issue of modern human origins. His work has appeared in three of the world's leading science journals as well as popular media outlets.

Hunt came to ISU in 2003. A scholar of American literature, he has received numerous national awards and praise in more than one sub-disciplinary area. His creative and critical works are lauded for changing the thought and practice of his discipline.

He is also praised by students as a stellar teacher who combines his wit, intelligence, passion for his subject and genuine concern for students to make classes pertinent to life.

Campus mourns loss of Student Affairs leader

Jude Boyer, M.A. '68, died of a heart attack in December of 2012 at the age of 74. She is remembered as an administrator who spent 32 years working at the University on behalf of students.



Boyer served as the associate vice president of Student Affairs for the majority of her ISU career, which began after she had worked as a high school chemistry teacher in the Chicago suburbs.

She joined ISU in 1968 and retired in 2000. During her career she improved commencement, facilitating the change to college ceremonies with individual student recognition and implementing the addition of the December event.

Boyer maintained ties to campus during her retirement, serving on the Annuitants Association Board of Direc-

tors and the University Club, an unofficial social network of former employees.

The family has asked that memorials be made to ISU's Student Enrichment Fund or Redbird Athletics. Make a contribution online at IllinoisState.edu/giving, call (309) 438-8041, or send an email to jdthutch@IllinoisState.edu.

Math research results will impact standards

ISU and University of Denver faculty are working to better understand how children learn spatial measurement concepts in mathematics and science. The work will be used to further develop national standards for mathematics education and improve professional development work with teachers.

The National Science Foundation has awarded just more than \$1 million to support the first two years of the four-year project. ISU Mathematics Professor Jeff Barrett is the lead researcher. He is also associate director of the University's Center for Mathematics, Science and Technology.

The research will enhance knowledge of students' mathematics learning trajectories, including the steps children take to learn mathematics concepts such as measuring area or volume. The information will help refine the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, a set of recently released national standards for mathematics instruction and assessment.

A major part of the research involves examining how junior high students learn mathematics concepts that prepare them for high school coursework. Junior high school teachers and students in Peoria and Denver participating in the project will be followed for three years.

"We're hoping to get a kid's eye view of mathematics concepts," Barrett said. "We want to better understand the different thought processes and learning patterns that kids have. That will help us make research-based recommendations on ways to better teach those mathematics concepts."

Redbird Athletics



Nike signs contract to support graduate

Aisha Praught enters world of professional runners

Former Illinois State distance runner Aisha Praught '12 has signed a professional contract with Nike while pursuing a post-collegiate career running for the Oregon Track Club (OTC) Elite in Eugene, Oregon.

"After so many years of hard work, it is an amazing feeling to know that I have some sort of guarantee for the next couple years," said Praught, who is the first Illinois State track and field student-athlete to turn professional since long jumper JaRod Tobler in 2008.

Praught's career began shortly after ending a senior campaign that included a NCAA Division I Runner-up performance in the mile (4:39.85), as well as

finishing as the top-collegiate student-athlete in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at the prestigious Mt. SAC Relays.

She was instrumental in the women's cross country team winning its first Missouri Valley Conference title in 2011. The All-American ended her ISU career at the 2012 U.S. Olympic Track & Field Team Trials, finishing 16th in the steeplechase with a time of 9:55.78.

Praught proved herself last summer before a deal was completed. She competed in the European Flanders Cup, then ran the Morton Mile at the 2012 Morton Pre Games in Dublin, Ireland. Praught turned in a lifetime-best performance of 4:35.96, finishing eighth.

"This deal shows how hard Praught has worked the last four years," ISU head

track and field coach Elvis Forde said. "She had aspirations to continue running, and she found herself a place where she can take advantage of it. I believe she can make it."

ISU head cross country coach Jeff Bovee agrees.

"Aisha has the potential to run at the national level and even make a world team," Bovee said. "With the improvements she made over her last year at Illinois State and starting to figure out racing and training tactics, the sky is the limit for her."

Praught realizes the opportunities that are ahead of her, saying "I am literally living the dream."

Top Athletics fundraiser loses battle against cancer

The Athletics program lost its most devoted volunteer and fundraiser earlier this year. Jack "Jumbo" Currin '71 of Bloomington died of pancreatic cancer in January, leaving a legacy as the all-time leading volunteer fundraiser in program history.

Currin served on the Weisbecker Scholarship Fund Advisory Board for more than 15 years and was a season-ticket holder to Redbird athletic events for more than 25 years. He was the 2012 recipient of the Joseph F. Warner Golden Redbird Award, which is the highest honor ISU Athletics bestows on a non-athlete.

A commercial underwriter at State Farm Insurance Companies for 42 years, Currin coached at the grade school and high school level. He mentored ISU student-athletes and advanced Athletics by helping to launch the Spread the Red marketing campaign in 2007.

He is survived by his wife, Christine, two daughters and five grandchildren. The family appreciates memorials made to the Weisbecker Scholarship Fund. To make a donation go online to <http://weisbeckerfund.com>, email lelyons@IllinoisState.edu or call (309) 438-5626.



Cameras provide view of progress at Hancock Stadium

The public can now watch construction at Hancock Stadium with two live Webcams. Visitors can view construction online at GoRedbirds.com/hancockrenovation. Links to two Webcams are located on the top, right-hand corner of the page.

One camera at Hancock Stadium has the ability for users to control the angle. Instructions on how to move the camera are located at the bottom of the navigation bar on the left-hand side of the page. A second camera at Bone Student Center is a larger, static live shot.

The renovations to Hancock will provide a new front door to the University. The facility will climb to seven stories on the east side, with extensive brick and glass. New amenities will include bleacher-back seating on the entire new east-side grandstand and a spacious concourse.

Premium seating options, including more than 500 chair-back club seats, a 5,500-square-foot indoor club accessible to club-seat holders, and seven suites will be added to the stadium.

A state-of-the-art press level above the indoor club and an entirely new concession area and restroom facilities are being added, as well as a new ticket office.

The work is expected to be complete in the fall of this year. Hancock has not undergone renovations since it opened in the 1960s.

Illinois State hosting MVC baseball championship

For the first time in program history, Illinois State will host the 2013 State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Baseball Championship. The event will run from May 21-25 at Duffy Bass Field.

Illinois State was awarded the championship on a bid basis. Play will occur on the field dedicated in 2009 to honor legendary ISU baseball coach Duffy Bass. He guided the 1969 Redbirds to the College Division national championship.

Baseball fans will have the opportunity to watch four tournament games each day, with the championship scheduled for 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 25. Tickets are available online at GoRedbirds.com or by calling (309) 438-8000.

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE THAN A T-SHIRT?

Die-hard Redbird fans are always eager for a unique way to show school spirit. Now your Illinois State collection doesn't have to stop with sweatshirts and hats. Take a look at these unique products, and visit Alumni.IllinoisState.edu for more information.



Like so many Illinois State alums, Susan Nelson-Brown '78 got hooked on Avanti's soon after moving into her residence hall, Dunn-Barton, right across Main Street.

Every Sunday night—back when dining centers were closed that evening—the campus radio station (then WILN) played oldies during an hour-long *Let the Good Times Roll* segment. Students who called in and correctly named the band, song, and when the tune came out won free Avanti's.

Brown got her entire floor to play, collectively winning enough food to last the whole week. They figured out the deejays eventually repeated the songs, and some weeks the floor would win every song.

"Avanti's is just such a fond memory for everybody who went to ISU," said Nelson-Brown, an accounting graduate living in Dallas. "I have lived in other parts of the country, and I've never found anything like it."

As Illinois State's Alumni Association marks 150 years,

"Avanti's has the best sandwiches in America. I could eat a Gondola every day of my life. When I'm back visiting my wonderful friends in the Twin Cities, Avanti's is always on the top of my list! Continued success. You have always treated me first class. Thanks!"

- Doug Collins '73, Redbird basketball great

few memories resonate quite like Avanti's. The Italian restaurant's 42-year history is deeply intertwined with Illinois State's, winning over generations of new students with its deliciously sweet bread and pizza, then sending them off into the world wistfully wondering if you can mail a Gondola to Texas. (Turns out you can, sort of. More on that later.)

Illinois State students, faculty, staff and alumni have been a large contributor to the Normal restaurant's success, especially early on. And that's on top of the steady supply of student employees who today make up about one-third of Avanti's workforce.

The second-generation family business traces its history back to Swiss immigrants Guido and Albert Zeller, who in the early 1960s delivered food to restaurants and pizzerias for an Illinois cheese-making company called Avanti Foods, based in Walnut. (Avanti Foods still exists today—its signature item is Gino's Pizza—but is not affiliated with Avanti's.)

By 1966 and with some business experience under his belt, Albert bought a restaurant for sale near Bradley University in Peoria, renaming it Avanti's, which is Italian for "forward" or "advance."

Five years later the Zellers teamed up to open the Normal location, again adjacent to a college campus. It's never moved from Main Street, but it has grown. The original 56-seat Avanti's dining room more than doubled in size by 1991, and a second location on Bloomington's east side opened four years ago.

Guido took sole ownership in 1973 from Albert, who still

runs his own locations in Peoria. The Gondola has always been their menu all-star. The bread recipe came from the Peoria restaurant that Albert bought, though he's tweaked it over the years. Guido's business stuck with the original.

"Theirs is a little sweeter than ours," said Rich Zeller, Guido's son, who now owns and operates the Bloomington-Normal locations with his brother, Marcus.

The second generation of Zeller brothers started off as busboys for Guido. Rich and Marcus became managers in the 1980s, then managing partners in 1995, making their father proud to hand off the business to family before he died in 2002.

It's a true family business. Guido's brother, Leo, joined the Normal operation in 1976 and was an integral part of the business.

Now retired, Leo continues to look after Avanti's interior and exterior plants and flowers. And Guido's wife, Anna, helped get the business off the ground and even pitched in from a home office after the couple's fourth child was born. Both she and Leo continue to volunteer to serve food at local charity events Avanti's sponsors.

Rich said he first realized the iconic status Avanti's had achieved when he went to high school and heard how reverently people spoke about his dad's life's work.



Guido Zeller, *opposite page*, was the heart and soul of Avanti's until his death in 2002. The original Avanti's Normal location near campus, *above*, opened in 1971 and is thriving under Zeller's sons.



Tasty History

A quick look back at how Avanti's became a Twin City food icon:

1971

Guido and Albert Zeller opened Avanti's on Main Street for dinner service only, with a 56-seat dining room.

1980

Lunch service began, fueled in part by an ISU customer base.

Mid-1980s

Guido's sons, Marcus and Rich, became part of Avanti's management team.

1989

Catering services began as demand increased. Lunch delivery also started.

1991

Another remodel of Main Street location boosted seating to 135, doubling building square footage.

2002

Guido passed away, one year after turning over control of day-to-day operations.

2006

Started off-site kiosk concession sales at Redbird Arena and U.S. Cellular Coliseum.

2009

Opened second location on Bloomington's east side near Central Illinois Regional Airport.

2011

Celebrated 40th anniversary.

"I thought, 'Wow, that's cool,'" he said. "That's when it hit me that everybody knows about Avanti's."

The family's ISU ties go deeper than just Gondolas. They're basketball season-ticket holders, and the Zellers' sisters, Maria (Ditchen) '96 and Judy (Mulcahey) '92, are alumnae. They also support ISU and Athletics financially, making a large contribution to the Redbird Arena completion project in 2004 and continuing with annual gifts, including food for Redbird teams.

The Zellers have been selling food at Redbird Arena and Hancock Stadium for years, and Avanti's also helps out in the community, including the Normal-based Special Olympics Illinois. Their busiest day of the year is the State of Illinois Marching Band Championship each fall, when families from all over the state descend on campus for a weekend visit.

"We're engaged, and that's fun," said Martha Blankenship '82, a former part-time student employee who now works in the restaurant's business office. "It's not just business. It's relationships."

Those relationships, especially with student employees who have unique class schedules and social lives, have been important to Avanti's from the very beginning, starting with Guido.

"That's one thing he took pride in, taking good care of his employees, rewarding them, treating them well, having a lot of part-time students," Rich said. "He'd make it convenient for them to work their way through school."

One of those carrying that legacy today is Bloomington-Normal native Courtney Markey '11, who has worked at Avanti's for seven years, starting in carry-out and later as a dining room supervisor at the east-side location.

Now back at Illinois State to get her master's degree in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences' nutrition and dietetics program, Markey works as a server to pay for her living expenses. She appreciates that Avanti's managers are experts when it comes to accommodating student schedules.

The leadership skills she picked up as a supervisor herself will someday help her pursue a career as a registered dietician at a hospital or school district. And she hasn't gotten sick of Avanti's food, even after seven years, using the free \$6 daily food allowance to chew through the big menu.

"Being a poor college student, it's not always easy to get to the grocery store," Markey said.

As campus has changed, so has Avanti's relationship with ISU. Back in 1980, when Avanti's first opened for lunch, Illinois State students, faculty and staff were a big part

"After work, I'd take the leftover bread with me back to Walker Hall. Everybody was always awake late when I got back. They wanted my bread."

- Dan Rutherford '78, former Avanti's cook and manager, now Illinois state treasurer

of the clientele. Back then Avanti's also had a bustling late-night business, fueled by foot traffic from nearby Main Street watering holes like White Horse Inn.

Avanti's stayed open to 1 a.m. until the late 1990s. And being located just steps away from several now-closed residence halls—Walker, Dunn-Barton, Atkin-Colby, and Hamilton-Whitten—certainly didn't hurt business, Rich said.

"We'd lock up, and you'd have them knocking on the side doors, looking to order," Marcus said.

As many alums can attest, Sunday nights were Avanti's night. A delivery driver with a carful of food would head over to Watterson Towers every 20 minutes, Marcus recalled. Illinois State Treasurer Dan Rutherford '78 cooked a lot of that food.

Rutherford got the job two weeks into his freshman year through Guido, who once delivered cheese to Rutherford's parents' pizza place in Pontiac. Rutherford had "tomato paste in my veins," as he puts it. He worked at Avanti's for five years to help put himself through college debt free.

"Avanti's is the first place you eat when you arrive and the last thing you eat after graduation before moving on."

- Donna (Heyer) Goodall '79 (via Facebook)

The student body president was the first to sell Gondolas to raise money for his student organization, something fraternities and sororities continue today. One of Rutherford's favorite memories? When his friends in the dorms would order a large pizza, he'd send it over uncut, just to mess with them.

"They were college kids," Rutherford said. "They knew how to tear it apart."

Illinois State deliveries have slowed in recent years, in part because Campus Dining has made such dramatic improvements to on-campus dining centers, Rich said. "You go in there now, it's like a restaurant."

At the same time, the restaurant has seen deliveries pick up in another area—the rest of the country.

Nelson-Brown, the alumna living in Dallas, is a leader of the Dallas/Ft. Worth Area Alumni Network. One day members were reminiscing about Avanti's. Nelson-Brown called the Normal store and found out they do ship bread loaves, just not the meat. They've now had three Gondola parties in the past two years, drawing more than 35 people who gobble up (or take home) about 60 feet of Avanti's bread. (See a photo of the group on page 35).

"It's sweet, it's soft, it really makes your sandwich, gives it such an unusual flavor," Nelson-Brown said. "We're so excited to have that little piece of Avanti's and ISU down here in Dallas."

Just as their father saw potential for growth when he opened for lunch, his sons also have their eyes on the future. In 2000, seeing flat sales and no way to squeeze more out of the Normal store, discussion began on expanding into the

Spread the Bread

Enter for your chance to win an exclusive Avanti's Illinois State prize package:

- 5 loaves of famous Avanti's bread, shipped directly to you
- \$20 Avanti's gift card
- Avanti's hat, sweatshirt, and T-shirt
- Alumni Association water bottle and other Redbird goodies

Sign up by June 21 for your chance to win at Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/Avantis, where you can share your favorite Avanti's memories. Ten prize-package winners will be chosen at random.



second location, which opened in 2009 on the fast-growing east side. And just last year, Avanti's paired up with Alamo II to sell sandwiches and salads in the campus store.

Few restaurants survive more than four decades, much less thrive like Avanti's. The secret to their success, Rich said, is the value provided and the quality customer service that surrounds it. He and Marcus are consequently not surprised when Illinois State alumni from the 1970s and 1980s come back to Normal and fill out comment cards that reflect a consistent compliment:

"Glad to see you haven't changed."



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Campus Comedian

By Tom Nugent

Craig Robinson '94

Office star got his Hollywood start while at ISU

Perched behind the gleaming keyboard of his Roland JV-30 electronic piano, the high-flying stand-up comedian and Hollywood comic actor Craig Robinson '94 is about to bring the entire house down.

He does it setting up an opening joke with his signature deadpan glare.

"Before I begin," says the Chicago-born comic before a huge Def Comedy Jam studio audience, "how many people out there have seen [fellow-comedian] Chris Rock's HBO special? Give me a hand-clap if you saw it."

The New York City comedy-clubbers respond with loud, exuberant applause. Robinson glares back at them, his features frozen into a glowering mask. For the audience, it's like gazing into the stone face of thousand-year-old Easter Island Statue.

"Okay," Robinson said in a lifeless monotone. "There goes that material."

His fans roar while he remains stone-faced, hunching gloomily over the keyboard. He's waiting. As the laughter subsides, he continues a monologue that includes an Entertainment News bulletin: "Did you hear that the man who wrote 'The Hokey Pokey' died? It was

all very sad and very embarrassing. At his funeral, they couldn't get him into the casket. They put his right foot in. . . ."

This is vintage stand-up for the 41-year-old TV and movie comic from the Windy City, who bangs away on the keyboard while firing off one-liners. He drones on until suddenly he's on his feet, walking off stage to roaring applause as he laments: "I can see you're not gonna be serious about this!"

for Outstanding Comedy Series and a Television Critic's Association Award for Outstanding Achievement in Comedy.

While *The Office* comes to an end this spring, Robinson's career continues to soar. He is building on success gained while a regular on the hit show, during which time he appeared in several successful Hollywood comedies including *Knocked Up* in 2007, *Pineapple Express* in 2008 and *Shrek Forever After* in 2010.

Really, I think comedy chose me.

Welcome to the wild comic world of television and Silver Screen actor Craig Phillip Robinson—the ISU music major who discovered his natural gift for comedy while "cracking one-liners and imitating Richard Nixon" for his pals on campus.

He went on to TV stardom as the glum-looking, affectless Darryl Philbin on the smash-hit comedy series *The Office*. It was 2005 when he joined the wildly popular sitcom as the poker-faced warehouse manager at Dunder-Mifflin, a Pennsylvania paper supply company.

NBC's highest-rated scripted series, *The Office* was created as a parody of modern American office life that delved into the lives of the workers. The popular show earned numerous prestigious television honors, including an Emmy

Robinson's jet-powered showbiz career continued climbing in 2010 with the release of *Hot Tub Time Machine*, a madcap futuristic spoof that featured Hollywood standouts Rob Corddry and John Cusack. He is now set to star in the lead role of the movie *Peeples*, which will be released in May.

Cast as Wade Walker—a hapless, whacked-out children's entertainer whose rollercoaster romance sets a new standard for hilarious hijinks—the Lions' Gate feature film seems likely to boost Robinson into the comic stratosphere.

"I think it's pretty clear by now that Craig has arrived as a film star," his agent Nicole Chabot at Re:group Entertainment said while rhapsodizing about the "amazing comedic vibes" Robinson generates in *Peeples*.



Photo by Jeffery Smith

Craig Robinson remains true to his roots as a stand-up comedian, still performing on stages across the country. He displayed his talent at the keyboard during an evening at Central Michigan University.



Photo by Jeffery Smith

For me, trying to get laughs is about as natural as breathing or eating or sleeping.

“He’s got a huge natural talent for comedy, which became evident during his seven years on *The Office*. It’s no surprise to people in the industry that he’s about to star in his own vehicle. I think he’s going to be around for a long, long time.”

Ask Robinson to account for his remarkable gift as a comedian and he’ll respond in typical, low-key fashion. “Really, I think comedy chose me,” he often tells interviewers. “From as far back as I can remember, I’ve always been able to make people laugh.

“Really, I always had this urge to be silly that I couldn’t control, know what I mean? Even as a child, when I told the story about ‘The Three Little Pigs,’

I’d have one of the pigs put on his gym shoes and run away before the house blew down! For me, trying to get laughs is about as natural as breathing or eating or sleeping.”

Robinson brought his quick wit to the ISU campus in the early 1990s. The son of a Chicago attorney, his mother taught music for many years in city schools—which he said probably accounts for his talent as a singer and keyboard artist.

After deciding to major in music, he soon discovered that his gift for one-liners was the key to instant popularity. When taking time from his classes and appearances with ISU’s Interdenominational Youth Choir, Robinson dropped by high-octane, Chicago-area comedy clubs, including the famed Second City venue and Chicago Improv.

“At first, I didn’t really believe I could get up there and make people laugh,” he remembered with a gleam of nostalgia. “But several of my buddies on campus were telling me: ‘You’ve been cracking me up for months. Why don’t you take that stuff on stage and see if you can make it with a live audience?’”

He took their advice. His first few comic forays went well, yet he wasn’t fully convinced that he had the talent for a showbiz career. In a burst of unexpected prudence, he settled down and earned a master’s degree in music education at St. Xavier University, then wound up teaching music several years at Chicago’s Horace Greeley High School.

But the stand-up comedy bug had bitten him deeply while at ISU. By the late 1990s, he was wandering the country and appearing frequently during open-mike sessions at clubs in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and elsewhere. When he won several regional competitions for comedians, he wound up as a guest on Comedy Central and such popular TV shows as *Real Time with Bill Maher* and *Jimmy Kimmel Live*.

A series of small parts on TV sitcoms followed, including *Friends*, and in low-profile comedy films. Then came his major breakthrough as a regular on the increasingly popular sitcom with superstar Steve Carell.

The show's conclusion will not derail Robinson, who is still armed with his trademark deadpan demeanor. With his knack for playing snap-crackle-and-pop melodies on the keyboard while delivering his low-key monologues, he seems destined to become a household entertainment brand.

But if asked to speculate about his future in showbiz, Robinson will answer in typical joking fashion while revealing he dreams of the chance to become a member of Barack Obama's cabinet.

"What I really want," he'll say without a trace of a smile, "is to become the next Secretary of the Department of GDB: Get Down and Boogie!"

It's pretty clear by now that Craig has arrived as a film star.



Courtesy of MGM Media Licensing

While known by many fans for his role in *The Office*, Robinson is a regular on the movie screen as well. This scene is taken from *Hot Tub Time Machine*, which released in 2010.

Movie appearances

The work of ISU alum Craig Robinson extends far beyond his role on the popular series *The Office*, as evidenced by these incomplete listings of movies and television appearances.

- Escape from Planet Earth*
(with ISU alum Jane Lynch '82) 2013
- This Is the End* 2013
- Peeples* 2013
- Shrek Forever After* 2010
- Hot Tub Time Machine* 2010
- Night at the Museum:*
Battle of the Smithsonian 2009
- Fanboys* 2009
- Pineapple Express* 2008
- Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story* 2007

Television highlights

- Eastbound & Down*
- Curb Your Enthusiasm*
- Arrested Development*
- Friends*
- The Bernie Mac Show*



FUELING *the Wind* REVOLUTION

by *Ryan Denham*

When U.S. Sen. Mark Udall stood in the Senate chamber last summer to argue for an extension of a key wind farm tax credit, he turned to Illinois State research to prove his point.

“Just this month, Illinois State University released a report that estimates that Illinois’ 23 largest wind farms will contribute roughly \$5.8 billion to local economies over the lifetimes of these projects,” the Colorado Democrat said.

Illinois State graduate students Jared Hayden ’12 and Sarah Noll ’12 already knew that. They helped crunch the numbers in the economic impact report that Udall cited, “which was cool,” Noll said. “We knew it was us.”

Illinois is a major player in the American wind energy industry, ranking fourth among U.S. states in overall installed wind capacity, and No. 1 overall in 2011 with 404 new turbines installed. At the center of the state’s vibrant wind energy industry is Illinois State, whose students, researchers and alumni are shaping wind developments and related public policy issues around the country.

The University’s wind wisdom is fueled by the Center for Renewable Energy, which debuted in 2008 with initial funding from the U.S. Department of Energy. The center anchors the University’s renewable energy major and is home to the Illinois Wind Working Group, comprised of 200 key wind industry stakeholders.

The center traces its history to a group of faculty members who, more than a decade ago, dreamed of putting a wind turbine on the University Farm north of campus. That never happened because they decided to aim higher, focusing instead on building an interdisciplinary renewable energy curriculum and outreach program.

Initial work on the turbine project helped the Center for Renewable Energy gain a foothold in the industry, as did Illinois State's physical location, said David Loomis, director of the center. McLean County and neighboring counties, as it turns out, carry average wind speeds and other features that make them prime locations for installing turbines.

Today there are more than 100 students enrolled in the renewable energy major and 74 graduates, including Hayden and Noll, who are now pursuing their master's degrees. A grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation also helped finish a state-of-the-art renewable energy lab in Turner Hall, featuring a wind tunnel and a trailer-mounted remote wind sensor Sonic Detection and Ranging (SODAR) device, among other tools.

Illinois State's renewable energy program is unique because it's truly interdisciplinary, Loomis said. The center's faculty leadership is a diverse bunch, with expertise ranging from economics and agriculture to technology. It's a perfect mix for new graduates whose first job out of college may be wind farm project development, requiring them to adroitly

I wanted to make an impact with my career on the world around me.

work with farmers, landowners, neighbors, and county board members.

"That job in part requires you to have a lot of facets. You don't have to be an expert in any one facet," Loomis said. "The interdisciplinary approach prepares our students better than just giving them part of the picture."

Whether it's the altruistic lure of clean energy or the desire to work in an exciting, developing field, students are drawn to the major for different reasons.

Casey Robertson '10 got a job with American Wind Energy Management Corp., a small wind developer based in Springfield, after graduating with her renewable energy degree. Robertson's concentration at Illinois State was in public policy and economics, with one of her standout classes involving round-table discussions about important court cases in energy regulation and related policymaking issues.

But the major didn't lock her into one career path over another. For her capstone class, for example, she laid out a small solar installation project for a home. The work involved looking at where to install the panels, which ones to choose, how to find grants to buy them, and estimating the possible return on investment.

Robertson said her young career in wind is exciting, in part because the industry is evolving so quickly. And she's fulfilling her primary motivation for choosing renewable energy—doing something that will benefit society as a whole. Indeed, Illinois' 42 wind farm projects collectively produce enough clean energy to avoid production of 4.7 million tons of carbon dioxide each year.



Sarah Noll '12, Jared Hayden '12 and Center for Renewable Energy Director David Loomis

“I wanted to make an impact with my career on the world around me,” Robertson said.

Also making an impact is the Illinois Wind Working Group (IWWG), which is led by Loomis and professors David Kennell from the Department of Technology and Randy Winter from the Department of Agriculture. Assistant professor Jin Jo from the Department of Technology is also an associate director at the Center for Renewable Energy. The IWWG hosts statewide conferences for industry leaders and smaller events for niche audiences, such as one targeted at county board members focused on siting, zoning and taxing issues.

Illinois State’s wind research provides the industry with a much needed resource, namely unbiased information. That’s where graduates Hayden and Noll come in with their work on the economic impact document.

They were tasked with updating the 2011 report for 2012, meaning they had to crunch the numbers for the six new wind farms that came online. They used the Jobs and Economic Development Impacts (JEDI) model, plotting out on a spreadsheet how much money was spent on the different turbine components, where that money was spent, how many jobs that spending created directly and indirectly, and so on.

The tricky part is that some companies on the wind energy manufacturing supply chain aren’t exactly eager to turn over their proprietary financial data to Illinois State’s researchers.

“The companies, to stay competitive, don’t want to reveal their exact costs,” Noll said.

Such obstacles did not discourage her or Hayden, who grew up about 40 miles east of Normal in the town of Fisher. He could see McLean County’s 240-turbine Twin Groves wind farms from his family’s

home. After two years at the University of Illinois, he transferred to Illinois State for the renewable energy program.

“It’s an up-and-coming, exciting field,” Hayden said.

The Twin Groves turbines produce about 400 megawatts annually—enough to power more than 130,000 typical American households for a whole year. A key member of the team that developed Twin Groves was Bob Crowell, who got his M.B.A. at Illinois State in 1995.

Crowell’s early career was spent in more traditional forms of energy, first on the natural gas side of Illinois Power, then for a sister company involved in coal-fired and other types of power generation. After being exposed to wind energy back in 1998 through a small wind farm project in Costa Rica, Crowell was recruited in 2001 to join a small company called Zilkha Renewable Energy, where he put together the company’s pipeline of wind projects throughout the Midwest and Great Lakes regions.

“It was a flaky part of the industry back then. It was anything but mainstream,” Crowell said. “A lot of people thought I was kind of nuts. But I liked the culture. I liked the idea of being back at a small company.”

Crowell and his colleagues at Zilkha—later renamed Horizon Wind Energy and now EDP Renewables—spent four years developing Twin Groves before the first phase was approved and built. Big, tall wind turbines tend to draw a lot of attention and often controversy.

“You make the circuit, talking to the movers and shakers in the local communities—whether it’s Bloomington-Normal, Arrowsmith, Saybrook. You go to the Lions Club, the churches,” Crowell said. “You do that so no one thinks it’s being snuck in under the wire.”

Crowell likes being in on the ground floor in business. In fact, he’s been the 13th person hired at three different companies, including Zilkha. He was No. 13 at his current company, Brooklyn-based OwnEnergy, which partners with landowners to develop renewable energy projects.

As OwnEnergy’s chief development officer, he’s leading projects around the U.S. Last year was a challenging one for the wind industry, Crowell said. There was uncertainty over the production tax credit that Sen. Udall and others were backing, leading to stalled projects and even layoffs. It wasn’t until Congress reached a last-minute deal on the so-called “fiscal cliff” that the wind production tax credit was extended, only then through the end of 2013.

Robertson also acknowledged the impact of the stalled tax credit last year, yet she remains optimistic about the future.

“I only see it going up,” she said of the industry as a whole, “because the fuel for wind energy is free.”



Video: Renewable energy lab

Take a video tour of Illinois State’s renewable energy lab and read the full report that Jared Hayden and Sarah Noll worked on at IllinoisState.edu/Magazine.

Fa



rewell



Bowman retires with a legacy of exceptional leadership

By Susan Marquardt Blystone

So often administrators leave office with an asterisk at the end of their accomplishment list. The notation typically adds to the history books details of a crisis mishandled, poor judgment that sparked a scandal or disdain from those who endured the leader's direct orders.

As Al Bowman prepares to depart from the Illinois State presidency, he too has a significant footnote that will forever serve as an indicator of his decade at the University's helm: There is universal lament for his departure.



Within a few days of Al Bowman announcing his retirement, the campus community came together on the Quad in a surprise rally to show appreciation for his leadership as Illinois State's president the past decade, *previous page*.

“I’m the only one happy with my news,” Bowman said, referring to the announcement of his retirement.

Immediately after sharing his decision in December of last year, Bowman heard from constituents across the campus, community and country who voiced their shock and dismay.

Gratitude has been the third emotion consistently expressed to Bowman, who became the 17th president on March 1, 2004, after serving one year in the office as interim. He remains at the helm while a national search for his replacement continues.

Stating a need to embrace a less stressful and demanding pace for the good of his long-range health, Bowman offered assurances that he is not abandoning the University he has served for 35 years in faculty and administrative roles.

“Illinois State has been the center of my life. I will continue to be a proud Redbird and hope to make Illinois State University an important part of my life for years to come,” Bowman said in his official announcement. He will teach each semester and hold an office in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

It was there he started his ISU career in 1978 as a faculty member in what was then the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology. He arrived having completed a bachelor’s in speech pathology at Augustana College, a master’s in speech-language pathology from Eastern Illinois University, and while completing a doctorate at the University of Illinois in speech and hearing science.

The classroom was his intended destination. “My plan was to earn tenure and teach classes

in my specialty and do my research. I love teaching and the balance between teaching and research here at ISU,” Bowman said. “I never planned to be an administrator.”

His journey to the presidency began unexpectedly when his department chair retired and two in the faculty ranks vied for the position. Bowman was not interested in the post, which made him a perfect candidate to step in and unite the divided team.

“It was very difficult to heal that department,” Bowman said while reflecting on the assignment he was given in 1994. “But for me personally, it was the best experience of my life. I had assumed administrative work was boring, mundane and routine. I found it fascinating and especially loved the problem solving activity that was central to the job. I was hooked.”

He led the department for eight years while teaching and serving as director of the Down Syndrome Speech-Language Clinic. Staff scholarly productivity doubled, the master’s program rose in prestige to its current ranking as No. 1 in Illinois, and accreditation by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association was awarded.

“I was ready to be department chair the rest of my life,” Bowman said. The fact he was content to remain in that position explains why those closest to him use the phrase “reluctant administrator” to describe Bowman’s journey to the presidency.

The transition was truly scripted by others at the University, who continued to seek his help in



filling key positions. It was President Victor Boschini who opened Hovey Hall's doors to Bowman, asking him to serve in 2002 as interim provost upon the departure of Al Goldfarb. In that role Bowman managed a \$3.9 million rescission in Academic Affairs through targeted budget actions that preserved the quality and integrity of academic programs.

When Boschini resigned the presidency a year later, Bowman's dedicated service and reputation as a skilled manager resulted in yet another request for him to take on an interim role.

"That was my lottery win," Bowman said, expressing gratitude that he was "at the right place at the right time" to step in as president. "The change underway was historic. The chance to be a part of it was an opportunity I couldn't pass up."

The office became his following a national search. Those who have

years, Illinois State was ranked as one of the top 100 public universities in the nation for quality and value by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine.

Several historic highs were achieved, including a freshman ACT score average of 24.3 and a freshman-to-sophomore retention rate of 85 percent. An Alumni Center was opened, classroom buildings were renovated and six residence halls remodeled. A \$50 million student fitness center was constructed, as well as a 900-bed student apartment complex that became ISU's first-ever public/private venture.

The most significant change was the most difficult to achieve: Bowman managed to increase the level of pride for the University within the campus community and constituents, as well as the value alumni place on their degree.

"There is a sense of pride associated

or that remains constant. His warmth is felt by students and legislators alike.

"I modeled my presidency on Bob Bone's approach to the office," Bowman said, referencing ISU's beloved leader from the 1950s. "I liked the fact that he immersed himself in campus life and was very outgoing. I wanted to be an engaged president who used a common sense approach."

The blueprint served Bowman so well that many on campus readily and regularly compare the two presidencies. The parallels were cemented when students gathered on the Quad just days after Bowman announced his resignation. They surprised Bowman with a secretly planned expression of thanks that included his wife, Linda; ISU cheerleaders; Reggie Redbird; members of the Big Red Marching Machine; and hundreds of students, faculty and staff who cheered for their beloved leader.

"That was without a doubt one of the best moments and memories of my presidency," Bowman said. Others include completion of the University's first comprehensive campaign, Redefining "normal," and Illinois State's advancement during a dreadful economic environment.

"It is so satisfying that we made incredible progress despite the fact that state support for higher education has declined. There have also been major demographic shifts in the population of prospective students," Bowman said. "And yet this has been one of our best decades."

"Illinois State has been the center of my life."

observed Bowman in the 10 years since concur that he truly was the right man for the job.

ISU has been transformed into a first-choice public university under Bowman's leadership. For seven consecutive

years, Illinois State was ranked as one of the top 100 public universities in the nation for quality and value by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine. Several historic highs were achieved, including a freshman ACT score average of 24.3 and a freshman-to-sophomore retention rate of 85 percent. An Alumni Center was opened, classroom buildings were renovated and six residence halls remodeled. A \$50 million student fitness center was constructed, as well as a 900-bed student apartment complex that became ISU's first-ever public/private venture. The most significant change was the most difficult to achieve: Bowman managed to increase the level of pride for the University within the campus community and constituents, as well as the value alumni place on their degree. "There is a sense of pride associated

The same cannot be said for the majority of universities in Illinois. What sets Illinois State apart? Bowman answers with praise for the expertise of his leadership team that he relied on for candid assessments.



More about Bowman's departure

Take a moment to read President Bowman's retirement announcement that was shared with the campus community last December. It is available online at IllinoisState.edu/Magazine. You'll also find a video clip of the memorable moment when individuals secretly rallied on the Quad to express their appreciation to ISU's beloved president.

Anyone participating in Illinois State events grew accustomed to President Bowman's infectious smile. The joy he felt in leading the University was apparent in every occasion and especially events that celebrated students, including a Quad event at the semester's start, below.

"I spent a lot of time listening. I believe it is crucial to have a person or two who can tell you the truth, no matter how painful it is. I sent the message that I was looking for the right answer, not necessarily agreement with my own ideas."

Bowman also has sincere appreciation for faculty and staff who are dedicated to the success of students. He expresses pride in a stellar student body; and applauds alumni and friends who invest their time, talent and resources into the University's programs and people. He also points to ISU's strategic plan as a pivotal part of the University's success.



"I still love this job. If I could slow down a little and stay as president, I'd do it forever."

"In my opinion, the turning point for Illinois State came with *Educating Illinois*. The conversations initiated in the 1990s that resulted in the document addressed what kind of institution we wanted to be," Bowman explained.

"Once we decided our primary focus would be undergraduate excellence without retreating from a commitment to research and graduate programs, our future was solid and our progress inevitable."

The living document assured decisions made across campus bolstered the University's core values, which include the pursuit of learning and scholarship, individualized attention, diversity, integrity and civic engagement.

"We took an approach that is very dif-

ferent from most universities when we decided it would be a mistake to be all things to all people," Bowman said, admitting he was cautious.

"I said no to a lot of ideas, such as the creation of low-enrollment doctoral programs that are extremely expensive. I made certain we focused on what we could do well and what we could afford. Where we thought we could expand, we built new programs with existing resources."

An example he gives is the introduction of a renewable energy program, which is a unique major with high interest among incoming students. It was implemented with minimal cost given the infrastructure within the College of Applied Science and Technology.

Another example of how *Educating Illinois* guided Bowman's decisions is his strong stance against increasing class size or shifting the burden of teaching to graduate students instead of faculty members. Doing so would reduce the overall expense ledger but would also lower the academic experience, which Bowman deemed too high a cost.

"We have faculty who compete in the national arena in their field, but who also value their teaching and interaction with students. That's what makes us unique. That's what has created a campus climate that people are talking about across the state," Bowman said.

He knows the banter from having invested hours at the state capital, where he enjoyed working as Illinois State's advocate. Bowman never tired of explaining the University's endeavors, excellence and needs. He equally delighted in meeting with potential donors, eagerly sharing with them opportunities to support ISU's people and programs.

Even the most difficult part of the job—balancing the needs and expectations of myriad stake-

Honor a legacy

Many have asked what they can do to express appreciation to the Bowmans. They have identified two areas close to their heart: ISU's Eckelmann-Taylor Speech and Hearing Clinic, and the Bowman Fellows Program. Consider honoring their years of service by making a gift to either, or give to the area of campus that matches your passion. Go to IllinoisState.edu/Giving, call (800) 366-4478, or mail to Illinois State University Foundation, Campus Box 8000, Normal, IL 61790.

holders who have an attachment to the University—became a labor of love for Bowman, who readily acknowledges he had hoped to stay in office another four years.

“I wanted to see the new facility for the College of Fine Arts completed and an addition to Milner Library finished,” Bowman said, admitting his retirement decision was made with difficulty.

“I still love this job. If I could slow down a little and stay as president, I’d do it forever,” Bowman said, but the demand of 80-hour weeks that fuse his personal and professional life take a toll. Having just turned 60 and with the University on solid ground, he and his family deemed the time for transition had come.

While aware that many on campus are concerned the momentum will slow when he departs, Bowman is confident Illinois State will continue on a strong projectory.

And he is pleased he will remain on campus to watch and cheer the progress that is yet to come. The fact he has no desire to relocate in retirement, declining numerous job opportunities during the past decade, fulfills one of the first promises he made as president.

“I said all along I wanted to close out my career at Illinois State. The decision to stay is easy. What an incredible opportunity to be part of the University’s transformation. The professional satisfaction I obtained from that is why I stayed,” Bowman said. “What a historic and treasured opportunity.”



First lady proudly partnered with the president

The job sounds horrendous: Commit to a weekly schedule where a 12-hour day is considered a relief, and your home is the venue for hundreds of guests invited to events year-round. If not entertaining, plan to be attending a lecture, athletic event or fundraiser. Understand there is significant travel involved and a constant smile is required. And know that all work is secondary to your full-time employment, not to mention your responsibilities as a spouse and parent.

Such is the expectation for Illinois State’s first lady, a position held with passion, purpose and grace for the past decade by Linda (Althoff) Bowman ’81, M.S. ’83.

“It’s been a blessing, not a burden,” she said of partnering with her husband, Al, to represent the University. “It is definitely work, but very pleasurable work. I love this job.”

Linda’s ability to find joy in completing endless commitments stems from her unique understanding of Al’s strengths and an appreciation for his work on behalf of the University, which brought them together.

They married in 1985 and a year later, Linda joined the staff of what is now the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. An expert in stuttering and speech disorders, Linda teaches the same course that Al taught when he began his career at Illinois State. She also serves as director of ISU’s Eckelmann-Taylor Speech and Hearing Clinic.

“We went from the husband-wife relationship to professional colleagues,” Linda said. His career path first impacted her significantly when he became chair. She consequently had to report to an administrator in a different department. Linda didn’t mind, however, as she appreciated Al’s ability to build a team and motivate others.

“His greatest insight is discernment and the ability to hire good people,” she said. “He is also able to identify the core of a problem and avoid distractions in finding effective solutions.” Ultimately, she ties his success to the fact that “Al cares so deeply” about Illinois State University.

Linda shares a strong affection for her alma mater, which is why she enthusiastically moved the family into the University residence and embraced the staggering demands that came with a full calendar. At the time, the Bowman’s oldest daughter, Laura, was 13. Their youngest, Natalie, was only 9.

“We involved the kids as much as we could,” Linda said, noting the challenge of parenting during those active childhood years while serving as first lady. The approach explains in part how the Bowmans have become so immersed in the University life.

“ISU is inexplicably aligned with every aspect of my life,” Linda said, noting the University has been responsible for her degree, career, marriage, and daughters’ education. Both children are graduates of University High School, with Laura an ISU alum as well.

“It is my past, present and future,” Linda said of ISU, expressing no qualms about what is still to come when Al leaves the office and her work as first lady ends. “I have a very strong faith and no fear about what is happening now.”

She also has no regrets for the investment that has been made during her years of partnering with the president to advance Illinois State.

“I have had the opportunity to teach in a field I love at a place I love with the people I love while working for the man I love,” Linda said. “How could I ever consider that a burden?”

Visit
AlumniIllinoisState.edu/Bowman
to write a personal message
to President Bowman that
will be delivered to him this summer.

Alumni Awards

The Illinois State University Alumni Association honored six award recipients during Founders Day celebrations on February 21. For video comments from this year's award recipients, visit Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/Awards.

Distinguished Alumni Award

James M. Gentile, M.S. '70, Ph.D. '74
President, Research Corporation for Science Advancement
Tucson, Arizona

James Gentile spent two years in post-doctoral studies in the Department of Human Genetics at the Yale School of Medicine after completing two graduate degrees at Illinois State. For nearly 30 years, he held an endowed chair in biology and served as the dean for the natural sciences at Hope College in Holland, Michigan.

He acquired his current position in January of 2005. In addition to leading the Research Corporation, he holds adjunct professorships at the University of Arizona in the Department of Chemistry and at Hope College in the Department of Biology.

Gentile's research programs focus on plant-activation of environmental carcinogens and the connection between inflammation and cancer. His results have been published in more than 100 articles, book chapters and book reviews. He has also authored special reports in scientific research and higher education. Gentile currently writes opinions on science and science education for the *Huffington Post* and several magazines.

He has received numerous national and international awards, including the Alexander Hollaender Research Excellence Award from the Environmental Mutagen Society and the Cancer Research Medallion from the National Cancer Institute in Japan. He was named Humanitarian of the Year by the Educational Enrichment Foundation in 2012. He is a member of numerous boards, including the University of Arizona College of Science, the Biosphere2, the Arizona Cancer Institute and the CuresNow Foundation (Los Angeles).

Gentile's involvement with ISU remains strong. Aside from speaking engagements on campus, he was awarded the Alumni Achievement Award in 1995. He was inducted into the University's College of Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame in February of 2008, along with his wife, Glenda (Hill) '73.



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

Dan Brady
Representative, Illinois General Assembly
Bloomington

Dan Brady studied politics and business at St. Ambrose, graduating with a bachelor's degree. He is a partner in the funeral home firm Kibler-Brady-Ruestman Memorial Home in Bloomington, where he works as a funeral director. He is also a dedicated public servant and staunch supporter of the University.

Brady has served as an Illinois legislator for 12 years. He was named to the House Republican Leadership team in 2003 as Republican Caucus Chair. In 2008 he was named Assistant Minority Leader. Prior to serving at the Statehouse, Brady was elected twice as McLean County Coroner in the 1990s.

Brady's legislative efforts have focused primarily on issues tied to insurance, higher education, law enforcement and emergency medical services. He championed legislation to help local law enforcement agencies better respond to calls involving individuals with special needs.

Currently serving on many boards, Brady has received numerous accolades for his legislative work and recognition for his efforts to strengthen communities. Among the latter are a Friend of Agriculture Award received from the Illinois Farm Bureau two years, the Champion of Free Enterprise honor from the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, and the Legislative Hero Award from the Illinois State Alliance of YMCAs.

Nominations sought for alumni awards

Do you know an alumnus who deserves to be recognized? To make a nomination for the 2014 alumni awards, visit Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/Awards.



Dan Brady



Michael G. Matejka and Kari Sandhaas



David E. Wildt



Adam Kinzinger

E. Burton Mercier Alumni Service Award

Michael G. Matejka, '74
Director of Governmental Affairs,
Great Plains Laborers District Council
Bloomington

Kari Sandhaas '81, '83
Senior agency training designer, COUNTRY Financial
Bloomington

Michael Matejka and his wife, Kari Sandhaas, met at ISU. He studied history and philosophy, while she completed degrees in art and art teacher education.

Now with the Laborers International Union, Matejka works to improve employment conditions. He edits *The Grand Prairie Union News* and has authored two books. A past 18-year member of the Bloomington City Council, Matejka serves on numerous local boards.

Sandhaas designs leadership training at COUNTRY Financial and is the 2012 recipient of the company's Community Service Award. She previously served as creative director for an international education nonprofit and a consulting firm, where she pioneered early Web-based training programs. Coauthor of two books, she serves as Ecology Action Center board president, Autism Society of McLean County (ASMC) vice president, and Multicultural Leadership Program marketing cochair.

She and Matejka have a daughter, Loretta A. Santejka '07, with Asperger's Syndrome. They helped start ASMC employment awareness programs, such as Diversity's Missing Piece, to open employment opportunities for adults with autism.

Alumni Achievement Award

David E. Wildt, '72
Senior Scientist and Head, Center for Species Survival, Smithsonian's Conservation Biology Institute
Front Royal, Virginia

Since studying animal sciences at Illinois State, David Wildt has built a career as a reproductive biologist who specializes in the study and rescue of endangered species. Among his most significant accomplishments have been his partnerships with Chinese colleagues to bring the giant panda back from the edge of extinction.

Wildt completed a master's and doctorate at Michigan State University. He conducted research at Baylor College of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health before working at the Conservation Biology Institute, a part of the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park.

He manages the endangered animal collection at the Institute's 3,200-acre wildlife facility in Front Royal, Virginia, while leading a team that studies diverse species—from coral to elephants. While his research is centered on reproduction, he partners across disciplines in basic and applied research to discover and implement better ways to create and manage sustainable populations of rare species.

His cutting-edge work in reproductive biology and species survival is shared in more than 300 peer-reviewed publications and 56 book chapters that span more than 50 vertebrate species. His advice and expertise is sought throughout the United States and the world.

Outstanding Young Alumni Award

Adam Kinzinger '00
Representative, U.S. Congress
Channahon

As an Illinois State politics and government sophomore, Adam Kinzinger challenged an incumbent for the McLean County board in 1998 and won, becoming one of the youngest board members in the county's history.

After leaving the board in 2003, Kinzinger enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, he earned his pilot wings and currently serves as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force Reserves with the rank of Major.

During his military service, he earned the Air Medal six times while serving in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He also received the National Guard's Valley Forge Cross for Heroism and was selected as the Southeastern Wisconsin American Red Cross Hero of the Year for saving the life of a young woman.

Elected to the House of Representatives in 2010, Kinzinger is on the Energy and Commerce Committee and was named to the House Majority Transition Team just days after he was elected. One of the youngest members of Congress, he is in the "40 under 40 Rising Stars in American Politics" listing by *TIME* magazine.

AlumniConnections



Celebrating 40 fabulous years

Bone Student Center marks milestone anniversary

It has been four decades since the Bone Student Center/Braden Auditorium (BSC/BA) doors opened. The milestone will be marked on campus this year with activities for former student employees.

Construction of the student center began in 1970, and the facility opened in 1973. In 1982, the building was renamed after two former presidents and their wives: Robert and Karin Bone and Samuel and Beth Braden. The Brown Ballroom was named after Francis and Helen Brown in 2005.

Forty years after its completion, Bone Student Center remains a vital part of campus. The key to its success has

been “the outstanding work of the many student employees, who significantly outnumbered full-time staff,” said retired BSC/BA Director Christ Schwelle.

“We relied on them a great deal, and they came through. Student volunteers on various boards and committees provided advice on policies, procedures and finances and played an active role in scheduling and hosting events for students,” said Schwelle, who was director from 1978 to 1999.

Current Director Michelle Paul is hopeful many alums tied to the facility will return during the year-long anniversary celebration. “We are so excited to celebrate our 40-year history and look

forward to sharing today’s Bone with old friends,” she said.

A planning committee is developing anniversary events that will appeal to current students, faculty and staff, as well as alumni and community members. Details will be released during the summer months.

To receive notification of upcoming events, update your contact information on the Alumni Association Website or join the Friends of the Bone Student Center Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/FriendsoftheBSC. Contact Mary Thedens Weber at mathede@IllinoisState.edu or (309) 438-7097 with questions or comments.

Founders Day launched 150th celebration

The annual Founders Day activities had special meaning for alumni this year, as the February event marked the start of a yearlong celebration of the Alumni Association's 150th anniversary.

Two alums recognized at the convocation as honorary degree recipients were actor Sean Hayes and educator

J. Michael Adams '69. See page 26 to read of other alumni honored.

Enjoy photos of Founders Day, including the annual bell ringing ceremony, the Alumni Association luncheon and the alumni award dinner online at IllinoisState.edu/Magazine.



Association's history online, displayed

As part of the Alumni Association's sesquicentennial celebration, University Archivist April Anderson has created opportunities to learn more about the association's rich history.

The Dr. Jo Ann Rayfield Archives now offers a keyword searchable database with access to all of the University's collection. Records and manuscripts can be reviewed online at Library.IllinoisState.edu/unique-collections/archives.

The same site takes users to the digitized yearbook collection. Scroll or search through pages of *The Index* from 1892 to 1971; the *New Student Record* from

1975 to 1994; and the *Graduate Record*, which was published from 1975 to 1993.

Individuals visiting campus will find displays in Milner Library depicting the association's influence and history. These exhibits will focus on important moments in campus life, such as commencement and Homecoming celebrations.

Efforts to expand the collection are ongoing. Individuals who have items of historical interest that they would like to donate should contact Anderson at aander2@ilstu.edu or by calling (309) 438-5525.

Nominations sought for Homecoming royalty

Nominations for the 2013 alumni Homecoming king and queen are being sought.

Alumni who have celebrated their 50th class reunion, have a strong ISU connection, and are able to attend the events are eligible. Applications are available at IllinoisStateHomecoming.com/

royalty, or by contacting Juliana Duncan at jedunca@IllinoisState.edu. Nominations are due by July 1.

The alumni king and queen will be crowned at a luncheon on October 4 and reign over events throughout Homecoming weekend with student royalty.

Alumni invited to Shakespeare event

The annual Alumni Night at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival is July 20. Seating will be reserved for alumni and their guests, who will enjoy *The Comedy of Errors*.

A social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and a buffet dinner will be served at 6:30. Participants will have a backstage tour. The show begins at 8 p.m.

Performance tickets range from \$25 to \$35, depending on seating preference. Tickets for the dinner only are available for \$20. Call Alumni Relations at (309) 438-2586 to reserve tickets, or reserve them online at Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/Shakespeare. Registration deadline is July 1.

Alumni Association annual meeting set

Alumni are invited to attend the Alumni Association annual meeting at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 29, in the Alumni Center. Agenda items include the election of Alumni Association Board of Directors members and officers. Changes to the association's constitution will be discussed.

Alumni with active membership status in the Alumni Association are eligible to vote at the meeting. To be active, alumni must have made a gift through the Illinois State University Foundation in the current or preceding fiscal year.

For more information, contact Alumni Relations at (309) 438-2586 or (800) 366-4478, email Alumni@IllinoisState.edu, or go to IllinoisState.edu/Alumni.

Illinois State University
HOMECOMING
SEPT. 30-OCT. 6, 2013
Alumni Association 150th Anniversary
IllinoisStateHomecoming.com



Creating money out of thin air

Engineering alum plays key role in turbine project

Wesley Walker, M.B.A. '12, made his mark on the Normal landscape in a big way this year.

The Siemens Corporation energy engineer was part of the team making vast sustainability improvements to the campus of Heartland Community College, including the addition of a wind turbine.

Heartland is believed to be the first community college in the state to have a commercial-grade turbine. The school helped form the Illinois Community College Sustainability Network.

The turbine is expected to generate approximately 53 percent of the energy needed to run the community college campus located in north Normal.

This will result in a savings of \$380,000 a year, which is guaranteed because an agreement with Siemens binds the company to supplement any shortfall for the next 17 years.

The savings will pay for the cost of the \$5.2 million project. Of that total, \$1.5 million was received in grants from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation.

A sustainability project of this magnitude is nothing new for Walker, who has spearheaded efforts with the Kankakee Housing Authority, City of Rockford and Chicago park districts.

While working on the project, Walker and his wife, Erika, M.B.A. '12, began ISU's M.B.A. program.

"It was really enjoyable to enter the program together," Walker said. "We never had an opportunity to see each other in that scenario before. It was interesting to get to know each other as students. It was actually really fun."

The knowledge gained from the graduate program has been useful to Walker, especially in his new role overseeing Siemens' engineering group for the Midwest.

"I have a lot more managerial responsibilities for the region from North Dakota, down to Missouri and to Wisconsin," Walker said, "which was my goal of beginning the program."

50s

Arclia (Hari) Watson '50 is retired after 54 years as a public school teacher in Illinois. She resides in Savoy.

Robert Webb '50 has retired from the presidency at Lake Land Community College. He is a member of the Eastern Illinois University Board of Trustees. He and his wife, Lourdine, reside in Mattoon.

George Yard '59 is a University of Missouri-St. Louis College of Education professor emeritus. He coauthored the book *Teaching Children Who Struggle with Mathematics*, which was selected in 2012 by King Saud University of Saudi Arabia to be translated into Arabic. He and his wife, Carole, reside in Houston, Texas.

60s

Anthony F. Kardis '61, M.S. '62, was honored by the American Chemical Society for 50 years of service. A chemistry teacher, he taught high school classes for 37 years and summers at University of Missouri-St. Louis. Now retired, he is a genealogy enthusiast. He coauthored the *Missouri Science Olympiad Coach's Workbook*. He resides in Creve Coeur, Missouri.

Nancy (Julien) Kopp '61 is a writer of creative nonfiction, personal essays, children fiction and a blog of writing tips. She has been published in anthologies, magazines, newspapers, and ezines, including 13 *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books. She resides in Manhattan, Kansas.

Ray L. Brownfield '65 is the sole owner of Land Pro LLC and a real estate broker at John Greene Land Company, both in Oswego. He received the 2012 D. Howard Doane Award from the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. The award is for outstanding contribution to the field of agriculture, with emphasis on farm management and rural

appraisal. He and his wife, Patricia, reside in Naperville.

Kenneth M. Jandes '66 is the associate dean, director of operations, and past chair of the Department of Educational Leadership at American College of Education. Jandes hosts and moderates the Web show *Hot Topics for Educational Leaders*. His biography has been in *Who's Who in America* consecutively since 1997. He and his wife, RoseMary, have two children and five grandchildren. The couple resides in Downers Grove.

Theresa Ripley '66 is retired and publishing ebooks. She resides in Eugene, Oregon.

John C. Schwanke, M.S. '69, is a distinguished alumnus at Moorhead State. He served as vice president for Feller Scenery Studios, where he supervised and negotiated contracts for more than 800 productions. He has retired as director of business development from Production Resource Group. He has a daughter and resides in Danbury, Connecticut.

70s

Michael Krueger '70 is a retired teacher. He and his wife, Linda, reside in Carol Stream.

Frank Puleo '70 has retired after 15 years in the banking industry and 24 years in federal service. He was section chief with the FDIC and an immigration service officer with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services within the Department of Homeland Security. He and his wife, Bobbie, have three children and five grandchildren. The couple resides in Tampa, Florida.

Tom Szott '70, M.S. '76, has retired after 24 years with Danville Area Community College, where he directed adult education. He previously worked as an elementary education teacher and principal. He and his wife, Jennifer, reside in Danville.

Pause for applause



In the fast lane

T.J. Zizzo '97 is a rare breed—and not just because he enjoys going from zero to 330 miles per hour in four seconds. The professional drag racer studied integrated manufacturing systems as an undergrad. His ISU experience has given him a huge advantage in a business that requires the ability to schmooze, sell products and mingle with fans. “Going to ISU made me well-rounded enough to be able to deal with corporate America,” he said. His Zizzo Racing team, with PEAK Motor Oil as its title sponsor, competed in 10 NHRA Top Fuel Series events in 2012. Read more at IllinoisState.edu/STATESide.

Success with Seattle Sutton

The popular Seattle Sutton Healthy Eating program was launched with the help of nutrition and dietetics graduate **Kathleen Corcoran Tuntland '76**. She partnered with Sutton in 1985 to co-found the business that prepares and delivers healthy meals. Tuntland patented the diet, oversaw construction of a 30,000-square-foot facility, and became chief operations officer. She was instrumental in transforming a vision into a multi-million dollar business. From the start of her career at a health resort to managing a Pizza Hut, Tuntland practiced her love for food preparation and service. She followed her passion despite a battle against cancer, which ended with her death in 2012.



Picking the players

An internship with the Indiana Pacers resulted in a career for small business management alum **Vance Catlin '02**. After interning his senior year, he joined the NBA organization in 2004 as the Indiana Fever's video coordinator. He became the Pacers assistant video coordinator before serving the past five years as head video coordinator. Promoted again in 2012, Catlin now holds the title of director of pro personnel/scout. Catlin does advanced scouting and is responsible for watching every NBA player not on the Pacers' roster, including those in the NBADL. The move takes him one step closer to his goal of becoming a general manager.

A select exec

Steve R. Smith '89, M.S. '93, captured the national spotlight when chosen in 2012 as one of only six individuals in the country to be named a top U.S. association CEO. The recognition came through CEO Update, a news source for nonprofit executives. Smith studied public relations and communication at ISU. He is now the executive director and CEO of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. Headquartered in Elk Grove Village, the professional organization for physicians specializing in hospice and palliative medicine is dedicated to improving the care of patients with life-threatening or serious conditions through advancement of hospice and palliative medicine.



Reggie Reads

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

How we met

Yvette Fish '89, M.S. '00, was a junior transfer student driving down North Street with a friend who pulled over and called to Rich Evans '90, M.S. '98. Rich got in the car with Yvette and the rest, as they say, is history.

The two dated throughout the rest of their undergrad programs. Both studied in the area of recreation—Yvette specializing in therapeutic recreation and Rich in commercial recreation. They were inseparable, having spent an extended spring break working on a cruise ship together.

They married in 1989 following graduation and dedicated the summer of their wedding to working at the Easter Seals Camp during its early days. Yvette was an assistant camp director and Rich worked in maintenance. The two of them were a part of the process that helped Easter Seals Camp become accessible for the children with physical challenges.

After spending some time outside of the University, the two decided they had more learning to do at Illinois State and returned to work on graduate degrees. Yvette's work was in speech pathology, while Rich studied industrial technology. "We sold our home, moved our two small children, and engaged in ISU's married student housing life," Yvette said.

Rich has been a computer analyst at State Farm Insurance Companies for eight years. Yvette continues her ISU education, working toward a doctorate in special education. She is an instructional assistant professor in the Special Education Department, and has worked at the Laboratory Schools for five years. A licensed speech and language pathologist, she runs a private practice called Inspiration in Speech and Learning.

Their son is a recent graduate of University High School. Their daughter, a U-High alum as well, is a student at American University and has studied in Nairobi. "It's like we just can't leave," Yvette joked. "With Rich and I both having our bachelor's and master's here, and our children having attended University High, it just seems like home."



Kathleen Kaye '71 is the proprietor of Kaye Communications. She resides in Shoreline, Washington.

Sandra (Breneman) Oldendorf '72 is an Appalachian State University College of Education professor. She coauthored *Religious Diversity and Children's Literature*, which supports the teaching of religion in social studies. She resides in Valle Crucis, North Carolina.

Kathy (Weissenbach) Phillips '72 is retired from teaching family and consumer sciences/culinary arts. She resides in Waterloo.

Thomas Souhrada, M.S. '72, has retired after teaching and coaching for 38 years at Davenport West High School. He and his wife, Linda, reside in Davenport, Iowa.

Mary K. (Kemmer) Schneider '73 is a substitute teacher in Franklin Township School District. She and her husband, Michael, reside in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Edwin Schupback '73 is a facilities specialist at Denver Seminary. He and his wife, Leslie, reside in Littleton, Colorado.

Karen (McGinnis) Murphy '74 is an executive at Dewitt Savings Bank. She and her husband, Marvin, reside in Clinton.

Suzanne (Tendall) Thompson '74 retired after 38 years as a special education teacher for students from preschool through high school. She has served on the Special Olympics Illinois Board of Directors since 2007 and was named chair in 2012. She and her husband are the parents of three children and reside in Seneca.

Deborah (Stanifer) Fike '75 is a paralegal in the Maricopa County Attorney's Office. Her children's book, *My Sweet Lady Dog*, was published in 2012. She is widowed and resides in Glendale, Arizona.

Richard Shapiro '75 is a self-employed CPA. He resides in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Theodore V. Waltmire '75 survived a stroke. He wrote and performed a musical about the challenges of therapy and resuming life after a devastating illness. *The Mighty Ted: An Unexpected Journey* was performed at the Second City

Training Center in Chicago in 2012. He resides in Oakbrook Terrace.

Michael Moos '76 is the deputy village administrator in Sherman, where he and his wife, Mary, reside.

William Owusu '76 is the owner of Atakora Brothers Unlimited Textiles. He and his wife, Fay, reside in Chicago.

Kelly (Zimmer) Parrish '76 is a marketing assistant with Active Release Techniques Corporate Solutions. She resides in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Judy Wood Hollis '77 retired as Springfield District 186 high school physical education teacher. She and her husband, Dave, reside in Petersburg.

James Mitchell '78 is CFO for Stric-Lan Companies, which is an oil-field service firm. He and his wife, Margaret, have three children and reside in Lafayette, Louisiana.

Camille (Edgerton) Taylor '78, M.S. '85, retired after 34 years with the Unit 5 school district. She worked as a special education teacher, at-

risk interventionist, and positive life skills teacher. She was a Normal Community High School guidance counselor at retirement. She and her husband, Arthur, reside in Bloomington.

William Allison '79 is the global technology leader for Deloitte Consulting and is a company partner. He oversees a 25,000-person practice with systems integration and advisory capabilities for large enterprise and public sector clients. He and his wife, Mary, reside in Palm Desert, California.

Barbara (Barrett) Daudelin '79 is employed by the Mundelein Park and Recreation District. She and her husband, Dave, reside in Ingleside.

Rita (Kennel) Lopienski, M.M. '79, is community life director at Plymouth Place Senior Living in LaGrange Park and president of arts in Bartlett. She is the founder and director of the Bartlett International Chorus and founder of Bartlett Adult Theatre. She received Willowbrook High School's 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award. She resides in Bartlett.

Arles (Hendershott) Love '79 is a development director at Milestone, Inc. She received the Community Service Award from the Rockford Park District, the Illinois Association of Park Districts and the Illinois Park and Recreation Association for developing and implementing the Rockford Park District Foundation's Ambassador program. She also received the Rockford Rotary Service Above Self Award for 32 years of volunteer service to area nonprofits. She resides in Rockford.

Iqbal Memon, M.B.A. '79, worked as a data processing manager with Pakistan International Airlines and taught business administration at Fort Lewis College in Colorado. Now retired, he teaches graduate business students online at the University of Maryland University. He and his wife, Zahida, reside in Richardson, Texas.

Linda (O'Keefe) Smith '79 is a customer service representative with Electrolux. She and her husband, Craig, reside in Concord, North Carolina.

80s

Susan (Sulaski) Dorn '80 teaches third grade at Harris Elementary School in the City of St. Charles School District. She received a 2012 Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award for her achievements and dedication to the teaching profession. She resides in St. Charles, Missouri.

James "Jay" Cardwell '81 is the CFO of S2BN Entertainment. He started his career as the original producer of the internationally acclaimed musical *Nunsense*. He resides in Peconic, New York.

Mike Essington '81 is an IT architect with State Farm Insurance Companies. He and his wife, Karen, reside in Bloomington.

John Hilborn '81 is in his 34th year in public education. He is the special education department chair with Broken Arrow school district and serves as transition/vocational services coordinator. He is an adjunct at Northeastern State University. His wife, **Carol (Peterson) '80**, is in

her 26th year of teaching music for elementary students. She is an assistant band director for Berryhill high school. They reside in Bixby, Oklahoma.

Mary J. (Lambert) Janssen '81 has worked in physical therapy nearly 30 years. She is the OT/PT supervisor for the Kankakee Special Education Cooperative, which provides services to special needs individuals from age 3 to 22. She resides in Kankakee.

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

Diane Farley '82 is an exam manager for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. She resides in Aurora.

Gary Ostrander, M.S. '82, served as vice chancellor for research and graduate education at the University of Hawaii's Honolulu campus prior to being named vice president of research at Florida State University. He oversees a staff of 80 and a budget of \$29 million. His research ranges from cancer biology to marine biology, with a focus on understanding the worldwide deterioration of coral reef ecosystems.

Sandra (Edwards) Carl '83 completed a master's in math education at Fresno Pacific University. She taught 26 years, served as a mathematics instructional consultant at the county office of education, and has her own educational consultant business called The Bridge Virtual Academy. She and her husband, Jeff, reside in Visalia, California.

Lois Lavrisa '83, M.S. '84, has taught at several universities and was a professional cheerleader for the NBA Chicago Bulls. She is vice president of the Low Country

Romance Writers of America chapter in Charleston, South Carolina. She authored the Amazon Kindle bestseller *Liquid Lies*. She resides in Savannah, Georgia.

Mary Schallhorn, M.M. '83, is managing director of the Sheboygan Symphony Orchestra in Wisconsin. She served on the Illinois Valley Community College music faculty. She resides in LaMoille.

Martin D. Cain '84 is a designer with his own business, martincainde-sign.com, who has been involved in theme park, resort, restaurant and retail projects worldwide. A Christian mentor, he works with teens to honor his late son, who was killed in a drug shooting. Cain resides in Peoria.

Belinda Click '84 is a copy editor at *The Pantagraph* in Bloomington, where she resides.

Cynthia Harris '84 works in administration in Illinois State Athletics. She resides in Bloomington.

Patricia (Meltzer) Maree '84 is a preschool teacher at Wee Warriors Christian Academy. She resides in Tuscola.

Laura (Pudik) Million '84 is a specialist/instructional designer at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. Her daughter is

enrolled at ISU. Million resides in Glen Carbon.

Margaret Bogacz '85 is a retired professor of mathematics. She resides in Surprise, Arizona.

Gary Canaday '85 is senior vice president of Huntington Business Bank. He resides in Dublin, Ohio.

Bret Conklin '85 is senior vice president and controller with The Horace Mann Companies. He and his wife, Aimee, reside in Williamsville.

Michael Riesbeck '85 retired from Chicago Public Schools. He also taught in Collier County, Florida. He is owner of Riesbeck Realty Inc. He and his wife, Mary, have five children and reside in North Port, Florida.

James Baran '86, M.S. '86, retired from the Institute of Food Technologists in Chicago, where he was director of publications productions. He is a past member of the board of directors of the Association Media & Publishing. A skier and cyclist, he lives in California and England, while calling Galena his home.

Pete D'Alessandro '86 is a political consultant with PAD Consulting in Des Moines, Iowa.



Still backing the 'Birds

The ISU basketball game against Creighton on January 2 was an opportunity for a group of former Redbird baseball players to reconnect. *From left* are Jim Sakas '83 and his son, Steven, of Libertyville; Janzen Lord and father, Jeff '83, of Normal; Ed Tolzein '01 of Libertyville and Neal Cotts '01 of Chicago. A 2005 Chicago White Sox World Series Champion, Cotts is now with the Texas Rangers.

Redbird Legacy

Jack Cowgill '65, M.S. '78, and Deborah (Kiekow) Johnson '74, M.S. '78, found their spouses at Illinois State. Decades later, after each had lost their partner to cancer, they married to create a blended family with deep Redbird roots.

Jack came to ISU planning to teach and coach. Debbie also chose Illinois State because of her teaching desire. "It was one of the best schools you could attend," she said.

Jack and his first bride, Sally (Diver) '65 settled in Gibson City, as did Debbie and David Johnson '73, M.S. '78. The couples became friends, with that bond developing into a courtship as Jack and Debbie transitioned through a time of grief.

They married in 2002, bringing together their five children, all with College of Business ties. The five also share a connection to ISU's Conferencing Unit, where they worked for a combined total of 17 years.

Jack's son, Todd '89, is a Pekin Insurance regional claims manager. Jack's daughter, Kristin Osman '93, was a marketing manager prior to becoming a full-time mom. Her husband, Daron, is a 1992 grad.

Debbie's oldest son, Greg '02, is a Traveler's Insurance regional sales director. Her twin sons, Doug and Brad, were Bone Scholars. Doug '10 is a Munich Re underwriter. Brad '11 is completing medical school.

"It was their own decision to attend," Debbie said, explaining neither she nor Jack insisted their children enroll.

Now retired after each dedicated more than three decades to teaching, Jack and Debbie remain in Gibson City and stay connected to ISU. They enjoy athletic events and marvel at campus changes.

With four grandchildren, there is the possibility their Illinois State legacy will continue. "We will definitely mention ISU when they start thinking about college," Jack said. "All of us enjoyed it so much. It's a great place to be."



Gregory Groves '86 is the maintenance manager for School District 47 in Crystal Lake, where he resides.

Libby (Mailand) Wilson '86 is a library assistant with Francis Howell School District. She and her husband, Randall, reside in Saint Peters, Missouri.

Todd Conklin '87 completed an M.B.A. at Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and served more than 21 years in healthcare administrative roles. He is the senior vice president and CFO of Exempla Healthcare. He and his wife, Felecia, are the parents of three children and reside in Highlands Ranch, Colorado.

Lisa Castello '87, M.S. '94, completed her doctorate in curriculum leadership at Northern Illinois University. She heads the art education program and chairs the graduate program in the College of Art and Art History at the University

of Nebraska at Kearney. She and her husband, Rick Wolf, reside in Kearney, Nebraska.

Jennifer Bloom '88 is a clinical professor at the University of South Carolina's Department of Educational Leadership and Policies. She is director of the Higher Education and Student Affairs (HESA) Program and the Office of Appreciative Education. She coauthored her fourth book, *Increasing Persistence: Research-based Strategies for College Student Success*. She and her husband, Steve Sanderson, reside in Gilbert, South Carolina.

Diane Graebner '88 is the senior box office agent for Blue Man Group at Universal Studios in Orlando. She resides in Clermont, Florida.

Laurie (Shirck) Monfiletto '88 is vice president of human resources for PNM Resources, a publicly traded electric utility in New Mexico and Texas. She previously worked in human resources at Honeywell

and Los Alamos Technical Associates. She and her husband, Tony, are the parents of two children and reside in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Elizabeth (Crowley) O'Leary '88 is the owner and director of marketing for O'Signs, Inc. She is also a freelance video producer and an up-cycled artist with (Undercover) POPULAR. She and her husband, Patrick, reside in Chicago.

Steven Robb '88 is president of the Solutions Group at LaSalle Solutions, overseeing product development, professional services and operations teams. He joined the firm in 2004 as vice president and general manager. He resides in Northbrook.

Linda Trimpe Wisniewski '88 is a member of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority and recipient of its Beatrice Locke Hogan Award, which recognizes a member for exemplifying and promoting Panhellenic ideals. She is a member of the

Phoenix Alumnae Chapter and the Panhellenic Delegate for the Phoenix Panhellenic Association. She resides in Fountain Hills, Arizona.

Lisa (Pauley) Grab '89 is an operations supervisor with the Federal Aviation Administration. She resides in Portland, Oregon.

James Guinee '89 is a director with Symphony IRI and resides in White Plains, New York.

90s

Keith Crawley '90 is the business manager over maintenance, repair and operations for True Value Company. He resides in Glenview.

Chyriell Drain-Hill '90 is the director of school counseling and Title I coordinator for Belleville Township High School East. She resides in Shiloh.

Keith Giles '90 is a firefighter and paramedic with Village of Oak Lawn. He resides in Chicago.

Mark Hollis '90 is the communications director for the Florida House Democratic Caucus in the Florida legislature. He resides in Tallahassee, Florida.

Janet Zaidenberg-Schrum '90 is a lead energy settlements analyst with Tucson Electric Power Company. He resides in Tucson, Arizona.

Brian A. Bernardoni '91 serves the Chicago Association of Realtors as the senior director of governmental affairs and public policy. He is a past national chair of the National Association of Realtors governmental affairs directors. He has raised more than \$1 million through the Realtor Political Action Committee. A graduate of Chicago's first FBI Citizens Academy, he was appointed to the City of Chicago's Neighborhood Stabilization Program Advisory Board. He and his wife, Carrie, are the parents of four daughters and reside in Justice.

Bryan Darrow '91 is a specialist with Metro Paint Supplies. He resides in Sycamore.

Tim Kuppler '91 founded The Culture Advantage, a culture and performance improvement consulting organization. He authored the ebook titled *Building a Performance Culture: A Guide for Leaders*. Best practices from organiza-

tions he led were published in the 2012 book *Leading Culture Change in Global Organizations*. He and his wife, Jacqueline, reside in Washington Township, Michigan.

Ron Stern '91 is the director of secondary education for Granite City School District. He and his wife, Elizabeth, reside in Granite City.

Brian Baughan '92 is the owner of Tri County Carpet and Flooring. He and his wife, Jennifer Knauer, reside in Fairbury.

Chad Birckelbaw '92 is president and CEO of FairPay Solutions. He and his wife, Jane, reside in Plano, Texas.

Jane Chamberlain '92 is the president and CEO of YWCA McLean County. She resides in Downs.

Brad Bishop '93 completed an M.B.A. at Aurora University. He is vice president of OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) sales for Harzell Air Movement. He resides in Greenwood, Indiana.

Amy Bleich '93 is the higher education sales manager for Human Kinetics. She resides in Campaign.

Jai Kaisy '93 works for the Minnesota Department of Transportation. He and his wife, Sarah, reside in Rochester, Minnesota.

Jill (Parcher) Fraser '94 is a casualty underwriting manager for HCC Specialty. She resides in Stamford, Connecticut.

Todd Horkey '94 is a bill collector for Rush Copley Hospital. He resides in Shorewood.

Christine R. (Burkhart) Schaeffer '95 completed her M.B.A. and achieved Certified Credit Executive endorsement by the National Association of Credit Management. She is a financial analyst with BP Products NA, Inc. Her husband, **John '96**, is an Office Max space planning manager. They are the parents of a child and reside in Plainfield.

Michael W. "Mickey" Seward '95 is the national director of communications for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, which is the world's largest sports ministry. He and his wife, Kristie, reside in Grain Valley, Missouri.

Nathan Frank '96 is vice president of technology infrastructure services at Aon. He and his wife, Erika, are the parents of two children and reside in Wheaton.

Denise (Morgan) James '96 is the administrative coordinator of occupational health services for the University of Virginia Health System. She and her husband, Mike, reside in Palmyra, Virginia.

Laura (Milling) Kowalczyk '96 is the coordinator of the Senior Professionals program at Illinois State. She resides in Normal.

Leslie (Bernardo) LaForty '96 completed an M.B.A. from Jones International University while working aboard the Disney Fantasy. She is an advanced sales associate for the Disney Vacation Club in the Walt Disney World Parks and Resorts. She and her husband, Stephen, reside in Clermont, Florida.

William Gillespie '97 is the communications coordinator of the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology at the University of Illinois. He has authored the novel *Keyhole Factory*. He and his wife, Crystalline, reside in Urbana.

Myra R. Gordon, M.S. '97, is the executive director of the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation. She was

named the Town of Normal 2012 Citizen of the Year. She and her husband, George, reside in Normal.

Josh Lowe '97 completed 12 years of service with the Illinois Secretary of State's office. He is a business architect with State Farm Insurance Companies. He and his wife, Megan, have a son. They reside in Normal.

Steve Masucci '97 is a senior construction estimator and resides in Riverview, Florida.

Allison (Conroy) Meucci '97 teaches fourth grade in School District 47. She and her husband, Jason, reside in Huntley.

Joe Nesbit '97 is a teacher in Belleville Township High School District 201. He and his wife, Crystal, reside in Belleville.

Craig Strohbeck '97 is the executive director of Pathways to Independence. He and his wife, Jennifer, reside in St. Louis, Missouri.

Myron Young '97 is an assistant buyer for Ameren. He and his wife, Jackie, reside in St. Louis, Missouri.

Adam Clark '98 is the director and general manager of the Asia Pacific Region with Medtronic Diabetes. He covers Southeast Asia, Korea, Australia and New Zealand for the world's largest medical device company. He and his wife, Sarah, reside in Thousand Oaks, California and Sydney, Australia.

Jeff MacDonald '98 is the first vice president and director of marketing of Marquette Bank. He and his wife, Lori, reside in Lockport.

Patrick Nardi '98 is the inventor and global distributor of the Velotak bracket. He works for Novartis Pharmaceuticals and is a marathoner. He and his wife, Paige, are the parents of two boys. They reside in Cary.

Anthony Parise '98 has taught eighth grade social studies for 13 years in Community District 300. He and his wife, Taryn, have a daughter and reside in Elgin.

Aaron Berger '99 taught high school German for nine years. He now owns Aaron Berger Photography. He and his wife, Debbie, are the



A campus craving

After devouring Avanti's gondolas frequently during their time at Illinois State, graduates often find themselves still craving the sandwich that isn't available outside of Central Illinois. Distance doesn't deter one group of alums from satisfying their tastebuds. Susan Nelson-Brown '78, center of back row, hosts an annual gathering of alums who make their own version of the sandwich with the restaurant's bread, which they have shipped to Dallas, Texas.

parents of three sons and reside in Franklin, New Jersey.

Nicole Britton '99 is in billing network system analysis at Illinois Tool Works, Inc. She has a son with Autism. They reside in Oak Park.

Robyn Jackson '99 taught theatre and communications at Western State College of Colorado. She is a screenwriter. An animated feature she cowrote, *Magic of Love*, is in pre-production with Shoreline Entertainment. She has produced several short films through her production company, Hayseed Entertainment, and has published the novel *Gray*. She resides in Valley Glen, California.

R.C. McBride '99 is the assistant director of University Marketing and Communications and the director of trademark and licensing at Illinois State University. He and his wife, **Christy (Wilson) '95**, reside in Normal.

Joel Nobel '99 is the public policy manager for Samaritan Ministries International. He and his wife, Sarah, reside in Bartonville.

Anthony Oltean '99 completed a doctorate in social work from the University of Illinois-Chicago. He has opened a private psychotherapy practice, Modern Wellness Inc., in Chicago, where he resides.

00s

Heather (Henning) DeHart '00, M.S. '02, is director of public relations, marketing and communications at De Smet Jesuit High School. She and her husband, Roger, are the parents of two children. A son, Barrett Robert, was born in May of 2012. They reside in St. Charles, Missouri.

Joe DeVary '00 is an agency manager with COUNTRY Financial. He and his wife, Leslie, reside in Kirkwood, Missouri.

Heather (Ernst) Reiseck '00 is a Kaplan University adjunct instructor. She and her husband, Kevin, reside in East Alton.

Michelle (Huddleston) Hedger '01 is a recovery coach and certified alco-

hol and other drug counselor at TASC, Inc. She and her husband, Adam, reside in Collinsville.

Leatrice Brooks '02, M.S. '06, completed a doctorate in counseling psychology from Western Michigan University. She is a mental health and substance abuse therapist. She is pursuing full licensure as a psychologist and credentialing as a certified advanced alcohol and drug counselor. She resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Simon Patry '02 is an attorney with Dysinger & Associates. He and his wife, Maureen, are the parents of twins and reside in Dayton, Ohio.

Christine (Gekas) Pellum '02 is a fourth grade teacher in Morton Grove. Her husband, **Jim '02**, is an attorney for the state of Illinois. The two met while students at ISU. They are the parents of a son and reside in Mt. Prospect.

Lauren (Strnad) Reynolds '02 is an occupational therapist involved in maternal lifestyle and premature infant outcome research at Washington University in St. Louis, School of Medicine. She writes a blog on healthy lifestyle choices. She and her husband, Matthew, were married in September of 2012. They reside in St. Louis, Missouri.

Robert Breit '03 is a teacher in Oak Park School District 97. He resides in Chicago.

Keri (Herron) DeCock '03 is a reading specialist at Hampton Elementary School. She resides in Silvis.

Erica Ekstrom '03 completed a master's at Governors State University and American College of Education. She is executive director of student services for Valley View School District 365U. She resides in Joliet.

Melanie (Farrell) Lukacsy '03 earned a master's degree in curriculum and instruction and is completing a second master's in educational leadership. She is the math and art curriculum facilitator for District 47 schools in Crystal Lake. She and her husband, Louis, were married in October of 2012. They reside in Algonquin.



Campus friendships endure over decades

A graduate class convened in North Hall in August of 1963. Among those in the group were two professors and four students beginning a master's degree. What evolved among the six was a bond so strong it has endured 50 years, as the men still gather annually in Galena. Group members include, *clockwise from left*, retired College of Education Professor David Livers of Normal; Ronald Allen '63, M.S. '65, of Clarksville, Tennessee; Larry Williams '63, M.S. '64, of Crete; Richard Carlson, M.S. '64, of Jacksonville, Florida; retired College of Education Professor Ralph Meyering of Rio Rancho, New Mexico; and retired Psychology Professor James Johnson, M.S. '64, of Normal. He continues to teach at ISU and volunteer at the Karin L. Bone Athletic Study Center.

Ben Seiferman '03 is a senior account manager for Sysco. He resides in Hazelwood, Missouri.

Brian Smith, M.S. '03, is a senior environmental scientist with URS Corporation in St. Louis. He and his wife, Lisa, reside in Belleville.

Joe Blessman, M.S. '04, has served as a biology teacher, dean, football and wrestling coach and superintendent. He is the high school principal in Brimfield Community Unit School District 309, and will assume the superintendent's role in 2013-2014. He and his wife have three children. They reside in Metamora.

Marisa (Evans) Cameron '04 completed a master's in school counseling from Concordia University. She is a high school teacher in St. Charles CUSD #303. She and her husband, Matthew, are the parents of a daughter. Aubria was born in November of 2011. They reside in Rolling Meadows.

Dylana (Larson) Carlson '04 is the director of recruitment for Carl Sandburg College. She resides in Galesburg.

Matthew Dougherty '04 completed his juris doctorate at Washington and Lee University. He is an assis-

tant chief counsel at the Illinois Department of Transportation. He and his wife, Natalie, reside in Chatham.

Dan Fitzsimmons '04 is the senior director of corporate partnerships for the NBA Charlotte Bobcats. He resides in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Joe Kalis '04 is the senior support manager at OpinionLab. He and his wife, **Heather (Faulkner) '05**, own a marketing company. They reside in Wheeling.

Sarah (Costin) Keir '04 is a senior registration specialist at CCC Information Services. She and her husband, Chris, were married in September of 2012. They reside in Naperville.

Kara (Olson) Lewis '04 is the bone marrow transplant case manager with Blue Shield of California. She and her husband, Ronnie, reside in Pollock Pines, California.

Donna (Jalcovik) Matthews '04 is a property specialist with Locton Companies, LLC. She and her husband, Kevin, reside in Englewood, Colorado.

Natalie Mullen '04 is completing a doctorate in educational policy

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On campus with *Illinois State* magazine

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- Magazine
- Past Events
- Student Affairs
- University

Here's what you can find on STATESide, a new daily blog from the staff of Illinois State magazine:

TODAY'S STORY



Alum's photos capture best ISU concerts from 1970s

It wasn't easy to get tickets to the all-star lineup of rock concerts at Illinois State in the 1970s.

But **Bruce Nelson '74** was at almost all of them, front and center, using his full backstage access to meet the musicians, even pick them up at the airport once. And he has the photos to prove it.

Nelson hosted his own contemporary rock radio show Friday nights on WILN (predecessor to WZND). With so many big acts coming through Normal, Nelson wanted to get publicity shots for the station. The speech communication major struck a deal with the Entertainment Committee, letting them use his photos too in exchange for an all-access pass to the concerts.

Through his Minolta SRT 101 35mm camera—long before Instagram—Nelson saw Grand Funk Railroad, Edgar Winter, Muddy Waters, Sha Na Na, Gladys Knight, James Gang, Brownsville Station, and many others.

"It was a perfect storm for timely music, relevant music," Nelson told STATESide. "It was an incredible opportunity, and that's something that I knew at the time and still appreciate now."

Now, Nelson is dusting off his negatives and digitally scanning them.

"The pictures look like they were shot last weekend," Nelson said. Read Nelson's full story and see a photo gallery only on STATESide.

TOP 5 most popular STATESide stories this year

STUDENTS RALLY TO SAY GOODBYE TO BOWMAN
Full recap from Quad event, including video and photo gallery

ILLINOIS STATE RALLIES TO MAKE DYING FATHER'S DREAM A REALITY
A touching story about how ISU stepped up to help a graduating senior

ALUM BECOMES 'HERO TEACHER' IN SCHOOL SHOOTING
How a teacher defused a gun scare in his Normal classroom

MOVE IN 2012: BEST TWEETS, FACEBOOK POSTS AND PHOTOS
Social media roundup shows what today's move-in weekends look like

SOUTH CAMPUS MEMORIES: LOVE STORIES, LAUNDRY LESSONS
The best stories about life at the now-decommissioned residence halls, in your own words



at the University of Illinois and is an English as a second language teacher. She resides in Urbana.

Natasha Nunoo-Ponder '04 works at the McLean County Center for Human Services. Her husband, **Luke '04**, is employed at State Farm Insurance Companies. They are the parents of a son. Jordan was born in May of 2012. They reside in Normal.

Melissa Soria '04 is the marketing director at Dinizulu Law Group, Ltd., in Chicago, where she resides.

Jerad Weiner '04 is a community liaison for the city of San Francisco Department of Public Works. He resides in San Francisco, California.

Sara Bowman '05 is an insurance and billing hospital scheduler at Mid Illinois Hematology and Oncology. She resides in Bloomington.

Abby (Tulin) Eickhoff '05 worked in sales in the Equine industry following graduation. She and her husband, Kyle, were married in October of 2012. They reside on the Aviano Air Force Base in Italy.

Katie Henry '05 is one of the newest members of the corporate communications team at Discover Financial Services. She resides in Buffalo Grove.

Julie (Wenzlowski) Pagliuco '05 received her master's in school counseling from Governors State University. She is a guidance counselor at Crete-Monee High School in Crete. She and her husband, John, reside in Romeoville.

Matt Stewart '05 is an online sales manager for STLtoday.com. He and his wife, Sheri, reside in St. Louis, Missouri.

Kaelyn (Shule) Bess '06 is a special education teacher with Bradley Bourbonnais Community High School. She and her husband, Joel, resides in Bourbonnais.

Bryan Carper '06 works in construction management as a project cost engineer. He and his wife, **Catherine (Boyd) '06**, were married in September of 2012. They reside in Chicago.

Lindsay (Klinefelter) Kipp '06 completed her doctorate in psychology



Spreading the Red

Distance hasn't weakened the ISU connection for a group of graduates in Arizona. A Phoenix Area Alumni Network Watch Party held in January created an opportunity for loyal ISU fans to watch the Redbirds face Southern Illinois University. Hosted by Kyle Kidwell '11 and Robert Shine '91, the event was held at Temple Bar Sports Grill in Scottsdale, Arizona, which Shine owns.

of physical activity at the University of Minnesota. She is a lecturer in the Department of Kinesiology and Health Promotion at the University of Kentucky. She and her husband, Joseph, reside in Lexington, Kentucky.

Jeremy Ly '06 works in business outreach and engagement at Joliet Junior College. He is an elected board member and resides in Minooka.

Jill (Rafalowski) Baudendistel '07 is an English preparedness instructor at Lindenwood University. She and her husband, Dan, reside in Swansea.

Ryan Boarman '07 is an American College of Sports Medicine certified health fitness specialist. He is a health educator with Chestnut Health Systems. He and his wife, Ann, reside in Normal.

Jennie (Richards) Bunger '07 works in the manufacturing physiology quality lab at Monsanto. Her husband, Brent '07, works at the family dairy farm. They reside in Ashton.

Kathleen Fitzgerald-Ellis '07 is a student support specialist at Black Hills State University. She and her husband, Trenton, reside in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Sophie (Malek) Gaziano '07 is a special education teacher. She married in September of 2012. She and her husband reside in Forest Park.

Brian Hanson '07 is a State Farm Insurance Agency team member. He and his wife, Natalie, reside in Champaign.

Matthew Lang '07 works in procurement for Allstate Insurance Company. He resides in Elk Grove Village.

William Malott '07 is a video editor for State Farm Insurance Companies. He and his wife, Clare, reside in Bloomington.

Lindsey (Kronmiller) Nicholson '07 is an instructional assistant professor at Illinois State in the School of Kinesiology and Recreation. She and her husband, Ryan, reside in Downs.

Jessica (Rupe-Ringering) Roethe '07 is a special education teacher at East Alton Wood River High School. She and her husband, Michael, reside in South Roxana.

Mary (Yurgil) Sojka '07 is in international communications with Hyatt Hotels Corporation. She and her husband, Joseph, reside in Chicago.

Daniel Sperry '07 is a systems analyst with State Farm Insurance Companies. He resides in Bloomington.

Karly (Crapse) Combest '08 is the events and program manager for the Champaign County Chamber of Commerce. She resides in Rantoul.

Elizabeth (Forden) Grant '08 is a quality control analyst II for Tolmar Incorporated. She and her husband, Nick, reside in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Allison N. Grosz '08 has completed a juris doctorate from New England Law in Boston.

Melissa Hoebbel '08 is a communications manager with Oral Health American. She resides in Chicago.

Gloria Jaramillo '08 is a bilingual teacher. She and her husband, Dario, reside in Riverview, Florida.

Mark Jiron '08 is an RN in perioperative services at Parrish Medical Center. He and his wife, Sandra, reside in Titusville, Florida.

Sarah (Larkey) Johnson '08 is a staff accountant with Caterpillar. She and her husband, Greg, reside in Peoria.

Zach Just '08 is a territory manager for United Natural Foods. He resides in Chicago.

Katie Witkowski '08 is an administrative assistant with Henderson Productions, a film and TV production office owned and operated by Garry Marshall. She assisted during the production of the movies *Valentine's Day* and *New Year's Eve*. She also works as a stage hand at the Falcon Theatre. She resides in Burbank, California.

Drew Bendick '09 works inside sales for Rauckman High Voltage Sales. He resides in Belleville.

Barrett Byers '09 is a senior associate with PricewaterhouseCoopers. He and his wife, **Lyndsay (Brault) '09**, were married in August of 2011. She is an office manager and legal assistant in the law office of Jeff Green. They reside in East Peoria.

Courtney Kerler '09 is a global accounts pricing analyst at WESCO Distribution, Inc. She resides in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Alexandra Rigo '09 is a student at Chicago Medical School. She resides in West Dundee.

Travis Taylor '09 is a chiropractor and resides in Springfield.

10s

Rebecca (Givens) Atkins '10 is the guest services representative with Naper Settlement. She resides in Oswego.

Kayla Brooker '10 handles visuals for Macy's in Los Angeles, California, where she resides.

Laura M. Darr '10 is a guest relations representative with the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust, a nonprofit group that restores Frank Lloyd Wright architecture and facilitates tours of three of his buildings in the Chicago area. She resides in Naperville.

Andrea Davis '10 is a publisher's representative for Pearson. She resides in Chicago.

Todd Jones, M.B.A. '10, is a relationship manager on the retirement plan service team of Trust Company of Illinois. He is an adjunct professor at Lincoln College and active in the Boys Club of America. He and his wife reside in Wheaton.

Kristin (Brinkman) Price '10 is a quality monitoring specialist at Silliker. She and her husband, David, reside in Mokena.

Bradley Redding '10 is an auto representative with State Farm Insurance Companies. He resides in New Albany, Ohio.

Paul Schumacher '10 authored the book *Little Red Wolf*, which was released in 2012. He resides in Bettendorf, Iowa.

Jason Carter '11 is a settlement analyst with Invenergy. He resides in Chicago.

Jacob Dirks '11 is an inventory analyst with Sears Holdings Corporation. He resides in Elgin.

Roseanna Dorsey '11 is a student in the School of Law at Southern Illinois University. She resides in Carterville.

Amy Glueck '11 is a clinical dietitian at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. She resides in Troy.

Christina (Hitz) Lisowski '11 is a registered nurse working in the pediatric intensive care unit at Children's Hospital of Illinois. She and her husband, Nicholas, reside in Normal.

Katie (Armstrong) Lopez '11 teaches U.S. history and regional world studies at Normal Community High School. She and her husband, Philip, were married in June of 2012. They reside in Bloomington.

Kelly (Reabe) Edge '12 is a teacher. She and her husband, Justin '11, were married in July of 2012. They reside in Woodstock.

Sarah Ellis '12 is a personal banker with JPMorgan Chase Bank. She resides in Lombard.

Mackenzi Harmon '12 is a research analyst with State Farm Insurance Companies. She resides in Normal.

Meghan Jacobson '12 is a delivery consultant with Cerner Corporation. She resides in Kansas City, Missouri.

Derick Kalec '12 works in loss prevention security. He resides in Plainfield.

Brett Lawless, M.S. '12, taught at Central Intermediate School, where he coached the eighth grade girls' basketball team to a state championship. He is principal at Central Primary School. He and his wife are the parents of two children. They reside in Peoria.

LaDonna Watts '12 is a recruiter for City Colleges of Chicago. She resides in Richton Park.

Jennifer (Williams) Wrigley '12 is biology and anatomy teacher at East Peoria Community High School. She resides in Pekin.

Our Troops

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Lisa Harvey '92 is serving in NATO. She has deployed three times and served in two combat zones. She began her career in the Air Defense Artillery community shooting PATRIOT missiles and transitioned to provide human resources in the Adjutant Generals Corps.

U.S. Army Major Terrance Deuel '98 served as a military policeman and was commissioned as a Military Police 2nd Lt. in 1988. He is an assistant professor of military science at the University of Georgia in Athens, where he resides.

U.S. Army Infantry Captain Jason Anderson '08 has traveled all over the world. He is stationed at Ft. Stewart, Georgia.

U.S. Army Captain Elizabeth Fields '08 resides in Columbus, Georgia.

In memory

Faculty/Staff

Fay F. (Hermann) Bowren, Special Education; 11/12

Mildred Broughton '37, Athletics; 11/12

Clifford M. Caruthers, English; 8/12

June Faulk, Printing Services; 6/12

Larry Kennedy, College of Education; 10/12

Marlyn C. Lawrentz '57, Ph.D. '72, Educational Administration; 10/12

Dorothy E. Lee '59, Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work; 10/12

Keith McKenna, Dining Services; 12/12

20s

Catherine McCluskey '26; 9/84

30s

Virginia D. (Aldrich) Campbell '30; 11/09

Harriet Lamb '32; 3/11

Mary M. (Pearson) Scherer '33; 11/12

Rose Sugden '35; 9/12

Naomi Shaner Vereecke '36; 10/12

Berneice E. (Nafziger) Traeger '37, '45; 12/12

Mildred (Shane) Newnam '38; 11/12

Frank B. Oates '38; 5/08

Elizabeth D. (Sterrenberg) Ringler '38; 10/12

Jean S. (Shaw) Roggy '38; 12/12

Margaret L. Perucca '39, '46; 9/12

Mabel (Krusa) Rolf '39; 12/12

Eunice L. (Schweigert) Rowell '39, '65; 11/12

40s

Elizabeth Posegate Gorman '42; 9/12

Elinor "Short" (Leigh) Martin '43; 10/12

Nettie B. Davenport '44; 10/12

Iona Masten Hightower '44; 10/12

Margie A. Tiffany '44; 12/12



Three easy ways to submit your information

- 1) Go online to Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/ClassNotes and click on "class notes." Information submitted using this method will also be posted online.
- 2) Email your news to sjblyst@IllinoisState.edu.
- 3) Mail your news to Class Notes, Illinois State University, Alumni Relations, Campus Box 3100, Normal, IL 61790-3100. Please include your graduation year, major, maiden name when applicable, and daytime phone number for verification purposes. News releases and information from published news clippings may also be used. Engagements and pregnancies will not be published.

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

Support your passion

Some Illinois State students have all they need to succeed: outstanding academic achievement, strong leadership skills, and unending determination that pushes them toward the Commencement stage.

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STATE your passion

Andy Manno and Aaron Von Qualen '12 know what it means to pursue their dreams as Illinois State students. A senior completing a degree in political science and English studies, Manno is the Student Government Association president. Von Qualen is serving as the student representative on the Board of Trustees while working toward a master's degree in college student personnel administration.

Both are grateful for the leadership and mentoring of President Al Bowman. "He's done so many great things for this university, and positioned us in a way that no other university is right now," said Manno, who partnered with Von Qualen to organize a farewell for Bowman.

"We felt we needed to give back to him in some way," Von Qualen said, explaining why the two used social media to invite students, faculty and staff to the Quad days after Bowman's retirement announcement in December. More than 1,000 attended.

The response inspired Manno and Von Qualen to work throughout the spring semester on a plan to further engage students in campus life. Their passion is to increase student pride and spirit, bolstering campus traditions by working with Registered Student Organizations. Together they are demonstrating what it means to STATE Your Passion.

Will you join with the students of Illinois State and take action to STATE Your Passion today? Support the people and programs of your university by making a gift. Use the enclosed envelope, call (800) 366-4478, or give online at IllinoisState.edu/Giving.

Aaron Von Qualen '12, left, and Andy Manno recognize the impact President Al Bowman has had on the University.



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Happy ending

President Al Bowman and First Lady Linda shared a moment of joy at the surprise rally on the Quad. Now ready to embrace a slower pace, they have no regrets when reflecting on their efforts to advance ISU the past decade—work they affirm was a labor of love.

