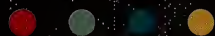


RETRO



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CONTENTS

retrospective	14
retrograde	96
retroactive	142
retrofit	212
retrolental	270

RETRO

You see the word, you think lava lamps. Or saddle shoes. Perhaps a pair of acid-wash jeans. Maybe you picture peace signs and bright plastic patio furniture.

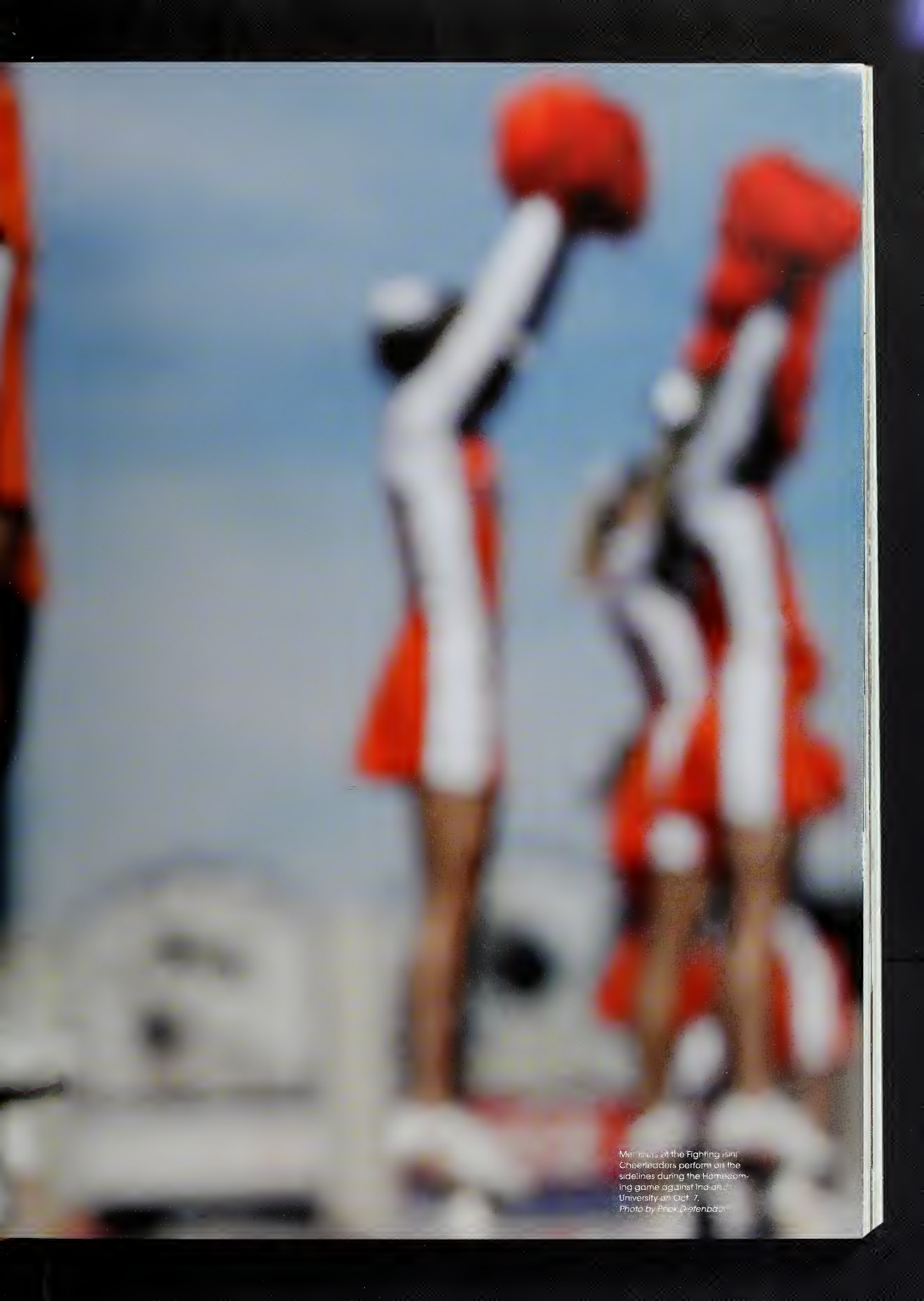
The word conjures these images, sure—but do not be misled. This book does not refine the fashions of the fifties, or pay homage to the spirit of the sixties. These pages do not try to recreate the groovin' sideburn styles of the seventies, and they most certainly do not let us relive the blue eye-shadowed days of the eighties—because that's not us.

Years from now, we won't dust off our turntables and dig out old records; we'll pull out our iPods and try plugging them in. We won't remember concerning ourselves with communism, the Civil Rights Act or Vietnam, but with terrorism, the environment and the war in Iraq. We'll tell our kids about the time when a gallon of gas cost 3 dollars, a cup of coffee nearly 5, and how we saved money on library fines with a simple Google search.

We have a way of life specific to the 21st century. We have our own styles, trends, slang words and technologies; our own politics, social issues, opinions and motivations. We have our own historical memory, one that will someday recall our current experience with the help of this 2007 college yearbook.

Retro, in this case, means backward, situated behind, reminiscent of things past. This volume of the Illio, like all 113 that have come before it, looks back on a single year and naturally becomes a product of its time. It may look modern to you now, but if you flip through it about every ten years, you'll surely find yourself shaking your head and saying, "Wow. How...retro."





Members of the Fighting Irish Cheerleaders perform on the sidelines during the Homecoming game against Indiana University on Oct. 7.
Photo by Peck Distenfeld





Daniel Beaulieu, left, and Joan Vanderlaan, freshman and sophomore in LAS, respectively, look for books at Follett's Bookstore on 62nd St. Photo by Joan Birnbaum





Tollie Oakley, freshman in LAS,
peers out the front doors of
Lincoln Hall while waiting for a
friend to arrive so they could
walk to the bookstore together
on a rainy afternoon.
Photo by Josh Birnbaum





Illini fans gather around Foellinger Auditorium for the Homecoming pep rally. This year's theme was "Now and Forever."
Photo by Enoch Chung

RETRO

SPECTIVE



Opposite: Annie Lin, freshman at IACES, watches her friend assemble a shelf in her new room at Florida Avenue Residence Hall on Aug. 19.
Below: Derek To, junior in LAS, pushes a cart of luggage of Illini Tower on Aug. 18 during early move-in.



first year follies

Members of the class of 2010 share their most embarrassing moments.



"I was riding my bike home after going out for the night, and I hit a curb and completely flipped over. It was pretty embarrassing."

—Alec Verone
freshman in FAA

coming to campus

FRESHMEN ADJUST TO COLLEGE WITH HELP FROM UPPERCLASSMEN

College. The best four years of your life. Nothing compares to the year-long party, the classes, the new friends; the roller coaster ride that is freshman year. I-Guides, student volunteers, spent most of move-in week carrying boxes and talking to new students to help them adjust.

The freshman class of 2010 consisted of 7,778 students which was less than the previous two years. Although there were not quite as many freshmen to prepare for, resident advisors and students alike still had a lot of anxious preparation for the coming school year.

Hayfa Aboukier, a junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is an R.A. at Scott Hall. She attended a two-week training course on how to handle problems that might be encountered during the school year.

"Basically, if a resident comes to us and is getting beaten up by her boyfriend, we need know what resources are available to them on campus and direct them toward those resources," Aboukier said.

In addition to being prepared for her incoming residents, Aboukier also tried to create a community on her floor in which the students could get to know each other. She was successful in doing so. Kelsey Baron, a freshman in LAS, thoroughly enjoyed her first semester at the University of Illinois.

"My favorite part was the social scene," Baron said. "And not just going out and parties but also just hanging out."

Although it is clear that freshmen enjoyed their new environment, there was a common sense of independence that often led to stressful situations. Gaby Kuri and Christina Burke, both freshmen in LAS, enjoyed their independence but at the same time felt it took some getting used to.

"We're so used to being at home and always being at least a little bit dependent on someone,



and then we come here and are totally on our own," Kuri said.

Total freedom became a common problem among freshmen as well as a concern of the R.A.'s. Aboukier said her residents that being cautious of independence in a new environment is critical.

"I addressed this issue in our first meeting. If I communicate with the freshmen often then hopefully they won't lose control," she said.

Freshmen year of college is one of the most important times in a student's life and it seems that a balance between social life, independence, and school work is what the class of 2010 lived by.

STORY BY JESSICA RADOGNO
PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA LEUNG



"I was at a frat party, and I fell down a bunch of stairs and ended up sprawled out on the floor. Everyone circled me and started yelling 'party foul' and painting at me. It was funny but also embarrassing. I woke up with bruises."

—Alli Grotz
freshman in LAS



"I went to a themed 'pimps and hoes' party and I was definitely the only one who dressed to the theme. It was so awkward. Everyone in the room was wearing normal clothes and then there was me and a skanky costume."

—Shelley Maxwell
freshman in LAS



"I was riding the bus and I sat next to this really big guy, and I didn't realize how hiked up his shorts were. So as I was sitting there he kept inching really close to me and leaning on me. The whole situation was just weird, and I was so happy to get off that bus."

—Doug Klier
freshman in Engineering

RETROSPECTIVE
coming to campus

remembering

a recent tragedy



CHAMPAIGN-URBANA COMMUNITY COMMEMORATES SEPT. 11

This year, they chose to plant a white oak—the state tree of Illinois.

“White oaks are known for having long life spans,” Pagac said. “It fit well with the symbolism of rebirth and growth.”

Currently the grove is mostly high grasses and bushes, but already planted there are various bushes, nuts, and seeds. Pagac said he hopes that these will flourish into a fully grown forest in the future and become home to some of the animals that already live in the preserve.

The University School of Music honored the anniversary by performing Bach’s Cantata #151, the lyrics of which are translated as “Praise God in all lands.” The piece began in Smith Memorial Music Hall at 7:46 a.m. and ended at 8:03 a.m.—the times that the two planes hit the World Trade Center towers in New York City.

Vocalist and professor of music Ollie Watts Davis was joined by the Pacifica String Quartet, and she said the School of Music has had a musical tribute every year since the first anniversary in 2002.

“Everyone who was there was united by a common cause—to remember what had happened and why we were there,” Davis said.

The short concert was open to the public. The audience was composed of Watts’ colleagues in the School of Music and a few members of the community.

“It was important that everyone was there for the same reason,” Davis said. “We had a few minutes to reflect at the end, and be thankful for and enjoy the community that we have.”

STORY BY **JEN BRANDT**
PHOTOS BY **AMELIA MOORE**
ADAM BABCOCK

f or the past five years, our nation has remembered the losses of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington D.C. President Bush honored the victims in a two-day journey that brought him to the three sites where the hijacked planes crashed, killing a total of 2,973 people. He and his wife somberly set floral wreaths adrift in the memorial reflection pools that stand where the World Trade Centers had stood since 1972, amidst a crowd of mourners.

Closer to home, Champaign-Urbana paid their own respects in the form of new seed in the Champaign forest preserve and a tribute concert on campus.

Planted in 2002 with backing from both the Republican and Democratic parties in the area, the Champaign County Forest Preserve District (CCFPD) established the Sept. 11 Memorial Grove at the River Bend Forest Preserve in Mahomet, Ill. It is a patch of preserve that will be added to yearly on the anniversary of the attacks as a “living tribute” to those who lost their lives, according to Gerald Pagac, Executive Director of CCFPD.

are five years too few?

Two movies had been released in 2006, “United 93” and “World Trade Center,” each a different illustration of the tragic events of Sept. 11. Students had mixed thoughts regarding their release, some feeling it was too soon, others encouraged by the patriotism they portrayed.

“I think it is too soon. The movies seem like they’re just capitalizing on current American sentiment rather than trying to actually depict events within a dramatic and historical context, like what could have been done if producers had united. I’m not going to say I refuse to watch either movie, but I’m certainly not going to seek them out for viewing.”

—Pat Traylor
junior in Communications

“I don’t think it was too early. Yes, people are still trying to get over what happened, but sometimes actually facing it or seeing it can help people move on. People that could be offended by the movies always have the choice of not seeing them as well. It’s a movie, the producers are out to make money and the longer they wait the less appeal it will have to people.”

—Jason Filip
sophomore in LAS

“I thought it was soon at first, but the movies are well done, and they based everything on accurate sources. I feel “United 93” had a little more impact because they perished in the end. “World Trade Center” is a story about survival, so it had a somewhat happy ending.”

—Beth Jones
senior in Communications



Opposite: Jim Hansen of the English Department here at the University speaks at the "Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, September 11 panel discussion" on Monday afternoon at the Levi's Faculty Center in Urbana. *Photo by A. Moore*
Above: Firefighters from Urbana and Champaign roll up a flag which was masted between two fire trucks for the firefighter memorial ceremony held in West Side Park, Sept. 11, 2009. *Photo by A. Babcock*

back to the heart

ILLINI MEDIA CELEBRATES NEW CAMPUS LOCATION
DURING BUILDING DEDICATION WEEKEND

Opposite top: Roger Simon, chief political correspondent of Bloomberg News, and Marko Kramer, recent retiree from *The Washington Post*, make the crowd laugh during Sunday's champagne brunch.

Photo by B. Diefenbach

Opposite top center: Illini Media's publisher Mary Cory mingles with alumni.

Opposite bottom center: WRGU alum Charlie Meyerson offers words of wisdom to current students.

Photo by B. Diefenbach

Opposite bottom: Creative Works and alumni director Kit Danahue, left, and general manager Mary Cory celebrate on the fourth floor balcony.

Above: A ribbon drops from the fourth-floor balcony into the hands of the crowd below.

Photo by J. Blinbaum



On a heavy-traffic Saturday along Green St., heads stuck out of car windows, passersby looked up from the sidewalk and a small crowd stood to watch five ribbons drop four stories. Gathered at the base of a brand new brick building, students and alumni cheered as the scissors cut and the ribbons fell, commemorating the move of Illini Media to 512 E. Green.



Home to the *Daily Illini* Newspaper, the *Illio* Yearbook, *Buzz* Entertainment Magazine, the *Technograph* Engineering Quarterly and WPGU 107.1 FM, Illini Media opened its on-campus facility in the spring of 2006. This fall, the company invited alums, employees and friends to their "Back to the Heart: Building Dedication Weekend" event—an official celebration of the new location held Sept. 15-17.

"Moving had been our goal for years," said Mary Cory, publisher and general manager of Illini Media. "We wanted everyone to share this experience with us."



Alumni and current staff arrived at the new building on Friday, taking student-led tours of the facility and bidding on items in a silent auction. The punk band The Vertebrats, whose members graduated from the University, played a set in the WPGU studio. Saturday morning, students and alums attended the football game, then returned to the building for the ribbon-cutting ceremony that afternoon. Wrapping up on Sunday morning with a champagne brunch, keynote speakers reminisced about their time at Illini Media and offered encouraging words to current students.



"Those who graduate from this brand new facility...they will be the stars of tomorrow," Charlie Meyerson, WPGU alum and senior producer for *Chicago Tribune* Interactive, said.

The brunch concluded with the induction of the inaugural class to the Hall of Fame—alums who started their successful careers at Illini Media. This group included President of station operations for FOX Television Dennis Swanson, *Chicago Sun-Times* sports writer Taylor Bell, PBS panelist Dan Balz, Pulitzer Prize winner Paul Ingrassia and *New York Times* business and financial editor Larry Ingrassia. Current *Daily Illini* editor-in-chief Vincent Lee noted that meeting the alumni was inspiring for him and his fellow student staff.



"To see all those people who worked at the DI in the '60s and '70s and to see where they are now puts things into perspective," Lee said. "It shows us...we can come from somewhere small and be anything."

Because of the weekend's success, Illini Media will continue to host a similar event at the building each year.

"This building is more than just steel, concrete and bricks," Broadcast Operations Manager for Illini Media Jon Hansen said. "It gives us all a more friendly and welcoming place to call home—and most importantly, this building inspires."

STORY BY: LYNDSY GROTH
PHOTOS BY: JOSH BIRNBAUM
BECK DIEFFENBACH



ultimateconvergence

NEW ILLINI MEDIA LOCATION SPARKS STUDENT COLLABORATION



What was once a collection of media divisions operating at various locations across campus is now a unified organization under a single roof. In the spring of 2006, Illini Media celebrated the completion of a brand new, four-story building that serves as the home of the *Daily Illini*, *Buzz* entertainment magazine, *Technograph* engineering magazine, the *Illio* yearbook, WPGU 107.1 FM radio station, and the Illini Apple Center.

In its first full year of operation, the Illini Media Building is an invaluable resource to students and staff members. The convenient location at fifth and Green Street allows employees a short commute to work and provides passerbys with a welcoming open door. Students can now watch WPGU's disc jockeys from a state-of-the-art, street-side studio, getting a first-hand look at the activity inside the booth. Inside, new iMac computers are scattered across each floor, spacious conference rooms are commonplace, and there is a sense of bustling excitement and interaction—a stark contrast to the limited resources at former locations.

"I think the design of the building, especially the open space it provides us, is the most important feature," said Michelle Gabris, Director of Marketing for the Illini Media. "At the old WPGU building, there was no place to hold staff meetings or interact with each other."

Opposite top: Jonathan Jacobson, junior in LAS and metro editor for the *Daily Illini*, is yelling on the phone, eating, listening to Bob Dylan, and maistrizing. This is a typical evening for the *Daily Illini* editor, who is yelling at one of his writers, "What do you mean you can't have it in by Wednesday?!" Photo by S. Twardawski

Opposite center: WPGU staff have a meeting to discuss future radio shows. Photo by S. Twardawski

Opposite bottom: The new Illini Media Building lights up Green St. at night. Photo by S. Twardawski

Above: WPGU DJs listen to the local band "Triple Whip" during Sunday night's "Satan's Beer Vam!" show. Photo by S. Twardawski

Left: Illini Media alum Tammy Mendoza, *Daily Illini* campus editor Vasanth Sridharan, senior in Communications, and design editor Nick Escobar, senior in Communications critique the day's paper in the newsroom. Photo by B. Diefenbach

Because the building proved a better work environment, it sparked a connection between different media outlets—particularly between the print and radio news.

"Once we moved into the new building, it only made sense that since both news departments would be working in the same space, they should be working together," managing on-air editor Kate Pokarney, senior in Communications, said.

The *Daily Illini* and WPGU could now share content and reporters to create a complete news agency, consisting of the daily paper, *Daily Illini* on-air news broadcasts, and postings on www.dailyillini.com. Pokarney said that the convergence has improved *Illini Media's* coverage of campus and community news.

"There's a lot more people to catch the stories we wouldn't have otherwise missed," she said.

Newsweek Editor Bill Miston, junior in communications, agreed that the multimedia format benefits those who look to *Illini Media* for their daily news.



"[Presenting] the same story by both print and on-air gives the public a greater knowledge of content and facts," he said.

With this ultimate convergence, *Illini Media* gave student publications and radio a much-needed presence at U of I.

"It's great for students walking by the building to see everything that's going on," *Daily Illini's* on-air newscast editor Bill Miston, junior in Communications, said. "We have computers that work, we have desks, we have everything we need here to truly represent the students. We're finally bringing IMC back to the heart of campus."

STORY BY JIM SHAY
ADAM SWIAK

PHOTOS BY STEVE TWARDOWSKI
BECK DIEFENBACH



The Daily Illini
newspaper



Buzz
weekly entertainment
magazine



Illio
yearbook



Technograph
engineering quarterly
magazine



WPGU 107.1 FM
radio station

facebook adds new features

STUDENTS PROTEST CHANGES TO POPULAR SOCIAL NETWORK



ever feel like someone is watching you? On the morning of September 6, 2006, students around the nation logged on to Facebook, felt this very feeling and experienced a change that has caused more controversy than any other Facebook upgrade. The change came so unexpectedly that college students were unable to prepare for the new way that Facebook would be sharing their information with the world.

The new addition called "News Feed" and "Mini Feed" provide details of daily changes to your friends' profiles upon logging on to the site. Saly Sebastian, a freshman in the College of Business, said, "Facebook is a good way to stay connected with people, but the Mini-Feeds provide usually pointless information, stuff you only want to know about if it's regarding your closest friends."

One of the biggest issues of knowing everything that students do on Facebook at all times is that some people may want that information to

remain a little more private. Another freshman in the College of Business, Yanyan Xu, posted a remark in a group against the new feeds, likening the feeds to Big Brother from "1984" by George Orwell.

Not long after the creator's of Facebook launched the update, students rallied together, reacting to the changes on the networking site. Most decided to form groups on Facebook to complain about the feeds.

One of the administrators of such a group commented about privacy settings added by Facebook. "The recent privacy settings that were added still don't allow us to have full control of what is placed on the News Feed. Photos, status changes, groups you join are all things that are placed up there, no matter if you want everyone to see them or not," Teera Parr, a sophomore in Animal Sciences said.

Now that user information was more readily available, some worry that employers could easily research their potential "right-out-of-college" new hires, and learn more from their profile than their résumé or interview.

Nolan Finn, a senior in the College of Business, said, "I can see how the information available on Facebook is enticing to employers, but there is also a great deal of information that employees and employers would best be served by keeping separate, like religion, political views, and sexual orientation."

As one anonymous student said, "Change is inevitable, and as we have already seen, can cause widespread complaint."

STORY BY ADAM SWIA TEK
PHOTOS BY KORI BOYER
JESSICA ELMORE



home search browse invite help logout
to Facebook) Global

Students Against Facebook News Feed

View Discussion Board

Join this Group

Report group

Related Groups

Opposite: Members log onto their homepage on Facebook and immediately see the News Feed, which displays recent activities of online friends. Because it tracks their every move, some students describe the feed as "stalkerish." Photo by J. Elmore

Above: Like many students did on Sept. 6, Andrew Davis, senior in LAS, checks his Facebook profile and is appalled to find a feature that tells him down to the minute exactly what his friends are doing. Photo illustration by J. Elmore

Far left: Samantha Warren, senior in LAS, finds incriminating photos of her friends online that could be found by future employers. Photo illustration by K. Boyer

Left: Those interested in protecting their privacy formed online groups like "Students Against Facebook News Feed" to protest the site's new features. Photo by K. Boyer

RETROSPECTIVE
new facebook features



Above: Members of Beck's student section cheer during favorite player, quarterback Juce Williams, at the Homecoming game against Indiana University on Oct. 7. Indiana won 34-32. Photo by Beck Dielenbach



now
&
forever

HOMECOMING 2006 CONTINUES ILLINI TRADITION

always an illini

STUDENTS & ALUMNI CELEBRATE HOMECOMING WEEK

h omecoming 2006 invaded Campustown. Orange and blue clothing covered the streets, scents of delicious food wafted from barbecues, Illini flags whipped proudly through the crisp air and excited chatter could be heard for blocks. Crowds of reminiscing alumni and herds of excited students joined forces, filling the Quad and the air with roaring cheers.

On Sept. 30, the spirit-filled, Homecoming kickoff marked the start of annually awaited week-long celebration. Thousands of U of I students and alumni attended the festivities which included the high-energy parade and pep rally on Oct. 6. The most anticipated display of Fighting Illini pride was the Illinois vs. Indiana football game on Oct. 7.

"This year, the Homecoming parade turned out better than we expected," said Brittney Swan, Homecoming Committee member and sophomore in Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. "The floats really showed how much time and effort was devoted to the parade's success."

Pat Saladino, a sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, said he displayed his spirit at the football game.

"My buddies and I woke up hours before the game to tailgate and we painted our entire bodies and face half orange, half blue," Saladino said.

Ashley Swarts, a junior in Education and three-year member of the Illinettes Dance Team, said the fans had more energy than in past years.

"For the first time since I started dancing at the games, the stands were jam packed with students and visiting alumni," Swarts said. "The Illini spirit and support was coming from literally every seat in the stadium. It was actually overwhelming."

Another favorite of the week was the African American Homecoming, beginning on Oct. 4 with a pageant and ending Oct. 7 with a concert featuring Avant and One Chance. Nearly 3,000 people participated in the events which were funded entirely by Illini Union Board.

"African American Homecoming brings a different perspective to the University," said Co-Chair Martha Wilkins. "I think it really adds to the University as a whole and makes Homecoming more of a celebration."

Through the 96-year-long tradition of Homecoming, the past, present, and future Fighting Illini experiences the school spirit that invades campus life for one week every year.



STORY BY KATIE TRAFICANTI
PHOTOS BY BECK DIEFFENBACH
ENOCH CHUNG
BRAD VEST



Opposite top: Members of the University of Illinois Dance Team perform at the corner of Wright and Green Streets during the Homecoming Parade on Oct. 6. *Photo by B. Diefenbach*

Opposite center: The Illini Toi Kwon Do Club follows behind a blue and orange-odored Jeep during the parade. *Photo by E. Chung*

Opposite bottom: The Illinois defensive line sets up to take on Indiana in Saturday's game on Oct. 7. Illinois lost 32-34. *Photo by B. Vest*

Above: Coach Ron Zook and the Illinois football team rile up the crowd during the pep rally on the night before the Homecoming game against Indiana. *Photo by E. Chung*

Left: Members of the sketch comedy group Fishing with Dynamite Devin Bockroth, sophomore in Communications, Alyssa Brodley, freshman in LAS, Neel Chemburkar, freshman in LAS, Amy Boss, sophomore in Communications, Eric Zimmerman, senior in LAS and Annie Rotteree, senior in FAH kick off the variety show at Lincoln Hall Oct. 6. *Photo by E. Chung*

dazed but not so confused

REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS TAKE ON DRUG REFORM

“

Hello. My name is Tim and I'm a criminal, in the eyes of society. I need to be in jail for the choices of herbs I inhale.”

These song lyrics by The Streets exemplify a common stance by people who choose to smoke marijuana and find themselves the target of public authority. The controversy over whether or not smoking marijuana should be seen as a criminal offense is a heated issue among legislators as well as student groups on campus.

National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) and Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) are groups with multiple chapters that work toward reforming marijuana and other drug policies. Through hosting speakers, debates, public demonstrations, informative documentaries, and a “Know-Your-Rights” seminar, NORML tried to circulate information about drug reform to students in hopes that they would take an active role in this issue.

Shaleen Aghi, a member of NORML's board of directors, has seen first hand how many people caught using or in possession of drugs (especially marijuana) end up being incarcerated rather than being treated for their addiction.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration's projections, “over one million individuals in Illinois needed treatment for drug disorders in 2004, but only 10 percent

received treatment,” Aghi said. “We think that it's a myth that addicts make a choice and don't want to get help; drug addiction should be treated like any other health disorder.”

Aghi believes that in time, drug reform will happen and regulating marijuana use among young adults will benefit society. However, groups such as NORML are not the only people interested in drug reform. Some people who smoke marijuana think legalization is necessary and in fact, common sense. “I don't understand why pot, which has never killed anyone, can make you a criminal, but alcohol which causes deaths all of the time, is totally fine,” said Dan Adams.* “It makes no sense.”

Many “potheads,” as society tags them, say they do well in school and participate in activities but at the same time thoroughly enjoy the high they get from smoking weed.

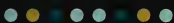
Matt Smith*, who smokes marijuana two to three times a day, explains his high as a pleasant experience.

“Everything just makes sense,” he said. “I'm alert and less stressed, and I can think a lot better.” Although smoking marijuana is currently illegal, reformers and students hope to see a change in the near future. **names have been changed*

STORY BY JESSICA MILLER
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY LINDSAY OLSON



did you know?



Source: www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov

MARIJUANA IS THE
MOST USED ILLEGAL
DRUG IN THE UNITED
STATES,

TODAY'S MARIJUANA
IS **10 TO 15 TIMES**
STRONGER THAN IT
WAS IN THE 60s.

APPROXIMATELY
34% OF COLLEGE
STUDENTS USE
MARIJUANA.

TO LEGALIZE OR NOT TO LEGALIZE



GRATEFUL

"I am actually for the legalization of marijuana in general, not just for medicinal purposes. If you consider how much more dangerous and harmful alcohol is, it really doesn't make sense that we waste so much effort and money on trying to fight something that isn't even that dangerous."

—Stanton McConnell
sophomore in LAS



"I think that in some medicinal cases marijuana should be legalized, but I also think that there is a serious danger of it being misused and taken advantage of."

—Molly McElherne
junior in LAS

fillin' up at fat don's

SPECIALTY RESTAURANT SERVES THOUSANDS EACH WEEK

Wednesday evenings in Peabody dining hall are a fury of huge steaks, giant baked potatoes, and moist brownies. Students from all over campus travel to the meal that can satisfy any appetite at Fat Don's.

Fat Don's, a specialty restaurant at the University, provides students with an alternative to typical dorm food. Every Wednesday from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., employees hand out tickets to hundreds of students who anxiously wait in line for their chance to consume the great food of Fat Don.

"Fat Don's owns me," Drake Baer, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences said. "I leave feeling satisfied, if not painfully full."

Brendan Powers, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Fat Don's employee, said about 2500 students eat at Fat Don's each week. The large numbers served make Wednesdays very hectic for the staff.

"We don't really have a chance to start preparing until Wednesday, so Wednesday afternoons are very busy," Powers said.

The main menu often includes Salisbury steak, burgers, potatoes, ribs, and corn on the cob. For dessert, students can indulge in giant chocolate-chip cookies or brownies. Powers said it takes many student employees to prepare the large amount of food for so many people.

"We have a half dozen cooks who make food on charcoal grills on the sidewalks outside," Powers said. "Employees like me are always busy moving food from the grills to inside."

Powers admitted that it is overwhelming working in a busy environment like Fat Don's, but rewarding to see so many enjoy his hard work.

Besides Fat Don's, students can eat at six other specialty dining hall restaurants on campus, including the vegetarian-inspired Field of Greens located in Lincoln Avenue Residence Hall and Cocina Mexicana at Illinois Street Residence Hall.



STORY BY ERIC SCHULZ
PHOTOS BY ENOCH CHUNG



a word with the cook

Thirteen years ago, Don Block, associate director of dining services for residence halls, created the "Fat Don's" concept during a meeting with the dining hall staff.

"Why not make a restaurant with all the foods that I like?" he said.

When Fat Don's first started, the restaurant only served 200 students. Each year it became more popular until it outgrew the original location and was moved to the Peabody dining hall, Block said.

"I think students really enjoy it because it's comfort food," Block said. "Not everyday can a college student get a 16 oz. charbroiled steak or chicken breast. Students can come to Fat Don's to spend time with their friends and eat a good meal."

STORY BY BRITTANY BEKAS



Opposite top: The crowd waits in line at Weston Hall to get into Fat Don's.

Opposite bottom: Luke Yarger, senior in ACES, distributes tickets to people waiting in line at Peabody Dining Hall's specialty restaurant.

Left: Don Block (also known as Fat Don) oversees the grill during Wednesday night's highly anticipated meal.

Above: Dieterich Herndabier, senior in FAA, Tam Tracy, sophomore in LAS and Alan Francis, junior in LAS, help prepare steaks for Fat Don's weekly meal.



state of the debate

CONTROVERSY OVER CHIEF ILLINIWEK CONTINUES

Chief Illiniwek stood in an empty hall outside Huff gym, arms crossed over his chest, feathers trailing down his back. He lightly tapped his bare feet in the double step he has danced for 80 years. With the start of a drum beat from the band, Chief Illiniwek stepped into the 81st year many fans and opponents thought would never come.

The start of the 2006 Illinois athletics season marked a bittersweet milestone for the controversial school symbol. Performing this fall season meant the Chief had survived a full year of NCAA rulings. The prolonged debate re-affirmed Illiniwek's place on the hot seat for yet another year.



Below: Chief Illiniwek, the official University of Illinois symbol, is under scrutiny by many groups because it is seen as derogatory towards American Indian cultures.

In Aug. 2005, the NCAA placed the Chief on a list of "hostile and abusive" uses of American Indian imagery in the realm of college athletics. The judgment meant that Illinois could not host any postseason athletic competitions as long as the symbol survived.

"We've found that we've benefited by not reacting too quickly to things we learn from the NCAA," University Board of Trustees president Larry Epley said. "It's served us well so far, and I suspect it will continue to serve us well."

The University spent nearly nine months appealing the NCAA decision, but without an in-state tribe to argue for the Chief mascot, there was little hope the NCAA would back down.

So when Chief Illiniwek stepped to the court for the first Friday night volleyball match, it was amid turmoil and great debate.

Controversy has followed the Chief closely for nearly two decades. Opponents of the mascot say it is a racist stereotype, degrading to the American Indian cultures he purports to represent. They applaud the NCAA's suggestion that the Chief be retired, saying it is time to put the eight-decade tradition to bed.

"The NCAA has the obligation and responsibility to ensure that its championships are conducted in a way that respects sportsmanship and respects the points of view and ethnicities of its fans and its players," NCAA President Myles Brand said after striking down Illinois' final appeal.

To his supporters, Illiniwek is a beloved symbol of the University. He represents noble virtues of bravery, honor and loyalty. His performance is done with respect, supporters say, and therefore should not be seen as offensive.

As 2006 rolled into 2007, however, it became apparent that something would soon change. The Board of Trustees began meeting with interested parties across the spectrum of Illiniwek opinions, hoping to find a way to reach an illusive "consensus resolution."

"Everybody who is concerned about the University, about the Chief Illiniwek tradition, about our ability to run a high-level athletic program began to throw out ideas, to brainstorm," University spokesman Tom Hardy said.

STORY BY COURTNEY LINEHAN
PHOTO BY BECK DIEFENBACH

CONTINUING THE DISCUSSION: ANTI-CHIEF OR PRO-CHIEF?

Anti-Chief

"A Native American as a dancing, half-time, football mascot? Demeaning—no question. I think it's weird there's even a controversy."

—William Smith
junior in LAS

Pro-Chief

"Chief Illiniwek is a sign of pride and honor. All I know is that if the Chief is gone, so is a lot of money from a lot of alumni."

—Brandon Bleess
junior in LAS

Anti-Chief

"I'm not Native American, so it doesn't offend me—but if Native Americans say it's offensive, we need to believe them."

—Ellen Dahlke
junior in LAS

Pro-Chief

"I think it's a sign of honor and people get too worked up over it."

—Sarah De Runtz
senior in LAS



fighting the fifteen

PERSONAL TRAINERS HELP STUDENTS STAY IN SHAPE



Reality known to many students, the dreaded "freshman 15" seems impossible to lose. Although many factors contribute to weight gain during college, extra pounds can be avoided by following helpful tips from CRCE personal trainers.

Campus Rec Center-East (CRCE), located at 1102 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, is home to a staff of 25 personal trainers, including Michelle Mermelstein and Chris Nasti. As personal trainers, they encourage professors and students of all ages to maintain a healthier lifestyle that incorporates exercise into their daily routine.

"I love helping people with fitness," said Mermelstein, a senior in Applied Health Sciences. "It's so much fun watching someone notice a change in themselves, and it's great knowing that you're actually making a difference in their life."

Mermelstein has been a personal trainer at CRCE for two years, after passing the National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM) exam. She said the NASM exam details what a trainer is advised to do with their clients and how to progress them through a fitness program. She said that the trainers are required to pass a practical exam through CRCE before becoming certified.

Opposite top: Trainer Michelle Mermelstein, senior in AHS, demonstrates an exercise to her client.

Opposite center: Trainer Michelle Mermelstein, senior in AHS, works with her client Liso Ellis, a graduate student in Education. Ellis says she tries to train at least once a week with Mermelstein.

Opposite bottom: Jill Belsley, sophomore in Communications, watches as personal trainer Kristi Nelmark, senior in AHS, sets up a weight machine for her. Belsley says that she has been working with Nelmark since the start of fall semester and is trying to get in shape for the Miss Illinois Beauty Pageant. **Above:** Kristi Nelmark, senior in AHS, coaches Jill Belsley, sophomore in Communications, through an arm strengthening exercise of CRCE.

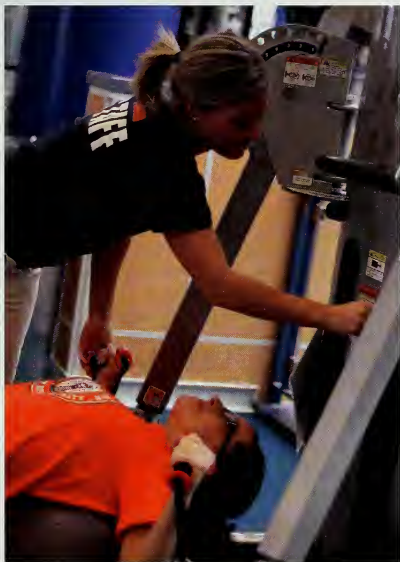
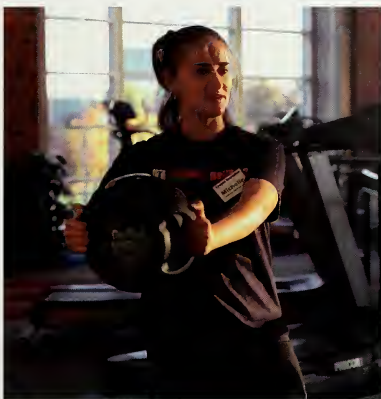
Working as a Student Director at CRCE, Mermelstein has three clients this semester. She trains members of the faculty as well as undergraduate and graduate students.

"I try and meet with them to discuss their goals, what they're looking to achieve, in addition to their health history and personal interests," Mermelstein said. "Then, we try to put together a program that fits them best."

Chris Nasti, a graduate student in Applied Health Sciences, has worked as a personal trainer for four years. He trains anywhere from two to 15 hours a week with a clientele of professors and graduate students.

According to Nasti, CRCE offers a wide variety of fitness packages which depend on the individual's experience, time availability, and budget.

"For \$30, fitness assessments are available



to students," Nasti said. "The individual is taken through a series of health and fitness related tests such as heart rate and blood pressure, body fat percentage, and a movement assessment to determine any postural or muscular imbalances."

For personal training packages, rates are based on whether the individual prefers to work out individually, with a partner, or in a small group of people. From there, one can choose to buy a four, eight or 12-session package.

"If people are looking for the trainer to simply set them up and teach them what to do, then the four-session package would be suitable," Nasti said. "But if people are looking to work out with a trainer on a more continual basis, then the 12-session package is a better deal."

Although it can be difficult to schedule and find the time to meet with clients with such busy schedules of their own, Mermelstein and Nasti love their jobs.

"I enjoy helping clients who actually have health-related concerns," Nasti said. "Helping them become healthier—or at least feel healthier—is rewarding for us both."

STORY BY KATIE KRITZBERG
PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA LEUNG

testing the limits

FORMER AMBASSADOR & PROFESSOR DISCUSS
NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN NORTH KOREA



With guest speakers Thomas C. Hubbard, former U.S. ambassador to the Republic of Korea from 2001 to 2004, and Jae-Jung Suh, a professor of government at Cornell University, a public forum concerning the North Korean crisis took place in the Armory Building at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 17. The speakers discussed security implications in responding to the North Korean nuclear test and diplomatic options that the United States can take.

Relations between North Korea and its neighbors had grown tense as the world waited to see if the secretive nation would go through with its claim that it had the right to build and test a nuclear weapon. The answer came in the form of a blast in a deserted mine shaft with the power of a 4.2 magnitude earthquake. Decades of negotiations had failed to prevent the regime of Kim

Jung Il to create a nuclear weapon and it was the world's turn to respond.

On the morning of Oct. 9, 2006 the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) gave the Chinese government a 20-minute notice that it was conducting a nuclear test. China relayed this information to the United States government, who confirmed on Oct. 16 that, based on measurements of the levels of radioactive particles in the air over the supposed nuclear test site, indeed there was a nuclear explosion in North Korea.

The regime of Kim Jung Il stated that its development of a nuclear weapons program was needed as a response to U.S. efforts to topple its government. The United Nations called the North Korean test "provocative" and on Oct. 14 imposed a wide set of economic sanctions on the already poor nation.



Above: Joe-Jung Suh, a professor of government at Cornell University, describes specifics of the North Korean nuclear project of the Armory Building on Oct. 17.

"I think the U.S. needs to do more bilaterally if we are serious about diplomatic solutions," Hubbard said.

President Bush has requested North Korea to agree to restart six-party talks with the U.S., Japan, South Korea, Russia, and China. North Korea has refused this solution, stating that any sanctions enforced by these nations will be considered an 'act of war'.

Patrick Gill, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is a student in the political science department. In agreement with Ambassador Hubbard's thoughts on diplomatic solutions to the crisis, he said, "The U.S. should use bilateral talks instead of six-party talks in order to have more control on what happens in Korea."

"Worst case scenario has become the predominant mindset," said Suh when asked about the diplomatic strategies of the six nations closely

involved in the crisis. "It's not my fault, it's your fault,"

The nation of South Korea is a close ally to the U.S. and currently there are about 35,000 American soldiers stationed on the Korean peninsula. During his visit to the University of Illinois, Ambassador Hubbard addressed the role of American service men and women in the crisis.

"A military solution to this problem is not feasible," he said.

Gill insisted that although the events in East Asia seem to be very distant from our campus in central Illinois, they are of great importance to students at our university, some of whom are originally from Korea, Japan, China or Russia.

"This crisis will immediately affect how people vote in the upcoming election, which in the long run will affect America's foreign and domestic policies," Gill said.

STORY BY ERIC SCHULZ
PHOTO BY ENOCH CHUNG



thrill of the night

ALLEN HALL ZOMBIE HORDE LURKS THROUGH
CAMPUSTOWN IN CELEBRATION OF HALLOWEEN

†he Saturday night scene on Green St. is fairly predictable: energized students taking advantage of the numerous bars, cafés, and restaurants. However on Oct. 28, Green St. took on a new personality when a crowd of 200 zombies flooded the sidewalks of Campustown.

The Zombie Horde was created by J.P. Goguen, a senior in the College of Fine and Applied Arts. Goguen said he created the "Zombie Horde" to promote the spookier side of Halloween. He had dreamed up the idea of a Halloween horde with

his friends during his freshman year, but the idea did not materialize until his junior year at Allen Hall.

Allen Hall residents were informed through flyers and Facebook about the event. Those who had participated last year also helped to recruit approximately 200 students, 150 more than last year.

Participants achieved a scary persona by applying ghoulish white make-up and baby powder on their faces and bodies, and hollowing out their eyes in black face paint. They also created false wounds using fake blood and tissue paper, and "brains," using oatmeal.

In addition, the participants were taught the dance from Michael Jackson's "Thriller" video by Amy Swanson, a junior in the College of Fine and Applied Arts. They performed the routine during their walk through campus.

The Zombie Horde began their walk through Illinois Street Residents Hall at 9 p.m., and then proceeded down Green Street. Throughout their walk they captured the attention of many other students. Some pedestrians even followed the Horde to see where they would go and what they would do next.

"There were all kinds of reactions—awe, confusion, and terror—because there were so many zombies," Goguen said.

The mob embraced chilling, zombie characters by knocking and breathing on windows. They startled passersby, jumping out from behind trees and running after them. They also terrorized passengers in cars and buses by surrounding the vehicles.

"It turned into a competition to scare people," Groguen said.

Groguen said the horde did not break character even when approached by reporters and photographers. He said the "zombies" responded to questions by moaning and groaning.

Groguen said the most attention the Zombie Horde had was at WPGU. The station played "Thriller" over the radio for the participants to dance to.

"The best part about participating in the Zombie Horde was entertaining the people on the streets and in the bars with our "Thriller" moves after hours and hours of practice," said Megan McDermott, a freshman in the College of Education.

As midnight approached, the Zombie Horde crept back home to Allen Hall, but students continued to reminisce about the "living dead" they saw on Green St. that Saturday night.

STORY BY **JORIE JOHNSON**
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**
BECK DIEFENBACH
ROXANA RYAN



Top: A zombie scientist holds up a boom box playing Michael Jackson's "Thriller" as fellow members of the undead dance in front of Kam's Bar, 618 E. Daniel. Photo by B. Diefenbach
Center: Groaning as they approach a car on Green St., students dressed as zombies participate in the Zombie Horde, an Allen Hall pre-Halloween activity that attracted about 200 participants. Photo by J. Birnbaum
Left: Members of the mob invade the computer lab of Illinois Street Residence Hall. Photo by R. Ryan
Opposite: Walking down S. Gregory St. in Urbana, students pretend to be the living dead on the weekend before Halloween. Photo by J. Birnbaum



on the catwalk

LATINO FASHION SHOW INCLUDES DIVERSE MODELS

myrna Rivas floated down the runway on Nov. 4, 2006, reflecting the long hours that she and other students put into the making of the year's Latino fashion show, "Noche de Travesura," or "Night of Mischief."

First time model and freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Rivas auditioned in September to model in the annual show, hosted by the Illini Union Board. The audition required walking and posing for the judges. Participation was not limited to Latino models.



Celena Santana, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Latino Programs Chair for Illini Union Board, said that a diverse group of models participated in the show.

"(The models) don't have to be Latino," Santana said. "That's a major misconception. We don't discriminate, as long as you have confidence."

The diversity of the models contributed to a greater diversity in the audience as well, accomplishing a long-time goal of the show's coordinators.

Carla Cofre, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Area Coordinator for Cultural Programs for the Illini Union Board, said the title may have implied the show was exclusively Latino, "but we encouraged everyone to come out and see it."

Santana believed the committee achieved its goal.

"I definitely think there was a diverse audience," she said. "It reached out to more people than I thought it would."

The time and hard work put into the show's production lead to its success.

"It looks easy," Santana said. "But people don't realize what it takes to make it look so easy."

Each model was assigned a scene such as "formal" or "night life" and dressed accordingly. They then created original walks and poses to display their clothes. While some models used clothes from their own closets, some of the clothing was borrowed from local stores.

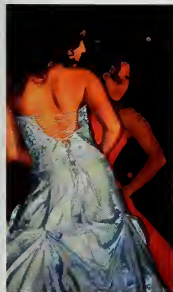
Cofre said getting mens' clothing proved to be the one of the biggest challenges.

"A lot of clothing companies have a 'been-there, done-that' attitude. They don't want to do it again," Cofre said. "Other companies are corporate and can't [provide clothes] because they would have to go through headquarters."

Despite those challenges, Santana said all the hard work paid off in the end.

"I was speechless," she said. "I constantly thanked my models and my committee because it wouldn't have been a show without them. It came out perfectly and exceeded my standards and expectations completely."

STORY BY KATHY KHAZANOVA
PHOTOS BY ALISA AUGELLO



Opposite: Jayonet Prada, Johaira Prada, Rosy Luga and Myrna Rivas, all freshmen in LAS, pose in formal wear. **Far left:** Twin sisters Johaira and Jayonet Prada, freshmen in LAS, walk in their formal wear. **Left center:** Representing Uruguay, Jessie Avilez, sophomore in LAS, holds the hand of Maria Borrientos, senior in LAS. **Right center:** Mole models include Kenneth Fong, freshman in Business, Troy Pryor, undergrad in LAS, Joshua Nicholas, senior in LAS, and Wayne Frederickson, senior in LAS. **Far right:** Christino Kurowski, undergrad in LAS, struts her stuff in the opening act.

democrats dominate elections

STATE, NATIONAL ELECTIONS PROVE SUCCESSFUL FOR DEMOCRATIC PARTY

his year's local and national elections were marked by candidate visits to campus, late-breaking scandals, and a virtual trouncing by the Democrats in the United States House.

Locally, the Student Senate held an ice cream social open to students who wanted the opportunity to meet and personally ask questions of local candidates.

Amanda Palozza, chair of the Outreach and Government Affairs Committee, said that the event gave students a way to get to know candidates without the traditional, intimidating setting of debates.

"It's a great way for first-time voters to get to know local candidates, figure out their beliefs, then think and vote for themselves and the issues they stand for," she said.

Dr. David Gill, democrat in the race for the 15th Congressional District, attended the Ice Cream Social held by the Student Senate on Oct. 13th, along with several other candidates vying for the student vote. Gill was eventually beaten on election day by Republican incumbent Tim Johnson, who secured his perfect election record since winning a seat in the state House in 1976. Johnson did not attend the ice cream social, but was represented by his press secretary.

Other candidates present at the event included Democrat Mike Frerichs, who bested Republican incumbent Judy Myers for the 52nd State Senate District, as well as Democratic incumbent Naomi Jakobsson, who was re-elected into the 103rd State House District.

Jakobsson felt that the best way to encourage students to vote was to spark their interest as early as elementary school. She attended schools in the district and introduced state government at the fourth grade level. She also hosted a "Create-a-Bill" contest to get kids excited and interested in how government can work for them.

"You don't want to wait until high school to get them involved - start when they're young," Jakobsson said. "There's a new bill that minors can go into polling booths with adults. Hopefully this instigates discussions when the family gets home about government."

The voter turnout in Champaign County reached 47.21 percent.

At the gubernatorial level, it was the incumbent Gov. Rod Blagojevich who raked in a victory with approximately 49 percent of the votes, while his Republican opponent Judy Baar Topinka received 40 percent. Green party candidate Rich Whitney won 11 percent of the vote, which proved that third party candidates can be a viable option for Illinois Voters unhappy with traditional parties.

Gov. Blagojevich spent nearly \$20 million on negative campaigns against Baar Topinka, whom former Gov. Jim Edgar said was "outspent five to one."

"People don't like negative commercials, but unfortunately he was able to make those in a manner that made it very hard for her," Edgar said.

Analysts were unsure of which candidate would win this election, even on election day.



what issues influence your vote? ●●●●●

"Political stances on abortion and stem cell research will influence my vote. I am also looking at how the candidate will spend our money."

—Tiffany Bustamonte
senior in LAS



"I think the people have given us a strong message, and I hear the call for change," Blagojevich said. "I hear the call for action, and I'm ready to lead."

Quinn said that the top issue for Blagojevich and himself is providing quality health care, especially for children, as well as continuing their support of higher level education.

Nationally, Republicans were hurt by the Mark Foley (R-Fla.) scandal, who admitted to sending sexually lewd and lascivious e-mails to a male congressional page. Former Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) was put on the spot by Democrats after being accused of hiding this information from the House Ethics Committee.

The Democrats now command 55 percent of the seats in the House, taking firm control back for the first time in 12 years.

Nancy Pelosi, a democrat of California, will serve as the new Speaker of the House, the first woman in history to hold the position. She and her fellow Democrats have a number of issues they are ready to push through in the new Congress, but they are first and foremost concerned with pressing the White House to change course in Iraq.

STORY BY **JEN BRANDT**
PHOTOS BY **STEVE TWARDOWSKI**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Opposite: Carlos Caceres, junior in Communications, interviews Democrat Mike Frericks. *Photo by S. Twardowski*
Above: Democratic Gov. Rod Blagojevich shakes hands with commuters at the CTA Jefferson Park train station in Chicago. The night before, Blagojevich celebrated his re-election victory over Republican Judy Baar Topinka. *Photo courtesy of the Associated Press*

"I try to look for a healthy balance of issues such as foreign policy, women's rights and environmental focus. Also I am looking at the candidates history of spending money, because that is a big issue."

—**Jessica Blair**
junior in ACES

"I hate to say it, but I missed registration again this year. I would have made a point of doing so had this been a presidential race. But Baar Topinka and Blagojevich are so distasteful, I don't think I would vote for either."

—**Nicholas Jefferson**
sophomore in Communications

"It seems like this year's campaigns, like the race for governor, have been mostly negative and personal. The candidates haven't focused on issues that are important, such as the U.S.-Mexico border, and that leaves voters in the dark."

—**Jeremy Werner**
sophomore in Communications

nineteen and on the scene

STUDENTS REACH ENTRY AGE, BECOME REGULARS AT CAMPUS BARS

On any given weeknight, the bars on campus were more crowded than one might think considering nearly half of the student body was not even old enough to drink yet. That is what makes U of I campus bars so unique.

Here, 19-year-olds are admitted.

"Turning 19 is freedom," Liz Carrington, freshman in the College of Engineering, said.

After freshmen turn 19, the cities of Champaign and Urbana give these soon-to-be 20-somethings an opportunity to divulge themselves in the bar scene a few years prior to their 21st birthdays.

Of all the other state schools in Illinois including ISU, EIU, NIU, SIU, and UIC, the University is the only one in which 19 year-olds are admitted into bars legally. It is the only state school offering a glimpse into the future of life as a 21-year-old.

This municipal code leads to another interesting element at the bars. Grace Gondela, sophomore in the college of Liberal Arts and Sciences, works at a bar on campus as a "shot girl." She said, "Having 19-year-olds in the bar is extra work. There is added pressure not to serve underage students drinks because it puts my job at risk."

Whether your allegiance lies with Tuesday's wine night at The Clybourne, Wednesday's bomb night at CO's, or with any of the other wildly popular specials nights at the bars on campus, there is no denying the high level of dedication of these loyal attendees who would not miss their favorite weeknight special for the world.

Erica Aceret, a sophomore in Communications, was an adamant attendee of bomb night at CO's

and attested to the reasoning behind this special bond some students developed with their favorite specials night.

"You can always see the same crowd," Aceret said. "When you go to bomb night you're going to see the same people you've seen every Wednesday night. The specials are awesome. It's the time of the week to go to CO's."

For some students, however, it was hard to push the memory of past specials nights to the back of their mind. With the closing of Gully's this summer, the campus bar scene lost perhaps its most treasured event in Monday night Gully's. Emily Berkowitz, a sophomore in ACES, was just one of the many students who felt a part of their weekly social life died when Gully's shut its doors.

"Monday night Gully's was definitely the best bar night on campus," says Berkowitz. "You could always count on great drink specials and having all your friends around to hang out."

Some students said they had a lot of trouble filling the void left by Gully's closure, having tried out Monday-night specials at other campus bars and being left disappointed.

Though waking up the next morning may have proved to be a harrowing ordeal, it was well worth it for the specials nights' faithful. The hazy recollections and hysterical events of the night before promised to form lasting memories in the minds of devoted students that will never be topped. That is, not until next week.

STORY BY JIM SHAY
PHOTOS BY JESSICA ELMORE





Above: Dressed in all different shades of pink, students wait in a long line to get into the annual 'Pink Party' at C.O. Daniel's. The bar, located at 608 E. Daniel, even featured a pink-painted facade for that night only.

Left: Signs of favorite campus bars glow until 2 a.m. every night of the week.

RETROSPECTIVE
campus bar scene

keeping the faith

STUDENTS FIND WAYS TO WORSHIP WHILE AWAY FROM HOME

Religion on campus was more than attending services and reciting prayers. It was also an array of organizations designed to help students outwardly practice their faith, and connect to fellow students who held similar beliefs. Cru, also known as the Campus Crusade for Christ, was a Christian organization that sponsored Bible studies, retreats, meetings, and socials, in hopes of bringing its participants closer to God.

Jill Rollin, a freshman in the College of Engineering, said, "Cru helped me to know that other people are there for you that believe the same thing. I have been bolder in my faith and felt like I could stand up for it."

Cru Getaways took members off campus for a weekend in order to allow them to focus on getting to know both God and each other on a deeper level. However, Cru was just one of the organizations on campus focused on bringing its members deeper into their religion.

Other organizations included, but were not limited to, The Hillel Foundation, a Jewish association, Buddhists for World Peace, and Intervarsity, a group for any follower of Christ.

Religious organizations helped students do more than just develop their faith. Freshman students found that being part of a religious organization was helpful in the process of adjusting to campus life. Through the new-students retreat and a fall getaway, offered by Intervarsity and Cru,

new members could become accustomed to both the organization and their fellow members.

"Cru was a loving community that made me feel welcome among people who shared my same beliefs," Rollin said. "I got connected to a lot of other freshman in the same position as me."

Others found religious organizations a helpful reminder that there were other religious persons on campus.

"Cru was a constant reminder that there is a huge number of Christians on campus and that it is possible to be a Christian without being persecuted," said Ashley Meitl, a freshman in the College of Education.

In addition, students discovered participation in a religious group kept them sane and grounded in a college atmosphere that can often generate the opposite.

"It taught me to keep my morals and stand firm in what I believe," said Meitl.

Groups made it their personal mission to help students find a balance between student life and religious life. According to its mission statement, "The Hillel Foundation helps students find a balance in being distinctively Jewish and universally human."

No matter what their affiliation or situation, the university proved to be an environment in which faith can grow rather than be abandoned.

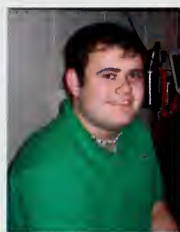
STORY BY **JORIE JOHNSON**
PHOTOS BY **DAN HOLLANDER**

WHAT EFFECT DOES A COLLEGE ENVIRONMENT HAVE ON RELIGIOUS PRACTICES?



"I have found many people and organizations on campus that help me strengthen my faith for the better. I have joined Greek Intervarsity and a Bible study in my sorority for this reason. Being a part of these groups helps me grow closer to other people as well as to God."

—Diane Javier
sophomore in LAS



"I am Jewish, and back home no one really cared. I casually went to temple on holidays as just kind of a standard Jewish thing. But since arriving here I have noticed that I have actually been judged because of my religion, and it has affected the way people have looked at me."

—Alex Grunstein
freshman in LAS



Above: Both University students and community members, like in during a buffet dinner put on by Chabad Jewish Student Association to celebrate breaking the fast or yom Kippur at the Illinois Union Colonial Room.



"Through Cru (Campus Crusade for Christ) I have found a lot of people who share the same views as I have. I am taking part in a Bible Study in Weston right now through Cru which has enabled me to continue practicing my religious faith."

—Margaret Triebel
freshman in LAS



"Being in a college environment does influence religious practice because of the various backgrounds and the various beliefs. People either get involved in religious activities or distance themselves. It is often influence from peers who either attend activities or don't."

—Puja Shah
junior in AHS

center for ceremony

JAPAN HOUSE INVITES LOCALS FOR TEA AND TRADITION



In the United States, serving tea is as simple as dropping a pre-packaged tea bag into a cup of hot water. But in Japan, the preparation of tea is a highly honored art form with its own philosophy, developed over 400 years ago. *Chado*, or "the way of tea" involves a very delicate and ceremonial performance centered on the principles of harmony, respect, purity, and tranquility.

The Japan House, located in the southeastern corner of campus since 1998, offers instruction to students and members of the community who are interested in the intricate tea ceremony. Karen Remsen, sophomore in Fine and Applied Arts, described the tea ceremony as a culmination of the Japanese arts.

"You have the visual arts because you have the actual tea objects, which are considered pieces of art," Remsen said. "And, it's also a performance

art because they have steps and you have to do it a certain way. It's almost like a dance."

At the beginning of the ceremony, each utensil is carefully cleaned and then placed in a very specific arrangement. Next, measured amounts of tea and hot water are poured into a bowl and whisked. Upon receiving the tea from the host, the guest is expected to perform certain movements such as a particular expression and a bow to a set level. The host ceremonially cleans the utensils after the tea is enjoyed. The process is savored, lasting anywhere from one to five hours.

During the ceremony, emphasis is placed on the relationship between the host and the guest.

"In Western culture we have such a different idea about what interaction between people is," Remsen said. "We think of interaction as talking, talking, talking. In Japan, talking is very subtle. So, if you're not talking you're almost interacting more."

Mindi Porebski, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences, believes that the tea ceremony serves as a great way to relieve stress during a busy week.

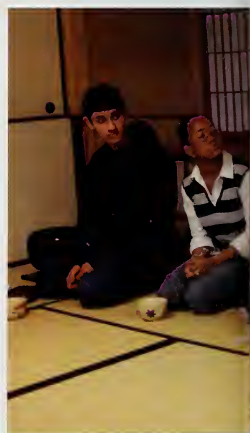
"It becomes really a place of calm and peace for my mind," Porebski said. "I just feel, you know, good and peaceful and harmonized."

Through her class at Japan House, Porebski learned about *Chado* and how the practice of tea ceremony can be applied to everyday life. She said that an important aspect of the tea ceremony is its ability to bring healing to the body and mind.

"They have this concept—in Japanese it's called *kokoro*—and it means 'mind and body and spirit and soul,'" Porebski said. "And, it's translated in all these ways because it's all of your being. And they say your *kokoro* is supposed to be good, so it's kind of the way to cleanse that and make you feel at peace with yourself."

Remsen and Porebski encourage everyone to participate in a tea ceremony and agree that any visit to Japan House is a unique experience.

STORY BY COURTNEY COPPERNOLL
PHOTOS BY ENOCH CHUNG





Opposite: Kimiko Gunji, Director of the Japan House, prepares green tea for her guests.
Above: Kimiko Gunji serves tea at a Japanese tea ceremony.
Far left: A group of U of I students sits quietly at the Japan House, learning the unique process of preparing tea.
Left: Bowls used for grounding green tea leaves sit on display at the Japan House.



Above: Online gambling is a serious problem among college students. An early addiction can lead to life long problems.

taking the risk

NEW LAW RESULTS IN REPERCUSSIONS FOR ONLINE GAMBLERS

Whether an addict or an occasional online gambler, there is no question students at the University have taken a strong liking to online gambling.

Whether a pastime or an obsession, students such as Michael Brady, a junior in the College of Business, have won some bets and lost some.

Brady has been gambling online since his senior year of high school. He frequents web sites such as Partypoker.com and Pokerstars.com.

"At first I was making money and found it

more entertaining than other means of earning income. And then they started giving me money to play with every couple of months so it was free," Brady said.

Ben Weinberg, a junior in the college of Liberal Arts and Sciences, visits web sites such as Bodog.com, Ultimatebet.com, ParadisePoker.com, and Sportsbook.com. Weinberg comments on the accessibility of it all.

"I'm addicted to gambling in general and if you're not 21, it's perfect," Weinberg said.



Some wonder why this seemingly waste of time and money is so popular on campuses such as this one. For participants, the answer is simple.

"You don't have to gather friends to play or find a place to play. You can sit in your room and play while studying or something. Sometimes you want to play against other people also, not just the same group time in and time out," Brady said.

Oct. 13th proved a sad and frustrating day for online gamblers as President George W. Bush signed a law outlawing online transactions in the United States for gaming sites.

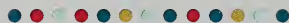
Though Weinberg said he may be addicted to gambling, he doesn't mind the law seeing as he will be able to go to the casinos when he turns 21 in January.

Brady was not too deterred. "I've lost interest in it lately. It's basically just there as a time-filler, something to do when I'm bored," he said.

Whether a pointless hobby or a passionate fixation, online gaming sites will have to seek gamblers elsewhere from now on.

STORY BY **ERIN AQUINO**
PHOTO BY **ADAM GROTH**

are you addicted?



An average of 2.7 million college students nationwide support the \$12 billion internet gambling industry every week.

Test your own addiction to online gambling by answering the following questions. The higher your score, the more at risk you are for developing a serious addiction.

- 1 = rarely
- 2 = occasionally
- 3 = frequently
- 4 = often
- 5 = always

1. How often do you find that you stay online longer than you intended?
2. How often do you neglect chores and homework to spend more time gambling online?
3. How often do you form new relationships with fellow online gamblers?
4. How often do your grades or school work suffer because of the amount of time you spend gambling online?
5. How often do you find yourself anticipating when you will be gambling online again?
6. How often do you snap, yell, or act annoyed if someone bothers you while you are gambling online?
7. How often do you lose sleep due to late-night log-ins to your favorite Internet casino?
8. How often do you feel depressed, moody, or nervous when you are off-line, which goes away once you are back to gambling?



Above: Marie Graver, freshman in Business, left, and Michelle Li, sophomore in LAS, right, discuss the details of the upcoming show with their staff.

Far right: Kerry Doyle, sophomore in Communications, converses with students while she sells tickets.

Right: Star Course member Caitlin Harrington, freshman in LAS, directs concertgoers to their seats.



seeing stars: a history of shows in champaign

1968

The Beach Boys

1973

Elton John

1974

Grateful Dead

1979

Bruce Springsteen

1982

U2

1989

Def Leppard

staying on course

CONCERT PROMOTIONAL ORGANIZATION KEEPS CURRENT MUSIC ON CAMPUS

With over one thousand registered student organizations on the University campus, Star Course is one of the few that offers something for music fans. The student-run organization is dedicated to bringing music to Champaign-Urbana, which is already well known for its local music scene.

Star Course was founded in 1896 and has been going strong ever since. The organization has been responsible for presenting bands such as Death Cab for Cutie, Relient K, Spoon, Ben Kweller, Guster, Liz Phair and Mest.

Part of its success is due to the dedication and workmanship of its members. The organization is responsible for advertising, selling tickets, ushering, as well as setting up for and tearing down after all its shows. Emily Dehm, junior in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, was one of the senior managers.

By communicating with various managers to extend offers for show production on campus, she said, "we are the ones who work directly with the venue manager, tour managers and band agencies, and oversee to make sure everything gets done in order for the show to run smoothly."

Dehm said that one of her most important jobs was regulating university funds to keep Star Course running. That included following up shows with settlements and balancing funds.

Working under senior managers in the organization are junior managers, whose committees range from advertising media to hospitality to business administration.

"Junior managers each head up their own committee, which is vital in order to put on a successful show," Dehm said.

Syl Martinez, junior in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, was the junior manager in charge of Stage and Production. "I was respon-

sible for loading and unloading the band's equipment, as well as a lighting and sound company's lights and PA systems." He said. "We also work security during the show."

Many of the shows produced by Star Course were performed in affiliation with Foellinger Auditorium. Working with the Foellinger staff, Star Course was committed to presenting concert-goers with the best experience possible.

"We work with Foellinger most frequently," Dehm said. "This has its advantages in that we both are very used to how the other organization works and are comfortable working with each other."

In order to bring a band to campus, Star Course has to submit offers to the touring managers of the band in question. "The success of the offer depends on details such as when the band is touring, if our venue is open, and so on," Dehm said. "The artists are chosen by popularity, how well we think the campus will respond, requests as to who wants to be seen, as well as who we can afford and who will work well in our venue."

Joining Star Course required a big commitment, but many participants felt the benefits outweighed any frustrations. Interested in using the experience they gained in Star Course in their future careers, both Dehm and Martinez said they put in about seven to ten hours of work a week. Members were involved in many social opportunities outside of concert planning as well as attending most of the shows.

"Going to concerts is something I have loved to do for a while, and this has helped satisfy my curiosity about how things work behind the scenes," Martinez said.

STORY BY EMILY SCHELL

PHOTOS BY STEVE TWARDOWSKI

1995

Weezer

1996

Dave Matthews Band

2000

Ben Harper

2002

John Mayer

2003

Wilco

2006

Death Cab for Cutie

RETROSPECTIVE
STAR COURSE



the dating game

STUDENTS DEAL WITH THE PRESSURE
OF COLLEGE RELATIONSHIPS

making it to class on time is hard enough for the ordinary college student. It only gets worse when, in your desperate attempt to make your lecture on time, you nearly collide into a couple cuddling on the quad. A few steps later, you almost run over two people making out, and you wonder about the status of those affectionate pairs.

Were they dating, in serious relationships, or simply hooking up? This is a question many students asked themselves in search of the definition of "dating" in college.



Jenna Keller, a junior in a relationship with senior Jake Linnell for over a year, said that dating in college was really laid back.

"We both have busy schedules so we just make time for each other when we can," she said. "We don't go on set dates but rather grab lunch between classes or watch a movie. It's basically like hanging out with your best friend all the time."

Upon entering college, many felt pressure from their friends or families to find their future spouse and some tried hard to find someone to date seriously right away.

However Jen Harper, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, said being single and finding out who you are in your first year or so of college was really important.

"You should have fun and see the person you want to become. Don't worry about the pressure to date," she said. "There is just as much pressure to stay single and hook up. You should do what makes you feel comfortable and not fall into pressure from your peers."

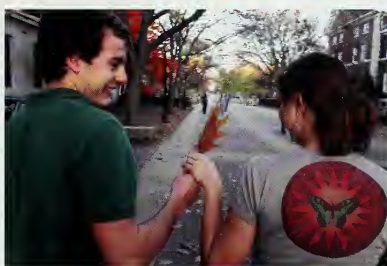
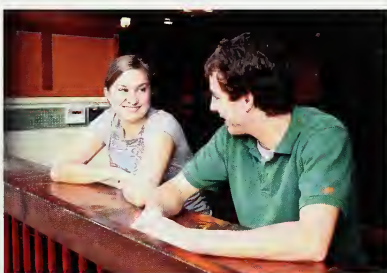
Another popular theme among many students was the long distance relationship. According to the Dating Doctor, David Coleman, who spoke to students at Foellinger, 50 percent of long distance relationships don't make it within the first year and 90 percent fail within four years at college.

Amanda Gomez, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, has been in a three year, long distance relationship with her boyfriend, who attends the University of Miami.

"Long distance relationships are really hard," she said. "However, if the person you are with is worth the effort, you can make it work with communication and trust."

Another situation that complicated relationships occurred when students found themselves in relationships as graduation approached. They had to ask themselves the question, 'what now?'

What happened to people who were dating after college was over?



Senior Sarah Chapman dealt with this exact problem. She planned on job searching while her boyfriend attended law school.

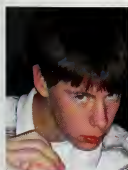
"If all goes well we will stay together," she said. "That's what I'm hoping."

There were many couples who also considered marriage after graduation. Keller disagreed, saying that "College is about finding your bridesmaids, not your husband."

Many students felt building solid friendships in college that will last a lifetime was more beneficial than focusing too much attention on searching for a soulmate.

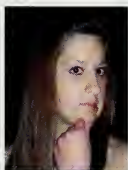
STORY BY JESSICA MILLER
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON

WHERE'S THE BEST PLACE TO TAKE A DATE IN CHAMPAIGN-URBANA?



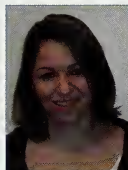
The Canopy Club to hear bands.

—Aaron Wicklund
freshman in LAS



Curtis Orchard.

—Jen Harper
sophomore in LAS



Bring Your Own Bucket at Beverly Cinema.

—Jenna Keller
junior in Communications



campaign for change

STUDENTS WORK TOWARD CAMPUS-WIDE CULTURAL AWARENESS

bigot. Ugly. Rude. Stupid. These were all words spray-chalked on to campus sidewalks and on posters all around Champaign as part of the I-Change marketing blitz.

The I-Change Campaign was a student-run initiative that hoped to challenge ignorant and insensitive thoughts and actions; constant concerns among students at the University.

While nearly 30 percent of the student body is comprised of minority groups and the campus is home to four cultural houses, members of I-change and the student body believe that cultural diversity and acceptance are not stressed enough.

A "Tacos and Tequila" themed party, thrown by members of the Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity and Delta Delta Delta Sorority on Oct. 5, brought to the forefront many of the issues which I-Change worked to alter.

The theme party sparked a protest in which students spoke out about racial stereotyping. Alicia Aguirre, a junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences who took part in the protest, said the entire situation angered her.

"I feel like this university tries to sell the idea of diversity to students but in reality, it's not working," Aguirre said. "With events like the (Mexican-themed party), it shows how little this university is actually getting through to students and educating them on cultural diversity."

Aguirre, a Mexican-American student, suggested that a cultural-sensitivity course be added to every students list of mandatory general education requirements.

"This would not just help race relations on campus, but in almost any career students choose."

Members of I-Change chose to combat issues of diversity differently. Paul Richardson, the creator of the University version of I-Change, said their campaign was intended to shock.

"We knew we weren't the first group to have this message, so our hope was to get people's attention," he said. "If you're walking to class and see the word 'bigot' at your feet, you're probably going to wonder why it's there."

Students such as Molly Rafter, a junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, said the campaign accomplished it's goal.

"The I-Change spray-chalking of words like 'bigot' and 'stupid' were pretty hard to miss when you were walking to class."

The spokesperson for the Delta Delta Delta Sorority, Brittany Bekas, said the sorority is trying to turn its mistake into a positive learning experience.

"Our chapter made a mistake, but we have been doing our best to make things right," she said. "We have created a cultural awareness committee within our chapter and are working with all the Greek councils to promote diversity on campus."

Nathaniel Banks, director of the Bruce D. Nesbitt African-American Cultural Center, said institutional racism could be the real problem.

"It's much larger than just themed parties," he said. "If we're not purposeful in trying to address these common issues of institutional racism, more things like (the theme party) will happen."

Banks said student and staff activism on campus, such as I-Change, is a positive way of responding to instances of cultural insensitivity.

"I think a lot of times students do things that they don't realize are wrong, because no one ever told them otherwise," he said. "I'm encouraged by the fact that the University as a whole is beginning to wonder if there is a better way to educate the student body on cultural awareness."

STORY BY **DAVID VALDES**
PHOTOS BY **LINDSAY OLSON**
DAN HOLLANDER
SUZANNE STELMASEK



Opposite: Students gather and hold signs up at an anti-racism rally organized by S.T.O.P. (Students Transforming Oppression and Privilege) on the Quad on Oct. 31. The rally, which later moved to protest the ZBT fraternity and Tri-Delt sorority because of their questionably-themed event on Oct. 5, focused on the recent events of racism as indicators of a much larger, systemic problem. *Photo by D. Hollander*

Top: From left, Washina Fard, sophomore in LAS, Ivane Gutierrez, senior in LAS, and Mindy Vasquez, freshman in LAS, hold signs displaying their feelings on racial discrimination, in response to the Tri-Delt and ZBT exchange called "Tacos and Tequilas" which utilized racial stereotypes for fun. "I'm mad over the fact that they can mock our cultures without knowing anything about it," said Fard. *Photo by S. Stelmasek*

Center: Members of the I-Change campaign hang posters on the Quad. *Photo by L. Olson*

Left: A student involved in the protest against the "Tacos and Tequila" exchange marches down Fourth Street in front of the ZBT house. *Photo by S. Stelmasek*



freaks

if not greeks?

NON-GREEK STUDENTS DEFEND THEIR INDIVIDUALITY

a 25 to 75 percent ratio may not seem like a fair battle. However, when referring to Greeks versus non-Greeks at the University of Illinois, the 25 percent of students in the Greek system often appeared as the overpowering group.

Being independent (a term often used to refer to non-Greek students) created a sense of em-

powerment, uniqueness, and most notably, bitterness toward students in fraternities and sororities in the battle between popped-collars and pearls; and dreadlocks and piercings.

Independents often formed harsh perceptions of Greek students because of the sense of arrogance they felt Greek participants portrayed. Steve VanDeKerckhove, a senior in international studies



Opposite Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity members Adam Odom, senior in LAS, left, and, Bob Karpiak, senior in Communications, right, live in a Park Place apartment with non-Greek, fifth-year senior in LAS, Steve VanDeKerkhove, center. The apartment is located on Green St. and has 4 bedrooms with 5 roommates, one non-Greek and four ATOs. The fraternity brothers rarely single Steve out, they say, and he is always included in social events and fun. "We try to keep VanDe in line," said Karpiak when asked about living with a non-Greek student. "We really get along great, but we'd probably accept him more if he was not such a sally on the beer pong table."

who lived in an apartment with three members of the same fraternity said, "I typically had a negative view of the kinds of people who joined [the Greek system]."

Some students joined frats or sororities, then developed opposition to the system and dropped out.

Kristi Bechtol, a senior in Psychology, deactivated from her sorority after actively participating for two years.

"I was spending so much money and it took up so much of my time," she said. "I just didn't see the point in putting myself through that when there were so many more productive things I could be doing with my time."

On a college campus, where there is potential for stereotypes to run rampant, non-Greek stu-

dents often took to mockery to show their dissatisfaction with the Greek system. Popped collars became a bona fide illustration of the typical "frat guy," according to some independents.

Steph Matook, a sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, said that one reason she did not join a sorority was because she thought they placed too much pressure on a specific appearance. "I went through rush and was not impressed by the process," she said. "I felt judged and no one should have to feel like that, so I dropped out."

While many independent students were able to befriend those in the Greek system, there was still a consistent friction between some Greek and non-Greek students.

STORY BY JESSICA RADOGNO
PHOTO BY LINDSAY OLSON

weekend with dad

STUDENTS SPEND TIME WITH THEIR FATHERS AT UNIVERSITY-SPONSORED EVENTS

beers and burgers, beards and bald-heads. For some, Dad's Weekend might mean a nice meal without worrying about the bill or drinking some beers and watching a football game, but whatever the activity, it's a time for students to bond with their fathers.

Dad's Weekend 2006 began on Friday Nov. 10 and lasted until Sunday Nov. 12. The annual weekend allowed students to show their fathers a taste of campus life. Many organized activities occurred throughout the weekend for students and their dads to participate in.

On Friday evening, *Buzz* magazine hosted the "Best of Champaign-Urbana" Party at the brand new Illini Media Building located on Green St.

Buzz staff member Lauren Aquino, a junior in speech communication, said that the purpose of the party was to celebrate the annual 'Best of C-U' issue, which contained reader-approved Champaign-Urbana favorites in everything from food to fun to fashion.

"It was really great to see students come to the party with their dads," Aquino said. "It was by far the most successful *Buzz* party that Illini Media has ever sponsored."

Special performances included "U-C Hip Hop," "Dance2xS Caliente," "No Strings Attached" and a comedic performance by Mike Coulter.

Aquino said it seemed that both the students and their fathers had a good time.

Many students, including senior in Business Molly Hughes, opted to take their fathers to the football game.

"I made him start the pre-game rituals of drinking at my favorite bar at 8:00 a.m. sharp," Hughes said. "So making it to the game was the least I could do."

Saturday's game against Big Ten team Purdue University marked the last home football game of the season. Illinois played an aggressive first half but could not hold the lead, losing 42-31.

"Although, I really don't enjoy sitting in the cold enduring a loss, I know that it means a lot to



my dad to 'talk football' with me," Hughes said.

Katelyn Lobascio, senior in Education, took her dad to the Men's Glee Club Dad's Weekend Concert. The concert, hosted by the Krannert Art Center, was held at Foellinger Auditorium on Nov. 11.

"The Men's Glee Club performance was excellent," Lobascio said. "The group is incredibly rehearsed. Furthermore, the entire concert was completely entertaining."

Dad's Weekend provided plenty of time for bonding and unique memories. From parties, to sports, to musical venues, the weekend was jam-packed with University-sponsored events.

STORY BY LISA NOE
PHOTOS BY STEVE TWARDOWSKI
LINDSAY OLSON



Opposite: The empty lot on the west side of Memorial Stadium serves as tailgating grounds for students and their dads. Photo by S. Twardowski

Above: Tim Wolfe, a dad from the U of I class of 1988, Ryan Anderson, senior in ACES, Tim Patrick, senior in ACES, Brian Blyth and Luke Shulin, both students from Purdue, and Harry Patrick, Illinois graduate from 1974, hang out before the Illinois v. Purdue game. Photo by S. Twardowski

Far left: Jim Kogut, a former U of I student and football player, enjoys a tailgate celebration with daughter Jacquelin Kogut, freshman in AHS. Each home game, Jim puts on a tailgate for his two daughters that attend the university and anyone else who happens to walk by. Photo by L. Olson

Left: Jenny Kogut, junior in LAS, mocks a nearby dad, Vern Olson, by stealing his fake Oakley sunglasses and wearing them for the duration of the Dad's Weekend tailgate. Photo by L. Olson

what to wear

CLOTHING BOUTIQUES ON CAMPUS SET THE FASHION STANDARD

Christine Janda, junior in Communications, goes to her closet and comes back empty-handed. "I have nothing to wear out tonight," she says. Janda does not have a car on campus and therefore does not have access to clothing retailers. Trying to find a trendy outfit last minute was a challenge, until recently, she said.

Two new clothing stores, Pitaya and Exhibit, opened on campus. Both stores provided students with fashionable clothing, within walking distance.

"Having a store like this on campus is great for girls without cars or for girls who don't have time to make a trip to the mall," said Amber Bain, sophomore in Education and Exhibit employee. Nestled on the second floor of the College Corner Center on Green St., Exhibit offers students a wide selection of clothing choices. The boutique carries everything from Ed Hardy t-shirts to Hot Kiss jeans to Mi&Ren dresses.

Bain credited the diverse selection to owner Heather Ronkoske, an alumni of the University. She said Ronkoske orders styles and vendors that appeal to her.

"(Ronkoske) has styled for celebrities and T.V. shows," Bain said. "She knows how to pick out really unique items."

Bain said the most popular items are dresses, jewelry, and "going-out" tops.

"We get a lot of girls in here looking for dresses to wear to last minute events," she said.

Shoppers can spend \$36 to \$100 on a dress depending on the designer. Bain said that although some of the items can be expensive, Exhibit does offer items that fit into a college student's budget.



Amanda Heckinger, junior in Business and employee at Pitaya, located on Green St., said that like Exhibit, Pitaya has a large selection of merchandise that changes from week-to-week.

"The girls that shop here typically have a sense of style," Heckinger said. "They know they can come in here on a regular basis and find something fresh."

Lindsey Kordik, junior in Communications and self-proclaimed fashionista, said she enjoys shopping at Pitaya because of the variety.

"They really have a little bit of everything – no matter what look you are looking for you can find it there," Kordik said.

Some popular items include tunic shirts, leggings, and headbands, Heckinger said.

Kordik said while the new stores are convenient, they are bad for her bank account.

"I have a shopping problem as it is," Kordik said. "Now I can go to class, shop, grab dinner, shop..."

STORY BY **BRITTANY BEKAS**
PHOTOS BY **ALISA AUGELLO**

fall fashion favorites

Leggings

This 80's essential has made a comeback and is being worn under dresses, big sweaters and long tees.

Headbands

This hair accessory that comes in a variety of shapes and sizes is great for running to class or hitting up the bars.

Skinny Jeans

Toss these on with a pair of ballet flats during the day and then switch into a pair of pumps for the night.



Opposite: Kelsey Lofstrand, senior in Business, Emily Widmer, senior in LAS, Julie Mammoser, senior in Communications, peruse the racks in Pitoyo, located on Green St.

Below: Maryann Arsenijevic and Sarah Becker, both seniors in Education, shop for new holiday party dresses.

Waist Belts

The waist is back. This accessory dresses up any boring t-shirt or dress.

Wrap Dresses

A dress for any age level that looks great over jeans, leggings or tights.



Opposite: Otto Stuparitz, freshman in LAS, backs frontman Stan McConnell, sophomore in LAS, in their local band, Santa. **Above:** Santa's guitarist and lead vocalist Stan McConnell, sophomore in LAS, rocks out during a show at the Illini Union's Courtyard Cafe.

rock in our region

LOCAL BAND PLAYS C-U, STRIVING FOR NATIONAL FAME AND FORTUNE



It wasn't long ago that an almost unheard of student band from the University of Illinois became a nationwide, popular rock band. The band was REO Speedwagon. And it may not be much longer until another student band follows in their footsteps. "Santa" is a group of five students who, though they have not been together for even a year, have already enjoyed numerous successes.

In February of 2006, Stanton McConnell, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) and also guitarist and vocalist for Santa, along with his cousin Mack McConnell, also sophomore in LAS and fellow guitarist, gathered some of their musically inclined friends to form the band now known as Santa.

The roles of bassist, vocals, drums, keyboard and auxiliary percussion were ultimately filled by Martin O'Donnell, sophomore in LAS, Chad Warner, junior in LAS, Zak Kunath, sophomore in LAS, and Otto Stuparitz, freshman in LAS.

Perhaps one of the most unusual aspects of the band's formation was their decision on a name. Incidentally, the name was jokingly decided upon by the McConnell cousins over a casual cup of tea.

"At first we laughed, but then we found it provocative," Stan McConnell said. "It's memorable

and kind of mysterious, and who has dared tackle the cultural impact that Santa has other than the man himself?"

One of the most unique aspects of the band is the very genre that they fit into – or more accurately, the many genres that they do not fit into.

"It's really hard to pinpoint influences, because so many of us have such different musical tastes," percussionist Zak Kunath said. "We are a big conglomerate of genres and styles that we individually like."

Specific influences range from Radiohead to Bob Dylan, Of Montreal to Phish.

Members of Santa spent much of the 2006-2007 school year experimenting with their sound at frequent, two-hour practice sessions. Their devotion to creating music paid off as they were given the opportunity to play at various local venues, produce an album, and be featured on Illini Media's student radio station, WPGU.

Above all of their successes however, perhaps the most rewarding, was their opportunity to go on tour. The tour, aside from providing the band with a real taste of life on the road, included playing shows in Chicago, St. Louis and Arkansas.

"We partied everywhere from gated communities to lonesome country bars and it was incredible," Mack McConnell said.

However, as with any other band on the rise, Santa was forced to deal with a few difficulties that accompanied life in the musical spotlight.

Drummer Martin O'Donnell said that "negotiating six people's desires, musical and otherwise, has probably been the most difficult thing."

As the band nears their one-year anniversary, they concluded that life as a musician has been nothing other than a rollercoaster ride. In years to come, Santa plans on staying together and pursuing their goal of creating new and enjoyable sounds for a consistently growing group of fans.

Stan McConnell said, "We want to travel the world and make people cry, the good tears, the whole bittersweet-life-tears that only music can bring."

STORY BY JESSICA RADOGNO
PHOTOS BY STEVE TWARDOWSKI



see your soldier

VIDEOCONFERENCING CONNECTS SOLDIERS IN IRAQ WITH THEIR FAMILIES ON CAMPUS

Christmas came early for Jeremy Cavinder, Army Rank Specialist, 1st Cavalry, who was stationed at Camp Taji.

Participating in the University-hosted event "See Your Soldier," held on Dec. 5 and Dec. 6, Cavinder was able to see and speak to his family for approximately 30 minutes via videoconferencing.

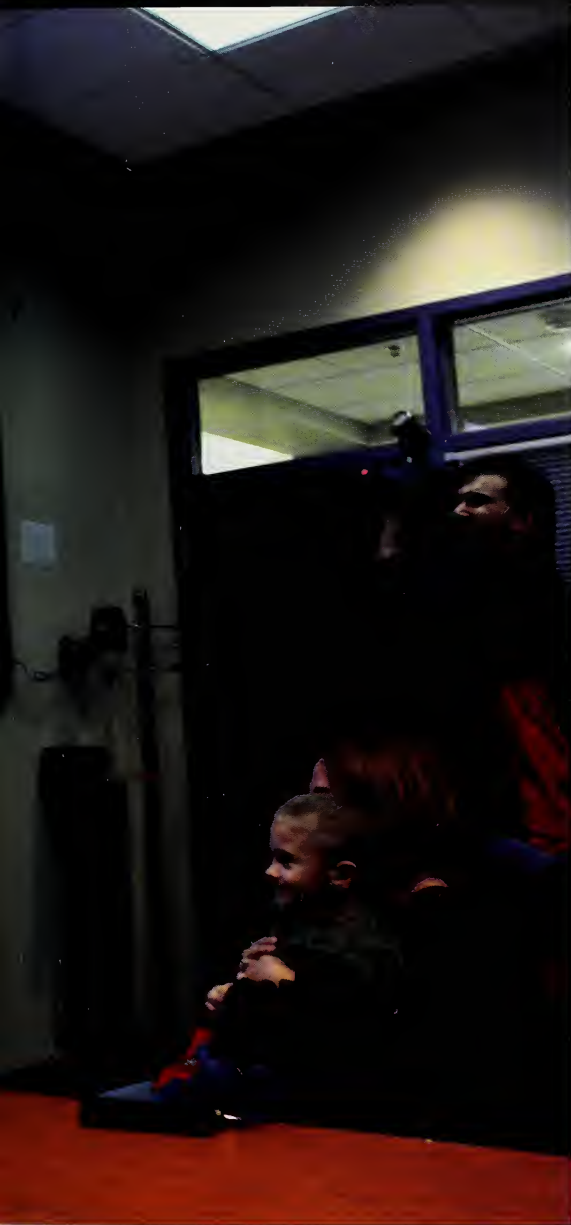
There wasn't a dry eye in the room when Cavinder's young son, Noah, stood up and said, "Daddy, I want to say something—you're my hero."

The sobs were audible from both the family in the conferencing room and from the satellite feed of Jeremy.

He replied, "It means so much to us over here that you all still care. Sometimes we feel like people back home don't even care anymore.

"You remember those good times, baby," he said directly to his son. "Because we're going to have a lot more when I get home. I promised you I'd come home. I will."

Approximately 50 soldiers stationed at two



camps were able to connect with about 340 family members around Illinois. The video-conferencing sessions were held at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications on the Urbana-Champaign campus, as well as 12 extension sites throughout the state. It is offered to families at no cost.

This is the third time that the University has arranged real-time meetings between deployed soldiers and their families, a program they call "See Your Soldier."

Scheduling and equipment overseas was coordinated with Freedom Calls, a New York-based foundation that helps soldiers all over the nation reunite with their families live via satellite.

"It was extremely difficult to coordinate," said Nancy Kasselbaum, a "See Your Soldier" coordinator. "The program took about six weeks to organize, but families are always elated to be able to see their loved ones."

Cavinder's family said that the best part of this was that they could see that he was safe, healthy, and in one piece.

Through tears and sniffles, his family had 30 minutes to ask him questions about how his time overseas has been, ask if he needed anything, and to catch him up with life in their hometown of Shelbyville. Cavinder was unable to comment on his personal view of the war or specific locations of military personnel.

"It's the greatest Christmas present I could ever ask for," Cavinder said.

The year 2006 has been a tumultuous one in regard to progress in Iraq. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld was fired and succeeded by Robert Gates, who hopes that President Bush will listen to his new strategies on forging a war plan.

"In my view, all options are on the table, in terms of how we address this problem in Iraq," he told the Senate Armed Services Committee, who approved him by a wide margin after five hours of testimony on Dec. 5.

The U.S. death toll has surpassed 2,900 in the four years that troops have been overseas, and no timetable has been set to remove them. The Pentagon, the State Department, and the National Security Council all have separate studies about how to focus war efforts in the future, but in the end it is President Bush's decision on how to proceed.

STORY BY JEN BRANDT
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON



Opposite: Jeremy Covinder, a soldier stationed at Camp Taji in Iraq, talks with his wife and son via videoconference at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA). **Left:** Covinder's entire extended family traveled from Shelbyville to participate in the "See Your Soldier" program. **Right:** Amanda Covinder experiences an emotional moment seeing husband Jeremy onscreen. "You're my hero," son Noah told him.

RETROSPECTIVE
see your soldier

together with pride

STUDENTS FIND SUPPORT, FORM SOCIAL CIRCLES IN LGBT GROUPS

One of the benefits of a large campus population is the diversity of the student body. The University is home to a lively lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community and offers a variety of LGBT student organizations, three of which are PRIDE, Colors of PRIDE, and "L-Cubed," or Ladies Loving Ladies.

One of the things Liz Wagner, current president of Ladies Loving Ladies, considered during her college search was the presence of LGBT groups on campuses. As a closeted high school student, Liz felt like an outsider. For college, she sought a place which would allow her to be herself. In her words, Ladies Loving Ladies "provides a place for queer women to go."

PRIDE, perhaps the largest LGBT organization on campus, is also the most active and most public group. While equally concerned with building community, PRIDE also works "to keep gay issues towards the forefront of campus," said PRIDE executive officer William Blanchard.

One of the ways PRIDE accomplishes a political agenda is with campus-wide events that draw attention to the oppression of LGBT people. PRIDE organizes 'Day of Silence' in the spring, during which participating members dress in black and decline to speak for the day.

This action "symbolizes the silence all LGBT people feel," said Blanchard. PRIDE also sponsors events for National Coming Out Day, Transgender Day of Remembrance, and volunteers members for panel discussions in Human Sexuality class sections, as well as holding social events.

Colors of PRIDE, a group specifically geared towards LGBT students of color, also organizes activities which encourage awareness and discussion of LGBT issues, such as movie showings and lectures, a guerrilla theatre on the quad, and a Drag Ball at the Illini Union. Ladies Loving Ladies is a primarily social group, organizing outings to movies, Curtis Apple Orchard, C-street bar, and the PRIDE parade in Chicago.

While there is a solid LGBT community at the University, many groups feel the campus community could still improve their levels of acceptance. Each organization acknowledges that it faces difficulties, with membership, diversity of membership, and participation of allies.



President of PRIDE Ryan Livingston seeks to convince potential allies that "this is a cause worth their time," and that "the denial of one person's civil liberties does affect yours."

Wagner said a major difficulty is in encouraging people who haven't come out yet to join the organization.

Ryan agrees, saying, "I thought there'd be more gay people here. Going by statistics, there should be 4,000 gay students (10% of the population). This campus is a closeted one."

Blanchard said the under-representation of minorities in PRIDE mimics the under-representation of minorities on campus in general. "This campus is not very diverse when it comes down to it."

Wagner said that the campus climate is a bit less intimidating for women than men to come out. "It's easier for queer women to blend in with straight women because straight women are less threatened."

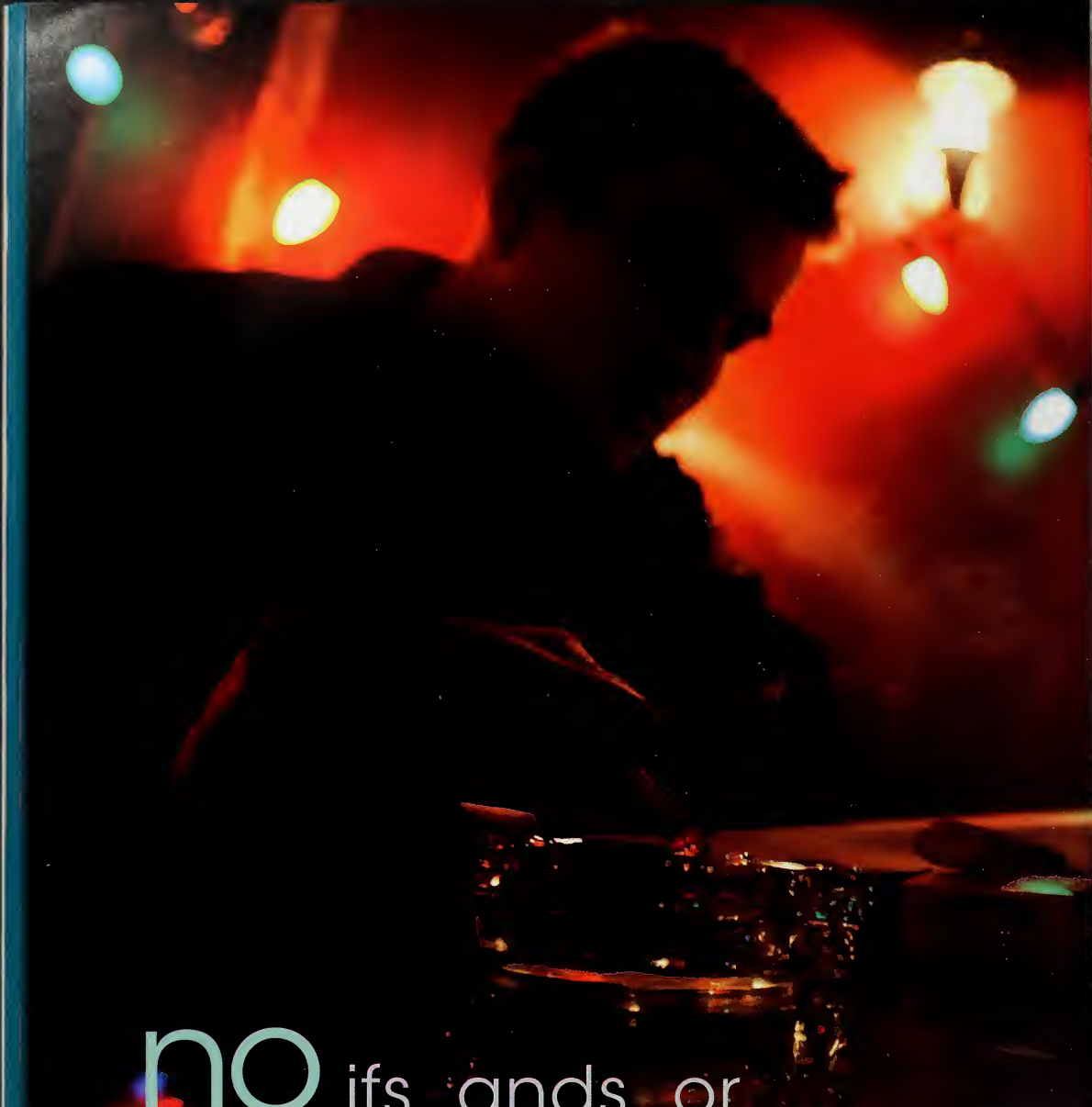
Despite these challenges, LGBT organizations agree that while the campus may not be diverse, it is receptive. "Change is achievable. This is a place where we can make a difference," Livingston said. William agreed, saying that "Most students are willing to listen."

Khristian Kemp-DeLisser, of Colors of PRIDE, notes that "despite its challenges, Colors of PRIDE is a valuable group to have on this campus. Students and staff will always be committed to its success. We don't expect it to go away."

STORY BY CAMILLE BROMLEY
PHOTO BY BRAD VEST



Opposite: LGBT members on a field trip to Clinton Lake over the summer. Pictured is Flavie Garcia, graduate student in Engineering, Alex Orozco, junior in LAS, Angie Ibrahim, University alumna, Bridget Geraghty, senior in LAS, Lydia Majure, doctoral student in Engineering, Mervi Erika Deles, University alumna, Joyce Kuschler, graduate student in FAA, Liz Wagner, senior in LAS, and Danielle Wysocki, graduate student in Business. **Photo courtesy of L. Wagner.**
Above: From left, James Kuderikar, freshman in LAS, and Liz Wagner, senior in LAS, greet a crowd of supporters for National Coming Out Day on the quad. **Photo by B. Voss.**



no ifs, ands, or butts

SMOKERS, NON-SMOKERS ALIKE
ADJUST TO BAN ON TOBACCO

With the bitter turn of the weather in early February and the installation of the Champaign Clean Indoor Air Ordinance on Jan. 31, smokers will have an extra chill as they step outside for a smoke.

On May 16, 2006, the Champaign City Council passed the ordinance with a 5-4 majority prohibiting smoking in enclosed public places. Similarly, Urbana implemented the same policy on Aug. 1 last year, and it was enforced as of Jan. 1, 2007.

Left: Tyler Walker, of Champaign, smokes, reads and drinks at the Blind Pig Pub. In regards to the smoking ban, Walker commented, "As a smoker I just choose to accept it. It's the law."

Right: James Williams, resident of Champaign, hangs out at the Blind Pig, now a smoke-free establishment.

The ordinance required bars and restaurants to place conspicuous "no smoking" signs at or near the entrance and also requires them to remove any smoking paraphernalia such as ash trays, according to the City of Champaign Web site. If the owners of these public places fail to follow these rules, they can be charged a minimum of \$195. If an individual is caught smoking, they can be charged a minimum of \$145.

Ashley Richard, junior in education, thought the smoking ban is a positive change to the Champaign-Urbana night life.

"It's a great thing," Richard said. "I hate going to the bars and smelling bad afterward. I love the ban."

Yet many of the smokers in Champaign and Urbana don't share Richard's sentiment, as some of the on-campus bars don't have beer gardens. This makes it challenging for smokers to get back in.

"I go to bars only if there's a beer garden where I don't have to get back in line to re-enter," said Andrew Krok, junior in LAS.

Krok agreed, however, that not smoking might be the healthier, safer choice, yet he still doesn't agree with the ban.

"I can go out for a night, and while not smoking might be hard, it's probably better for me in the long run," he said. "But it's no wonder why bars are losing money, making people wait in line."

Freshman in the college of agriculture Alake Kashyap was also concerned with the health aspect of smoking in public places.

"Second-hand smoke is becoming a more relevant issue in the current world," Kashyap said. "It's relevant to everyone...who likes to sing and drink with people whose breath smells like smoke, anyway?"

While the smoking ban is a positive for some non-smokers and health-conscious people, Eric



Vacco, sophomore in LAS, knew what to expect from a bar and understands the former bar atmosphere.

"It's structured around drinking and smoking ... a bar is a bar," Vacco said. "But if I had to pick, smoking is bad and it should be banned because it does more harm than good."

Although the ban was recently put into effect, city officials do not foresee the ban as causing too many problems, as most establishments are complying. However, if there is a problem that needs to be reported, a smoking complaint form can be submitted online at the C-U Public Health Department's Web site.

STORY BY DANIELLE URBAN
PHOTOS BY AMELIA MOORE

how do you feel about the champaign smoking ban?



I love it. When I wake up and my hair is in my face I don't feel like barfing and jumping off the balcony.

—Steph Matook
sophomore in LAS



I don't smoke. I hate smoke but I don't necessarily think it should be banned in bars. Definitely in restaurants because there is food being served but I feel like its expected in terms of standards at bars.

—Brian Bush
junior in Engineering



It's seriously God's gift to me. Also a lot of my friends are trying to quit smoking and this is actually very helpful to them.

—Sarah De Runtz
senior in LAS

RETROSPECTIVE
champaign smoking ban



power and privilege

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATORS PARTICIPATE IN PANEL DISCUSSION AT STUDENT FORUM TO ADDRESS RACISM AND HOSTILITY ON CAMPUS

A line of six panelists faced a packed Foellinger Auditorium of students and community members asking hardball questions, addressing the "hostile campus climate," and the "long history of racism, privilege and intolerance at the University."

Events such as the "Tacos and Tequila" party and certain Facebook groups were the catalyst for an open forum titled, "Racism, Power and Privilege at UIUC." It was hosted by Students Transforming Oppression and Privilege (STOP) Feb. 1, 2007, to engage the campus and community in an open discussion about "the racist and hostile en-

vironment" at the University, according to STOP's press release.

The panelists for the forum were President B. Joseph White, Chancellor Richard Herman, Vice Chancellor Renee Romano, Provost Linda Katehi, Dean of Students William Riley and Vernon Burton, faculty senate member. The panel was given a list of seven demands, which can be found in length on the iResist Web site, and an ultimatum to respond within 15 business days with a concrete course of action. Celina Villanueva, senior in LAS and president of the Mexican Students Association, was the first to "break the imposed code of



silence." She "stood unafraid" behind the podium addressing the "Tacos and Tequila" incident and speaking against the "blatant form of racism that is the Chief" to thunderous applause. The administration's failure to respond in a prompt and efficient manner, Villanueva said, condoned the acts of participants in "Tacos and Tequila."

Shawn Lampkins-uThando, graduate student and spokesman for STOP, illustrated why they believe the Chief is racist.

"Imagine that you're a Catholic," he said. "And to you, the pope is a sacred figure. One day you go to this institution and at halftime, you see him running around sprinkling holy water on the crowd."

One male University student, wearing a bright orange Illinois shirt and a blue Illinois hat, was a lone pro-Chief voice in the auditorium who spoke up to the crowd's boos and jeers mixed with scattered clapping.

"The lack of individuals speaking different view points in the forum was reflective of the fact that (those who are not present) did not acknowl-

edge the critical barrier of racism, privilege, and power as the root cause of this hostile campus climate," said Reem Rahman, junior in LAS.

The first question to White regarded his plans to change the use of Chief Illiniwek. His reply of appreciation for the forum was cut short by an "answer the question!" from the audience. White declined to comment on what the Board of Trustees planned to resolve in 2007.

The audience expressed concerns regarding the lack of diversity on the panel.

"I'm not going to speak to why I'm white," Romano said after White and Herman spoke. "But I want to say that white people can be as dedicated to the issues of inclusion as anyone in this room."

Romano agreed with STOP that silence is the worst thing and there needs to be more dialogue in the future, while White endured more than a few interruptions and jeers from the audience.

"I have a great desire for everybody on this campus to feel safe and be treated with respect and dignity," he said.

Above: The six-member Race, Power, and Privilege Forum panel listens and responds as students and community members address their concerns with the state of racism on campus. Foellinger and Gregory Hall were filled to capacity, and many other people were turned away to watch the forum either at the Illini Union or on the Internet.

STORY BY **CHRISTINE WON**
PHOTO BY **BRAD VEST**



breaking the streak

CHICAGO BEARS PLAY IN THE SUPER BOWL FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1986

Here comes a special time every February when the attention of millions across the nation is drawn to the nearest television set for hours. For most, the festivities involved are a culmination of an entire season of gut-wrenching losses, highlight reel performances, and unforgettable victories. Others are enticed to participate simply by the enormity of the occasion or the overly expensive commercials.

Recently, the event occupied an important place in the hearts of the Chicago faithful. This was no ordinary Super Bowl for them, as their beloved Chicago Bears were making their first trip to the big game since 1986.

Though the final outcome, 29-17, was not what most fans had in mind, a Bears Super Bowl appearance was enough to make the game a special experience. Pete Otremba, sophomore in engineering, said he was disappointed over the heart-breaking loss, but could not forget the feeling of watching the Bears compete for a championship.

"It was great having a home team in the game trying to win it for Chicago," Otremba said. "It wasn't as good a game as I had hoped, but watching it at school with my friends was definitely different from my experiences in the past."

The campus was rippling with excitement in the weeks leading up to the game, as students and

faculty alike got caught up in the aura of Super Bowl Sunday. Joe O'Malley, sophomore in LAS, testified to the all-inclusive nature of this enthusiastic atmosphere.

"Everyone was really getting into it," said O'Malley. "Between teachers putting off assignments and talking about the game in lecture, you could feel the excitement and energy building on campus."

After years of futility and early playoff exits, the Bears were finally able to formulate a Super Bowl caliber team, officially marking the beginning of a new era of football in Chicago. This seemed the only means of consolation for mourning Bears fans across campus.

"The game showed that Chicago's presence in the sports world is expanding," Otremba said. "With the White Sox winning the World Series two years ago, and the Bears reaching the Super Bowl this year, it definitely means that Chicago is coming back into its own in the sports world."

As for the Bears' chances of reaching the big game next February, Otremba did not hesitate to offer his prediction.

"There's no doubt in my mind that they're winning it all next year," Otremba said. "I'm 100 percent positive."

Only time will tell whether this year's heroics will be repeated, but one thing is for certain: Champaign will be ready and waiting to catch Bears fever once again.

STORY BY JIM SHAY
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Opposite: Chicago Bears' Devin Hester (23) runs back the opening kick-off far for a touch-down during the first quarter of the Super Bowl XLII football game against the Indianapolis Colts. Photo courtesy of The Associated Press

Above: Chicago Bears quarterback Rex Grossman (8) stumbles after recovering a fumble against the Indianapolis Colts. Photo courtesy of The Associated Press

Left: After watching the Chicago Bears' 29-17 loss to the Indianapolis Colts in Super Bowl XLII, Mike Hallahan, right, and Dave Burchfield, left, both freshmen in LAS, camlart each other at KAMS in Champaign on Sunday evening. Photo by J. Birnbaum



time well served

ROTC MEMBERS TRAIN FOR SERVICE, EARN AN EDUCATION

On any given Thursday, any student at the University can take a walk through Campus, cross the quad between classes, and catch a glimpse of an army fatigue rounding the corner of the Union, or disappearing up the steps and through the doors of Foellinger Auditorium. Most will notice the black shoulder bag with at least the letters "ROTC" embroidered on the flap, carefully placed under a chair or on top of a desk. Their backs straight, these members

of ROTC—the Reserve Officer Training Corps—sit through class with a sense of pride in their stance that may or may not be visible in the average student. While they may walk to class with this same sense of confidence every day, the ROTC member will stand out on Thursdays, because the Military Education Council has designated this as the day when they will wear their uniforms all day, demonstrating the pride they hold for their organization and their country.

The joint ROTC program of Parkland College and the University of Illinois has divisions in both the U.S. Marines and the U.S. Navy, with students who are enlisted as active duty and those who are not. According to MIDN Isaiah Stokes, how long you serve depends on what field you go into.

"There are minimum terms of service," he said. "They depend on whether you want to go the aviation route, or other route, you know."

First class midshipman and senior at the University Julie Vogt always wanted to be in the military, and decided that the ROTC program was the best option that involved an education. Vogt wanted to serve her country, and ROTC let her do that while serving her personal interests in an education as well.

"I have changed a lot, and definitely for the better," she said.

Coming from a family of military careers, fourth class midshipman Justin Meyers knew all along he would end up in the field, choosing aviation in the ROTC program at the University to help him get there.

"If you want to make the Navy your career, it can be the rest of your life," he said. "It will help me get a job after that too, since any airline will see 'naval aviator' on a resume and probably hire immediately."

Meyers and Vogt differ from fellow ROTC member Robert Schronski however, as they entered the ROTC program right out of school, while Schronski chose to enlist prior to his entrance in the program. He is a member of the Marines as well as a freshman at the University.

"We're locked in for careers, and the marines are still paying us, so they want us out of here as quick as possible," Schronski said.

Feeling a personal urgency to get his education and get out in his field, Schronski will take summer classes, speeding up the process toward graduation.

ROTC students do not receive any special treatment from the University, whether that be in regards to registration or graduation requirements. On top of the usual things required to graduate, ROTC students must also maintain a 2.5 GPA and take the necessary classes required by the military, which range from military history to weaponry to leadership classes.

"It's more of a load on us; more standards," MIDN Stokes said. "But the lessons learned here serve you well, and the life techniques we train in here can be carried with you."

STORY BY **DENI STITCH**
PHOTOS BY **BECK DIFENBACH**



Opposite: Members of the Army ROTC work out as a group during 5:30 a.m. physical training. Unless superiors feel they need extra work, members are required to complete P.T. two mornings a week.
Top: ROTC members group stretch in the Army.
Center: ROTC members (Left) Joseph Ferguson, left, and James Simmons, both juniors in LAS, stretch before training exercises in the Army.
Left: A group of Army midshipman run sprints before classes begin.



coming back with courage

ERICA VAN ZUIDAM RETURNS TO CAMPUS
AFTER BATTLE WITH BACTERIAL MENINGITIS

Erica Van Zuidam had never even heard of bacterial meningitis before May 2005 when she was rushed to the hospital with severe flu-like symptoms. She would remain there for nearly the entire summer, in a coma for seven weeks and recovering from surgeries the rest of the time. The disease would eventually claim both legs, just below the knee, and both arms, just below the wrist.

After a year off of school for intense rehab and recovery, Van Zuidam has returned to the university. She has switched her major from math to kinesiology and hopes to be an occupational therapist where she will work with other amputees.

"My physical therapist was fantastic, but it was so frustrating to have her try to teach me to use my prosthetics when she had her hands still," she said. "She could never really understand what I

was going through. I want to show others firsthand and help them get through the therapy that I've already done."

Bacterial meningitis is an infection of the spinal cord, brain stem and brain. It infects approximately 3,000 people in America annually, and has a fatality rate of 10-12 percent. About 20 percent of survivors will have some permanent physical damage as a result of the disease, including amputations, hearing loss, kidney disease, or difficulty speaking.

Adolescents and young adults account for nearly 30 percent of cases, and college freshmen are particularly susceptible. In fact, recent data also show students living in dormitories, particularly freshmen, have a six fold increased risk for the disease. Crowded living conditions (such as dormitories), irregular sleep patterns, sharing



Above: Erica van Zuidam, junior in ACEs, returned to the University after a year in physical therapy learning to use her prosthetic hands and feet. About her fellow students she says, "I used to get mad when I was placed, but they're pretty much just waiting what happened."

beverages and utensils, and attending school with people from geographically diverse areas all account for a higher percentage among college students.

However, there is a vaccine for meningococcal disease that could prevent up to 83 percent of all cases in adolescents yearly. It is offered at U of I but not required for admission. Students can pay \$30 to receive the vaccine at the campus health clinic.

"I didn't know about the vaccine," said Van Zuidam. "I'd never even heard of bacterial meningitis before this. I was mad when I knew it could have been prevented."

She tries to make people aware of the vaccine now that she is back on campus. She stopped a tour group of high school seniors on the quad a few months ago.

"Don't even chance it," she told them.

Bacterial meningitis is an extremely fast-moving disease; patients go from feeling flu symptoms to full organ failure in just a few hours. Van Zuidam's experience was no different. Doctors took her case literally minute-by-minute; the medical staff didn't leave her side for the first 26 hours.

Amazingly, Van Zuidam says she never felt much self-pity about getting the disease or her amputations.

"I wanted to just move on," she said. "I wanted to get out of the hospital."

It was difficult for her to get used to all of her prostheses, especially right after the surgeries when the wounds were still sore. However, she worked tirelessly at daily tasks such as holding a toothbrush to brush her teeth and putting on makeup alone.

"It was so frustrating at first, because I had never thought twice about those things before," she says. "It was rewarding to be back to where I was before my prostheses."

One of the few things she still has trouble with is pulling her hair back into a ponytail.

"Most people with prosthetic arms have to cut their hair short," Erica says. "But I don't care what I have to do, these things are absolutely not going to make me cut my hair."

Now back at school a year later, Van Zuidam lives in private housing in an ADA-approved room with two roommates, twins Megan and Emily Bateman. Everything has been customized to fit her needs, such as levers on all doors and sinks instead of knobs, lowered light switches, a raised toilet seat because, in her own words, "ya don't got ankles."

The Bateman sisters are more than happy to step in when she needs help.

"In a living situation like this, you need someone who wants to help," Van Zuidam said. "We really lucked out."

"Yeah, we lucked out that you put up with us," joked Megan.

Van Zuidam recalled a time when her normally laid-back demeanor was pushed to the limit at a party this year.

"Some girl came up to me, grabbed my arm prosthetic, and said, 'Oh aren't you cute!'" said Van Zuidam with more than a hint of disdain. "I wanted to clobber her, and tell her exactly where my hook is going if she doesn't shut up."

"Just make me feel normal, that's all I ask."

She sat quietly for a moment, staring down at her prostheses.

"I have my bad days," she said calmly, looking back up. "Everyone will. But you can't dwell on it—you'll make yourself nuts with unanswered questions."

"Let it be as it is. Just go with it."

STORY BY **JEN BRANDT**
PHOTOS BY **BLAKE MILLER**

RETROSPECTIVE
ERICA VAN ZUIDAM



president in east peoria

BUSH PRAISES CATERPILLAR FOR REPRESENTING
'PIONEERING SPIRIT' OF UNITED STATES

flanked by a pair of bulldozers, President George W. Bush spoke to a hand-picked group of workers, whose diversity showed in the spattering of suits among hard hats and safety glasses. Some stood on top of various pieces of heavy equipment in order to get a better view of the president.

On Tuesday, Jan. 30, the eve of his State of the Economy address in New York City, President Bush chose to speak to Caterpillar Inc. in East Peoria. He said the company exemplifies the American pioneering spirit, able to expand worldwide while keeping jobs back home.

Opposite & Below:
President Bush speaks at
the SS Caterpillar building in
Peoria, discussing topics like
increasing exports through the
free trade policy to the state of
reciprocity in the United States.



Bush said he was "impressed by a culture of excellence and accomplishment that is the spirit of Caterpillar."

Prior to his speech, the president toured the facility and drove a bulldozer. Jim Owens, CEO of Caterpillar, said he commended the president for bringing the country into its greatest period of economic growth since World War II.

"I wanted to get out of Washington and sit down with folks that are the backbone of this country. And I want to come to one of America's great companies, and that's Caterpillar," Bush said.

Bush, standing under a banner that read, "Working for America," said he was glad to be in America's heartland with a company that reflects the American enterprising spirit.

The American economy is strong because inflation, interest rates and national unemployment are down, while wages are on the increase, Bush said.

"The question facing the country is, 'what are we going to do to make sure it's strong tomorrow?'" Bush said.

The president reiterated a point he made during his Jan. 23 State of the Union address, stating that what America needs is "not more government, but more enterprise."

"Our job in government is not to get in your way," Bush said, "Our job in government is to put pro-growth economic policies in place that (allow) companies like Caterpillar that do the right thing to succeed."

Roy Prokesh, quality inspector at Caterpillar, said that he is pleased with Cat's initiative in global development.

"Caterpillar takes care of us," said Prokesh. The tractor business is bound to boom, he added, due to the need of developing nations for building equipment, such as the bulldozers and tractors Caterpillar manufactures.

Bush said promoting free trade agreements is key to generating further revenue in America. The more a country exports, more workers are needed to build products, creating more jobs, he added. America holds five percent of the world population, and so we ought to market to the other 95 percent of the world, Bush said.

He said that he wants to ensure a level playing field, adding that America has pursued bilateral, regional, and world trade agreements.

"On a level playing field, nobody can compete with us," he added.

"It's a once in a lifetime experience; it's not every day that you get to see the president of the United States," said Ronald Gamble, Caterpillar team member for over ten years.

STORY BY **DRAKE BAER**
PHOTOS BY **BRAD VEST**



snow for two days

UNIVERSITY CANCELS CLASS FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS

Using lunch trays as sleds instead of piling them with dorm food, University students filled in the steps of Foellinger Auditorium with snow and made themselves a sledding hill. Despite a blizzard warning, more than 100 people were on the Quad on Tuesday, Feb. 13, to enjoy a rare snow day at the University, something that hasn't occurred since 1979.

Miles Kilgallon, sophomore in LAS, went to the Quad with his friends for a snowball fight and to play frisbee but decided to borrow lunch trays from people after he saw them sledding. After sledding for more than an hour, Kilgallon and his friends continued to line up to take their turn.

Students also found time to exercise by running across the Quad or using skis rented from Campus Recreation to get around. Others played Red Rover, tackle football, had snowball fights and built snow forts.

Ali Leipsiger, senior in ACES, was on the Quad playing in the snow and building a fort with her friends for more than an hour.

"We had a snowball fight, did some wrestling, and now we're getting down and dirty," she said. Leipsiger was building her fort using the snow that a tractor clearing pathways pushed to one side of the Quad. While working on the fort, Kirstin Hughes, senior in engineering, dug herself deeper into the mound, creating an opening to the fort.

"We're trying to see how many people will fit in it," Leipsiger said. "But I doubt all six of us will."

Despite enjoying the snow on the Quad, Leipsiger wasn't happy with late announcement of class cancellations. She had to walk to her 9 a.m. class for a scheduled exam and said she was in a bad mood. Only after her teaching assistant announced the cancellation of classes did she walk home happy.

"I haven't had a snow day since the sixth grade," she said. "High schools take pride in not canceling. I never thought it would happen."

Walking a little farther across the Quad, it was hard not to notice Jeff Wagner, sophomore in LAS, getting tackled in the snow. As he got up to brush himself off, his bare hands were beet red.

"I lost my gloves at Joe's," he said.

Even though he was blowing into his hands to warm them, he said he didn't manage to find time to purchase new gloves.

Wagner said he decided to get to the Quad by bus but thought it was a bad idea because it stopped half a block past his stop.

For Rob Bernas, graduate student, driving a car or bus didn't seem like a safe idea. After his friend Candi Lauret spent an hour shoveling her driveway to use her car to pick him up for lunch at Murphy's Pub, he declined.

"He didn't trust me to drive," said Lauret, senior in Education. "So we had to walk."

After just watching "An Inconvenient Truth," both Bernas and Lauret blamed the snowy weather on global warming.

"We're blaming Al Gore for everything," he joked.

Sitting down to have a beer after spending most of the day studying, Bernas enjoyed a break for lunch and from the cold.

"It's nice to have a day off in the middle of the semester once in a while," Bernas said.



Opposite: Shakirah Aljunid throws a snowball at Shariha Shaharum, sophomore and junior in LAS, respectively, on the engineering quad on Sunday afternoon. A snowstorm had just passed through the midwest the previous night, leaving almost 6 inches of fresh snow on the ground. *Photo by J. Birnbaum*
Left: Little traffic can be seen on the corner of Sixth and Green during the noon hour. Businesses, schools, and the University has been canceled due to the hazardous weather. *Photo by A. Facemire*



Center: Sophomores Mark Lokis, right in LAS, Steve Lalko, left in AHS, carry a keg through the snow to an apartment, celebrating the day off from school. *Photo by D. Hollander*
Bottom: A student pulls a sled down Green St. *Photo by D. Hollander*



STORY BY PHIL COLLINS
RYAN DAVIS
MARTHA SPALDING
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM
DAN HOLLANDER
AARON FACEMIRE

A photograph of a group of people, mostly young adults, standing in a line on a basketball court. They are wearing bright orange t-shirts. In the center of the line, a man in a dark blue jacket and grey pants stands out. The background is filled with a large crowd of people, many of whom are also wearing orange. The scene is lit with warm, orange-toned lights, creating a nostalgic atmosphere. The basketball court's floor is visible in the foreground, with some circular patterns. The overall mood is one of a significant, final event.

the last dance

CHIEF ILLINIWEK'S FINAL PERFORMANCE
ENDS EIGHTY-YEAR UNIVERSITY TRADITION



Above: Chief Illiniwek raises his arms to an Assembly Hall audience on Feb. 21 for the last time. Photo by Amelia Moore



the bittersweet end

SOME APPLAUD, OTHERS BEMOAN RETIREMENT AS CHIEF PERFORMS LAST DANCE

With 16, 618 fans hanging on each tap of his toe against the hardwood, each twist of his wrist that makes the soft rawhide fringe dangling off his arms and legs dance, Chief Illiniwek struggles to find his steps as an incessant flicker of flashbulbs rains down on the Assembly Hall like silver foil confetti falling on a New Year's celebration.

The flashbulbs are blinding, and the chorus of Illinois' Alma Mater echos through the arena. The Chief has danced at the Assembly Hall since the early 1960s, and has performed for Illinois sports fans almost twice as long, but the swaying masses of bleary-eyed fans and incessant photographers indicate this is not his typical halftime show.

It is Feb. 21, 2007, just five days after Larry Eppley, the Chairman of Illinois' Board of Trustees, announced Chief Illiniwek would dance his

last dance tonight. The last five days have thrown many of Illinois' classrooms into a heated race debate, have sent students and alumni rushing to the bookstores to stock up on Chief paraphernalia and have turned Dan Maloney, the thirty-seventh and now final Illinois student to portray Illiniwek, into a mini-celebrity across the state.

"Someone close to me put it very delicately, saying I had a responsibility," Maloney said. "People who support the Chief were looking to me for answers, for guidance, for leadership. I did not want to grant many interviews, but I was encouraged to speak out."

Eppley's announcement made Maloney the voice of the pro-Chief camp, thrusting him in front of TV cameras and microphones as reporters desperate for good drama swarmed Champaign to cover the Chief's last dance.

On the other side of the debate are a group of students, staff and American Indian activists who, for the past two decades, have called for the Chief's retirement. They protested at rallies on the Quad and outside Memorial Stadium, likening the performance to the blackface shows of a century ago. They say the Chief is outdated and reflects poorly on the University, painting it as a backward sports-driven school rather than a great research institution.

While Chief supporters rallied around Maloney and the cause he symbolized, most in the anti-Chief camp subtly celebrated. The University's Native America House issues a statement applauding the move and former anti-Chief activist Charlene Teters is profiled in the Champaign News-Gazette. For some, the fight against Illiniwek is far from done; these people say his legacy has left a cloud of prejudice hanging over the campus. For others, though, the war is won.

"This is it for me," said Fred Hoxie, a history professor at Illinois who vocally opposed Chief Illiniwek. "I teach American Indian history here,

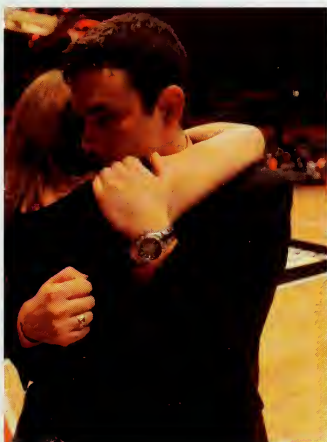


and the mascot was a significant roadblock in people's ability to understand that history."

At the next Board of Trustees Meeting in March, Eppley will leave the fate of the Chief logo, regalia and signage up to Chancellor Richard Herman. There he and the majority of the board will officially go on the record in support of the Chief's retirement.

But for now, for the sold-out crowd that has come to watch the last dance of an 81-year-old symbol, this moment is all that matters. Illiniwek walks off the court to thunderous applause, but the sound only heightens when he suddenly turns around and heads back to center court for a final bow. Then he stomps his foot one final time, and marches off the court and into history.

STORY BY COURTNEY LINEHAN
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM
DAN HOLLANDER
AMELIA MOORE



Opposite: Chief Illiniwek performs for the final time. Photo by J. Birnbaum
Top: Chief T-shirts are on display at T.I.S. Bookstore on Sixth St. in Champaign. T.I.S. hung signs stating that the officially licensed Chief apparel will soon be discontinued and become collector's items. Photo by D. Hollander
Above: Supporters of Chief Illiniwek stand with signs behind during the rally on the Quad just days after the announcement of retirement. Photo by J. Birnbaum
Left: Dan Maloney, the graduate student who portrays the Chief, hugs his girlfriend Catherine Krag, junior in Communications, on the night of the last dance. "Going into this last performance knowing an announcement has been made makes it that much more important," he said. "It makes it that much more meaningful." Photo by A. Moore



beer for breakfast

STUDENTS CELEBRATE UNOFFICIAL DESPITE NEW REGULATIONS

†he stairs squeak under the strain of the weight, as Drew Schneider and Tyler Shimomura drag their "green keg" up the three flights to their apartment. Ready to be up and about much earlier than they have ever been for class, the two juniors are setting up for a 6:00 a.m. keg race and the biggest holiday of the year, Unofficial St. Patrick's Day.

With common events such as keg races and parties dubbed "Kegs 'n' Eggs," many students at the University were not discouraged by the steps taken by both the city and the University this spring, in hopes of diminishing the effects of the all-day drinking event.

"They are trying to force us toward responsibility," said Schneider, junior in Business. "But we are responsible all year long. Today, we'll drink."

As the 2007 Unofficial event crept closer, the University administration, as well as the City of Champaign police department and Mayor Schweighart, worked toward creating rules and regulations that would increase safety and decrease binge drinking and alcohol-related hospital visits for the day.

"Just partying with some common sense (is important) and not coming out with the mindset of getting blown away," Schweighart said. "That seems to be the attitude of this party, and God

only knows what can happen when you go out and do that."

Curtailling this mindset was the goal of the new regulations put in place this year, such as not allowing Champaign bars to open their doors until 11 a.m., prohibiting the sale of pitchers of beer and undiluted shots, and enforcing the consumption of all drinks in disposable cups. The mayor has also said he planned to ensure that anyone checking IDs at the door was 21 years old, hoping to prevent anyone under the legal age of 19 from entering.

"Strengthening bar regulations may deter public drunkenness around Green Street, but students turned away from bars will simply go drink elsewhere," Shimomura said. "That may even prove to be less safe, as those that may end up needing medical attention will not realize it and will not get help."



Recent efforts against this holiday are generally spurred from the death of a girl involved in an alcohol-related accident last year, although some point out that she was not a University of Illinois student anymore, but an alumna. The Chancellor took no chances however, placing extra faculty in numerous classes, especially those with more than 50 students.

"We are asking our students to respect themselves and engage in mindful behavior," said Peg Rawles, Associate Chancellor.

These added restrictions did prevent many students from coming to class drunk, but many chose to avoid the possibility of repercussions by not attending class at all.

"That rule tried to get us to come to class sober, then drink. But most of my friends have chosen to come here earlier and not go at all instead," Shimomura said.

STORY BY **DENI STITCH**
PHOTOS BY **BRAD VEST**
JOHN PAUL GOGUEN
PATRICK TRAYLOR
TOM ROOT



Opposite: Sophomore in LAS Locey O'Donnell takes a picture of her green clad friends at the corner of Wright and Green. Photo by J.P. Goguen

Top: Celebrants of Unofficial St. Patrick's Day blast loud music and yell to passersby from on upstairs apartment on Green St. Photo by T. Roof

Above: Celebrators of Unofficial St. Patrick's Day stand outside in line for Slotion 211, at 211 E. Green St. Photo by S. Diefenbach

Left: Elyton Azorio, senior in LAS, said, "This is not only the funnest day of the year, but it is something the university should be proud of... It brings the university together." Photo by P. Traylor



made for moms

UNIVERSITY HOSTS WEEKEND EVENTS DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR MOTHERS

Where am I going to stash this bottle of Skol? Is she bringing groceries? I should probably clean up around here. All thoughts that race through the mind of a University of Illinois student with a mom on the way.

Year after year (and mini-van and after mini-van) mothers come to the University campus to celebrate Mom's Weekend with their daughters and sons. This year's calendar included activities like bowling, a fashion show and a screening of the motion picture *Dreamgirls*.

But for junior in LAS Molly Rafter and her mother Terri, the real meaning of Mom's weekend

is not going to University-sponsored events but rather enjoying quality time with one another.

"I have looked forward to Mom's Weekend every year Molly has been at U of I," Terri Rafter said.

This year was extra special for the Rafters because, for the first time, they were celebrating Mom's Weekend in Molly's very own apartment.

"It's a thrill for a mother to see her child in her own surroundings," said Terri, adding that her daughter Molly was eager to show her just how independent she has become.

"One of the things she wanted me to do was go shopping with her and see how well she now

handles her grocery shopping and other things like paying bills," Terri said. "Things like that make me so proud of her."

Molly was also excited to show her mother the other perks to living in Champaign-Urbana, including the nightlife.

"The most part was definitely going to an off-campus bar and having a group of gentlemen buy my mom and me a round of drinks," Molly said.

Annette Siemplenski, mother to junior in journalism Gina Siemplenski, was equally excited to "just hang out" with her daughter.

"Whenever Gina is home, it's rush-rush-rush," Annette Siemplenski said. "This was a day set aside just for us. It was just Gina and me, and I loved it."

The Siemplenskis kept their time together informal, opting out of organized events and spending the weekend as Gina would have spent it anyway. This included a trip to a fraternity house, with living conditions Annette did not enjoy.

"The whole time we're there, I'm saying, 'Why would anyone want to live here?' but it was fun," Annette said.

Annette enjoyed the role reversal of being the visitor in an apartment where her own daughter was the hostess. She said it made her feel like she and her daughter were bonding as equals.

"It was very pleasant to be on an adult level just spending time and hanging out as friends," Annette said. "Well, that is, until Gina asked for money."

STORY BY **DAVID VALDES**
PHOTOS BY **DAVID LAI**
JOHN PAUL GOGUEN
ADAM BABCOCK



Opposite: Hannah Newman, freshman in sociology, nops as her mother, Barb Newman, sits waiting for the Mom's Weekend fashion show. Photo by D. Lai

Top: Mom's and daughters shop side by side of the Mom's Day Craft Fair. Photo by J.P. Goguen

Center: Kathy Logon, freshman in engineering, and her mom, Denise Logon, from Alsip, IL, compare handbags of the Mom's Day Craft Fair in the Union. Photo by J.P. Goguen

Left: Sigma Chi mothers ore lead down Daniel St. in Champaign by their sons in o pseudo-initiation ceremony. As part of Mom's Day, mothers whose sons were initiated this spring were lead blindfolded into Kom's at noon. Photo by A. Babcock

ready but anxious

GRADUATING SENIORS PREPARE FOR LIFE OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY

It had finally arrived. The day every young, idealistic college anticipated but feared would never come. Despite the money-stuffed Hallmark cards flooding the mailbox, soon-to-be graduates were terrified of the light at the end of the tunnel.

For many graduating seniors, the final walk across the stage signifies the end of sixteen years of formal education, the impressive achievement of a university degree, and the terror of finding a new job and a new place in the world.

Tim Peters, a junior in philosophy, grew nervous for his impending graduation when it was still a year away. "Graduation is looking down at that 'real' ground, dark and far, and feeling that collapse in your stomach as you realize you're falling," Peters said.

Many students with liberal arts degrees felt that because of the college they were in, they had no job lined-up. Venturing out into the real world and being faced with the overwhelming expectations to succeed began to feel to many seniors like a free fall into empty space.

Despite feelings of anxiety, alumni provided a bit of reassurance to worried seniors. Eric Robins graduated in the fall with a music degree in trumpet performance. He spent the next few months

auditioning around the country at various graduate schools.

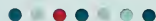
"That scared feeling . . . It's easy to get over it," Robins said. "It feels great to be out of school, out of the system. I spent my whole life in central Illinois, and I needed to get out."

A similar opinion was voiced by Laura Lukas, a senior in Spanish and psychology. "Four years was enough. I accomplished a lot and learned tons of things, but I grew tired of a routine lifestyle that consisted of endless hours of studying and having few activities to do in my free time aside from going out," Lukas said. "I've gotten a lot out of college and I'm ready for the next stage."

What seemed to be a liberating experience of having no job for some caused lots of anxiety for others and was not the only source of angst. Just as any major life change is nerve-wracking, the thought of starting an independent life and leaving friends, family, and the familiar behind destroyed any sense of security.

Cristina Diaz, senior in Communications, said, "Even though I graduate in May and have a job already lined up for me, I'm terrified. It seems impossible to leave the place where I have spent the best four years of my life without feeling like I am going to have a breakdown."

all in the past



Members of the class of 2007 talk about the things they'll miss most about college.



"I'm going to miss my friends. A lot of them are moving and we don't all live near each other to begin with."

—Andrea Madland
senior in LAS



"Chances are after graduation I won't be able to just go out and party any day of the week...or any time of day for that matter."

—Kyle McMillin
senior in LAS



Others felt that graduation was an opportunity to be embraced and remembered. David Dralle, senior in Engineering, was one of those students.

"Graduation feelings are positive because I'm leaving the selfish world of undergraduate education," he said. "It has all been about me: my test grades, my homework, my exam tomorrow, my this and that. It's time for my actions to hit home—to finally do something that will count outside of slapping a new title on my list of achievements."

Graduation anxiety, whatever the source, was a very natural feeling to many students. And in the end, all students hoped that their college memories would provoke smiles and laughter. They trusted that the skills they took with them, wherever they were headed, would lead to exciting and unexpected places.

Above: Receiving that diploma is undoubtedly rewarding, but many seniors tend to 'freak out' about the consequences of graduating. As soon as the commencement ceremony ends, college grads face the reality of choosing a career, paying back student loans, leaving Urbana-Champaign, and dealing with countless other life-changing situations.

STORY BY CAMILLE BROMLEY
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY BLAKE MILLER



"I'm not a morning person so I think what I'll miss most is being able to sleep in. In the real world, I'm pretty sure you have to wake up at nine at least."

—Jennie Rademacher
senior in ACES



"I'm going to miss the friendships that I made in college. But most of all, I'll miss the Morrow Plots."

—Cassie Cleary
senior in LAS

RETRO
GRADE ● ● ● ● ●

● Looking back on a year of academics at Illinois.



ask **an** administrator

TALKING WITH FACULTY MEMBERS ABOUT THEIR ROLES AT THE UNIVERSITY

Opposite right: Robin Koler serves as Associate Chancellor for Public Affairs.
Photo by L. Olson

Opposite left: Renee Romono is the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Illinois.
Photo by L. Olson

Above: Chancellor Richard Herman speaks with alumni.
Photo by B. Diefenboch

Richard Herman university chancellor

The role of the Office of the Chancellor is to improve the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Richard Herman was named chancellor in May 2005, making him the chief administrative officer. All vice-chancellors, associate chancellors, and directors work under him.

What do you believe are the strengths of this university?

RH: A legacy of excellence. We've contributed to innovations in science and technology. We've had 22 Nobel Prizes and 21 Pulitzer Prize winners. Also, we have world-class facilities and great students all across the area. Ultimately, outstanding students and alumni that have gone on to do great things.

What concerns or struggles is the University presently facing?

RH: At some level, it's money. We haven't got the support from the state as we have had in the past. We're always competing for students and faculty, but we do our best.

What are some of the new initiatives the school is attempting?

RH: We are trying to have a local-to-global philosophy. The question is, "How do we turn the resources of our institution into our own backyard?" We want to connect more nationally from the west coast to Washington, D.C., and globally, as we have with India, China and Singapore. We want to increase diversity and continue to prepare students for leadership roles.

Renee Romano

vice chancellor
for student affairs

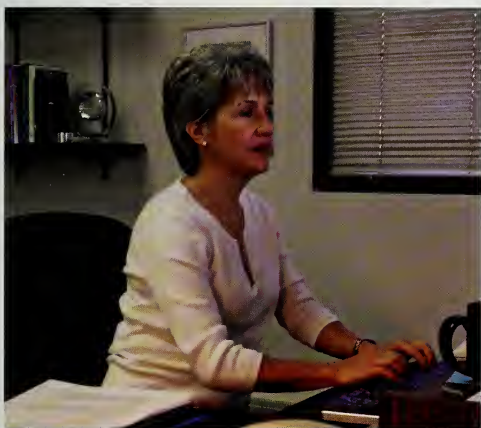
Student Affairs is the department in charge of programs, services, and facilities to accommodate students such as University Housing, McKinley Health Center, the Illini Union, and the Division of Campus Recreation.

What does the variety of registered student organizations show about the University?

RR: I think it shows not only that we have a real diversity in students, but also that U of I students are particularly active in the University. When I see the protests, people going to athletic events, I think students are engaged in this university. Students create student life.

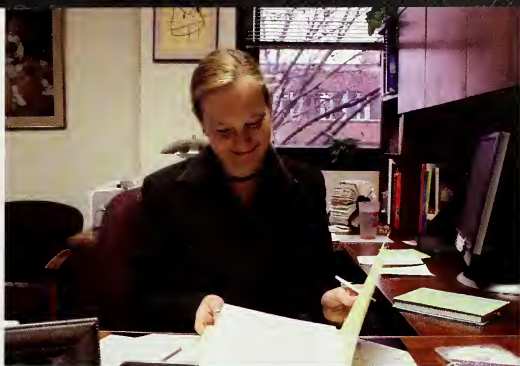
How does the Department of Student Affairs help students achieve their full potential?

RR: We think of Student Affairs as creating opportunities for students to learn outside the classroom. You're learning about dealing with people of other cultures, you're learning what you're good at, how you might shape your future career, leadership and communication skills, how things work; how to make change at the University – and then carry this on to your community.



How should new students handle the size of this campus?

RR: Find a small community to affiliate with. It might be your academic peers, residence hall, registered student organization, or fraternity or sorority. Being affiliated with a close group of friends gives you the courage to go into the bigger university. If you have difficulty finding a small group, get one or two mentors to help you along.



Robin Kaler

associate chancellor
for public affairs

Public Affairs is the department that markets the value and excellence of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to the public, from the state to all over the world.

How do you think the University has developed a reputation as one of the best public universities in the country?

RK: Illinois has a rich tradition of national and international leadership in science, technology, business, agriculture and many other fields. Our students graduate and become the leaders of their generation in all sorts of fields. They discover, invent, create, and change the world.

How do you maintain that reputation?

RK: We are working very hard not only to remain one of the best public research universities in the nation, but to become the pre-eminent one. This requires strong leadership, a clear vision of excellence, and strategic initiatives that will set us apart from our peers.

What can the University do to attract more distinguished faculty and gifted students?

RK: Faculty and students say they choose Illinois—and they stay here—because this is a place with strength across so many disciplines and a very collegial and creative atmosphere. Enhancing that and providing the support faculty and students need to do their best work will allow us to continue attracting the best minds.

How does the reputation of this University help graduates who are seeking jobs or applying to graduate schools?

RK: Employers tell us that they love to hire Illinois graduates, because our students are hard-working, creative and independent, and they very quickly become leaders.

INTERVIEWS BY JAMIE JOHN
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON
BECK DIEFENBACH

ahead of the game

FRESHMEN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CLASSES DESIGNED TO EASE TRANSITION TO COLLEGE

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has developed a series of courses geared toward acclimating freshmen to their new lives at the University. LAS Learning Communities, which are available only to freshmen and led by students in their junior or senior years, were created to bring new students together to share their experiences at the University in an academic setting.

To participate, students enroll in general education courses, as well as the component LAS 100 course, which then meets once a week to discuss the class. There are over 60 classes offered through this program in a variety of majors, including history, political science, psychology, English, chemistry and economics.

Program director Christine Hammer said that students are encouraged to take classes in a variety of majors helping them realize that "it's okay to be undecided."

For example, Brittany Cherry, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is a history major taking the LAS Learning Communities course with Math 125.

"It makes me feel better that other people are struggling with some of the stuff too," she said. "That is different than many of my classes, it's more personal."

The classes aren't just focused on the associated course. Leaders discuss a range of different topics pertaining to the University each week. During these classes, students can also find out about study abroad opportunities, get tips on apartment hunting, and learn how to reduce stress during finals time. Freshmen are able to ask questions about University life and also get the opportunity to meet other new students.

"A lot of the kids in this class are in my other classes so I formed some study groups," Cherry said. "I also like to hang out with them on the weekends."

In her description of the learning communities, Hammer said that the program "helps students overcome the transition between high school and college."

The program has been so successful that enrollment has only grown with each year. In fact, Hammer said that nearly half of the leaders involved were students in the program as freshmen.

As a University alumnus, Hammer is both a former student and leader in the program. While freshmen get the opportunity to meet other students, leaders also benefit from the arrangement.

Student leader Gail Grana, junior in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, said that, as a member of the education program, she joined the program for the experience and the chance to help students become oriented to the University. Grana leads two groups of approximately 18 students in Classical Civilizations.

"I have learned how to relate to students and how to use different ways of relating for different people," Grana said.

Hammer, Cherry and Grana all pointed out the benefits of participating in the Learning Communities, such as forming friendships with other students, getting help on homework, and acclimating to life away from home.

"Everyone will probably learn the same things eventually," Hammer said. "Our program might just help some of them learn sooner."

STORY BY EMILY SCHELL
PHOTO BY LINDSEY KRUPICKA

finding a college community

Seven living-learning communities allow students to become part of the experience that is Illinois. These groups form a common bond between each other, as they share common interests, resources, classes, and even classrooms.



WIMSE

Women interested in a curriculum in the fields of mathematics, science, or engineering will find a home in WIMSE. This living-learning community facilitates academic success while providing a network of women with common goals and interests.

LEADS

Students in Leadership Experience through Academic Development and Service (LEADS) focus on self-development, group dynamics, and communication skills. This Garner Hall living-learning community is excited about making a difference.

Unit One

Unit one takes the large campus of Illinois and creates a small college environment for its 650 residents. Field trips, workshops, and guests-in-residence are all part of this program's success.



Above: Scott Sellers, freshman in LAS, listens intently to his Learning Community leader as Kristen Richter, a fellow freshman in LAS, looks on.

Intersections

Opened in 2004, the intersections living-learning community provides a forum and environment where students can openly discuss social and cultural issues faced by the University and the world today.

Health Professions

The Health Professions community is prime for those interested in Pre-Health, medicine, nursing and therapy. Programming gives students community service opportunities to gain experience in the professional field of health care.

Crossroads

Students who are ready to travel overseas, whether for their career, study abroad, or an international major/minor look to the Global Crossroads program as their home while at Illinois. The program, in its sixth year, accommodates 110 diverse students.

Weston Exploration

Since its opening in the Fall of 1997, the Weston Exploration living-learning community has helped students realize how majors directly correlate to careers in the professional world. With 475 students, this program is very popular with those in LAS.

college of aces

AGRICULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL,
& CONSUMER SCIENCES

facts & statistics

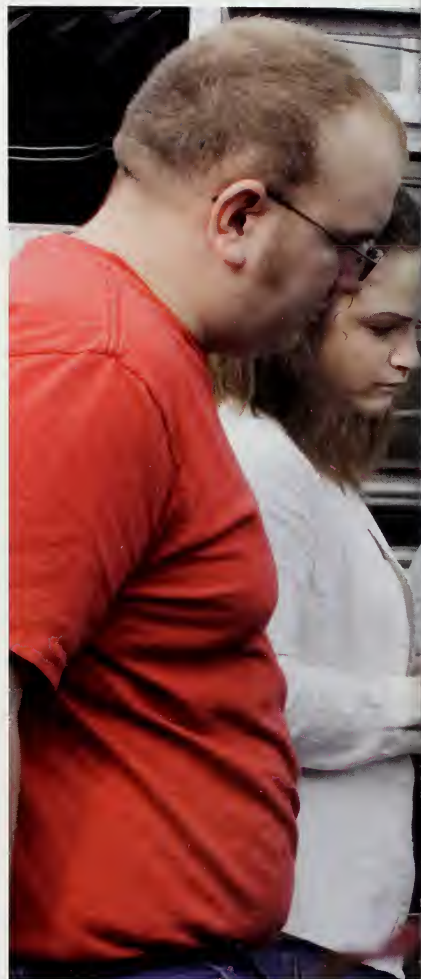
Total Enrollment: 2,738
Undergraduates: 2,268
Graduates: 470
Faculty & Staff: 1,991

dean of college

Robert A. Easter

major buildings

Mumford Hall
ACES Library



academic departments

- Agricultural & Biological Engineering
- Agricultural & Consumer Economics
- Animal Sciences
- Crop Sciences
- Food Science & Human Nutrition
- Human & Community Development
- Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences
- Division of Nutritional Sciences



INTERVIEW WITH AMY FUJINAKA: JUNIOR IN ACES

How is ACES different from the other colleges on this campus?

AF: ACES is extremely diverse. We have so many different majors you can choose from. You can do food science to agriculture.

How did you decide to become a Food Science and Human Nutrition Major?

AF: I really enjoy watching how food develops and learning how food can change your body. It's interesting how food is the most important thing in your life, but people take it for granted.

What do you learn in your classes?

AF: We learn about food nutrition, chemical breakdown of food, how food is processed and packaged, food sanitation, and how food is used in the business industry.

Why is ACES is a valuable part of this University?

AF: I feel like ACES are majors that are pertinent to everyday life. A lot of the ACES majors are based on environmental things and they help out our world.

Opposite: The Aces Library, located on the South Quad, is the official library of the College of Agricultural, Environmental and Consumer Sciences. Photo by L. Krupicka

Above: Professor Daniel Wonack, Horticulture Professor, teaches Horticulture 341. The students are in the greenhouse measuring growth of their poinsettias that they have been growing all semester. Students include: Joson Perry-Jr. in Agriculture Education, Christie Rosentrefer-Sn. in Agriculture Education, Eric Monley-Jr. in Horticulture, Don Klapfenstein-Jr. in Agriculture Education, and Kelly Francis-Jr. in Horticulture. Photo by A. Augello

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN
PHOTOS BY ALISA AUGELLO
LINDSEY KRUPICKA

RETROGRADE
college of aces

classroom in the kitchen



HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT MAJORS GAIN REAL-WORLD RESTAURANT EXPERIENCE

"We had the original furniture and a lot of the same décor," North said. "The chairs were wobbly and the décor was really outdated."

Despite the renovations, not everything changed. Many of the menu items remained the same, maintaining a nostalgic ambience to the café. With the addition of Chef Jean-Louis Ledent a few years ago, some items were fine-tuned and tweaked, but nothing drastic. Ranging from country-fried steak to tilapia to the popular soy glazed salmon, there are selections for many different tastes.

Senior in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences Jenna Cramer is a café regular.

"I probably come here three times a week," she said.

In contrast to the café's casual atmosphere, the Spice Box restaurant is a pricier, more upscale dining experience that requires reservations. Menu items include swordfish and lamb chops, with prices ranging from \$18 to \$24 per item.

Open every Friday and an occasional Tuesday, it is an opportunity for students to plan, prepare and run a themed fine-dining restaurant. As part of the Hospitality Management Program, FSHN 443—Fine Dining Management is a course for seniors and teaches the demands of food service, artistry, and how to merchandise high quality food. Students take turns managing a specific theme night and are encouraged to bring a guest chef on board.

Students in both programs find the experience challenging, but ultimately rewarding.

"I really like the hands-on experience," said Beth Rich, junior in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences and café employee. "This isn't something you can learn how to do out of a textbook."

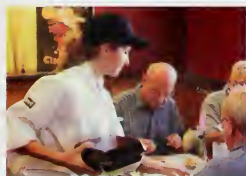
STORY BY ELIZABETH WEBER
PHOTOS BY STEVE TWARDOWSKI

Many students searching for a healthy alternative to food served in the dining halls find what they are looking for at the Bevier Café. Located in Bevier Hall on Goodwin Ave., Bevier Café and the Spice Box restaurant have been student operated businesses since their debut in the 1950s.

As the lab portion of Food Science and Human Nutrition (FSHN) 340: Quantity Food Preparation, students are given a hands-on feel for running a restaurant. Student responsibilities include food preparation, serving, and management. Even with reasonable prices and a student friendly environment, Jill North, a teaching associate with the department of FSHN, finds it surprising how little students outside the program actually know about the café.

"A lot of people graduate and don't even know that we are here," she said.

North feels recent renovations to the café will attract a new crop of students. This was the first time renovations had been made to Bevier Café since its opening over 50 years ago.





Opposite top: Nicole Isobelli, junior in ACES, works the cash register on a Friday afternoon in the Bevier Café.

Opposite left, right: Students and faculty enjoy lunch on a Friday afternoon.

Left: Beth Rich, junior in ACES, prepares food in the kitchen of the Bevier Café.

Above: Stephanie Hoines, junior in ACES, serves lunch at Bevier.

college of applied health sciences



facts & statistics

Total Enrollment: 1,872
Undergraduates: 1,638
Graduates: 234
Faculty & Staff: 292

dean of college

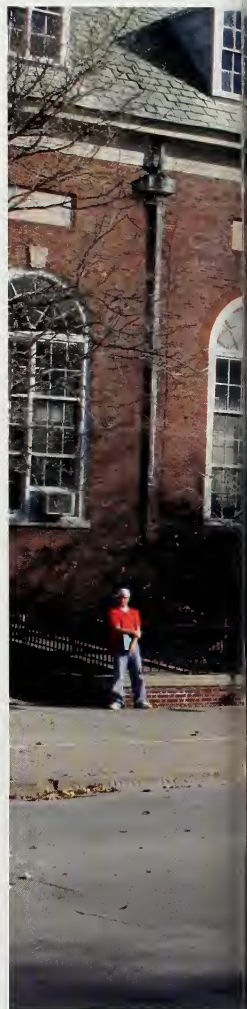
Tanya M. Gallagher

major building

George Huff Hall

academic departments

- Athletic Training
- Audiology
- Community Health
- Health Education & Promotion
- Health Planning & Administration
- Human Communication Science
- Kinesiology
- Kinesiology Teaching Option in Physical Education (K-12)
- Recreation Management
- Recreation, Sport & Tourism
- Rehabilitation & Disability Studies
- Speech & Hearing Science
- Speech Language Pathology
- Sport Management
- Tourism Management





INTERVIEW WITH AMINA AHMED: SENIOR IN AHS

Why did you become a community health major?

AA: I decided to become a community health major because I want to open a clinic one day and community health teaches you how to deal with patients and how a clinic is operated. It gives you more knowledge than just being a doctor.

How is AHS different from other colleges?

AA: It's different because it's a good college for anyone in any type of health field to gain information about health care and medicine.

What do you think of the new name change from Applied Life Studies to Applied Health Sciences?

AA: I think they made a good decision because Applied Life Studies was kind of vague. Applied Health Sciences sounds more professional, and it does a better job of describing what students learn.

What kind of material do you learn in community health classes for your major?

AA: We learn how to plan public health projects and about the political side of health care.

Opposite: Paul Ahn, senior in Engineering, practices the hockey stop during Kinesiology 104: Skating Activities, a course offered through AHS. "It's really harder than it looks," says Ahn. "The trick is to keep your balance."

Above: Huff Hall, which is located at 1206 S. Fourth St., is the center for the College of Applied Health Sciences.

RETROGRADE
college of ahs

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON

an academic alternative

KINESIOLOGY COURSES TAKE STUDENTS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Ask students to imagine a classroom and usually you will hear desks, a chalkboard, and a podium in their answer. Now, ask kinesiology majors to imagine a classroom and you may hear a completely different response.

Kinesiology is one of the few majors that is taught best outside the traditional classroom. It's not uncommon to find kinesiology students in ice skating rinks, basketball courts, or even bowling alleys.

The kinesiology program, which is currently ranked as one of the top ten kinesiology research institutions, is mainly concentrated on the study of human movement. This program educates approximately 1,000 undergraduate and 105 graduate students on health matters, human movement, and rehabilitation. Dance activities, sociology of sports, and physical activities and health are just some of the numerous kinesiology classes available.

Even with the large amount of courses, securing a seat in any kinesiology class can be difficult.

Sarah Sensmeier, from the kinesiology Undergraduate Advising Office said, "Unless you're a kinesiology major, it's virtually impossible."

Because of increasing popularity, the kinesiology courses are competitive, even among students in the program. The kinesiology major is

in high demand because of guaranteed short- and long-term benefits. Bianca Spencer, a sophomore in LAS, enrolled in the kinesiology 199 aerobics course. "The class lowers cholesterol and blood pressure and...improves motor skills," she said.

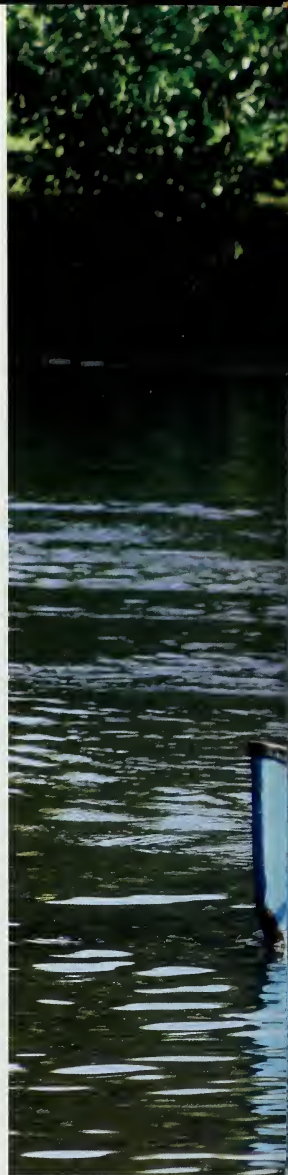
The short-term goals of students in kinesiology classes include health benefits and general knowledge about human movement. Within the study of human movement, kinesiology students can participate in any of three concentrations, bio-behavioral kinesiology, cultural, pedagogical, and interpretive studies, and exercise physical and athletic training.

Within these concentrations, students can study a variety of topics such as human movement in sports, the relationship between physical activity and culture, sociological perspectives, or energy transfer and work output.

The kinesiology discipline also provides a large range of professional and scientific career opportunities, including athletic training, coaching, corporate fitness, sport psychology, and cardiac rehabilitation.

Kinesiology academic advisor Megan Farris said, "Kinesiology is a great degree for people interested in health profession. We even have pre-med students in our department."

STORY BY **ASHLEY SHERIFF**
PHOTOS BY **LINDSAY OLSON**

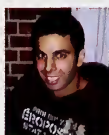


IF YOU COULD INVENT YOUR OWN KINESIOLOGY CLASS, WHAT WOULD IT BE?



"I would invent a Survivor-style class with an obstacle course that has mind teasers and riddles, which decide how much further you can move on."

—Hiral Patel
junior in Biology



"Tetherball because it's going to be the next extreme sport everyone will compete in."

—Peter Azra
senior in Engineering



"Horse-back riding. Not a lot of people get an opportunity to be near horses because most students live in the city or suburbs."

—Rosemary Pfau
sophomore in LAS



Above: Natasha Karniski, senior in LAS, and Paula Faherty senior in ALS, work on the new 'reverse sweep' stroke while making sure to keep in sync with their paddling during Kinesiology 107.

Far left: Bob McGrew, assistant director of outdoor adventures for the Division of Campus Recreation, instructs his class at Crystal Lake Park in Urbana.

Left: Lauren Aycock, junior in LAS, and instructor Bob McGrew prepare to launch from the dock.

institute of aviation

facts & statistics

Total Enrollment: 262
Undergraduates: 256
Graduates: 6
Faculty & Staff: 68

director of program

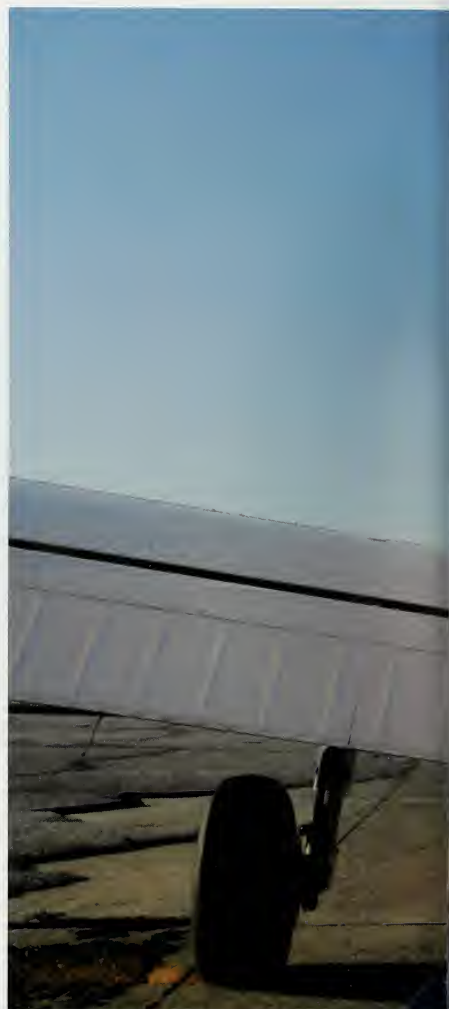
C. Elaine McCoy

major building

Willard Airport

academic departments

- Aviation Human Factors
- Professional Pilot





INTERVIEW WITH STEPHANIE SWANSON: SENIOR IN AVIATION

How is the Institute of Aviation different from the other colleges on campus?

SS: The Institute of Aviation is different because we have a hands on program. The second day at the airport you are put into the airplane and taught how to control it. We do take aviation classes so that when something new is introduced to you, you will have an idea of how to do it.

Why did you become an Aviation major?

SS: I have a lot of ex-military pilots in my family and hearing their stories about flying made me decide I wanted to fly at a young age.

What types of material do you learn in classes for your major?

SS: You learn everything from how to start the plane to how to be safe. Another class is systems where you learn all about how everything on the aircraft is powered to work.

What do you think of the Aviation program at this University?

SS: I love the Institute of Aviation. It's a smaller major so you get to know a lot of the people you fly with. We have a great flight team and a good reputation of producing good pilots.

Opposite left: Willard University of Illinois Airport in Savoy, Ill. serves as the on-site classroom for Aviation students.

Opposite right: Stephanie Swanson, senior in Aviation, is also a part-time flight instructor at the Institute of Aviation.

Above: Left, Robert Hollis and David Eakin, both sophomores in the Professional Pilot Division, sit in front of one of the many aircrafts flown by aviation majors at Willard Airport.

study across seas

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS MAKE THEIR HOME AT THE UNIVERSITY

native Illinoisians are often surprised to find that international students choose to study in the Midwest. Most Americans might not consider a wealth of corn and soy fields a major draw to the area.

Even so, more than 1,500 international students are enrolled in the University of Illinois. With the largest library system in the nation, sixteen colleges with over 100 programs and more than 1,000 tenured professors, what Illinois lacks in location, it makes up for in academic quality.

The larger programs such as the College of Engineering and the College of Business seem to be the biggest international draws. The University has a well known reputation internationally for academics that positively reinforces images of the Midwest.

When asked why she chose the University of Illinois over other American universities, Nicole Jungyeon Yoon, senior in Business, from Seoul in the Republic of Korea, said that professors from her home university had recommended it.

Noel Gordon, junior in Engineering, on exchange from the University of Wollongong in Australia, said "University of Illinois has one of the best Engineering programs in the United States." But it is not just the academics of the University that attract international students. "Even though the Mid-West doesn't have as much to see and do

as the coast I think the people are far more friendly and fun," said Gordon.

Because studying abroad can be such an intimidating experience, the University's Midwestern location also offers a more intimate experience for many students. ChungHee Moon, senior in Engineering from the Republic of Korea, has chosen to receive her entire degree here at the University. The personal atmosphere has been a major attraction for her. The relatively rural area, combined with a large campus size and extensive diversity were all factors in her decision.

Studying abroad is more than just a choice; it is a life changing experience. Most international students take advantage of their time by utilizing breaks and weekends to travel and explore various parts of the United States. Champaign-Urbana's close proximity to major cities, such as St. Louis, Chicago, Madison, and Indianapolis allows opportunities to make the most of one's time in the Midwest.

And many students manage to travel from coast to coast while studying at the University of Illinois. Gordon said, "I have traveled around the mid-west and I have plans to see both coasts, Mexico and Canada" while Moon also said she went to Mexico for spring break.

The University organizes a host of programs to aid students in their transition. The Office of



from illinois to england ●●●●●●●●

Courtney Coppernoll, sophomore in LAS, tells about her study abroad experience

Why did you decide to do study abroad in Sheffield, England?

CC: Ever since a class trip to France when I was sixteen, I've been absolutely in love with Europe. So, when I finally had the opportunity to study abroad my only concern was deciding where I wanted to go!

How has your trip helped you sympathize with an international student?

CC: It's made me more aware of how difficult it is to make friends from your host country. I feel that international students really want to assimilate into the host culture; they just need someone to invite them in.



International Student Affairs offers an International Buddy Program, an Exchange Student Advisor as well as resources to improve English.

Many students however, find that the most valuable resources are their peers, roommates, friends and predecessors. Moon said "Undergraduate dorm and interaction with dorm-mates were most helpful."

But ultimately, one's success at the University lies in oneself. Getting involved in one of the 4000 registered student organizations is a key component of life at Urbana-Champaign.

When asked about any advice she would give to students planning on studying abroad, either here in the United States or to other countries, Yoon said "Actively participate in many events, such as Halloween or volunteering."

Although embracing the opportunity to study abroad can be frightening at times, the experience is well worth the initial intimidation.

STORY BY **EMILY SCHELL**
PHOTOS BY **BLAKE MILLER**



Above: Illinois and international students share a meal at the International Dinner.

Left: Johanna Berge, freshman in LAS, and Marianna Berge, freshman in ACES, sit with Mehdi Shadanmehr and his father Reza during the International Dinner.

Below: These coconut-clad men are preparing to perform a native dance onstage at the International Dinner.



college of business

facts & statistics

Total enrollment: 3,880

Undergraduate: 3,008

Graduate: 872

Faculty and Staff: 386

dean of college:

Avijit Ghosh

major buildings:

Wholers Hall

David Kinley Hall



academic departments

- Accountancy
- Finance
- Business Administration with concentrations in:
 - Marketing
 - Organizational Administration
 - Production
 - Management Science
 - Industrial Distribution Management
 - Management Information Systems
 - Entrepreneurship
 - Food & Agribusiness Management



INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL BRIDGFORD: SENIOR IN BUSINESS

How is the College of Business different from the other colleges?

MB: A great aspect of the College of Business is that it is a tight-knit community of students and faculty. The lower enrollment relative to other colleges helps create a competitive environment, which prepares students well for the business world.

Why did you decide to become an accounting major?

MB: I was attracted to the accountancy program because of its national reputation and the skill set I would acquire for my career. I have been challenged academically and feel prepared to enter the business world upon graduation.

What kind of material do you learn?

MB: Accounting classes taught me about understanding how organizations convey information to the public and the role of government in regulation. I also learned that business is not always clear and sound judgment must be used in decision-making.

How has your involvement with student organizations added to your college experience?

MB: Through my involvement I was able to develop as a leader, communicator, and person. Networking is arguably the most important part of business, and being involved in student organizations gave me the opportunity to meet many people with similar interests to me.

Opposite: Andrew Gruber and Alysso D'Anna, both seniors in business, look over resumes and lists of potential employers of the Business Career Fair in the Illini Union. *Photo by J. Birnbaum*

Above: Wohlers Hall, located at 1206 S. Sixth St., is home to the College of Business faculty and classes. *Photo by L. Olson*

INTERVIEW BY ADAM SWIATEK
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON
JOSH BIRNBAUM

RETROGRADE
college of business

starting the search

STUDENTS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF UNIVERSITY RESOURCES TO FIND INTERNSHIPS

Everyone asks students what they are going to do with their degree after they graduate. They are asked questions like "What are you interested in?" "What kind of job are you looking for?" and "Where do you see yourself in ten years?" To find answers to these questions, students throughout the campus of Illinois take advantage of on-campus recruitment events that bring employers to them.

In the fall and early spring of the school year, companies from around Illinois and the nation flocked to the Illini Union to meet prospective new-hires. Employers brought with them fancy displays, give-aways, and business cards for students. Students, in turn, came dressed in their freshly pressed business suits with portfolio and resumes in hand.

In what kind of event do these two parties meet for a very quick exchange? None other than a career fair. The Illini Union hosted a multitude of career fairs this past year. The College of Business Fair and the Engineering Expo were the most popular fairs among students.

Anirudha Jalan, junior in Business, said, "The Spring Career Fair at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was a successful effort. Several companies, ranging from many industries, showed up at the career fair to hunt for deserving candidates."

Anirudha found many companies he was interested in at the fair. "It would not be a feast for

finance majors unless we see representatives from Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, Bank of America Securities, Citi, Lehman, UBS, and JP Morgan."

While older career-seekers were on the prowl for an exciting internship or a well-paying job, there were also younger ambitious freshman and sophomores who were gaining experience for the future.

Christina Fertl, freshman in Business, said, "Career fairs allow students to create relationships with companies starting at the freshman level. A nice handshake and conversation with an employee of a company helps enhance one's name. I find that networking with the company early on leads to an easier path to an internship or job."

Career-fair attendees young and old know that the first impression is everything. Behaving in a professional manner is important and will get job-seekers noticed. Internships are awarded to those students whom employers remember and have had a personal relationship with – even if it was only for twenty seconds at a career fair.

The Career Center, located on Wright Street, offers helpful resources when preparing for career fairs, interviews, and job-hunting. In addition, students should check if their college has a specialized career unit.

STORY BY ADAM SWIATEK
PHOTOS BY DAN HOLLANDER



not your everyday internship ●●●●●●●●●●

During the summer of 2006, Kyle Follansbee, senior in ACES, interned at a Buddhist monastery in Kanchanaburi, Thailand, where he worked with Indochinese tigers.



Opposite: Kyle Fallansbee, senior in ACES, found a summer internship working with tigers in Thailand through "Veterinarians Without Borders." Photo courtesy of K. Fallansbee
Above: Graduate students in ACES Nerissa Vaughn, left, and Young Soa Sang, right, look over their resumes one last time before talking to company representatives during the College of ACES career fair during the fall semester. Photo by D. Hallander

How did you find out about this internship?

KF: A friend of mine, Arvind Badrinayanan, started a group called "Veterinarians Without Borders." He told me where he was going and I thought that sounded cool, so I decided to go.

What were your responsibilities during the internship?

KF: I woke up in the morning and cleaned the tiger cages, then took cubs to the head temple where I ate breakfast with the monks. Next, I would take the cubs to Tiger Canyon where visitors could take photos of them. Then, I would feed the cubs.

How did this affect plans for your future career?

KF: I was planning to go to vet school, but I decided it wasn't for me. After going on this internship and working with exotic animals, it opened up my eyes. I want to go to Thailand and teach English and try to work at a couple of animal sanctuaries.

college of communications



facts & statistics

Total enrollment: 965

Undergraduate: 852

Graduate: 113

Faculty & Staff: 203

dean of college

Ronald E. Yates

major buildings

Gregory Hall

academic departments

Advertising

Broadcast Journalism

Media Studies

News-Editorial Journalism



INTERVIEW WITH FRANK VANDERWALL:

Why did you become an advertising major in the College of Communications?

FV: I was an engineering major at first and it wasn't my thing. I knew I really liked the theory behind communications and I stumbled upon advertising. Advertising is really creative and required strategic thinking. It fit my personality really well.



Opposite: Shelby Hall, at 616 S. Wright Street, is home to the College of Communications.
Above: Jamie Zimmerman, senior in Communications, and Andreka Johnson, senior in the journalism advising program, are sharing a laugh while waiting to go back on the air.

SENIOR IN COMMUNICATIONS

Why do you think admission into the advertising program at the University is competitive?

FV: People are starting to figure it out. People like the artistic and creative side of advertising. The U of I program is consistently ranked in the top five. We have amazing opportunities. We offer things other schools don't.

What do you learn in advertising classes?

FV: The advertising curriculum here gives you real-world experiences. We learn what it means to work with clients, creative aspects that go with it, and management. We have a huge advertising project where we formed an agency in the class, found our own resources, and made a campaign.

INTERVIEW BY **JAMIE JOHN**
PHOTOS BY **LINDSAY OLSON**

network in new york

JOURNALISM STUDENTS MAKE CONTACTS AT MAJOR MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS

A 20 minute walk up-town to Avenue of the Americas. Ten minutes to check into security. Four minutes to get into the elevator and reach floor 15. One minute to enter the magazine office. This fast-paced schedule is what 11 students and four communications faculty members experienced while visiting magazines in New York City in March.

"We were on the go from the minute our plane landed in New York," said David Valdes, a junior in Communications. "I probably got less than 10 hours of sleep the entire time we were there, but I just kept running on adrenaline and excitement." The trip to New York was organized by communications advisor Lynn Holley to help journalism students learn about the magazine industry.

"Our journalism students are at a disadvantage because all of the magazines are in New York," Holley said. "We wanted to give the students a chance to see what the industry is about and make some contacts."

Since 2005, Holley has taken a small group of Illinois journalism students who are interested in magazines to New York. During the three day trip, the Illinois group toured 14 magazine offices, networked with alumni, and explored the city. The schedule of magazines changes from year-to-year depending on where Illinois alumni are working. This year the group visited magazines a range of magazines including Rolling Stone, Newsweek, Popular Mechanics, US Weekly, Bloomberg and Esquire.com.

"We try to go to magazines where U of I alumni are involved," Holley said. "These places have been more open to us and helpful in getting our students internships."



At the magazine offices, students talked with editors and writers about working in the industry, what goes on behind-the-scenes at a magazines, and how to be successful.

Valdes said he was surprised at how enthusiastic and helpful the alumni in the industry were.

"I think they know how cool the business is, but also how intimidating it is to get into," Valdes said. "They really tried to show us the way and keep us motivated."

Valdes he has always been interested in working for a magazine and the trip with the College of Communications only solidified his decision to work in New York.

"The alumni helped us realize that when we first start out we will be poor and living in a tiny apartment eating Ramen noodles, but it will be so worth it," Valdes said. "They are proof that hard work does pay off and there is a light at the end of the tunnel."

STORY BY **BRITTNEY BEKAS**
PHOTOS COURTESY OF **SUSAN MCKENNA**

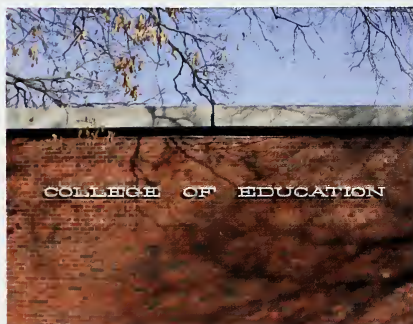


Opposite: Tom Longe, John Montlio, and Chris Benson, graduate students in Communications, speak with Ken Whealon, features editor of *Advertising Age*. Students visited 13 other mogoazines while New York.

Above: Senior science editor of *Popular Mechanics* Jennifer Bogo explains the mogoazine mock layout board to John Montlio, graduate student in Communications. Bogo took the group on a tour of the office and introduced them to the editor-in-chief.

Left: The group of journalism students takes notes in the board room of *Real Simple* mogoazine. While of *Real Simple*, students spoke with five different editors to learn how each reached their position in the industry.

college of education



facts & statistics

Total enrollment: 1,635

Undergraduate: 699

Graduate: 936

Faculty and Staff: 100

dean of college

Mary Kalantzis

major buildings

Education Building

academic departments

- Curriculum & Instruction
- Educational Organization & Leadership
- Educational Policy Studies
- Educational Psychology
- Human Resource Education
- Special Education



Top & Above: The Education Building
Bottom: The Education Building



Photo: Mary Kalantzis



INTERVIEW WITH CHANDANA JASTI: SENIOR IN LAS & MINOR IN EDUCATION

Why did you decide to become an education major?

CJ: I've always liked education. I've had experiences in teaching since high school. I wanted to learn how to be a more effective teacher.

What kind of material do you learn?

CJ: We learn curriculum and instruction. This includes how to design lesson plans, how to take diversity into account, educational psychology, which helps us better understand how students think, and lots of other things. We also take special education classes that teach us how to prepare for students with special needs.

How does student teaching prepare you to teach your own classroom??

CJ: We observe schools in Urbana-Champaign each semester and during our final semester, we get to student teach. Student teaching puts you right there in the classroom. It prepares you because you're actually teaching and getting to know the students and other faculty.

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON

RETROGRADE
college of education

student becomes teacher

EDUCATION MAJORS PUT TO THE TEST
LEADING IN REAL-LIFE CLASSROOMS

Student teaching is one of many reasons why students majoring in the college of education find their program of study different from other majors on this campus. Unlike majors in which an internship is not mandatory, education majors are required to have hands-on experience before they graduate.

"Student teaching is a great experience because it is very similar to running your own classroom," said Lindsey Falkanger, a senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and working toward a minor in secondary education. "A lot of times, my cooperating teacher leaves the room so I can get a better feel of what it is like to have the class to myself. I don't think there's any better preparation."

As a semester-long requirement for most education majors at the University, student teachers work with schools all over the state.

Falkanger is student teaching seventh-graders back in her hometown for the spring semester. After three weeks into student teaching, she said that the biggest challenge was learning the routine activities of the school, such as issuing a tardy and the procedure for making copies.

"Everyone else in the school is used to the routine by now, so it's difficult coming in halfway through the year," she said.

To prepare herself for student teaching, Falkanger tutored at Bottenfield Elementary School in Champaign. "It's a good experience to have before student teaching because it allows you to work with students one-on-one."



Andrea Nevoral, sophomore in education, is also tutoring in preparation for her student teaching. Working once a week at Thomas Paine Elementary School in Champaign, she also worked at a children's camp every summer for six years.

"I've worked with kids since I was 13," said Nevoral. "I like hearing their ideas and opinions because they give you a unique perspective you wouldn't think of. You can learn as much from them as they can from you."

Student teaching gives students the opportunity to put classroom experience from the Univer-



Above: Kate, a student in Education, poses for a homework assignment back to a student in her high school classroom. Kate lets the students study for a few minutes before their quiz. Kate is studying Special Education and hopes to get a job as a teacher in that field after she graduates.

sity to work in a real-world setting.

"I'm really excited to bring lesson plans and actually use them and I'm excited to work with my cooperating teachers because I feel I can gain so much advice from their personal experience," she said.

For Falkanger, the best part of student teaching is the realization that her lesson made sense to the children.

"There is so much preparation that goes into student teaching, so it's really rewarding to know that you did well and that the kids are getting it,"

Falkanger said.

While Nevoral still has some time before she gets to student teach, it is something that she is thinking about now.

"All my work experience is with kids," said Nevoral. "I'm nervous for student teaching, but by that point I'll be ready."

STORY BY **SARA KESSINGER**
PHOTO BY **LINDSAY OLSON**

RETROGRADE
student teaching

college of engineering



facts & statistics

Total enrollment: 7,411

Undergraduate: 5,104

Graduate: 2,307

Faculty and Staff: 434

dean of college

Ilesanmi Adesida

major buildings

Engineering Hall

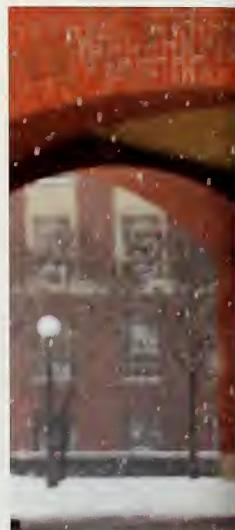
Everitt Laboratory

Grainger Library

Siebel Center

academic departments

- Aerospace
- Agricultural
- Bioengineering
- Chemical & Molecular
- Civil & Environmental
- Computer Science
- Electrical & Computer
- Industrial & Enterprise Systems Engineering
- Materials Science & Engineering
- Mechanical Science & Engineering
- Nuclear, Plasma & Radiological
- Physics



Left: Engineering Hall, located at 1308 Green St., is home to the College of Engineering faculty and classes.

Photo by L. Olson

Above: "Grainger Bob," as he is informally known on campus, sits outside Grainger Library on the Bordeen Quad. Photo by D. Hallander



INTERVIEW WITH JIE CHOU: JUNIOR IN ENGINEERING

How is engineering different from the other colleges?

JC: The average workload is more and much harder. One has to think outside the box to be an engineer. Problems are usually not plug in the numbers but you have to derive a solution based on the concepts and fundamental knowledge from many core classes.

Why do you think the engineering program at U of I is one of the best?

JC: U of I has a long history in engineering. The professors are dedicated and the quality of the program is second to none. Many of the classes teach about the most recent developments in technology and keep the students up to date with the world.

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON
DAN HOLLANDER

RETROGRADE
college of engineering



open to innovation

ENGINEERING OPEN HOUSE ALLOWS GLIMPSE AT EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Ready, set, innovate. The innovation, creativity, and ingeniousness of the Engineering students in the College of Engineering at Illinois were the centerpiece of the Engineering Open House.

This year's open house, entitled "Inspiring Innovation" featured the work of students at the University of Illinois, as well as the work of students in middle school and high school. Several company sponsors such as Accenture and Abbott also had kiosks to distribute information and pamphlets to interested visitors.

Engineering Open House was coordinated by Jason Chang. Chang, a senior in Engineering, worked hard to make the event the true success that it was. He said that some of the must-see events of the Open House included the Rube Goldberg High School Design Competition, the Middle School Cardboard Car Competition, as well as the Jerry Sanders Robotic Design Competition.

Chang also said that all of the exhibits are different and amazing in their own ways, so they could all be deemed "must-sees." However, the two buildings that have groups who win the most awards every year are the Siebel Center and the Materials Science & Engineering Building.

With so much to see in so little time, one of the best ways to see it all this year was by taking an Engineering Open House tours. Guided by U of I student volunteers, tours met near the Area 51 commissary and took visitors to some of the most popular exhibits and attractions.

If the tour schedule was not suitable, visitors also had the option of giving themselves self-guided tours. These self-guided tours included a map and even a list of the must-see attractions. Young engineers and kids alike found these self-guided tours rewarding as they looked for clues as part of the EOH Scavenger Hunt.



The Beckman Institute hosted their own open house on the same weekend as the Engineering Open House. The Institute opened its doors during its bicentennial event to visitors wanting to see what its like to get an MRI and discover what is happening on the North end of the Bardeen Quad.

The Dean of the College of Engineering, Ilesanmi Adesida, was available for meeting sessions for visitors and admitted students during the Open House the College was hosting.

In a letter published in the Visitors Guide, he commented that "In classrooms and labs across campus, you will find engineering students pushing the limits of tools and technology to pursue new ideas and solutions...You will learn about the science and engineering behind every day products, see how engineering is used to solve problems, and catch a glimpse of emerging innovations in technology."

STORY BY ADAM SWIATEK
PHOTOS BY BLAKE MILLER



Opposite top: Brad Heinecke, senior, and Mike Okelman, graduate student, both in Engineering, make pressed clay molds.

Opposite bottom right: Jan Childers, freshman in LAS, watches Mike Brendel a freshman in Engineering create a boat out of aluminum foil at the water lab.

Top: Ashley Wise, a Developmental Engineer, explains his light inventions.

RETROGRADE
engineering open house

college of fine & applied arts

facts & statistics

Total enrollment: 2,818

Undergraduate: 1,935

Graduate: 883

Faculty & Staff: 470

dean of college

Michael T. McCulley

major buildings

Architecture Building

Art & Design Building

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts

Music Building

Temple Hoyne Buell Hall



academic departments

- Architecture
- Art Education
- Crafts
- Graphic Design
- History of Art
- Industrial Design
- Painting
- Photography
- Sculpture
- Dance
- Landscape Architecture
- Music
- Theatre
- Urban Planning



Opposite: The Art & Design Building is located at 408 E. Peabody Dr.

Above: Kathleen Keogh, senior in FAA, works on a project in her metals studio class.



INTERVIEW WITH VIVIAN ZAPATA: JUNIOR IN FAA

How is the College of Fine and Applied Arts different from the other colleges?

VZ: I think FAA encourages students to express themselves. In painting, you learn the technical skills and foundation the first two years, so when you reach junior and senior year, you can funnel your own voice and expression. It's exciting to get that opportunity to shine.

What kind of material do you learn?

VZ: Freshman year, you're exposed to different areas of art foundations like texture or drawing. Sophomore year, you still learn how to use different materials. During junior and senior year, you can do your own research and find your own interests. Right now, I'm working on collages and photo manipulation software.

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON



Opposite: Mandy Schwartz, junior in FAA, and Steve Kluempers, graduate student in FAA, hang Chinese paper lanterns for a photoshoot in the Studio Problems class.

Above: Alisa Augello, junior, Steve Kluempers, graduate student, Mandy Schwartz, junior, Troy Hayes, senior, and Kasee Hendrickson, senior, all in FAA, gather around to look at the first polaroid of the shot to assess the lighting and exposure.

still in the studio

FINE ARTS MAJORS SPEND HOURS PERFECTING TEDIOUS PROJECTS

many architecture and art students enjoy the unique aspects of their major, which include not having to work toward a grade, using class time to work on their homework, and having many of the same friends in all of their classes. However, this enjoyment comes with a price.

Before a project is due, architecture and art students spend many consecutive days and long hours inside a studio. Although students work at their own pace, studios tend to fill up five to six days before a project is due.

"People survive on Pop-tarts, coffee, and Red Bull," said Dan Audette, senior in FAA.

Architecture students begin to work in the studio building models during their sophomore year. Surviving the pressures of the first year in the studio, many juniors and seniors begin to enjoy their time spent working in the studio. Friendships are formed among the students after spending so much time together.

Groups of 15 students per studio meet three times a week for four hours, during which students are able to spend one-on-one time with their professors. Rather than working for a good grade on an assignment, students build their portfolios, filling them with the projects they worked on in class.

Similarly, many art and design majors do not find a chance to sleep when they have a project due. Time spent in the studio constitutes the bulk of the work for a student in art and design.

Laura Beard, senior in FAA, said, "You are always working until the last minute with a project. Even if you are rarely given another month, you



will still be working until the last minute because a project never seems finished."

Students work continuously toward perfecting their portfolio, even after they have turned them in for class. The portfolio essentially replaces the student's GPA, because although art and design students do receive a letter grade on a project, the means of achieving a grade is rather subjective. Professors take into consideration the effort put into a project, and as seniors, students are able to get to know their professors personally and receive feedback from them.

Although students in architecture and art and design are able to spend class time among their peers and do not have to take final exams, they experience a trade-off when they spend extensive amounts of time in the studio.

STORY BY SUKLIMA ROY
PHOTOS BY JESSICA ELMORE

college of liberal arts & sciences

facts & statistics

Total Enrollment: 17,762
Undergraduates: 15,121
Graduates: 2,641
Faculty & Staff: 685

dean of college

Sarah C. Mangelsdorf

academic departments

- Biological, Physical, & Quantitative Sciences
- Humanities & Arts
- Social & Behavioral Sciences
- Interdisciplinary Programs



Opposite: Students sit in the back of a large LAS lecture in Foellinger Auditorium.

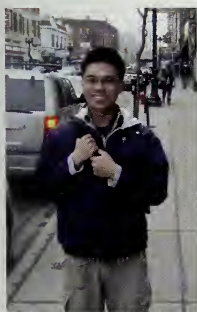
Photo by B. Miller

Below: Lincoln Hall serves as the home of the LAS Office.

Photo by L. Olson

major buildings

Altgeld Hall
Chemistry Annex
English Building
Foellinger Auditorium
Foreign Languages Building
Lincoln Hall
Natural History Building
Noyes Laboratory
Roger Adams Laboratory
Spurlock Museum



INTERVIEW WITH MARK AGUIRRE: FRESHMAN IN LAS

How is the College of LAS different from the other colleges on campus?

MA: Because it's so large, I feel that it's able to manage all the general areas of study, but yet it can focus on something you like and something that caters to your needs and strengths.

Why did you become an Economics major?

MA: Economics is a very interesting subject and its very flexible because you can use economics in almost every aspect of the business world. Economics is very broad.

What types of material do you learn in classes for your major?

MA: We learn about mechanisms in our world's economy and how it can influence a person's life.

How do you think the variety of majors in the College of LAS is helpful to students?

MA: It goes over a broad range of majors, so you can go from physics to philosophy to biology. Because you get a taste of all those studies, it helps you to figure out what you want to do, especially if you are an undecided major.

RETROGRADE
college of las

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN
PHOTOS BY BLAKE MILLER
LINDSAY OLSON



view from within

HUMAN GENOMICS BUILDING & DORRIS KELLEY HALL ADD MODERN FLAIR TO CAMPUS



With the 2006-2007 school year came new additions to campus, most notably the Alice Campbell Alumni Center, the Institute for Genomic Biology facility, and Dorris Kelley Christopher Hall.

Named after one of its major contributors, the Alice Campbell Alumni Center was officially opened in May 2006 after two years of construction. This \$16 million, three-story building is located near the Hallene Gateway Plaza. It houses the offices of the University's Alumni Association, as well as a library, conference rooms, lounges, and an outdoor patio.

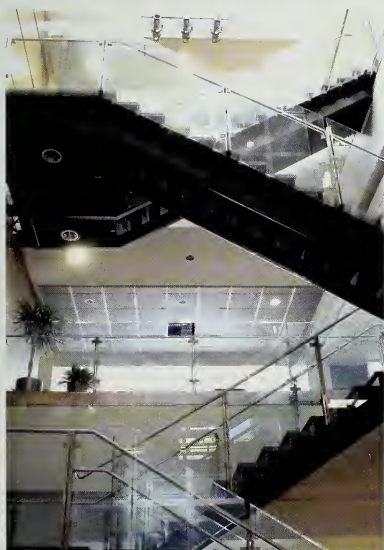
The Alice Campbell Alumni Center is the first building of its kind on campus because it's specifically built to host alumni events for the 550,000 Illinois alumni around the world.

"I think it's great that the University has a place where alumni can gather. It shows that the

school supports and values our alumni's contributions. Hopefully, the alumni center will encourage other alumni to reconnect back with the school," said Neetha Mamootile, junior in LAS.

Another addition, the Institute for Genomic Biology facility, was completed in November 2006 after almost three years of construction. This \$75 million building will be home to research in genomic biology that will concentrate on solving issues in agriculture, medicine, and the environment. It will hold high-tech equipment such as a microfabrication lab and microscopy suite. The University hopes that this facility will attract considerable funding for research, as well as accomplished scientists.

"The Institute for Genomic Biology will be helpful to science majors because we can see first-hand how research is done using the latest



technology. It can help us better understand concepts and maybe even encourage us to pursue a career in that area," said Jibi Issac, junior in LAS. "It will also give us a chance to learn from experts in this field, which will increase the value of our degree."

On September 14, 2006, Doris Kelley Christopher Hall was dedicated. Named after an alum and founder of The Pampered Chef, Ltd., this building houses the Department of Human and Community Development and the Family Resiliency Program.

The Family Resiliency Program supports research and education that can help families overcome obstacles and stressors that they may experience. To enhance the research, Christopher Hall includes a Family Observation Suite, which mirrors an actual home where families can participate in studies.

"Faculty and graduate students work with the community and conduct a lot of research in Christopher Hall, so it gives the program a good name and gives us credibility," said Jillian John, junior in ACES.

Opposite top: Round Table of the Alice Compell Alumni Center.

Opposite bottom: Mural and set up inside the Dorris Kelley building.

Top: Jenny Christie and Megan Moulton, sophomores in LAS, stand in front of the new Dorris Kelley building.

Center: View from second floor of Human Genomics Building.

Left: Stairs inside the Human Genomics Building.

STORY BY **JAMIE JOHN**
PHOTOS BY **BLAKE MILLER**

RETROGRADE
new buildings on campus



put to the test

LIBRARIES & COFFEESHOPS FILL UP DURING FINALS WEEK

during finals, the University of Illinois campus is turned inside out—the Undergrad library is packed, a table cannot be found in the Union and Starbucks has a constant line.

Many students choose to study at the Undergrad library, where there are quiet, low-level floors as well as group-work cubicles. Students are able to reserve rooms at Grainger Library for their per-

sonal study use. At the Union, there are both quiet study rooms and various lounges, or the Courtyard Cafe for students who need background noise.

"A group of friends go with me to the Vending Room, where we study for anatomy," said Kristin Imburgia, senior in Applied Health Sciences. "We can all work together on memorizing the parts of the body but aren't cramped in someone's apartment."



During finals week, the Undergraduate and Grainger libraries are open 24 hours, making it seem as if some students actually move in to the libraries when they pack lunches and bring blankets.

"I like to bring my toaster along," said Mike Manious, junior in LAS. "Pop-Tarts tend to keep me going, but only when they're hot."

Moonstruck Chocolate Cafe and Starbucks Coffee also are quite popular, as students study late into the evening. Some stores, such as Starbucks, extend their hours during finals week in order to accommodate the late night crowd of students needing a late night caffeine fix to keep their eyes and books open.

There are a lucky few with an easy finals schedule or just need a break from studying, the Quad is a great place to sleep, relax or play Frisbee with some friends.

"I finished my exams really early, but don't graduate until Saturday, so I'm spending the week hanging out with my friends before leaving for the real world," said Molly Sweeney, senior in Applied Health Sciences.

The Midnight Breakfast in the dorms is also a favorite and kicks off finals week with pancakes, eggs, French toast, and other similar breakfast foods.

No matter what you choose to do during finals week, there are always options. The bars tend to not have cover and sometimes have no line.

"There have been a lot of bar crawls this week," Sweeney said. "I've noticed t-shirts of every color all down Green Street."

There are always deals going on with local food places and usually you can get some free stuff on the quad. Good luck, study hard and try to have a little fun!

STORY BY **DANIELLE URBAN**
PHOTOS BY **TOM ROOT**
BLAKE MILLER



Opposite: Students study at Grainger Library on Reading Day, the day before finals week begins. *Photo by T. Root*
Left: Emma Hunter, sophomore in LAS, studies at Espresso Royale for her early morning final. *Photo by B. Miller*

ceremony of commencement

MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2007 RECEIVE DIPLOMAS, CELEBRATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

d onning ceremonial caps and gowns, graduates converged at Assembly Hall on Sunday, May 13, to formalize their exodus from the University. Chancellor Richard Herman, President B. Joseph White, and guest commencement speaker and Youtube.com co-founder Jaweb Karim were on hand for the event.

After a long list of awards, Karim, lightened the mood by integrating inspiration and popular culture into his commencement address. Using a Youtube favorite as an example, Karim emphasized the ease and interest of concept developed by internet sensation Matt Harding. Harding, he explained, dances in locations around the world and posts video of it on the popular video site. The address expressed how this was an excellent example of a taking a small but brilliant idea and making it happen.

Awards from this year's ceremony included: the Alumni Achievement Award, given to Phil Francis, the current C.E.O. of Petsmart, for his work in the expansion of Petsmart.

Guest Commencement Speaker, Jaweb Karim, accepted the Chancellor's first No Boundaries Award.

A special Chancellor's Medallion awarded to Professor and Director Emeritus of the Division of Rehabilitation-Education Services, Timothy Nugent for his work in making the campus more accessible.



STORY BY **BLAKE STUBBS**
PHOTOS BY **PATRICK TRAYLOR**



Opposite: University of Illinois President B. Joseph White shakes the hand of a doctoral graduate.

Above: Students sing the Alma Mater at the U of I Commencement ceremony at Assembly Hall.

Left: The combined choir of Women's and Men's Glee Club and the Black Chorus performs at the U of I Commencement ceremony.



RETRO

ACTIVE



● Looking back on a year of athletics at Illinois.

FIGHTING ILLINI

FOOTBALL

ZOOK AND CO. SHOW PROMISE, LOOK TO BRIGHT FUTURE

Fifteen football minutes into Homecoming on Oct. 7, it looked like Illinois was on the verge of a rare feat.

One week earlier, the Illini stunned Michigan State by handing the Spartans a loss in East Lansing—and picking up their first Big Ten road win since 2002. Now the Illini led the Hoosiers 25-7, and it seemed impossible that the lead might slip away.

Slowly, though, Indiana fought back. Illinois scored on every drive in the first half, but it hardly made a gasp at scoring beyond that. What one week earlier had been talk of a bowl game became disappointment over another blow.

"What happened today was a brutal, tragic, awful lesson," head coach Ron Zook said after the Indiana game. "It's a great lesson, but it's awfully painful."

The 2006 season was a long lesson for the Illini, who once again featured one of the youngest teams in college football. While freshman quarterback Juice Williams quickly became the offensive leader and freshman cornerback Vontae Davis showed there is lasting strength in the secondary, Illinois still had a long way to go before bowl talk could be justified.

"One of the great things about football is you're going to go through adversity," Zook said early in the season. "That's one of the things I told our team all year. There's going to be adversity, and how we handle it is going to show who we are."

In 2006, Illinois football was characterized by a much-improved defense and an offense that couldn't seem to put the pieces together. Junior linebacker J Leman and junior safeties Kevin Mitchell and Justin Sanders seemed to knock down tackles like other people kick pop cans, while Davis

added consistent depth. Fellow senior corner Alan Ball was skinny and strong, laying out opponents with ease.

"(This spring) it felt like Alan was beginning to come on and be a Big Ten-type defensive back," Zook said before the season started.

On offense, Illinois found

two plans that worked: launching long passes and running trick plays. Williams' shocking arm strength — once tamed enough that receivers could actually catch his balls — turned into the spectacle to be seen, as game after game he hit receivers like Kyle Hudson deep in the red zone.

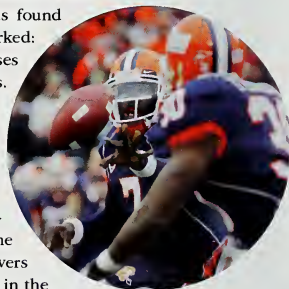
"I saw him one day at practice launch an 80-yard bomb into the end zone," senior running back Pierre Thomas said. "A lot of people talk about that on his highlight tape, but when I saw that in person, I was like, 'Man, this kid has an arm.' He's amazing."

Illinois began a plan to shake things up after the season opener against Eastern Illinois. Zook was so impressed by the Panthers' rugby punting that he recruited former quarterback and current junior receiver Dajaun Warren to try it out. In future games, Warren would throw passes in trick plays, prompting claims he would soon be starting at every position.

But fun change-ups and a fresh-faced roster were not enough. There would be no bowl game, no winning record. There would only be hope for next season.

"Anybody can beat anybody. If you win one game you are not the world champions," Leman said. "We have to come out and be consistent every game."

STORY BY COURTNEY LINEHAN
PHOTOS BY BECK DIFENBACH
JOSH BIRNBAUM



RETROACTIVE FOOTBALL

THE SCOREBOARD

42-17 Eastern Illinois
0-38 Rutgers
21-31 Syracuse
7-24 Iowa
23-20 Michigan State
32-34 Indiana
17-20 Ohio
22-26 Penn State
24-30 Wisconsin
10-17 Ohio State
31-42 Purdue
16-27 Northwestern



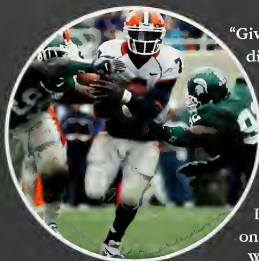
Opposite left: Indiana defensive end Kenny Kendal (92) tackles wide receiver Kyle Hudson (21) in the first half of the Homecoming game against Indiana on Oct. 7. Photo by B. Diefenbach.

Opposite right: Illinois' quarterback Isiah Williams passes the ball to Pierre Thomas during the game against No. 1 Ohio State on Nov. 4. Illinois lost, 17-10. Photo by J. Birnbaum.

Below: Wide receiver Kyle Hudson (21) congratulates Jody Ellis (29) after a touchdown catch. Photo by B. Diefenbach.

ATHLETE PROFILE

JUICE WILLIAMS



"Give us Juice," the thinning Memorial Stadium crowd chanted as Illinois trailed Syracuse 21-7 on Sept. 16.

And Juice is what they got. Williams became Illinois' starter after the third game of his college career. He struggled against a ranked Iowa team, then stunned fans as he led the Illini to a road win over Michigan State on Sept. 30.

Williams said he did not want to be seen as the savior of a fractured football program, but for many in the Illini Nation, the freshman quarterback symbolized hope as the signs added up that another losing season would mar the record books.

"I don't want to be treated differently because I'm a hot recruit," Williams says. "I don't want to be treated like some football god or something."

But Williams is different, and everybody who saw Illinois football play in 2006 could see the difference. Time after time, he launched 65-yard passes like fraternity brothers toss a football on the front lawn. Over and over, he squeezed past defenders and snuck out of pressure situations, rushing for first downs.

"I've got teammates depending on me, other freshmen players depending on me, and all those fans depending on me," Williams says. "I know pressure like that can make me or break me, and I'm up for the challenge."



STORY BY COURTNEY LINEHAN
PHOTO BY JOSH BIRNBAUM
BECK DIEFENBACH



Opposite top: Minors' quarterback Leah "Juice" Williams runs the ball between two Michigan State defenders during the game at East Lansing on Sept. 16. Photo by J. Birmingham.

Opposite bottom: Quarterback Juice Williams rushes the ball during the fourth quarter of the Hawkeye home game against Kentucky on Oct. 7. Photo by B. McFarlane.

Above: Juice Williams is congratulated by teammates after scoring his first career rushing touchdown during the game at East Lansing on Sept. 16. Photo by J. Birmingham.



Opposite right: Illinois cheerleaders cheer on men's basketball during a time-out in the game against Lewis at Assembly Hall on Nov. 1. Photo by A. Babcock.

Opposite left: Fighting Illini cheerleaders perform at the Homecoming game against Indiana University on Oct. 2. Photo by A. Babcock.

Above: Illinois cheerleaders perform during a time-out in the game against Lewis at Assembly Hall on Nov. 1. Photo by A. Babcock.

VARSITY CHEERLEADING

SQUAD RALLIES SCHOOL SPIRIT AT SPORTING EVENTS

Two and a half hours before football games, Illini students fill campus bars and stadium parking lots preparing for the game with beer and barbecue. Before basketball games they line up around the Assembly Hall, down jackets layered over orange sweatshirts as they anxiously wait for the arena's doors to open.

For Illinois cheerleaders, however, the two and a half hours before each game are filled with preparations for the day's performance.

2006-07 captain Drew Sullivan says there's a lot more to cheerleading than shaking pompoms and yelling into megaphones. Sullivan said the team logs as many as 25 hours a week between practice, weights and performances.

"We practice three nights a week, usually two and a half hours a night, then we're mandatory lifting two days a week, a lot of the guys lift three," Sullivan said. "In a week's time we can put anywhere from 10 hours of practice and weight lifting to 25 hours depending on if we have pep rallies, parades, PR events."

Cheerleading is considered a varsity sport at Illinois, and squad members' lives often parallel those of the typical athlete. New members have mandatory study hours at Irwin Academic Center, then there are workouts, lifting and game days.

They also frequently visit area nursing homes and hospitals.

"November's probably our busiest month," Sullivan said. "If you look at the schedule, I think we have a basketball game every three days, then on top of that we have football games."

"Some days we're gone Saturday at the game, come home Sunday, have a basketball game, have Monday off, have a game Tuesday."

Illini cheerleaders travel to every away football and men's basketball game, sending three girls and three guys to each football road trip. Sullivan said one of the perks of the job is getting to travel with the team on trips to places like California and New York City.

"It's awesome," Sullivan said. "My sophomore year I got to travel with the basketball team to the Final Four, and it was amazing. When the football team played Rutgers, we went down to New York City for the night. It's tons of fun."

Sullivan said he often runs into stereotypes about cheerleaders, but only because few people really understand what happens behind the scenes.

"I don't think a lot of people realize that it's as athletic as it is," Sullivan said. "Most all the guys are former football players or wrestlers. We have a couple guys who were cheerleaders in high school, but for the most part it's guys who want to stay in shape."

Sullivan said one of the hardest parts of the job is rallying school spirit when the Illini are losing, like when the football team fell 33-0 at Rutgers. But knowing that their efforts are appreciated helps make it easier.

"Sometimes it's tough, especially when the team is losing," Sullivan said. "Rutgers, that was a tough game, but they appreciate us being there."



STORY BY COURTNEY LINEHAN
PHOTOS BY ADAM BABCOCK
BECK DIEFENBACH

VARSITY CHEERLEADING RETROACTIVE

WOMEN'S

VOLLEYBALL

NEW-LOOK ILLINI MAKE THE MOST OF SIX NEW PLAYERS

The Illinois volleyball team made the most out of the 2006 season, despite injuries to a number of key players. Heading into October, the Illini were an impressive 11-3, with a solid 2-2 record in the Big Ten. Illinois was 16-15 in 2005, but graduation and injuries left the 2006 roster with several holes. As a result, Illini head coach Don Hardin added six new players and his new-look Illini have been winning since day one.

The Illini opened the season in late August with the State Farm Illini Classic, a tournament hosted by the Illini at Huff Hall. Illinois rolled off three consecutive wins during the weekend event, beating Illinois State, Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Winthrop. In addition to the team's obvious tournament success, three Illini players were selected to the All-Tournament team. Junior middle blocker Vicki Brown was voted tournament MVP, while sophomore outside hitter Kayani Turner and freshman libero Ashley Edinger also earned All-Tourney honors. After sweeping the Classic, the Illini continued their hot start by winning three more matches and the Marquette Kick-Off Tournament title the following week. Once again, Brown was named tournament MVP; and, once again, she was joined on the All-Tourney list alongside Edinger and Turner. But,

unlike the previous week, Brown and her Illini teammates were accompanied by sophomore setter Lizzie Bazzetta.

"It's great for us just to play well and win a tournament," Hardin said afterwards. "But for us to also have four players — including our setter and our libero — make the All-Tourney team is really a credit to our team and how they played."

The Illini finally suffered their first loss Sept. 9, when they lost a thrilling five-game match to Wichita State during the GlaxoSmithKline Invitational in Chapel Hill, N.C. The Illini finished second in the event, and after a win over Dayton at Huff Hall, entered the conference season a spectacular, 9-1.

Unfortunately for the Illini, the Big Ten season didn't begin nearly as well as the non-conference season. After a pair of 3-0 losses to Minnesota and Wisconsin, the Illini found themselves in last place. The poor start left the team disappointed, but Hardin's squad quickly regrouped with wins over Northwestern and Iowa. The victory over Iowa even propelled Bazzetta to win the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week honor on Oct. 2.

The Illini closed out the season, blindsided by a barrage of injuries, with a 3-0 loss to Ohio State on Nov. 25, finishing the season with a 15-15 record (6-14 Big Ten).

"We could have really come apart down the stretch," Hardin said. "But the girls battled down to the last match, the last game, even the last point."



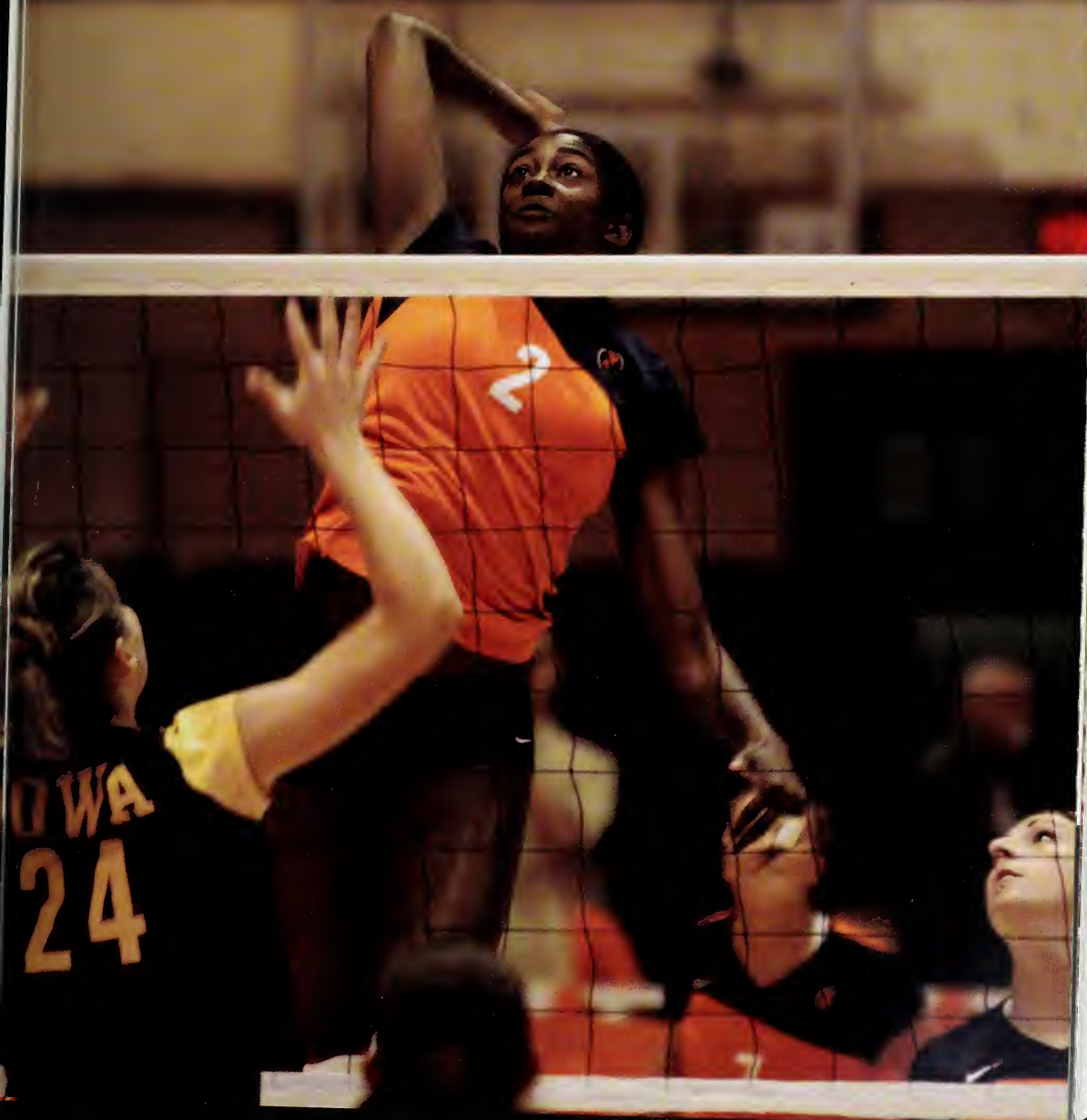
STORY BY **LUCAS DEAL**
PHOTOS BY **BECK DIFENBACH**
AMELIA MOORE

THE SCOREBOARD

Alumni Event	2-0
Illinois State	3-1
Winthrop	3-0
UW-Milwaukee	3-1
Mississippi	3-0
Marquette	3-1
Loyola Chicago	2-3
North Carolina	3-1
Wichita State	3-1
College of Charleston	0-3
Wisconsin	0-3
Minnesota	3-1
Northwestern	0-3
Iowa	1-3
Michigan State	3-0
Michigan	0-3
Ohio State	0-3
Penn State	3-1
Purdue	0-3
Indiana	0-3
Michigan State	1-3
Northwestern	3-1
Iowa	0-3
Minnesota	1-3
Wisconsin	3-1
Indiana	0-3
Penn State	0-3
Ohio State	0-3



Opposite left: Sophomore
Lizette Bazzetta sets the ball at
Huff Hall. Photo by A. Moore.
Opposite right: Freshman Ash-
ley Edinger returns the ball in
a match against Iowa on Sept.
30. The Illini won, 3-1. Photo by
B. Diefenbach
Below: Vicki Brown (2) returns
the ball during the second
game against Iowa. Photo by B.
Diefenbach



WOMEN'S SOCCER

AFTER ROUGH START, ILLINI OVERCOME DIFFICULT SCHEDULE



The 2006 season marked the 10-year anniversary of the Illinois soccer program as an NCAA participant. The team entered the season with a lot of hype and high expectations after coming off a second-round loss in the NCAA tournament in 2005. Beginning the 2006 campaign, the Illini were ranked No. 13 in the country and voted second in the preseason Big Ten Coaches poll.

After a slow 3-3 start, and playing one of the most difficult schedules in the country, Illinois bounced back to win seven of its next nine games. The 1-0 win against Auburn on Sept. 10 gave the Illini their first win over a ranked opponent. Illinois continued its success, beating Utah at home, 4-1. On Oct. 1, the Illini came back from a two-goal deficit to beat the preseason No.1-ranked Nittany Lions for the second time in the program's history.

"They've played the schedule we've subjected them to and that's the biggest thing this team has done," head coach Janet Rayfield said. "We've gone on the road against some really top teams."

The 2006 season also marked the 100th career win for Rayfield and her 55th with the Illini. The win came in a 4-0 victory over Syracuse on Sept. 8 in Illinois' home opener with 935 fans in attendance — the fourth-largest crowd in the program's history.

Illinois' strength as a team was the diversity of the individual's personalities. Junior forward Ella Masar's ability to chase down any ball always impressed the crowd. Senior forward Jessica Bayne's strong foot came off the bench to give the Illini big goals when they were needed. Junior defender Mary Therese McDonnell shut down opponents and played all but two minutes in the team's first 13 games. Sophomore defender Jessica Levitt's

footwork and physical play always provided a spark.

Junior goalkeeper Lindsey Carstens returned to the net after missing the final five games of the 2005 season with a leg injury. Her experienced play in the net helped the Illini defense to five shutouts in the first 13 games.

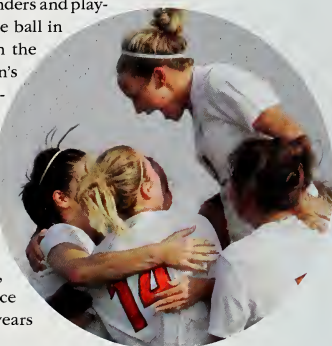
"We've played the hardest schedule we've had at this University and that has prepared us to play in the Big Ten," Carstens said. "We're probably more prepared than we've ever been, and great things have come from it this season."

Another aspect of Illinois' team was its youth. Illinois boasted the ninth-best recruiting class in the nation and showed it off by consistently starting two freshmen, midfielder Jackie Santacaterina and forward Courtney Bell. Forward Chichi Nweke and defender Emily Pickard also saw a lot of minutes on the field. Nweke scored three goals in the win over Utah and was the team's leader in goals and points midway through the season.

With a strong mix of youth, experience, goal scorers, passers, defenders and players who could win the ball in the open field and in the air, the Illinois women's soccer team has established themselves as one of the most talented teams in the nation. And with Rayfield's program that continues to bring in and develop quality players, Illinois will be a force in the Big Ten for years to come.

"This program is on track to win a national championship and that is our goal," Rayfield said. "And we want to compete for one on a regular basis."

STORY BY **STEVE CONTORNO**
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**
CHRISTINA LEUNG



THE SCOREBOARD

8-0	Ohio	2-1	Marquette	1-0	South Carolina	0-5	Missouri	0-3	Texas A&M	0-1	Texas	4-0	Syracuse	1-2	Auburn	4-1	Saint Louis	4-2	Utah	2-0	Wisconsin	3-2	Penn State	3-0	Minnesota	0-2	Ohio State	3-0	Michigan State	2-0	Michigan	1-0	Purdue	1-0	Iowa	3-0	Wisconsin	1-0	Purdue	1-3	Penn State	2-0	Southeast Missouri State	4-1	Saint Louis	0-1	Florida State
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Opposite left: Illinois' Jessica Payne tries to keep the ball away from Purdue's Jared and Ryker during a home game on Oct. 20. Illinois defeated No. 17 Purdue 2-0. Photo by J. Simbador.

Opposite right: Illinois' Eli Mosor kicks the ball past Utah's Melissa Wayman at the Illinois Soccer Stadium on Sept. 17. Illinois won 1-0. Photo by J. Simbador.

Above: Illinois' Eli Mosor kicks the ball past Utah's Melissa Wayman at the Illinois Soccer Stadium on Sept. 17. Photo by C. Leung.

MEN'S

CROSS COUNTRY

PROGRAM MOVES UP BIG TEN LADDER

It's what the men's cross country team and head coach Wendel McRaven had eagerly been awaiting for nearly a year: the anticipated return of redshirts Jason Bill, Trent Hoerr and Jon Houseworth to the Illini lineup.

McRaven's plan as the first year coach of the Illini in 2005 was simple. He wanted to develop the core of young talent he had, get a year of experience under their belts and then compliment them with Bill, Hoerr and Houseworth—seasoned veterans with postseason experience, who redshirted in order to preserve their eligibility for the 2006 season.

For McRaven, the expectations were high. Bill, a two-time NCAA Championships qualifier, finished fourth at the NCAA Regional meet in 2004 and earned All-Region honors. Hoerr had a breakthrough season on the track last spring, securing a fourth-place finish in the 10,000-meters at the 2006 Big Ten Outdoor Championships.

And with such a pool of talent to pull from, the underclassmen have a number of mentors to learn from, McRaven said.

The freshman class is considered one of the best in recent memory. The first year standouts include Jeremy Stevens, Jacob Nachel and John Popejoy.

"We have seven pretty solid (freshmen) in uniform," McRaven said. "My experience though is that the guy you least expect to step up and be a superstar ends up being a superstar."

The men's cross country team opened the season with two home meets at its Arbo-retum course

on Sept. 1 and Sept. 15. McRaven said he was pleased with the freshmen performances in both races and how they followed his race plan.

On Sept. 29, the Illini competed in the prestigious Notre Dame Invitational, finishing 11th out of 20 teams. In his season debut, Bill led the Illini with a time of 24:02 for the 8K race.

A 25-runner pile-up less than a quarter of a mile into the meet caused seven of the Illini's nine runners to hit the ground. They then found themselves at the back of the pack.

"You can say woe is me, or you can use it as motivation for the next time and see that it doesn't happen again," said McRaven of the pile-up.

McRaven said the Illini are a team looking to move up the ladder in the Big Ten. They were able to make strides in the right direction, earning a seventh-place finish at the NCAA Midwest Regionals on Nov. 11. Bill also qualified for the NCAA Championships, finishing in 119th place with a time of 32:46.

But every year a team needs to redefine itself, and right now, the Illini cross country program is still forming its identity.

"This program is going to jump leaps and bounds these next two years with the type of talented freshmen that we have," Houseworth said. "I think with the type of leadership that we can provide for them, they'll be ready to be that type of leader next year."



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM
CHRISTINA LEUNG

RETROACTIVE MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

THE SCOREBOARD

N/A	Illini Open
1st	Illini Challenge
11th	Notre Dame Invitational
3rd	Soluti Invitational
15th	Pre-NCAA Invitational
8th	Big Ten Championships
7th	NCAA Midwest Regionals



Opposite left: Juniors Tim Kelley and Michael Kelly run side-by-side during the Illini Open, the cross country team's first race of the season on Sept. 1 at the UI Arboretum. Photo by C. Leung

Opposite right: The Illini dominate the annual "Pack-it-Up" Challenge on Sept. 15 at the UI Arboretum by sweeping the top seven overall finishes and capturing their second-consecutive title of the year. Photo by C. Leung

Above: Illinois' Justin Aronson and Maciej Sniegarski run during the Illini Open cross country meet at the Arboretum in Urbana on Sept. 1. Photo by J. Birnbaum

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

FIRST-EVER REGIONAL TITLE, FRESHMAN STANDOUT HIGHLIGHT SEASON

After finishing fifth at last year's NCAA Championships—the best-ever finish in program history—the Illinois women's cross country team entered the 2006 season with high expectations and a chip securely placed on their shoulders. Not losing any of the 2005 team to graduation, the Illini also added a number of highly recruited freshmen. They looked primed to easily surpass last season's finish. But getting the team to gel at the beginning of the year didn't come as easily as head coach Karen Harvey expected.

"When you have that many newcomers who do so well, people don't know what to think and they feel out of place," said Harvey of the eight new freshmen, who changed the dynamic of the team.

In every race this season, the Illini paled in comparison to the performances they had during 2005. After upsetting six nationally ranked opponents and coming in second at the Notre Dame Invite last year, the Illini could only muster a fifth-place showing.

"You can't come to Notre Dame and run solid as a team; you will get destroyed," Harvey said, emphasizing the need for an exceptional performance. "They needed a kick in the rear, and they got it."

Freshman Angela Bizzarri shattered the 5K freshman record by 22 seconds with her fifth-place performance and time of 16:56 at the Notre Dame Invite. Bizzarri owns both the Illinois 5K and 6K

freshman records, along with the fifth-fastest 5K finish in Illini history after her first two collegiate races.

A 1 - though Harvey continually says this year's team was

better than lasts and had more talent, the Illini still hadn't lived up to their potential through the Big Ten Championships on Oct. 29. Illinois finished a disappointing fifth place. Before the Big Ten meet, Harvey said the team had found its team chemistry and that the Illini would need a solid race from an unexpected runner.

"As tight as this Big Ten race is, it will take one hero," Harvey said. "Someone's going to be a hero for one team and that's going to make the difference."

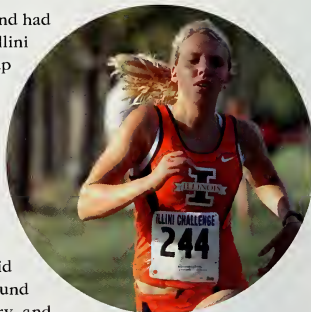
But other than Bizzarri's fifth-place finish (20:49), the rest of the eight Illini runners did not run as well as expected. Before the Big Ten meet, senior Cassie Hunt had high hopes.

"You're going to have to work really hard to get in that top 10, top 15," said Hunt, who took home the Big Ten title last year. "If everybody's firing on all cylinders, I think there's a good chance that we could just give everybody else a run for their money."

But the Illini couldn't give everyone else a run for their money. Only one other runner besides Bizzarri finished in the top 20. Senior Stephanie Simms finished in 20th place with a time of 21:24.

Even though the expectations were there all season for Bizzarri, and only escalated as the NCAA Championships got closer, she said the pressure did not faze her.

"I try not to think about it that way," she said. "I just try to think about going out and doing what I can do."



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY
PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA LEUNG
JOSH BIRNBAUM

RETROACTIVE WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

THE SCOREBOARD

NTR	Illini Open
1st	Illini Challenge
1st	Brissman-Lundeen Invite
5th	Notre Dame Invite
7th	Pre-Nationals
5th	Big Ten Championships
1st	NCAA Midwest Regionals
8th	NCAA Championships



Opposite right: Freshman Dacheil Wyffels runs toward the finish line of the Illini "Pack-Up" Challenge on Sept. 15 at the UI Arboretum. Wyffels finished with a time of 20:33. Photo by G. Leung

Opposite left: Freshman Taylor Bennett hustles uphill on Sept. 1 at the 4K Illini Open at the UI Arboretum in Urbana. Photo by G. Leung

Above: "Photo" Jamie Kuhl runs during the 4K Illini Open cross-country meet on Sept. 1 at the Arboretum in Urbana. Kuhl placed 14th with a time of 15:01.59. Photo by J. Bimbaum



Opposite right: Angela Bizzari runs with the pack in the one mile of the Big Ten Championships at the Armory on Feb. 25. Photo by J.P. Goguen

Opposite left: A pack of Illinois runners gets out in front during the women's one mile run at the Armory. Angela Bizzari won the race, and the top six runners were from Illinois. Photo by B. Vest

Above: Freshman Angela Bizzari competes in the one mile run during the Big Ten Championships at the Armory. Photo by B. Vest

ATHLETE PROFILE

ANGELA BIZZARRI

As a freshman, Angela Bizzarri wasn't expected to be the best runner on the Illinois cross country team. Coming out of Mason High School in Ohio, never having competed much at the national level, many high school coaches didn't know the impact Bizzarri could have on the Big Ten—or if she could have one altogether. But it didn't take long for coaches to take note. Bizzarri, Illinois' top runner, was the opposition's focal point all season and the talk of the Big Ten Championships and the Midwest Regional Championships.

"Coming into the season, I didn't really know how I was going to do, so there wasn't that much pressure on me per se," said Bizzarri, who earned All-American honors at the NCAA Championships after finishing in 24th place.

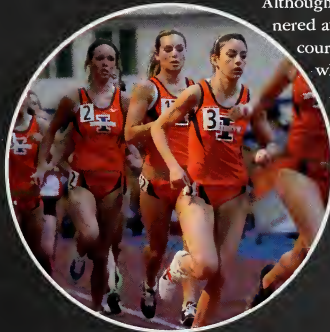
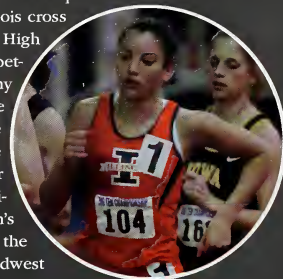
"My goal coming into the season was to make the traveling squad—top seven—so I didn't know how fast I would run. It's turned out really well; I've surpassed my goals."

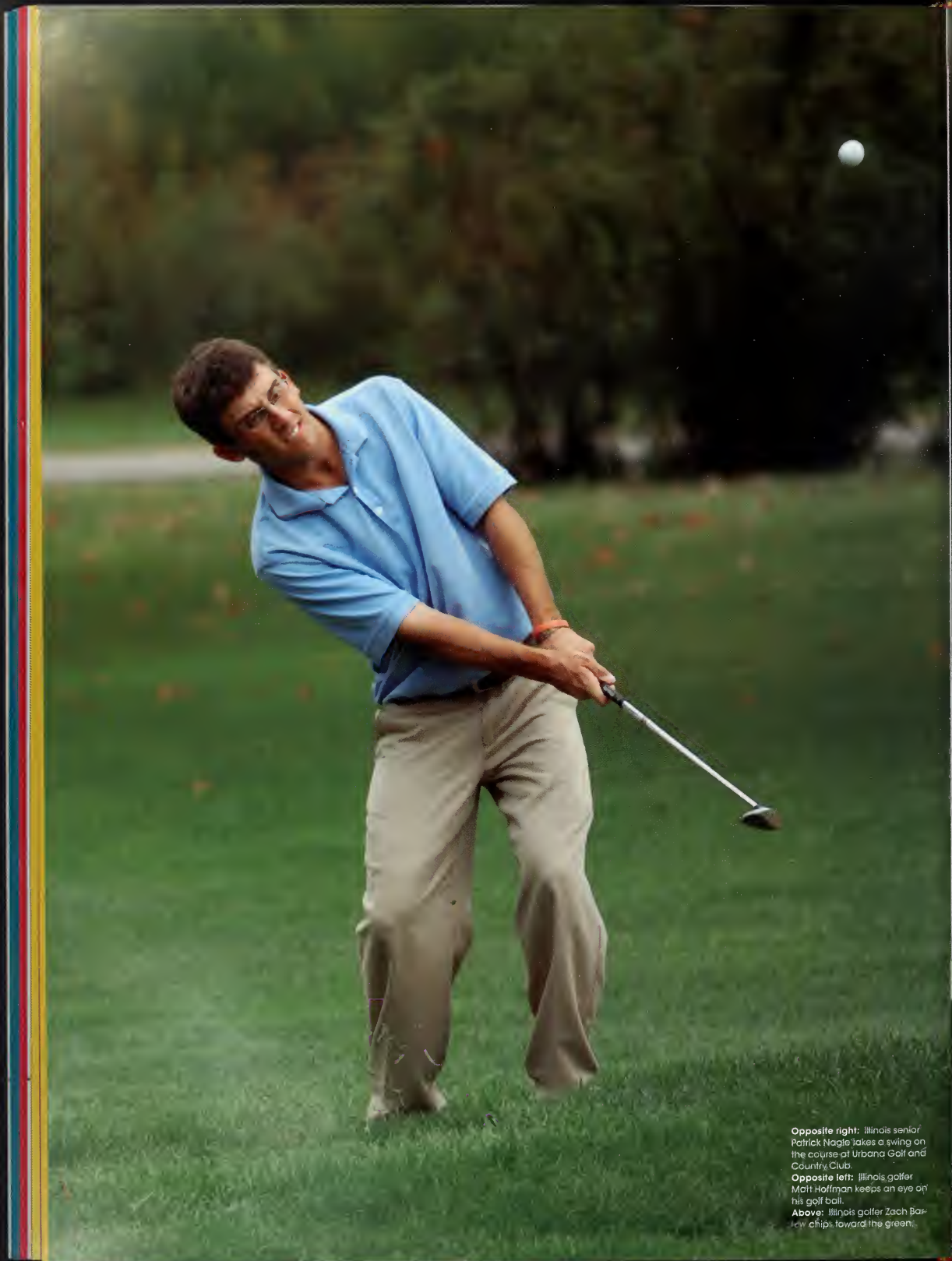
The quiet and reserved Bizzarri led the Illini to its first-ever Midwest Regional title behind a second-place overall finish (20:47), and along the way broke a number of school and freshman records. Pressure, though, is no obstacle—even when it came to running in her first Big Ten Championships, Bizzarri said.

Although Bizzarri is mild-mannered away from cross country courses, it's a different story when it comes to racing.

After her first race, she said she didn't realize her physical capabilities until "you are running faster than you ever have."

STORY BY ERIN FOLEY
PHOTOS BY BRAD VEST
JOHN PAUL GOGUEN





Opposite right: Illinois senior Patrick Nagle takes a swing on the course at Urbana Golf and Country Club.
Opposite left: Illinois golfer Matt Hoffman keeps an eye on his golf ball.
Above: Illinois golfer Zach Barlow chips toward the green.

MEN'S GOLF

MIX OF YOUTH AND EXPERIENCE MAKES STRIDES IN BIG TEN

With a 12th-place finish at the Big Ten/Pac-10 Challenge on Oct. 24, the Illinois men's golf team concluded its 2006 fall season. The year featured both positives and negatives for the Illini, who earned their highest finish of third place at the Windon Memorial Classic on Oct. 9.

The 2006 Illini team featured a mix of youth and experience. The Illini were led all season by seniors Kyle Hosick and Patrick Nagle, while red-shirt junior Mark Ogren and redshirt freshman Zach Barlow, among others, contributed for the Illini.

On Sept. 25, the Illini concluded their inaugural Olympia Fields Country Club/Fighting Illini Invitational. Illinois shot a final-round score of 296 to finish in ninth place in the 12-team event with a 54-hole total of 886.

Nagle recorded his third-straight round of 1-over-par 71 and finished the tournament at +3 with a 54-hole total of 213. Nagle missed medalist honors by just two strokes, and it was the 10th top-five finish of his career. It was also Nagle's best finish since placing third at the Duke Golf Classic in the fall of 2003 during his sophomore season.

"I hit the ball pretty well and made some good shots coming in. I had a couple of bad breaks,

had some mud on my ball in the fairway on 18 which I bogeyed, then my drive on the fairway on 7 landed in a divot, and I ended up taking a double there,"

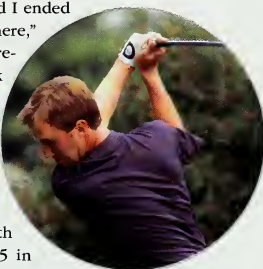
Nagle said in a press release. "But I came back and was able to finish with a birdie on 9. Overall, I'm pretty happy with how I played; it was nice to be in contention."

Hosick placed 19th at +10 and carded a 75 in the final round to finish with a 54-hole total of 220 at the event. Ogren finished tied for 39th place at 226, while junior Frank Alafoginis tied for 45th at 229.

While the Illini didn't fare as well as they would have liked at their home tournament, it gave them a chance to compete against some of the best teams in the country. Seven of the teams that advanced to the 2005 NCAA Championships played in the Illini Invitational.

"Our players once again were able to compete against the top teams in the country at this event," head coach Mike Small said in a press release. "Patrick obviously had a really good tournament, but overall we didn't reach the expectations that we have for our program."

"We saw signs from every player in our lineup, now we need to work towards making that next step which is to sustain that effort for an entire tournament."

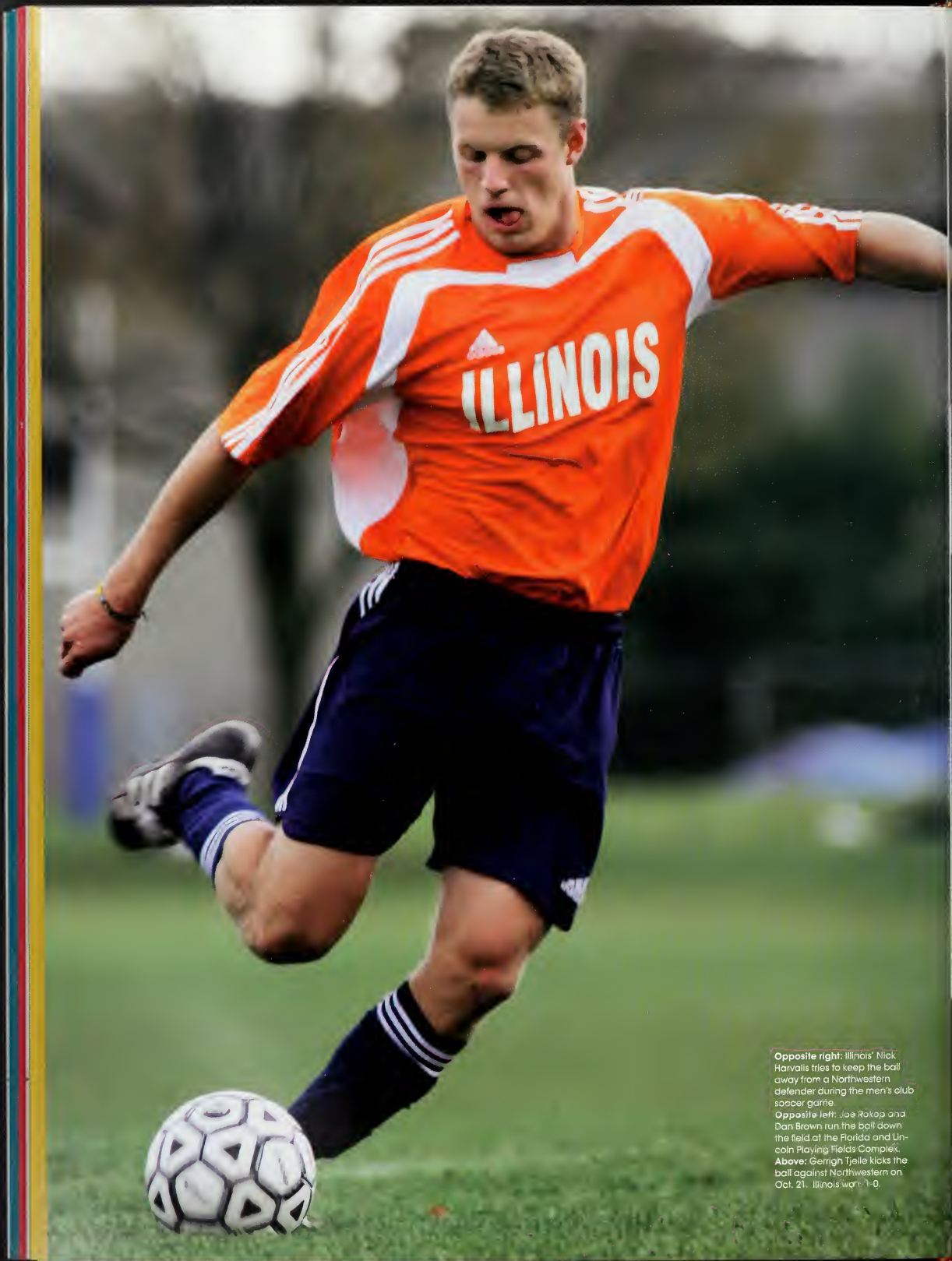


STORY BY ERIN FOLEY
PHOTOS BY ADAM BABCOCK

MEN'S GOLF RETROACTIVE

THE SCOREBOARD

7-12th Inverness Intercollegiate
9th Fighting Illini Invitational
7-5th Windon Memorial Classic
10th The Prestige at PGA
12th Big Ten/Pac-10 Challenge



Opposite right: Illinois' Nick Harvatis tries to keep the ball away from a Northwestern defender during the men's club soccer game.

Opposite left: Joe Rokop and Dan Brown run the ball down the field at the Florida and Lincoln Playing Fields Complex.

Above: Gerrigh Tjelle kicks the ball against Northwestern on Oct. 21. Illinois won 1-0.

MEN'S CLUB

SOCCER

LAST-SECOND GOAL AGAINST DAYTON SENDS ILLINI TO TITLE GAME

The 2006 Illinois men's soccer club once again returned to dominant form and proved why it is one of the best teams in the nation.

Traveling across the Midwest, the Illini played many of the best club teams in the Midwest Alliance Soccer Conference, and showed that they deserved to be considered a serious contender for the national title with a 10-2-3 overall record. After surviving close games at the regional tournament, Illinois closed out the season with a second-place finish at nationals.

The road to the national tournament, however, was filled with close and important games that would separate them from great Illinois teams of the past.

Led by the veteran experience of senior captain/coach Rickie Partyka and the outstanding play of senior midfielder Dan Brown and junior sweeper TJ King, the team started off the season on fire, only losing to regional powerhouse Michigan.

As the season came to an end, the Illini found themselves playing for a spot in the regional tournament on the last weekend of the regular season against Northwestern and Michigan State.

"We knew we were facing two really good teams," junior defender Adam Biernacki said. "Michigan State was ahead of us in points and Northwestern had pulled off some pretty big upsets."

After losing its first game to Michigan State, the team responded with a victory over Northwestern, which resulted in a regional tournament birth.

The Illini, comprised of tested veterans and young talent, traveled to Bloomington, Ind., where they needed to work as a team to earn a trip to nationals.

"Some of the younger guys might not know how much this means to the older guys because they haven't experienced it yet," Partyka said.

"We try to do our best to let them know that this is it. You have to get here, because if you don't get here then the season didn't mean anything."

After tying Purdue, Illinois played for its season against Dayton. Needing to win by two or more goals to keep its season alive, Illinois was up 2-1 on the Flyers with only seconds left in the game.

"With the game basically over, we had one last chance to score on a corner kick," Partyka said. "We knew this would be the last play of the game so we moved every player we had into the box."

In the play, later nick-named "The Scrum of '06," the ball touched every Illini player and hit the post three times before Tope Adesiea pushed Illinois past Dayton, 3-1.

Illinois then defeated Western Michigan and Indiana to secure its spot in the national tournament.

"That play (against Dayton) really summarized the whole weekend for us, and it was a great example of our team effort to never give up," Biernacki said.

The Illini finally traveled to Tempe, Ariz., for the national tournament on a mission to prove that they were one of the best teams in the nation.

Against the toughest competition of the year, Illinois tied Brown, beat Salt Lake Community College and then Arizona, before facing off against Ohio. Tied after regulation, the Illini pulled out a 5-4 win in a shoot-out. The Illini defeated San Diego before falling to Michigan in the title game.

STORY BY KYLE BETTS
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM



THE SCOREBOARD

3-0	Springfield
2-1	Iowa
7-0	W. Illinois
3-0	N. Illinois
3-0	S. Illinois
2-2	Indiana
0-4	C. Michigan
1-0	Loyola
5-0	DePaul
3-1	Miami (Ohio)
1-0	Dayton
0-1	Michigan St.
1-0	Northwestern
1-1	Purdue
3-1	Dayton
2-0	W. Michigan
2-0	Indiana
1-0	Salt Lake
3-1	San Diego
0-1	Michigan

MEN'S CLUB

HOCKEY

GOALTENDING TANDEM SENDS ILLINI TO TOP OF STANDINGS



Halfway through the 2006-07 season, the Illinois men's club hockey team had just one blemish on its record.

The American Collegiate Hockey Association's (ACHA) No. 1-ranked Illini ended their first semester schedule with two home victories over the 10th-ranked Michigan-Dearborn Wolves on Dec. 1-2 to move to 17-1.

To that point, Illinois' only loss was a 3-1 defeat at the hands of then-No. 13 Kent State on the road. However, the loss came at a point when the Illini were without junior forward Kevin Wicklin, junior defense man Dave Schmitt, senior forward Marshall Chubirka and freshman forward JJ. Heredia, all of whom were inactive with injuries at the time.

"We knew with a month break coming up we wanted to get rolling into the second semester," sophomore forward Jordan Pringle said. "It was big for us to get two convincing wins going into break because it was a big bummer having a week-long break after our loss."

Through 18 games, Illinois scored an astonishing 117 goals and averaged six-and-a-half goals per game. Of the Illini's 117 goals, 51 have come via their power play.

All but five players on Illinois' 22 man roster had scored goals at the halfway point of the season. Leading the way were forwards Jason Nemeth and Drew Heredia. Nemeth led the team with 14 goals heading into the break, while captain Drew Heredia led the team in total points with 30.

"We have great balance on this team," head coach Chad Cassel said. "We have four lines that play well, and what you might think is our fourth line could be our best line on one particular night. It's good because it doesn't allow teams to focus on one particular line."

On the other end of the spectrum, the Illini gave up just 32 goals all season and are allowing teams to score just under two goals per game against them.

The main reason why the Illini have been so stingy defensively has been the play of its goaltenders. In 16 starts this season, senior goalie Mike DeGeorge has posted a 1.81 goals-against average and 92.25 save-percentage, while freshman goalie Mike Burda has allowed just three goals all season in few times minding the net for the Orange and Blue.

"We have unbelievable goaltenders," freshman forward Matt Jennings said. "DeGeorge is a senior that is having a huge year for us so far, and Burda got a shutout in his first start, and you can't start your career off any better than that."

The Illini are currently in first place in the Central States Collegiate Hockey League (CSCHL) standings heading into the semester break with a 9-1 league record.

Illinois will have an opportunity to capture its first CSCHL regular season title since the 2002-2003 season with a strong finish in the second semester. But the Illini will have to go through a tough road to claim the championship as they face-off against four teams ranked in the ACHA's top 20.

"It was good for us to get in the lead in the league early in the season, especially since we get into our tougher games second semester against teams like Lindenwood, Iowa State and Ohio," Drew Heredia said.



STORY BY JASON GRODSKY
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM
ADAM BABCOCK

THE SCOREBOARD

7-2	Oakland	6-3	Oakland	4-0	St. Louis	16-0	St. Louis	4-2	Central Oklahoma	7-2	Central Oklahoma	3-1	Liberty University	3-2	Liberty University	7-3	Western Michigan	5-2	Western Michigan	8-0	Eastern Michigan	7-3	Eastern Michigan	6-2	Eastern Michigan	6-2	North Dakota State	5-1	North Dakota State	1-3	Kent State	13-2	Kent State	7-2	Michigan-Dearborn	5-3	Michigan-Dearborn	6-2	North Dakota State	4-1	North Dakota State	2-3	Lindenwood	3-2	Lindenwood	3-0	Iowa State	3-0	Iowa State
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Opposite left: Illinois' Matt Jennings tries to get to the puck before Michigan-Dearborn's Don Lomanica during the men's club hockey game on Dec. 2. Illinois won, 7-2. Photo by J. Birnbaum

Opposite right: Illinois' Alex Tauchen, right, moves down the ice as Eastern Michigan's Josh Nummerdor follows during the game at home on Oct. 4. Photo by A. Babcock

Above: Jason Nemeth tries to keep the puck away from a North Dakota State defender at a home game on Nov. 11. Illinois won, 6-2. Photo by J. Birnbaum



Opposite left: Kathleen O'Kelly-Kennedy shoots the ball during the women's wheelchair basketball game against the RIC Express.

Opposite right: Illinois' John George tries to grab the ball from RIC Hornet's James Senear during the men's wheelchair basketball game. Above: Illinois' Paul Ward looks to pass the ball during the men's wheelchair basketball game against the RIC Hornets.

WHEELCHAIR

BASKETBALL

FAST STARTS FUEL QUESTS FOR NATIONALS

In 2006-07, the Illinois men's and women's wheelchair basketball teams both got off to fast starts in their quests for national titles.

The men opened its season 3-0 with commanding victories against Variety Village, the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago Hornets and the Chicago Wheelchair Bulls on Oct. 28-29 in the Illinois Classic at IMPE. Men's and women's head coach Mike Frogley was impressed with the way fifth-year player Paul Ward competed against Variety Village.

"I thought Paul Ward came out and just absolutely lit them up," Frogley said. "He was running the ball-side screen-and-roll to perfection."

Frogley is also confident in his two captains, Denny Muha and Josh George.

"Josh is going to be the key for our success," Frogley said. "He's a mismatch for other teams because of his speed and his quickness."

On Nov. 3 and 4, in a game against the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and two against Southwest Minnesota State University, sophomore guard Steve Serio averaged 20 points. However, the team suffered a 70-64 loss — its first of the season — to Wisconsin-Whitewater. Frogley said Serio was the top freshman in the country last year and that he's the Illini's "go-to guy, on or off the ball."

As of Dec. 4, the men accumulated a 6-4 non-conference record, and were 2-1 in its conference.

After winning a national championship last season, but

losing six players in the process, the women's wheelchair basketball did not know what to expect entering the 2006-07 campaign. The Illini need to fill the role of Jen Ruddell, the first woman to be drafted by a men's wheelchair basketball team.

"There won't be another Jen Ruddell," Frogley said. "Jen is probably considered to be the best in the world right now."

So with question marks going into the first tournament of the year, the Illini walked away with a 5-0 record. First year player Arley McNeney averaged 18.75 points for four of the five games. As the starting center, McNeney will need to be a go-to player in order for the Illini to be successful.

"(McNeney's) strength is her ability to focus in the moment, her way to play in the moment," Frogley said.

Starting point guard Shelley Chaplin runs the offense for Illinois and has her own unique style of play.

"I love how Shelley plays so aggressively," Frogley said. "It catches a lot of the (opponents) off guard."

Led by top scorer Carlee Hoffman, the Illini will look to repeat its performance from last season.

"We don't rebuild with our women's program," Frogley said. "We reload."

STORY BY **BRIAN ATLAS**
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**



THE SCOREBOARD

MEN'S
68-41 V. Village
73-45 Chicago Bulls
64-70 Whitewater
62-47 SE Minn. St.
78-44 SE Minn. St.

WOMEN'S
58-18 Blazers
50-23 Spinal Liberty
46-6 City Stars
50-17 Cardinals
54-40 Alabama
54-37 RIC Express
57-32 RIC Express
54-25 RIC Express
43-25 RIC Express
54-35 Alabama

Opposite right: Scott Murrell's head comes up for a breath of air during a competitive race. Photo by P. Traylor

Opposite left: Caroline Moore swims in the 200 meter freestyle at the Illinois swimming and diving team's annual Orange and Blue intersquad meet. Photo by J. Birnbach

Below: Mallory Craft swims in the 100 meter backstroke at the Illinois swimming and diving team's annual Orange and Blue intersquad meet where she finished in first place. Photo by J. Birnbach



WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

STRONG START DAMPERED BY NINTH PLACE BIG TEN FINISH

With a squad of 14 newcomers, the Illinois women's swimming and diving team looked to its eight seniors for leadership during the 2006-07 campaign.

"We have eight seniors, and they are a very dynamic class," head coach Sue Novitsky said. "We're looking to the entire class to add that leadership for the rest of the team because we have such a young team."

The Illini also faced the difficult task of having every meet on the road. The Intramural Physical Education Building (IMPE), Illinois' home pool, is undergoing construction and renovation. The amount of travel the team has had to endure has made it stronger in the long run, Novitsky said.

"It's something that we can't control," Novitsky said. "Hopefully, one of the by-products of that is it does make them tough, especially when we travel to the Big Ten Championships."

When the season began, the Illini hoped to achieve a winning duel meet record and improve their standing in the Big Ten, and at the same time, begin to be noticed at the national level. Illinois finished with a 4-1 dual meet record and defeated Michigan State and Iowa, swimming competitively against national powerhouses, Michigan and Notre Dame.

The Illini started on the right foot with a 171.5-102.5 victory against Oakland University.

"It's really going to help the team out," said Novitsky. "Our freshmen had a great weekend; they really stepped up."

Less than 24 hours later, Illinois came out strong against Michigan State and won 166-134.

Sophomore Marissa Clapp came away with four victories against the Spartans, including the 200 meter medley relay. Because of

her efforts, she was named Big Ten Swimmer of the Week.

"We need to be keeping consistent with our competition and how we are racing and competing overall throughout the meet," Novitsky said.

On Oct. 27, Illinois dismantled Illinois State, winning 15 of 16 events. Novitsky was proud of the way the team got the job done.

"They are very hard workers; they want to come in and do a great job and have the team be successful," she said.

The Illini were handed their first loss of the season—a 157-143 defeat to the Buckeyes—on Nov. 4. The Illini were led by seniors Barbie Viney and Meghan Farrell. Both made the NCAA provisional cuts, and over 85 percent of the swimmers turned in personal best swims.

At the Texas A&M Reveille Invitational, the Illini finished fifth behind three of the top teams in the country. With the long, three-day competition, Novitsky's goal was for the Illini to mentally stay focused.

"We want to go into each session being prepared and staying on top of the game," Novitsky said.

As a final end of the season tune-up, Illinois defeated Iowa, 174-126. Caroline Moore, who won the 500 meter freestyle and was second in the 200 meter freestyle, propelled the Illini to victory.

"I think they competed well; the swimmers were definitely able to put together good splits," Novitsky said. "The divers did a good job on the boards and put together a consistent meet."

STORY BY **MEGHAN MONTEMURRO**
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**
PATRICK TRAYLOR



THE SCOREBOARD

171-102 Oakland
166-134 Mich. St.
210-90 Illinois St.
143-157 Ohio St.
5th Reveille Invite
4th Michigan Invite
174-126 Iowa
9th Big Ten's

WOMEN'S

WATER POLO

CLUB SQUAD LOOKS TO FUTURE AFTER THIRD PLACE FINISH

Capturing third place in the Big Ten Tournament, the Illinois women's water polo team capped off a terrific season by beating Purdue University 9-4 in its final game.

Maggie Gates, junior in speech pathology, led the team in goals from the hole, or center position, concluding the tournament with nine. She was also a first-team all-conference selection. Molly Sweeney, a senior in speech and hearing science, received the same honor, scoring three goals and leading the team in 17 steals for the tournament.

"We really stepped it up as a team," Sweeney said. "This was the tournament that really mattered, and every girl stepped up and got done what we needed to be done."

The team competed in five other tournaments throughout the season. Spending weekends at Wisconsin-Madison, Fenwick High School, Miami University of Ohio, Iowa, Michigan State and finally Purdue, the team went 14-13 for the season and 7-6 in the Big Ten, with an undefeated 4-0 record at Iowa for a tournament win.

"In the beginning of the season, we had to make some adjustments because we graduated some key players," said Gates, who finished the season with 44 goals. "Having a deep bench was critical to our success, helping us get to a third-place Big Ten finish, and have fun getting there."

Coached by Andrew Schneider, junior in Business Administration, the girls worked to overcome the complications with practice time that resulted from IMPE's closure. "Working with only four as-

signed pool hours a week made coming together as a team difficult, but I think we handled it well and worked hard to improve, regardless," Gates said.

Schneider agreed, saying that the team put extra hours of conditioning in on their own time to balance the lack of pool time.

"The girls put a lot of hard work and dedication into practice," Schneider said. "It is a great culmination of the season to end with a third place victory, especially against Purdue in their home pool."

Utility player and junior in industrial and enterprise systems engineering, Megan O'Connell was a major contributor to the team, finishing the season with 14 goals and 26 swim-off wins.

"We had some good tournaments and some bad, but it came together nicely in the end," she said. "I think we played really well as a team at Big Tens, helping out on defense and finding the open player on offense."

Losing seniors Sweeney, Kristin Lowry, Claire Walter, and Adrienne Dumas, the team will head into next season with four of its seven starters from the 2007 season.

"Illini water polo has provided me with some of the best memories of my college career and left me with even better friends," Sweeney said.

O'Connell has high hopes for the returning members.

"We got third this year, but we are definitely just as good as the top two finishers, Michigan and Michigan State, and next year we will prove it," she said.

STORY BY & PHOTOS COURTESY OF DENI STITCH



RETROACTIVE WATER POLO

THE SCOREBOARD

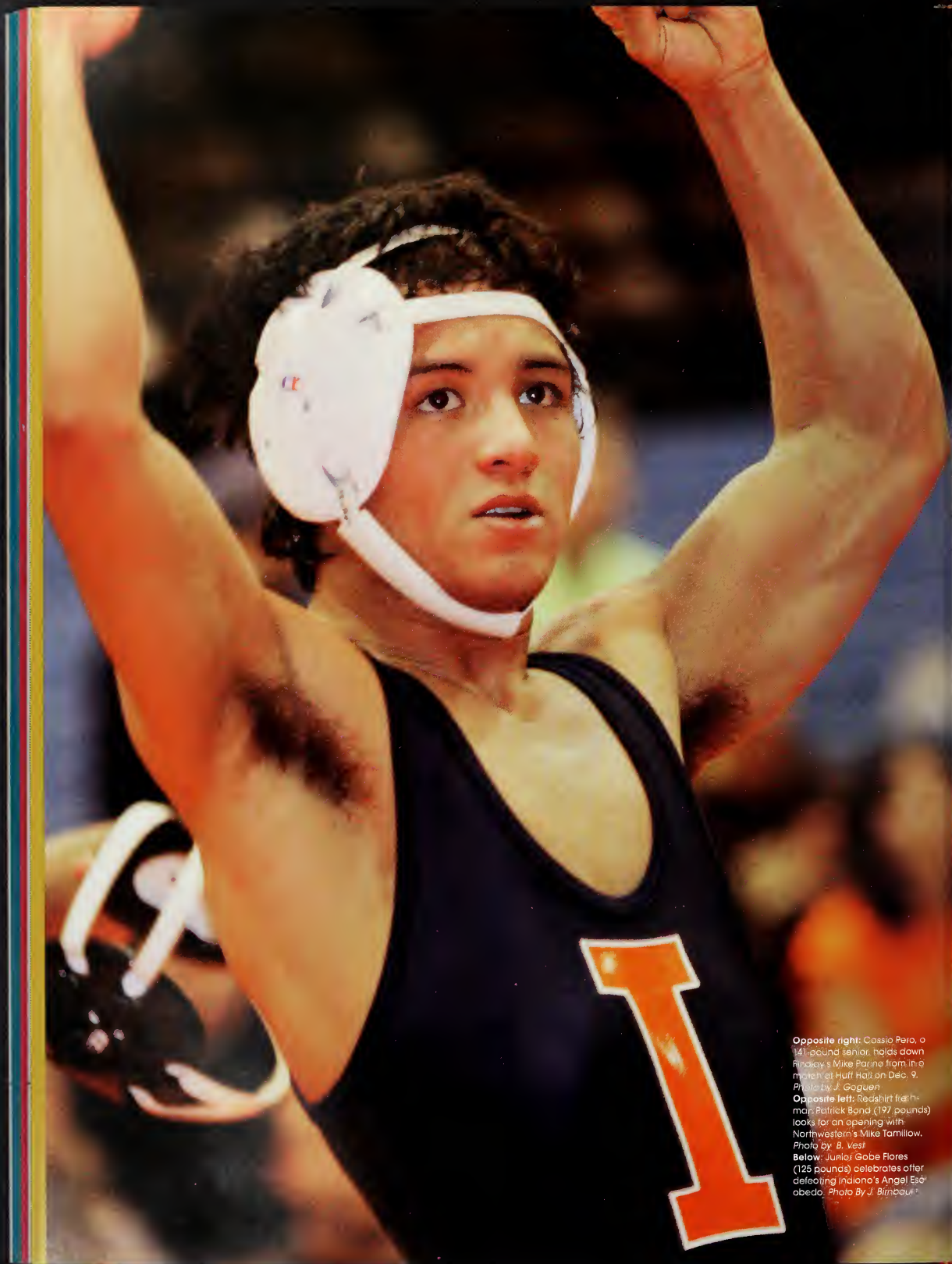
12-1	EMU	3-14	Toronto	6-7	Mich. St. Alum	5-7	GLSU	5-7	O.C.	6-0	Wis-Madison	5-7	Purdue	13-4	Wis-Madison	10-8	Michigan	11-7	Iowa	10-0	Wis-Madison	9-10	Purdue	5-6	Miami Ohio	5-15	Notre Dame	4-17	Cal-Poly	6-7	Michigan	9-10	Purdue	1-0	Miami Alumni	11-4	Iowa	12-1	Grinnell	10-6	Iowa Men's & Women's	11-2	Wis-Madison	4-10	Michigan	4-9	Michigan State	7-2	Purdue
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Opposite left: Ashley Belbin, Kristin Lowry and Erin Fox high-five their teammates after a match.

Opposite right: Illini player Ali Luft gets tangled with a defender from the opposing team.

Below: Colleen Kalland (26), Amy Schumacher (12), Liz Niemyska (20), Lauren Groebe (4), Kayley Bateman (18) and Maggie Baker (25) have all eyes on the pool.





Opposite right: Cassio Pera, a 141-pound senior, holds down Andover's Mike Parino from the mat at Huff Hall on Dec. 9. *Photo by J. Goguen*
Opposite left: Red-shirt freshman Petrick Bond (197 pounds) looks for an opening with Northwestern's Mike Tomlinow. *Photo by B. Vest*
Below: Junior Gabe Flores (125 pounds) celebrates after defeating Indiana's Angel Esola. *Photo by J. Blincoe*

MEN'S

WRESTLING

EIGHT GRAPPLERS EARN QUALIFYING BIDS TO NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Illini wrestlers entered the 2006-07 season at a crossroads. They lost five starting seniors from last season's squad that sent all 10 starters, the most in the nation, to the NCAA tournament.

With holes in half the Illini lineup, head coach Mark Johnson needed to combine his returning national qualifiers with untested grapplers.

"We have a lot of potential in this room," Johnson said. "This is one of our best freshmen classes."

The Illini used the annual Wrestle-Offs and early season open tournaments to round out the lineup.

At the Missouri Open during Thanksgiving break, the Illini had four first-place winners, and 11 other wrestlers placed in the top six of their classes. Sophomore Mike Poeta (157 pounds) earned his third-straight Missouri Open individual win. As the No. 1 seed in his weight class, Poeta won four-straight matches, including a defeat of Missouri's second-seeded Mike Chandler.

True freshmen Jimmy Kennedy (133) and John Dergo (184) both earned first place finishes in the open's freshman division and asserted themselves as viable options for the Illini's lineup.

The Illini ended December looking to win the Midlands Championship for a record fourth-consecutive time, but the field, which was filled with nine ranked opponents, proved too strong.

They finished sixth out of 56 competitors. Poeta and Kennedy provided bright spots for the squad.

Kennedy finished in second place after losing in the championship match against top-

ranked Nick Simmons of Michigan State.

Poeta upset the top-ranked Trent Paulson of Iowa State, 9-8 in the final match of the 157-pound weight class. After the match, Poeta was awarded the Dan Gable Most Outstanding Wrestler Award, and a week later was named Big

Ten Wrestler of the Week.

Poeta took the top spot in the national poll.

"Mike Poeta can be

as good as Mike Poeta

wants to be," Johnson

said. "He has the ability

to be the best."

The Illini entered

Big Ten play in January

undefeated and ranked

16th in the national rank-

ings. Returning national qualifi-

ers Gabe Flores (125), Cassio Pero (141), Troy Ti-

rapelle (149) and Poeta, combined with Kennedy,

Dergo, Roger Smith-Bergsruud (165), Matt Winter-

halter (174), Nick Guida (174), Patrick Bond (197)

and John Wise (HWT) helped to defeat then-No.8

Northwestern, No. 13 Indiana, No. 12 Penn State

and No. 23 Michigan State. The four wins in 10

days catapulted Illinois into the Top Ten in the

national rankings.

Going into the second week of February, the

Illini sat 4-1 in the conference, second only to top-

ranked Minnesota. Poeta remained atop the polls

with a record of 18-0.

"My goal coming into this year was not to be

ranked No. 1 or go undefeated; my goal was to

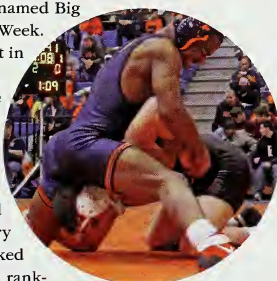
win a national title," Poeta said. "And if I'm unde-

feated throughout the year, that's a bonus."

The Illini closed out the season with a 19th-

place finish at the NCAA Tournament in Auburn

Hills, Mich.



STORY BY **MIKE THEODORE**
PHOTOS BY **BRAD VEST**
JOSH BIRNBAUM
JOHN PAUL GOGUEN

MEN'S WRESTLING RETROACTIVE

THE SCOREBOARD

NTS	Missouri Open
NTS	UNI Open
48-0	Cent. Missouri St.
38-6	Finalay
6th	Midlands
32-3	UNC
26-0	Maryland
21-13	Northwestern
22-13	Indiana
18-16	Michigan St.
12-28	Penn St.
29-7	Minnesota
21-16	Purdue
19-18	Wisconsin
7th	Ohio State
19th	Big Ten's
	NCAA's

WOMEN'S

BASKETBALL

YEAR ENDS WITH SECOND ROUND LOSS IN WNIT

Seventy had been a magical number for the Illinois women's basketball team until it lost to Michigan State on Feb. 4.

Despite the loss, the team feels it has already surpassed expectations this season with its 16-6 record and fourth-place showing in the Big Ten. It feels much of its success can be attributed to standout sophomore Lori Bjork and freshman Jenna Smith.

"We're growing as a team and coming into our own," assistant coach Stacie Terry said. "Even with the loss to Michigan State, we're starting to know where our shots are coming from and who's taking them."

Prior to losing to the Spartans, the Illini had an undefeated record when scoring 70 points or more in a game. Illinois was also the top free-throw shooting team in the Big Ten with an 81 percent accuracy rating.

"We played a good game, but when we had the opportunity to get ahead, we didn't make the plays we needed to," Terry said.

Missing free throws played a big factor in the game as the Illini managed to shoot only 46 percent from the line. Even with 19 points from Bjork and nine rebounds from Smith, Michigan State outplayed Illinois, winning 80-70.

"It's always tough to play on the road," sophomore Danielle Gratton said. "We played our part offensively, but we didn't beat them down defensively, and that's what got us in the end."

The defense may have been hindered in the Michigan State game, but offensively the team has a workhorse in Bjork, who ranks fourth in the Big Ten in points with 15.1 points per game. She also leads the team in three-

point shots, averaging 40.9 percent.

"People see her offensive stats and realize she can shoot the ball," Gratton said. "They don't realize how much she runs the team with her leadership and has a lot more responsibilities than scoring."

Since the losses of senior Audrey Tabon (ACL) and sophomore Megan Nyquist (back) to injury, Terry credits newcomer Smith with taking over many responsibilities. With an average of 10.9 points and 7.6 rebounds a game, Smith ranks as one of the top freshman in the Big Ten.

Even with strong performances on the court, Smith felt the transition from high school to college wasn't easy. The Bloomington, Minn., native admits that even now she is still going through a tough readjustment period.

"The Big Ten is such a competitive conference, and you have to bring your 'A-game' everyday," she said. "It makes it harder as well with all my friends and family being eight and a half hours away and not being here to support me."

Smith isn't the only young player on the team, as over half the team consists of underclassmen. Smith, however, thinks that this will play to Illinois' advantage in the long run.

"All the stars on Ohio State and Purdue are seniors," she said. "We don't just play to win, but to grow as a team as well."

Terry agrees with the assessment and feels the team has much to look forward to—now and in the future.

"They are all a bunch of team players," she said. "We're very happy with where we are."

STORY BY LIZ WEBER
PHOTOS BY ADAM BABCOCK



THE SCOREBOARD

74-65	Penn St.	61-70	Minnesota	70-51	Michigan	64-71	Indiana	70-62	Wisconsin	64-54	Minnesota	52-82	Ohio St.	77-49	Northwestern	65-44	Michigan	70-80	Michigan St.	57-69	Purdue	60-49	Ohio St.	74-69	Iowa	68-81	Indiana	56-46	Michigan St.	48-58	Purdue	49-61	Penn St. (BTT)	59-48	Utah (WNIT)	51-66	Kansas St. (WNIT)
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Opposite left: Freshman forward Lacey Simpson looks to shoot during the Orange and Blue Scrimmage.

Opposite right: Illinois guard Rebecca Harris drives past Butler's Jackie Closser during the second half of the season-opener at Assembly Hall.

Below: Chelsea Gordon drives past Clarion's Katrina Greer in a game of Assembly Hall.

MEN'S

BASKETBALL

INJURIES, SUSPENSION AND CAR CRASH IMPACT COURSE OF SEASON

During the 2006-07 campaign, the Illinois basketball team referred to themselves as the "walking wounded." They were the unwilling recipients of compounded injuries, a suspension, and also a car crash that left Jamar Smith and Brian Carlwell with severe concussions. Following the accident, Smith, the driver of the vehicle was treated and released, while Carlwell, was admitted to the intensive care unit of Carle Foundation Hospital in critical condition.



The car crash was the back-breaking event that left the Illini wondering how to rebound from its many setbacks, but it also aided them in their push for an NCAA tournament bid.

As the season began to unfold, the Illini had to learn how to survive without the likes of Dee Brown and James Augustine, who with 114 victories compiled the most of any other players in their four years with the team. The Utah Jazz's Brown left the Illini with a giant hole in the background, while senior Warren Carter was looked at to fill the shoes of best friend James Augustine, a forward with the Orlando Magic.

From the beginning, head coach Bruce Weber was unsure how his untested and young team would respond. He was unsure whether senior Rich McBride could fill his pre-determined leadership role, whether Carter would "chill" through the season or

continued...



THE SCOREBOARD

83-58 Lewis (Extr)
76-57 SIU (Extr)
80-35 Austin Peay
76-55 Jackson St.
85-50 Georgia St.
84-63 FAMU
81-34 Savannah St.
51-49 Miami (OH)
75-71 Bradley
66-72 Maryland
72-84 Arizona
87-59 IUPUI
71-66 UIC
77-51 Belmont
73-70 Missouri
71-60 Idaho State
59-65 Xavier
61-71 Michigan
44-62 Ohio State
74-70 Iowa
57-63 Michigan St.
64-52 Minnesota
64-71 Wisconsin
51-43 Indiana
47-64 Purdue
57-50 Michigan St.
59-49 Minnesota
58-43 Northwestern



Opposite Left: Illinois' Chester Frazier starts the offense during the first half of the University of Illinois at Chicago game. Photo By: Brad Vest.

Opposite Right: Illinois' head coach Bruce Weber yells down the court during the game against Minnesota at Assembly Hall. Photo By: Josh Birnbaum.

Above: Rich McBride drives the ball past a Michigan defender during the game at Assembly Hall. Photo By: Josh Birnbaum.

BASKETBALL CONTINUED

He was unsure whether senior Rich McBride could fill his pre-determined leadership role, if Carter would "chill" through the season, and whether Brian Randle could become the go-to guy Weber desperately needed.

Carter shed his highlight-player skin and began to become a regular contributor, although his aggressive nature was lacking some nights. Yet, after not playing much in his first three seasons, said his senior season was on a different spectrum than the first three.

"Personally, it's been a lot of fun at times," Carter said. "It just feels so much different compared to my first years. But as a team, we definitely had some good times; it's just been so shaky through all the injuries and everything so it's been a tough senior year, but I've still enjoyed a lot of it, though."

Although Carter came into his own earlier in the year, it took McBride nearly 10 games following his suspension to get into the sync with the Illini's offense. Weber, though, was impressed with the character McBride displayed in the second half of the year.

"Rich's progress as a person—and a player—has really been amazing; and now he's a pretty big man in the Big Ten," Weber said.

As well as McBride was able to finish his senior season, Randle's junior year could only be described as a disaster. The Peoria, Ill.-native missed nine games early

in the season after having groin surgery on Nov. 17. He then suffered through plantar fasciitis, which disrupted his normal style of play. By missing nearly 60 practices, he could no longer be the scorer the Illini needed. He instead had to focus on passing, screening and defense.

The Illini won their first seven games before falling to Maryland 72-66 at home on Nov. 28. The loss ended Illinois' 51-game non-conference home-winning streak.

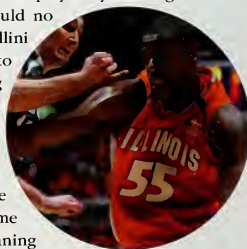
"We shouldn't lose at home," Weber said. "I don't care who's here or not. We gave up 72 percent (field goal shooting) in the second half. We've been pretty good; I understand the competition is different, but that shouldn't happen at home."

Illinois followed the Maryland defeat with a loss to Arizona in Phoenix in the Hall of Fame Challenge.

But the Illini's struggles were apparent as they opened Big Ten play on Jan. 3 against Michigan in Ann Arbor. The team opened its Big Ten stretch of the season with two straight losses and hardly looked like Illini teams of the past that had continually been ranked as one of the top three teams in the conference. One of the Illini's low points came on Jan. 20 when they lost to then-No. 2 Wisconsin, 71-64. Illinois had led 62-61 with 3:48 to play.

"To have a team like this down any points with two minutes to go and then not make some plays, it hurts," said a red and teary-eyed Randle. "We're all accountable; I think we all feel it, it's just one of those things where you feel like you should win a game, but we didn't make those plays."

STORY BY ERIN FOLEY
PHOTOS BY BRAD VEST
JOSH BIRNBAUM



THE SCOREBOARD

74-70	Iowa	64-52	Michigan St.
57-63	Michigan St.	64-71	Minnesota
51-43	Wisconsin	57-64	Indiana
57-50	Purdue	59-49	Michigan St.
58-43	Minnesota	47-64	Northwestern
61-65	Purdue	48-37	Indiana
54-42	Northwestern	68-50	Michigan
53-60	Penn State	63-60	Iowa
58-54(OT)	Penn St. (8T)	41-53	Indiana (8T)
52-54	Wisconsin (8T)		Virginia Tech (NCAA)



Opposite left: Senior Marcus Arnold attempts to shoot over Trent Meacham, left, and Brian Randle, right, during the annual Orange and Blue Scrimmage at Assembly Hall. Photo by J. Bimbaum

Opposite right: Junior Shaun Pruitt drives to the basket against a Michigan State defender. Photo by J. Bimbaum

Above: Junior Brian Randle chases a loose ball during second half action against UIC at the United Center. Photo by J. Bimbaum

ATHLETE PROFILE

WARRENCARTER

In his first three seasons with the Illini, Warren Carter averaged just 8.8 minutes per game and 1.9 points per game. Even with limited action on the court, though, Carter became an instant fan favorite at the Assembly Hall.



"He's one of the most likable guys in the country, hands down," said junior forward Brian Randle, who is also Carter's roommate.

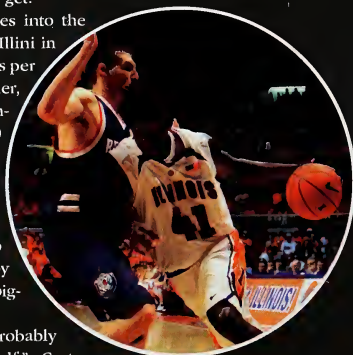
During the past three years, the expectations for the senior forward have been anything but sky high. He was always the role player, second tier to his best friend and former Illini James Augustine.

With a new hairstyle and a new attitude, Carter thinks he has exceeded the expectations that were set for him at the beginning of the year. He has embraced being the team's go-to scorer and leader and has shed his "chill" mentality, something that troubled head coach Bruce Weber at the outset of the 2006-07 season.

"I think I've exceeded my own expectations because I didn't even know if I was going to start this year," said Carter, a Dallas, Texas native. "I didn't even know if I was going to come close to averaging double figures: I didn't know how many minutes I was going to get."

Twenty-seven games into the season, Carter led the Illini in scoring with 13.2 points per game. Over the summer, Carter's bench press increased to nearly 300 pounds and ran the mile in 5:20. Most importantly, with an athletic six-foot-nine physique, Carter is no longer intimidated by some of the Big Ten's biggest bodies.

"I think I should probably expect more of myself," Carter said. "Now that I realize I can be one of the best players on the court, I just need to believe in myself and have the confidence to do it."



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY
PHOTOS BY BRAD VEST
AMELIA MOORE
JOSH BIRNBAUM



Opposite left: Warren Carter points to the crowd after scoring during a game at Assembly Hall. Photo by J. Bimbaum

Opposite right: Warren Carter attempts to drive past a Belmont defender in the Illini's 77-51 win Dec. 17 at Assembly Hall. Photo by B. Vest

Above: Warren Carter poses for a portrait during Media Day at the Ubben Basketball Complex on Oct. 13. Photo by A. Moore



Opposite left: Matt Ragusa, who placed fifth with a jump of 4.60 meters, clears the bar in the pole vault during the Carle/Health Alliance track and field meet on Jan. 27 at the Armory. Photo by J. Birnbaum

Opposite right: Azeez Shagbui competes in the 60 meter dash at the Armory. He placed sixth overall in the event. Photo by B. Vest

Above: Jon Houseworth rounds the corner with five laps left during the men's distance medley at the Armory. Photo by B. Vest

MEN'S TRACK

ILLINI EARN THREE BIG TEN TITLES TO CLOSE CONFERENCE SEASON



In its lone home meet of the outdoor season on April 15, the Illinois men's track and field team came away with four first-place finishes and two regional qualifiers.

Freshman Joey Hodges won the 400-meter hurdles in dominating fashion, while sophomore Lesiba Masheto took the 800 meters, defeating the second place runner by more than two seconds. In the distance events, the Illini experienced positive results, as well. Senior Jason Bill ran away with the 1,500 meters with a time of 3:54, and senior Tim Kelly held off the competition in the 5,000 meters with a 15:29.

"I felt that our performances were solid, and I felt that we still had quite a bit of work to do in a short period of time," head coach Wayne Angel said to the Daily Illini on April 17. "I am encouraged by the athletes' desire to do better."

After a disappointing 10th-place finish at the Big Ten Indoor Championships in February, the Illini looked to their outdoor campaign as an opportunity for redemption. Masheto's fifth-place time of 46.14, a career best, at the NCAA Championships highlighted the team's indoor season. The sophomore walked away from the meet with an All-America honor and became the new school record holder in the event.

"He capped off a great indoor season," Angel said in a DI article March 12. "He has got all the tools and his confidence level is just amazing."

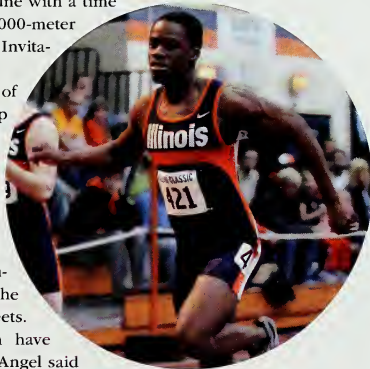
But, in its first outdoor meet of the year—the Willie Williams Classic in Tuscon, Ariz., on March 16 and 17—Illinois qualified seven of its team

members for the NCAA Regionals. Masheto continued his winning ways, but on a higher scale. His 45.41 in the 400-meters was a career-best time, and put him in first place among college athletes in the nation. Angel applauded Masheto's performance as one of the "best times in the world."

The Illini also got production from its veteran senior duo Anthony Young and Adrian Walker, who took first and second, in the 400-meter hurdles. Senior Bryan Pratt took third place in the 110-meter hurdles, junior Nick Brown took second in the triple jump and junior Andrew Zollner came in first place in the pole vault. Tramell Smith (first place in 800-meter run) and Trent Hoerr (first place in the 5,000-meter run) also provided bright spots. Hoerr also qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships in June with a time of 28:55 in the 10,000-meter run at the Stanford Invitational.

With a goal of finishing in the top three at the Big Ten Outdoor Championships, Angel hoped the Illini would be able to build on the seven regional qualifiers they had accumulated through the first two outdoor meets.

"Many of them have been there before," Angel said to the DI on March 27. "The veterans will do well, and the new people will do well."



STORY BY **ERIN FOLEY**
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**
BRAD VEST

MEN'S TRACK
RETROACTIVE

THE SCOREBOARD

1st of 8 Cane/Heath Alliance
10th of 10 Big Ten's (Indoor)
2nd of 12 SIU Invite
3th of 10 Big Ten's (Outdoor)

WOMEN'S TRACK

TEAM CLINCHES SHARE OF BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS TITLE

After a successful outing at the Illinois Invitational, the women's track and field team headed to the Kansas Relays looking to garner numerous accomplishments. Although the team traveled to Lawrence looking for regional qualifiers, it appreciated the distraction the meet provided.

"There's a lot of looking to get times, but it is the Kansas Relays," assistant coach Karen Harvey said in a Daily Illini article on Apr. 20. "It's fun to win a relay with four other people and to win a relay championship where the greatest relays meet in the country. It's a real privilege to win, so we came here to win."

During the previous weekend, the Illini saw a number of personal best times, including top marks in sprint events and the 1,500 meter run. Sophomore Katie Engel and freshman Angela Bizzarri took first and third place, respectively, in the mile-run with times of 4:24 and 4:28. Bizzarri also earned second place honors in the 800 meters (2:17) at the team's lone home meet of the season on Apr. 15.

"The 800 went well, I felt good at the end, so I was excited about that," Bizzarri told the DI on April 16. "It's definitely nice having a lot of people that are really good to push you, both in workouts and in races; it helps to run faster."

In the sprints, senior Yvonne Mensah won the 100 meters with an 11:42 and took second in the 200 meters with a time of 23.62. Both marks were

good enough to qualify for regionals. The trio of Camille Robinson, Carlene Robinson and Omoye Ugiagbe swept the 400 meters, while Kristina Jones won the triple jump with a distance of 12.45 meters, and LaNeisha Waller took home 100-meter hurdle honors, all to the delight of home-track crowd.

Waller and the Illini will employ a no-quit attitude as they gear up for the championship phase of the 2007 season. Although happy with her performance at the home meet, Waller thinks there is more to come.

"The team is definitely looking to qualify for nationals," Waller said. "First you just want to qualify for regionals and after you get past that, you want to be consistent with what you're already doing. Then you want to make it to nationals—that's the ultimate goal."

In 2005, the Illini celebrated a first-place team finish at the Big Ten Outdoor Championships, but followed it a year later with a fourth-place mark at the same event. It will look to achieve a balance between those rankings when it competes in the Big Ten meet in State College, Penn., on May 11 and 12 before heading to the NCAA Regionals in Columbia, Miss., during the final week of May.



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM
BECK DIEFFENBACH

THE SCOREBOARD

1st Carter Health Alliance
3rd Big Ten's (Indoor)
11th Big Ten's (Outdoor)



Above: Alecia Beckford-Stewart jumps in the long jump event during the Carter/Health Alliance Invite. Beckford-Stewart placed third with a jump of 5.71 meters. Photo by J. Birmbaum
Opposite left: Members of the women's track and field team compete in the 1,500 meters of the Illinois Invitational at the Outdoor Track and Soccer Stadium. Photo by B. Diefenbach
Opposite right: Jacqueline Ziegler clears the bar in the pole vault during the Carter/Health Alliance Invite at the Armory. Photo by J. Birmbaum

WOMEN'S GOLF

ILLINI CLAIM SIXTH PLACE AT BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Illinois women's golf team started off the fall campaign with a third-place finish at the Hawkeye Intercollegiate. The Illini were led by junior Stephanie Mory, who finished in seventh place individually to lead Illinois. Despite two 10th place finishes at the Lady Northern and the Lady Irish Invitational, Illinois looked to finish the fall season strong.

The Illini were able to wrap up a second-place finish out of 18 teams at the Shootout at the Legends. The Illini broke the Illinois school 54-hole tournament record with 890 strokes. Junior Seul Ki Park tied for second place individually in the tournament.

After a three month lay-off, the Illinois women's golf team had a solid start to the spring season, taking sixth place at the Chrysler Challenge.

Mory stepped up for the team with a 10th-place individual finish. Mory shot an Illinois tournament record-low round of 76 in the third round of play. Illinois head coach Renee Slone said she was impressed with Mory's performance.

"The last round she played far better than the score indicates," Slone said.

The Illini were without senior captain Meghan Naik, who had been out for a few weeks because of a hairline fracture in her ankle.

Slone said with the Chrysler Challenge being the first competition in almost three months, she knew the team would be rusty.

"The short game was not quite as sharp as I thought it would have been given the amount of time spent in that area," Slone said.

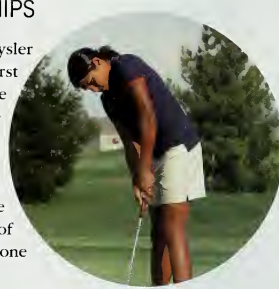
After a week off, the Illini placed 15th out of 18 teams at the Rio Verde Invitational. Park tied for 21st to lead the Illini individually. Despite Naik returning to play, they were without Mory, who sat out with an illness. Overall, Slone said she thought the team was capable of performing better.

"There were a lot of mental mistakes made as well as a lot of double and triple bogeys and even higher," Slone said. "Making high numbers like that is very hard to recover from."

The Illini traveled to Florida during Spring Break to compete in the two-day Cincinnati Spring Invitational. Illinois captured a fifth-place finish out of a field of nine teams. Park finished second, which led the Illini. Again, Slone said the Illini were capable of performing better.

"We had a very good chance to win the event," Slone said. "They've experienced a lot of success on this golf course."

STORY BY MEGHAN MONTEMURRO
PHOTOS COURTESY OF ILLINOIS SPORTS
INFORMATION



THE SCOREBOARD

3rd of 9 Hawkeye Intercollegiate
10th of 12 Lady Northern
11th of 18 Shootout at Legends
2nd of 18 Chrysler Challenge
6th of 10 Rio Verde
15th of 18 UC Spring Invite
3rd of 17 IU Invite
11th of 14 Lady Buckeye Invite
6th of 11 Big Ten's



Opposite left: Seul Ki Park drives the ball at practice.
Opposite right: Senior Meghan Naik practices putting during a practice at the beginning of the fall season.
Above: Casey Burden watches the ball during an early season practice.



Opposite right: Senior GD Jones returns a ball during a singles match at Atkins Tennis Center in Urbano. Photo by P. Traylor

Opposite left: Brandon Davis returns the ball against Texas A&M. Illinois defeated the Aggies, 6-1. Photo by B. Diefenbach

Above: Illinois' Ruben Gonzales returns the serve in the doubles competition against Duke. Photo by B. Vest

MEN'S TENNIS

JUNIOR TANDEM CONTINUES RISE TO THE TOP OF THE RANKS

The Illinois men's tennis team celebrated its 100th season in 2007. After losing seniors Ryler De-Heart and Pramod Dabir to graduation, the Illini looked to remain among one of the best in college tennis. In 2006, the Illini failed to win the Big Ten regular season championship for the first time in a decade.

In 2007, though, it was about creating a complement of experienced players. Leading the way were juniors Kevin Anderson and Ryan Rowe, who won the doubles national championship in 2006, along with junior Ruben Gonzales.

After winning seven of their first eight matches in the spring, the Illini were off to a good start. Rowe moved up to the No. 2 singles spot after occupying the No. 4 spot in 2006. Prior to Feb. 11, he had lost just a single set in seven matches. Winning both singles and doubles against No. 20 Texas A&M earned him his first Big Ten Player of the Week award. He then rebounded from a disappointing doubles performance against No. 7 Florida to handily defeat Greg Oullette, the No. 16 tennis player in the country, 7-6 (2), 6-3.

"That's a great win for Ryan," head coach Brad Dancer said in a Daily Illini article on Feb. 15. "I saw some emotional maturity from him. I think Ryan tonight took a step in being a leader for this team."

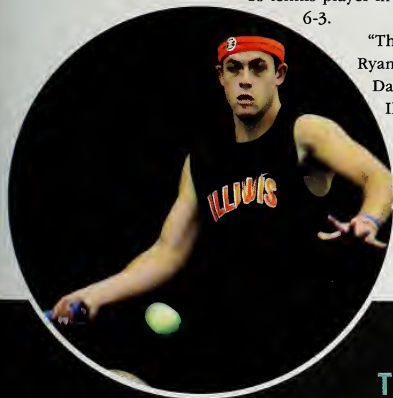
The Illini opened Big Ten play on Mar. 2 against a pesky Michigan State team, but was able to win, 7-0. They may have lost three sets, but the Illini didn't lose a match. Junior Brandon Davis won the first victories of the night in singles and doubles. He, along with Gonzales, won at second doubles.

"Brandon Davis did a great job of teaming with Ruben Gonzales in doubles to help set the tone, and then took care of business in singles," Dancer said.

Following up the win against Michigan State was one over Purdue, 6-1, and against Wisconsin, 5-2. One of its best trips of the season came over spring break when it traveled to Baton Rouge to take on No. 10 LSU. The team, though, suffered a close loss with Gonzales sitting out with an undisclosed injury, becoming the third Illini singles player to face an injury. It didn't affect them against some Big Ten opponents, but it did against LSU, 4-3. Sophomore Marc Spicijaric and senior GD Jones were able to pull out their singles matches, but the team was not able to claim the doubles point.

"(It was) very disappointing to lose today," Dancer said. "The score is not indicative of the effort the guys gave."

STORY BY ERIN FOLEY
PHOTOS BY BRAD VEST
BECK DIEFENBACH
PATRICK TRAYLOR



THE SCOREBOARD

4-3	Pepperdine
7-0	Ball State
2-5	Virginia
6-1	Duke
4-2	Tennessee
6-1	Texas A&M
6-1	Florida
4-2	Oklahoma St.
2-4	UCLA
0-4	Baylor
7-0	Michigan St.
6-1	Purdue
5-2	Wisconsin
3-4	LSU
6-1	Northwestern
2-5	Notre Dame
7-0	Kentucky
2-5	Michigan
5-2	Penn State
0-7	Indiana
6-1	Ohio State
6-1	Minnesota
4-1	Iowa
4-1	Purdue
1-4	Michigan
	Ohio State

WOMEN'S TENNIS

FRESHMAN MEGHAN FUDGE EMERGES AS TEAM'S MVP



With three freshmen and a first-year head coach in Michelle Dasso, the Illinois women's tennis team had a number of new faces at the Atkins Tennis Center in 2007. Dasso came to Illinois after making a name for herself at Notre Dame as the most decorated player in the school's history and an assistant coach capable of recruiting the sport's top talent. Although the team roster consisted of only seven players — senior Emily Wang, juniors Alejandra Meza Cuadra and Momei Qu, sophomore Shivani Dave and freshmen Leigh Finnegan, Megan Fudge and Kristina Minor — it looked to improve upon its 8-15 overall finish (3-9 in Big Ten play) from 2006.

Following a 4-3 victory against Marquette in Milwaukee, the Illini opened their spring season with eight home matches. After losing to Notre Dame and Tennessee 7-0, the Illini won 7-0 against Illinois-Chicago. That success was short-lived as they then lost the next four matches to No. 25 William and Mary, No. 1 Georgia Tech, Purdue and Washington. During that stretch, they were without two of their top players. Both Fudge and Finnegan suffered from foot injuries. After a standout fall season, Finnegan was not expected to return for the spring portion.

"Overall, this weekend we just got outplayed," said Dasso in a Feb. 12 Daily Illini article after falling to William and Mary and Georgia Tech. "We have played a tough schedule, and are down a few people from our lineup, so I don't want the girls to get down on their confidence."

Dasso said she wanted her team to forget about its losses and learn from them, but trying to win its Big Ten opener against Purdue on Feb. 23 was easier said than done. The Illini lost 6-1, but

Fudge returned to the lineup's No. 1 singles spot and defeated the Boilermakers top singles player, and two days later, defeated Washington's top player, Tara Simpson in two sets, 7-5 and 6-4.

"The energy that she brings to the court definitely gives us a different look when she's in the lineup," said Dasso of Fudge.

The team broke out of its slump on Mar. 7 against Illinois State, winning 6-1. Illinois clinched the match after Dave was able to beat her No. 3 singles opponent 6-1 and 6-4. Dasso said Dave stepped up at a big moment for the Illini.

"She clinched it for us today in a tight, close second set," Dasso told the Daily Illini on Mar. 8. "It was huge for her, and we're really proud of her."

Over Spring Break, the Illini traveled to Texas for match-ups with the University of Houston, the University of

Texas and the University of Texas at San Antonio. The trip, though, didn't go exactly as planned as Illinois lost two of its three matches.

On the last leg of their tour, the Illini won a 4-2 effort against Texas-San Antonio during the rain-delayed match. The Illini concluded their season with a first-round loss in the Big Ten Championships in Minneapolis on Apr. 26-29 and the NCAA Regionals, which began May 11.



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY
PHOTOS BY ROXANA RYAN
JOSH BIRNBAUM

THE SCOREBOARD

4-3	Marquette	0-7	Notre Dame	7-0	Tennessee	1-6	UIC	0-7	William & Mary	1-6	Georgia Tech	3-4	Purdue	6-1	Washington	3-4	Illinois State	0-7	Houston	4-2	Texas	2-5	San Antonio	0-7	Michigan State	4-3	Northwestern	3-4	Wisconsin	0-7	Penn State	2-5	Michigan	3-4	Indiana	1-6	Ohio State	2-5	Iowa	0-4	Minnesota		Minnesota (BT)
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Opposite left: Freshman Megan Fudge returns the ball in a doubles match against Louisville during the Midwest Blast Tournament.

Photo by J. Birnbaum

Opposite right: Shivani Davé returns the ball in a doubles match against Northern Illinois during the Midwest Blast Tournament. Davé and partner beat the Northern pair, 9-7.

Photo by J. Birnbaum

Opposite left: Mamei Gu returns a serve against Michigan State.

Photo by R. Ryan





Opposite right: Kevin Anderson returns the ball against USA's Zack Fleishman during the Atkins Challenge.
Photo by J. Birnbaum

Opposite left: Kevin Anderson returns the ball during a singles match against Florida's Jesse Levine at Atkins Tennis Center.
Photo by B. Dierkenbach

Above: Kevin Anderson returns the ball in a quarterfinal singles match against USA's Zack Fleishman during the United States Tennis Association Challenger Tournament.
Photo by J. Birnbaum

ATHLETE PROFILE

KEVIN ANDERSON

As one of only two current Illini athletes to have won an NCAA Championship, Kevin Anderson has experienced his share of success. Last season as a sophomore, Anderson teamed with Ryan Rowe to become the third Illini doubles tandem to win the NCAA doubles title. The duo concluded the 2005-06 campaign with a 32-2 overall doubles record.

The Johannesburg, South Africa native was named the Big Ten Athlete of the Week on Jan. 25 after scoring a tough win over the then-No. 33 ranked player in the country, Andre Bege-mann of Pepperdine, the previous Friday. It may have been the third time Anderson received a reward of its kind, but says he doesn't pay attention to those types of honors.

"I actually had no idea," Anderson told the Daily Illini on Jan. 26. "It's always good to be recognized for my past performance, but that's come and gone, and I'm just thinking about my next match."

Since winning the national championship on May 29, head coach Brad Dancer said Anderson has improved in a number of areas during the off-season and into the indoor season.

"His footwork continues to improve, his swing speed is improving, and his mental tenacity is improving," Dancer said. "He's still got to work on all the little things, but each aspect of his game continues to improve."

That improvement was on display when the then-No. 7 Florida Gators traveled to the Atkins Tennis Center. Anderson, the Illini's No. 1 player, took on Jesse Levine in a marquee match-up featuring the two highest ranked ATP college players. Anderson, however, lost the match 7-6, 6-4 but not before going to a tiebreak in the first set.



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM
BECK DIEFENBACH

Opposite right: Illinois' Ryan Hastings slides across home plate against Bradley. Photo by B. Vest

Opposite left: Ryan Snowden, left, and Nick Stockwell high-five teammates after winning the first game of a doubleheader against Ohio State. Photo by J. Birnbaum

Below: Illinois' Ryan Snowden splits for try again during the first game of a doubleheader against Ohio State at Illinois Field. Photo by J. Birnbaum



MEN'S

BASEBALL

DESPITE EARLY STRUGGLES, ILLINI RETURN TO WINNING WAYS

A little over halfway through the 2007 season, the Illinois baseball team had experienced a variety of ups and downs.

Illinois began the season struggling, losing seven of its first nine games before finally turning things around with a strong spring trip to Bradenton, Fla. During that trip, the Illini won six of seven games and got back on track for the first time in the season.

With a 16-14 overall record and 6-4 record in the Big Ten as of April 19, the Illini are heading into the home stretch of the Big Ten season.

Leading the way for the Illini so far this season has been junior catcher Lars Davis.

Going into Illinois' Big Ten series at Iowa on April 20-22, Davis is leading not only the team, but also the Big Ten in hitting. Davis' seven home runs this season rank first in the Big Ten and his .456 batting average is not only best in the Big Ten, but is one of the top 10 in the entire country.

The Canadian born catcher is strong at the plate, but also behind it. Davis is tied for the conference lead in catching base stealers, throwing out 13 would-be base stealers this season.

"Lars has learned to be more patient this year and has been putting good swings on pitches that are up in the zone that he has been able to drive,"

head coach Dan Hartleb said. "He's also done a tremendous job behind the plate, which often times gets over-

looked since he's hitting so well."

Luckily for Davis, he doesn't have to deal with trying to throw out Illini senior shortstop Shawn Roof.

So far this season, Roof has stolen a conference-leading 24 bases on 28 attempts, improving his career-stolen base total to 49, which ranks tied for eighth in school history.

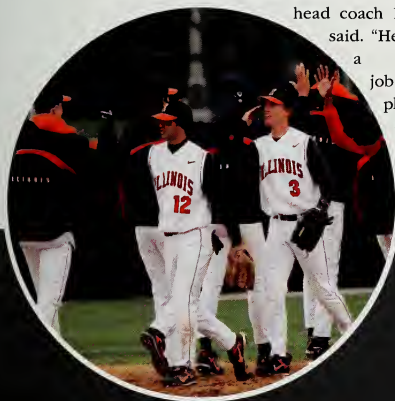
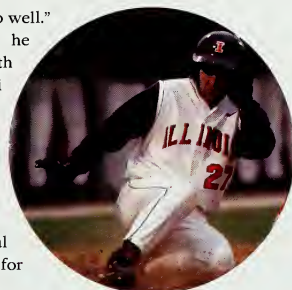
"You always know Shawn is going to be aggressive on the bases; he doesn't even think twice about running," Hartleb said.

With Roof's speed and Davis' bat the Illini are in contention once again to make their third consecutive appearance in the Big Ten Tournament at seasons end.

The Illini have put themselves in good position to make a run at the postseason as they head into their fourth Big Ten series at Iowa in third-place in the Big Ten with a 6-4 conference record.

With three Big Ten home series left on the schedule, the Illini are hoping they can perform well enough to the point where they wouldn't have to leave their backyard for the Big Ten Tournament.

"This is an important time for us as a team," Hartleb said. "We've gotten through some things early on in the season so far, and we're better as a team. I think we're very capable of doing well in the Big Ten, and it's something I expect us to do."



STORY BY JASON GRODSKY
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM
BRAD VEST

THE SCOREBOARD

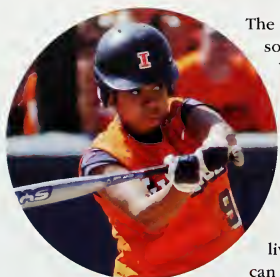
2-2 Purdue
1-1 Ohio State
3-1 Northwestern
1-3 Iowa
1-3 Minnesota
2-2 Michigan
4-0 Indiana

BASEBALL RETROACTIVE

WOMEN'S

SOFTBALL

ILLINI RALLY FOR DRAMATIC COMEBACKS NUMEROUS TIMES



The Illinois softball team made some noise in the 2007 season by crushing the ball and putting on a display of power all year. The Illini had one of the top ranked offenses in the nation and also led the NCAA in home runs.

"All of our players can hit," head coach Terri Sullivan said. "One through nine can change the game with one swing."

Illinois started off the season by escaping snow-covered Champaign for the warmer climates of tournaments out West and in the South.

The Illini faced tough competition early in the season, competing against several highly ranked teams, including a few teams ranked in the top five nationally.

The marquee game of the tournament tour came against the Texas A&M Aggies in College Station, Texas. Illinois faced the No. 4-ranked Aggies in front of their home crowd of more than 1,000 fans in the feature game of the tournament.

"We came out tough and ready to play them," senior Sydney Lisy said. "We weren't going to just lie down and let them run all over us."

Under the lights of the stadium, the Illini led most of the game and held the national champion contenders in check by taking a three-run lead into the last inning.

"They had a lot of rowdy fans there and it was nice to shut them up by leading most of the game on their home field," Lisy said.

The potential upset was cut short when Texas A&M pulled out a win with a walk-off grand slam.

Although the team was upset about the loss, Sullivan said it knew that after that game it could compete with any team in the nation.

The team carried its hot play into the Big Ten season as it fought hard to place themselves in the middle of the race for the conference championship.

"We have experience in the infield and a young pitching staff who wants to compete," junior infielder Shanna Diller said.

Catcher Lana Armstrong and shortstop Angelena Mexicano helped fuel the high-powered Illini attack, leading the team in home runs all season.

Freshman pitchers Vicky Brown and Ashley Wright commanded the defense and pitched several solid innings leading Illinois to many of its victories.

With the Big Ten season coming to an end, the Illini looked to combine their youthful pitching and powerful hitting in a consistent attack to close the gap on the Big Ten rivals.



STORY BY KYLE BETTS
PHOTOS BY BRAD VEST
BECK DIEFENBACH

THE SCOREBOARD

1-1	Purdue
1-1	Indiana
2-0	Michigan St.
1-1	Michigan
0-2	Ohio St.
2-0	Penn St.
1-1	E. Illinois
4-5	W. Illinois
2-3	DePaul
0-2	Northwestern
5-0	Bradley
6-7	Iowa
0-4	Michigan (BTT)

Opposite left: Infielder Angelena Mexicano takes a swing during the game against DePaul at Eichelsberger Field. Photo by B. Diefenbach

Opposite right: Catcher Lano Armstrong, left, talks with pitcher Ashley Wright after Wright overthrew the ball to first base during the second game of a double header against Michigan. Photo by B. Vest

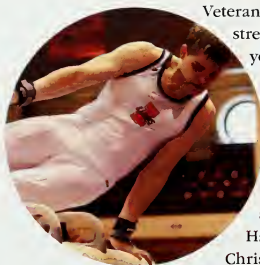
Below: Infielder Shanna Diller watches the ball during the bottom of the fourth inning against the University of Illinois at Chicago at Eichelsberger Field. Photo by B. Diefenbach



MEN'S

GYMNASTICS

FOUR ILLINI EARN ALL-AMERICAN HONORS AT NATIONALS



Veteran leadership was a team strength in 2006 when four-year standouts Adam Pummer and Justin Spring helped lead the Illini to a second-place NCAA finish. Their graduation, though, allowed a young wave of Illinois gymnasts to surface in 2007. Juniors Wes Haagensen, Tyler Yamauchi, Chris Silcox and Jon Drollinger were ready for the challenge.

"I know with Justin (Spring) and Adam (Pummer) going out, people are going to have to step up and fill those spots," said Haagensen after being named Big Ten and National Gymnast of the Week in January.

Spring's presence as a full-time assistant coach allowed him to guide and teach his former teammates. But on the mats, a new group of promising gymnasts emerged.

The team's sophomore class of Chris Lung, Michael Boyer, Kyle Padera, Nick Stango and Tyler Williamson were steady when they got their chances. Boyer and Silcox battled to be the loudest supporter of their teammates.

Freshman Chad Wiest led his class, which also included Brian Liscovitz, Andres Saavedra, and Luke Stannard, who rebounded from an early-season injury to compete on pommel horse and high bar before the end of the season.

It was a squad that, as the season progressed, started coming together.

"We're finally realizing, 'Hey, we can do this,'" junior captain Michael Boyer said after the Illini's first dual meet win over Iowa on March 3. "We're a team that has national potential, and I think at the beginning of the year there was some doubt about that. Finally, we're having routines click."

The team started the season strong with an impressive first-meet score of 209 in the Windy City Invite. Haagensen pulled in the floor exercise title and placed fourth and fifth on parallel bars

and vault, respectively. It was the first of many impressive meets for the Belleville, Ill., native.

"Certainly he's a threat to win the NCAA All-Around Championship this year and be the number one gymnast in the country," head coach Yoshi Hayasaki said.

Haagensen, who finished first in the All-Around at the Big Ten Championships, and Yamauchi were weekly standouts. Yamauchi, though, waited until the March 3 dual meet to unload all his tools. In the competition against Iowa, Yamauchi scored a 9.6 on rings, a 9.3 on parallel bars, and was later named the Big Ten's Gymnast of the Week.

"It's a great honor, but it's just one of those things where you have to say, 'It's about time,'" he said. "Everyone on the team is good enough to win one, but it's time I showed what I could do."

The Illini struggled through losses to Minnesota, Penn State, and Michigan, but were always quick to say that the final measure of their season would be the Big Ten (March 30-31) and NCAA Championships (Apr. 12-14).

The final month of the season from the Pacific Coast Invite (Feb. 24) to the team's overwhelming win against Illinois-Chicago (Mar. 17) 210.000 – 193.050 was used as valuable preparation for the championships.

"We've had that mentality all along," Yamauchi said. "Now, we're starting to put everything together. We have a lot of room for improvement, but we're definitely on the right track."



STORY BY JEFF LA BELLE
PHOTOS BY ADAM BABCOCK
JOSH BIRNBAUM
ROXANA RYAN

RETROACTIVE MEN'S GYMNASTICS

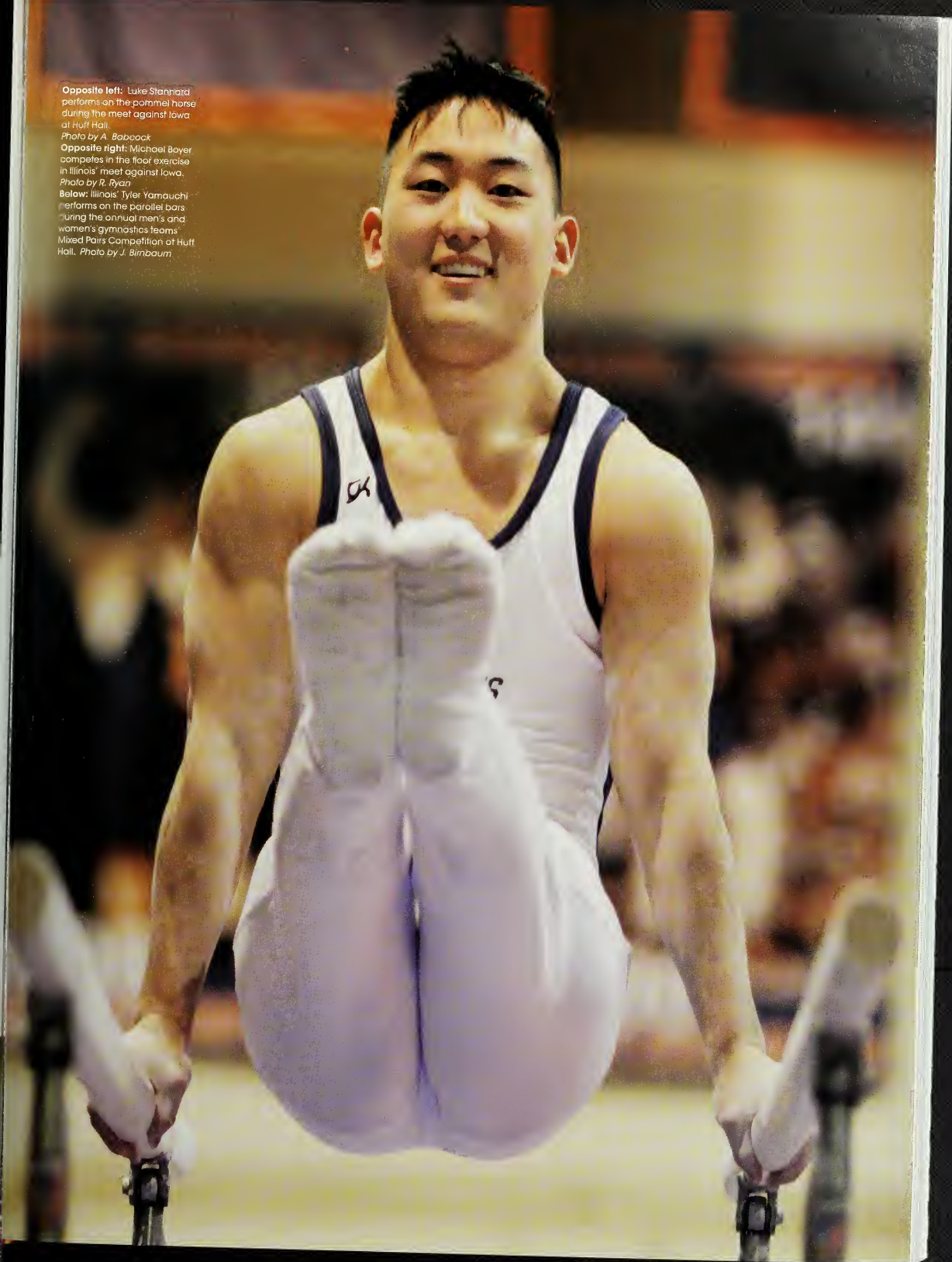
THE SCOREBOARD

2nd of 6 Windy City Invite
204.750-207.150 Minnesota
211.050-214.700 Ohio State
205.250-220.150 Penn State
5th of 6 Pacific Coast Invite
214.950-209.200 Iowa
212.500-216.350 Michigan
5th of 6 Big Ten Championships
5th NCAA Championships

Opposite left: Luke Stannard performs on the pommel horse during the meet against Iowa at Huff Hall.

Photo by A. Babcock
Opposite right: Michael Boyer competes in the floor exercise in Illinois' meet against Iowa.

Photo by R. Ryan
Below: Illinois' Tyler Yamauchi performs on the parallel bars during the annual men's and women's gymnastics teams' Mixed Pairs Competition at Huff Hall. Photo by J. Birnbaum



WOMEN'S

GYMNASTICS

ILLINI FINISH SEASON WITH HIGHEST RANKING IN SCHOOL HISTORY

Heading into the Big Ten Championships, the Illinois women's gymnastics team had experienced mixed results.



With a veteran squad featuring three seniors and two juniors, the Illini opened their season with losses at Missouri and LSU. Just as quickly, though, they managed two close wins against Iowa and Ohio State at Huff Hall.

With the help of freshman Nicole Cowart's career-best 9.8 floor exercise score, the Illini narrowly defeated the then-No. 19 Buckeyes 194.950 to 194.000. In addition to Cowart's floor exercise, she scored a personal-best 9.775 on the uneven bars to earn the all-around title.

"With a couple of meets under her belt, she is really beginning to find herself, and I think she is going to be a key factor in determining how well we do toward the end of the season," said head coach Bob Starkell in the Daily Illini on Feb. 5.

After a disappointing performance in Ann Arbor, Mich., against Michigan and Nebraska on Feb. 9, the Illini saw their battle against No. 18 Michigan State the following week as a second chance. Heading into the meet wanting redemption proved beneficial as the Illini topped the Spartans 194.700-193.92 in their first road victory. The team also welcomed back senior Danye Botterman, who injured her foot earlier in the year.

"Danye's presence while competing is much stronger than Danye sitting on the sidelines and cheering," Starkell said in the Daily Illini on Feb. 23.

One of the highest points of the season came on Feb. 26 when Illinois posted a season-high score of 195.925 against Northern Illinois and displayed its potential in front of nearly 500 fans.

"Even though we came in second, I feel that we are a lot closer to reaching our full potential, so I am really excited," Cowart said.

For Starkell, he was happy to see the improved performances from the Illini's sophomore class. Sophomore Marijka Botterman finished third in the all-around with a score of 38.875, while sophomore Lindsey Smith added a 9.850 on vault.

"Looking at all four events, I feel that we had a real strong performance, and there was no class that did not step up," Starkell said after the meet.

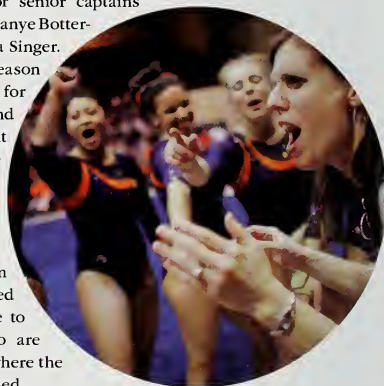
After such a high in the meet against Northern Illinois, Starkell said he didn't want to see the Illini become complacent when it traveled to Normal, Ill., to take on Illinois State and Wisconsin-LaCrosse. They came in as the heavy favorite, No. 23 in the country, and they didn't disappoint. Aside from some small mistakes, Illinois took first place in every event.

The Illini's final home meet of the season also was the last for senior captains

Cara Pomeroy, Danye Botterman and Melissa Singer.

It wasn't the season the three hoped for as Botterman and Singer both sat out much of the season with injuries. But with a 19th-place ranking, the highest the team had been ranked since they came to Illinois, the trio are pleased to see where the program is headed.

"We have a good shot at going to nationals this year," Singer said. "But I hope that the younger girls appreciate where this team has come from."



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY

PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM
ADAM BABCOCK
BECK DIEFFENBACH

THE SCOREBOARD

191.025-194.025	Missouri
193.300-193.850	LSU
194.175-193.350	Iowa
194.950-194.000	Ohio State
3rd of 3	Michigan/Nebraska
194.700-193.925	Michigan State
2nd of 3	Iowa State/N. Illinois
1st of 3	Illinois State/IUW-LaCrosse
195.975-195.775	Auburn
195.625-194.750	Denver
3rd of 4	State of Illinois Classic
3rd of 7	Big Ten Championships
4th of 6	South Central Regional



Opposite left: Cara Pomeroy competes in the beam portion of a match against University of Illinois-Chicago. Pomeroy received a score of 9.775 on the beam, helping the Illini defeat UIC, 195-625 to 193-975. Photo by B. Diefenbach.

Opposite right: The women's gymnastics team gets fired up before a meet. Photo by J. Birnbaum.

Above: Illinois gymnast Krystle Melcorek performs on the uneven parallel bars. Photo by A. Bobcock.

• 2006-2007

FIGHTING ILLINI

TEAM PHOTOS



VARSITY CHEERLEADING

Front row: Assistant Coach Amy Glenn, Sarah Presser, Tennille Waggoner, Katie Warrell, Katie Harden, Maghan Wilkosz, Andrea Kowolysyn, Natalie Keable, Kelli Kluga, Eliso Giovash, Kristin Rine, Heather Mahassek, Anne Fennell, Margan Martin, Head Coach Stephanie Record. **Back row:** Assistant Coach Nick Gaines, John Flanagan, John Polivka, David Plumley, Drew Sullivan, Scott Anthony, Dean Orzowski, Jim Jackson, Don Ellis, Jamie Ellis, Sean Kline, Jimmy Winters. Not pictured: Assistant Coach Brooke Hartman.



MEN'S BASEBALL

Front row: Dominic Altobelli, Nick Stockwell, Joke Mothis, Craig Lutes, Lors Davis, Donny Schroeder, Mike Rahde, Tonner Roark, Luke Obukowicz. **Second row:** Ryan Snowden, Joe Banadanno, Blake Foirchild, Joke Toohey, Aaron Ifft, Mott Dittmon, Lee Zerrusen, Billy Borrett, Scott Show. **Third row:** Ben Reeser, Aaron Martin, Daniel Webb, Ryan Hastings, Omar Kodir, Brandon Wikoff, Kyle Hudson, Brian Long. **Back row:** Volunteer Assistant Coach Dove Schultz, Assistant Coach Ken Westray, Head Coach Dan Hartleb, Joe Mercuria, Michael Giller, Kevin Mansan, Blake Hopkins, Jonathon Smiley, Mike Stonkiewicz, Chris Montgomery, Ty Milner, Mike Sterk, Shawn Roof, Assistant Coach Eric Snider, Volunteer Assistant Coach Brett Herbisian, Athletic Trainer Mott Fitterer. Not pictured: Derrick McPheerson.



WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

Front row: Makenzie Smith, Lono Armstrong, Katie Gailras, Vicky Brawn, Braake Buzard, Molly Lowhead, Sorah Bryers. **Back row:** Angelena Mexicano, Ashley Wright, Bailey Behrens, Christine Christopoulos, Claire DeVreese, Brittany Koester, Shanna Diller, Kisten Martin, Katrino Ross, Sydney Lisy, Hope Howell.



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Front row: Athletic Trainer Al Martindale, Chester Frasier, Calvin Brack, Trent Meacham, Rich McBride, Chris Hicks, Jamar Smith, Strength Coach Jimmy Price. **Back row:** Assistant Coach Jay Price, Assistant Coach Wayne McClain, Head Coach Bruce Weber, Brian Randle, Shaun Pruitt, Brian Cartwell, Richard Semrau, CJ Jackson, Marcus Arnold, Warren Carter, Graduate Assistant Coach Jeremy Izza, Assistant to the Head Coach Gary Nottingham, Assistant Coach Tracy Webster.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Front row: Megan Nyquist, Chelsea Gardon, Assistant Coach Blaine Patterson, Assistant Coach Stacie Terry, Head Coach Theresa Grentz, Associate Head Coach Marsha Frese, Assistant to the Head Coach Diane Habin, Lori Bjark, Rebecca Harris. **Back row:** Lacey Simpson, Victoria Arndt, Erin Wigley, Jenna Smith, Erin McCarthy, Audrey Taban, Stephanie Chelleen, Danyel Crutcher, Danielle Grattan.



MEN'S GOLF

Front row: Kyle Hasick, Zach Barlow, Andy Shiels, Mark Ogren, Frank Alafaginis, Patrick Nagle. **Back row:** Clayton Parkhill, Matt Hoffman, Head Coach Mike Small, Jan Krick, Danny Zimmerman, Andy Mack.



WOMEN'S GOLF

Front row: Casey Burden, Kristin Kallergis, Kelsey O'Neal, Seul Ki Park, Christine Caak. **Back row:** Undergraduate Assistant Coach Megan Godfrey, Head Coach Renee Slone, Meghan Naik, Stephanie Mary, Nancy Featherstone.



MEN'S GYMNASTICS

Front row: Assistant Coach Adam Pummer, Assistant Jon Valdez, Head Coach Yoshi Hayasaki, Assistant Coach Justin Spring. **Second row:** Tyler Yamauchi, Wes Haagensen, Tyler Williamson, Kyle Padera, Brian Lisovitz, Chris Silcox, Nick Stango, Athletic Trainer Angie Miller. **Back row:** Chad Wiest, Luke Stannard, Michael Boyer, Ross Bradley, Brian Hulbert, Chris Lung, Jon Drollinger.



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

Front row: Marijka Botterman, Nicole Cowart, Ursula Orozco, Lindsey Smith, Laura Woolf, Julie Crall. **Back row:** Cara Pomeroy, Melissa Singer, Sarah Schmidt, Kim Kruk, Daniye Botterman, Lori Hamilton, Krystal Melcarek, Michelle McGrady.



WOMEN'S SOCCER

Front row: Paulo Foherty, Shannon McDonnell, Kristy Weeks, Christina Schily, Quinn Reynolds, Jessica Bayne, Courtney Bell, Head Coach Janet Rayfield. **Second row:** Chichi Nweke, Mari Desjarlais, Eva Strickland, Lindsey Carstens, Ashley Varns, Alexandra Kapicka, Brittany Garrett, Jessica Levitt, Charlotte Coake, Assistant Coach Dale Armstrong. **Back row:** Student athletic trainer Jessica Humbach, Manager Billy Barnes, Athletic Trainer Caroline Johnson, Jackie Santocoterina, Jamie Alvis, Emily Pickard, Mary Therese McDannell, Kara Gastisha, Emily Zurrer, Ella Masar, Assistant Coach Marcia McDermatt, Student Assistant Coach Natasha Korniski, Student Athletic Trainer Sherrie Knutsen.



WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

Front row: Head Coach Sue Navitsky, Sr. diver Jackie Bain, Fr. Amy Forsberg, Sr. Jessica Rathenberg, Jr. diver Abbey Bernardo, So. Ali Keehn, Fr. Morgan Gilman, Fr. diver Kyla Bachtell. **Second row:** Fr. Emily Mycyk, So. Katie Theissen, Sr. Meghan Farrell, Jr. Meghan Bradley, Fr. Jen Ivarson, So. Lindsey Shirley, Fr. CeCe Marizu, Fr. Andrea Grandcolas. **Third row:** Fr. Kelly Smithwick, Fr. Amy Johnson, Fr. Anno Johnson, Jr. Mallory Craft, Jr. Kelly Funk, Sr. Leigh Ann Tracy, Fr. diver Nikki Spillone, Fr. Kristen Klockener. **Fourth row:** Fr. Courtney Spivak, So. Jana Banava, Fr. Annie Nawak, Sr. Caroline Moore, Jr. Kellie Stevens, So. Marissa Clapp, Sr. Michelle Grandcolas, So. diver Lauren Griffin. **Back row:** Diving Coach Chris Waters, So. Mallory Meyer, Sr. Becca Poetz, Fr. Bailey Hatch, Sr. Bobbie Viney, Associate Head Coach Steve Farnau.



MEN'S TENNIS

Assistant Coach Kent Kinnear, Marc Spicijario, Brandon Davis, Kevin Anderson, Ryan Rowe, Sasha Kharkevitch, GD Jones, Billy Heiser, Head Coach Brad Dancer.



WOMEN'S TENNIS

Head Coach Michelle Dassa, Mamei Qu, Leigh Finnegan, Megan Fudge, Kristina Minor, Emily Wang, Shivani Davé, Alejandra Meza Cuadra, Assistant Coach David Emery.



MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Front Row (L-R): Jacob Nachel, Dan Stock, Matt Fishery, Allister Ross, Pierre Bush, Jeremy Stevens, Jan Hausewarth, Scott Phelps. **Second Row (L-R):** Steve Rogers, Maciej Sniegarski, Scott Puhse, Brad Topol, Sean Muldaan, Brian Beaire, Jay Marcum, Joey Hedges, Durrell Williams, Anthony Young, Brian Pratt, Coach Mike Turk, Coach Wendel McRaven. **Third Row (L-R):** Michael Murray, Alex Genseal, Matthew McHugh, Andrew Zollner, Russell Ward, Jan Popejoy, Brian Dryer, Jason Bill, Casey Fannesbeck, John Adamczyk, Jeremy Krudinier, Dominique Warsley, Nick Brown, Justin Aranson, Robert Hoch, Timothy Maier, Tim Entwistle, Paul Johnson, John McAndrew, Tim Kelly, Adrian Walker, Michael Kelly, Travis Leonard, Trammel Smith, Head Coach Wayne Angel. **Fourth Row (L-R):** Trent Haerr, Isiah Robbins, Robert Pykasz, Eric DiSilvestra, James Keller, Greg Shraga.



WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Front row: Jamie Bruea, Amanda Pintara, Theresa Brakwa, Tiara Armstrong, Verity Armstrong, Mary Pat Chaules, Angela Bizzari, Abby Shunk, Kaitlyn Eisner-Paar, Pam Wolf, Allison Dale, Stephanie Simms. **Second row:** Liz Mengyan, Olabisi Adesida, Shannan Phelan, Alandra Cooper, Alecia Beckford-Stewart, Edirin Davis, Stephanie Otuwa, Ashley Thomas, Rachel Wyffels. **Third row:** Stephanie Meyers, Katie Cappin, Katie Engel, Carlene Robinson, Samantha Scheldt Egger, Jackie Ziegler, Yvonne Mensah, Camille Robinson, Kelly Smith, Cassie Hunt, Taylor Bennett, Jamie Kuhl. **Fourth row:** Paris Streeter, Jacqui Aubert, Rachel Hernandez, LeNeisha Waller, Kristina Jones, Ashley Whittaker, Mariesa Greene, Tiffany Nestfield, Danyelle Michelini, Briana Cunningham, Cathryn Carrall, Maggie Carrall. **Back row:** Coach Karen Harvey, Head Coach Cary Winkler, Coach Tanja Buford-Bailey.



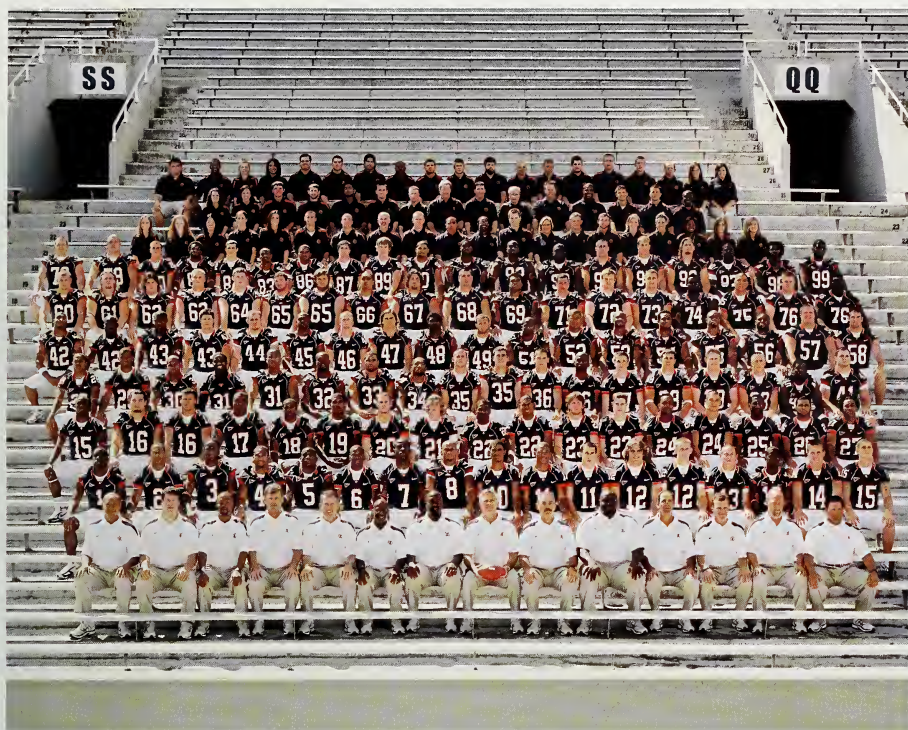
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Front row: Beth Vrdsky, Ashley Edinger, Lizzie Bazzetta, Amelia Coleman, Amy Palash, Stephanie Obermeier, Kristine Anderson.
Back row: Don Hardin, Jen Oldenburg, Megan Macdonald, Rachel Henderson, Vicky Brown, Kayani Turner, Stephanie Alde, Kylie McCulley, Assistant Coach Mary Hambly, Trainer Randy Ballard, Assistant Coach Kevin Hambly.



MEN'S WRESTLING

Front row: John Dergo, Pat Brownson, Matt Harding, Ben Zulauf, Patrick Band, John Wise, Andy Greenawalt, Jake Norman, Dave Gleissner, Nick Guida, John Schaub, Ben Friedl. **Second row:** Troy Tirapelle, Mark Lukazewski, Roger Smith-Bergsrud, Dan Manzella, Mike Poeta, Donny Reynolds, Andrew Lukanich, Cassio Pero, Clint Arlis, Matt Winterhalter, Clinton Polz, Adam Domanico.
Back row: Dalton Bullard, Jimmy Kennedy, John Deneen, Joe Gomez, Joel Karr, Gabe Flores, Dan Manzella, Ryan Nollen, Joey Kotowski, Matt Lee, Sean Reynolds, Jim Comfort.



ILLINI FOOTBALL

Front row: Lloyd Richards, Director of Football Operations; Ben Miller, offensive graduate assistant; Dina Dawson, outside receivers coach; Jim Pry, inside receivers coach; Ed Worlimer, offensive line coach; Reggie Mitchell, running backs coach; Mike Lacksley, offensive coordinator; Ron Zaak, head coach; Vince Okruch, defensive coordinator; Tam Sims, defensive line coach; Don Disch, special teams/linebackers coach; Curt Mallory, defensive secondary coach; Steve Sigler, defensive graduate assistant; Lou Hernandez, strength and conditioning coach. **Second row:** Vantae Davis, Bryant Creamer, Marques Wilkins, Derrick McPheerson, Rashard Mendenhall, Chris James, Isiah "Juice" Williams, DoJuan Warren, Eddie McGee, Joe Morgan, Michael Ballen, Billy Gorzo, Jacob Hendee, Jason Redo, Will Judson, Cody Mullen, Tim Brasic. **Third row:** Chris Duval, Michael Haamanawanui, Mark Venegani, Jeff Cumberland, Alan Boll, Quintin Scott, Garrett Edwards, Kyle Hudson, Shorriif Abdullah, Kieran Frozier, Drew McMahon, Jack Eastman, Charles Bailey, Edgar Maurans, Justin Sanders, E.B. Halsey, Antonio Gully. **Fourth row:** Dere Hicks, Jody Ellis, Pierre Thomas, Travan Bellamy, Darone Edwards, Justin Harrison, Sam Porter, Walter Mendenhall, Conar Lucas, Michael Cklamvski, Jored Bosch, Marurice Haney, Kyle Yelton, Mike Mucho, Conor Gillen, Tod Keely, Antonia Steele, Russ Weil. **Fifth row:** Kevin Mitchell, Justin Ijel, Sam Carson, Nick Levonti, Brit Miller, Rodney Pittman, Tyler Rause, J. Leman, Remand Willis, Kyle Knezetic, Anthony Thornhill, Jon Asomooch, Dustin Jefferson, Rahkeem Smith, Anteria Jackson, Sirad Williams, J.J. Simmons, Bryson Whalen. **Sixth row:** Ryan McDonald, Adam Wilk, Eric Black, Will Bergen, Martin O'Donnell, Josh Narris, Brandon Frey, Randall Hunt, Matt Moddax, Jim LoBonte, Akim Millington, Jack Woll, Ben Amundsen, Mike Nabalatny, Brandon Jordan, Immanuel Chu, Mike Ware, Charles Myles. **Seventh row:** Ryan Palmer, James Ryon, Alex Reavy, Will Davis, Frank Lenti, Jacob Willis, Greg McClendon, Spencer Jensen, Tam Sullivan, Antonia James, Derek Walker, Arthur Bay, Melvin Alaeze, David Lindquist, Doug Pilcher, Chris Norwell, Clay Nurse, Xavier Fulton, Jerry Brown. **Eighth row:** Sports Medicine Jenna Singer, Julia Sheen, Emi Matsuno, Claire DePrima, Karen Roth, T.J. Dexter, Dave Bugalski, graduate assistant trainer; Dr. Robert Gurtler, Team Physician; Matt Fitterer, assistant athletic trainer; Adrian Melendez, head football athletic trainer; Byron Cunningham, assistant athletic trainer; Dr. Jeff Kyrauc, Linda Lenaver, team nurse; Matt Kacalek, Harry Labb, Emily Whobrey, Lindsey Otte, Ebony Jones, Kate Baldwin, Amber Nogle. **Ninth row:** Alison Grady, Danielle Dietz, Mike Wojcikowski, Matt Milazzo, Hans Molebrauche, Luke Weaver, graduate assistant equipment manager, Kyle Cray, assistant equipment manager, Andy Dixon, head equipment manager; Trent Chesnut, football equipment manager; John Birdsell, assistant equipment manager; Steve Storzolt, phone technician; Erik Burns, Ben Ford, Kyle Lewis, Mike Leach. **Back row:** Mike Zagorski, student assistant; Marcellus Casey, team chaplain; Kristen Kane, academic advisor; Carlo Suber, learning specialist; Dave Dutton, academic advisor; Chris Pazon, student assistant coach; Chad Rose, volunteer strength and conditioning coach; Daryl Dizan, assistant strength and conditioning coach; Troy Hutton, assistant strength and conditioning coach; Zach Wamack, assistant strength and conditioning coach; Taylor Margon, co-video coordinator; Greg Bruner, co-video coordinator; Brent Harper, Ryan Ochs, R.J. Heninger, Keenan Johnston, Jeremy Cladfelder, quality control coach; Babbi Duval, associate recruiting coordinator; Casey Ludwig, assistant recruiting coordinator.

RETRO

FIT



● Looking back on a year of fitting into groups & greeks at Illinois.



daily illini

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

year founded:

1871

circulation:

20,000 people

students work in:

- News
- Sports
- Opinions
- Features
- Editing
- Page design
- Photography
- Graphic design
- Advertising
- Circulation
- Promotions
- Production
- Business





Opposite top: Vincent Lee, Editor-in-Chief: Is he working hard, or hardly working?

Opposite bottom: Editorial adviser Melinda Miller talks to alum Ken Paulson, Editor of USA Today.

Top left: Photographer Josh Birnbaum receives advice from an Illini Media alum.

Top right: Rick Wilfang, former Editorial Production Manager of the Daily Illini, left Illini Media this year. Best wishes to him and his rubber band ball.

Center: Vasanth Sridharan, Nick Escobar and Katie O'Connell of the editorial staff toast to Illini Media's new building.

Left: Danielle Gaines, managing editor reporting and writing, maps out the special page for the Illini Media Company's building dedication weekend.

daily illini departments



CLASSIFIEDS STAFF

Front row: Mary Pat Schultz, Jessie Haramis, Beth Perillo, Melisso Straud, Mary Fran Wiley.
Back row: Justin Kavach, Cody Meyer, Christina Giannini, Julio Braks.

ADVERTISING STAFF

Front row: Morisso Corvallis, Christine Jonda, Kristy Fiala, Lauren Noone, Stephanie Taylor, Sarah Judd, James Cha.
Second row: Eric Heyen, Poul Costello, Chris Mitchell, Foreedon Omoor, Alet Cook.
Back row: Grady Behrens, Liz Soblich, Mark Nottier, Katie Wallenfarg, Suzanne Ekblad, Scott Dawns, Elizabeth Yuan.



CREATIVE WORKS

Sharan Steed, Jon Huff, Joke Wolff, Justin Striebel.





wpgu 107.1 fm

STUDENT-RUN RADIO STATION

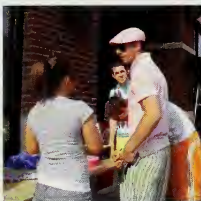
year founded:
1967

format:

College alternative
students work in:

- On-air programming
- Engineering
- News & sports
- Promotions

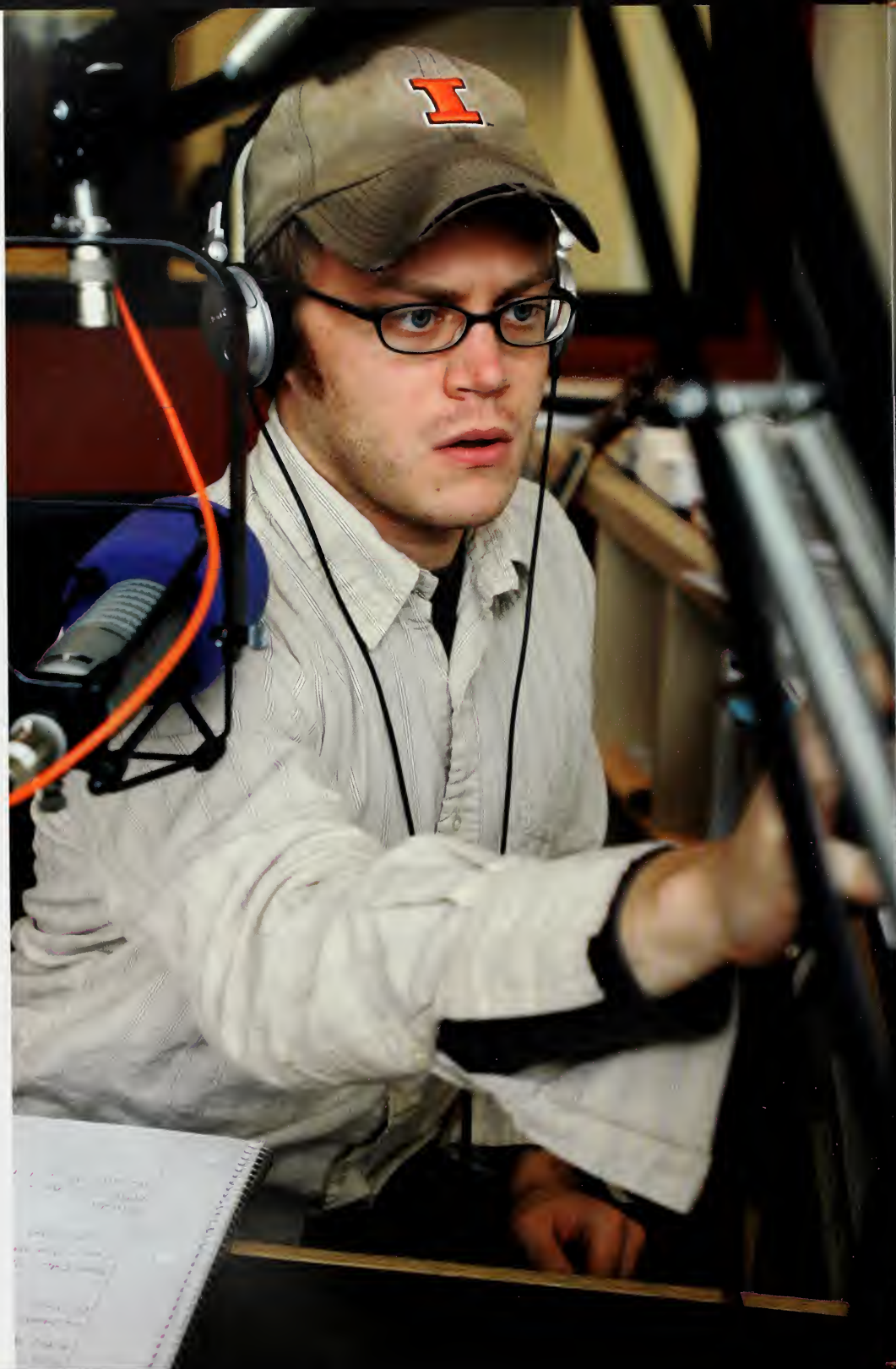
WPGU-FM is the student radio station of the University of Illinois. Its modern rock format draws and audience from all over Champaign-Urbana. WPGU is a commercial radio station that runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with live student disc jockeys. Popular on-air personalities, remote broadcasts from various locations in Champaign-Urbana, regular feature programming and exciting contests and promotions are just some of the reasons that the University community has stayed tuned in to WPGU for more than 30 years.

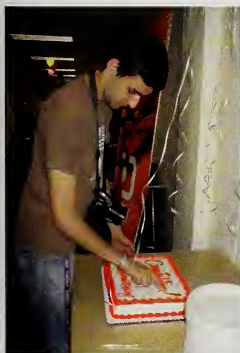


Above: WPGU managers Mike Zardo, Scott Adametz, Brett Westledge, Fj Ferrer, Brock Danovian and Beth Rehn meet Meat Loaf at the 2006 Canclave Convention in Minneapolis.
Far left: Fj Ferrer and Britta Vantreure hang out outside the WPGU studio.
Center: Scott Adametz and Paul Rafter work in the new studio.
Left: WPGU staffers run a remote on location at 512 E. Green.

RETROFIT
wpgu 107.1 fm

RETROFIT
Apr 30, 10:31 pm





Opposite: Jeff Peterson, senior in LAS, hosts the "Flashback Cafe" radio show in the WPGU studio. "This is the best job in the world," said Peterson. *Photo by Patrick Traynor*

Top left: Mike Zonde, Beth Rehn and Scott Adomietz judge a Halloween costume contest at Rock's.

Top right: A WPGU employee hangs out in the new Illini Media building.

Center: Jon Honsen honors the Illini Media Hall of Fame inductees during Building Dedication Weekend.

Bottom left: Scott Adomietz cuts the cake of the WPGU studio dedication day.

Bottom right: Lead singer of Everclear Art Alexakis plays a set in the studio.

RETROFIT
wpgu 107.1 fm



buzz

WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT MAGAZINE

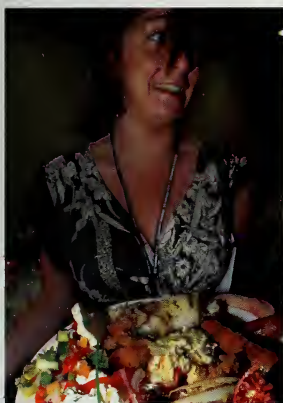
year founded:

1998

students work in:

- Writing
- Editing
- Photography
- Graphic design
- Page design

Buzz is the Daily Illini's weekly entertainment magazine. Every Thursday, Buzz helps readers gear up for the weekend, with anything and everything that is entertainment in Champaign-Urbana. Film, television, music and theatre reviews, a calendar of events, feature stories on the local entertainment scene and several annual "theme" issues are just a few of the reasons to read Buzz every week. Student working for Buzz get chance to interview and photograph many of the area's biggest names in entertainment, as well as a few more famous faces, such as Hugh Hefner and Robert Ebert—both University alumni—and Frank Black and Moby. Students do it all, working as writers, critics, photographers, designers and editors. The Buzz has already won awards on the national level for its innovative design and outstanding content.



Opposite: Buzz staff members celebrate the "Best Of" issue at the Illini Media Building on Nov. 10, 2006. From left to right: Austin Happel, Elyse Russa, Manica Befel, Renee Okumura, Erin Scattberg, Tatyana Safranava, Annette Ganzalez, Anna Statham.

Top: Anna Statham, Tatyana Safranava, Austin Happel, Manica Befel, Renee Okumura, Elyse Russa, and Erin Scattberg.

Left center: Erin Scattberg fills her plate at the Illini Media Building Dedication Banquet.

Center: Tatyana Safranava took over as Buzz editor-in-chief during the 2007 spring semester.

Right center: Elyse Russa and Erin Scattberg pose at the "Best Of" issue celebration.

Left: Anna Statham and Elyse Russa, members of the Buzz editorial staff.



illio yearbook

EDITORIAL STAFF

year founded:

1894

publishes:

Annually

students work in:

- Writing
- Editing
- Design
- Photography
- Art direction

The Illio is the official yearbook at the University of Illinois. With an annual publication of around 400 pages, each volume provides a unique look at life during a year at the University. Since 1894, the Illio has received recognition and numerous awards for its design and content on a national, regional and local level.

The 2005 Illio won a Gold Crown award from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association and was again a finalist for the 2006 Illio. Writers cover a variety of campus events, while photographers visually capture student life through their own perspective. The editorial staff works together to edit, design and construct the collective edition, using cutting-edge, industry standard software.





Opposite top: The 2006-2007 Illia Editorial staff. Front row: Jarie Johnson, Erin Foley, Jessica Elmore, Brittany Bekas. Second row: Su Ray, Sarah Kawalls, Clara Kim, Ashley Sheriff. Third row: Jamie Jahn, Jessica Radagna, Lindsey Grath, Deni Stritch, Jessica Miller. Back row: Eric Schulz, Don Wei, Alex Rabb, Adam Swiatek.

Opposite bottom: When editor-in-chief Lindsey Grath gets stressed out, she just tells everyone, "I'm over it."

Top left: Index Chairwoman Jessica Miller, bottom right, gives Deni Stritch, left, and Sarah Kawalls a guided tutorial.

Top right: Illia enthusiast Adam Swiatek grabs his friend Zach Morris cellular to call Taylor Publishing and check on the book's production process.

Far left: Sports editor Erin Foley contemplates the number of pages she has to do for the next deadline, while intern editor Jarie Johnson cracks up during the staff meeting.

Left: Lindsey Grath and designer Clara Kim stand proudly by the Illia booth on Quad Day.



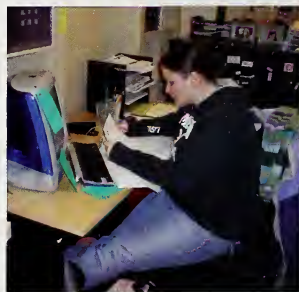
illio yearbook

SALES & MARKETING STAFF

year founded:
1894

publishes:
Annually
students work in:
• Sales
• Marketing

The Illio is the official yearbook at the University of Illinois. The Illio's marketing staff is responsible for scheduling senior portrait sittings, marketing for book sales, pages sales in the Groups and Greeks section and other divisions of advertising. This year's staff consisted of four representatives and one Marketing Director.



Top: The 2006-2007 Illio Marketing staff: Marissa Lee, Emily Beatty, Ashley Knuppel, Jayme Swift, Sarah Cain.

Above: Illio Marketing Director, Jayme Swift, catches up on weekly sales.

Left: Jayme Swift, Marissa Lee and Emily Beatty during an Illio marketing social event.



technograph

ENGINEERING QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

year founded:
1885

publishes:
Four times a year

distribution:
Engineering campus
and over 1,000 high
school libraries

students work in:

- Writing
- Editing
- Design
- Photography
- Business

The Illinois Technograph is the University of Illinois' award-winning engineering magazine. Since 1885, the Technograph has covered the cutting edge of science and technology and the University and throughout the world. This student-produced magazine is packed with informative articles on all aspects of engineering and new technology, and features profiles on leaders in the field. The Technograph gives engineering students a unique chance to express themselves and their interests on the printed page. The Technograph is published four times during the school year and is distributed free of charge on the engineering campus. More than 1,000 copies are sent to high school libraries across the state of Illinois.

Above: Front row: Liz Weber, Declan Holzman, Eric Anderson, Erik Watring. Back row: Suzie Morgan, Wesley DeBerry, Gavin Rehkemper, Sahya Shanmugham, Cyril K. Chan



illini media

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Illini Media Board of Directors meets regularly to make important decisions to ensure the financial and media success of the company. The board is comprised of four faculty members and four students from the University and must include one professor from the College of Communications and one professor from the College of Commerce. The board elects faculty members for four-year renewable terms, with one term expiring each spring.

The board hires and determines the salaries for the print general manager and broadcast general manager. The student managers are also selected by the board for one-year terms. These positions include: editor-in-chief and students sales manager of the Daily Illini; editor-in-chief and marketing director of the Illio; editor of the Technograph; and program director, news director and student sales manager at WPGU-FM.

year founded:
1911

original name:
Illini Publishing Company

units:

- Buzz
- Daily Illini
- Illio
- Technograph
- WPGU 101.7 FM

Illini Media Company Board Members: Front row: Gladys Behrens, Lindsey Groth, Joyne Swift, Vincent Lee, Kate Pokorney, Erin Scottberg, Ano Bolotin. Back row: Brock Williams, Mary Cory, Susan Cohen, Eric Jung, Noah Snyder, Melinda Miller, Melissa Posco, Troy Stonger, Tom Costello.



illinois synchronized skating



The Illinois Synchronized Skating team is a registered student organization that competes against other collegiate teams throughout the country at various competitions including Ann Arbor and Mid-Westerns.



year founded:
2001
colors:
Blue & Orange



"Skating is definitely the greatest and most important thing I have done at the University of Illinois. I have been proud to represent U of I and proud to say that this organization has excelled as a student run organization against a field of competitors that are all organized and choreographed by non-students."

Top: Rookie night scavenger hunt "Take a picture with employees on Green St." Pictured: Margaret, Apple Employee, Kirsten, Nicole, Apple Employee, Morgan.

Above left: The team after their fall exhibition. Backrow: Katie, Maggie, Val, Nicole, Casey, Marissa, Kendall, Kirsten, Devan. Middle Row: Audrey, Anna, Amanda, Morgan, Carina, Carah, Elyse, Mel. Front row: Margaret, Lauren, Meghan, Cristina, Liana.

Above: "It's Time To Start!" From back left to right: Marissa, Cristina, Devan, Anna, Casey, Val, Carah, Kirsten, Carina, Maggie, Katie, Liana, Morgan, Nicole, Margaret, Lauren, Mel, Elyse, Kendall, Meghan.

Left: Day trip to Apple Orchard. Pictured left to right: Cristina, Amanda, Devan, Elyse, Marissa, Casey, Kirsten, Val, Carah.

panhellenic council

year founded:
1902

symbols:
Pinecone & Duck
nickname:
PHC

colors:
Crimson & Royal

Panhellenic Council sponsors the Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake each year. This event helps to provide national support and funding to the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program.



President:

Kimberly Verest

VP Internal:

Brenda Lo

VP Recruitment:

Annie Carlson

VP Judicial:

Shanna Pyers

VP Risk Mgmt:

Emily Eisenkramer

VP Scholarship:

Sarah Becker

VP Service:

Katherine Becker

VP Finance:

Joy Mkrdichian

VP Public Relations:

Courtney
Hildenbrand

VP Development:

Jessica Bialorucki

Top: Panhellenic Executive Board at the annual Bowl for Kids' Sake philanthropy.
Center: Four Council Transition Dinner in November.
Left: Brenda, Emily, Joy, Katherine, Sarah, Courtney, Annie, Shanna, Kimberly, and Jessica at this year's Greek Oscars.

"Being President of the UIUC Panhellenic Council has been a huge growing experience and it has been an honor to be President of the largest women's organization on campus. Over the past year our community has donated ten's of thousands of dollars and hours to the greater Champaign-Urbana community philanthropically and through service, we have welcomed in the largest amount of new members ever, and learned a great deal about the direction our organization needs to go. We've enacted sustainable change and are excited for where the sorority community will grow in to."

—Kim Verest

4H house

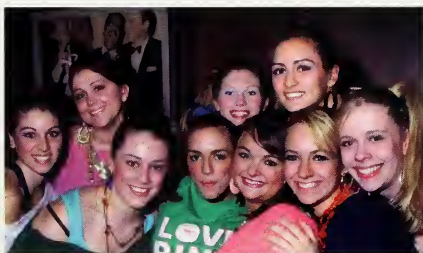
year founded:
1934

symbol:
Sweet Pea

nickname:
Etas

colors:
Green & White

4H House supports Journey. Journey is in honor of Jennifer and Jackie Esworthy, house sisters, who were killed in a car accident by a drunk driver. Our mission is to keep repeat drunk drivers off the road and keep loved ones safe. 4H House sponsors a bake sale in the fall and a campus-wide Euchre tournament in the spring for this cause.



Top: 80's Flashback: Frant: Bethany Kramer, Carrie Shaner, Allison Katecki, Jessica Sugden, Katie Baesche. Back: Erica McClure, Erika Anderson, Laura Wallace, Cassie Shaner.

Above: 4H House Women. Frant Row: Erica McClure, Allison Katecki, Amberlynn Rawley, Mally Baurland, Ashley Hanold, Dana Dougherty, Lynnea Rasendale, Kathy Barnes, Jenna Halland, Hauser Mather Carol, Stacey Dehlinger, Darahy Spencer, DeAnna Schertz, Lindsey Schneider, Mickey Trimble, Jessica Sugden. Second Row: Erika Anderson, Ryann Newell, Sarah England, Jessica Lack, Erin Spaur, Cary Henkel, Jackie Butler, Danielle Swanson, Mary Irelan, Stephanie Wilt, Rachel Smith, Rachel Baum, Cassie Shaner, Laura Wallace, Carrie Shaner, Bethany Kramer, Katie Baesche. Third Row: Emily Bakken, Rita Muehling, Janet Willis, Stacy Zuber, Jennifer Pe-

tersan, Raganne Newell, Abbie Lashbraak, Abby Sasse, Katie Knapp, Kristen Anderson, Julie Drendel, Daria Steele, Karen Nelson, Kristina Grebner, Tricia Chenaweth.

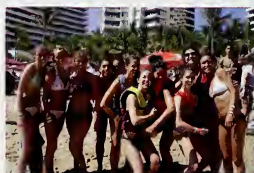
Left: 4H Seniors. Frant Row Rita Muehling, Amanda Drinkall, Stacy Zuber, Emily Bakken, Kristen Anderson, Janet Willis. Back Row: Abby Sasse, Megan Brubaker, Cary Henkel, Kristina Grebner, Hally Eichelberger, Katie Knapp, Karen Nelson. **Bottom:** Pledge Class of 2010. Frant: Kristen Black, Ashley Hanold, Mickey Trimble, Stacey Dehlinger, Jenna Halland. Back: Amberlynn Rawley, DeAnna Schertz, Darahy Spencer, Carly Rakes, Lynnea Rasendale, Terra Kern, Mally Baurland, Dana Dougherty, Lindsey Scheider.

alpha chi omega AXΩ

year founded:
1885 at DePauw University
u of i founding date:
December 8, 1899
symbols:
The Golden Lyre

nickname:
Alpha Chi's
colors:
Scarlet Red
& Olive Green

This year Alpha Chi Omega held the fourth annual Camp Alpha Chi, a philanthropy event that raises money for its national philanthropy: Women Against Domestic Violence. In addition, Alpha Chi Omega also held a clothing drive for the Center for Women in Transition. Aside from supporting their national philanthropy, this year the women of Alpha Chi Omega also supported the troops in Iraq with not only monetary donations, but also by making packages for soldiers over seas.



Above: Alpha Chi Borndance 2006. Front Row: Mairen Beatley, Time Karma, Meggie Coyle, Melissa Sheller. Back Row: Heather Lodge, Julie Mammies, Krista Gullberg, Pam Wyatt, Kelsey Lafstrand, Emily Wider, Lauren Canine.
Far left: Alpha Chi Omega Seniors.
Center: Spring Break in Acapulco, Mexico. Kristin Kosmin, Randi Streng, Callie Whitsan, Kate Limardi, Meggie Coyle, Kelsey Lafstrand, Gina Botti, Nicole Kouzaikos, Catherine Hennessey, Elyse Russo, Mairen Beatley.
Left: Seniors before open house of recruitment.

"Whether it was by receiving exciting leadership opportunities, introducing me to my loving best friends, or helping me to be part of other organizations on campus, Alpha Chi Omega always provided me with the strong foundation I needed to be successful. I will always remember my time here at the University of Illinois as an Alpha Chi with great pride and happiness, knowing that my college experience couldn't have been any better."

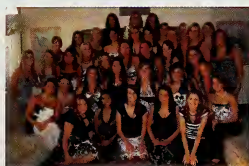
—Joanna Hussey

alpha gamma delta ΑΓΔ

year founded:
1904 at Syracuse
University
u of i founding
date:
June 12, 1918

symbols:
Squirrel, Red & Yellow Rose
nickname:
Alpha Gams
colors:
Red, Buff & Green

Alpha Gamma Delta's main philanthropy is Water Wars, a competition between teams involving games with shaving cream, water balloons, and slip 'n' slides. This supports a variety of needs, including juvenile diabetes.



Above: The seniors of Alpha Gamma Delta pose for a picture on bid day. They will all surely be missed!
Far left: Some of the seniors during our annual philanthropy named "Water Wars"
Center: The '08 pledge class during second invite of recruitment!
Left: The '09 pledge class during second invite of recruitment!

"Somewhere between conversations that last all night, sharing a bathroom with 72 girls, buying crazy outfits for exchanges, complaining about dinner, and laughing so hard I cried, I have found true friendship. For the past two years, Alpha Gamma Delta has become a place I call my home...and nothing beats living in a castle."

—Katie Kukielka

alpha gamma rho AΓP

year founded:

1904

symbols:

Sickle, Sheath & Crescent

nickname:

Aggers

colors:

Green & Gold

Alpha of Alpha Gamma Rho's annual philanthropy event is the Foxy Lady Contest. This activity features one contestant from each of the campus' 20 sororities. The Ladies prepare a short performance and answer quesitons. They are judged on their formal interview and presentation. The Foxy Lady contest is 32 years old; the oldest philanthropy event on campus.



Left: Alpha Gamma Rho. Class of 2007. Front Row: Aaron Orebough, Aaron Charlesworth, Ryan Fitzgerald, Josh Blickhan, Nathan Brown, Josh Maschhoff, Devin Cox. Second Row: Tyler Meier, Alex Stock, Patrick Cleary, Adam Sandburg, Tyler McClain, Mike Deppert, Phil Rincker. Back Row: Jared Brown, Daniel Lundeen.

Bottom left: Alpha Gomma Rho's chomplan homecoming parade float. This is the fifth consecutive year that AGR has won the float contest.

Bottom right: AGR traditionally puts many hours into decorating our chapter house for Christmas. The hard work produced a beautiful result this year, and a second straight victory in the campus light decoration contest.



"Alpha Gamma Rho has been a home away from home for us seniors. Our brothers have made us stronger men by instilling the values that AGR stands for."

—Jared Brown

alpha gamma sigma $\text{A}\Gamma\Sigma$



year founded:

1922

symbol:

The Plow

nickname:

Illidell

colors:

Silver & Royal Blue

"The memories you gain from college will remain with you forever. These friends will be your best friends for the rest of your life. College is the main turning point in your life, that makes you, who you are."

—Travis Field



Top left: The 2006-2007 graduating seniors. Jason Wesselmann, Russell Johnson, Justin Bruns, Travis Field, Jason Suhmiltz, Edward Bohlen, Dove Cochran.

Top right: Our Illidell Lil Sis Christmas Party.

Above: Our annual float trip in Shelbyville this past summer.

Left: The Fall 2006 Illidell of Alpha Gamma Sigma.



alpha omicron pi AOTΠ



year founded:
1897 at Columbia University
symbols:
Jacqueminot Rose, Sheaf of Wheat & Ruby
unofficial mascot:
Panda
nickname:
Alpha O's
colors:
Cardinal

AOPi has two philanthropy events a year - Mud Olympics and Run for the Roses. Mud Olympics, which won Most Outstanding Philanthropy at the 2006 Greek Oscars, goes to benefit the Lukemia / Lymphoma Society. Run for the Roses is an annual run/walk sponsored in the Spring by Iota chapter. We donate all proceeds from the race to the Arthritis Foundation for research. Since our first race 14 years ago, Iota chapter has contributed over \$20,000 to arthritis research!



Top: The whole chapter welcomes the new member class of 2010 on Bid Day 2006 in front of the Alpha Omicron Pi house. (Senior members were on the balcony, sophomore and junior classes on the porch and the new members wearing pink on the lawn).
Left center: These Alpha Omicron Pi '09's take a moment for a picture during our 2006 Mud Olympics philanthropy event held in Frot Park on Sept. 29.
Right center: The ladies are lined up and ready in the foyer of our house to greet the parties coming through for First Invitational during Formal Recruitment 2006.
Bottom: New Member Educators Alex Bradley and Katie Schwind pose at the Alpha Omicron Pi International Headquarters in Brentwood, Tenn.

"I can't imagine my life without the support of my sisters in Alpha Omicron Pi. These women have shown me true, unconditional, everlasting friendship."

—Alissa Wofel

alpha phi AΦ



year founded:
1872 at Syracuse
University
u of i founding date:
1922
symbols:
Ivy Leaf
nickname:
A-Phi
colors:
Silver & Bourdeaux



Top: Seniors gathered together in the front hall of the Alpha Phi Castle to commemorate their last year of Formal Recruitment.
Center: A group of junior and senior Alpha Phis take a quick picture by the Union building on Bid Day before welcoming the A-Phi '10s.
Bottom left: The newly initiated Alpha Phi '10s on Bid Day.
Bottom right: During the Philanthropy Round of Formal Recruitment, the Alpha Phi ladies wore red to promote the Red Dress Campaign and to help raise heart disease awareness among women.

chi omega XΩ



Chi Omega's main philanthropy is through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. They hold an annual talent show that features dancers, musicians, and singers. Last year we raised over \$18,000 and were able to grant 3 wishes. Recently they have started the Chi Omega and Theta Chi Tug-of-War philanthropy event.



"Chi Omega has opened a world of experience to me. I will never forget the friendships, sisterhood experiences, philanthropic events, and all the other crazy times I have had with Chi Omega."

—Karen Idseing



year founded:
1895
u of i founding date:
1900
colors:
Straw & Cardinal
symbol:
Owl
Nickname:
Chi O's

Top: Laurie Saderland, Abby Buckman, Marianne LaBelle, Megan Gaber, and Lizzy Cunningham of the new 2010 pledge class compete in the Chi Omega and Theta Chi Tug-of-War Philanthropy in which they took 2nd place.
Far left: A group of Chi Omega ladies are getting pumped up to participate in the Sigma Phi Epsilon Jag-far-Jash philanthropy.
Above: Karen Idseing, Laura Wright, Marie McNamara, Megan Harrison, Erica Lars and Beth Vaughn at the Senior & 10 pledge event.
Left: Lizzie McElherne, Randi Lesniewski, Gianna Gatta and Jamie Lunt of the 2009 pledge class are preparing for the Make-A-Wish Variety Show.

delta gamma ΔΓ



"To me, Delta Gamma represents all of the amazing experiences I have had these past few years. The friendships I have made, the opportunities I have been given, and the feeling of having a home away from home is irreplaceable."

—Jenny Hahn

colors:
Bronze, Pink & Blue
symbols:
Anchor & Cream-Colored
Rose
nickname:
Dee Gee's

Delta Gamma's philanthropic events all benefit the organization Service for Sight. To raise funds and awareness for this program we run a swim contest, a denim sale, ice cream social and a talent show. We love giving back to the community through all of the exciting events.



Top: Dee Gees on Bid Day.
Left: The women of Delta Gamma dress to impress at a fall social event.
Above: Members of Delta Gamma enjoyed a night of ice skating as part of a sisterhood activity.

RETROFIT
delta gamma

farmhouse fraternity

year founded:

1905

u of i founding date:

1914

nickname:

Frames

colors:

Green, White & Gold

In 2006-2007, the men of FarmHouse upheld their reputation on campus as one of the top fraternities. Several members attended our National Conclave in Nashville, TN where they attended leadership seminars and brotherhood events in August before classes began and 17 new members began down the path towards becoming a FarmHouse man. Our motto, "Builder of Men" was realized through many community service projects

throughout the community such as working at the Urbana Sweetcorn Festival, holding a fall cleanup for our neighbors in Urbana and cleaning our two mile stretch of highway in western Urbana. Members were also very active in clubs and organizations on campus such as Marching Illini, ACE Club, CFFA, Field and Furrow, American Fisheries Society, Illini Pullers, Illini Pride, Orange Krush, SAA and Alpha Tau Alpha, among others.



"In the spring, the men of FarmHouse look forward to our Senior Formal and exchanges. As a graduating senior, I am looking forward to finding a job and moving on to the phase of my life but I know I can always look back on these times at 809 as some of the best times of my life."

—Michael Butler



Above: Front Row: Brian Riddle, Christopher Ragusa, Matthew Hulster, Wesley Walbaum, Dustin Wallace, Joshua Bruketa, Lucas Lovejoy, Christopher Schirding. Second Row: Craig Kniepmann, Christopher Puls, Kirk Builta, Jeffrey Evers, Matthew Moadie, Michael Butler, Chad Pilcher, Ben Hugenberg, Robert Brines. Third Row: Samuel Strom, Scott Baker, Bruce Frank, Jim Melko, Calvin Grace, Michael Baa, Trenton Rader, Christopher Massie, Aaron Baak, Jordan Tate. Fourth Row: Andrew DeSutter, Daniel Rahe, Levi Weilbaume, Bryan Rader, Justin Brown, Ryan Bull. Fifth Row: Blake Bushma, Nathan Kurfman, Ryan Miller, Benjamin Briggs, Timothy Brantner. Back Row: Jason Buss, Durkin Young, Jim Galenstein, Kevin Miller, Tyler Smith, Blake Ruebush, Daug Kafer.

kappa kappa gamma KKG



year founded:
1870 at Monmouth
College
u of i founding date:
April 28, 1899
symbols:
Fleur-de-lis, Key, Owl
colors:
Light Blue & Dark Blue

In October, Kappa Kappa Gamma held their annual Kappatat Volleyball tournament. Numerous fraternity members & University of Illinois students competed while raising money for Habitat for Humanity. This past year we held a date auction and raised \$1100 for the Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club. We also received the "Outstanding Fundraiser" award from the association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP).



"Kappa isn't just a house, club, or hobby; it is something special in my life that helps me push forward. Friendships and opportunities that will be with me in life are because of my choice to make Kappa a part of me."

—Jessica Bialorucki

Top: The 2010 pledge class on Bid Day!
Center: The new pledge class was surprised to be playing games on Bid Day.
Above left: Kappa Kappa Gamma seniors.
Above right: Birthday celebration!
Left: The KKG Intramural Soccer Team was excited to win the championship for the second year in a row.

psi upsilon ΨΥ



year founded:
1833 at Union College
u of i founding date:
May 28, 1910
nickname:
Psi U
colors:
Garnet & Gold

Each year Psi U holds their annual philanthropy, The Sam Biardo Memorial Philanthropy, in memory of a lost brother due to a congenital heart problem. Each spring Psi U posts a booth on the quad & encourages students and faculty to sign the backs of their driver's license to become organ donors to help save people like Sam Biardo.



"I initially joined Psi Upsilon because of the brotherhood and friendship that I saw my brother receive. As I gained more education and experience at the University, Psi Upsilon offered leadership positions to allow me to grow into a better person. Along with leadership opportunities, Psi Upsilon created a great volunteering environment and allowed brothers to participate in service opportunities for the Champaign-Urbana community. As I begin to enter a new phase of my life, I know that the lessons learned at Psi Upsilon and the university will allow me to overcome any challenges I may face."

—Psi Upsilon senior



Top: Barry Cummings and Mike Smith celebrate the end of spring finals by building a snow tower on the front lawn of Psi Upsilon with snow generously provided by the ice arena.
Center: From left, brothers Andy Maxfield, Matt Turk, Matt Martinez, Dan Hower and Mark Baker are enjoying themselves at Psi Upsilon's annual formal dance.
Bottom: The 2010 pledge class of Psi Upsilon came together one last time before their initiation.

phi kappa psi $\Phi\Kappa\Psi$



year founded:
1852 at Jefferson
College
u of i founding date:
1904
nickname:
Phi Psi
colors:
Hunter Green &
Cardinal Red

Top: We presented an \$1100 check to the Don Mayer Bay's & Girl's Club. Throughout the year we set up a partnership with them to tutor young students and provide gifts for kids with good grades.
Left center: In October we revived an old tradition by having an island themed party, "Samoa". Highlights included hat tubs, two bands, a twenty-foot waterfall, and a smoking volcano, which was featured in the Daily Illini.
Right center: Over spring break several of our brothers traveled down to Cuba San Lucas to attend the American Leadership Academy.
Left: Our brothers gathered in October to listen to the wisdom of Phi Psi Alum, Jerry Nelson. Jerry shared stories and gave advice about how to be successful in life.

"When considering what the house has meant to me over the past four years, it is not an abstract complicated conception of brotherhood which arises. It's something much more simple. Home."

—Conor Weber, member from 1927

sigma kappa ΣΚ



year founded:
1874 in Waterville,
Maine
u of i founding date:
February 22, 1906
nickname:
Sig Kaps
colors:
Lavender & Maroon

Each spring we hold a kickball tournament, each fall we sell lollipops on the quad and we usually co-sponsor at least one philanthropy event with a fraternity. The proceeds from all these activities go to the Alzheimer's association and benefit Alzheimer's research. In the fall, we also have a week of giving dedicated to service, during which we donate gifts to nursing homes, deliver flowers to our alumni, and clean up trash from a part of campus.



Top: Members of Sigma Kappa.
Center: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Eastern Illinois University Sigma Kappas participating in the 2006 Memory Walk in order to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Association.

Bottom left: Karin Stokke, Daphne Culp, Liz Forristall, Sarah Piven and Lesley Fritz enjoy the atmosphere during their sophomore/junior night at reindeer ranch in which they went on hay rides and traveled through a corn maze.

Bottom center: Christine St. Leger, Stephanie Rehm, Jessica Roque and Melissa Schwertha take one last photo before getting ready for their fashion show during their Fall 2006 recruitment.

Bottom right: Janine Westlund, Katie Maron, Marissa Corvallis, Stefanie Warring, Haley Drake, Nicole Cox, Katie Strle, Sarah Bounach, Bianca Reggi, Nykky Hourseit, Martha Reggi and Katie Newman Same of the girls get ready to celebrate their new pledge class on the quad before Bid Day.

"Without a doubt the most amazing part of my college experience has been working with the women of Sigma Kappa. Every member has inspired me to push myself farther and stay true to who I really am. Sigma Kappa is home to lifetime best friends and I will miss them terribly when I graduate this year, but I know we will be close for the rest of our lives."

—Martha Reggi

sigma phi epsilon ΣΦΕ



year founded:
1901 at Richmond College
u of i founding date:
1903
symbol:
Golden Heart
nickname:
SigEps
colors:
Red & Violet

SigEps Presents (fall philanthropy) is a talent show competition between sororities to raise money for Youth AIDS, SigEps' national charity. Jog for Josh (spring philanthropy) is a 5k run open to the public to raise money for the Joshua Gotteil Memorial Fund, which supports lymphoma cancer research.



Top: SigEps in New Orleans. Mike Labella, Ryan Moreau, Don Stout, Joson Marquis, Kevin Concordio, Rogelio Cruz, Eric Holmer, Anthony Conte, Kevin Boyci, Matt Spoden.
Center: Orange Krush SigEps. Andrew Poorman, Matthew Emig, Bob Cvengras, Bill Nesnidal.
Far left: Fall Philanthropy Performers. Calin Clark, Justin Interina, Enrique Rabales, Brad McClain, Dmitry Kogan, Jay Davé.
Left: Jog For Josh Spring Philanthropy.

"Sigma Phi Epsilon challenges its members to become balanced men in an environment that fosters brotherly love and true friendship that will last a lifetime."

—Jeff Harden



engineering council



year founded:

1921

nickname:

EC

colors:

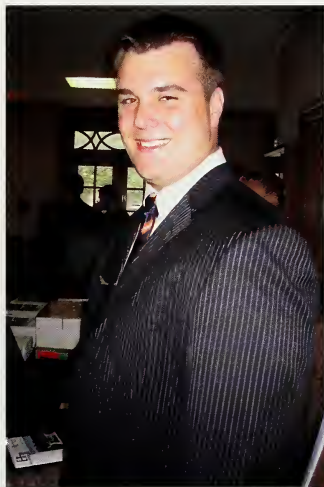
Blue & Orange

activities:

- Engineering Employment EXPO
- Engineering Open House

"Engineering Council has allowed me to supplement my academic education with personal development and leadership opportunities, while creating a sense of camaraderie amongst my fellow board members."

—Greg Schuh



SOX-O-GRAM												
U OF I ENGINEERING COUNCIL												
BALL 0					STRIKE 0					OUT 0		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E	PITCHERS
2	0	2	0	3					2	9	0	34 HERNANDEZ
									2	3	1	40 HAEGER



Opposite top: The UIUC delegation to the National Association of Engineering Student Council's Regional Conference poses for a picture before the end of the conference banquet. This year's conference was held at Michigan State University.

Opposite bottom: Engineering Council Executive Board.

Top left: Sam Sadler gets ready to putt at the Engineering Council Charity Gold Tournament. The winning team was given \$300 to donate to a charity of their choice. This year's charity was the International Orthodox Christian Charities.

Top right: Pat Sykes, junior in Computer Science, takes a break from talking to potential employers at the Fall EXPO to smile for the cameras. This year's EXPO attracted over 400 corporate representatives to the three-day event.

Left center: Engineering Council took time out of their busy schedules to attend a Chicago White Sox baseball game.

Right center: The Chicago White Sox welcome Engineering Council on their scoreboard.

Bottom: Students and a faculty member work on a worksheet to try to earn points during the Engineering Olympics. The Dean's Student Advisory Committee hosted the Engineering Olympics in which teams competed against each other in various events that explored the realms of their engineering ability.

illini pride

STUDENT SPORTS FANS

The Orange Krush is not just the men's basketball student cheering section but also a unique charity organization. To join the Orange Krush, members do not buy their regular season basketball tickets, but instead, solicit pledges from the community and raise money for charity. Because of the dedication of our members, over the last 8 years the Orange Krush has raised and donated over \$1,285,000.

The Orange Krush this year started the "Krush Kids Program" where working with the local Carle Hospital, we bring two terminally ill children from the area to every home game to sit on the floor with us. These are children who will not experience life in the same way and we are ecstatic to give them this amazing opportunity.

The Orange Krush also had a Habitat for Humanity day in October 2006. About 15 members spent that day with the U of I's Habitat chapter and worked on the house that they are building.

year founded:

1977

nickname:

I-Pride

colors:

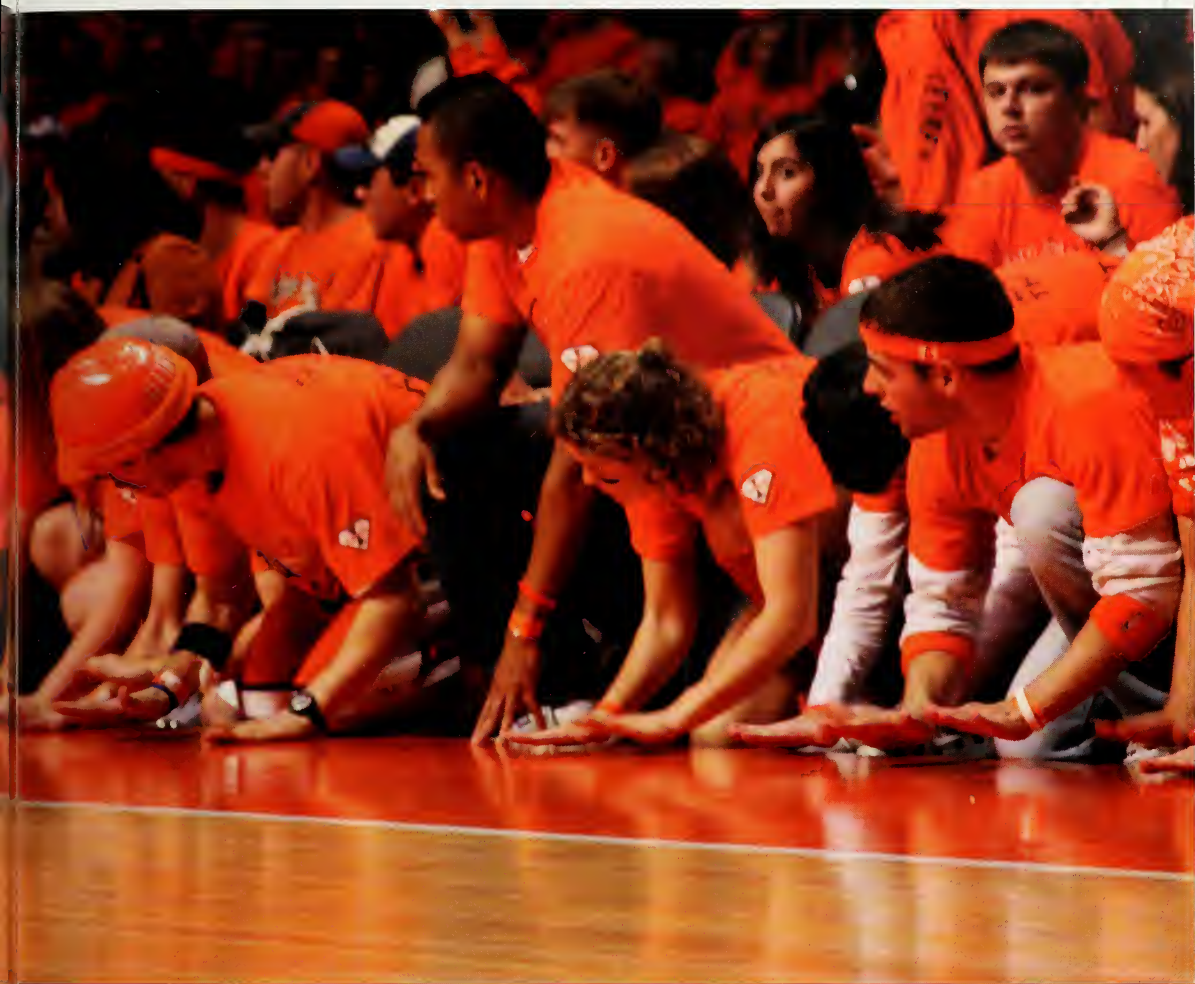
Orange & Blue



"My life at college has been separated into two parts: life without Illini Pride and life with Illini Pride. I have met so many new friends and had fun watching games of all 19 varsity sports. One of the best ideas of my college career was joining Orange Krush!"

—Vanessa Richmond





Opposite top: Defensive Back Kevin Mitchell shows his appreciation to the Block-I. Photo courtesy of Lunoni Yen

Opposite bottom: The Block-I sings 'Alma Mater' while wearing their Illini Pride on their sleeves. Photo courtesy of Lunoni Yen

Above: The Orange Crush has made Assembly Hall one of the hardest places for opposing teams to play. Here they hit the floor during Point the Hall Orange. Photo courtesy of Lunoni Yen

Left: The Spike Squad shows their support for the Women's Volleyball team. Photo courtesy of Brett Olson

alpha delta pi ΑΔΠ



year founded:

1851 at Wesleyan
Female College

u of i founding

date:

March 28, 1912

symbols:

Violet & Lion

nickname:

A D Pi

colors:

Azure Blue & White

Every year Alpha Delta Pi hosts two philanthropy events, Kickin' It with A D Pi and Pancake Dinner. The proceeds of the events go to Ronald McDonald House, an organization that provides a home and necessities for families of sick children.



"There is something unexplainable that we all share as members of Alpha Delta Pi. Becoming a part of the Greek community is the beginning of a new experience with new friends and finding a home away from home. Through living with your sisters and sharing the same experiences you form a special closeness with those around you. Sisterhood means more than wearing Greek letters, attending meetings and going to social events together. It is a feeling and a sense of belonging. It is the feeling of being yourself and being respected for your individuality. It is the comfort in knowing you can count on your sisters in good times and bad."

—Allison Beringsmith



Opposite top: Allison Beringsmith, Jillian Schoefer, & Christina Seibert get ready for the final round of recruitment.

Opposite bottom: The ladies of Alpha Delta Pi, who were in the skit for recruitment, are excited about their performance.

Top: Koro Krieg, Hannah Steinman, Christina Giannini, and Mollory Hofstad get ready for a round of recruitment.

Left center: Katie Keefe, Cristina Giannini, Koro Krieg & Hannah Steinman are at the Holiday Party that Alpha Delta Pi hosts each year.

Right center: The Executive Board for 2007 poses for a group photo.

Bottom: The seniors have had an amazing four years in Alpha Delta Pi. This was their last year for recruitment.



delta delta delta ΔΔΔ



year founded:

1888

u of i founding date:

1920

symbols:

Pearl, Pine & Pansy

nickname:

Tri Delta

colors:

Silver, Gold
& Blue

Every fall, Tri Delta hosts "Greeks at Bat," a weekend long softball tournament that raises money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. Since 1974, Tri Deltas have raised more than \$10 million in support of children's cancer hospitals, research facilities, and cancer camps.

"Tri Delta has helped me grow as a person. I will miss not having a place to walk into with a plethora of smiling faces and welcoming open arms. I have found special friendships at Tri Delta and it will forever be my home."

—Dani Mrazek



Opposite top: Front Row: Lisa Przybyls, Becca Samuels, Brittany Brown, Doni Mrozek, Jessica Schneider, Kim Crompton, Lindsey Folkonger, Lisa Noe, Second Row: Stacey Blumer, Kristen Benne, Kristen Bauer, Tricia Meehon, Jenna Bell, Back Row: Katie Calles, Amy Murray, Mary Courtright, Samantha Grames get ready for their lost performance of first invite.

Opposite bottom: Front Row: Jen Salley, Raffaelo Mucirino, Jenny Dewar, Alyssa Ropchak, Sydney Longford, Back Row: Andreo Doshi, Molly Sheehan, Kalee Ludeks, Melissa Lech, Amanda Tyrrell, Val Wersching, Ashley Nystrom, Michele Curley, Christie Demos, Sara Cline meet at the house before participating in Sigma Chi's annual philanthropy, Derby Days.

Top: Kelly Nugent, Andi Slavin, Kristin Soboo, Kristina Filippello, Lindsey Korick, and Brittany Bekos prepare to pick pumpkins at Curtis Orchard.

Center: Kory Chisholm, Ashley Richman, Julie Arabio, Vonessa Castellana and Lindsay Wodarski take a picture of bondance.

Bottom: Front: Lauren Knofelc, Bridget Erickson, Jenna Verdachia, Ashley Gilski, Kristen Bauer, Alyssa Ropchak, Middle: Emma Miller, Val Wersching, Stephanie Souza, Axie Russell, Back: Katie Portyko, Kelly Krumlinger, Christine Valentino, Lauren Aquino, Caro, Sara Tili, Julie Arabio, Brittany Opentrier, Megan Boldosore offer winning their intramural soccer game.



delta zeta ΔΖ

founded:

October 24, 1902 at
Miami University

u of i founding date:

October 21, 1921

symbols:

Roman Lamp, Killarney
Rose & Diamond

nickname:

Dee Zee

colors:

Old Rose & Vieux Green

Our philanthropy event this year is different than in the past. It is a tug-of-war competition called Turtle Tug. After doing Krazee Bowl for many years the women of Delta Zeta decided to change it up this year. Our national philanthropy proceeds support speech and hearing and The Painted Turtle Camp.





Opposite top: Front Row: Katie Happ, Grace Ding, Gina Rizza, Allyn Krusemark, Cara Ash, Rachel Tenin, Andrea Lindemann, Stephanie Giaiasa. Second Row: Alison Killely. Third Row: Ellen Berzack, Emily Huebener, Megan Bieda, Elizabeth Pastavovic, Carly Schneider, Katie Krahulec, Barbara Zebrowski, Melissa Wilkinsan, Lacey Walder, Gina Munoz, Jenna Filkus. Back: Cheryl Rardon, Carrie Kabinetz, Megan Lou, Carole Heisel, Jackie Slabada, Jessica Anderson, Sameen Zia, Tamara Stephens, Nicole Barry, Traci Leslie, Olivia Rzepski.

Opposite bottom: Gina Muñoz, Lacey Walder, Stephanie Giaiasa. **Top left:** Front Row: Maggie Straebel, Alex Nable. Second Row: Nadine Sheridan, Samantha Schreiner. Third Row: Stephanie Lucak, Lindsay Waisla, Natalie Zaval, Back Row: Jen Sabacki.

Top right: Front row: Nicolle Nelson, Cara Ash, Sarah Heuring, Sasha Young. Back row: Danielle Wyatt, Lisa Allgeyer, Candice Sloan, Jennifer Hoffman.

Center: Mariya Stalyarova, Brittney Morales, Kristie Lauderman, Danielle Burian, Michelle Mika.

Bottom: Megan Bieda, Katie Krahulec, Carly Schneider, Elizabeth Pastavovic, Barbara Zebrowski, Melissa Wilkinsan.

alpha kappa alpha AKA



year founded:
1908 at Howard University
u of i founding date:
February 12th, 1914
symbol:
Ivy leaf
nickname:
AKA
colors:
Salmon Pink & Apple
Green

"... supreme service to all mankind."

We build a legacy today with community service activities and campus events. The oldest organization for black women at the University of Illinois, the Gamma chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha has been among the vanguard of academic excellence and campus activism for ninety-three years.



"Ninety-nine years ago, Alpha Kappa Alpha was founded to touch lives: a sisterhood created to improve the stature of women and serving mankind. The Glamorous Gamma Chapter creates and develops leaders and provides an arena of uplifting sisterhood. I love my Alpha Kappa Alpha."

—Jessica Ashley Davis



Top, left center, right center bottom: Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha: Michelle Hemp-hill, senior in LAS, Jessica Ashley Davis, senior in LAS, Melanie Berks, senior in LAS, Ashley Bands, senior in ACES, Laurie Brooks, senior in LAS, Kim Mathews, senior in LAS.

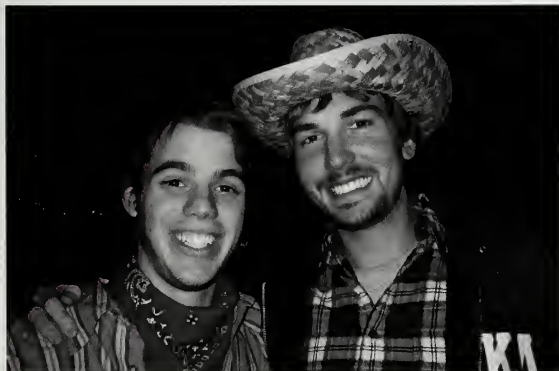


alpha kappa lambda AKA



year founded:
1914 at University of
California-Berkeley
u of i founding date:
March 18, 1921
nickname:
AKL
colors:
Purple & Gold

This fall AKL co-hosted its first annual haunted house with the women of Sigma Kappa. During the spring semester AKL hosted its annual Arctic Blast, a tournament in which teams compete in winter games. Both events raised money for These Hands Don't Hurt, a charity founded by the national organization dedicated to educating the public about domestic violence and providing support for battered women.



"In AKL I've found numerous friendships, unforgettable stories, and positive character development that I'll carry with me throughout my life."

—Stephen Harmon

Top: The Alpha Kappa Lambda house sits on the corner of Fourth and Daniel St.

Center: Members of Alpha Kappa Lambda and Sigma Kappa relax together after working the haunted house. The event took in over a thousand dollars for charity during two days.

Bottom: Senior Stephen Harmon and freshman Andy Shollcross hang out at the fall bon dance.

lambda chi alpha $\Lambda\chi\alpha$



year founded:
1909 at
Boston University
u of i founding date:
1911
symbols:
Cross & Crescent

nickname:
Choppers
colors:
Purple, Green
& Gold

The North American Food Drive, Lambda Chi Alpha's national philanthropy event, has raised over 21.3 million pounds of food for the hungry since its inception in 1933. Aside from this, the U of I chapter generally hosts a party in the spring or fall in order to raise money for Josh's Fund, a local benefit for cancer research.



Top: Front Row: Tyler Wendt, Sam Altaner, Phil Johnson, Michael Stegeman, Joe Davern, Kevin Lelaumeau, Adam Zaslner, Brian Noiden, Brady Collins, Luke Fanci, Mark Cassidy. Second Row: Michael Walker, Chris Mallen, Adam Heinz, David Sheo, Don Waters, Jess Strlich, Jeff Vael, Bobby Golden, David Michael, Mike Mogo, Abe Soang, Matt Managhan, Pat Cassidy, Brandon Mika, Jeff Tromp, Jason Agrimante. Third Row: Alex Whitaker, Dan Mazur, Sean Anderson, Phil Hyma, Nick Schwarz, Tristen Krohn, Canar Parker, Kyle Wallenberg, Ryan Beckmann, Dan Hamon, Kevin Mores, Matt Roos, Lawrence Dori, Matt Dieksa, Lucas Sternfeld, Mike Schmitz, Charlie Novario, Maren Batt, Rob Hyma, Dave Schubert, Octavia Duran, Josh Williams. Fourth Row: Billy Lewis, Dave Laude, Steven Rocus, Andrew Drake, Brandon Nolen, Edgar Mier, Robert Stewart, Charlie Gambino, Frank Vanderwall. Back Row: Kevin Pajmon, Drew Mussen, Don Fietterer, Mitch Burmeister, Scott Dwyer, Kevin McCarter, Eric Gatkowski, Philip Michael Banker, Victor Jukos, Kevin Stich, Paul Kostovich, Jack Vuylsteke, Erik Sanders, Jerry Edwards, Frank Lani Roaf Mark Jirik, Don Lundstedt.

Center: The men of Lambda Chi Alpha after A O P's "Mud Olympics". The guys took third place in the event for charity. Pictured: Brady Collins, Dan Homan, Jack Vuylsteke, Eric Gatkowski, Lucas Sternfeld, Brandon Nolen, and Kevin McCarter.

Left: The guys get together after their Associate Member football game having beaten Theta Xi 14 - 9. Pictured: Billy Lewis, Tyler Wendt, Kyle Wallenberg, Mike Stegeman.

"There is nothing that I have done in my four years of college that has more prepared me to be a leader than the hands on experience of leading 90 of my closest peers; it has to this point been the most difficult and rewarding experience of my life"

—Frank Vanderwall

gamma phi beta ΓΦΒ



year founded:
1874 at Syracuse
University
u of i founding date:
May 24, 1913
nickname:
Gamma Phi, G Phi's
colors:
Brown & Mode

The organization that Gamma Phi Beta's philanthropy activities benefit is Camp Fire USA. This organization helps send underprivileged children to camp, and give them opportunities they would otherwise not be able to afford. Our chapter hosts a Taco Dinner in the Spring and a Golf Tournament in the Fall with all profits going toward Camp Fire USA.



Top: Gamma Phis from the 2007 pledge class stop for a photo while on a fall sisterhood event to Curtis Orchard.

Center: A group of girls from the 2008 pledge class pose during fall recruitment.

Left: Gamma Phis welcoming their new 2010 pledge class on bid day.

stratford house



year founded:

1949

nickname:

Strat

colors:

Wine & White

Each semester we choose an organization to which we donate our missions budget. This year we were able to give to Illinois Lodge which provides for children and adults with disabilities to go to a summer camp. We were also able to support the Jesus Film Project, an organization that brings the film all over the world in many different languages.



Top right: Broomball Intramurals! We teamed up with Koinonia House to hit the ice. Aurora Coplinger, Shelly Unander, Liz Ritke. **Left center:** We had our annual bon dance at Hordy's Reindeer Ranch this fall—campfire with o corn moze, pumpkin carving, and of course, dancing! Chelsea Nelson, Ann Caulitas. **Right center:** Registering for I Help! We joined up with some of the guys from Kain and went to the Eastern Illinois Food Bank to help unload and organize boxes of donated items. Front Row: Alexis Walz, Rachel Messier. Back Row: Brad Barland, Pierce Vonne, Priscilla Reisinger, Jessica Gibson, Peter Lichtenberger, Nathan Krehbiel. **Bottom:** House Picture. Front Row: Alyssa Cambs, Tara Miller, Kelsey Vondike, Jessica Gibson, Liz LoVine. Not Pictured: Jessica Blair. Second Row: Darla Wilson, Anno Ziegler, Aurora Coplinger, Tricio Leman, Emily Fatzler, Alyse Curry, Nichole Coers, Beth Unander, Nichole Frank, Stephanie Vestie, Kira VanDerNaard, Bonnie Slevig, Kacie Liederbach, Melissa Feigl, Elizabeth Ritke, Sarah Pauley, Jackie Guth. Back Row: Emily Gradie, Emily Rogers, Ji Hye Kim, Rachel Messier, Shelly Unander, Andi Sandel, Alexis Walz, Priscilla Reisinger, Amy Unander, Erin Slevig, Kati Hassler, Ann Caulitas, Anne McLain, Chelsea Nelson, Sarah Safavinejah.

"I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body. I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others I would have gained nothing' (1 Corinthians 13:3). As a community of Christians from many different backgrounds, we are united in the desire to pass on Christ's love to this campus, and throughout the world!"

sigma chi ΣΧ



year founded:
1855 at Miami Ohio
University
u of i founding date:
1881
symbols:
The White Cross
nickname:
Sigs
colors:
Blue & Old Gold

Every year we hold a week-long philanthropy event called Derby Days. More than 10 sororities compete and participate in a variety of events to help raise money for the Children's Miracle Network. This year we raised more than \$15,000.



"Sigma Chi embodies a true college experience. It provides a social, academic, philanthropic, and leadership opportunity that cannot be surpassed."

Top: Adam Shalopin, Drew Micholok, Ryan McCay and Mark Rollings at our Riverboat Exchange with the Gamma Phi.

Left center: Wayne Vanderheide and Chris Harris at our Mom's Weekend Auction.

Right center: Matt Christensen, Kevin McAndrew and Tony Piscopo at Brotherhood Night.

Bottom: Seniors Carmen Rassi, Cam Gunderson, Mike Gale and Chad Zeglis.



Illini emergency medical services



Year of founding date:
1979

nickname:
IEMS

symbols:
Star of Life

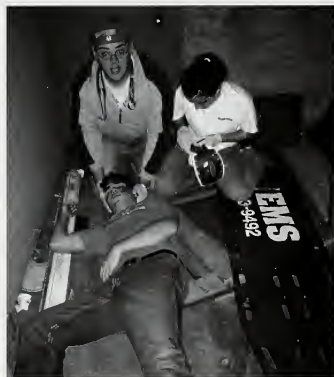
colors:
Red, White, Blue & Orange

"Illini EMS has allowed me the opportunity to gain valuable medical experience while facilitating some of the best friendships with people who share my interests in helping others and our community."

—Christine Schroeder



Illini Emergency Medical Services is a BLS, non-transport service for the University of Illinois campus. IEMS was founded in 1979 by student EMTs who decided that the two first-aid rooms in Memorial Stadium were not adequate medical coverage for a typical stadium event. Our primary responsibility is to provide EMS support to events on campus. IEMS also offers educational classes such as CPR, First Responder, and EMT-Basic to students and the community.



Top: Nancy Hsu, Jenny Band, & Josh Zimmerman catching a breath after saving lives at an Illini football game.

Above left: Nancy Hsu, Erin Scheidemantel, Christine Schroeder, & Danielle Weiner at the IEMS Formal.

Front row: Josh Zimmerman, John Saunders, Erin Scheidemantel, Liz Furgat, Nancy Hsu, Emily Dray, Samuel Kim, Kurt Bloomstrand. **Back row:** Luke Pra, Rob Davis, Dustin Rumpel, Mengyao Liang, Christine Schroeder, Dean Adams, Layne Phillips, Jenny Band. **Not pictured:** Dan Maluta, Taby Gabrielsen.

Left: Practice makes perfect! EMT students Sammy Harris, Taby Gabrielsen, and Tegan Pague practice spineboarding during a fake scene.

illini dance team



The nationally-ranked Illini Dance Team is a group of ambitious female athletes dedicated to continuing the long-standing tradition of competitive excellence on which it was founded. As a student-run, self-funded sports club on campus, the Illini Dance Team's primary focus is competing at the national level at the UDA College Dance Team National Championships in Orlando, Florida. They also perform at many campus events and holds clinics for university and high school students. We have participated in events such as Boogie Nights and Up Til' Dawn. We also performed at the first annual Dance.Live.06 showcase at University of Illinois-Chicago. The proceeds from this event went to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

nickname:
Blue & Orange

Above: The team attends UDA summer college dance camp every year alongside many of other dance teams in the Big Ten. They gather over the summer to prepare for camp and become one cohesive team. **Left:** The team is preparing to perform their hip hop routine at the National Championships. Without a coach, the officers are responsible for all aspects of this team's success. A lot of hard work went into being able to attend this competition and accomplish their goals.

"This team signifies a hard working group of girls that are dedicated to bringing spirit to the U of I campus, to representing U of I on a national level at the college dance team championships, and to having a great time performing as a team."

university baptist church

year founded:

1912

theme:

Go and Tell! Rev.14:6

nickname:

UBC

"Being part of UBC has been a tremendous blessing for me. The things I have learned and applied to my life as well as the relationships formed will always be part of me. College most definitely would not have been the same without UBC."

—Akihiko Tomita



The University Baptist Church is proud to support a plethora of activities and groups specifically designed to meet the needs and interest of students. From couples and small groups to undergraduate Bible study we have it all. Students also have great opportunities here to reach out and make a difference. Missions trips to Habitat for Humanity work sites are taken every year during spring break and we also support our local missions work such as Restoration Urbana Ministries and Operation Sleighbell.

"The Baptist Student Foundation and UBC focus on providing the means for fellowship and worship to the community and encourage education, faith, and growth in the Bible and Jesus Christ."

—Dan Riewerts



Top: The University Baptist Church meets after worship.
Above: Serving others.
Left: Studying God's Word.

student alumni ambassadors



"Student Alumni Ambassadors has been the best part of my college experience. Nowhere else would I have found the opportunities, leadership or the friendships. I had the privilege of serving the campus in choosing 100 loyal seniors who have given so much to this university and honoring them for the excellence they have embodied. I have made lifelong friendships with people who have incredible dedication, warmth, and pride for this school. I don't know if I'll ever find a home like this again and I will miss everyone, as well as this organization so much - it truly does "Build Relationships For Life!"

—Michelle Lira

Above: Member of the Student Alumni Ambassadors meet for a photo.

year founded:

1976

nickname:

SAA

SAA hosts nearly 200 University and Alumni Association events each year. In addition SAA plans and runs many Homecoming events such as the Pep Rally and I-Help, along with events for students like Illinois Sights and Sounds and Gradfest.

alpha chi rho AXR



"My brothers are my family at school. My brothers will be with me throughout life. I don't know what my life would be like without them, but I don't really care to think about it."

—Joel Bonasera

year founded:

1895

u of i founding date:

May 29, 1916

symbols:

AXP

nickname:

Crows

colors:

Garnet & White

Brothers of the house assisted in the building of a playground for the children of Thomas Paine Elementary School in Urbana.

Left: Front Row: Brian Schmidt, Tam Fallbacher, Sachil Rao, Brian de Koning, Ryan Pinto, Tim Smith. Middle Row: Michael Kariba, Phil Rehani, Sean Rahan, Patrick Tambarski, Matt Sykes, William Karmas, Andy Keeney, Arjun Baird, Tim Naffke, Matt Duch. Top Row: Joel Bonasera, Joey Urban, Eric Johnson, Jason Luksis, Tami Mail, Roger Serwy, Keyan McCaffrey. Not Pictured: Paul Ahn, Chris Bergsvik, Keith Chernick, Matt Millitello, Patrick Ranta

pi beta phi



Pi Beta Phi works to promote literacy. Each year the house makes other greek organizations participate in an athletic tournament called Arrow games. Proceeds from the event go towards Pi Phi's national philanthropy, Links to Literacy. Pi Phi is also active in the Champaign-Urbana community. The chapter created a literacy program at a local elementary school called Champions are Readers. Through this program Pi Phi's work with second and third graders on their reading skills. Pi Phi's also participate in a variety of other philanthropic organizations like Up till Dawn, Habitat for Humanity, and Big Brothers, Big Sisters.

"Being a Pi Phi has allowed me to meet some of my closest friends. It's also given me many opportunities both in the Greek system and in other organizations. It has defined my college experience, and I have no idea where I'd be without these girls!"

—Nicole Alexander

year founded:

1867 at Monmouth

College, IL

u of i founding date:

October 26, 1895

symbols:

The Arrow

nickname:

Pi Phi

colors:

Wine & Silver Blue

Top: Front Row: Susan Bickner, Leslie Powell, Katy Wettstein, Kim Viadek. Back Row: Elisa Cortez, Meg Garham, Tracey Driscoll, Jamie Miller.
Left: Savana Soder, Katy Steeze, Sara Smuda, Jessica Wic, Melissa Dudek

phi mu



year founded:
1852 in Macon, GA
u of i founding date:
1921
symbols:
Carnation, Quatra
Foil & Lion
nickname:
Phi Mu's
colors:
Rose & White

Phi Mu holds their annual Broomball tournament during the spring semester and a spaghetti dinner during the fall. All the proceeds go to Phi Mu's national philanthropy, Children's Miracle Network.

Left: The women of Phi Mu welcome their new pledge class on Bid Day.

"Phi Mu has given me countless friends, sisters and opportunities within the organization but also campuswide. My sorority represents not only who I was in college; this group of women allowed me the chance to grow and change into the person I am today."

—Samantha Conover

triangle fraternity



year founded:
1907
colors:
Old Rose & Grey

house officers

President:
Bob Bierman
Internal V.P.:
Jeff Dammeyer
External V.P.:
David Muccigrosso
Recruitment V.P.:
Matt Collison
Treasurer:
Eric Lindberg
Secretary:
Michael Rizzello
House Manager:
Ian Brown
Commissar:
Marshall Katz
Recruitment Chairmen:
Ed Roy
Jeff Mundingier
Kyle Millins
Social Chairman:
Andrew Martenson
Alumni Relations:
Vlad Tira
Summer Recruitment:
Rajinder Sachl
Webmaster:
Kevin Glowacz

RETROFIT
phi mu
triangle fraternity

illini 'n motion



year founded:
1995



Above: Executive Board: Kristen Sackley, Vice President, Kristen Zelasko, President, Natalie Hicks, Treasurer.
Left: Front row: Kristen Sackley, Kaitlyn Dalton, Natalie Hicks, Stephanie Florence, Kristi Rhades, Kristen Zelasko. Second row: Katy Galli, Colby Prunty, Briana Horn, Leon Furmanski, Sandy Splayt, Bridget Haley, Tiffany Hall. Third row: Liz Pham, Lauren Olson, Karen Tsui, Lindsey Vrtis, Erin Mangion, Beth Ferguson, Samantha Phelps, Erin Fullerton. Fourth row: Missy Warner, Molly Gipson, Jesse Kappel, Savana Soder, Jamie Miller, Kim Proudfoot, Kimberly Redeker, Tessa Myers.

"Illini 'N Motion has been an important aspect of my college career as it has allowed me to stay active as a dancer, as well as provided me with a creative outlet. Being a part of Illini 'N Motion for the past four years has provided me with a small community of dancers to not only share my talents and ideas with, but to grow with in ability and friendship."

—Kristen Zelasko, President

illini union board



year founded:
1942

Front Row: Jeanne Poole, Stephanie James, Paula Urbubey-Fish, Christina Alabi, Vivian Yulun Ko, Fatima Aziz, Brian Griffith. **Back Row:** Derek Chan, Daniel Newman, Ryan Johnson, Lance Wright, Mulu Ferede, Zachary Knight, Nalin Saluja, Michael Buehman, Carlo Caffre, Abigail Fleming, Shaaa Ansari, Jacqueline Ware-Sadsad

phi mu alpha sinfonia



year founded:
1898 at the New
England Conserva-
tory of Music

u of i founding date:
June 6, 1925

symbols:
Lyre

colors:
Red & Black

Front row: Matthew Bufo, Ankur Raniwala, Mike Gardner, Ben Holmes, Jeff Navak, Steven Riley, Mike West, Justin Ahlberg.
Back row: Cody Halberstadt, Brandon Calt, Bob Mecuzzi, Adam Rusek, Jonathan Krauss, Brendan Frank, Zachary Gellar, Nicholas Laafman

"Sinfonia has been a brotherhood which helps me through the hard times and created the good. The bonds I have created in my years in the fraternity are lifelong and I will cherish each and every memory."

—Adam Rusek, President

phi eta sigma $\Phi E \Sigma$



year founded:
1923

symbols:
Lamp & Pyramid

colors:
Black & Gold

Phi Eta Sigma was founded at the University of Illinois on March 12, 1923. It is the oldest and largest freshman honor society on campus. Our goal is to encourage and reward excellence among first-year students in institutes of higher learning. Phi Eta Sigma participates in tutoring at Garden Hills Elementary School, Relay for Life, School supply drive, and many more!

president: Victor Chan
vice-president: Jenna Wilkerson
director of internal affairs: Chris Molitor
secretary: Melissa Beck
historian: Kristen Oliszewicz
on-campus tutoring: Emily Selen
off-campus tutoring: James Henderson
senior advisor: Justin Litz
faculty advisor: Meghan Hazen

Bottom: Phi Eta Sigma Members have fun at Relay for Life.
Left: The Phi Eta Sigma 2006-2007 Executive Board meets after the Fall General Meeting.



3spot dance troupe



year founded:
1997

Before our Fall 2006 show at Lincoln Hall Theater. 3Spot Dance Troupe Members: Amanda Bohnstiehl, Megan Bentz, Lauren Brescia, Nicole Cajigas, Chloe Castro, Sarah Chapman, Kayla Christensen, Lena Ciardullo, Kristyn Colacicco, Melissa Colgan, Annie Calletti, Diana Corral, Lauren Coutant, Megan Dino, Julia Dostal, Amanda Freebeck, Lisa Geiger, Sara Gramley, Kristen Hammons, Meredith Harris, Meredith Havey, Amber Jackson, Maggie Jarr, Alison Killey, Chris Knowlton, Kimberly Kopka, Nya Lynn, Megan Mattucci, Lisa Mellman, Sarah Murphy, Lauren Popp, Stephanie Poquette, Brooke Projansky, Abby Ptak, Kendall Ramal, Ashley Rockefeller, Alexandra Rzepka, Kristen Schramm, Lauren Schroeder, Angela Simpson, Rachel Specht, Elizabeth Steller, Maggie Straebel, Diana Xu, Danielle Vicek.

"3Spot has given me the opportunity to stay active with dance, be involved at U of I, and be part of a creative group full of great dancers."

—Elizabeth Steller

habitat for humanity



year founded:
1976 in Americus, Georgia

Habitat for Humanity build houses for the less privileged people in this community and across the United States.

Front row: Sandra Lu, Katy Galli, Stu Montgomery, Shari Greiger, An Nguyen. Back row: Marli Bardell, Jeff Green, Paul Hopkins, Eric Sheu, Charles Blatt.

campus girl scouts



colors:
Blue & Green
symbols:
Trefoil

Front row: Sara Schepis, Jessie Kubiszyn, Fatima Chishtli, Virginia Byrne, Ashley Garner. Back row: Council Advisor, Deborah Faircloth, Ashlee Ford, Molly Goodman, Claire Krauss, Bernadette Skobel, Caitlin Sullivan, Ashley Warmoth, Kelly Hayes, Victoria Svazas, Kyla Waltermire.

women's glee club

year founded:
1924

Officers (front row): Beth Golden, Treasurer: Sarah Janikiewicz, Concert Choir: Katie Colby, Secretary: Chelsey Phelps, President: Aarji Jayanthi, Librarian: Georgann Grecco, Vice President: Dr. Joe Grant, Director.

"During my time at U of I, Women's Glee has given me the chance to share my passion of singing and music with others. It has given me many friends and memories that I will carry for a lifetime."

This year Women's Glee Club was invited to perform at the Illinois Music Educator's Association All-State in Peoria this January.



nabor house fraternity



Front row: Brandon Bazarth, Joshua Daugherty, Robert Faerder, Michael Benjamin, Nicholas Shaner, Lucas Martin, Robert Johnson, Curtis Zurliene, Joshua Hornback, Wes Hornback. **Second row:** Joy Kelley, Bradley Nelson, Grant Honnath, Marcus Shaw, Michael Genschaw, Scott Wessel, Eric Dewerff, Jared Walter, Larry Coers, Nick Varber, Randy Lindgren, Andrew Marehouse. **Back row:** John Dollos, Joe Talley, John Corson, Tyler Helgen, Ben Wendling, Dustin Daugherty, Brian Croine, Andrew Fulton, Lee Brokow, David Shier. **Not Pictured:** Glendann Haney, Bryce Hoselhorst, Michael Perkins, Corey Struck, Joe Zimmerman.

u of i founding date:

April 29, 1939

symbols:

The Crest

colors:

Green & Gold

"Nabor House provided me with a wholesome living environment rich with the ideals of education, cooperation, recreation, Christian living, and agriculture appreciation. The men of Nabor House stand solid to their core values, making our fraternity an exciting and fruitful place to live!"

—John Dougherty, Senior

LAS leaders



Front row: Kim Matthews, Kaitlin Mallay, Abby Doll, Mollory Herr, Stephanie Luke.

Second row: Valerie Foko, Eryn Finke, Emmo Joy, Marie Verhelst, Erinn Mitchell.

Third row: Amanda Tiller, Emma Swift, NooAmery Badger, Laurie Konio, Gail Schnitzer, Ashley Moore, Ashley Wells, Allison Costilla, Ignacio Mendaza.

Back row: Kara Ramsey, Michael Larkin, Bruce Douglas, Steve Serio, Don Mazur, David Wiest, Ryan Lowe, Chris Karcie, Joey Levin, Ben Dobbins, Akindelo Fomoyegun.

Not pictured: Karli Ahn, Victor Chon, Nattie Czupryna.

"LAS Leaders has provided me with the opportunity to embrace my course while allowing me to interact with past and present students of the council. The group has also offered me many career-related opportunities."

—David Wiest, President

ucc campus ministry



year founded:

1921 at UIUC

nickname:

UCF

year founded:

1921 at UIUC

Front row: Adam Hughes, Kim Vogler, Jesse Koppel, Nigel Knopp, Scott Bonjovcic, Megan Whitney, Ben Shea, Heather Goetsch, Mark Goodwin.

Second row: Cary Hinz, Nichal Chantafalksy, Amy Balek, Allison Hall, Jen Gaheen, Caroline Halezny, Casey Haercher, Mike Allen, Susan Requa.

UCF worked throughout the year with organizations such as the Times Center, and the Boys & Girls club giving of our time. They give our money to a lot of farther causes as well such as Katrina relief & relief to Africa. Their biggest philanthropy project is a spring break trip where they work in high poverty areas to build or renovate houses.

"This group has been a sanctuary for me. It is a place I can be crazy, a place I can be calm, a place where I can learn & a place I can grow. I've met a second family through this group. the people in this group are the ones I can go to no matter the time, place, or situation."

—Susan Requa

RETRO
LENTAL



● Looking back at a class of Illinois seniors, as if situated behind a lens.

CAROLYN ABINISTON

Media Studies, Duquesne, PA

JULIAN ADAIR

Chemistry and Technology Management, Chicago, IL

IAN ADAMS

Political Science and Economics, Greenville, SC

LISA ADAMS

English, Chicago State University, Chicago, IL

MARK EVAN ADAMS

Business, Evansville, Marshall, WA

ERIC ADONA

Accounting and Finance, Fresno, CA



JESSICA AGUILAR

Political Science, Chicago, IL

LORENA AGUILERA

Psychology, Baton Rouge, LA

CARMINA AGUIRRE

Elementary Education, Chicago, IL

JAEHAN AHN

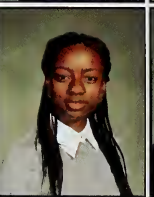
Accounting, South, IL

CHRISTINA ALABI

Broadcast Journalism, Duquesne, PA

ANGELICA ALFARO

Psychology, Chicago, IL



BRADLEY ALLEN

Mechanical Engineering, Birmo, IL

JOSHUA ALLEN

Accounting, Duquoin, IL

NICHOLAS ALLEN

Engineering Physics, Chicago, IL

EMMANUEL ALOZIE

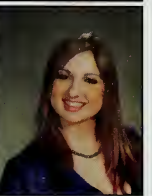
Molecular and Cellular Biology, Monro, IL

AUDICA ALTHEIMER

Chemistry, Chicago, IL

ROSANNA AMIRAN

Music Education, Des Plaines, IL



HANNA AMOAH

Community Health, Chicago, IL

ELIZABETH ANDERSON

Elementary Education, Arlington Heights, IL

ERIC H. ANDERSON

Mechanical Engineering, Florida, NY

ERIC T. ANDERSON

Broadcast Journalism, Western Springs, IL

JULIE ANDERSON

Speech and Hearing, Chicago, IL

KRISTEN ANDERSON

Technical System Management, Richmond, IL



MARITA ANDERSON

Community Health, Champaign, IL

SHANNON ANDERSON

Architectural Studies, Green Valley, IL

JESSE ANDREWS III

Finance, Chicago, IL

RAYNOLD ANSONG

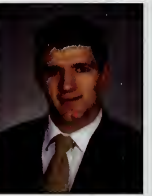
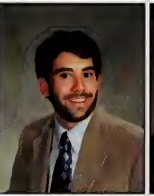
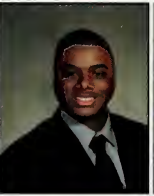
Psychology, Chicago, IL

BRIAN APPELL

Internal Disposition, Wilmette, IL

BRIAN ARCHIBALD

Accounting, St. Joseph, MO



AURORA ARIAS

Community Health, Arlington Heights, IL

CARTER ARMSTRONG

Community Health, Sayre, IL

MARISA ARMSTRONG

Marketing, Peoria, IL

WILLIAM ARNOST

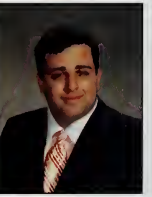
Finance, North Andover, MA

ELLIOT ARSONIADIS

Molecular and Cellular Biology, Evanston, IL

BENJAMIN ASHRAF

Systems Biology and Genetic Engineering, Monroeville, PA



THERESA AUDINO

Kinesiology, Mount Prospect, IL

SARAH AYERS

Media Studies, Monroeville, IL

THOMAS BADGER

Business Administration, Spaulding, IL

CHRISTOPHER BAEK

Computer Engineering, Northbrook, IL

PORTIR BAILEY

Agriculture, Chicago, IL

JILL BAJOREK

Psychology, Burbank, IL





EMILY BAKKEN
AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP, LINCOLN, IL
JESSICA BALDONIERI
PSYCHOLOGY, MAUI, HI
JILLIAN BALK
POLITICAL SCIENCE, O FALLON, IL
MELISHA BANSAL
COMMUNITY HEALTH, FORT MONROE, IL
RYAN VINCENT BARANDINO
ARCHITECTURE, STILES, PALATKA, IL
HEATHER BARANOWSKI
PSYCHOLOGY, NAYVILLE, IL

DAVID BARBER
POLITICAL SCIENCE, GALESBURG, IL
ADAM BARLING
CIVIL SERVICE, PAVY, IL
KELLY BARNARD
SPEECH COMMUNICATION, CHENOA, IL
KATHRYN BARRETT
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, GLEN ELLEN, IL
MARIA BARRIENTOS
SOCIOLOGY, CHICAGO, IL
RICK BARRITT
FRANCE, WEST SPRINGFIELD, IL

ROSS BARRY
MARKETING, CARROLLTON, IL
AMY BARTKOWIAK
ECONOMICS, CHICAGO, IL
ALEX BARTON
CIVIL ENGINEERING, RIVINGTON, IL
RUTH BARZ
GENERAL ENGINEERING, MOHAWK, IL
RACHEL BASS
JOURNALISM, BETHESDA, MD
BRITANY BATHURST
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, LITCHFIELD, IL

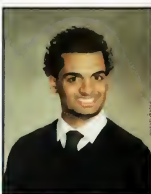
KRISTEN BAUER
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, PALATKA, IL
MALLORY BAUER
ENGLISH SECONDARY ED, OMA LAHN, IL
JOSHUA BAUTISTA
PSYCHOLOGY, MARIETTA, IL
KELLY BAXTER
SPEECH COMMUNICATION, MONTICELLO, IL
MANALE BAYA
SOCIOLOGY, CHICAGO, IL
DIONDRE A. BEAL
SOCIOLOGY, CHICAGO, IL

DANIELLE BEARD
MUSIC EDUCATION, MARIETTA, IL
MAIREN BEAZLEY
ACCOUNTANCY, BARRINGTON, IL
KATHERINE BECKER
SPEECH COMMUNICATION, WAUKEGON, IL
SARAH BECKER
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, SPRINGFIELD, IL
GRADY BEHRENS
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, URBANA, IL
NADINE BELINGER
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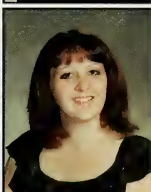
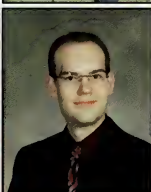
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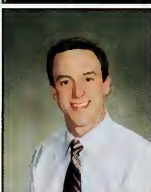
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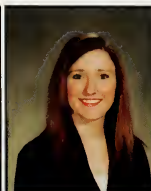
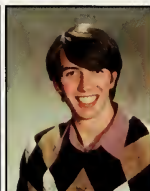
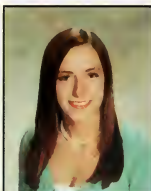
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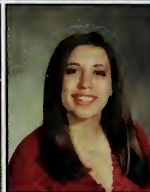
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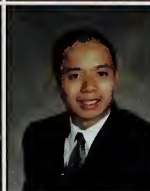
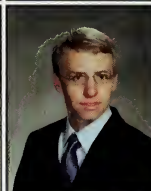
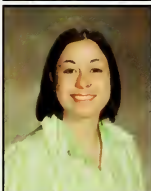
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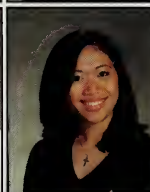
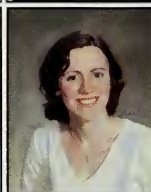
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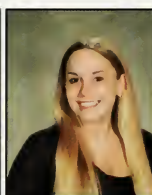
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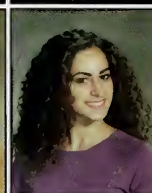
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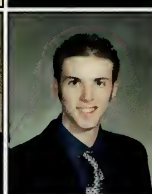
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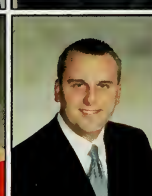
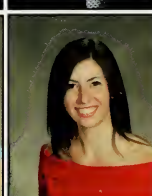
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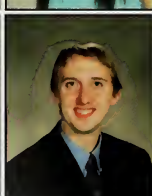
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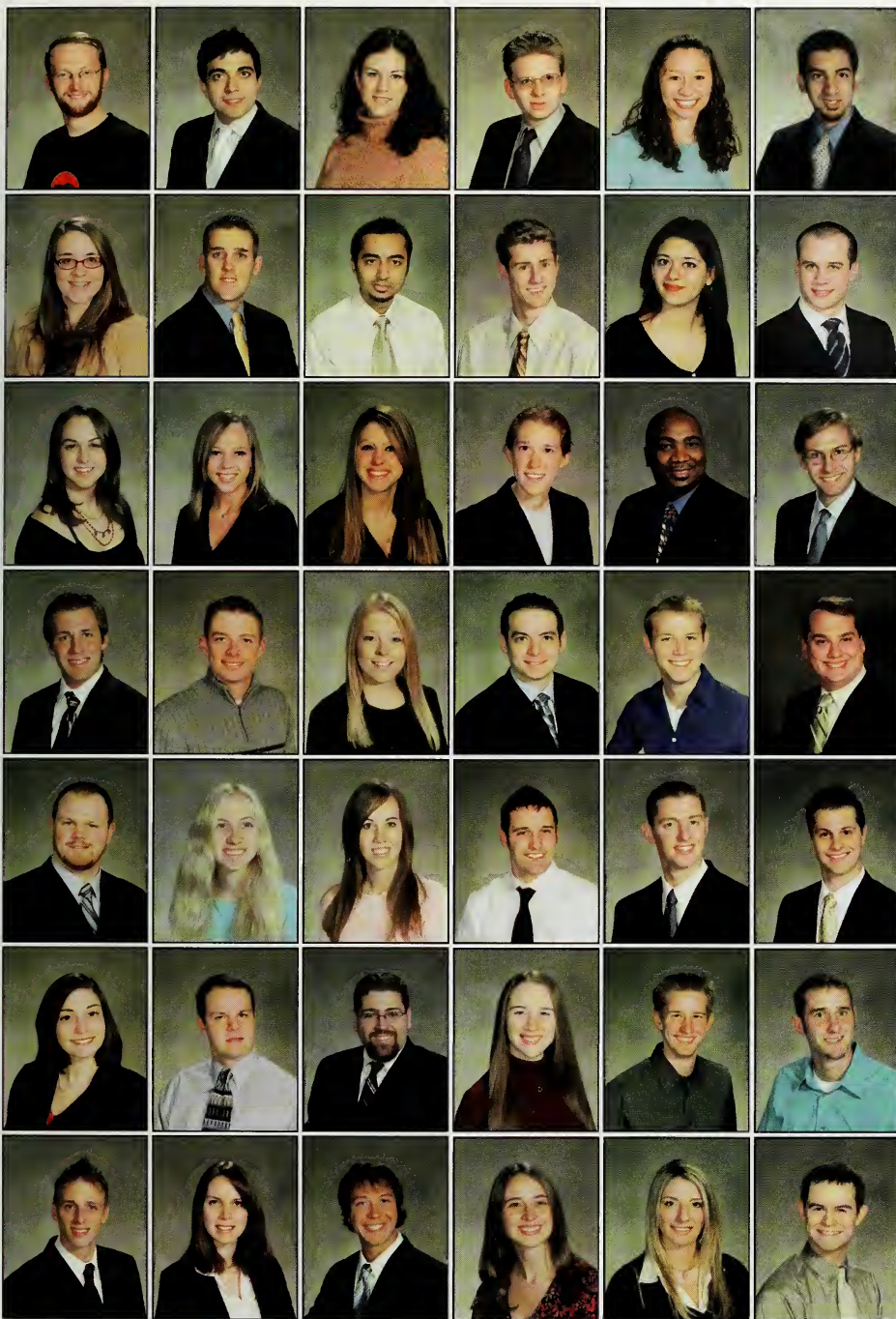


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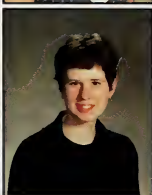
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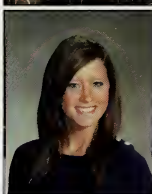
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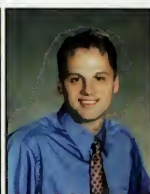
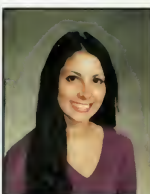
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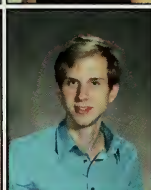
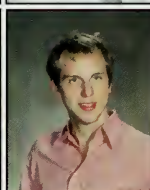
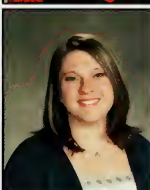
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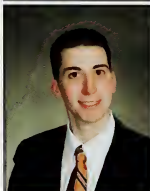
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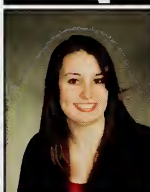
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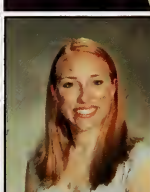
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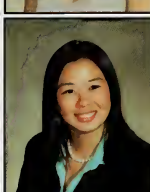
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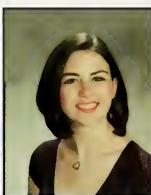
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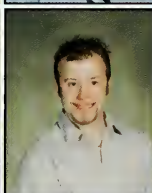
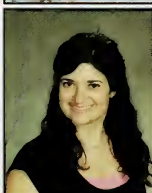
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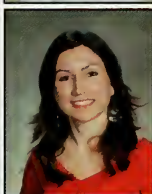
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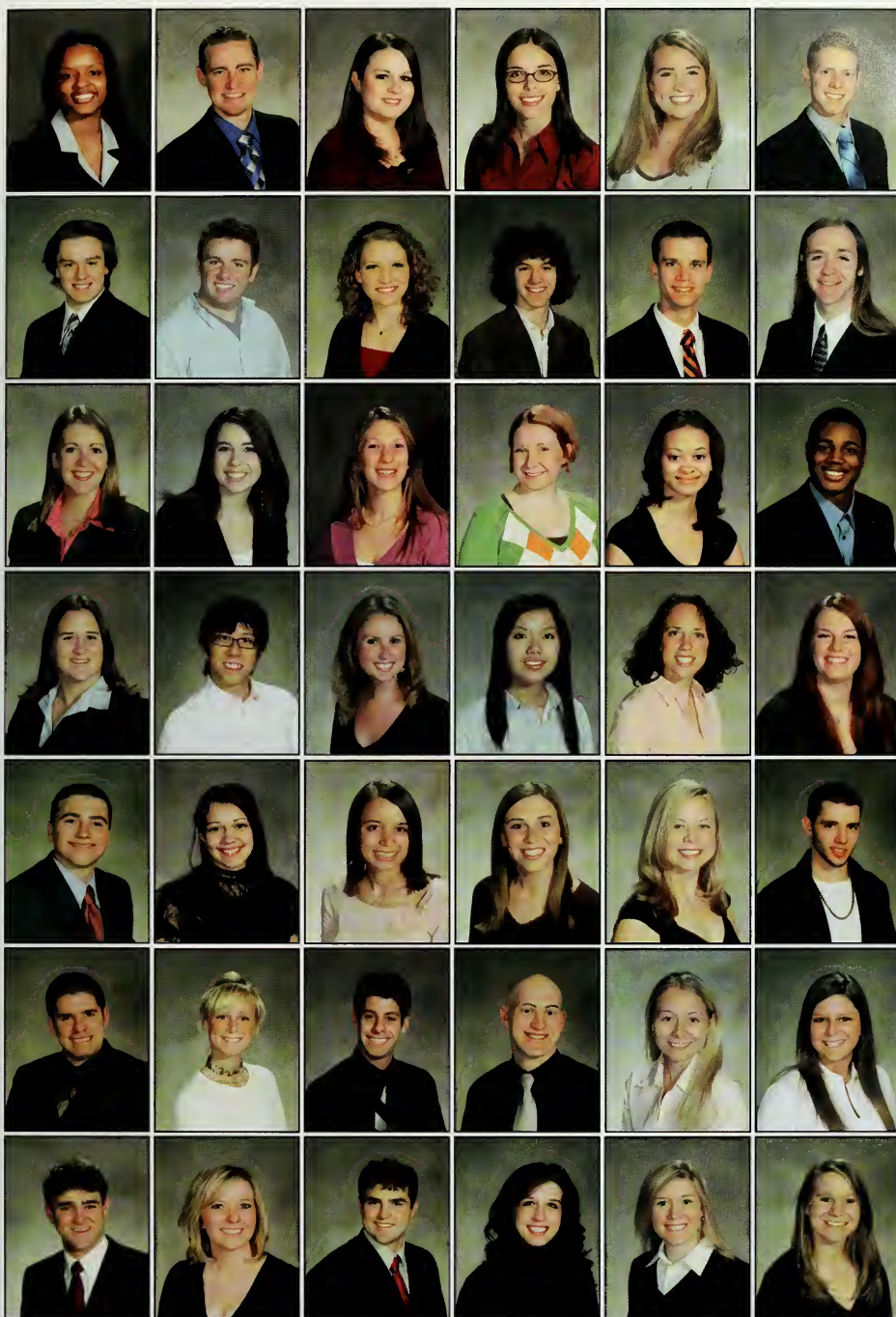


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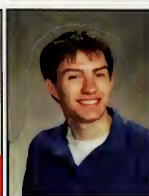
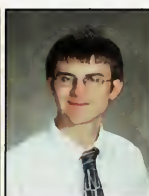
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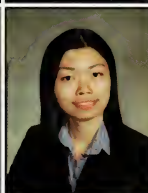
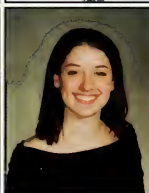
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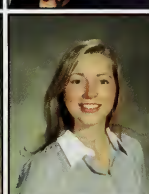
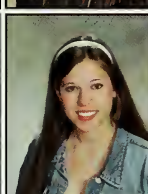
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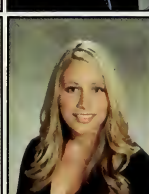
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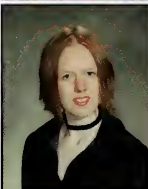
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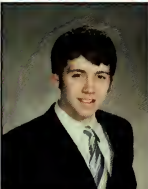
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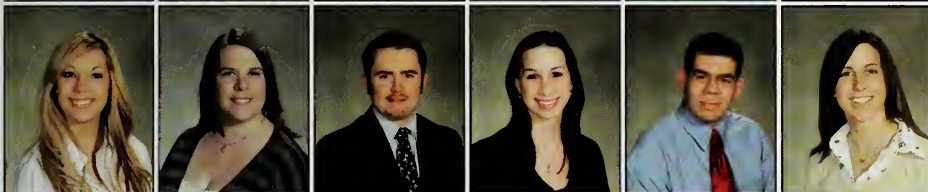
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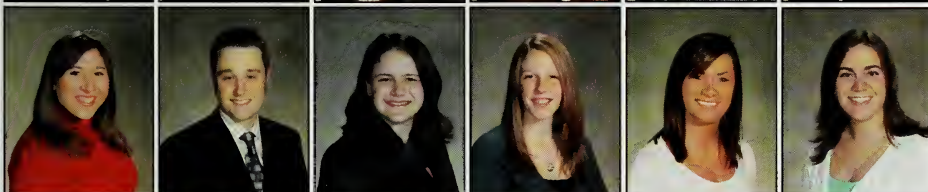
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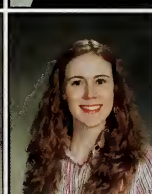
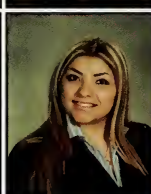
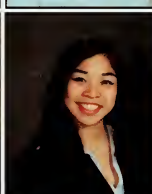
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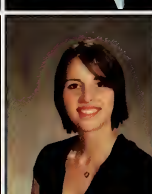
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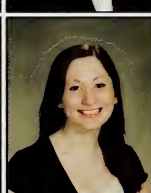
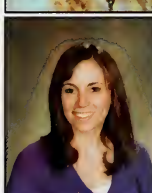
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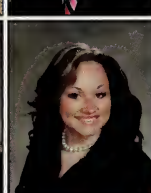
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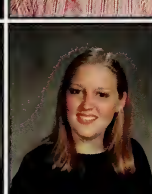
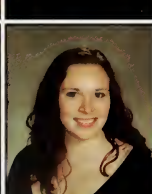
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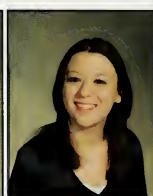
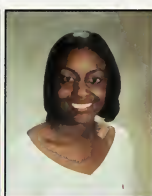
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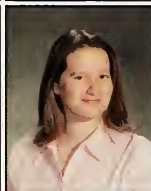
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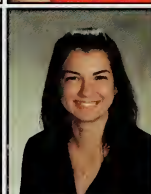
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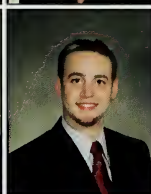
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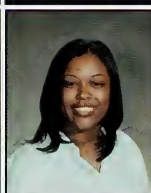
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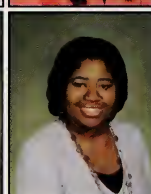
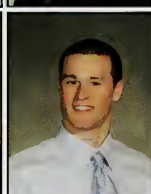
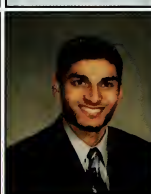
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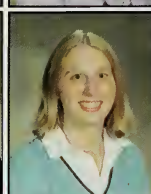
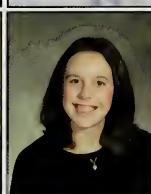
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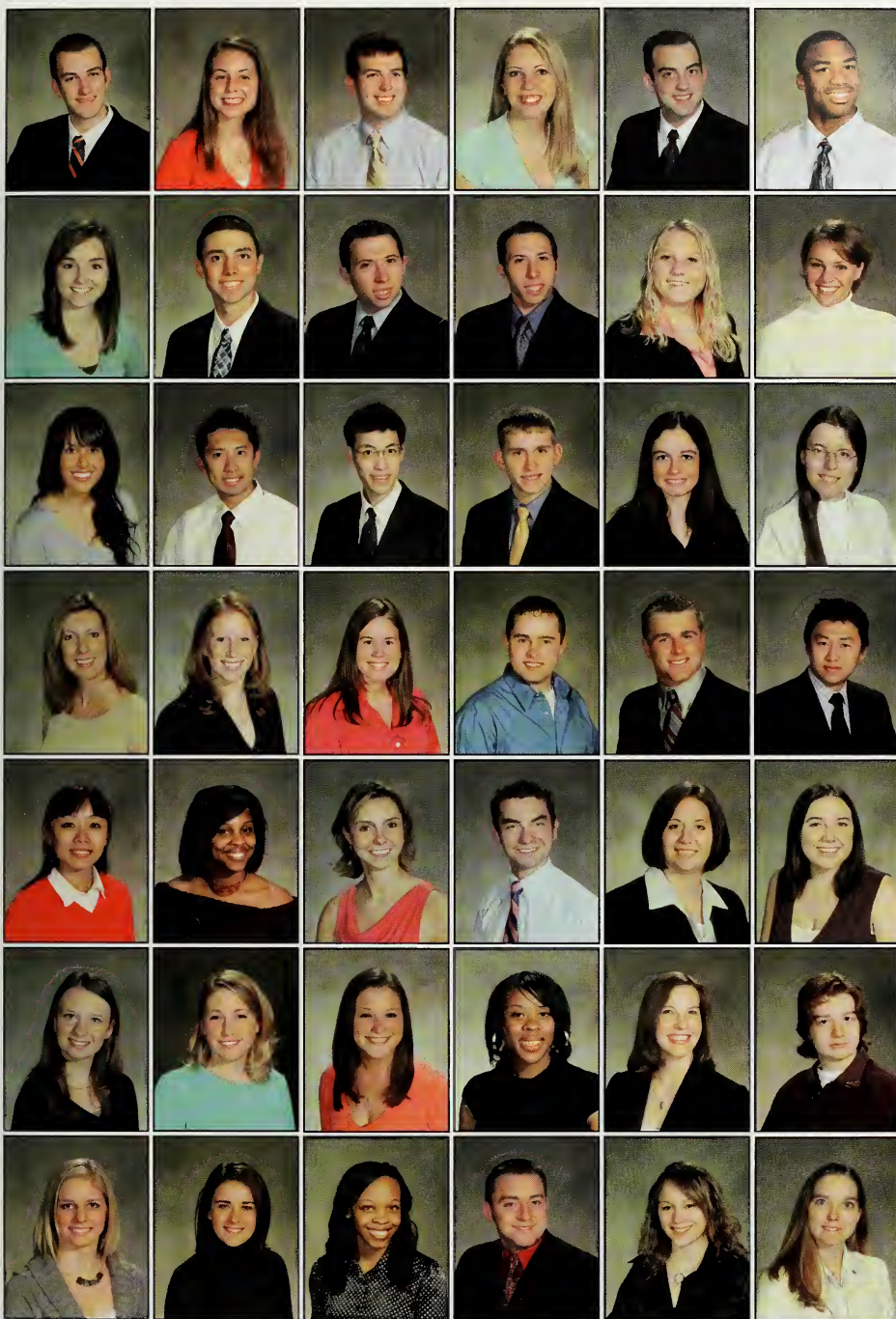


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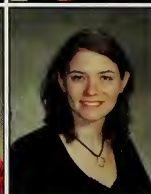
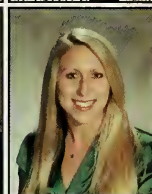
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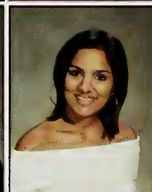
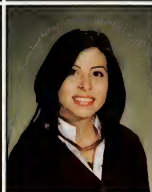
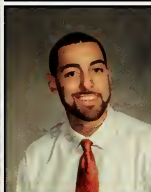
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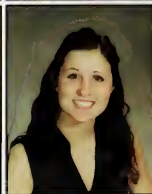
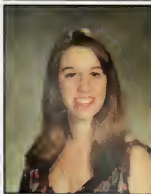
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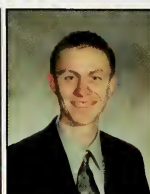
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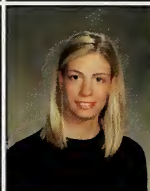
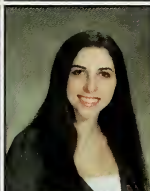
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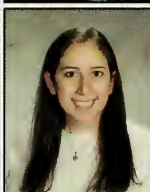
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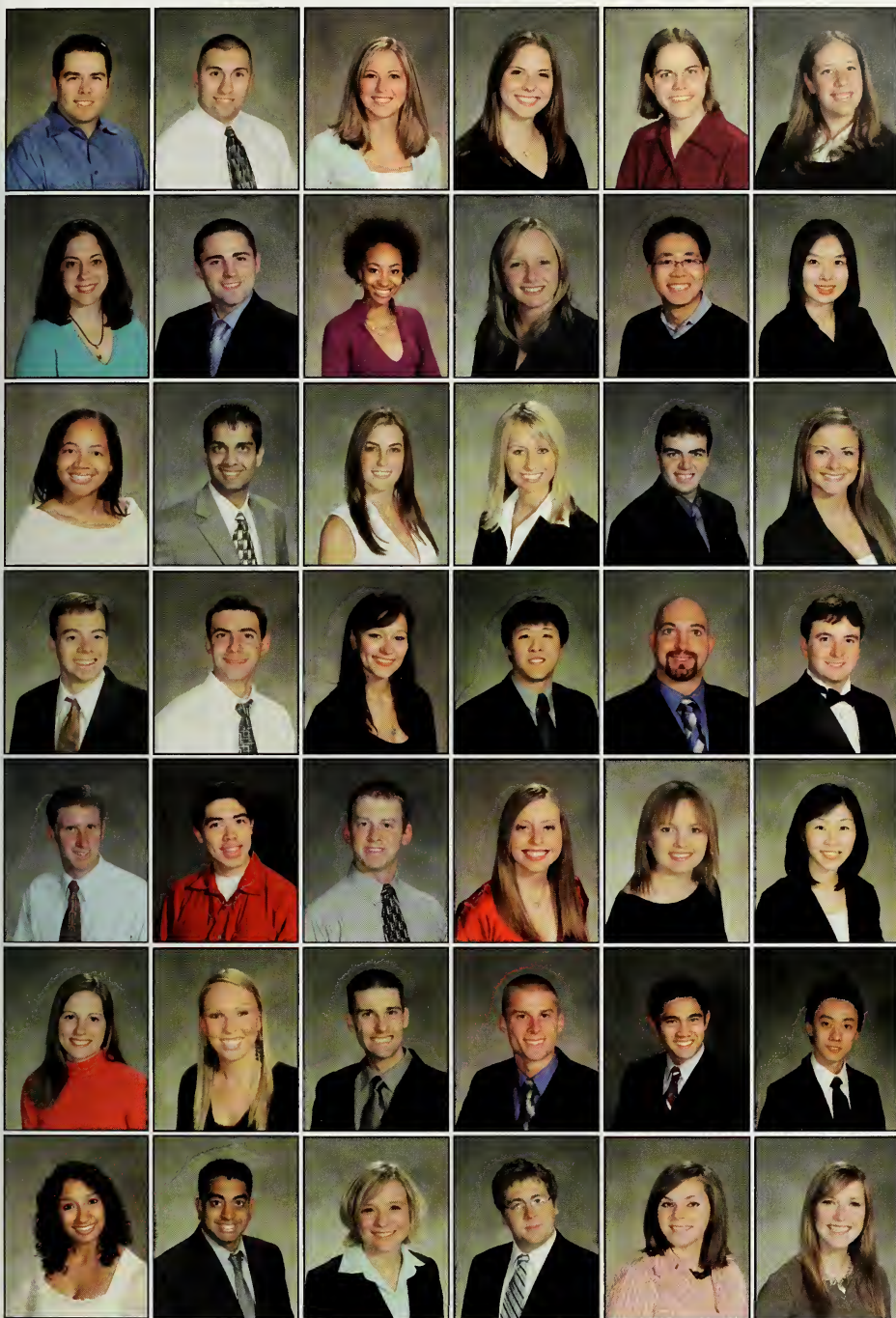


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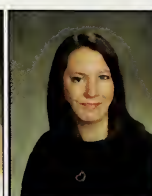
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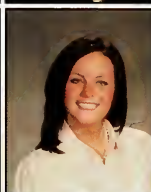
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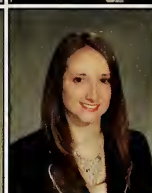
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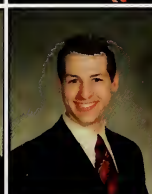
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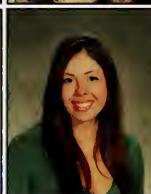
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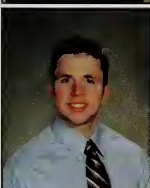
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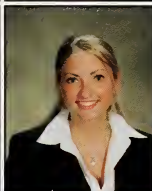
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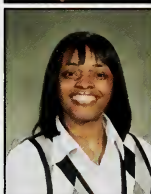
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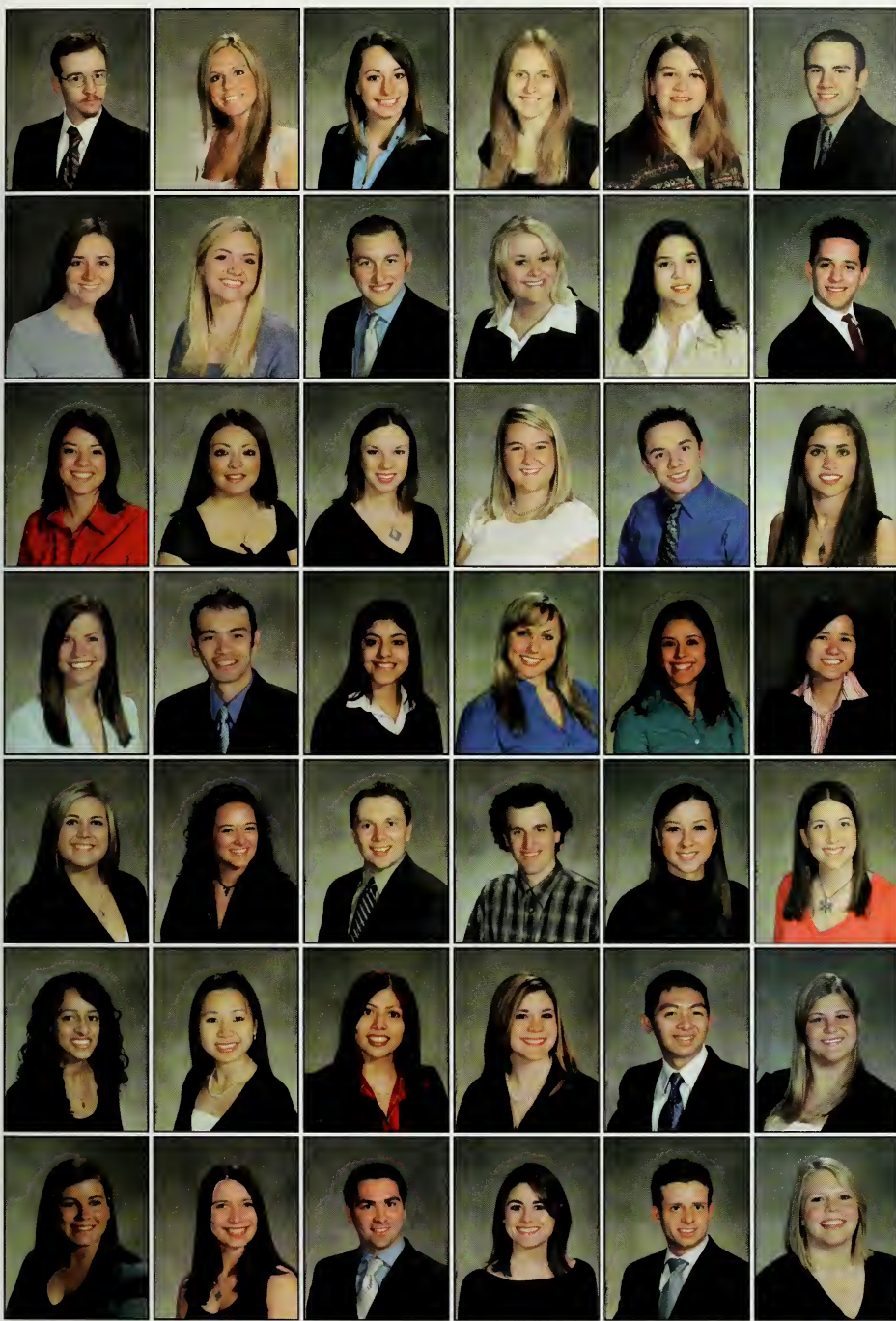


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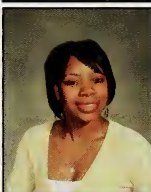
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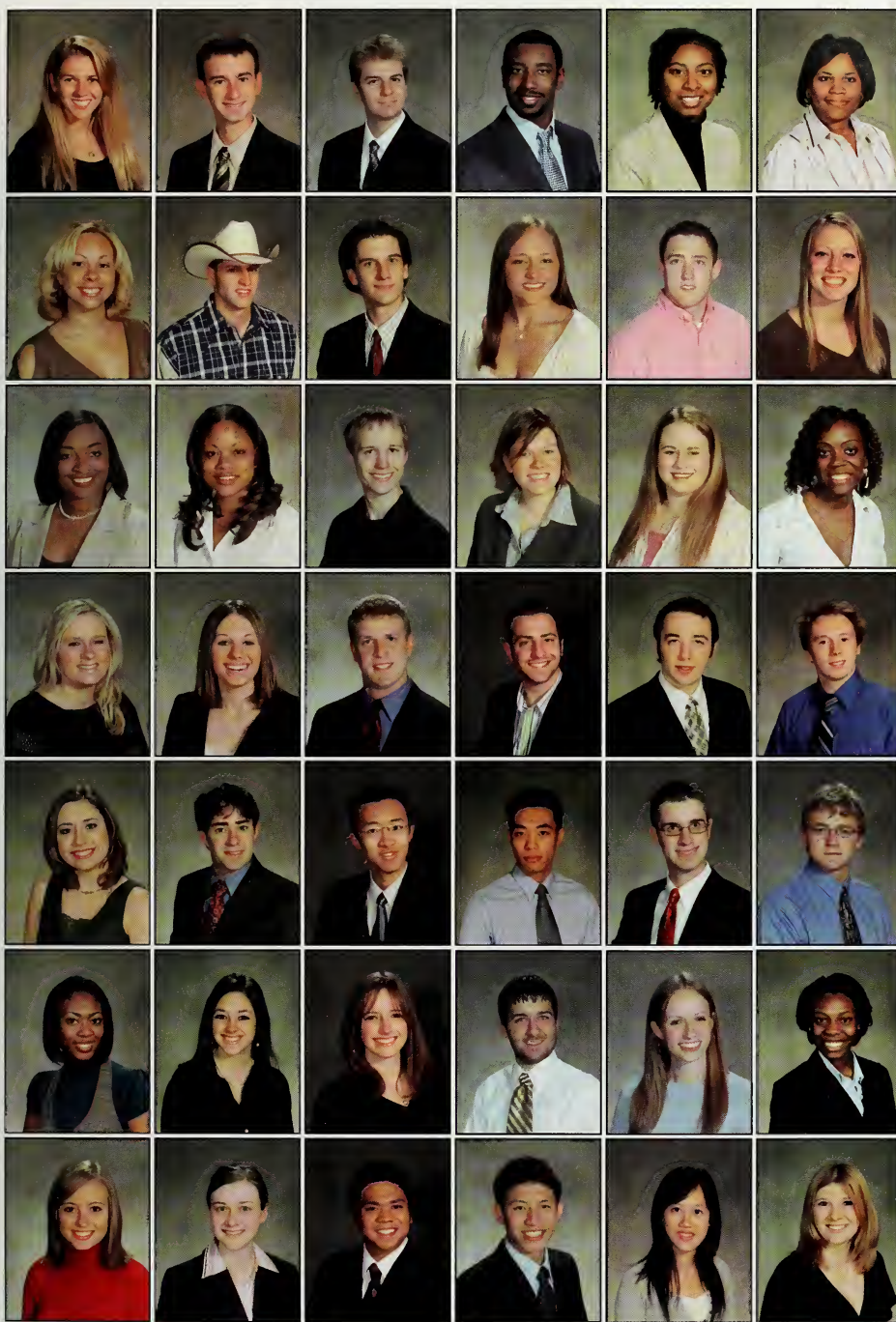


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INDEX

Abdullah, Sharriff 211
 Abington, Carolyn 272
 Aboukier, Hayfa 17
 Aceret, Erica 46
 ACES, College of 103
 Adair, Jillian 272
 Adamczyk, John 209
 Adametz, Scott 217, 219
 Adams, Dean 260
 Adams, Ian 272
 Adams, Lisa 272
 Adams, Mark Evan 272
 Adesida, Olabisi 209
 Adesiea, Tope 163
 Administration 99
 Adona, Eric 272
 Agrimonte, Jason 256
 Aguilar, Jessica 272
 Aguilera, Lorena 272
 Aguirre, Alicia 59
 Aguirre, Carmina 272
 Aguirre, Mark 135
 Ahmed, Amina 107
 Ahn, Jaehan 272
 Ahn, Karli 269
 Ahn, Paul 106, 264
 Alabi, Christina 266, 272
 Alacze, Melvin 211
 Alafoginis, Frank 205
 Alde, Stephanie 210
 Alexakis, Art 219
 Alexander, Nicole 264
 Allaro, Angelica 272
 Aljunid, Shakirah 84
 Allen, Bradley 272
 Allen, Joshua 272
 Allen, Mike 269
 Allen, Nikolas 272
 Allen Hall Zombies 41
 Allgeyer, Lisa 253
 Alozie, Emmanuel 272
 Alpha Chi Omega 230
 Alpha Chi Rho 264
 Alpha Delta Pi 249
 Alpha Gamma Delta 231
 Alpha Gamma Rho 232
 Alpha Gamma Sigma 233
 Alpha Kappa Alpha 254
 Alpha Kappa Lambda 255

... 234
 ... 25
 ... 60
 ... 258
 ... 272
 ... 203
 ... 207
 Aguirre, Rosanna 272
 Amoah, Hanna 272
 Amundsen, Ben 211
 Anderson, Elizabeth 272
 Anderson, Eric 225
 Anderson, Eric H. 272
 Anderson, Eric T. 272
 Anderson, Erika 229
 Anderson, Jessica 252
 Anderson, Julie 272
 Anderson, Kevin 189, 192, 193, 208
 Anderson, Kristen 229, 272
 Anderson, Kristine 210
 Anderson, Marita 272
 Anderson, Ryan 63
 Anderson, Sean 256
 Anderson, Shannon 272
 Andrews III, Jesse 272
 Angel, Wayne 183, 209
 Ansari, Shoa 266
 Ansong, Raynold 272
 Anthony, Scott 202
 Appell, Brian 272
 Applied Health Sciences, College of 107
 Aquino, Lauren 62, 251
 Arabia, Julie 251
 Archibald, Brian 272
 Arias, Aurora 272
 Arlis, Clint 210
 Armstrong, Lana 196
 Armstrong, Cartier 272
 Armstrong, Dale 207
 Armstrong, Lana 196, 203
 Armstrong, Marisa 272
 Armstrong, Tiara 209
 Armstrong, Verity 209
 Arndt, Victoria 204
 Arnold, Marcus 178, 204
 Arnost, William 272
 Aronson, Justin 209
 Arsenijevic, Maryann 64, 65
 Arsoniadis, Elliot 272
 Asamoah, Jon 211
 Ash, Cara 252, 253
 Ashraf, Benjamin 272
 Aubert, Jacqui 209
 Audette, Dan 133
 Audino, Theresa 272
 Augello, Alisa 132, 133
 Avila, Michelle 338
 Avilez, Jessie 42, 43
 Ayers, Sarah 272
 Azaria, Eytan 90, 91
 Aziz, Fatima 266

Bachtell, Kyla 207
 Badger, NaaAmerly 269
 Badger, Thomas 272
 Badrinarayanan, Arvind 117
 Baek, Christopher 272
 Bailen, Michael 211
 Bailey, Charles 211
 Bailey, Portir 272
 Bain, Amber 64
 Bain, Jackie 207
 Baidur, Arjun 264
 Bajorek, Jill 272
 Baker, Maggie 171
 Baker, Mark 240
 Baker, Scott 238
 Bakken, Emily 229, 273
 Baldassarre, Megan 250, 251
 Baldonieri, Jessica 273
 Baldwin, Kate 211
 Balck, Amy 269
 Balk, Julian 273

Ball, Alan 211
 Ballard, Randy 210
 Banjavic, Scott 269
 Banker, Philip Michael 256
 Banks, Nathaniel 59
 Bansa, Melishia 273
 Barandino, Ryan Vincent 273
 Baranowski, Heather 273
 Barber, David 273
 Bardell, Marli 268
 Barling, Adam 273
 Barlow, Zach 205
 Barmes, Billy 207
 Barnard, Kelli 273
 Barnes, Kathy 229
 Baron, Kelsey 17
 Barrett, Billy 203
 Barrett, Kathryn 273
 Barrientos, Maria 42, 43, 273
 Barritti, Rick 273
 Barry, Nicole 252
 Barry, Ross 273
 Bar Scene 47
 Bartkowiak, Amy 273
 Barton, Allen 273
 Barz, Ruth 273
 Baseball 195, 203
 Basketball, Men's 176, 178, 204
 Basketball, Women's 174, 204
 Bass, Rachel 273
 Bateman, Emily 81
 Bateman, Kayley 171
 Bateman, Megan 81
 Bathurst, Brittany 273
 Batt, Maren 256
 Bauer, Kristen 250, 251, 273
 Bauer, Mallory 273
 Baum, Rachel 229
 Baunach, Sarah 242
 Bautista, Joshua 273
 Baxter, Kelly 273
 Baya, Manale 273
 Bayci, Kevin 243
 Bayne, Jessica 207
 Bazzetta, Lizzie 210
 Beaire, Brian 209
 Beal, Diondre A. 273
 Beard, Danielle 273
 Beard, Laura 133
 Beatty, Emily 224
 Beaudoin, Daniel 8
 Beazley, Maren 230, 273
 Bechtol, Kristi 61
 Beck, Melissa 267
 Becker, Katherine 228, 273
 Becker, Sarah 64, 65, 228, 273
 Beckford-Stewart, Alecia 185, 209
 Beckmann, Ryan 256
 Behrens, Bailey 203
 Behrens, Grady 216, 226, 273
 Bekas, Brittany 59, 222, 251
 Belbin, Ashley 170
 Bell, Courtney 207
 Bell, Jenna 250
 Bellamy, Travin 211
 Bellingier, Nadine 273
 Belsley, Jill 36
 Belzer, Zachary 273
 Bem, Claire 273
 Bendis, Katherine 273
 Benjamin, Michael 269, 273
 Benne, Kristen 273
 Bennett, Taylor 156, 209
 Benson, Chris 120
 Bentley, Lauren 273
 Bentz, Megan 268
 Berge, Johanna 113, 273
 Berge, Marianna 113
 Bergen, Will 211
 Bergsvik, Chris 264
 Beringsmith, Allison 248, 273
 Berkowitz, Emily 46
 Berks, Melanie 254, 273

Bernard, Catherine 273
 Bernardo, Abbey 207
 Bernas, Rob 85
 Berning, Edward 273
 Berry, Adam 273
 Berry, Christina 274
 Berzack, Ellen 252
 Betel, Monica 220, 221
 Bhatt, Hetal 274
 Bialorucki, Jessica 228, 239, 274
 Bickford, Joshua 274
 Bickner, Susan 264
 Bieda, Megan 252, 253
 Biernan, Bob 265
 Biernacki, Adam 163
 Bill, Jason 183, 209
 Billing, Valerie 274
 Birdsall, John 211
 Birkner, Danielle 274
 Birnbaum, Josh 215
 Bizer, Jonathan 274
 Biver, Michael 274
 Bizzari, Angela 156, 158, 159, 184, 209
 Bjork, Lori 174, 204
 Black, Brandon 274
 Black, Cassandra 274
 Black, Frank 220
 Blackburn, Kevin 274
 Blackman, Meredith 274
 Blackmon, David 274
 Blair, Jessica 45, 258
 Blair, Nathan 274
 Blake Ruebsch 238
 Blanchard, William 70
 Blandford, Julie 274
 Blasa, Reynard 274
 Blatti, Charles 268
 Blaze, Erin 274
 Bleess, Brandon 35, 274
 Blickensderfer, Daniel 274
 Blickhan, Josh 232
 Blickhan, Joshua 274
 Blinstrup, Margaret 274
 Bliss, Cody 274
 Block, Danielle 274
 Block, Eric 211
 Block, Jessie 338
 Block, Kristen 229
 Block-I 26
 Bloden, Daniel 274
 Bloom, Callie 274
 Bloom, Rebecca 274
 Bloomstrand, Kurt 260
 Bluemer, Stacy 250
 Blyth, Brian 63
 Boaz, Lisa 274
 Bockrath, Devin 29
 Bodine, Theodore 274
 Boehnrsen, Brianne 274
 Boesche, Katie 229
 Bohac, Michael 274
 Bohlen, Edward 233, 274
 Bohn, Joseph 274
 Bohn, Tiffany 274
 Bohnenstiehl, Amanda 268
 Bolotin, Ana 226
 Bonadonna, Joe 203
 Bonasera, Joel 264
 Bond, Jenny 260
 Bond, Patrick 173, 210
 Bonds, Ashley 254
 Boneva, Iana 207
 Bonsu, Clara 274
 Bonvallet, Lauren 274
 Boo, Michael 238
 Book, Aaron 238
 Boorman, Rebecca 274
 Borland, Brad 258, 274
 Borris, Stephanie 274
 Bosch, Jared 211
 Boss, Amy 29
 Bosslet, Melissa 274
 Botterman, Danye 200, 206

Botterman, Marijka 200, 206
 Botti, Gina 230
 Bourland, Molly 229
 Boyd, Arthur 211
 Boyer, Kori 274
 Boyer, Michael 198, 206
 Boyer, Rebecca 274
 Bozarth, Brandon 269
 Bozarth, Jordan 275
 Bradarich, Paul 275
 Bradley, Alex 234
 Bradley, Alyssa 29
 Bradley, Meghan 207
 Bradley, Ross 206
 Brady, Michael 52
 Brand, Myles 35
 Brandys, Kirk 275
 Brannick, Brendan 275
 Brantner, Timothy 238
 Brasic, Tim 211
 Brauhn, Tyler 275
 Brazas, Megan 275
 Bredar, Kaysie 275
 Brendel, Mike 128
 Brener, Edward 275
 Brennan, Mary 275
 Brenner, Tyler 275
 Brescia, Lauren 268
 Brickman, Matthew 275
 Bridges, Brandon 275
 Bridgewater, Lauren 275
 Bridgford, Michael 115, 275
 Briggs, Benjamin 238
 Briggs, Macey 275
 Brines, Robert 238
 Brizuela, Gabriela 275
 Broadhurst, Lisa 275
 Brock, Calvin 204
 Brockman, Jennifer 275
 Brokaw, Lee 269
 Brokaw, Theresa 209
 Bromley, Nicole 275
 Brooks, Julia 216
 Brooks, Laurie 254
 Brown, Angela 275
 Brown, Brittany 250
 Brown, Dan 163
 Brown, Ian 265
 Brown, Jared 232
 Brown, Jerry 211
 Brown, Justin 238
 Brown, Lisa Nicole 275
 Brown, Megan 275
 Brown, Nathan 232, 275
 Brown, Nick 183, 209
 Brown, Patrick R. 275
 Brown, Patrick T. 275
 Brown, Ted 275
 Brown, Vicky 196, 203, 210
 Brownfield, Shane 275
 Brownson, Pat 210
 Brubaker, Megan 229
 Bruce, Katie 275
 Bruea, Jamie 209
 Brukett, Joshua 238
 Brummet, Ryan 56, 57
 Bruner, Greg 211
 Bruns, Justin 233
 Bryant, Kasey 275
 Bryers, Sarah 203
 Bubel, Holly 275
 Buckley, Samantha 275
 Buckman, Abby 236
 Budd, Allison 275
 Buddhists for World Peace 48
 Budzinski, Laura 275
 Buchlman, Michael 266
 Buflis, Matthew 267
 Buford-Bailey, Tonja 209
 Bugalski, Dave 211
 Buita, Kirk 238, 275
 Buker, Mindy 275
 Bull, Ryan 238

Bullard, Dalton 210
 Buns, Allison 275
 Bunzoi, Daniel 275
 Burchfield, Dave 77
 Burda, Mike 164
 Burden, Casey 187, 205
 Burian, Danielle 253
 Burke, Christina 17
 Burke, Darron 275
 Burmeister, Mitch 256
 Burns, Brittany 275
 Burns, Erik 211
 Burns, Julia 275
 Burr, Heather 276
 Bush, Brian 73
 Bush, Pierre 209
 Bushma, Blake 238
 Business, College of 115
 Buss, Jason 238
 Bustamonte, Tiffany 44
 Butcher, Beau 276
 Butler, Jackie 229
 Butler, Michael 238
 Buzard, Brooke 203
 Buzz 21, 62, 220, 226
 Byrne, Virginia 268

Caballes, Efen 276
 Caceres, Carlos 44
 Cafcas, Thomas 276
 Cain, Sarah 224
 Caine, Lauren 276
 Cajinos, Justin 276
 Cajinos, Nicole 268
 Calixto, Chrizita 276
 Callahan, Grant 276
 Calles, Katie 250

Campaign for Change 59
 Campbell, Steve 276
 Campbell II, Lawrence Jerome 276
 Campione, Edward 276
 Campus Crusade for Christ 48
 Campus Girl Scouts 268
 Canine, Lauren 230
 Canning, Janna 276
 Cantone, Rebecca 276
 Caplinger, Aurora 258
 Carew, Jillian 276
 Caringal, Jennifer 276
 Carlson, Annie 228
 Carlson, Elizabeth 276
 Carlson, Thomas 276
 Carlwell, Brian 176, 204
 Carreon, Victor 276
 Carrington, Liz 46
 Carroll, Cathryn 209
 Carroll, Maggie 209
 Carson, John 269
 Carson, Sam 211
 Carstens, Jonathon 276
 Carstens, Lindsey 207
 Carter, Brendan 276
 Carter, Jennifer 276
 Carter, Warren 180, 181, 204
 Case, Scott 276
 Casey, Marcellus 211
 Casey, Megan 276
 Cassel, Chad 164
 Cassidy, Mark 256
 Cassidy, Pat 256
 Castellano, Vanessa 250, 251
 Castillo, Allison 269
 Castillo, Monica 276
 Castro, Chloe 268
 Catt, Brandon 267
 Caughey, Daniel 276
 Cavaligos, Kristine 276
 Cavinder, Amanda 69
 Cavinder, Jeremy 68, 69
 Cayetuna, Aida Mae 276
 Cespedes, Ariadna 276
 Chan, Cyril K. 225
 Chan, Derek 266

Chan, Victor 267, 269, 276
 Chang, Jason 129
 Chaplin, Shelley 167
 Chapman, Sarah 57, 268
 Charlesworth, Aaron 232
 Chatman, Courtney 276
 Chavka, Dan 276
 Cheatham, Kelli 276
 Cheerleading 7, 149, 202
 Chellean, Stephanie 204
 Chemburkar, Neel 29
 Chen, Robert 276
 Chenoweth, Tricia 229
 Chernick, Keith 264, 276
 Cherry, Brittany 100
 Chesnut, Trent 211
 Chibe, Lauren 276
 Chicago Bears 77
 Chief Illiniwek 35, 86, 88
 Chin, Christine 276
 Chin, Je Lin 276
 Chi Omega 236
 Chisholm, Karly 250, 251
 Chishti, Fatima 268
 Cho, Devin 276
 Cho, James 216
 Choi, Eunil 276
 Chontalks, Nichol 269
 Chostner, Benjamin 276
 Chou, Jie 127
 Choules, Mary Pat 209
 Chow, Eva 276
 Christensen, Eric 276
 Christensen, Kayla 268
 Christensen, Matt 259
 Christopoulos, Christine 203
 Chu, Elton 277
 Chu, Immanuel 211
 Chubirka, Marshall 164
 Chun, Raymond 277
 Ciardullo, Lena 268
 Ciecko, Katherine 277
 Klonowski, Michael 211
 Clapp, Marissa 169, 207
 Clapper, Kristen 277
 Clark, Colin 243
 Clark, Elizabeth 277
 Clark, Erik 277
 Clark, Hillary 277
 Clark, Karen 277
 Clark, Mary 277
 Claver, Aaron 277
 Cleary, Cassie 95
 Cleary, Patrick 232, 277
 Cline, Sara 250
 Clodfelder, Jeremy 211
 Cober, Benjamin 277
 Cochran, Dave 233
 Coco, Jennifer 277
 Coen, Kimberly 277
 Coenic, Jerome 277
 Coers, Larry 269, 277
 Coers, Natalie 258
 Cofre, Carla 43, 266
 Cohen, Susan 226
 Colacicco, Kristyn 268
 Colba, Adam 277
 Colby, Katie 268
 Coleman, Amelia 210
 Coleman, Eric 277
 Coleman, Latasha 277
 Colgan, Melissa 268
 Colletti, Annie 268
 Collins, Brady 256
 Collins, Colleen 277
 Collins, Ryan Michael 277
 Collis, Stefanie 277
 Collison, Matt 265
 Combs, Alyssa 258, 277
 Comfort, Jim 210
 Coming to Campus 17
 Communications, College of 119
 Concepcion, Christina 277

Concordia, Kevin 243
 Conklin, Brittany 277
 Conn, Alexshea 277
 Conner, Elisabeth 277
 Conover, Samantha 265, 277
 Conroy, Joshua 277
 Conte, Anthony 243
 Cook, Alei 216
 Cook, Christine 205
 Cook, Pamela 277
 Cooke, Charlotte 207
 Cooper, Alondra 209
 Cooper, Sabrina 277
 Coppernoll, Courtney 112
 Coppin, Katie 209
 Corral, Diana 268
 Correa, Elisa 264, 277
 Corrigan, Colleen 277
 Corvallis, Marissa 216, 242
 Cory, Mary 21, 226
 Costanzo, Samuel 277
 Costello, Jennifer 277
 Costello, Paul 216
 Costello, Tom 226
 Cote, Laura 277
 Couch, Matthew 277
 Couche, Brendan 277
 Coultas, Ann 258
 Coulter, Mike 62
 Courtright, Mary 250
 Coutant, Lauren 268, 277
 Covanka, Kathryn 277
 Cowart, Nicole 200, 206
 Cowell, Matthew 277
 Cox, Devin 232
 Cox, Nicole 242
 Coyle, Meggie 230
 Craft, Mallory 168, 169, 207
 Craine, Brian 269
 Crall, Julie 206
 Cramer, Jenna 277
 Crames, Samantha 250, 278
 Creamer, Bryant 211
 Croft, Ashley 278
 Crompton, Kim 250
 Crompton, Kimberly 278
 Cross, David 278
 Cross, Rebecca 278
 Crossley, Erika 278
 Crossroads 101
 Crown, Rebecca 278
 Croy, Kyle 211
 Crutcher, Danyel 204
 Cruz, Rogelio 243
 Cuadra, Alejandra Meza 190, 208
 Cucio, Joseph 278
 Culbreth, Marilyn 278
 Culp, Daphne 242
 Cumberland, Jeff 211
 Cunningham, Lizzy 236
 Cunningham, Briana 209
 Cunningham, Byron 211
 Cunnings, Barry 240
 Curcio, Cristina 278
 Curley, Michele 250
 Curry, Alyse 258
 Curry, Paris 278
 Custodio, Nicholas 278
 Cvengros, Bob 243
 Czupryna, Natlie 269

D'Anna, Alyssa 114
 Dahlke, Ellen 55
 Dailey, Ann 278
 Daily Illini 21, 22, 200, 214, 226
 Dale, Allison 209
 Dallas, John 269
 Dalton, Kaithy 266

Damery, Brooke 278
 Damm, Shawn 278
 Dammeyer, Jeff 265
 Damtwet, Daniel 278
 Dance2x5 Caliente 62

Dancer, Brad 208
 Dang, Cynthia Nguyen 278
 Daniel, Michael 278
 Daniels, Jonathan 278
 Daniels, Kristen 278
 Daniels, Kyle 278
 Dankenbring, Dawn 278
 Darden, Ashley 278
 Dart, Lawrence 256
 Darwin, Eric 278
 Dasso, Michelle 208
 Dating 57
 Daugherty, Dana 229
 Daugherty, Dustin 269
 Daugherty, Joshua 269, 278
 Davé, Jay 243
 Dave, Shivani 190
 Davé, Shivani 208
 Davenport, Joe 256
 Davidson, Michael 278
 Davis, Andrew 25, 278
 Davis, Brandon 189, 208
 Davis, Edirin 209
 Davis, Heather 278
 Davis, Jasmine 278
 Davis, Jessica Ashley 254, 278
 Davis, Kimberly 278
 Davis, Lars 195, 203
 Davis, Ollie Watts 18
 Davis, Rachel 278
 Davis, Rob 260
 Davis, Vontae 211
 Davis, Will 211
 Dawson, Dino 211
 Dawson, Eric 278
 Deal, Jason 278
 Dean, Eric 278
 DeBerry, Wesley 225
 Debnar, Brian 278
 Decker, Kurtis 278
 Dedes, Marina 278
 Defreitas, Angela 278
 DeGeorge, Mike 164
 Degnan, Lauren 278
 Dehlinger, Stacey 229
 Dehn, Emily 55
 Deien, Joseph 278
 DeJarnette, Noel 278
 DeKoning, Brian 264
 Delta Delta Delta 58, 251
 Delta Gamma 237
 Delta Zeta 253
 Demas, Christie 250
 Demonte, Frank 279
 Dempsey, Lauren 279
 Denene, John 210
 Deppen, Timothy 279
 Deppert, Mike 232
 DePrima, Claire 211
 Deraedt, Kathryn 279
 Dergo, John 173, 210
 Desai, Aashay 279
 Desjarlais, Marti 207
 DeSutter, Andrew 238
 Devolder, Jami 279
 DeVreese, Claire 203
 Dewar, Jenny 250
 Deweff, Eric 269, 279
 Dexter, T.J. 211
 Dhanani, Adnan 279
 Diaz, Cristina 94, 279
 Dickerson, James 279
 Diedrich, Leslie 279
 Dieska, Matt 256
 Dietlin, Margaretrose 279
 Dietz, Danielle 211
 Dietz, Kimberly 279
 Dill, Meg 279
 Dillard, George 279
 Diller, Shanna 196, 197, 203
 Dimond, John 279
 Ding, Grace 252
 Dino, Megan 268

... 211
 ... 209, 279
 ... 211
 ... 279
 ... 211
 ... 211
 ... 209
 Dobe, Harrison 279
 Doherty, Edward 279
 Doll, Abby 269
 Dollinger, Nicholas 279
 Domanico, Adam 210
 Dombrow, William 279
 Dombrowski, Anna 279
 Donahue, Kit 21
 Donahue, Stacy 217
 Donovan, Brock 219
 Doombos, Eric 279
 Dorgan, Gregory J. 279
 Dorin, Nicholas 279
 Dorothy, Olivia 279
 Doruff, Anthony 279
 Doshi, Andrea 250
 Dostal, Julia 268
 Douglas, Bruce 269
 Doukas, Aaron 279
 Dowling, Sarah 279
 Downs, Scott 216
 Doyle, Kerry 54
 Drake, Adam 279
 Drake, Andrew 256, 279
 Drake, Haley 242
 Dralle, David 95
 Dray, Emily 260
 Drendel, Julie 229
 Drinkall, Amanda 229
 Driscoll, Fritz 264
 Drollinger, Jon 198, 206
 Dryer, Brian 209
 Duch, Matt 264
 Dudek, Brian 279
 Dudek, Melissa 264
 Dudgeon, Sara Lou 279
 Duffett, Eric 279
 Duffie, Lauren 279
 Dumas, Adrienne 170
 Dunne, Lauren 279
 Duran, Octavio 256
 Durfey, Ryan 279
 Dusek, Kimberly 280
 Dutton, Dave 211
 Duval, Bobbi 211
 Duvalt, Chris 211
 Dwyer, Scott 256
 Dzwiewuntkusi, Michelle 280

Eakin, David 110, 111
 Earle, Emily 280
 Easey, Kathryn 280
 Easter, Robert A. 102
 Eastman, Jack 211
 Eben, Christopher 280
 Ebert, Robert 220
 Edinger, Ashley 210
 Edmiston, Benjamin 280
 Education, College of 123
 Edwards, Dorone 211
 Edwards, Garrett 211
 Edwards, Jerry 256
 Eichelberger, Holly 229
 Eisenkramer, Emily 228
 Eisner-Poor, Kaitlyn 209
 Ekblad, Suzanne 216
 Elhag, Muaz 280
 Ellis, Dan 202
 Ellis, Jamie 202
 Ellis, Jody 211
 Ellis, Lisa 36
 Elmore, Jessica 222
 Elugbadebo, Jonathan 280
 Emery, David 208
 Emig, Matthew 243, 280

Engel, Katie 184, 209
 Engineering, College of 127
 Engineering Council 244
 Engineering Open House 129
 England, Sarah 229
 Enos, April 280
 Enrique Robles 243
 Enriquez, Steven 280
 Entwistle, Tim 209
 Eppley, Larry 35, 88
 Erickson, Benjamin 280
 Erickson, Bridget 250, 251
 Erickson, Katie 280
 Escobar, Nicholas 280
 Escobar, Nick 22, 23, 215
 Espiritu, Edward 280
 Estabrooke, Clay 280
 Evans, Allison 280
 Everclear 219
 Evers, Jeffrey 238, 280

Facebook 25
 Faherty, Paula 207
 Fairchild, Blake 203
 Fairfield, Becky 280
 Fako, Valerie 269, 280
 Falcinelli, Michael 280
 Falkanger, Lindsey 124, 250, 280
 Falbacher, Tom 264
 Famoyegun, Akindele 269
 Fandi, Rebecca 280
 Fanning, Christopher 280
 Farmhouse Fraternity 238
 Farnau, Steve 207
 Farrell, Meghan 169, 207, 280
 Fashion Trends 65
 Faulkner, Daniel 280
 Featherstone, Nancy 205
 Fedro, Joseph 280
 Feigl, Melissa 258
 Feldstein, Michael 280
 Fend, Luke 256
 Fennell, Anne 148, 202
 Ferede, Mulu 266
 Ferguson, Beth 266
 Ferguson, Joseph 79
 Ferrer, Fi 217
 Fertil, Christina 116
 Fiala, Kristina 280
 Fiala, Kristy 216
 Field, Travis 233
 Fietterer, Dan 256
 Filice, Gina 280
 Filip, Jason 18
 Filippello, Kristina 250, 251
 Finals Week 139
 Finding Internships 117
 Fine and Applied Arts, College of 131
 Finke, Eryn 269
 Finley, Tasia 280
 Finn, Nolan 24
 Finnegan, Leigh 190, 208
 Fischer, Caitlin 280
 Fisher, Jennifer 280
 Fishman, Kimberly 280
 Fitterer, Matt 203, 211
 Fitzgerald, Ryan 232, 280
 Fitzgerald, Suzanne 280
 Flaherty, Matthew 280
 Flaherty, Matt 209
 Flanagan, John 202
 Flanigan, Keelin 280
 Fleaman, Blake 280
 Fleming, Abigail 266
 Fleming, John Jacob 280
 Flessner, Kelly 280
 Fletcher-Broucek, Kelsey 280
 Florence, Stephanie 266
 Flores, Gabe 172, 210
 Flores, Leana 281
 Foday, Kumba 281
 Foerder, Robert 269
 Foley, Erin 222, 223, 281

Foley, Jonathan 281
 Follansbee, Kyle 116, 281
 Followell, Mynette 281
 Fong, Kenneth 42, 43
 Fonnesebeck, Casey 209
 Football 211
 Ford, Ashlee 268
 Ford, Ben 211
 Ford, Brett 281
 Ford, Michael 281
 Ford, Washina 58, 59
 Foreman, Ashly 281
 Forneris, Glen 281
 Forristall, Liz 242
 Forsberg, Amy 207
 Foster, Carmisha 281
 Foster, Sheila 281
 Fotzler, Emily 258
 Foulkes, Sarah 281
 Fox, Alexis 281
 Fox, Erin 170
 Francis, Kelly 103
 Francis, Phil 140
 Frank, Brendan 267
 Frank, Bruce 238
 Frankovich, Lauren 281
 Franks, Nichole 258
 Frazier, Chester 176, 204
 Frazier, Kieron 211, 281
 Frazin, Jennifer 281
 Frederickson, Wayne 42, 43
 Freebeck, Amanda 268
 Freeberg, Ryan 281
 Freerichs, Mike 44
 Frese, Marsha 204
 Frey, Brandon 211
 Friedl, Ben 210
 Frizz, Lesley 242
 Froeschle, Kaly 281
 Frogley, Mike 167
 Fryer, Brittani 281
 Fryzel, Walter 281
 Ftikas, Jenna 252
 Fudge, Megan 190, 208
 Fujinaka, Amy 103
 Fullerton, Erin 266
 Fulton, Andrew 269
 Fulton, Xavier 211
 Funk, Kelly 169, 207
 Furey, James 281
 Furgat, Liz 260
 Furmanski, Lean 266

Gabriel, Savannah 281
 Gabrielsen, Toby 260
 Gabris, Michelle 22
 Gadde, Hareesh 281
 Gaddi, Jaren 281
 Gaines, Danielle 215
 Gaines, Nick 202
 Gaitros, Katie 203
 Gale, Mike 259
 Gallagher, Jenny 281
 Gallagher, Tanya M. 106
 Galli, Katy 266, 268
 Gambino, Charlie 256
 Gamma Phi Beta 257
 Ganschow, Michael 269, 281
 Garai, Rachel 281
 Garcia, Daniel 281
 Garcia, Flavie 70
 Garcia, Walter 281
 Garcia, William 281
 Gardner, Mike 267
 Gareiss, Kimberly 281
 Garner, Ashley 268
 Garrett, Brittany 207
 Garrett, Joshua 281
 Garrison, Christopher 281
 Garro, Thomas 281
 Gary, Jerald 281
 Garza, Billy 211
 Gasiorek, Derek 281

Gates, Maggie 170
 Gatto, Gianna 236
 Geiger, Lisa 268
 Gellar, Zachary 267
 Genis, Laura 281
 Genseal, Alex 209
 George, Josh 166
 Gerber, Phil 281
 Gerhold, Laura 281
 Gerlach, Jason 281
 Getty, Allison 281
 Ghosh, Avijit 114
 Giannini, Christina 216
 Gibson, Jessica 258
 Gil, Jungwoo 282
 Gill, David 44
 Gill, Patrick 39
 Gillen, Conor 211
 Giller, Michael 203
 Gilman, Morgan 207
 Gilski, Ashley 251
 Giosa, Stephanie 252, 282
 Giovannelli, Dustin 282
 Gipson, Molly 266
 Gittings, Chris 282
 Glavash, Elissa 202
 Glavash, Elizabeth 282
 Glee Club, Men's 62
 Glee Club, Women's 268
 Gleissner, Dave 210
 Glenn, Amy 202
 Glickman, Brian 282
 Gniadek, Brandon 282
 Gober, Megan 236
 Godfrey, Megan 205
 Goetsch, Heather 269
 Goguen, J.P. 40
 Goheen, Jen 269
 Golden, Beth 258
 Golden, Bobby 266
 Goldenberg, Samara 282
 Golf, Men's 205
 Golf, Women's 186, 205
 Gomez, Amanda 57
 Gomez, Joe 210
 Gomez, Michael 282
 Gondela, Grace 46
 Gonski, Philip 282
 Gonzales, Angela 282
 Gonzales, Christine 282
 Gonzales, Ruben 188, 189
 Gonzalez, Annette 220
 Gonzalez, David Ruiz 298
 Gonzalez, Ramon 282
 Goodey, Jessica 282
 Goodman, Molly 268
 Goodman, Samuel 282
 Goodwin, Mark 269
 Gordon, Chelsea 175, 204
 Gordon, Noel 112
 Gorham, Meg 264
 Gostisha, Kara 207
 Gotkowski, Eric 256
 Gotzling, Luke 282
 Grabowski, Sarah 282
 Grace, Calvin 238
 Grachev, Holly 282
 Gradle, Emily 258, 282
 Grady, Allison 211
 Grady, Kelly 282
 Gramley, Sara 268
 Grana, Gail 100
 Grandcolas, Andrea 207
 Grandcolas, Michelle 207, 282
 Grannini, Christina 248, 249
 Grant, Chris 282
 Grant, Terry 282
 Gratten, Danielle 174, 204
 Graulich, Andrew 282
 Graver, Marie 54
 Grebner, Kristina 229, 282
 Grecco, Georgam 268
 Green, Jeff 268

Green, Stefan 282
Greenawalt, Andy 210
Greene, Barbara 282
Greene, Derek 282
Greene, Marica 209
Gregorio, Czarina 282
Greiger, Shari 268
Grentz, Theresa 204
Grieger, Sharon 282
Griffin, Lauren 207
Griffith, Amanda 282
Griffith, Brian 266
Griftnr, Rebecca 282
Grindstaff, Heather 282
Groebe, Lauren 171
Groth, Lindsey 222, 223, 226, 282, 318
Grotz, Ali 177
Gruber, Andrew 114, 282
Gruender, Stephanie 282
Grunstein, Alex 48
Grussing, Brian 282
Guerrero, Claudia 282
Guida, Nick 173, 210
Guillen, Antonio 282
Gulik, Brian 282
Gullberg, Krista 230, 282
Gully, Antonio 211
Gunderson, Cam 259
Gunji, Kimiko 50, 51
Gurtler, Robert 211
Guska, William 282
Guth, Jackie 258
Guth, Jennifer 283
Gutierrez, Ivone 58, 59
Guzman, Carl Angelo 283
Gymnastics, Men's 198, 206
Gymnastics, Women's 200, 206

Haagensen, Wes 198, 206
Habitat for Humanity 268
Hackler, Kellie 283
Hahn, Jenny 237
Hajduk, Alexander 283
Halani, Sheila 283
Halberstadt, Cody 267
Haley, Bridget 266
Hall, Allison 269
Hall, Stephanie 283
Hall, Tiffany 266
Hallahan, Mike 77
Halperin, David 283
Halsell, Louis 283
Halsey, E.B. 211
Hambley, Kevin 210
Hambley, Mary 210
Hameedi, Shahzad 283
Hamilton, Dominique 283
Hamilton, Lori 206
Hammer, Christine 100
Hammerand, April 283
Hammons, Kristen 268
Han, Hayoung 283
Han, Insup 283
Haney, Glendon 269
Haney, Marurice 211
Hannah, Grant 269
Hannan, Kylie 283
Hanold, Ashley 229
Hansen, Jim 19
Hansen, Jon 21, 219
Happel, Austin 220, 221
Haramis, Jessie 216
Harden, Jeff 243
Harden, Katie 202
Hardin, Don 210
Harding, Matt 210
Hardy, Matthew 283
Hardy, Tom 35
Harris, Chris 259
Harmon, Stephen 255, 283
Harper, Brent 211
Harper, Jen 57
Harrington, Caitlin 54

Harris, Chidori 283
Harris, Dhaviella 283
Harris, Meredith 268
Harris, Rebecca 174, 204
Harris, Sammy 260
Harris, Shaneria 283
Harrison, Justin 211
Harrison, Megan 236
Hart, Jamie 283
Hartleb, Dan 195, 203
Hartman, Brooke 202
Hartman, Kevin 283
Harvalis, Nick 163
Harvey, Karen 156, 184, 209
Haselhorst, Bryce 269
Hassell, Micheline 283
Hassler, Kathryn 283
Hassler, Kati 258
Hastings, Ryan 195, 203, 283
Hatch, Bailey 207
Hatton, Troy 211
Havens, Mary 283
Havey, Meredith 268
Hayasaki, Yoshi 206
Hayes, Kelly 268
Hayes, Mathew 283
Hayes, Troy 132, 133
Hays, Candace 283
Hazen, Meghan 267
He, Heidi 283
He, Kevin 283
Health Professions 101
Heaton, Brian 283
Heaton, Luke 283
Heckinger, Amanda 64
Hefner, Hugh 220
Heide, Wayne Vonder 283
Heinecke, Brad 128
Heinz, Adam 256
Heisel, Carole 252
Heiser, Billy 208
Helge, Joel 283
Helgen, Tyler 269
Hemphill, Michelle 254, 283
Hendee, Jacob 211
Henderson, James 267
Henderson, Rachel 210
Henderson, Randy 283
Hendrickson, Katee 132, 133
Henegar, Dana 283
Heninger, RJ 211
Henkel, Cory 229
Henkel, Courtney 283
Henkelman, Jamie 283
Hennessey, Catherine 230
Hennessey, David 283
Herbison, Brett 203
Heredia, Drew 164
Herman, Richard 89, 98, 140
Hernandez, Jed 283
Hernandez, Jessica 283
Hernandez, Lou 211
Hernandez, Rachel 209
Herr, Mallory 269
Hertz, Michelle 283
Herzog, Amanda 284
Hettiger, Jessica 284
Hettinger, Daniel 284
Heuring, Sarah 252, 253
Heyen, Eric 216
Hicks, Chris 204
Hicks, Dere 211
Hicks, Natalie 266
Hicks, Teara 284
Hildenbrand, Courtney 228
Hill, Kristina 284
Hill, Michelle 284
Hillel Foundation 48
Hinzi, Cory 269
Hobin, Diane 204
Hoch, Robert 209
Hockey, Men's Club 164
Hodges, Joey 183, 209

Hoercher, Casey 269
Hoerr, Trent 183, 209
Hoffman, Carlee 167
Hoffman, Jennifer 252, 253, 284
Hoffman, Matt 205
Hofstad, Mallory 248, 249
Holland, Jenna 229
Holley, Lynn 120
Hollis, Robert 110, 111
Holloway, Christine 284
Holmer, Eric 243
Holmes, Ben 267
Holmes, Caroline 284
Holtcross, Lee 284
Holzman, Declan 225
Homan, Dan 256
Homan, Daniel 284
Homecoming 2006 29
Homerding, Brian 284
Hoonanawanui, Michael 211
Hopkins, Blake 203
Hopkins, Paul 268
Hopman, Brittany 284
Hopp, Katie 252
Hoppesch, Nicholas 284
Horn, Briana 266
Hornback, Joshua 269
Hornback, Wes 269
Horsman, Ryan 284
Horvath, Stephanie 284
Hosick, Kyle 205
Hothan, Hillary 284
Houselt, Nykky 242
House, Jennifer 284
Houseworth, Jon 182, 209, 284
Houston, Darrell 284
Howe, Margaret 284
Howell, Glenn 284
Howell, Hope 203
Hower, Dan 240
Hoxie, Fred 89
Hren, Michael 284
Hsu, Nancy 260
Hu, Fred 284
Huang, Sung-Chan 284
Hubbard, Jakara 284
Hubbard, Thomas C. 38
Huckstadt, Amy 284
Hudelson, Sarah 284
Hudson, Kyle 203, 211
Huebener, Emily 252
Huff, Jon 216
Hugenberg, Ben 238
Hughes, Adam 269
Hughes, Kirstin 85
Hughes, Molly 62
Hughes, Thomas 284
Hulbert, Brian 206
Hull, Mike 284
Hulsizer, Matthew 238
Hult, Kristen 284
Humbach, Jessica 207
Humes, Alex 284
Hunnicut, Cassie 284
Hunt, Cassie 156, 209
Hunt, Randall 211
Hunter, Emma 139
Hunter Jr, Frederick 284
Huskey, David 284
Hussey, Joanna 230
Hutchinson, Tamika 284
Hutnik, Mary Elizabeth 284
Hutter, Patrick 284
Hwang, Jennifer 284
Hwang, Seung Bae 284
Hyde, Deborah 284
Hyma, Phil 256
Hyma, Rob 256
Hynes, John 284
I-Change Campaign 58
Ibrahim, Angie 70
Idseing, Karen 236

Idstein, Karen 285
Ifft, Aaron 203, 285
Igyarto, Michael 285
Il, Calvin Townsend 302
Ijei, Justin 211
Illini 'n Motion 266
Illini Dance Team 261
Illini Emergency Medical Services 260
Illini Media 21, 62, 215, 219, 220
Illini Media Board of Directors 226
Illini Pride 246
Illini Union Board 42, 266
Illinois Synchronized Skating 227
Illio Yearbook 21, 22, 222, 224, 226
Ima, Jiyoon 285
Imanlihen, Uwaybui 285
Imburgia, Kristin 138
Imura, Eri 285
Interino, Justin 243
International Students 113
Intersections 101
Intervarsity 48
Ireland, Mary 229
Issac, Jibi 137
Italia, Christine 285
Ivarson, Jen 207
Ives-Rublee, Mia 285
Izzo, Jeremy 204
Jablonski, Lisa 285
Jackson, Amber 268
Jackson, Anterio 211
Jackson, CJ 204
Jackson, James 285
Jackson, Jim 202
Jackson, Kendall 285
Jackson, Keyana 285
Jackson, Lewis 285
Jacobsen, Michael 285
Jacobson, Jonathan 23
Jaggi, Anne 285
Jagko, Melissa 285
Jakobsson, Naomi 44
Jalan, Anirudha 116
James, Antonio 211
James, Chris 211
James, Stephanie 266
Jancik, Emily 285
Janda, Christine 64, 216
Jankiewicz, Sarah 268
Janowiak, John 285
Janus, Elizabeth 285
Januszzyk, Linda 285
Japan House 51
Jardleza, Melissa 285
Jarr, Maggie 268
Jasti, Chandana 123
Javier, Diane 48
Jayanth, Aarti 268
Jefferson, Dustin 211
Jefferson, Nicholas 45
Jeisy, Curtis 285
Jenkins, Katie 285
Jenness, James 285
Jennings, Matt 164
Jensen, Spencer 211
Jim Goldenstein 238
Jirik, Mark 256
Joehl, Regan 285
John, Jamie 222
John, Jessica 285
John, Jillian 137
Johnson, Amy 207
Johnson, Andreka 119
Johnson, Anna 207
Johnson, Caroline 207
Johnson, Colleen 285
Johnson, Elissa 285
Johnson, Eric 264
Johnson, Evan 285
Johnson, Jorie 222, 223
Johnson, Kate 285
Johnson, Katharine 285

Jones, Kristina 184, 209, 285
 Jones, Meghan 285
 Jones, Rebekah 285
 Jones, Shalauray 285
 Jordan, Brandon 211
 Jordan, Jacquelyn 285
 Jordanov, Ivan 286
 Joy, Emma 269
 Judd, Sarah 216, 286
 Judson, Will 211
 Juiris, Elizabeth 286
 Jukas, Victor 256
 Julie Arabia 250, 251
 Jumper, Shauna 286
 Jung, Eric 226
 Jur, Elizabeth 286
 Jurkovic, Jessica 286
 Jurs, Kimbely 286

 Kaczmarek, Valerie 286
 Kadir, Omar 203
 Kafer, Doug 238
 Kagan, Dmitry 243
 Kagin, Ryan 286
 Kaler, Robin 99
 Kalland, Colleen 171
 Kallergis, Kristin 205
 Kamara, Ibrahim 286
 Kane, Kristen 211
 Kane, Michael 286
 Kang, Jean Kyu 286
 Kania, Laurie 269
 Kapicka, Alexandra 207
 Kaplan, Steven 286
 Kappa Kappa Gamma 239
 Kappel, Jesse 266, 269
 Karacie, Chris 269
 Kareem, Jaweb 140
 Karma, Tine 250
 Karni, Yael 286
 Karmiski, Natasha 207
 Karpiak, Bob 60
 Karr, Joel 210
 Kashyap, Alake 73
 Kaskel, Beth 286
 Kaskovich, Paul 256
 Kasper, Kolbe 286
 Kasselbaum, Nancy 69
 Kathrein, Scott 286
 Katz, Marshall 265
 Kautz, Mallory 286
 Keable, Natalie 202
 Keating, Kyle 286
 Keefe, Katie 248, 249
 Keegan, Elizabeth 286
 Keehn, Ali 207
 Keely, Tad 211
 Keeney, Andy 264
 Keeping the Faith 49
 Keith, Jeffrey 286
 Keller, James 209
 Keller, Jenna 57
 Keller, Lindsay 286
 Kelley, Jay 269
 Kelley, Michael 286
 Kelly, Carolyn 286
 Kelly, Michael 209
 Kelly, Tim 209
 Kelson, Ashley 286
 Kemp-DeLisser, Khristian 70

Kennedy, Jimmy 173, 210
 Kenny, Elise 286
 Kenter, Matthew 286
 Keogh, Kathleen 131
 Keown, Steven 286
 Kern, Terra 229
 Kestner, Kelly 286
 Keys, Serena 286
 Kharkevitch, Sasha 208
 Khoury, Costandi 286
 Kilgallon, Miles 84
 Kilie, Deniz 286
 Killey, Alison 252, 268
 Kilty, Elizabeth 286
 Kim, Clara 222, 223
 Kim, Ei Kyum 286
 Kim, Elaine 286
 Kim, Haeyoon 286
 Kim, Hooyeon 286
 Kim, In Dong 286
 Kim, Jenn 286
 Kim, Ji Hye 258
 Kim, Sachae 286
 Kim, Samuel 260
 Kim, Soyeon 286
 Kim, Sungsoo 286
 King, Latrice 287
 King, TJ 163
 Kingston, Lance 287
 Kinnear, Kent 208
 Kinsella, Angela 287
 Kirk, Gail 287
 Klausner, Mary 287
 Kleiber, James 287
 Klein, David 287
 Klein, Geoffrey 287
 Klekowski, Lisa 287
 Klepek, Patrick 287
 Klier, Doug 17
 Kline, Sean 202
 Kloeckner, Kristen 207
 Kloese, Samuel 287
 Klopfenstein, Dan 103
 Kluempers, Steve 132, 133
 Kluga, Kelli 202
 Knafelc, Lauren 250, 251
 Knapp, Christopher 287
 Knapp, Katherine 287
 Knapp, Katie 229
 Knez, Ilea 287
 Knezetic, Kyle 211
 Knicker, Jessica 287
 Kniepkamp, Megan 287
 Kniepmann, Craig 238
 Knight, Catherine 287
 Knight, Zachary 266, 287
 Knopp, Nigel 269
 Knowlton, Chris 268
 Knuppel, Ashley 224
 Knutson, Sherrie 207, 287
 Ko, Man Chung 287
 Ko, Vivian Yuhon 266
 Kobrinetz, Carrie 252
 Koch, Laura 287
 Kocielek, Matt 211
 Koester, Brittany 203
 Kogut, Jacquelin 63
 Kogut, Jenny 63
 Kogut, Jim 63
 Koh, Yee Lin 287
 Kolka, Kaitlin 287
 Komperda, Regis 287
 Konrad, Joseph 287
 Kopka, Kimberly 268
 Kordik, Lindsey 64, 250, 251
 Kormos, William 264
 Kosacz, Nicole 287
 Kosciuk, Nicole 287
 Kosmin, Kristin 230, 287
 Kostal, Kate 287
 Kotecki, Allison 229
 Kotowski, Joey 210
 Kotrba, Michael 264

Kouzoukas, Nicole 230
 Kovach, Justin 216
 Kowalis, Sarah 222, 223
 Kowalysin, Andrea 202
 Koza, Joseph 287
 Kozmic, Adam 287
 Krahulec, Amy 287
 Krahulec, Katie 252, 253
 Kramer, Bethany 229
 Kramer, Max 287
 Krauss, Claire 268
 Krauss, Jonathan 267
 Krauss, Scott 287
 Krehbiel, Nathan 258
 Krick, Jon 205
 Krieg, Kara 249
 Kringer, Joelle 287
 Kristen Benne 250
 Kristich, Kerri 287
 Krog, Catherine 89
 Krogstad, Charles 287
 Krohe, Emily 287
 Krohn, Tristen 256
 Krok, Andrew 73
 Krosstad, Daniel 287
 Krudinier, Jeremy 209
 Kruk, Kim 206
 Kruk, Kristy 287
 Krukewitt, Carolyn 287
 Krumtinger, Kelly 250, 251
 Krusemark, Allyn 252
 Kubiszyn, Jessie 268
 Kuhl, Jamie 156, 157, 209
 Kuelka, Katie 287
 Kukiella, Katie 231
 Kunkel, Amy 288
 Kunkle, Joshua 288
 Kuo, Peggy 288
 Kurzman, Nathan 238
 Kuri, Gabby 17
 Kurisunkal, James 71
 Kurowski, Christina 42, 43
 Kwon, Jane 288
 Kyrouac, Jeff 211
 Kyrouac, Joseph 288

 La, Woong Gyu 288
 LaBelle, Marianne 236
 LaBelle, Mike 243
 LaBonte, Jim 211
 Lackovich, Ashley 288
 Lagesse, Kimberly 288
 Lai, Chien Mee 288
 Laird, Rebecca 288
 Lake, Jenna 288
 Lakis, Mark 84, 85
 Lalka, Steve 84, 85
 Lam, Regina 288
 Lama, Michael 288
 Lambda Chi Alpha 256
 Lampkins-uThando, Shawn 75
 Land, Ted 288
 Lane, Chontell 288
 Lane, Justin 288
 Lange, Tom 120
 Langford, Sydney 250
 Lans, Erica 236
 Laredo, Rynne 288
 Larkin, Michael 269
 Laschober, Brittany 288
 Lashbrook, Abbie 229
 LAS Leaders 269
 Latino Fashion Show 43
 Lau, Megan 252
 Laude, Dave 256
 Launhardt, Rebecca 288
 Laurenz, Mark 288
 Lauret, Candi 85, 288
 Laurino, Sara 288
 LaVine, Liz 258
 Lawfer, Jenna 288
 Lawhead, Molly 203, 288
 Leach, Mike 211

Leach, Sara 288
 LEADS 100
 Learning Communities 101
 Lech, Melissa 250
 Lee, Andrew 288
 Lee, Christopher 288
 Lee, Eric 288
 Lee, George 288
 Lee, Jae Sun 288
 Lee, Jeanette 288
 Lee, Jiwoon 288
 Lee, Joan 288
 Lee, Jon 288
 Lee, Marissa 224
 Lee, Matt 210
 Lee, Sang Eun 288
 Lee, Shawanna 288
 Lee, Sibok 288
 Lee, Vincent 21, 214, 226
 Lee, Xin Yi Graft 288
 Lee, Youghun 288
 Leeds, Kristin 288
 Legge, Katherine 288
 Leipsiger, Ali 85
 Leipsiger, Alison 288
 Leman, J 211
 Leman, Tricia 258
 Lempicki, Mark 289
 Lenover, Linda 211
 Lenti, Frank 211
 Leonard, Jennifer 289
 Leonard, Mary 289
 Leonard, Travis 209
 Leopold, Allison 289
 Leslie, Traci 252
 Lesniewski, Randi 236
 Letourneau, Kevin 256
 Leung, Christina 289
 Levanti, Nick 211
 Levin, Joey 269
 Levitt, Jessica 207
 Levy, Erin 338
 Lewis, Amher 289
 Lewis, Billy 256
 Lewis, Justin 289
 Lewis, Kyle 211
 Lewis, Mark 289
 LGBT Groups 71
 Li, Michelle 54
 Li, Ying 289
 Li, Yin Wai 289
 Liang, Mengyao 260
 Liberal Arts and Sciences, College of 135
 Lichtenberg, Aura 289
 Lichtenberger, Peter 258
 Lieberman, Stephanie 289
 Liederbach, Kacie 258
 Lien, James 289
 Lies, Ashley 289
 Liggett, Jennifer 289
 Lim, Sue 289
 Limardi, Kate 230
 Limardi, Katie 289
 Limoges, Daniel 289
 Lin, Annie 17
 Lin, James 289
 Lincoln, Pamela 289
 Lindberg, Eric 265
 Lindberg, Michelle 289
 Lindemann, Andrea 252
 Lindgren, Randy 269
 Lindquist, David 211
 Linnane, Margaret 289
 Linne, Tamara 289
 Linnell, Jake 57
 Linnenmeyer, Bradley 289
 Lipe, Sara 289
 Lira, Michelle 263, 289
 Lisovitz, Brian 198, 206
 Lisy, Sydney 196, 203
 Lutz, Justin 267
 Livingston, Ryan 70

Lo, Brenda 228
 Lo, Jean 289
 Loafman, Nicholas 267
 Loar, Matthew 289
 Lobascio, Katelyn 62
 Lobb, Harry 211
 Loboda, Michael 289
 Local Music 67
 Lock, Jessica 229
 Locksley, Mike 211
 Lodge, Heather 230
 Lofstrand, Kelsey 64, 236, 289
 Logan, Kathy 93
 Long, Brian 203
 Longley, Joseph 289
 Loni, Frank 256
 Lopez, Johanna 289
 Lopez, Juan 289
 Lorschach, Paul 289
 Losh, Jenna 289
 Louderman, Kristie 252, 253
 Louer Jr, Craig 289
 Lovejoy, Lucas 238
 Lowder, Joshua 289
 Lowe, Ryan 269
 Lowery, Amy 289
 Lowry, Chelsea 289
 Lowry, Kristin 170
 Lu, Sandra 268
 Lubbs, Dustin 289
 Lucak, Stephanie 253
 Lucas, Conor 211
 Ludeks, Kalee 250
 Ludwig, Casey 211
 Luft, Alli 170
 Lugo, Rosy 42
 Lukanich, Andrew 210
 Lukas, Laura 94
 Lukazewski, Mark 210
 Luke, Stephanie 269
 Luksis, Jason 264
 Lula, Jeffrey 289
 Lundberg, Tyler 289
 Lundeen, Daniel 232, 290
 Lundstedt, Dan 256
 Lung, Chris 198, 206
 Lunt, Jamie 236
 Lutes, Craig 203
 Lynn, Brian 290
 Lynn, Nya 268
 Lynn, Zachary 290

Ma, Darryl 290
 Mabbitt, Hilary 290
 Macada, Michelle 290
 Macdonald, Megan 210
 Macholan, Joel 290
 Maciel, Lynae 290
 Mack, Andy 205
 Macomber, Danielle 290
 Maddox, Matt 211
 Madison, Catherine 290
 Madland, Andrea 94
 Mago, Mike 256
 Mahascek, Heather 202
 Maher, David 290
 Maier, Timothy 209
 Malworm, Frances 290
 Majerchin, Louis 290
 Majure, Lydia 70, 290
 Malebranche, Hans 211, 290
 Mallen, Chris 256
 Mallett, Eresa 290
 Mallon, Jennifer 290
 Mallory, Curt 211
 Malloy, Kaitlin 269
 Maloney, Dan 88, 89
 Maluta, Dan 260
 Mammies, Jule 230
 Mammoser, Julie 64
 Mamootie, Neetha 137
 Mangian, Erin 266
 Manious, Mike 139

Manley, Erica 103
 Manson, Kevin 203
 Mantia, John 120
 Manzella, Dan 210
 Maratto, Daniel 290
 March, James 290
 Marchetti, Amanda 290
 Marchlewicz, Krista 290
 Marcum, Jay 209
 Marinic, Maggie 290
 Marino, Nicholas 290
 Marizu, CeCe 207
 Marlow, Yvonne 290
 Marquis, Jason 243
 Marshall, Marianne 290
 Marten, Jerrod 290
 Martin, Aaron 203
 Martin, Kisten 203
 Martin, Lucas 269
 Martin, Morgan 202
 Martindale, Al 204
 Martinez, Matt 240
 Martinez, Syl 55
 Masar, Ella 207
 Maschoff, Joshua 232, 290
 Mashal, Khalid 290
 Masheto, Lesiba 183
 Mason, Margaret 290
 Mason, Melissa 290
 Massie, Christopher 238
 Mathews, Kim 254
 Mathias, Stephen 290
 Mathis, Jake 203
 Matook, Steph 61, 73
 Matsuno, Emi 211
 Matthews, Kim 269
 Mattucci, Megan 268
 Matz, Leo 290
 Maxfield, Andy 240
 Maxwell, Shelley 17
 May, Jeanne 290
 May, Macayn 290
 Mazuera, Sandra 290
 Mazur, Dan 256, 269
 McAndrew, John 209
 McAndrew, Kevin 259
 McArthur, Mark 290
 McBride, Rich 177, 178, 204
 McCaffrey, Keyan 264
 McCalla, Kristin 290
 McCarter, Kevin 256
 McCarthy, Erin 204
 McClain, Brad 243
 McClain, Ramona 290
 McClain, Tyler 232
 McClain, Wayne 204
 McClelland, Tara 290
 McClendon, Greg 211
 McClure, Erica 229
 McConnell, Stan 66, 67
 McCoy, C. Elaine 110
 McCoy, Ryan 259
 McCree, Mia 290
 McCulley, Kylie 210
 McCumber, Marissa 290
 McDaniel, Jessica 291
 McDaniel, Jonathan 291
 McDermott, Marcia 207
 McDermott, Megan 41
 McDole, Meghan 291
 McDonald, Ryan 211
 McDonnell, Mary Therese 207
 McDonnell, Shannon 207
 McElherne, Lizzie 236
 McEvoy, Theresa 291
 McGarrigle, Caitlin 291
 McGee, Eddie 211
 McGeorge, Joseph 291
 McGinnis, Rachel 291
 McGivney, Shannon 291
 McGovern, Megan 291
 McGrady, Michelle 206
 McHugh, Matthew 209

McIlvain, Kathryn 291
 McKinney, Jessica 291
 McKoon, Cale 291
 McLain, Anne 258
 McMahon, Drew 211
 McMillin, Kyle 94
 McNamara, Marie 236
 McNeill, Lauren 291
 McNeney, Arley 167
 McNew, Trisha 291
 McPhearson, Derrick 203, 211
 McRaven, Wendel 209
 Meacham, Trent 178, 204
 Mead, Jason 291
 Meccozzi, Bob 267
 Meese, Brad 291
 Mehlberg, Kristen 291
 Meier, Tyler 232, 291
 Meister, Jennifer 291
 Meitl, Ashley 48
 Melcarek, Krystal 201, 206
 Melendez, Adrian 211
 Melhouse, Michelle 291
 Melka, Jim 238
 Mellen, Brian 291
 Mellman, Lisa 268
 Mena, Suzanne 291
 Menchaca, Charles 291
 Mendenhall, Rashard 211
 Mendenhall, Walter 211
 Mendoza, Ignacio 269
 Mendoza, Tommy 22, 23
 Mengyan, Liz 209
 Mensah, Yvonne 184, 209
 Mercurio, Joe 203
 Meredith Warden 304
 Mermelstein, Michelle 36
 Messier, Rachel 258
 Mexican, Angelena 196, 203
 Meyer, Cari 291
 Meyer, Cody 216
 Meyer, Eric 291
 Meyer, Justin 291
 Meyer, Mallory 207
 Meyerholz, Sarah 291
 Meyerink, Molly 291
 Meyers, Justin 79
 Meyers, Stephanie 209
 Meyerson, Charlie 21
 Michael, David 256
 Michalak, Drew 259
 Michelini, Danyelle 209
 Middleton, Brandon 291
 Mier, Edgar 256
 Mika, Brandon 256
 Mika, Michelle 252, 253
 Milam Jr, Gary 291
 Milazzo, Matt 211
 Milewski, Felicia 291
 Miller, Angie 206
 Miller, Ben 211
 Miller, Brandon 291
 Miller, Brit 211
 Miller, Emma 250, 251
 Miller, Haley 291
 Miller, Jamie 264, 266
 Miller, Jessica 222, 223
 Miller, Kara 291
 Miller, Kevin 238
 Miller, Melinda 214, 226
 Miller, Melissa 291
 Miller, Ryan 238
 Miller, Tara 258
 Millington, Akim 211
 Millis, Bryce 291
 Millins, Kyle 265
 Millsap, Stacey 291
 Milner, Ty 203
 Milton, Mark 291
 Mineer, Alexander 291
 Minor, Kristina 190, 208
 Miralgio, James 291
 Miston, Bill 23

Mitchell, Chris 216
 Mitchell, Erin 269
 Mitchell, James Scott 291
 Mitchell, Kevin 211, 246
 Mitchell, Reggie 211
 Mkrdichian, Joy 228
 Mlot, Ellen 291
 Mlynarczyk, Paul 292
 Moby 220
 Mocrison, Al 292
 Mokrzycki, Katie 292
 Molitor, Beth 292
 Molitor, Chris 267
 Moll, Toni 264
 Mom's Weekend 93
 Monaghan, Matt 256
 Montejano, Elyse 292
 Montgomery, Chris 203
 Montgomery, Stu 268
 Moodie, Matthew 238
 Moon, Boyoung 292
 Moon, ChungHee 112
 Moon, Ihnki 292
 Moore, Ashley 269
 Moore, Caroline 169, 207, 292
 Moore, Leesa 292
 Moore, Lucas 292
 Moore, Roxanne 292
 Moore, Seth 292
 Moos, Paul 292
 Moraga, Jennifer 292
 Morales, Brittney 252, 253
 Moran, Katie 242
 Moreau, Ryan 243
 Morehouse, Andrew 269
 Moreno, Maria 292
 Mores, Kevin 256
 Morgan, Joe 211
 Morgan, Suzie 225
 Morgan, Taylor 211
 Mormino, Haley 292
 Morrow, Pamela 292
 Morton, Jonathan 292
 Mortenson, Andrew 265
 Morry, Stephanie 186, 205
 Mosher, Rebecca 292
 Moskop, Jennifer 292
 Mosley, Kyle 292
 Motan, Saleh 292
 Mourans, Edgar 211
 Mrazek, Dani 250
 Mrazek, Danielle 292
 Muccigrosso, David 265
 Mucha, Mike 211
 Muehling, Rita 229
 Muha, Dennis 292
 Muha, Denny 167
 Muldoon, Sean 209
 Mullen, Cody 211
 Muller, Stephanie 292
 Mulligan, Timothy J 292
 Mulry, Norine 292
 Munaretto, Michael 292
 Munding, Jeff 265
 Muneroto, Andrew 292
 Mungor, Nicholas 292
 Munoz, Gina 252
 Munoz, Gina 252
 Munoz, Regina 292
 Murphy, Amy Eileen 292
 Murphy, Mark 292
 Murphy, Sarah 268
 Murray, Amy 250
 Murray, Elizabeth 292
 Murray, Michael 209
 Murray, Ryan 292
 Musson, Drew 256
 Mwinzi, Muthio 292
 Mycky, Emily 207
 Myers, Judy 44
 Myers, Tessa 266
 Myles, Charles 211

C

6

Rahman, Reem 75
 Ramal, Kendall 268
 Ramos, Stephanie 296
 Ramsey, Kara 269
 Randle, Brian 178, 179, 180, 204, 296
 Rangel, Olivia 296
 Rangel, Stacy 296
 Raniwala, Ankur 267
 Rao, Sachit 264
 Rapchak, Alyssa 250, 251
 Rashid, Suraiya 296
 Ratterree, Annie 29
 Rayfield, Janet 207
 Raymond-Ihle, Matthew 296
 Reames, Philip 296
 Reap, Timothy 296
 Reavy, Alex 211
 Record, Stephanie 202
 Reda, Jason 211
 Redeker, Kimberly 266
 Reedy, Marissa 296
 Reeser, Ben 203
 Reeves, Meagan 296
 Reggi, Bianca 242
 Reggi, Martha 242
 Rehani, Phil 264
 Rehkemper, Gavin 225
 Rehm, Stephanie 242
 Rehn, Beth 217, 219
 Reichert, Kevin 296
 Reid, Amber 296
 Reifsteck, Tara 296
 Reimer, Neil 296
 Reisinger, Priscilla 258
 Remsen, Karen 50
 Renchen, Nicole 296
 Renfrew, Richard 296
 Requa, Susan 269
 Resner, Sandra 296
 Reynolds, Christopher 296
 Reynolds, Donny 210
 Reynolds, Quinn 207
 Reynolds, Sean 210
 Rhau, Jessica 297
 Rhee, Albert 297
 Rhee, Chang Seop 297
 Rhee, Jae 297
 Rhoades, Kyle 297
 Rhode, Michael 297
 Rhodes, Kristi 266
 Rhodes, Teyonda 297
 Ricciardi, Katherine 297
 Richard, Andrea 297
 Richard, Ashley 73
 Richards, Elisabeth 297
 Richards, Lloyd 211
 Richardson, Jonathan 297
 Richardson, Paul 59, 297
 Richardson, Sheletta 297
 Richardson, Steven 297
 Richman, Ashley 250, 251
 Richmond, Vanessa 246, 297
 Richter, Kristen 101
 Ricker, Ryan 297
 Rickert, Ryan 297
 Riddle, Brian 238
 Riewerts, Dan 262
 Riley, Steven 267
 Rilloraza, Bonnie 297
 Rinaldi, Joanne 297
 Rincker, Phil 232
 Rine, Kristin 202
 Riordan, Cheryl 252
 Rishel, Christopher 297
 Ritchie, Aubrey 297
 Ritzke, Liz 258
 Rivas, Myrna 42
 Rivera, Jomarie Rose 297
 Rizzitello, Michael 265
 Rizzo, Brittany 297
 Rizzo, Gina 252
 Roark, Tanner 203
 Robb, Alex 222

Robbins, Isaiah 209
 Roberts, Andrew 297
 Roberts-Muhammad, Bakari 297
 Robins, Eric 94
 Robinson, Camile 184, 209
 Robinson, Carlene 184, 209
 Robinson, David 297
 Robson, Christina 297
 Rockafellow, Ashley 268
 Rocus, Steven 256
 Rodriguez, Christina 297
 Roel, Brandon 297
 Rogers, Steve 209
 Rogers, Therese 297
 Rogowski, Joe 297
 Rohan, Anne 297
 Rohan, Sean 264
 Rohde, Mike 203
 Rokop, Joe 163
 Rollin, Jill 48
 Rollings, Mark 259
 Romano, Renee 99
 Ronkoske, Heather 64
 Roof, Shawn 195, 203
 Rooney, Megan 297
 Roos, Matt 256
 Roque, Jessica 242
 Rose, Chad 211
 Rose, Nicole 297
 Roseberg, Melissa 297
 Rosen, Rachel 297
 Rosendale, Lynnea 229
 Rosentreter, Christie 103
 Rosentreter, Christina 297
 Ross, Allister 209
 Ross, Isaiah 297
 Ross, Katrina 203
 Ross, Krystle 297
 Ross, William 297
 Rossi, Carmen 259
 Roth, Jonathan 297
 Roth, Karen 211
 Roth, Kimberly 298
 Rothenberg, Jessica 207
 Rotter, Paul 217
 Rouse, Kellie 298
 Rouse, Tyler 211
 Rousonelos, Stephanie 298
 Rowe, Gwynne 298
 Rowe, Ryan 189, 208
 Rowley, Amberlyn 229
 Roy, Ed 265
 Roy, Su 222
 Roycroft, Paul 298
 Rozen, Adam 298
 Rozich, Carolyn 298
 Rubenacker, Richard 298
 Ruddell, Jen 167
 Ruivivar, Rubie 298
 Ruiz, Leslie Rojas 297
 Rumpel, Dustin 260
 Runtz, Sarah De 35, 73
 Russek, Adam 267, 298
 Russell, Axie 251
 Russo, Elyse 220, 221, 230, 298
 Rutledge, David 298
 Ryan, James 211
 Rzasa, Michael 298
 Rzepka, Alexandra 268
 Rzepski, Olivia 252

S.T.O.P 58
 Saavedra, Andres 198
 Sablich, Liz 216
 Sackley, Kristen 266
 Sadler, Sam 245
 Safavinejah, Sarah 258
 Safronova, Tatiana 220, 221
 Sager, Stacy 298
 Sahly, Christina 207
 Saladino, Pat 28
 Salatch, Amy 298
 Saloga, Charles 298

Saluja, Nalin 266
 Sam, Steven 298
 Samp, Jennifer 298
 Samson, Jamie 298
 Samuels, Becca 250
 Sandberg, Adam 298
 Sandburg, Adam 232
 Sandel, Andi 258
 Sanders, Erik 256
 Sanders, Justin 211
 Sanders, Lania 298
 Santacaterina, Jackie 207
 Santana, Celena 43
 Sasha Young 252, 253
 Sasse, Abby 229
 Sasse, Abigail 298
 Saunders, John 260
 Sawadisavi, Steven 298
 Sawosko, Colleen 298
 Schaefer, Jillian 248
 Scharftho, Alicia 298
 Scheidegger, Samantha 209
 Scheidmante, Erin 260
 Schell, Emily 298
 Schepis, Sara 268
 Schermerhorn, Ryan 298
 Schertz, DeAnna 229
 Schirding, Christopher 238
 Schlesinger, Carolyn 298
 Schlough, Gregory 298
 Schmidt, Brian 264
 Schmidt, Clara 298
 Schmidt, Kari 298
 Schmidt, Sarah 206
 Schmitt, Dave 164
 Schmitz, Matthew 298
 Schmitz, Mike 256
 Schneider, Andrew 170
 Schneider, Carly 252, 253
 Schneider, Drew 90
 Schneider, Jessica 250
 Schneider, Kevin 298
 Schneider, Laura 298
 Schneider, Lindsey 229
 Schnitzer, Gail 269
 Schramm, Kristen 268
 Schreiner, Samantha 252, 253
 Schrieber, Matthew 298
 Schroeder, Christine 260
 Schroeder, Christopher 298
 Schroeder, Danny 203
 Schroeder, Lauren 268
 Schronski, Robert 79
 Schubert, Dave 256
 Schuh, Greg 244
 Schultz, Dave 203
 Schultz, Mary Pat 216
 Schulz, Eric 222
 Schumacher, Amy 171
 Schuman, Chris 298
 Schwartz, Mandy 132, 133
 Schwarz, Nick 256
 Schwertha, Andrew 298
 Schwertha, Melissa 242
 Schwind, Katie 234
 Schwingle, Emily 298
 Schwolow, Susan 298
 Scott, Jon 298
 Scott, Quintin 211
 Scott, Steven 299
 Scottberg, Erin 220, 221, 226
 Scully, Aaron 299
 Scully, Allison 299
 Sebastian, Saly 24
 Seemayer, Kristen 299
 Seibert, Christina 248
 Seifrid, Alicia 299
 Seipp, Candice 299
 Selcukoglu, Aytin 299
 Sellen, Emily 267
 Self, Ryan 299
 Sellers, Scott 101
 Semmes, Allison 299

Semrau, Richard 204
 Senka, Catherine 299
 Seo, Sanghyul 299
 Seo, Yeonjoo 299
 Serio, Steve 167, 269
 Serwy, Roger 264
 Sewell, Teresa 299
 Shadanehr, Mehdi 113
 Shah, Kunal 299
 Shah, Paja 49
 Shaharum, Sharina 84
 Shalpin, Adam 259
 Shalkross, Andy 255
 Shanahan, Katherine 299
 Shaner, Cassie 229
 Shaner, Corrie 229
 Shaner, Leslie 299
 Shaner, Nicholas 269, 299
 Shammugham, Satya 225
 Shannon, Brooke 299
 Sharp, Michael 299
 Shaub, John 210
 Shaver, Brandon 299
 Shaw, Marcus 269
 Shaw, Scott 203
 Shea, Ben 269
 Shea, David 256
 Sheehan, Molly 250
 Sheen, Julia 211
 Scheller, Melissa 230
 Shenderova, Katerina 299
 Sheridan, Nadine 252, 253
 Sheriff, Ashley 222
 Sheu, Eric 268, 299
 Shields, Patrick 299
 Shields, Andy 205
 Shier, David 269
 Shimomura, Tyler 90
 Shipton, Neal 299
 Shirley, Lindsey 207
 Shogbuyi, Azeez 183
 Shroka, Greg 209
 Shulin, Luke 63
 Shulman, Richard 299
 Shunk, Abby 209
 Siebens, Christopher 299
 Siebers, Adam 299
 Siczko, Lindsey 299
 Siemplenski, Gina 93
 Sigler, Steve 211
 Sigma Chi 259
 Sigma Kappa 242
 Sigma Phi Epsilon 243
 Sigourney, Amanda 299
 Silcox, Chris 198, 206
 Sim, Areejana 299
 Simmons, J.J. 211
 Simmons, James 79
 Simms, Stephanie 156, 209, 299
 Simpson, Angela 268, 299
 Simpson, Lacey 174, 204
 Sims, John 299
 Sims, Tom 211
 Sindelar, Brian 299
 Singer, Jenna 211
 Singer, Melissa 200, 206
 Sioson, Andrew 299
 Slitch, Kevin 256
 Siu, Chi Tat 299
 Sivananthan, Abirami 299
 Sivasubramanian, Vasanth 299
 Six, Bethany 299
 Skarpiak, Chad 299
 Skobel, Bernadette 268
 Skosky, Danielle 299
 Slapa, Jennifer 299
 Slavick, Steven 300
 Slavin, Andi 250, 251
 Sloan, Candice 252, 253
 Sloan, Guericke 300
 Sloboda, Jackie 252
 Stone, Renee 186, 205
 Small, Mike 205

Smith, Thomas M. 300
 Smith, Alhson 300
 Smith, Chad 300
 Smith, Jada 300
 Smith, Jamar 176, 204
 Smith, Jenna 174, 204
 Smith, Jennifer 300
 Smith, Kelly 209
 Smith, Lindsey 200, 206
 Smith, Makenzie 203
 Smith, Meghan 300
 Smith, Micaela 300
 Smith, Michelle K. 300
 Smith, Mike 240
 Smith, Rachel 229, 300
 Smith, Rahkeem 211
 Smith, Shannon 300
 Smith, Tim 264
 Smith, Trammel 183, 209
 Smith, William 35
 Smith-Bergsrud, Roger 173, 210
 Smith III, Donald 300
 Smithwick, Kelly 207
 Smoking Ban 73
 Smola, Katarzyna 300
 Smoler, Melissa 300
 Smuda, Sara 264
 Snelling, Lauren 300
 Snider, Eric 203
 Sniegorski, Maciej 209
 Snodgrass, Jessica 300
 Snow Days 85
 Snowden, Ryan 194, 195, 203
 Snyder, Noah 226
 Sobacki, Jen 252, 253
 Sobo, Kristin 251
 Soccer, Men's Club 163
 Soccer, Women's 207
 Soder, Savana 264, 266
 Soderland, Laurie 236
 Sodhi, Rajinder 265
 Softball 196, 203
 Solley, Jen 250
 Song, Saimi 300
 Song, Young Soo 117
 Soong, Abe 256
 Soppet, Christopher 300
 Sosnicki, Eileen 300
 South, Jamie 300
 Sowa, Michael 300
 Spaur, Erin 229
 Specht, Rachel 268
 Spence, John 300
 Spencer, Dorothy 229
 Spencer, Jordan 300
 Spero, Greg 300
 Spicer, Kelly 300
 Spicijaric, Marc 189, 208
 Spiering, Stephanie 300
 Spillone, Nikki 207
 Spilotros, Deanna 300
 Spivak, Courtney 207
 Splayt, Sandy 266
 Spoden, Matt 243
 Spring, Justin 198, 206
 Bridayan, Vasanth 215
 St. Leger, Christine 242
 Stage, James 300
 Stanger, Troy 226
 Stango, Nick 198, 206
 Stankiewicz, Mike 203
 Stannard, Luke 198, 206
 Staple, Gemillia 300
 Star Course 54, 55
 Stark, Megan 300
 Starnes, Taylor 300
 Starwalt, Steve 211

State and National Elections 45
 Statham, Anna 220, 221
 Steed, Sharon 216
 Steele, Antonio 211
 Steele, Darla 229
 Steeze, Katy 264
 Steffes, Zachary 300
 Steffy, Jenna 300
 Siegemann, Michael 256
 Steinman, Hannah 248, 249
 Stelk, Christine 300
 Stelle, Lacey 300
 Steller, Elizabeth 268, 300
 Stephanie Souza 250, 251
 Stephens, Joseph 301
 Stephens, Kenna 301
 Stephens, Tamara 252
 Sterk, Mike 203
 Sternfield, Lucas 256
 Stevens, Christopher 301
 Stevens, Jeremy 209
 Stevens, Kellie 207
 Stevig, Bonnie 258
 Stevig, Erin 258
 Stewart, Ashley 301
 Stewart, Justin 301
 Stewart, Robert 256
 Stock, Alex 232
 Stock, Dan 209
 Stockwell, Nick 195, 203
 Stokes, Isaiah 79
 Stokke, Karin 242
 Stolarski, Emily 301
 Stolyarova, Mariya 252, 253
 Storkman, Matt 301
 Story, Miranda 301
 Stout, Don 243
 Stout, Nicholas 301
 Stracbel, Maggie 252, 253, 268
 Strand, Ashley 301
 Stratford House 258
 Stratton, Kaitlyn 301
 Streeter, Paris 209
 Stremming, Dana 301
 Streng, Randi 230, 301
 Strickland, Eva 207
 Striebel, Justin 216
 Strilich, Jess 256
 Stritch, Deni 222, 223
 Strle, Katie 242
 Strom, Samuel 238
 Strong, Dominica 301
 Strong, Jennifer 301
 Stroud, Melissa 216
 Struck, Corey 269, 301
 Student Alumni Ambassadors 263
 Student Personal Trainers 37
 Student Senate 44
 Students in ROTC 79
 Students in the Studio 133
 Student Teaching 125
 Stuparitz, Otto 67
 Sturgeon, Andrew 301
 Sturges, Jenette 301
 Suber, Carla 211
 Suber, Janelle 301
 Suddarth, Ashley 301
 Sugden, Jessica 229
 Sugderi, Jessica 229
 Suh, Jae-Jung 39
 Suhmitz, Jason 233
 Sullivan, Caitlin 268
 Sullivan, Drew 149, 202, 301
 Sullivan, Stephanie 301
 Sullivan, Terri 196
 Sullivan, Tom 211
 Sulo, Denise 301
 Summers, Brooke 301
 Sun, Kei 301
 Suspenzi, Lauren 301
 Sutrinaitis, Darius 301
 Svazas, Victoria 268
 Swan, Brittney 28

Swanson, Amy 41
 Swanson, Danielle 229
 Swanson, Lauren 301
 Swanson, Stephanie 110, 111, 301
 Swarts, Ashley 28
 Sweeney, Kaitlin 301
 Sweeney, Molly 139, 170
 Swenson, Matthew 301
 Swiatek, Adam 222, 223
 Swift, Emma 269
 Swift, Jayme 224, 226, 301
 Swimming and Diving, Women's 169, 207
 Sword, Shannon 301
 Sykes, Matt 264
 Sykes, Matthew 301
 Sykes, Pat 245
 Szurgot, Eric 301
 Szymanski, Tamara 301
 Taber, Rebecca 301
 Tabon, Audrey 174, 204
 Taft, Joseph 301
 Taggart, Rebecca 301
 Tamborski, Patrick 264
 Tan, Jian Shong 301
 Tan, Patricia 301
 Tarica, Jessica 301
 Tate, Jordan 238
 Tatel, Joshua 302
 Tauchen, Alex 164
 Taylor, Courtney 302
 Taylor, Jessica 302
 Taylor, Stephanie 216
 Taylor, Walter 302
 Technograph 21, 22, 225, 226
 Tenin, Rachel 252
 Tennis, Matthew 302
 Tennis, Men's 189, 208
 Tennis, Women's 190, 208
 Terese, Adam 302
 Termini, James 302
 Terry, Stacie 174, 204
 Teters, Charlene 89
 Thakkar, Ravi 302
 Theissen, Katie 207
 Theobald, Walter 302
 Thessing, Renee 302
 Theusch, Brett 302
 Thinnies, Kimberly 302
 Thomas, Ashley 209
 Thomas, Pierre 211
 Thompson, Alyson 302
 Thompson, Jayda 302
 Thorburn, Enver 302
 Thornhill, Anthony 211
 Thorsen, Heather 302
 Thorson, Trish 302
 Till, Sara 250, 251
 Tiller, Allison 302
 Tiller, Amanda 269
 Ting, Leon Yeow 302
 Tira, Vlad 265
 Tirapelle, Troy 173, 210
 Tjarks, Matthew 302
 Tjelle, Gerrigh 163
 To, Derek 16, 17
 Todd, Christina 302
 Tolley, Joe 269
 Tomita, Akihiko 262, 302
 Toms, Courtney 302
 Toohey, Jake 203
 Toohey, James 302
 Topol, Brad 209
 Torres, Andrew 302
 Torres, Maritza 302
 Torres, Vanessa 302
 Track, Men's 183, 209
 Track, Women's 184, 209
 Tracy, Leigh Ann 207, 302
 Traficanti, Jennifer 302
 Trauth, Eric 302
 Travers, Craig 302
 Travers, Katie 302

Traylor, Pat 18
 Trevil, Blaire 302
 Triangle Fraternity 265
 Tricia Mechan 250
 Triebel, Margaret 49
 Trieu, Richard 302
 Triesenberg, Lisa 302
 Trimble, Mickey 229
 Tromp, Jeff 256
 Trueblood, Michael 302
 Trueblood, Taryn 302
 Tsai, Nicholas 302
 Tsou, Pei-Yuan 302
 Tsui, Karen 266
 Tsui, Madeline 302
 Tuazon, Jerry 302
 Tucker, Charles 303
 Turk, Matt 240
 Turk, Mike 209
 Turner, Kayani 210
 Turner, Rachel 303
 Twellman, Amber 303
 Tyler, Audra 303
 Tyler, Laura 303
 Tyler Smith 238
 Tyner, Lowell 303
 Tyrrell, Amanda 250
 Tysiak, Kathleen 303
 U-C Hip Hop 62
 UCC Campus Ministry 269
 Ugigahie, Omoye 184
 Unander, Amy 258
 Unander, Beth 258
 Unander, Shelly 258
 Unit One 100
 University Baptist Church 262
 Unofficial St. Patrick's Day 91
 Unverricht, Mariel 303
 Unzicker, Chad 303
 Uphoff, Jaime 303
 Urban, Joey 264
 Urquiza, Araceli 303
 Urtubey-Fish, Paula 266
 Vaca, Phillip 303
 Vacco, Eric 73
 Valdes, David 120
 Valdez, Jon 206
 Valencia, Andrea 303
 Valenzuela, Nayeli 303
 Valentino, Christine 251
 VanDeKerckhove, Steve 60
 Vanderjack, Staci 303
 Vanderlaan, Joan 8
 VanDerNoordaa, Kiira 258
 Vanderwall, Frank 118, 256
 Vandike, Kelsey 258
 Vaneck, Morgan 303
 Vane, Pierce 258
 Vantreuse, Britta 217
 Van Zuidam, Erica 80, 81
 Varchetto, Anthony 303
 Varela, Georgette 303
 Varns, Ashley 207
 Vasquez, Mindy 58, 59
 Vaughn, Beth 236
 Vaughn, Bethany 303
 Vaughn, Nerissa 117
 Vazquez, Jose 303
 Veazie, Stephanie 258
 Velazquez, Norma Alicia 303
 Velchek, Ashley 303
 Velez, Jessica 303
 Ven, Viralyne 303
 Venegoni, Mark 211
 Vercillo, Rebecca 303
 Verdicchio, Jenna 250, 251
 Verest, Kim 228
 Verest, Kimberly 228, 303
 Verhelst, Marie 269
 Verone, Alec 16
 Vertin, Matthew 303

Vest, Brad 303
 Vician, Susanna 303
 Vignelli, Laura 303
 Vigneshwaran, Yalini 303
 Villaythong, Khanh 303
 Villada, Sharon 303
 Villanueva, Celina 74
 Viney, Barbie 169, 207
 Vinkler, Katie 303
 Vleck, Danielle 268
 Vlodek, Kim 264
 Vo, Nguyen 303
 Vodicka, Jacqueline 303
 Voels, Jeff 256
 Vogel, Stephanie 303
 Vogler, Kim 269
 Vogt, Julie 79, 303
 Volleyball, Women's 210
 Vonderheide, Wayne 259
 Vrasich, Chuck 303
 Vrdsky, Beth 210
 Vrtis, Lindsey 266
 Vurdclja, Melissa 303
 Vuyksteke, Jack 256
 Vycital, Matthew 303
 Vydra, Elizabeth 303
 Vylital, Matt 304

Wackerlin, Jeremy 304
 Waddell, Amy 304
 Waggoner, Tennille 202
 Wagner, Elizabeth 304
 Wagner, Jeff 85
 Wagner, Liz 70, 71
 Wagner, Mark 304
 Walbaum, Wesley 238
 Walczak, Terri 304
 Walder, Lacey 252, 304
 Waligora, David R 304
 Walker, Adrian 183, 209
 Walker, Derek 211
 Walker, Elizabeth 304
 Walker, Michael 256
 Walker, Tyler 73
 Wall, Jack 211
 Wallace, David 304
 Wallace, Dustin 238
 Wallace, Laura 229
 Wallenberg, Kyle 256
 Wallenfang, Adam 304
 Wallenfang, Katie 216
 Waller, LaNeisha 184, 209
 Wallis, Jessica Johnson 304
 Wallrich, Cambria 304
 Walter, Claire 170
 Walter, Jared 269, 304
 Waltermire, Kyla 268
 Walz, Alexis 258
 Wang, Emily 190, 208
 Wang, Eric 304
 Wang, Felix 304
 Wang, Frank 304
 Wang, Jane 304
 Wang, John 304
 Wang, Paul 304
 Wanock, Daniel 103
 Ward, Denise 304
 Ward, Lisa 304
 Ward, Paul 166, 167
 Ward, Russell 209
 Warden, Meredith 304
 Ware, Mike 211
 Ware-Sodsdor, Jacqueline 266
 Warinner, Ed 211
 Warmoth, Ashley 268, 304
 Warner, Dominique 304
 Warner, Missy 266
 Warning, Stefanie 242
 Warren, Dajuan 211
 Warren, Samantha 25
 Waterloo, Alex 304
 Water Polo, Women's 170
 Waters, Chris 207

Waters, Dan 256
 Watt, Kelly 304
 Watts, Matthew 304
 Wcislo, Lindsay 253
 Weaver, Bethany 304
 Weaver, Kristina 304
 Weaver, Luke 211
 Webb, Daniel 203
 Weber, Bruce 176, 180, 204
 Weber, Liz 225
 Weber, Melanie 304
 Weber, Stacy Leigh 304
 Webster, Andrew 304
 Webster, Tracy 204
 Weeks, Kristy 207
 Wei, Don 222
 Wei, Yu Ting Tina 304
 Weill, Russ 211
 Weinberg, Ben 52
 Weinberg, Brandon 304
 Weisman, Courtney 304
 Weiss, Michelle 304
 Welbourne, Levi 238
 Wells, Ashley 269
 Wendling, Ben 269
 Wendt, Tyler 256
 Werner, Danielle 260
 Werner, Jeremy 45
 Werner, Molly 304
 Wersching, Val 250, 251
 Wessel, Scott 269, 304
 Wesselmann, Jason 233
 West, Mike 267
 Westerhold, Emily 304
 Westlake, Evan 304
 Westlund, Janine 242
 Westnedge, Brett 217
 Weston Exploration 101
 Westray, Ken 203
 Wettstein, Katy 264
 Whalen, Bryson 211
 Whalen, Meghan 304
 Whall, Shawn 305
 Wheaton, Brad 305
 Wheelchair Basketball 167
 Whitaker, Alex 256
 White, B. Joseph 140
 White, Bryan 305
 White, Clifford 305
 Whiteside, Victoria 305
 Whitlock, Dominique 305
 Whitney, Megan 269
 Whitson, Callie 230
 Whittaker, Ashley 209
 Whittenburg, Megan 305
 Whobrey, Emily 211
 Whyte, Matthew 305
 Wic, Jessica 264
 Wicklin, Kevin 164
 Wicklund, Aaron 57
 Wicklund, Thomas 305
 Wider, Emily 230
 Widmer, Emily 64
 Wiest, Chad 198, 206
 Wiest, David 269
 Wigley, Erin 204
 Wikoff, Brandon 203
 Wiley, Emily 305
 Wiley, Mary Fran 216
 Wilk, Adam 211
 Wilkerson, Jenna 267
 Wilkins, Brandon 305
 Wilkins, Marques 211
 Wilkins, Martha 28
 Wilkinson, Melissa 252, 253
 Wilkosz, Maghan 202
 Willamon, Montana 305
 Williams, Brock 226
 Williams, Durrell 209
 Williams, Isiah "Juice" 146, 147, 211
 Williams, James 73
 Williams, Jocelyn 305
 Williams, Josh 256

Williams, Sharice 305
 Williams, Sirod 211
 Williamson, Tyler 198, 206
 Willford, Jeffrey 305
 Willis, Jacob 211
 Willis, Jennifer 305
 Willis, Remond 211
 Wills, Janet 229, 305
 Wilson, Darla 258
 Wilson, Denise 305
 Wilson, Heather 305
 Wiltfong, Rick 215
 Wimmer, Megan 305
 WIMSE 100
 Winckler, Cary 209
 Windsor, Matthew 305
 Winterhalter, Matt 173, 210
 Winters, Jimmy 202
 Wise, Ashley 128, 129
 Wise, John 173, 210
 Wisel, Steven 305
 Wisniewski, Daniel 305
 Witt, Christopher 305
 Witt, Stephanie 229
 Wittenauer, Ashley Nicole 305
 Wodarski, Lindsay 250, 251
 Wofel, Alissa 234
 Wojcikowski, Mike 211
 Wolf, Brian 305
 Wolf, Pam 209
 Wolfe, Tim 63
 Wolff, Jake 216
 Womack, Zach 211
 Wong, Kai Yeen 305
 Woo, Hock Him Patrick 305
 Woodyard, Russell 305
 Woolf, Laura 206
 Wooten, Dustin 305
 Worrell, Katie 202
 Worsley, Dominique 209
 Wotring, Erik 225
 WPGU-FM 21, 217, 219, 226
 Wrestling 173, 210
 Wright, Ashley 196, 203
 Wright, Brittany 305
 Wright, Lance 266
 Wright, Laura 236
 Wright, Whitney 305
 Wyatt, Danielle 253
 Wyatt, Pam 230
 Wyatt, Pamela 305
 Wych, Jonathan 305
 Wyffels, Jennifer 305
 Wyffels, Rachel 156, 209
 Wyncott, Danielle 70
 Wynter, Christina 305
 Wysong, Amanda 305
 Wyss, Jennifer 305

X
 Xu, Diana 268
 Xu, Yanyan 24
 Yabut, Daniel 305
 Yamauchi, Tyler 198, 206
 Yang, Wen Hua 305
 Yao, Anne 305
 Yarber, Nick 269
 Yates, Ronald E. 118
 Yelton, Kyle 211
 Yenser, Kelly 305
 Yerger, Tameka 306
 Yoshida, Nahomi 306
 You, Christine 306
 Young, Anthony 183, 209
 Young, David 306
 Young, Durkin 238
 Young, Edward 306
 Young, James 306
 Young, Joseph 306
 Young, Krystal 306
 Young, Sasha 306
 Young, Tracey 306
 Yu, Jiang 306

Yuan, Elizabeth 216
 Yun, Sungchan 306
 Zabielski, Elaine 306
 Zagorski, Mike 211
 Zambuto, Marisa 306
 Zande, Mike 217, 219
 Zapata, Vivian 131
 Zaval, Natalie 253
 Zdanowicz, Christina 306
 Zebrowski, Barbara 252, 253
 Zeglis, Chad 259
 Zehr, Blake 306
 Zelasko, Kristen 266
 Zeman, Michelle 306
 Zenko, Cynthia 306
 Zerrusen, Lee 203
 Zerrusen, Ryan 306
 Zeta Beta Tau 58
 Zhang, Tian 306
 Zhang, Xi 306
 Zhemalits, Dmitry 306
 Zia, Sameen 252
 Ziegler, Stephanie 306
 Ziegler, Anna 258
 Ziegler, Jackie 209
 Ziegler, Jacqueline 184
 Zielke, Jodi 306
 Zimmerman, Danny 205
 Zimmerman, Eric 29
 Zimmerman, Jaime 119
 Zimmerman, Joe 269
 Zimmerman, Josh 260
 Zinnecker, Jennifer 306
 Zoellner, Adam 256
 Zollner, Andrew 183, 209
 Zombolas, Nicholas 306
 Zook, Ron 29, 211
 Zuber, Stacy 229, 306
 Zulauf, Ben 210
 Zumwalt, Mac 306
 Zurlene, Curtis 269
 Zurrer, Emily 207
 Zwikel, Amy 306
 Zyga, Kristin 306

END

IN RETRO SPECT

Before starting this book, I used to look through old Illios in the office and envy the students on their pages. College would have been much cooler in the '60s and '70s, I thought, when you couldn't count your friends on a computer screen or carry a cell phone to class. I wanted to be at U of I during all the passion and protest and laid-back porch parties, not when C.O.'s and Starbucks and trendy snow boots crowded the campus. Convinced that I was born in the wrong decade, I reveled in the Illio archives and in my dad's U of I stories, catching reruns of *That '70s Show* and presetting 92.5 The Chief. It seemed to me then that my parents' college days had a lot more substance (pun intended?)—and a much better soundtrack.

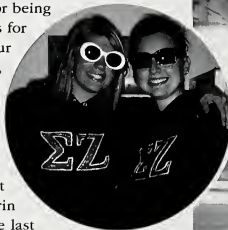
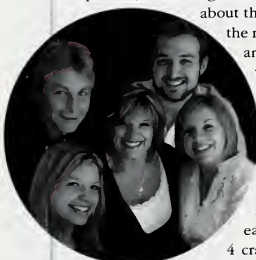
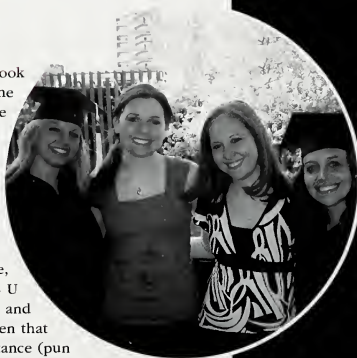
Yet making the 2007 Illio has awakened me to my case of fake nostalgia. Instead of glorifying a time I never lived through and a place I never knew, I had the chance to give my own college experience some credit. This yearbook pays respect to a rightfully deserving time at the University—a year that saw a resurgence in student media, increasing interest in global politics, and a heightened debate about racism on campus. These pages tell about the smoking ban in bars, the double snow days, and the retirement of the Chief. There was definitely passion and protest and history made this year, and not only was I here to witness it—I was here to record it.

These memorable events were the backdrop to the best two semesters I could have asked for. I met more people than in my first 3 years combined (in other words, my Facebook friend count skyrocketed). I spent Sunday nights with a talented and hilarious Illio staff who, for some reason, listened to what I said. I spent the rest of each week in apt. 202 with 3 amazing roommates and 4 crazy neighbors. I met Dave Eggers, saw New York City, finished my senior thesis, and finally karaoked on a Wednesday night at White Horse. My sister got engaged in the fall, and my brother and I said goodbye to U of I when we both graduated in the spring.

I have finished the year and my college career, and I somehow managed to complete this massive project in the meantime. Sure, I still pour over those old Illios and wish I could have been there—but I can't wait to open this book years from now and know how cool it was to be here, at the University of Illinois, in 2006-2007.

And now, in liner-notes fashion, I'd like to thank the Illio Marketing Staff for your selling strategies, Jayme Swift for the 3-season Illio show, Sarah Durham for your advising, Jane Cluver for your support, Mary Cory and the Illini Media Board for this opportunity, the writers and photographers for doing a job that ain't easy, each one of my dear editorial staff members for contributing to this beautiful book, Alex Robb for being more than qualified (cool, Pro Mode), Sarah Kowalis for the scary similarities between us, Deni Stritch for your dedication, Brother's Bar and Grill for the memories, NBC for *The Office*, John Mayer for *Continuum*, the BlackMac for its beauty, Professor Ramona Curry for your guidance, my English major friends for 'getting it' because no one else does, my Learning Community kids for being badassess, the boys of 201 for keeping it interesting, Eric Simmons for the text messages, Stacy Zettinger for sticking with me, Erin Foley for the last four years, Jennifer Stamm for the last 18, Anne Marcellus for the unbreakable bond between sisters of a made-up sorority, Cassidy for the unbreakable bond between actual sisters, Mark for joining the family, Adam for being the brother everyone wishes they had, Mom and Dad for everything I am and have yet to be, and God, of course, for all of the above.

LYNDSEY GROTH
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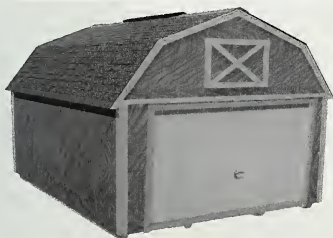
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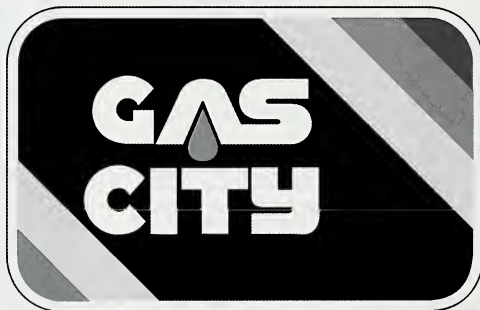
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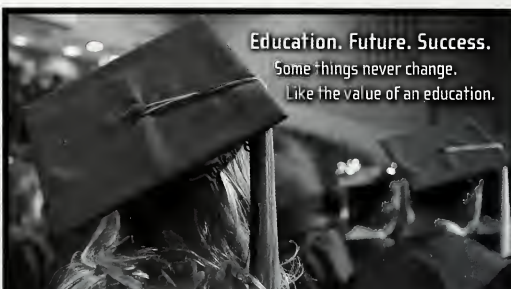
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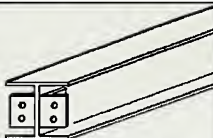
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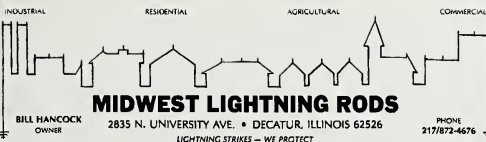


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The 2007 Illio Yearbook at the University of Illinois, Volume 114, was printed by Taylor Publishing Company in Dallas, Texas and produced with Adobe InDesign and Photoshop software. Jane Cluver was the Taylor Representative for the Illio and Pam Ringold was the Customer Service Advisor at Taylor.

The cover was designed by the art director and the editor-in-chief. The material is English Linen grained 4-color Lithocote with gloss finish and 150 pt. binder. All colors were created by the art director.

The endsheet material is 80 pound coated one side stock in mint #26. All 344 pages are printed 100 pound enamel.

Body copy for the book is 9 point Garamond with 12 point leading. Captions for the book are in 6 point Avant Garde Gothic Book with 8 point leading. Headline, subhead, and story/photo by fonts are as follows: Avant Garde Gothic Demi, Avant Garde Gothic Book, Avant Garde Gothic Book/Demi. Some headlines in the student life and academics sections are Avant Garde Gothic Book.

Each designer designed their pages under the supervision of the editor-in-chief. The opening, division, and closing pages were designed by the art director and the editor-in-chief. The design editor designed the sports section.

Photographers from both the Illio and Daily Illini staffs took the majority of the photos for the book. Some photos were courtesy of the University of Illinois Sports Information, the Associated Press, and others, as noted on the respective spread. The senior portraits were taken by Thorton Studios, New York, New York, and were submitted digitally.

All copy in the book was written and edited by Illini Media editorial staff members. The editor-in-chief wrote the opening body copy.

The Illio is the independent yearbook at the University of Illinois and is a division of Illini Media. Mary Cory is the publisher and general manager. All editorial and marketing staff members were students of the University of Illinois. Advertisements were provided by Educational Services, Inc. No University of Illinois funds were used to produce this book. No part of this book may be reproduced without prior consent from Illini Media.





A panel of administrators
listens as students and
community members
express their concerns
about racism on campus
at Foellinger Auditorium.
Photo by Brad Vest

Emily sophomore in Applied Health Sciences, slides down the steps in front of Foellinger Auditorium, as Jessie Block, sophomore in Education, far right, and Michelle Avila, sophomore in IAA, look on. Photo by Aaron Facevine







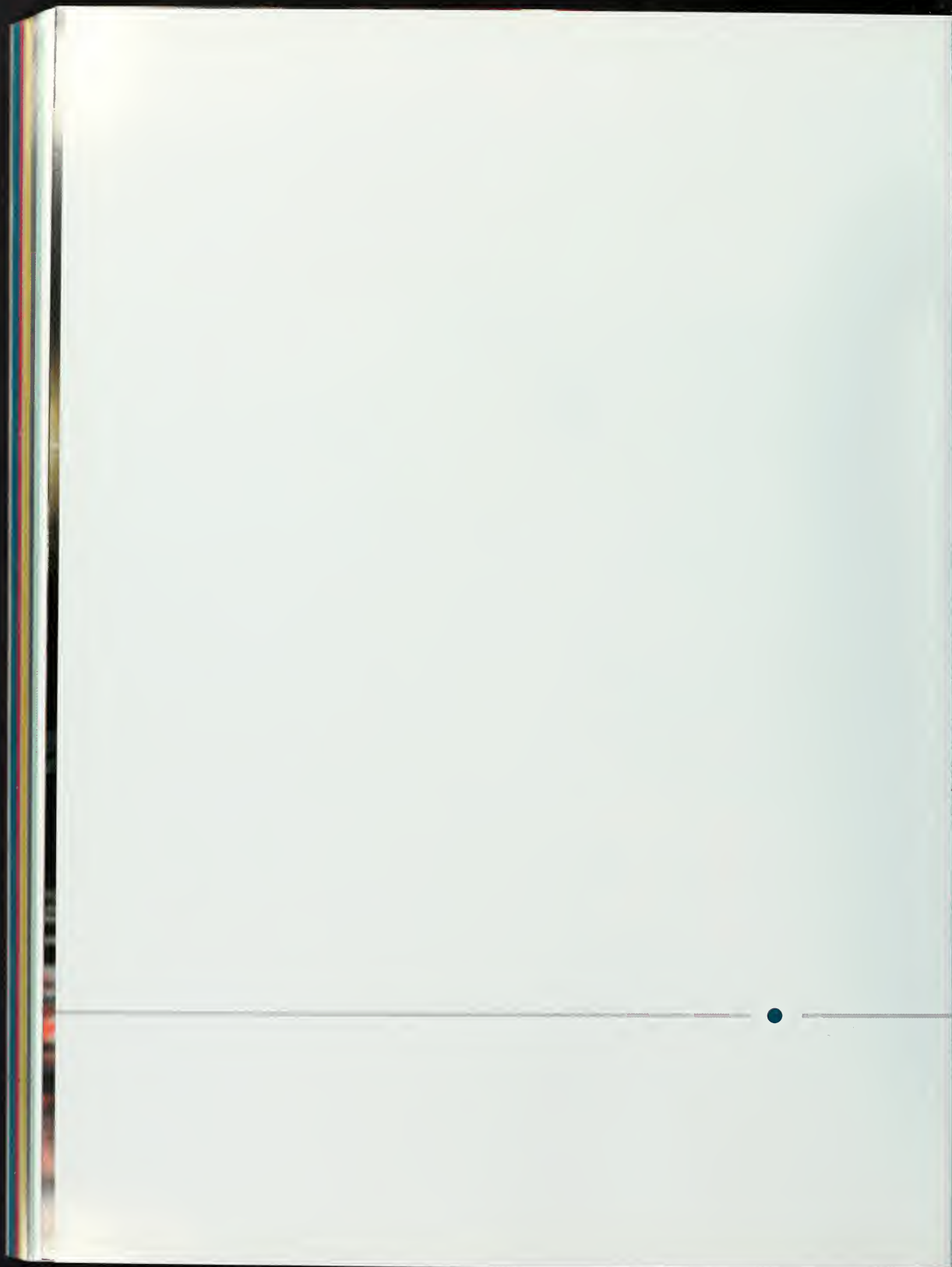


Illinois players wait for the rebound as Minnesota's Kevin Payton shoots a free throw.
Photo by Josh Birnbaum





People walk along Green Street
in front of Follett's Bookstore
after a light rain.
Photo by Josh Blimbaum





21

