

INSIDE:	
President's Column	2
Sports	12
Alumni Events	
Calendars	2, 16
Class Notes	22
Obituaries	27



College of Education and Human Services 3



Student Services 8



College of Business and Technology 17

Spring 2009  
USPS 679-980

# Western News



WESTERN  
ILLINOIS  
UNIVERSITY

Alumni News and Notes from Western Illinois University

## Western Illinois University receives \$1 million for Quad Cities engineering program

The Western Illinois University-Quad Cities campus has received \$1 million in contributions from the John Deere Foundation and The Moline Foundation for the University's new engineering program that will begin this fall.

The donations — \$500,000 from each foundation — will support lease space and equipment.

WIU-QC officials are currently evaluating bids to lease 9,000-square-foot of space in downtown Moline to temporarily house the engineering program until the WIU-QC Riverfront Campus Building I is open.

"These collaborative relationships further Western's mission of providing a quality, affordable public education to the residents of this region," said WIU President **Al Goldfarb**. "The new engineering program builds on the University's traditions of academic excellence and educational opportunity."

According to Jon Tunberg, Moline Foundation chair, being a leader in encouraging philanthropy is a part of the foundation's mission.

"This project encompasses many of the goals we have set for The Moline Foundation, such as education, charitable partnerships, effective use of our riverfront, business growth and workforce development," Tunberg added.

"The John Deere Foundation makes this contribution as an investment in the long-term future of the Quad Cities area," said Amy Nimmer, president of the John Deere Foundation. "This initiative has been in the works for several years. While we continue to support programs at many institutions of higher education, we believe it is especially important to bring an engineering curriculum offered by a public university to the area."

According to **Joe Rives**, WIU vice president of the Quad Cities, planning and technology, the foundations' contributions represent "a great partnership between Western and its host community." The University will invest an additional \$2 million in the engineering program over a four-year period; however, additional assistance and community partnerships are necessary for space, internships, capstone projects, research and outreach, Rives added.

"Western is an active citizen in the Quad Cities region, and the support we receive from business, industry and

nonprofit organizations helps us remain a viable member of this community," Rives said. "Through this gift, our students and the citizens of this region will have expanded opportunities to further their education in a high demand field."

The 133-semester hour engineering degree will be delivered at the WIU-Macomb and WIU-Quad Cities campuses and will provide an integrated course of study. The program will be a plus-two degree completion program (junior and senior years) articulated with the pre-engineering transfer programs at the WIU-Macomb campus and other four-year universities, along with community colleges in Illinois, Iowa and Missouri, including Black Hawk College and the Eastern Iowa Community College District. Western's Quad Cities-based

**\$1 million continued on page 7**



Moline Foundation chair Jon Tunberg; WIU-QC VP Joe Rives; WIU-QC Leadership Team Co-Chair Mary Lagerblade; WIU President Al Goldfarb; WIU-QC Leadership Team Co-Chair Gene Blanc; Moline Foundation executive director Joy Boruff; and John Deere Foundation president Amy Nimmer.

## WIU a 'Neighborhood Ball' site on inauguration night

University Housing and Dining Services and Sodexo Campus Services at WIU received a surprise, yet welcome, call early on Jan. 19 from the Presidential Inauguration Committee.

Western's Macomb campus was selected as one of some 60 sites across the nation—and essentially narrowed to one of three campuses nationwide—to host a "Neighborhood Ball," which was webcast live on YouTube, Flickr and Twitter, and featured on ABC network's inaugural coverage.

"We were among just a few universities, along with the University of Florida and Kansas State, to serve as site for a Neighborhood Ball," said **Matt Bierman '97 MBA '03**, director of residential life. "The majority of sites were restaurants, community centers and major public gathering places."

The idea of a 'Neighborhood Ball' was conceived by then president-elect Obama to include people from neighborhoods across the U.S. **Eva Galbraith '99**, WIU's Sodexo marketing director, put WIU in the running in



Students in Bayliss/Henninger waved flags and chanted "Obama," "WIU" and "U.S.A" during a live webcast that was picked up by ABC.

December (2008) by registering WIU on a website created by the Presidential Inaugural Committee.

"Since we hadn't heard anything, we thought we didn't make the cut. Then we got the call that morning," Bierman added.

**Neighborhood Ball continued on page 7**

## Director's Corner News from Your Alumni Association



Greetings!  
As graduates and friends of Western, there are so very many ways for you to remain connected to your University. We hope you have a moment sometime soon to take advantage of all the opportunities to do so. In addition to what you might read about in the following pages of Western News, the website, [wiu.edu/alumni](http://wiu.edu/alumni), is a great resource. It provides information about the Alumni Association and all of the benefits and services available. The diverse array of events around the country each year give you a chance to renew old acquaintances, meet new friends, and most importantly, network with other alumni. Our online community lets you find classmates, update

alumni information and even experience our own social network. The Alumni Awards program recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of our graduates each year, and our scholarship program is second to none.

As always, the Alumni staff welcomes calls, visits and e-mails from all of our alumni and friends around the world. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

*Amy E. Spelman*  
Amy Spelman MS '98

## Western News

Spring 2009, Vol. 61, No. 3  
USPS 679-980

Western News is published quarterly (March, June, September, December) by University Relations, Sherman Hall 302, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1390. Periodicals postage paid at Macomb, IL and at additional mailing offices. Distributed to WIU alumni. Postmaster: Please send address changes to WIU Alumni Association, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1367.

**Phone (University Relations):** (309) 298-1993  
**Fax:** (309) 298-1606  
**Alumni House:** (309) 298-1914  
**Alumni House:** [A-Association@wiu.edu](mailto:A-Association@wiu.edu)  
**URL:** [wiu.edu](http://wiu.edu)

### Editorial staff/contributors:

**Darcie Dyer Shinberger '89 MS '98**, director of University Relations  
**Amy Spelman MS '98**, director of Alumni Programs  
**Bonnie Barker '75 MS '77**, assistant director of University Relations  
**Caren Bordowitz**, graphic designer  
**Jessica Butcher MS '96**, assistant vice president for student services  
**Jason Kaufman MS '99**, assistant athletics director for media services and broadcasting  
**Teresa Koltzenburg '92**, public information specialist  
**Alison McGaughey**, editorial writer  
**Schuyler Meixner '98 MBA '04**, director, communications and external relations, College of Business and Technology  
**Dana Moon '98 MBA '01**, assistant to the dean, College of Education and Human Services  
**Jessica Ruebush**, graphic designer  
**Amanda Shoemaker**, associate director of Alumni Programs

Have tips, questions or comments for Western News?  
[westernnews@wiu.edu](mailto:westernnews@wiu.edu)  
(309) 298-1914, **Alumni House**  
(309) 298-1993, **University Relations**

Need to update your address?  
[wiu.edu/alumni](http://wiu.edu/alumni)  
(309) 298-2914  
Alumni Association, 1 University Circle,  
Macomb IL 61455-1390  
see "Send Us Your News" (back page)

Printed by the authority of the State of Illinois.  
3/2009 • 95,000 • 090001



## WIU Alumni & Friends Events for 2009

- March**  
14 . . . Arizona Ultimate Alumni & Friends Day  
21 . . . Black Alumni Black Tie Scholarship Gala - Martinique Banquet Complex - Chicago, IL  
25 . . . Alumni vs. Student Basketball Game - Macomb, IL  
27 . . . Boston, MA Alumni & Friends Event - Lir Irish Pub & Restaurant  
28 . . . Pittsburgh, PA Alumni & Friends Event
- April**  
3 . . . Complimentary Social at the Art Institute of Chicago Alumni & Friends Event  
4 . . . Chicago Symphony Orchestra Alumni & Friends Event  
10-11 Track & Field Alumni Reunion-Lee Calhoun Memorial Invitational  
17 . . . Relay for Life Student & Alumni Event - Macomb, IL  
17 . . . Celebrating Town & Gown Alumni & Friends Event - Macomb, IL  
18 . . . All Leatherneck Reunion - Chicago, IL Hawthorne Race Course  
21 . . . WIU vs. U of Iowa Baseball Game Alumni & Friends Social - Modern Woodmen Park - Davenport, IA  
30 . . . Grad Blast Senior Send-off & Alumni Event - Macomb, IL
- May**  
7 . . . Denver, CO Alumni & Friends Event (note date change)  
9 . . . Geffen Theatre Alumni & Friends Event - Los Angeles, CA  
13-21 Travel Abroad - Amalfi  
15-16 Commencement/Distinguished Alumni Award  
30 . . . Memphis, TN Alumni & Friends Event - The Peabody Hotel (note date change)
- June**  
8 . . . Chicago Alumni & Friends Golf Outing - Seven Bridges Golf Club - Woodridge, IL  
3-10 . . . Travel Abroad - Alaska  
10 . . . New York City Alumni & Friends Event  
13-21 Travel Abroad - Mediterranean  
22 . . . Quad Cities Alumni & Friends Golf Outing - Short Hills Country Club - E. Moline, IL  
23-July 6 Travel Abroad - Ukraine/Romania  
26 . . . Peoria, IL Alumni & Friends Golf Outing - WeaverRidge
- July**  
8-12 . . . WIU at the John Deere Classic  
11 . . . Cubs vs. Cardinals Alumni & Friends Event - The Cubby Bear - Chicago, IL  
30 . . . Root Against the President Alumni & Friends Event - US Cellular Field - Chicago, IL
- August**  
1-2 . . . Black Alumni Reunion Weekend  
27 . . . Princeton, IL Alumni & Friends Event
- September**  
3 . . . WIU vs. Sam Houston State Football Pre-Game Social - Huntsville, TX  
11 . . . Quad Cities Campus Alumni, Friends & Students Block Party-Moline, IL  
12 . . . WIU vs. NIU Football Pre-Game Social - DeKalb, IL  
24 . . . Quad Cities Collage Concert with WIU School of Music  
26 . . . San Francisco, CA Alumni & Friends Event - Giants vs Cubs  
27 . . . San Diego, CA Alumni & Friends Event
- October**  
16-17 2009 Reunion  
17 . . . Homecoming  
13-22 Travel Abroad - South Africa
- November**  
7 . . . WIU vs. ISU Football Pre-Game Social - Normal, IL
- December**  
19-20 Commencement/Alumni Achievement Awards
- January 2010**  
24-30 Florida Alumni & Friends Events

## From the President



Our 2009-2010 theme, "Dollars and Sense: From Personal Finance to World Poverty," certainly ties in with the state of the current economy. We recognize the current economic challenges and difficult budgetary times facing not only our University and the state, but also the nation. Please know that we are committed to continuing to provide stellar academic opportunities and to providing a quality, affordable education. We continue to closely monitor expenditures, and will work with our legislators and others to keep education at the forefront. I appreciate all of the support during these difficult and uncertain budgetary times.

In spite of the current economic circumstances, as I look ahead to the 2009-2010 academic year, I am energized about Western's many opportunities and advancements.

The University will begin offering its new engineering and nursing degrees in Fall 2009. Both of these degrees come at a time when there is a dire need for trained professionals both regionally and nationally. The four-year engineering and nursing degrees will be delivered at the WIU-Macomb and WIU-Quad Cities campuses as part of a 2+2 program and will provide an integrated course of study.

We will open the new Multicultural Center this spring, and the facility will be fully functional by the Fall 2009 semester. The new center has been built under green standards, including the installation of a grass roof. As in previous years, we will continue to make sustainability and environmental awareness a priority.

The University continues to review new technologies to enhance our students' academic experiences and broaden educational opportunities. We have made great strides in the past months in the realm of social networking as the University has established a strong presence on Facebook and MySpace, as well as the University's alumni social networking site, RockeNetwork. Our alumni and friends have the ability to get the latest University news via Alumni Association monthly e-newsletter, RockeNews, and from University Relations daily eNews. We are continually seeking new ways to bring Western updates and news directly to you.

While we have much to look forward to in the upcoming year, I'd be remiss if I did not mention the outstanding accomplishments of our campus community over the course of this school year. More than 600 students participated in December's graduation ceremonies, including our first nine doctoral graduates, while six alumni were honored for their professional accomplishments. The Art Gallery received a historic donation of artwork by the late WIU alumnus **Warren Anderson '50**, and the Performing Arts Center re-design was finalized. The College of Arts and Sciences celebrated its 50th anniversary, while the computer science department also marked its silver anniversary. We saw an increase in enrollment at the Quad Cities campus, as well as in transfer, graduate and extension student enrollment. The University sponsored a successful Election Night Party in November, and a few months later, sponsored a Neighborhood Inaugural Ball, which was shown live on ABC. Two counselor education programs received national accreditation, while Beu Health Center's ambulatory services also receive national accreditation. We participated in flood relief efforts throughout the region, and for the third consecutive year, a WIU student was chosen as a national FFA agriculture ambassador.

Thank you for your continued support of Western. I hope to meet many of you at Alumni Association events this year.

*Al Spelman*

# College of Education and Human Services



## A 'full circle' farewell:

*Bonnie Smith-Skripps will retire at the end of Spring 2009 semester*

By Alison McGaughey

As COEHS Dean **Bonnie Smith-Skripps** prepares for retirement at the end of this semester, her career at WIU will have truly come full circle—considering that she began at Western as an undergraduate student.

Smith-Skripps received a B.A. in English teacher certification in 1973, an M.A. in English (1974) and Ed.S. in Educational Administration (1989). After starting out as an instructor in the English department, she was recruited to a new position in the College, working to obtaining federal and state grant funding. During her time as dean, the College has added a number of new initiatives, including Western's first doctoral degree.

Looking back over her career, she shares her thoughts with Western News.

**WN: Tell us how you first came to Western.**

I grew up in a farming community about 40 miles northwest of Macomb and attended all 12 years of school at Yorkwood School District—graduating class of 53 students in 1969. I came to Western as a junior after attending Carl Sandburg College, and majored in English education. I was well acquainted with Western because of proximity, and knew friends who'd had positive experiences at WIU. My aunt, **Elizabeth Waugh '60**, had attended WIU when it was a Normal School.

**WN: How did you begin to shift your career from English teaching into educational administration?**

After I had taught English, with more serendipity than conscious career planning, I assumed the position of coordinator of Macomb Projects (now Center for Best Practices in Early Childhood Education), in the College of Education. For close to 10 years I worked with Dr. **Patti Hutinger**, a prolific grant writer and personal mentor, and gained a knowledge base and skill set in writing for and administering large competitive federal and state-funded projects that utilized the expertise of staff and faculty from various departments. I then joined the Dean's Office as director of special projects to lead team efforts in pursuing external funding for innovative approaches to education. We received multi-state, multi-million grant awards for distance education and instructional technology, and developed other collaborative grant initiatives focused on adult and family literacy, teacher preparation and professional development.

**WN: Summarize how your role grew over the years.**

I developed an even greater understanding of budget planning, personnel recruitment and team building, establishing priorities and actions plans, and building and maintaining partnerships with various external entities, which resulted in more interface with the College departments and movement into other administrative roles within the Dean's Office, while becoming a full professor in the Department of Educational Leadership. When Dean **David Taylor** was asked to serve as Western's president in 2001, I was selected as interim dean. I made the decision to compete in the national search for the COEHS deanship, not as a direct result of a long-term career goal, but rather due more to my commitment to the

College, our faculty and staff and our well-recognized professional preparation programs, as well as to critical importance of our ability to be responsive to our education and human service partners in the region.

**WN: How would you describe the College as you see it today in terms of presence in the region or the nation?**

The College's departments prepare professionals in education and human service disciplines to enter the workforce with the necessary skills and the mindset to be lifelong learners and leaders. We are leaders in the Midwest in preparing law enforcement/criminal justice professionals; our teacher candidates and educational administrators are sought after by regional schools. We maintain accredited programs in education; school and agency counseling; recreation, park and tourism administration; social work; dietetics; and athletic training. COEHS provides the expertise, connections, and resources to develop and support our graduates to be agents of change in their professional and community settings.

**WN: What have been some of the most significant changes you've seen within the College?**

We became the College of Education and Human Services in 1994 and now consist of 13 departments, offering 12 majors, seven certificate programs, and 15 graduate programs, including Western's first doctoral program—the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership.

We pride ourselves on being responsive to the changes in our global society and the resulting demands for well-prepared professionals in our fields. A good example is the relatively new major in emergency management, developed in response to 9-11 and Hurricane Katrina. That program now has close to 60 majors and is continuing to grow. We also have more emphasis on student-faculty research and opportunities for our students to engage with the professional world early in their educational career. And, we continue to explore the impact of emerging technologies in teaching and learning, and in the professional fields.

**WN: Could you describe the College's goal in preparing teachers-in-training?**

Graduates from our education programs need to be prepared to assist all students in their classrooms, regardless of English proficiency, special learning needs, and socio-economic backgrounds. Our biggest challenge now, which reflects national trends, is to prepare teacher candidates with effective strategies for teaching English Language Learners.

The mission of Western's Teacher and Professional Education Program is to empower our candidates to become educational practitioners who are deeply committed to the highest standards of professional practice and able to adapt to emerging socioeconomic landscapes, skilled in the use of technological tools that learning; and who are committed to empowering all learners.

**WN: What are some of the career highlights of which you are most proud?**

Receiving approval for the Ed.D. in educational leadership, and seeing our first doctoral candidates march across the stage at Fall 2008 Commencement, was the

culmination of many years of effort. It was exciting to part of the team that brought Western national recognition for its initiatives in distance education with CAIT and the Star Schools grants. I'm pleased that we have maintained an ongoing partnership with the AT&T Foundation with more than \$2 million in funding for education projects. Hiring a leadership team for the College, that works together so well to ensure responsive, high quality programs across our departments, has been very gratifying. And finally, instituting the COEHS Distinguished Alumnus Award to celebrate the success and generosity of our graduates.

**WN: What do you believe are some of the greatest aspects of the Western experience?**

While it has been close to 38 years since I first came to Western as a transfer student, I can say that the commitment and support shown to students by the faculty and administration has remained consistent. I would not have matured as a student or found my strengths had it not been for English faculty such as **Charles Mayer**, **Arnold Chandler**, and **Jay Balderson**, and educational administration faculty such as **Norman Krong**, **Virginia Helm**, and **Steve Rittenmeyer**. I believe that Western's graduates leave the university community and enter their professional and personal communities with their own list of faculty and student services staff who made an impact upon their lives—names they will easily recall 30 to 40 years from now. Loyalty to Western continues to grow in strength from our alumni—which attests to a wonderful college experience.



**Bonnie Smith-Skripps**

## COEHS Upcoming Events

**April 13 - 17**  
**COEHS Week**

The inaugural COEHS Week will include events such as panel discussions on lifespan issues and English language learners, graduate symposiums for graduate students to showcase their research and projects, the 10th Annual Tech Fest, a retirement party for **Bonnie Smith-Skripps**, and the announcement of the 2009 COEHS Distinguished Alumnus, **Joe Decker '98**. Visit [wiu.edu/coehs/coehsweek09.html](http://wiu.edu/coehs/coehsweek09.html) or follow us on Facebook, MySpace and Twitter for more information!

**April 30 - May 1**  
**Mark your calendars for Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration's Professional Development Conference (PDC)!**

Join us for the Big Bogey Classic and a social on Thursday, April 30 at the Alumni House, attend sessions from fellow alumni along with lunch and the keynote speaker (location to be announced) Friday, May 1. Finish the week at the Buffalo Trio at Horn Field Campus Friday evening. For more information and to register, visit [wiu.edu/rpta](http://wiu.edu/rpta).



## An amazing day—down to the ‘Corps’ *Inauguration provides look forward—and back—for sibling alumni*

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92

For Scott Lawson '01 MS '08 and his sister Amy Killey '07, a trip to President Barack Obama's inauguration ceremony on Jan. 20 encompassed a mixture of feelings—of looking forward to the future and a wistful gaze back to their experiences in the Dubuque (IA)-based Colts Drum & Bugle Corps.

Macomb natives Lawson and Killey marched with the Colts over the summers during and just after their high school years. In January, the Colts marched and played in the inaugural parade for the 44th U.S. President, and as former members of the nationally recognized drum and bugle corps, the sibling Western alumni were able to travel with the Colts to Washington, D.C.

"Riding from Dubuque to Washington on a bus with a bunch of people—some of whom I had marched with, some of whom I hadn't—was a great experience," said Lawson of the bus trip to D.C. "Originally Amy and I thought we would get to march, as some of the Colts alumni were able to. But in the original application to the parade committee, the Colts indicated there would be 120 members marching. There were more than 250 current and former member applications to the corps for the chance to march, so the committee narrowed it down to 160, and both Amy and I made it. But because of the extraordinarily high security level, only the 120 originally requested were allowed to march."

Despite the fact Lawson and Killey weren't in the parade, they both enjoyed the experience of participating in the historic event—the inauguration of the first African American President—with their Colts Drum & Bugle Corps comrades.

"When you 'age out' of drum corps (when you're 22), you think you can't go back," Lawson explained. "It's an emotional time for nearly everyone, especially someone like me, who marched seven summers. Knowing you'll never get to put on that uniform or march with those people again, it can be difficult—but that's just the way it works. So getting a chance to participate in that experience again was something I couldn't pass up, and we were able to be involved with the other things that those who marched were involved in—like sleeping on a gym floor, standing in the food line and riding the bus. It was a chance to go back and be a part of something I thought I'd never be a part of again."

### One for the grandkids

Killey, who earned her bachelor's degree in recreation, park and tourism administration (RPTA) and works as the gymnastics team coach and lead teacher for the Fox Valley Family YMCA in Plano (IL), noted that while the masses of people in the capital city on inauguration day were definitely something to contend with—she and Lawson were not able to watch the Colts march for fear of foregoing a good spot on the mall for the inaugural ceremony—she nonetheless would not have traded the experience.

"From the U.S. Capitol, we were about three-quarters of the way back, closer to the Washington Monument. We were only able to see the ceremony from the Jumbotrons, but even then it was hard for me to see because I am only just over five feet tall. But when I stood on my tippy toes, I could see most of the time," explained Killey. "While President Obama was taking the oath, except for the camera clicks, the crowd was almost silent. It was not until he said the last line that the crowd erupted into a huge cheer for several minutes."



Siblings Scott Lawson '01 MS '08 and Amy Killey '07 watched history in the making on Jan. 20.

Lawson, who earned his master's degree in instructional design and technology (IDT) and works in Macomb as the webmaster for WIU's administrative services division, noted that the overall mood of the immense crowd was genial and that he also was thrilled to be there.

"Just being able to be a part of history and being able share it with people I know and love, especially my sister, was an amazing experience," he said. "This event was something that really only comes along once in a generation, one where millions of people came together—with hundreds of millions more watching on television or listening on the radio all around the world—and celebrated a turning point in the history of our country. To be one of the relatively few who were physically present for this event is something I'll never forget. One day, I will be able to tell my children and grandchildren about it."

## Alumna reaches out to WIU roommate for lifeline

By Dana Moon '98 MBA '01

Karen Christensen '82 MS '84 walked away with \$50,000 as a contestant on "Who Wants to Be A Millionaire"—and she can credit her former WIU roommate with helping her get there.

She started in the "hot seat" Nov. 7, where she made it to the \$8,000 question. The second episode of her hot seat round aired Nov. 24. Christensen—a school librarian, figure-skating teacher and badminton coach living in Sunnyvale (CA)—has been a fan of the show since it first aired in 1999. Two years later, she made it onto the show in the "Ring of Fire" but did not have the "fastest finger" to make it in the hot seat.

Her time came, however, on September 9-10 when she taped the show. She was allowed four lifelines—a group from St. Francis High School (where Christensen works); a "double dip" where the contestant can give two answers to a question; her WIU freshman year roommate, Kay Hurley Pellack '78; and her cousin's husband. On the

\$8,000 question, she tried to use her group lifeline, but complications arose and the team was unavailable. So she reached out to Pellack, and Pellack came through for her. Christensen ended up winning \$50,000.

"It was a surreal experience to be in the hot seat," said Christensen. "Once you sit down, everything but Meredith (Vieira) and the question screen just disappears. Because there was no opportunity to practice playing the game with the timer in particular, I remember wondering 'why am I doing this?' but once it started, I just answered the questions."

Since the show, Christensen continues to work and is looking forward to traveling. She hopes to attend the 2010 Winter Olympics in Canada and to return to London, where she did her student teaching.

"It was a really fun experience," Christensen commented. "For a hambone such as myself, it was a chance to work on my 15 minutes of fame. I probably achieved that, plus a bit!"



Karen Christensen '82 MS '84 reached out to former WIU roommate Kay Hurley Pellack '78 for the answer that led to her winning \$50,000.

# College of Education and Human Services



## Gaming and science: A cosmic connection

*Alumna's video game funded by \$2 million grant*

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92

Learning about how students can use a video game to understand lunar geology is on the mind of **Debbie Reese MS '96** these days.

With the help of a \$2 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), Reese and her colleagues continue their current mission of studying how video games can help students learn science.

Reese is a senior educational researcher at Wheeling (WV) Jesuit University's Center for Educational Technologies (CET). The NSF grant enables her to proceed with a project she is directing at CET as part of NASA's Classroom of the Future (COTF) program. The project is called "RUI: CyGaMEs: Cyber-enabled Teaching and Learning Through Game-based, Metaphor-enhanced Learning Objects." According to NASA's website, the program at the CET "serves as NASA's principal research and development center for education technologies and provides technology-based tools and resources to K-12 schools."

At the heart of Reese's project is "Selene: A Lunar Construction GaME," a prototype online video game in which players learn how Earth's moon was formed as they create their own moon and then pepper it with impact craters and flood it with lava flows.

"CyGaMEs is important because it causes and assesses learning within instructional environments scientifically engineered to make learning intuitive and intrinsically rewarding," Reese explained. "Simply put, it helps students learn through gaming."

According to Reese, her CyGaMEs theory is an approach for designing video games that spurs players to learn science concepts by drawing analogies to their experiences playing the game.

"Done effectively, a video game using the CyGaMEs method helps players achieve flow, a point of immersion in the game when players best grasp the learning points the game is trying to make. We want to make science learning more intuitive, and video games designed with sound instructional principles can help us achieve that," Reese added.

### A cosmic connection

Before enrolling at Western in the mid-1990s, Reese

taught middle school in Keokuk (IA). She had the opportunity to go back to school and, while she was investigating graduate programs, she connected with Western's instructional design and technology (IDT) department—by accident.

"A gentleman answered the phone and said, 'Instructional Technology and Telecommunications'—which was the name of the department at the time—and I said, 'Oh, I'm sorry. I have the wrong number,' and I hung up," Reese explained. "But then I thought, 'Hmm... instructional technology and telecommunications, that's just what I want to learn.'"

Reese ended up calling the department back and had a conversation with an IDT faculty member that set her on the path on which she finds herself today.

"**Mo Hassan** answered the phone. At that time, he was the graduate adviser. (Eventually, he became the department chair before he retired.)

He told me, 'As a matter of fact, we are just starting a program in instructional technology.' It was a fortuitous event—that I somehow got connected to Mo and heard the name of the department. That's how I became a member of the first grad class in the new IDT program."

Although Reese finished her master's degree in Western's IDT department more than a decade ago, her ties to WIU remain intact. **Virginia Diehl**, professor in Western's psychology department, and some of Diehl's graduate students, are CyGaMEs collaborators. Reese and Diehl are presenting a poster session about their CyGaMEs work at the Association for Psychological Science's annual convention in May in San Francisco (CA).

Reese went on to finish a doctorate degree in the instructional technology discipline at Virginia Tech, but she noted her interest in applying cognitive science to the design of learning environments began during her master's program.



**Debbie Reese MS '96 directs a video game design project as part of NASA's Classroom of the Future program.**

"An interesting thing about the CyGaMEs grant award is that I began this work while I was at Western," she said. "It actually was derived out of my very first instructional design class with **Bruce Harris** and eventually my master's degree thesis."

### Awards and honors

According to Reese, her NSF award took effect last September, and two years of funding (approximately \$1,170,000) are guaranteed. The final two years of the funding, around \$834,000, will be contingent on the availability of funds and the progress of the project, she noted.

In addition to the NSF funding, Reese and her team's work won a semifinalist honor (interactive media category) in the 2007 International Science and Engineering Visualization Challenge, a competition sponsored by the NSF and "Science Magazine." They were also recognized by

the Outstanding Practice Committee of the Design and Development Division of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT) in 2008. According to the committee, the award is bestowed upon "those individuals or groups that have designed exemplary instructional materials or systems."

In 2008, Reese was also honored by Veracruz (Mexico) Mayor Jon Gurutz Rementería Sempé as the Distinguished Visitor at the first International Meeting on Evaluation for Mid-Higher Level Education and College Level Education, an event that attracted more than 350 educators and scholars to Veracruz last fall. According to Reese, her keynote presentation explained how CyGaMEs' Selene's design and assessment opens the door to teaching and learning opportunity in networked education.

Learn more about Reese's CyGaMEs work at [cygames.cet.edu](http://cygames.cet.edu).

## Daughter follows in dad's footsteps

The Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) and the Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA) recently hosted a joint educational conference for approximately 4,500 delegates in the parks and recreation field. This January's conference was the 25th conference for **Thom Palmer '85**, executive director of the Huntley Park District and the first conference for his daughter, **Brittany Palmer**, a freshman in the recreation, park and

tourism administration program at Western Illinois University. Thom displays his WIU student ID and his conference badge from 25 years ago.

For additional information go to:

[il-ipra.org](http://il-ipra.org)  
[ilparksconference.com](http://ilparksconference.com)  
[ilparks.org](http://ilparks.org)  
[huntleyparks.org](http://huntleyparks.org)



**Brittany and Thom Palmer**

Photo courtesy of Liz Leonard



## Young alumni giving back

By Katherine Knutsen

Western Illinois University and the College Student Personnel (CSP) graduate program are pleased to announce the creation of a new scholarship to help first year students fund their graduate studies: the Barnes-Brzozowski Emerging Student Affairs Professional Scholarship.

The Barnes-Brzozowski Emerging Student Affairs Professional Scholarship was recently established by **Alana Barnes MS '05** and **Jeremy Brzozowski MS '07**. Each year, this scholarship will be awarded to one first year student in the CSP program. The scholarship will be given to students who demonstrate exceptional skills and leadership in their contributions to both the CSP cohort/academic experience and their student affairs practice as they have made their transition into graduate studies.

The Barnes-Brzozowski Emerging Student Affairs



Jeremy Brzozowski and Alana Barnes

graduated in May 2007. Barnes recently accepted a position in academic advising at Carleton University. Brzozowski also accepted a position at Carleton University as the student development and orientation coordinator.

Professional Scholarship serves to support the mission of WIU's CSP program, which is to prepare outstanding entry-level student affairs practitioners who possess the knowledge and skills to facilitate the learning and development of students. This scholarship provides recognition to an outstanding and accomplished graduate student in the CSP program who has excelled in their professional education – as demonstrated through their ability to effectively integrate their academic course work with their assistantship experience.

Barnes and Brzozowski are proud alumni of the CSP program, both



Mandi Hulme

The 2008-2009 scholarship recipient is **Mandi Hulme**. Hulme holds an assistantship in the office of student activities working with the leadership programs. Originally from Kansas City (KS), she received her undergraduate degree from Emporia State University. The selection committee shared this about Hulme: "It was apparent through her application that she has a high level of self-awareness, intentionality in her assistantship, and most importantly her professional goal to make an impact on students' lives much like her mentors did for her. This is truly what this profession is all about." Hulme also has many connections to the Greek community and has worked professionally as a Leadership Consultant for Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority.

## COEHS initiates Lifespan Institute to facilitate research

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92

When it comes to expertise on aging, obesity, disease and human development, faculty members in Western Illinois University's College of Education and Human Services (COEHS) are leading the way in their respective fields. In addition to their cutting-edge instruction in Western's classrooms, COEHS faculty will now have the opportunity to engage in important life-related research via COEHS's Lifespan Institute (LSI).

A new initiative that aligns with WIU's core values of social responsibility, personal growth, educational opportunity and academic excellence, the Lifespan Institute's mission is "to find research-based solutions to challenges with a focus on aging, obesity, disease, societal violence, human development and social justice."

At the helm of the LSI is **Mike Godard**, assistant professor in the kinesiology department; Godard was named founding research fellow in January. According to COEHS officials, he will provide the conceptual design for the Lifespan Institute; solicit information regarding faculty research interests; and identify viable funding opportunities from state, federal and corporate sources.

"The Lifespan Institute will support basic and applied research, treatment and assessment clinics, service coordination and delivery, consultation and training," COEHS Dean **Bonnie Smith-Skripps '73 MA '74 ED SP '89** explained. "Dr. Godard possesses the requisite



background and critical vision to assist the college in actualizing interdisciplinary research."

According to Smith-Skripps, the goal of the institute is to bring together scientists of diverse disciplines including kinesiology, health sciences, recreation studies, social work, dietetics, law enforcement, counseling and education to study human development from its cellular origins through the final stages of life.

"The LSI will foster a highly collaborative, enterprising environment for scientists, students and practitioners from the various disciplines," she added.

Godard noted he will be pursuing funding from external agencies including the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Illinois Department of Public Health and private and public corporations.

"It is exciting to be part of this COEHS initiative," Godard said. "I look forward to assisting faculty in their research initiatives and furthering the public's understanding of lifespan development."

# WIU receives national recognition for community service

*Highest federal recognition bestowed for service commitment*



Western Illinois University now has further proof that WIU students, faculty and staff “walk the walk and talk the talk” when it comes to the University’s core value of social responsibility. On Feb. 9, Western was named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for its

**Students participate in social activities at The Elms Nursing Home**

exemplary service efforts.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) recognized Western at the American Council on Education conference in Washington, D.C. According to the CNCS, the Community Service Honor Roll, which was established in 2006, is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. Honorees for the award were chosen based on a series of selection factors including scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for

service and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

In 2008 alone, Western’s Volunteer Services sponsored numerous activities including flood relief assistance in Cedar Rapids (IA); participation in the Illinois Campus Compact “Rally For Tomorrow” in Chicago; hosting Make A Difference Day activities; playing Big Pink Volleyball, a breast cancer research fundraiser; and hosting the annual Angel Tree program. In addition, WIU’s Volunteer Services hired an Americorps VISTA worker for the 2008-09 academic year and hosted a Presidential Election Night Party.

## WIU scholarship program named a ‘best practice’

Western Illinois University’s Scholarship Program, administered by the Scholarship Office, was recently named a “best practice” by the Center for Student Opportunity (CSO).

According to its website, [csopportunity.org](http://csopportunity.org), the CSO is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting higher education opportunities for first-generation and other historically underserved college-bound students. Its “College Access & Opportunity Guide” is a comprehensive college guidebook promoting college opportunity for the traditionally underserved.

In highlighting Western’s scholarship program, a January CSO article stated, “In 2006, the program distributed \$2.5 million in scholarship support. Western Illinois has an ambitious scholarship program and includes a number of offerings specifically for entering minority students, including the DuSable Scholarship (\$1,000 per year, renewable at \$500), the Western Opportunity Grant (\$1,000), the Western Opportunity Scholarship (\$500 to \$2,000) and the Student Services Minority Achievement Access/Retention Grant (multiple awards ranging from \$500 to \$1,000).”

“We’re very pleased to get this kind of recognition, especially since there are just two of us in the office,” said Director of Scholarship Activities **Janice Owens**. “It’s nice to work hard and have your work recognized. The bottom line is that we’re here to serve students and we appreciate this recognition for doing just that.”

According to Owens, more than 75 percent of WIU students receive some kind of financial aid. This includes 3,500-plus students who received more than \$2.8 million in scholarships in the 2007-2008 school year.

For more information, visit [fa.wiu.edu](http://fa.wiu.edu) or [wiu.edu/scholarships](http://wiu.edu/scholarships).



**Janice Owens**

## Shoemaker named associate director

**Amanda Shoemaker**, who has served as Western’s assistant director of alumni programs since 2005, has been named associate director of alumni programs, effective March 1, according to Alumni Programs Director **Amy Spelman MS ’98**.

In her new position, Shoemaker will be responsible for assisting with management and administration as well as planning alumni events; coordinating marketing and public relations efforts; working with colleges and departments—including athletics, admissions and career services—on alumni-related topics; supporting the WIU Alumni Council; and advising the Student Alumni Association.

“Amanda’s level of experience is outstanding, and we look forward to her stepping into this new role,” said Spelman.

Since coming to Western, Shoemaker has furthered the development of the alumni website ([wiu.edu/alumni](http://wiu.edu/alumni)),

and undertaken development and implementation of RockeNetwork, which allows Western graduates to maintain or re-establish their WIU connections through the web.

“It is an exciting time to be working in WIU Alumni Programs,” said Shoemaker. “Alumni Programs works constantly to offer Western alumni the best programs and benefits, from Web services to great alumni and friends events. We enjoy keeping everyone updated on all that is purple and gold.”

Shoemaker is a 2001 graduate of Illinois College, Jacksonville. She was previously employed at KHQA TV 7 News in Quincy (IL) as an anchor, producer and reporter, under the professional name of Jillyn Shoemaker. In her three-plus years with KHQA, Shoemaker interviewed people from all walks of life, from legislators to celebrities to presidential candidates. Also while at KHQA, she earned a number of journalism awards.



**Amanda Shoemaker**

### \$1 million continued from page 1

engineering program will be linked to QC businesses through required internships, cooperative education experiences and capstone projects. A search is currently underway for a director for Western’s new School of Engineering.

“We have been working with our community college partners, Black Hawk and Scott, to ensure a seamless transition into Western’s engineering program,” said College of Business and Technology Dean **Tom Erekson**. “We have had a significant number of inquiries from potential students who want to become engineers.”

In Fall 2003, Deere & Company donated 20 acres of land on the Moline riverfront to Western to expand the WIU-Quad Cities facilities. The WIU Riverfront Building I will include engineering and manufacturing technology labs; the executive studies center, which offers noncredit instructional and professional development opportunities for businesses and nonprofit organizations; electronic classrooms; computer labs; distance learning classrooms; an information commons; a professional writing and academic support center; and office space for faculty and University administrators.

Founded in 1953, The Moline Foundation is a community-based, nonprofit organization, which provides grants to health, human services, education, community development, the arts and other charitable organizations that benefit the citizens of Moline and the Quad Cities region.

For more information on WIU-QC programs and services, call (309) 762-9481 or visit [wiu.edu/qc](http://wiu.edu/qc).

### Neighborhood Ball continued from page 1

Staff from Sodexo and Residence Life coordinated efforts in the recently remodeled Underground in the Bayliss/Henninger complex to give students the opportunity to be a part of history in the making. Participants enjoyed refreshments and music as they watched the inauguration on TV and participated in the live webcast.

When the broadcast went live, hundreds of students, joined by Rocky, showed their enthusiasm by waving tiny American flags and chanting “Obama,” “WIU” and “U.S.A.” The webcast was streamed onto a video wall in the Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. at the Neighborhood Ball in D.C. and select webcasts were picked up by ABC and broadcast nationally.

Many of the participating students talked about Obama’s commitments to students.

“Barack Obama is really the president for our generation,” said **Chris Mortimer**, a junior law enforcement and justice administration (LEJA) major from McHenry (IL). “He’s really going to do things to help with grants, loans and other things for our schools. It’s really a celebration to say thank you and celebrate the history of this event.”

All of Western’s dining centers broadcast the Neighborhood Ball webcasts during the evening meal hours.

“It was fantastic,” Bierman said. “Regardless of political affiliation, President Obama is obviously committed in getting students involved. This was a great opportunity for our students to come out and show their interest in government.”

# Division of Student Services

## Rec Center update *Addition completed*

Campus Recreation at WIU strives to provide opportunities for the pursuit of healthy lifestyles and the exploration of recreational interests through a variety of programs, facilities and services.

During the past year, Western has expanded and renovated the Donald S. Spencer Student Recreation Center (SRC) to better meet these goals.

The Spencer SRC features five multipurpose courts; two fitness studios for a variety of



group fitness classes; an extended, resurfaced, elevated track approximately one-eighth of a mile long; three cardio theatre areas; and one cardio area with a scenic campus view, showcasing more than 65 superior-quality cardio machines, including treadmills, tread climbers, elliptical machines and exercise bikes; an expansive new weight room with state-of-the-art Cybex machines, Hammer

Strength equipment and free weights; a boxing room; five racquetball/wallyball courts; and an aquatics center with pool, whirlpool, sauna and accessible lift.

Memberships are available for WIU alumni, students, faculty and staff. For more information on memberships, contact Campus Recreation at (309) 298-2797, or visit [campusrec.wiu.edu](http://campusrec.wiu.edu).

## Success with WIU Parents' Fund

Western Illinois University recently introduced the Parents and Family Association (PFA), a campus-based organization for parents.

PFA helps parents stay connected to their students by being more informed and involved in the WIU campus community. The PFA promotes communication and interaction between WIU and the parents and family members of WIU students. PFA's core values are: communication, scholarships, partnerships, events and fund program. Two years ago, the PFA began a annual fundraising program. In the first year of campaigning, the association collected more than \$10,500, which it gave to Western students the following academic year to provide assistance to students for daycare assistance, textbook grants, freshman scholarships, and emergency assistance.

In the 2007-2008 campaign year, the Parent Fund raised more than \$35,000. The fund has been used to provide more than \$5,000 in textbook grants, \$11,000 in freshman scholarships, \$2,000 in emergency assistance and \$3,000 in daycare equipment. About \$5,000 of the senior gift fund has been held for the purchase of a University Clock Tower.

"I am the youngest of four children and the only one who finished college. I fell in love with Western when I visited, and I knew I would do whatever it took to attend here," said **Kate Duckworth**, a freshman Parent Fund scholarship recipient. "The problem is my parents can't afford the price of college, so I have to take responsibility for what I want. I am prepared to work hard at my jobs and at school in order to obtain money and scholarships. I am determined to graduate and love the experience I am having. Being blessed with this scholarship makes me feel like this hard work will be worthwhile. It makes me feel special and like someone cares that I am here living out my dream. I am so grateful to be reminded people care about my future."

"Getting this year's Freshman Parent Scholarship allowed a door to be opened for me," said **Jennifer Helfer**. "Even though my family did not qualify for financial aid, the burden of paying for college was still something I had to deal with and will have to deal with upon graduation. I will be steps ahead of the game with paying for college and I can use the money I saved to get a dream job of working with animals after college. I now know that people do want to help others get through college and achieve their dreams."

"Children of WIU students who attend the WIU daycare facility were overjoyed with the new equipment that arrived for them shortly after the holiday season," said **Karolynn Heuer '90 MS '93**, director, Student Assistance and Parent Service Center (SAPC) and PFA adviser. "The children were excited to see their new dollhouses, with multiple-ethnicity families, magnetic letters, counters, pillows, to the large caterpillar crawl and walk toy. These learning toys were brought up to the standards of the Pact Head Start rooms. We hope that through the continued generosity of parents that more students and children will be affected by the generosity of others."

## Collaboration on the green: The new Multicultural Center

Spring is in the air, and the completion of Western's new Multicultural Center is just around the corner. The Center is the first building on Western's Macomb campus to be constructed under "green" standards—complete with grass roof, geothermal heating and cooling system and energy efficient lighting. Located south of Murray Street across from the University Union, the Multicultural Center will serve as a new home to the Gwendolyn Brooks Cultural Center, Casa Latina Cultural Center and the Women's Center. Each of the centers will maintain its own unique identity while expanding programs and service delivery. Furthermore, this new location provides an opportunity for increased accessibility and visibility for students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community.

"The building is truly a work of art," said **Belinda Carr '81**, director, Gwendolyn Brooks Cultural Center (GBCC).

The following shared common spaces are featured on the first floor level: a lobby/reception area, computer room, kitchen, activity room, multipurpose room and lactation room. The second-floor shared spaces include: a



resource library, quiet study room and a boardroom. Also, each center has an office suite on the second-floor level.

Construction is tentatively scheduled to be completed by the beginning of April.

"Although we anticipate moving into the center prior to the end of this semester, we will not be ready to hold programs and activities in the center until the beginning of the fall semester," Carr explained.

"We invite you to stop by during your next campus visit, and our staff and volunteers will be glad to give you a tour."

## Bookstore has new look

Last summer, the WIU bookstore received a renovation. The newly remodeled bookstore now features a book services area, where store personnel are available to help locate textbooks or supplies and answer questions. Many



other changes were made to enhance bookstore services to both students and community. The most obvious change is the new entrance. Gone is the lighted display window that was beside the former entrance, and in its place is a new, brighter, more welcoming entrance into the store. Bolder paint colors, tile, wood flooring, and carpeting that compliment the new colors combine to make an aesthetically pleasing look. Located along the north side of the store are gifts, greeting cards and trade books. The center of the store contains the expanded area for school supplies, book bags, computer accessories and art supplies, while a wide selection of WIU clothing can be found all along the south side of the store. The textbook area is still located near the back of the store, along with the new book services area. Rounding out the new look are the faster checkout lanes, new display cases and wall-mounted shelving units along with the rest areas containing comfortable seating.

"The bookstore staff is eager for you to come in and see the new changes," said director **Jude Kiah MBA '03**. "We look forward to serving alumni, community and friends soon."



# Division of Student Services

## Spotlight on Disability Support Services

Over the last three years, Western's Disability Support Services (DSS) has completely renovated their service delivery methods. Many changes were made to ensure that services for students are efficient, effective and user-friendly.

DSS is responsible for providing educational access for students with disabilities. They provide individualized services, such as alternative exam accommodations (i.e. extended time, readers, scribes), alternative text formats (i.e. Braille, electronic, enlarged), and note-taking assistance. Services are aimed at removing barriers for students with learning disabilities, AD/HD, chronic health and psychological conditions, mobility impairments and other types of disabilities.

DSS Director **Tara Miller** stated that the department currently serves approximately 300 students, but estimated that, according to national statistics, there are probably 1,000 or more WIU students that could benefit from using their services.

"Students can find information about DSS in various WIU publications and on the web, but we also depend on referrals to get students connected with our department," said Miller. "We are constantly reviewing and refining services and procedures to make them more user-friendly. We want students to leave our office and speak well about the services they receive and the welcoming environment created by the DSS staff."

### Fresh start

DSS implemented new hiring and training procedures for student workers and graduate assistants to ensure that their workforce is committed to the mission of the department. DSS also restructured the graduate assistantship positions to include a Braille coordinator, note-taking coordinator and an electronic text coordinator. Their responsibilities are two-fold: providing direct services and streamlining processes for student accommodations coordinated by DSS.

"Our expectations for our employees are high. We treat them as though they are members of the professional staff in hopes of preparing them for the workforce," said **Gretchen Steil Weiss '99**, DSS Learning Specialist.

### Technological advancements

One of DSS' biggest accomplishments has been the use of specialized technology to remove educational barriers and provide the most up-to-date accommodations. The Etext service, Braille service and the exam service have

been enhanced through the use of the different software programs.

"Thus far we have relied heavily on **Angela LaFrance**, DSS office support specialist, to provide technological consistency in training new graduate assistants and student workers on our specialized software programs. Angela spends a great deal of time troubleshooting and managing the technology we utilize to provide our students with needed accommodations," Miller said.

DSS hopes to add an assistive technology specialist to their staff in the future to manage their specialized equipment and software and to interface with other WIU technology departments.

"The addition of an assistive technology specialist will allow Angela to focus on other duties, such as supervising the DSS exam service and the student staff, managing data and coordinating general office operations," Miller added.

In addition to the technology advancements, the department is now

tracking student information with a new database created specifically for DSS. This database will assist DSS with monitoring student contacts throughout the process of connecting with the office, planning for accommodations, and providing data for reports.

### Focus on University values

In keeping with the University values, DSS fosters students' personal growth. Their goal is to make a personal connection with students. They work with students each semester to help them develop and improve self-advocacy skills. A DSS professional meets with each individual student every semester and reviews the procedures for requesting accommodations and working with faculty members and advises students on creating a successful environment for themselves.

"It is very rewarding to see the students develop the skills required to lead an autonomous adult life," says Steil Weiss. "On several occasions, parents have actually called DSS to thank us for helping their student to become independent."

### Community effort

Because DSS relies on the campus community to participate in the accommodations process and provide a welcoming environment, they have a presence on various committees. They have representation on the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Advisory Committee, the University Diversity Council, Audio Information Services Board, Web Accessibility Committee, North Central Accreditation (NCA) Self-Study for Institutional Re-Accreditation and the Western Illinois Transition Planning Committee. They recently created an Advisory Council that partners DSS with different campus offices to provide the best solution for students whose requests for accommodations involve action on the part of several departments.

DSS continues this partnering with the coordination of disability awareness events. Each semester DSS teams up with the recreation, park and tourism administration department, the psychology department, the office of Equal Opportunity and Access, campus recreation, Student Therapeutic Recreation Society (STRS), and Students for Disability Awareness (SDA) to coordinate Disability Awareness Day in the fall and Disability Awareness Week in the spring. Disability awareness activities have evolved into cross campus efforts to maximize the involvement of the WIU community.

### Partnering with faculty

Since faculty participation is integral in arranging effective accommodations, DSS reaches out to provide information sessions each semester to support faculty and encourage their commitment to the individual learner.

"Our goal is to be a resource to faculty members as well as students," says Steil Weiss.

Each semester, DSS offers several sessions to discuss the rights and responsibilities of all involved in the accommodation process to prepare faculty for student requests. "The WIU faculty have been flexible, creative, and committed to the students," Miller said.

DSS also provides this information in one-on-one sessions to faculty members who cannot attend the group sessions.

In addition to the information sessions, DSS partners with Equal Opportunity and Access, department of English and journalism, educational and interdisciplinary studies and Center for Innovation in Teaching and Research (CITR) to provide annual faculty awareness luncheon, "Best Practices: Educating Students With Disabilities."

The DSS transformation seems to be paying off. In a recent customer satisfaction survey, DSS students indicated that they were very satisfied

with the assistance provided by this department.

"I'm extremely pleased with the direction of DSS," Miller added. "Respondents that have used similar services either in high school or at another institution of higher education rated our services highly. I think this speaks volumes about our progress."

Whether they are supporting students' academic excellence through tutoring, creating educational opportunities by leveling the academic playing field, fostering students' personal growth during one-on-one meetings, or promoting social responsibility by encouraging volunteerism, DSS embraces Western Illinois University's core values.

*"It is very rewarding to see the students develop the skills required to lead an autonomous adult life."*

*Gretchen Steil Weiss*



# Division of Student Services

## Johnson selected to Diamond Honorees

Vice President for Student Services **W. Garry Johnson** has been selected as a Class of 2009 Diamond Honoree for the American College Personnel Association (ACPA).

The Diamond Honoree program, established by the ACPA Foundation in 1999, is both a recognition program and a fundraising activity. Those nominated for consideration are recognized for their outstanding and sustained contributions to higher education and to student affairs.

Johnson has been active in leadership positions in both ACPA and the Association of College and University Housing Officers-International (ACUHO-I) serving as president, foundation trustee and chair of the Member Involvement Task Force. He is chair of the ACPA Fund Management Group and has served in leadership positions in Commission XII for Professional Preparation and Commission III for Housing and Residential Life.

In addition to his responsibilities as vice president,

Johnson teaches in the WIU College Student Personnel program and serves on master's thesis and dissertation committees. He has authored several publications and is a frequent presenter at association meetings. His publications center around the residential experience for students, and his presentations include topics about residential programs, crisis management and strategic planning.

At WIU, Johnson has provided leadership to many committees including the Quality of Campus Life, North Central Accreditation, Auxiliary Facilities, and Sexual Harassment and University Ethnic and Racial Harassment Task Force Groups.

"He has touched the professional lives of many student affairs professionals and has served as an outstanding role model, educating young people entering the field of student personnel and has supported numerous individuals throughout their careers," said **Kathryn**

**Cavins '86 MS '89**, vice president of student affairs and dean of students at Illinois Wesleyan University. "Garry has supervised many of us and helped us find our passion for what is out in the field, while also keeping our hearts close to our WIU home.

"As a member of ACPA, NASPA and ACUHO-I, you'll see Garry actively engaged in the national meetings, still learning about what is important in our field, and enjoying all of 'his' grads at every turn of the convention center," she continued. "He sees the potential for all of us to do great things and holds us accountable to making our alma mater proud."



**Garry Johnson**

## Western housing staff nab awards at GLACUHO conference

Western Illinois University housing staff brought home top awards and recognition from the recent GLACUHO (Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Officers) conference.

**George P. Holman '98** assistant director of residence life, received the GLACUHO Service Award. This award is presented to a member who has personally contributed to the region through active membership in and significant contributions to the mission and goals of GLACUHO and other housing organizations; who has made significant contributions to his/her institution; and who has provided outstanding service on an appointed committee and/or the executive board. Holman returned to Western in 2002 as the Thompson Hall complex director before becoming an assistant director of residence life. He received his bachelor's degree from Western in 1998 and his master's degree from Ball State University.

**Matt Bierman '97**, director of residential facilities, was elected GLACUHO president. He began his housing career at Western in 1999 as Bayliss-Henninger halls complex director. He received his bachelor's degree (1997), a master's degree from Ball State and his MBA (2003) from Western.

**Stephanie Milner**, assistant complex director of Bayliss/Henninger halls, was named the Outstanding Graduate Student for Illinois. This award is presented to a fulltime graduate student who has greatly contributed to his/her institution. Milner is a graduate college student personnel student from Tucson (AZ).

University housing staff also presented numerous programs at this year's conference, including "Went to Sleep as a Graduate Student, but Woke Up as a New Professional....Now What?" by **Meghan Thurston**, graduate college student personnel student from Cumberland (ME), with Spring 2008 college student personnel alumna **Nicole Remy**; and "International Student Housing Best Practices" by 2008 college student personnel alumna **Jen Shields**.

"Our housing staff is most deserving of the awards they received at the recent GLACUHO conference," said Vice President for Student Services **Garry Johnson**. "Their commitment to students, to Western and to their profession is evident through the outstanding work they do everyday."

## Introducing the 2009 Orientation Team

The Orientation Team (O-Team) is an elite group of 12 student leaders who assist with the Summer Orientation and Registration programs as well as Fall Orientation. Members of the Orientation Team gain a valuable career-enhancing leadership experience while assisting new students and their families in their Western Illinois University transition. O-Team members present and facilitate small group discussions, perform a series of campus life vignettes, serve as a guide and a resource person for incoming students and families and play an active role in planning and coordinating Fall Orientation.



**Dave Arnold**  
Junior  
Marketing  
Williamsville, IL

**Jeremy Homolka**  
Senior  
Psychology  
Broadview, IL

**Steve Peach**  
Junior  
Broadcasting  
Montgomery, IL

**Nicole Brady**  
Junior  
Communication  
Pekin, IL

**Allison Lam**  
Junior  
Communication  
Monmouth, IL

**Kiya Pearson**  
Freshman  
Communication  
Plainfield, IL

**Delmar Dade**  
Junior  
Law Enforcement  
& Justice  
Administration  
Round Lake, IL

**Justin McGrath**  
Junior  
Communication  
Sciences  
& Disorders  
Dixon, IL

**Courtney Stoverink**  
Senior  
Accounting  
Staunton, IL

**Melissa Downin**  
Junior  
Elementary  
Education  
Table Grove, IL

**Brittany Oathout**  
Senior  
Communication  
Chillicothe, IL

**Jamarr Tillman**  
Sophomore  
Business  
Management  
Chicago, IL

## Club Wetzel wins program of the year

The Great Lakes Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (GLACURH) recently awarded WIU with the Program of the Year for "Club Wetzel," an annual educational event with a focus on alcohol awareness. The event started in the 1990s and typically is held in a Wetzel Hall lounge. This year the newly remodeled "Underground" provided a new and fresh space for the occasion.

Throughout the evening, three big-screen TVs displayed a series of factoids, questions and answers about the influences of alcohol and episodic drinking. Students were given a page of questions when they entered the club and could find the answers on the televisions. The first 50 students to correctly answer their questions received a free T-shirt commemorating the event. Several informative

booths were hosted by the Beu Health Center's AOD (Alcohol and Other Drugs) and Office of Public Safety's Officer **Curt Bilbrey '90 MBA '93**. AOD also sponsored the "Beer Goggles" beanbag toss.

Bilbrey's display spotlighted the club atmosphere and what students need to be aware of, from drug-tainting of beverages to binge drinking. Wetzel resident assistant (RA) staff prepared non-alcoholic orange flamingos, pina coladas, strawberry daiquiris and Studio 54 afterglow mocktails.

GLACURH represents four states and more than 60 member institutions. Inter-hall Council and WIU have won past Program of the Year awards for "Box City" and "Tunnel of Oppression" programs.

# Division of Student Services

## Students volunteer globally

As part of the Office of Student Activities, WIU Volunteer Services sponsors several volunteer travel opportunities around the nation and the world.

In September 2008, through a program called "Urban Plunge," 15 Western students traveled to Cedar Rapids (IA) to assist with flood relief. Students spent three days learning about home repair during the trip, which was funded by a grant from Illinois Campus Compact.

Despite the flood conditions and living with others in close quarters, participants expressed that the experience was a positive one—and are still getting together five months later.

Students have also participated in international service. Two groups of WIU students volunteered to help young children in Greece in the summers of 2007 and 2008. On the first trip, students traveled to Crete and taught English to children. They were so well-received at the school in Gazi that WIU was enthusiastically asked back

for Summer 2008 and a new group of students was able to participate in this rewarding program. Students from a variety of disciplines across campus participated in the trips.

Volunteer Services is pleased to have been able to offer these opportunities, because the experience of traveling abroad, volunteering, and learning from people of another culture has positively impacted the lives of student participants.

Next up, Volunteer Services is sponsoring the annual Alternative Spring Break trip from March 14-22. Two co-site leaders and two graduate assistants will accompany 11 students to Biloxi (MI) to work with Hurricane Katrina relief. These students work for months planning their trip. They choose the site, raise money to fund their trip and participate in team-building activities. By the time they travel together, they are a cohesive unit, ready to make an impact on the community they have chosen to serve.



Students in Crete

## WIU alumni garner top awards

Three WIU alumni took home top awards from the recent annual conference for the Upper Midwest Region of College and University Housing Officers (UMR-ACUHO), in Kansas City (MO). **Mary Cheryl (Slattery) Nevins MS '86** received the William B. Sweet Distinguished Service Award, the most prestigious award in UMR-ACUHO. The award honors housing professionals who represent a standard of excellence through contributions and dedication to the regional and international association as well as to the housing profession.

Nevins has served as assistant director of housing at University of Wisconsin-Platteville since 1999 and as a graduate assistant at WIU during her time as a student in the college student personnel program. After receiving her degree, she later returned to WIU as a full-time staff member.

"Sherry was an outstanding student and later a very talented staff member," said Vice President for Student

Services **W. Garry Johnson**. "She was an effective administrator, teacher and supervisor, and she connected very well with students. She was a great role model for resident assistants and student leaders. We are proud of her accomplishments and know she will continue to contribute to our profession."

**Jacque Bollinger '83**, who serves as assistant director of residence life-staffing at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, won the Robert Mosier Professional Enrichment Award. This award recognizes individuals in the Upper Midwest Region who have made outstanding contributions to the professional development of their colleagues in college student housing and have established a record of involvement in professional enrichment opportunities on their own campus. Bollinger has been an active member of UMR-ACUHO, ACUHO-I and GLACURH through her years as a housing professional.

"She has been a mentor and role model to hundreds

of students and staff. Bollinger enhanced the skills, knowledge, and motivation of many fellow professionals and colleagues," Johnson said.

**AJ Lutz MS '06**, a hall coordinator at the University of Iowa, received the award for Outstanding Young Professional. The award is given to an up and coming outstanding young professional with less than five years in the housing profession.



## Banas named MACURH regional co-adviser

**Mishelle Banas '97**, assistant director for housing at Central Missouri University, was recently named regional co-adviser for the Midwest Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (MACURH) at the annual fall conference. Banas's term as adviser will extend until 2010.

As regional co-adviser, Banas will serve as a support system to 10 MACURH regional board members serving thousands of students. She will attend a variety of regional and national meetings and conferences to be with advisees and assist them with decision-making and budgeting for the region. In addition, the position supports other area advisers by providing guidance, connections, and resources.

"Being selected as the regional co-adviser for MACURH is an extreme honor," said Banas. "I have set my sights on this goal for six years and have waited until the timing was best for me to be able to serve the students and region well. I am incredibly humbled by the board's recommendation and region's selection. It is with great enthusiasm that I look forward to this new professional challenge."

Banas also serves as adviser to the Star Chapter of NRHH, the National Residence Hall Honorary at UCM. NRHH is the recognition branch of NACURH, the National Association for College and University Residence Halls, with which MACURH is affiliated. MACURH is an eight-state region of the National Association for College and University Residence Halls (NACURH) serving Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota and Manitoba, Canada. NACURH is one of the largest student-run organizations in the country.

Banas was an active student leader on campus during her time at Western. She was involved in Inter-Hall Council and served as a resident assistant in Wetzel Hall. She completed her master's degree in student personnel at Southwest Missouri University (1999) and later worked in the housing profession at Kansas State and Mankato State University. Banas is also a recipient of the Outstanding New Professional Award (bachelor's and masters level) in UMR-ACUHO.

## Save the Date!

Join us for the  
**WIU-CSP/SS Summer Institute**

**Second Annual  
College Student Personnel/Student Services  
Summer Institute at WIU  
June 25-26, 2009**

For more information, please  
call (309) 298-1814.  
Details will be available this spring at:

[vpss.wiu.edu/summerinstitute](http://vpss.wiu.edu/summerinstitute)

Check out the CSP newsletter online for  
more department news at [wiu.edu/csp](http://wiu.edu/csp)



# Sports

## Westerwinds give back to community

The Western Illinois softball team members took time out of their preseason schedule to mentor a class of first graders once a month at Lincoln Elementary School in Macomb.

The Westerwinds adopted the first-grade class of **Anna Robertson '05**, and made five trips to Lincoln to mentor the young students. During the hour-and-a-half visits, seven players including **Colleen Biebel**, sophomore pre-elementary education major from Alsip (IL); **Ashley Campbell**, freshman marketing major from Indianapolis (IN); **Jamie Goss**, freshman accounting major from Indianapolis (IN); **Courtney Jacobson**, senior early childhood education major from Yorba Linda (CA); **Nikki Marinec**, sophomore mathematics major from Alsip (IL); **Anna Nelson**, sophomore pre-business marketing major from Burlington (IA); **Katie Rogers**, sophomore athletic training major from Crystal Lake (IL); and Westerwinds head coach **Holly Van Vlymen '00 MS '08** read to the students, helped with classroom projects and taught softball, bringing in softball equipment for a hands-on experience.

In addition to spending time at Lincoln, eight players including Biebel, **Kamren Ferguson**, senior graphic communications major from Clinton (IL); **Lauren Furgala**, junior English education major from Downers Grove (IL); **Beth Golitko**, sophomore kinesiology from LaGrange (IL); **Michelle Neubauer**, sophomore athletic training major from O'Fallon (MO); **Lori Pankratz**, junior pre-physical therapy major from Bettendorf (IA); **Michelle Prieto**, sophomore elementary education major from Chicago (IL); and **Erin Schlotfeldt**, sophomore kinesiology major from DeWitt (IA), spent time volunteering at the Humane Society of McDonough County. The players went seven times last semester and spent time caring for the animals and walking the dogs for an hour and a half during each visit.

The Westerwinds are planning on having the class visit the Western Illinois campus during the Spring 2009 season.



## Linebacker Jason Williams picked for East-West Shrine Game

Western Illinois University senior linebacker **Jason Williams**, a kinesiology major from Calumet City (IL), received one of the few East-West Shrine Game invitations handed out to Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) players and appeared in one of the most respected college all-star games Jan. 17 in Houston (TX).

Williams was added to the West roster, coached by Gene Stallings. He joined five other senior linebackers from Cal, TCU, USC and Oregon State, and was one of just two FCS players on the roster.

Only one other Leatherneck—**Eddie Hartwell** in 2000—has played in the East-West classic.

"It's a great honor," said Williams. "It's something I have always wanted to do, but I was a little surprised when they called. I definitely was not expecting it. I thought maybe I would have a chance to play in a lesser-known bowl game if anything."

Events surrounding the 84th Shrine Game included visiting the Shriners Hospital for Children before going through a week of practices at Reliant Stadium. The game

was televised live on ESPN2 from Robertson Stadium at the University of Houston.

"I am looking forward to the chance to practice with actual NFL coaches and staff," Williams said at the time of the announcement in January. "I think that will give me a better chance at getting to the next level since a lot of them have not seen us play in person."

Known as "Football's Finest Hour," the East-West Game has been played every year since 1925 to raise funds for Shriners Hospitals for Children.



## 'Necks guard named to Academic All-District First Team

Western Illinois senior **David DuBois**, a business management major from Madison (WI), was named to the 2008-09 CoSIDA/ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District First Team in February.

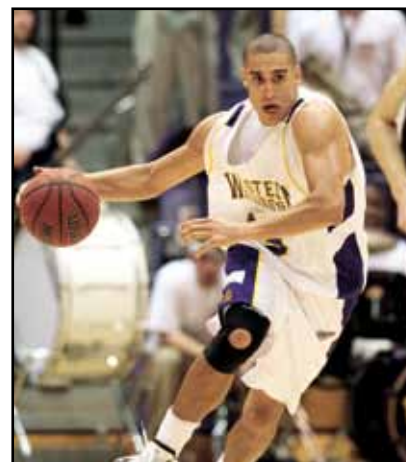
DuBois is one of only two Summit League players to earn the honor, with league-leading North Dakota State's Brett Winkelman as the only other league honoree.

In all games this season (through January), DuBois averages 17.6 points per game, the best scoring average of a player at Western Illinois since the 1996-97 season when Janthony Joseph averaged 20.2 ppg. The 6-foot-5 guard's 18.6 points per conference game ranks him as the third-best player in the league for scoring. DuBois has been the Leathernecks leading scorer in 14 games this season scoring 20 or more points in half of those games. He has recorded double-

digit scoring through 21 games and is on a 26-game streak for putting up numbers in double figures.

His .480 field goal percentage is the second-best of any Leatherneck and he has made the most field goals on the team, going 154-for-321. At the line, DuBois is one of the top three shooters for Western as he had converted 51-of-72 free throws (.708). Defensively, DuBois leads Western in rebounds, averaging 5.6 per game. He also ranks second on the team for steals (30) and blocks (8).

DuBois earned a 3.41 grade point average (GPA) in business management to help the Leathernecks to a 3.231 team GPA, the best team GPA in more than 10 years. DuBois joins four others, two from the Horizon League and two from the Missouri Valley Conference, on the first team and will advance as a nomination for the national ballot.



## Student-athletes making the grade

For the third consecutive semester, WIU student-athletes have compiled an overall grade point average (GPA) higher than the general student population, helped in part by the softball team which earned a 3.42 GPA, and the men's golf team, which earned a 3.249 average.

According to the Fall 2008 grade report, the department of intercollegiate athletics combined for an overall grade point average of 2.939, slightly higher than the overall campus GPA of 2.88. More than 10 percent of the 413 student-athletes recorded a perfect 4.0 GPA; nearly 24 percent earned semester honors with a 3.6 or higher

average; and 52.5 percent had at least a 3.0 mark.

"Once again our student-athletes have proved success can be earned in the classroom and on the field of competition," said Director of Athletics **Tim Van Alstine**. "Western's coaches continue to recruit the high quality Division I student-athlete who match our University's core value of Academic Excellence."

The softball team edged out the tennis squad (3.40 GPA) for the highest grade point average among women's teams, while the golf team narrowly beat out the basketball team (3.231) on the men's side.

Additionally, 56 student-athletes earned recognition on The Summit League's Academic All-League Team (men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer and volleyball), more than all other league schools, but one in five student athletes were nominated to the Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Academic Team. In order to be selected to the Academic All-Summit League Team, a student-athlete must have a 3.0 or better grade-point average in the semester in which they compete and must use a year of eligibility.



# Miller tackles the ‘thing that couldn’t be done’

## NFL Coach advanced to '77 Super Bowl

By: Julie Murphy '94 MS '95

**Robert “Red” Miller '50 MS '55** is a familiar and legendary name at Western Illinois University and in the surrounding community. He is a hometown boy who made the big time—including leading his team to the Super Bowl—yet he never forgot his humble beginnings.

Miller was born in Macomb in 1927 into a family of 10 children. From the beginning, he had a sense of determination and strove to be anything but ordinary. “My sixth grade teacher made me learn a poem and recite it. It was my first time to stand up and speak in front of a group. I was scared to death. But the poem became my motto and came to me all the time, especially during hard times,” he said.



**Associate Athletics Director Dwaine Roche, Red and Nan Miller, and WIU Foundation Board Member and former Leatherneck Gene Strode '59**

The poem is “It Couldn’t Be Done” by Edgar Guest:

*Somebody said that it couldn't be done,  
But, he with a chuckle replied  
That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one  
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.  
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin  
On his face. If he worried he hid it.  
He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
That couldn't be done, and he did it.*

*Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;  
At least no one has done it;"  
But he took off his coat and he took off his hat,  
And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.  
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,  
Without any doubting or quiddit,  
He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
That couldn't be done, and he did it.*

*There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,  
There are thousands to prophesy failure;  
There are thousands to point out to you one by one,  
The dangers that wait to assail you.  
But just buckle it in with a bit of a grin,  
Just take off your coat and go to it;  
Just start to sing as you tackle the thing  
That "couldn't be done," and you'll do it.*

Growing up in such a large household, work was the overriding theme. Miller’s father was taken out of school at age seven to go to work in the coal mines of Colchester (IL); he never learned to read or write. Only the three youngest children, which included Red, graduated from high school. All the others dropped out of school early to get jobs to help support the family.

Red, however, “started to sing as he tackled the thing that couldn’t be done, and he did it.” He always wanted to do better, and he did.

Football was his ticket to achievement.

Miller was the only one of the 10 siblings to earn a college degree. Football brought him to Western Illinois University, where he was the Leathernecks MVP in 1947, 1948, and 1949, and also was the team captain. He went on to coach for 33 years, 24 of which were for

the NFL. He served as head coach of the Denver Broncos from 1977-1980, taking them to the Super Bowl in 1977 and earning the NFL Coach of the Year Award. Miller was inducted into the Western Illinois Athletics Hall of Fame in 1974, its first year in existence. He also received the Alumni Achievement Award (1973) and the Distinguished Alumni Award (1974).

Miller was one of five coaches who led the 1957-1958-1959 Leathernecks football teams to three winning seasons, including 20 straight wins. The 1959 undefeated team, the only one in WIU history, won the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IIAC) Championship. The teams from these three years held a reunion at Homecoming 2008, of which the coaches were named grand marshals of the parade.

“I wanted the team to come back together and relive the camaraderie,” Miller said. “There is no better feeling than being in a huddle, and wanting to go out and do your best for the team. I also wanted them to get this well-deserved recognition.”

Miller went on to do the best for himself and his team, everywhere he coached: Astoria High School, Canton High School, Carthage College, WIU, and for the Boston Patriots, Buffalo Bills, Denver Broncos, St. Louis Cardinals, Baltimore Colts, and then back to the New England Patriots (offensive coordinator) and the Denver Broncos (head coach).

Through it all, he has always returned to Macomb, where his determination began, and where he has long supported Western Athletics. To this day, he praises the cohesiveness of his Leatherneck teams and what they meant to his life.

“I’m proud I was able to do what I loved and be successful at it and make the most of my life,” he said. “And I always tried hard to do it the right way.”

## Follow your Westerwinds and Leathernecks on the road

For more information, visit [wiuathletics.com](http://wiuathletics.com)

### Arkansas

Fayetteville - Track and Field at Arkansas, April 18

### California

Palo Alto - Track and Field at Stanford, May 1-2

### Illinois

Peoria - Women’s Golf at Bradley, April 5-6

Peoria - Baseball vs. Bradley (O’Brien Field), April 14

Edwardsville - Softball at SIU-Edwardsville, April 21

Edwardsville - Track and Field at SIU-Edwardsville, April 25

Champaign - Track and Field at Illinois, May 2

Champaign - Baseball at Illinois, May 4

### Indiana

Fort Wayne - Men’s Tennis at IPFW, April 9-11

Bloomington - Men’s Golf at Indiana, April 11-12

Fort Wayne - Men’s and Women’s Tennis at IPFW (Summit League Championships), April 24-25

Bloomington - Baseball at Indiana, April 29

Fort Wayne - Baseball at IPFW, May 1-3

Fort Wayne - Softball at IPFW - May 1-2

### Iowa

Iowa City - Baseball at Iowa, March 21 and May 6

Davenport - Baseball vs. Iowa (Modern Woodman Park), April 21

Des Moines - Track and Field at Drake Relays, April 23-25

### Kansas

Lawrence - Baseball at Kansas, March 25

Wichita - Men’s Golf at Wichita State, March 30-31

### Michigan

Rochester - Baseball at Oakland, April 4-6

Rochester - Women’s Golf at Oakland (Summit League Championships), April 20-21

### Mississippi

Starkville - Track and Field at LaCoste Invitational, March 21

### Missouri

Columbia - Track and Field at Missouri Relays, March 27

St. Louis - Softball at Saint Louis, April 1

Kansas City - Women’s Tennis at UMKC, April 3-5

Cape Girardeau - Track and Field at Southeast Missouri State, April 4

Branson - Men’s Golf at Missouri State, April 6-7

Parkville - Women’s Golf at Park University, April 13-14

Kansas City - Men’s Golf at UMKC (Summit League Championships), April 27-28

### North Carolina

Pinehurst - Men’s Golf, March 15

### North Dakota

Fargo - Baseball at North Dakota State, May 8-10

### Oklahoma

Tulsa - Men’s Tennis at Oral Roberts, March 27-29

Tulsa - Baseball at Oral Roberts (Summit League Championships), May 21-23

### South Dakota

Brookings - Softball at South Dakota State, April 24-25

### Utah

Cedar City - Softball at Southern Utah, April 10-11

Cedar City - Baseball at Southern Utah, April 16-18

Cedar City - Track and Field at Southern Utah (Summit League Championships), May 14-16

## Thanks for the Memories

# An impossible dream...made possible

By Buck Knowles '47

In Fall 1967, the Western High football team played through an eight-game season undefeated and unscored upon. That is almost an impossibility when one considers the many ways an opponent can score in a football game: interceptions, fumbles, kick returns, missed tackles and penalties, to name a few. Footballs take to funny bounces at times.

After an undefeated season in 1966, Western's legendary coach **Harry Sockler MS '51** predicted, tongue in cheek, that his 1967 football team would not be scored upon. In your dreams, Harry.

Most of the young lads in the Western Lab School could hardly wait to get into high school so they could play for Coach Sockler. When he was eight or nine years old, Harry's son John told me that Coach Sockler told him someday he would be his middle linebacker. "What's a middle linebacker, dad?"

John was his middle linebacker and defensive captain, while Jamie Dufelmeier was the quarterback and offensive captain. Both were selected to the Illinois Small School All-State Team (Western High's enrollment was under 200), and both went on to play college ball: John at Bradley and Jamie at the University of Illinois.

The Cardinals opened the 1967 season with a 40-0 win at Bushnell. Western then breezed through Knoxville, LaHarpe, Warsaw, Carthage and Aledo before hosting undefeated Hamilton on a rainy night on muddy Hanson

Field. The final score was 19-0, but should have been 21-0. The visitors were flagged for holding in their own end zone, which should have been a two-point safety. However, the referee blew it and penalized Hamilton, half the distance to the goal.

The final game was at Lewistown. Western was leading 66-0 late in the game when the referee, the late Swede Gailliart of Peoria, got flag-happy. After a succession of 15 yard penalties, Lewistown had the football inside Western's 20-yard line. On fourth down, they attempted a field goal that was blocked by Warren Abbott, preserving the perfect season.

The Cardinals received very few kickoffs that season as they always elected to go on defense. Also, they only punted four times, according to long snapper Jeff Jones. Dufelmeier scored 21 touchdowns that season and passed for 12 more as he amassed more than 2,000 yards in total offense.

When Sockler visited Macomb in 2007, my son Steve and I had breakfast with the old coach, who looked 20 years younger than his 99 years. Again, with tongue

in cheek, he said he felt badly about losing those 12 games. I said, "Harry, I hesitate to mention this, but I refereed one of those games." His response: "Yes, I remember."

Sockler, who resided in Robinson (IL), passed away Jan. 15, 2008 at the age of 99. His last visit to Macomb and Western Illinois University was in May 2007, not long after he committed to a planned gift valued at \$387,500 to fund athletic scholarships at Western. He said then: "Football was my life. My wife, Beulah, and I had such a love for



Western's legendary coach Harry Sockler

young people; we want young people to know the names of Harry and Beulah when we are gone."

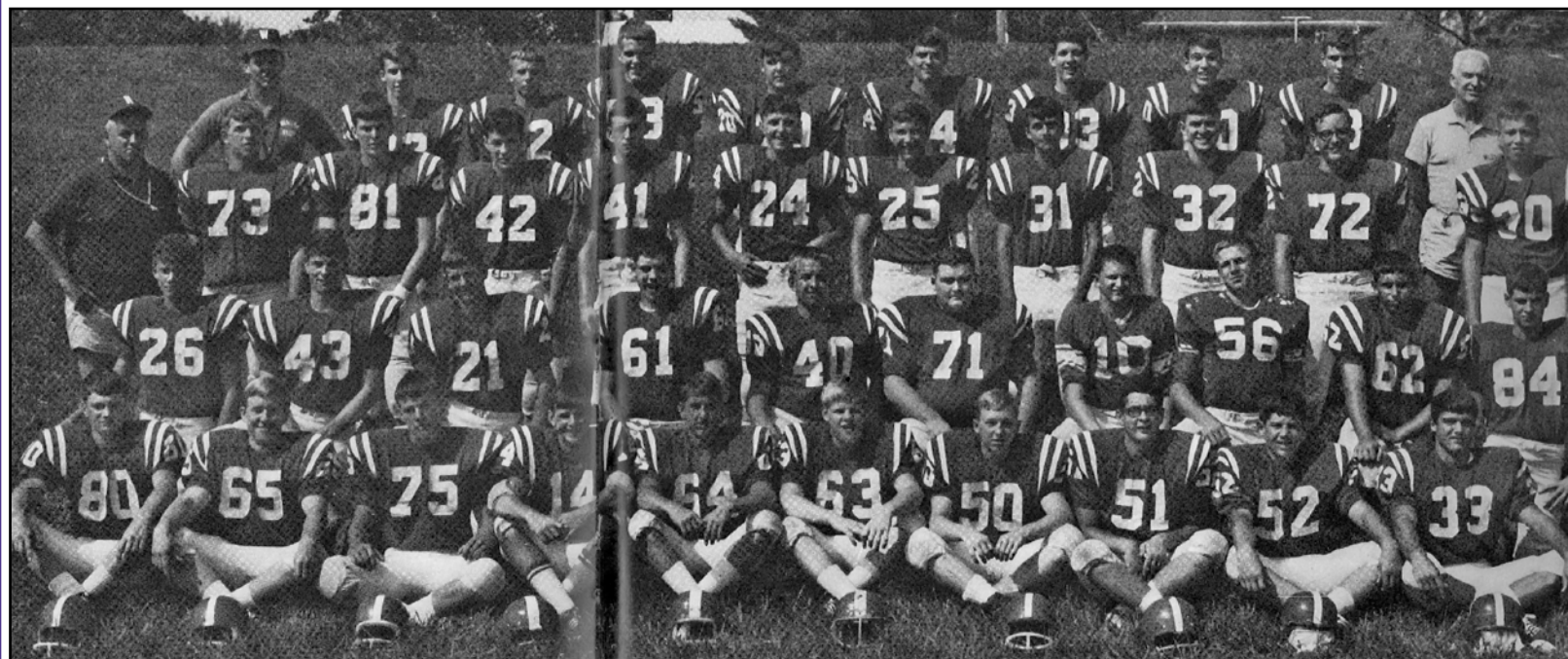
Sockler, who earned his master's degree at Western Illinois in 1951, coached the WIU Lab School football team for an unprecedented 114-12 record, a 90.5 winning percentage, during his 18 seasons. His teams had 11 undefeated seasons and won 15 of 16 conference championships. His 1967 Western High Cardinals were the only high school team in Illinois to go undefeated, untied and scoreless the entire season. Sockler retired after that fateful 1967 season.

Television and other media sports coverage back then was not what it is today, so Western's unbelievable season never got the true recognition it deserved. Today, an unscored-upon season would probably get some ESPN coverage, along with "Sports Illustrated."

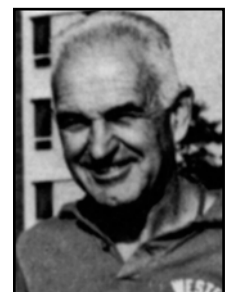
Some of those players on that '67 team have passed away. Most are grandpas in their late 50s, they may forget an occasional anniversary or birthday, but you can bet the farm that none will ever forget the 1967 season or their legendary Coach Harry Sockler.

### 41 Years Ago ... Western High – 394; Opponents – 0

Western High . . . . .	40	Bushnell . . . . .	0
Western High . . . . .	42	Knoxville . . . . .	0
Western High . . . . .	59	LaHarpe . . . . .	0
Western High . . . . .	73	Warsaw . . . . .	0
Western High . . . . .	46	Carthage . . . . .	0
Western High . . . . .	49	Aledo . . . . .	0
Western High . . . . .	19	Hamilton . . . . .	0
Western High . . . . .	66	Lewistown . . . . .	0



Front Row: L. Marx, B. Schwartz, M. Robinson, S. Abbot, John Riggins, R. Shryock, B. Snyder, J. Jones, D. Nissen, M. Lee. Row 2: B. Able, J. Joyce, D. Watson, J. Burke, L. Johnson, K. Hodgins, S. Andrews, T. Toland, J. Morgan, J. Frost. Row 3: Coach Karas, Jerry Riggins, S. Wanninger, S. Wanninger, C. Hommel, B. Walen, J. Peterson, B. Wyne, B. Crouse, W. Abbot, P. Davenport, P. Walen. Back Row: Coach Moon, S. Nudd, J. Robinson, R. Nelson, S. Churchill, D. Abel, H. Fritz, J. Knowles, J. Dufelmeier, Coach Sockler.



Harry Sockler in 1967

# Travel Abroad with Alumni Programs

## Amalfi ~ The Divine Coast

May 13-21, 2009

Approximately \$2,695 per person, plus airfare and V.A.T., based on double occupancy.

Delight in the scenic grandeur of the Amalfi Coast, with its varied architecture and amazing vertical landscape. Nicknamed The Divine Coast, the serpentine Amalfi Drive winds around towering cliffs and sandy coves, past charming villages, brightly colored villas and cascading flower gardens. During your stay in the seaside resort of Amalfi, venture out to see the town of Ravello with its spectacular 13th-century Villa Rufolo and the dramatic cliffs of Positano, Italy's most vertical town. Explore the cliff-top village of Sorrento, overlooking the Bay of Naples. Discover an epoch suspended in time at the fabled ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii. See the Temples of Hera and Athena at Paestum, and immerse yourself in the extraordinary beauty and classical antiquity of Capri, the Isle of Dreams.



## Alaska Discovery

June 3-10, 2009

Starting at \$4,395 per person, plus airfare and V.A.T., based on double occupancy. Also add \$300 port fee and \$58 taxes.

Alaska is a land of superlatives. Its mountains rival the Alps, its fjords surpass Norway's in their grandeur, its glaciers are outnumbered only by Greenland's and Antarctica's, and its marine life is boundless! After arrival in Canada's cosmopolitan city of Vancouver, explore southeast Alaska in a way the early pioneers could not even imagine—from the elegant environs of the Seven Seas Mariner. Cruise to Ketchikan, home of the world's largest collection of totem poles. Explore the length of Tracy Arm and see Sawyer Glacier. Visit Juneau, Alaska's picturesque capital city; the Yukon Gold Rush town of Skagway; and Sitka, where onion-domed churches recall its quaint Russian heritage. Marvel at the electric-blue expanse of Hubbard Glacier before concluding in Seward. The legendary coastal beauty of Alaska awaits your discovery on a fantastic journey along America's Last Frontier.



## Cruise the Mediterranean

June 13-21, 2009

Starting at \$3,395 per person, plus airfare and taxes, based on double occupancy. Special airfare add-ons are available from most major cities throughout the United States and Canada.

Embark on a spectacular voyage on the legendary Mediterranean Sea aboard luxurious Crystal Serenity. Begin in the romantic city of Venice. Wander its maze of narrow waterways among many architectural and artistic treasures and see what makes this city unique. In Dubrovnik, epic history unfolds amid sun-drenched tiled roofs, monasteries and bell towers seemingly untouched by time. Delve into the beginnings of Western civilization at Corfu on the Peloponnesian peninsula. Sail to Sicily, and discover Taormina, cascading down the mountain slopes below an ancient Greek Theater. Stop to roam the village of Sorrento, awash with beautiful gardens and whispering groves of lemon trees. Conclude your journey in Civitavecchia, the port serving Rome. Throughout the voyage, indulge your every whim amidst the luxury and incomparable service aboard Crystal Serenity.



## Ukraine and Romania

June 23 - July 6, 2009

Starting at \$2,495 per person, plus airfare and V.A.T., based on double occupancy. Steeped in tradition but driven by a vibrant modern spirit, Ukraine is rapidly forging a new identity within today's Europe. Cruise the Dnieper River through the heart of Ukraine as you admire cultural cities and beautiful countryside. Explore the magnificent capital of Kiev, visit the Caves Monastery and learn about Cossack history in Zaporizhia. Journey to the Crimea and Yalta, whose Livadia Palace is the former summer residence of the Romanovs and site of the famous WWII conference. Admire elegant Odessa, the Pearl of the Black Sea before exploring Bucharest in neighboring Romania. Second in size of all European countries only to Russia, Ukraine is located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia. Discover the storied heritage of this fascinating land!



## South Africa Escapade

October 13-22, 2009

Approximately \$2,995 per person, plus airfare and V.A.T., based on double occupancy. (\$100 early boarding discount valid until June 2, 2009)

From cosmopolitan cities to tide-swept beaches to bushveld savannahs, South Africa is a fascinating study in contrasts. This special travel program offers the perfect balance between planned excursions and independent exploration during visits to Cape Town and world-renowned Kruger National Park. Discover Cape Town's bustling waterfront and ascend lofty Table Mountain for superb panoramic views. Admire distinctive flora and exotic wildlife during amazing game viewing drives. Optional excursions journey to the region's wine country, the famous prison on Robben Island and the beauty of Cape Peninsula National Park. You'll stay in first-class accommodations at each destination and enjoy every modern comfort as you explore the intrigue of South Africa!



## WIU Alumni Association You're a Member! Reap the Benefits!



### Class Rings

The WIU class ring is a tangible symbol of the bond between all WIU graduates and the institution that contributed to shaping their future.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/ring.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/ring.php)

(866) BALFOUR (866) 225-3687

### Diploma Frames

Choose from a variety of designs to commemorate your outstanding collegiate accomplishment.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/diploma.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/diploma.php)

(800) 633-0579

### RockeNetwork

A free online social network provided exclusively for WIU alumni to reconnect with friends and classmates and to network. [Rockenetwork.wiu.edu](http://Rockenetwork.wiu.edu)

### Insurance

Our partnership with American Insurance Administrators offers a variety of programs, including comprehensive short-and-long-term medical, disability, dental, and travel insurance.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits) (800) 922-1245

### Liberty Mutual Partnership

An exclusive discount of up to 15 percent off auto insurance rates and much more.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits) (800) 981-2372

### WIU License Plate

If you have a car or class-B truck registered in Illinois and would like to support Western, order your WIU license plates today. Vanity and personalized plates are also available. [wiu.edu/alumni/benefits](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits) (800) 252-8980

### Rec Center Memberships

WIU alumni and their spouses and domestic partners may purchase memberships.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/campusrec.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/campusrec.php)

(309) 298-2773

### WIU Credit Card

Show off your Western pride with the WIU credit card (image of Sherman Hall or Rocky) from Chase.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/creditcards.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/creditcards.php)

(800) 432-3117

### Scholarships

The Alumni Association provides the Laffin Scholarship opportunity for children of alumni, and several other scholarships are funded through contributions from alumni. Twenty additional scholarships will be offered exclusively for children of alumni for the 2009 school year.

[wiu.edu/alumni/about/acscholarships.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/about/acscholarships.php)

Call AHI International at (800) 323-7373 or visit [wiu.edu/alumni/benefits](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits)



## Second Annual All Leatherneck Dinner

**What:** Join us to reminisce with former coaches and players. All proceeds will benefit WIU Athletics.  
**Date & Time:** Saturday, April 18, 2009, 5 p.m.  
**Location:** Hawthorne Race Course, 3501 S. Laramie Ave., Cicero, IL  
**Menu:** Spectacular food stations  
**To Register:** Call (309) 298-1914 or online on [wiu.com/alumni](http://wiu.com/alumni)

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Florida 2010**

**Jan. 24-30, 2010**

All across the state.



# Alumni Events in Chicago



## Complimentary Event at the Art Institute of Chicago

**What:** Complimentary social and private viewing of the Edvard Munch Special Exhibition, including *The Scream*  
**Date & Time:** Friday, April 3, 2009, 6-8 p.m.  
**Location:** The Art Institute of Chicago, Millennium Park Room, 230 S. Columbus Dr., Chicago, IL  
**Menu:** Spectacular food stations and cash bar  
**To Register:** Call (309) 298-1914 or e-mail [A-Association@wiu.edu](mailto:A-Association@wiu.edu) with your full name, graduation year, phone number, guests' names/graduation years (if applicable)

## Upcoming Signature Alumni & Friends Events

### April 4

WIU Wind Ensemble Concert  
 at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
 Noon Performance  
 1 p.m. Social  
 220 S. Michigan Ave.  
 Chicago, IL

### June 8

"The Western Open"  
 Seven Bridges  
 12:30 p.m. Shotgun start  
 One Mulligan Dr., Woodridge, IL  
 \$100/18 holes of golf, green fees & cart,  
 registration gift, social & dinner

### July 11

Cubs vs. Cardinals Baseball Game  
 Watch the game at The Cubby Bear  
 2:30 p.m. Social, The Cubby Bear  
 956 West Addison St. Chicago, IL  
 (this does not include a game ticket)  
 \$39/Cubby Bear Party appetizers & drinks

### July 30

Root Against the President  
 White Sox vs. Yankees Baseball Game  
 5:45 Patio Party, 7:11 Game  
 Adult ticket & buffet \$79, child/sr. \$58.50  
 U.S. Cellular Field  
 333 West 35th St., Chicago, IL

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Call the WIU Alumni Association at (309) 298-1914 for information.  
 Be sure to watch our website or your mailboxes for information on upcoming events in the Chicago suburbs!

## You're just a "drive" away from a great day on the golf course!

Join the Western Illinois University Alumni Association on the links for one or all of these great golf outings!

Unable to join us for golf, or do you not play golf? Join us for the socials after the golf outings.

**The "Western Open" Golf Outing**  
 June 8, 2009  
 Seven Bridges Golf Club  
 One Mulligan Dr., Woodridge, IL  
 Shotgun Start 12:30 p.m.  
 Four Person Scramble  
 Entry Fee \$100 (golf & social/dinner)  
 Social/dinner only \$20  
 \$1,000 hole sponsorships available

**Quad Cities Alumni & Friends Golf Outing**  
 June 22, 2009  
 Short Hills Country Club  
 2500 11th St., East Moline, IL  
 Shotgun Start 12:00 p.m.  
 Four Person Scramble  
 Entry Fee \$85 (golf & social/dinner)  
 Social/dinner only \$20  
 \$500 hole sponsorships

**Peoria Alumni & Friends Golf Outing**  
 June 26, 2009  
 WeaverRidge  
 5100 WeaverRidge Blvd., Peoria, IL  
 Four Person Scramble  
 Entry Fee \$100 (golf & social/dinner)  
 Social/dinner only \$20  
 \$500 hole sponsorships available

**Don't forget the 32nd Annual Western Athletic Club Leatherneck Classic**  
 June 1, 2009  
 Harry Mussatto Golf Club  
 Macomb, IL  
 Open to Western Athletic Club Members Only  
 Contact WIU Athletics or Dwaine Roche for more information at (309) 298-2602



- \_\_\_ Western Open \$100/person
  - \_\_\_ Social/Dinner Only \$20/person
  - \_\_\_ Hole sponsorship \$1,000
  - \_\_\_ QC Golf \$85/person
  - \_\_\_ Social/Dinner Only \$20/person
  - \_\_\_ Hole sponsorship \$500
  - \_\_\_ WeaverRidge - Peoria \$100/person
  - \_\_\_ Social/Dinner Only \$20/person
  - \_\_\_ Hole sponsorship \$500
- Hole sponsors receive golf, carts, registration gifts and dinner for four person team.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guests \_\_\_\_\_  
 Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Bring your friends for a great day on the course!

To register online or for more information, visit [wiu.edu/alumni](http://wiu.edu/alumni).



# College of Business and Technology



## A standout in the field

*Agriculture alum takes top honor in national corn yield contest*

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92

Mark Dempsey '87 acknowledges his lifetime work in agriculture has not always been easy. Taking top honors in the 2008 National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) corn yield contest is one way he is reaping the reward for his years of effort.

Dempsey, who earned his bachelor's degree in agriculture science from Western, grew up farming near Fowler, a small town close to Quincy in west central Illinois.

"I came straight back to the family farm after graduating," Dempsey said. "It can be a difficult way to earn a living, but it is a choice I don't regret. It's a great way to raise a family."

While attending Western in the late 1980s, Dempsey was a member of Alpha Gamma Rho (AGR) agriculture fraternity, and he currently serves as the AGR alumni board president. As a student, he was also active in agriculture department activities and clubs, such as the livestock judging team and the Horn and Hoof Club—both of which still exist today at Western.

Dempsey credits WIU's agriculture department for providing him with meaningful agriculture-related experiences and an array of skills that helped him build a solid foundation for his successful career in today's competitive and evolving agriculture industry.

"There is no doubt in my mind that my education at WIU was a great benefit to my farming career," Dempsey noted. "The marketing classes were some of the most interesting and most helpful."

### Yielding a winner

In addition to winning the NCGA corn yield contest (with his 348 bushels per acre) in the AA, non-irrigated category, Dempsey also won first place in the Illinois Corn Growers Association competition. Dempsey's 2008 honors are the culmination of years of work to develop his crop.

In an article about his yield in "Corn E-Digest," an electronic newsletter distributed by "Corn & Soybean Digest," Dempsey noted that he has been entering the NCGA contest for years.

"The key to [the 2008] win was plentiful rainfall," Dempsey told "Corn E-Digest." "I placed second nationally in 2004 with a 320 bushel [per acre] yield. Then in 2005, 2006 and 2007, we had three drought years in a row. Basically, last year I had double the rainfall I'd had in 2005, 2006 and 2007, combined."

Though in the article Dempsey attributed rain as key to his 2008 success, he noted that individual innovation has been an important part of his production process as well.

"The challenge of trying to produce a winning corn yield has helped me examine different ways corn can be grown. It has forced me to look at ideas that many farmers don't want to try. Some things work, some things don't. Nevertheless, to me, it's worth trying something new or different to see how it works. Ultimately, more bushels per acre add to my bottom line."



Photo courtesy of Millicent Dempsey

Mark Dempsey '87, winner of a national corn yield contest, credits agriculture and marketing courses at WIU with helping prepare him for a successful career in agriculture.

## Charles Carey visits students, athletes as Executive in Residence

In February, the College of Business and Technology (CBT) hosted its eighth Executive in Residence (EIR), Charles Carey '75, vice chairman of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) Group.

Previously, he was chair of the Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT). CBOT, the third largest U.S. exchange, merged with CME in July 2007, creating a new company, CME Group Inc., a CME/Chicago Board of Trade Company. Today, CME Group is the largest and most diverse exchange in the world, with a market capitalization of approximately \$30 billion.

"The EIR program is an amazing opportunity for all of our students to interact with high-level executives in a casual environment. I'm certain that the information that Charlie has shared with the students will leave a lasting impression as they advance into their own careers," said CBT Dean Tom Erikson.

Carey was elected chair of CBOT in 2003, and remained in that role until assuming his current position in July 2007. Previously, he served on the CBOT board of directors for 11 years in various roles, including vice chair, first vice

chair and full member director. An independent futures trader, Carey became a member of CBOT in 1978 and is a partner in the firm Henning and Carey.

In addition to a leading role in the 2007 merger, Carey spearheaded the transformation of CBOT, a member run institution for more than 155 years, into a for-profit, NYSE-listed public company in 2005.

Carey has received numerous civic, industry and community service awards. Most recently, he was presented with the Western Illinois University Distinguished Alumni Award for his business and professional accomplishments. Other awards include the Rerum Novarum Award from St. Joseph College Seminary, Ellis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations Foundation, Inc. and the Gold Medallion Award from the International Visitors Center of Chicago. In addition, Carey is president of the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame.

Taking into account Carey's background as an athlete at WIU, CBT collaborated with Intercollegiate Athletics when scheduling his visit to campus. Carey met with CBT



faculty, staff, students and University staff and he shared personal accounts of his business expertise in a special session with WIU student-athletes.

"Our student-athletes benefit greatly from this," said Tim VanAlstine, director of athletics. "Charlie Carey came to Western to play football and he is now a perfect example for our current student-athletes. Participation in intercollegiate athletics is a demanding and disciplined endeavor, but it is rewarding. I'm sure Charlie uses these characteristics to advance his career."

A lifelong resident of Chicago, Carey received a bachelor of business degree in finance from WIU and currently serves on President Goldfarb's national advisory board.



CBT Dean Tom Erikson

## Accreditation 101

Commentary by CBT Dean Tom Erikson

Western's business programs have been fully accredited by The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International since 1978, and the accounting program has been accredited since 2000. Recently, I was reflecting on our accreditation process and what it means for our alumni.

Accreditation – it is a big, academic word that you might not have really thought about before. Around here, we take it seriously. Even so, you might be wondering, “What does it really have to do with me?”

Achieving AACSB International accreditation is quite an accomplishment, as only 559 of the 11,000-plus business schools worldwide have earned this accreditation. This places Western in an elite group with the top five percent of business schools worldwide. And, graduating from an accredited program adds great value to your WIU business or accounting degree.

AACSB accreditation means that the CBT meets the highest standards in terms of curriculum and faculty qualifications, and it means that we are focused on the

best practices in learning and continuously improving our programs. It takes a lot of effort to gain and maintain AACSB accreditation – but it is worth it!

Every five years our business programs must undergo a rigorous review to reaffirm our AACSB accreditation. We must demonstrate our continued commitment to the 21 quality standards relating to faculty qualification, strategic management of resources, interactions of faculty and students, as well as a commitment to continuous improvement and achievement of learning goals in degree programs.

We are in the final stages of preparing for our upcoming accreditation visit. We have submitted annual reports to AACSB, and this summer we will prepare our fifth-year maintenance report. Western's AACSB reaffirmation visit is scheduled for Jan. 24-26, 2010. A team comprised of four deans and department chairs from peer universities will visit campus to review our status with regards to meeting each of the AACSB standards.

Again, Western's business and accounting programs have achieved AACSB accreditation for 30 years, and, in part, as a means of adding value to the degrees of our alumni, we are looking forward to actively continuing as an accredited college for the foreseeable future.

So there you have it – Accreditation 101 – just in case you ever wondered.

## CBT conducts MBA survey

The marketplace for MBA education is crowded and becoming increasingly competitive. To establish a baseline for trends among attitudes of MBA graduates, the College of Business and Technology conducted a survey of its 1,396 MBA alumni. More than 25 percent of alumni responded to the three-page survey containing 22 questions. Responses were received from alumni in more than 30 states.

In the group of 359 respondents, more than 90 percent agreed that their MBA from Western prepared them well for leadership and management positions. When the graduates were asked whether they would recommend WIU's program to prospective candidates, 92.5 percent indicated that they would.

More than 88 percent rated the overall quality of students enrolled in the MBA program as “good” to “excellent.”

“These survey results are helpful in guiding the college as it continues to stay close to the business world and its

alumni,” said **Bob Jefferson**, former WIU business dean and project adviser. “The survey design built upon a similar MBA survey conducted at WIU in 1988. When the results from the two surveys are combined, they provide strong benchmarking data for the program.”

Associate Dean and MBA Director **Larry Wall** added that, “all of the data will be helpful during the process of reaffirmation for accreditation and benefits the college for more significant market positioning.”

### MBA changes on the horizon

In response to national trends for an MBA education, the college has announced changes to its existing MBA program.

“As the College of Business and Technology strives to remain competitive in today's global environment, leadership, change and continuous improvement are the hallmark characteristics of MBA education,” Wall added.

“In that spirit, the College MBA Committee has made a recommendation for program changes based on an 18-month review of the MBA curriculum.”

The program redesign will accelerate degree completion for students with non-business backgrounds. By streamlining the presentation of information at the foundation level, the college is able to remove five classes from the introductory phase of the program. Overall, the redesign will sharpen the focus for MBA students among the business disciplines and will provide new concentrations in areas critical to business success.

Program changes have already been approved at the Quad Cities campus, and are slated to begin in Fall 2009. A similar plan is in place for Macomb.

“In February, the MBA Committee approved the reduction in hours for both the Macomb and Quad Cities programs,” said Wall. “We look forward to implementing the redesigned MBA at Western Illinois University.”

## Fimmen retires

**Carol Fimmen**, director of global education in the College of Business and Technology, was recently recognized for her service at Western Illinois University during a retirement reception in her honor.

Fimmen's career at WIU began more than 25 years ago when she joined Western's faculty as an instructor. She became an academic adviser in 1989 and an educational consultant with the Job Training Partnership Act on a project in 1991. Fimmen was named director of WIU's Cross-Cultural Educational Programs in 1990 and was named director of the College of Business and Technology's Global Education Program in July 2001.

In this role, she participated in the writing and oversight of 17 international grants totaling more than \$2.7 million. During her tenure at WIU, she received a number of national awards, including, most recently, the Khaladjan International Award for Innovation in Higher Education by the Americana Association of University Administrators.

Originally from La Paz, Bolivia, she is a 1978 bachelor's degree graduate of Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville and a 1982 master's degree graduate of the University of Little Rock.



# College of Business and Technology



## CBT Young Alumnus: Tim Heth '93

### WN: What is your current title/position?

Vice President, member and community relations at The HON Company in Muscatine (IA).

My department was known as human resources until 1998. We adopted member and community relations to align with our vision statement and to better reflect the commitment the organization has made to its members and the communities where they live and work.

### WN: What positions did you have leading up to your current position?

I began my professional HR career in 1994 as a human resources representative with Omega Cabinets, Ltd. (joined Fortune Brands family in 2002) in Waterloo (IA). After progressing to group HR manager, I was recruited to join The HON Company and HNI Corporation.

I have spent the last 11 and one-half years of my HR career with the HNI Corporation, primarily in Muscatine (IA). I started as a human resource generalist for The HON Company in 1997. I was soon promoted to manager, member and community relations and later relocated to Richmond (VA) in 1999. In 2000, I returned to Muscatine as the company's recruiting and training manager. In 2001, I was promoted to group manager, member and community relations for The HON Company. This is similar to a director-level position at other companies. I held this position with The HON Company, The Wood Products Group, and lastly The Gunlocke Company. In late 2003, I was promoted to vice president, member and community relations for Allsteel Inc. In April 2007, I moved to my current role for The HON Company.

### WN: What interested you in the human resources field and how did you decide to pursue it?

I knew I wanted to be in business, but I honestly knew very little about labor relations or human resources. I researched the field a little and then reviewed the program at WIU before jumping in with both feet. It ended up being a great decision.

### WN: Tell us about your responsibilities at HON and some of the challenges?

I'm responsible for directing the development and implementation of the human resources strategic plan and all company-wide human resources policies and programs that cover employment, on-boarding, training, labor relations, compensation, AA/EEO compliance, organization development, relocation, safety and health, benefits, member relations, community relations, record and employee assistance. My scope of responsibility currently includes 10 locations in six different states and approximately 4,000 full-time direct members.

As we entered 2009, cautiously optimistic may be the most accurate way to describe what many were feeling. The general economy and the office furniture market were hit hard in 2008, and it is still unclear how long it will be until they bounce back. The HON Company has taken some aggressive steps to counter the difficult business climate and to improve our performance.

Going forward, we all need to focus on taking care of the customer, driving daily improvement, taking cost and waste out of our business, prioritizing and focusing our efforts on the most critical issues, and we will also continue to evaluate our structure, processes, and resources.

### WN: To what do you attribute your success as a young professional?

I was extremely fortunate to have **Jim Brakefield** as a professor, a sponsor for our Student Chapter of Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), my very first mentor, and now a friend.

I had several managers who challenged me, coached me and showed a lot of confidence in me. I have been



Tim Heth

willing to take risks and look at each new challenge as an opportunity. I have been fortunate to work with and have the support of some of the best people around. I work for an excellent organization that has provided me with some wonderful opportunities.

### WN: What advice would you give to students graduating from Western in the near future?

Decide what is most important to you in your career and stay true to it. Think long term and do not be afraid to take calculated risks that could help you get where you want to be. Think experiences or responsibilities versus titles or money. Never pass up an opportunity

to expand your knowledge, skills or abilities. Establish healthy relationships at all levels. Work hard, be prepared and always be positive. Enjoy success but give credit and recognition to others. Treat others with dignity and respect.

### WN: Please feel free to comment/add anything else that you think would be helpful to other CBT/WIU alumni.

I am a member of the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) and I was awarded the certification of Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) in 2001.

### WN: How did your time at Western prepare you for today?

I received a quality education at WIU and the environment provided great balance for me. I feel fortunate that I have spent the last 15 years of my career in the field that I majored in and WIU was one of the few schools at the time to offer an HR major. However, the best preparation I received was through the relationships I formed and the personal interest WIU faculty showed me. In particular, Jim Brakefield.

## Accounting alumna 'excels' on CPA exam

**Kimberly Hughes '05** was recently featured in New Accountant magazine published by the Realestate News Corp. She invested in the review software *CPAexcel* to prepare for the CPA exam and received a perfect score of 99 on the auditing section. As a result, she won a \$250 prize for her top score among the cohort of test takers nationwide. Her score ranks among a rare 1 percent of her peers on that section of the exam. Overall, for every 1,000 people who sit for the CPA exam, only about five will earn a similar score. She is among nearly 75,000 accounting professionals who complete the CPA exam each year.

Hughes is currently senior accountant at Lindgren Callihan VanOsdol in Rockford (IL).



Kimberly Hughes

## CBT appoints diversity officer

The CBT is proud to announce the appointment of MBA graduate student **Michael A. Davis '08** as an advocate of diversity initiatives in the college.

Through a graduate assistantship within the college, Davis has been working on special projects related to diversity in the role of chief diversity officer. Through his work, he serves as a recruiter for underrepresented groups in the undergraduate and MBA programs.

He is also a key communicator for the college's diversity goals and collaborates with University administration to advance diversity strategies in the college. Most recently, Davis participated in a recruiting event for graduate students at the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff. He will visit the University of Kansas and Tuskegee University for similar events this spring.



Michael A. Davis

## End of an era

### Associate Dean Larry Wall retires after 28 years at WIU

This May, the College of Business and Technology (CBT) will say a sad goodbye as **Larry Wall** retires as associate dean and professor of management after 28 years.

His academic career started in 1977 with the completion of his Ph.D. in organization theory and business policy at Oklahoma State University. After graduating, he taught for four years at New Mexico State University, and in 1981, he and his wife, Linda, packed up and came to WIU.

As an associate professor of management, Wall followed in the academic footsteps of his father, **Lewis Wall**, chairperson of and professor in management information resources at WIU. Wall was named acting associate dean in February 1984 by then dean **David Beveridge**. Throughout his 28 years, he has served under the leadership of eight deans, and worked directly with seven of them.

In his characteristic quiet style, Wall recalled some career highlights as associate dean.

"Looking back, I can think of no greater honor than working with my dad," Wall said. "I remember long-time

finance faculty member **Ed Sims** asking Dad if he was going to take orders from me. Dad laughed and said he had not done so up to this point and saw no reason to begin now. It was an interesting experience when I became his boss."

Wall's contributions to the college have been significant through the years. He assisted in the reaffirmation of the college's accreditation status on three separate occasions and has served as interim department chair in five of the college's eight departments. Wall said some of his proudest moments have been those when he was able to provide stability in times of change and serve as a sounding board for administrative leadership in the college and university.

Faculty and staff in the college often note the importance of his international initiatives. He has co-written and co-administered international study grants totalling more than \$2 million and has worked with MBA students from more than 50 countries. As MBA director, he helped shape the curriculum for the program through two significant transformations.

"My career has been one of leading behind the scenes and providing student, faculty and staff support necessary to keep the college moving forward collectively. My goal has always been to move the college forward to a better place," he said.

There is no doubt the college is a better place due to his efforts, and it is certain that Wall will remain a loyal friend of Western even after retirement. He and Linda have established the Lewis Wall Scholarship to benefit students majoring in information systems or management. In the coming months, they will relocate to St. Louis, where they will enjoy spending time with their family and grandson, Khai.

"It's bittersweet. I'm looking forward to having the time for many new experiences including teaching pastors in an international setting, but the time at Western has passed much too quickly," Wall said. "I will miss having an audience for my annual worst jokes and the many friends and colleagues that I have worked with over the years."



Larry Wall

## CBT hosts economic outlook events

In January, the College of Business and Technology sponsored the second annual Quad Cities Economic Outlook Breakfast in conjunction with the Quad Cities Chamber Federation in Davenport (IA).

More than 290 guests packed the Clarion Hotel conference center for a presentation by William Strauss, senior economist and economic adviser for the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

According to Strauss, the nation has been in a recession for a full year, peaking in December 2007. Although severe, this recession does not look to be as damaging as the

Great Depression, to which it has been compared. If this recession ends in April or May, it will be similar to other recessions, the most recent of which was in the 1980s.

Strauss also reported that the U.S. economy will remain challenged through most of 2009 with rising unemployment rates. However, he added, "Recoveries have always occurred in the past and they will again."

Economics Assistant Professor **Bill Polley** participated in the event with a local economic outlook.

The college also partnered with the Macomb Area Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Development

Corporation with a follow-up event for the western Illinois region. Rick Mattoon, senior economist and economics adviser for the Chicago Fed, spoke during a luncheon presentation March 11. His presentation examined the local industry structure for clues about how the region might respond to today's challenging economic environment.



William Strauss

## Entrepreneur alumnus gives Web 2.0 advice

It is like outer space ... the web is a brave new frontier with new discoveries, innovations and tools popping up every day.

To help aspiring entrepreneurs use technology to its fullest, the Western Illinois University Marketing Club recently sponsored "Mindset vs. Marketing: How to Thrive as a Next Gen Entrepreneur in a Web 2.0 World."

Western graduate **Bradley Will '06** and Gabe Strom demonstrated how to best use popular social networks such as Facebook and MySpace to build a business and thrive in this current economy through Web 2.0. This "new" web concept has led to the development and evolution of web-culture communities such as Twitter, video-sharing sites, wikis, blogs and numerous social networking sites.

Will recently established a marketing company, which has assisted more than 20 young entrepreneurs in starting their own businesses. Strom started his first business as a sophomore at Eastern Illinois University and has since created or advised more than 12 business start-ups in the past eight years. He currently runs a 2.0 video coaching business.

According to President **Sam Dever** (Canton, IL), the WIU Marketing Club is open to all majors and provides opportunities for students to network, build their resumes, take business-related field trips, participate in fundraisers and learn from guest speakers from the business world.

For more information about the WIU Marketing Club, or to be added to the contact list, e-mail Dever at [SJ-Dever@wiu.edu](mailto:SJ-Dever@wiu.edu).

### Look for these CBT features in the next issue of Western News...

College of Business and Technology unveils Beta Gamma Sigma Key

Acclaimed Chicago Tribune writer Richard C. Longworth as CBT Ferguson Lecturer

CBT Hosts Upper Mississippi Valley Supply Chain Management Summit



# Theatre students learn from the best

By Darcie Dyer Shinberger '89 MS '98

Theatre students at Western Illinois University have unlimited opportunities to learn from the best.

From alumni like **Michael Boatman '04** and **Landon Shaw** to master teachers like Lionel Walsh to their very own Western professors, students enrolled in the theatre program live and work Western's core values of academic excellence and educational opportunity every day.

In a recent three-day timeframe, students met with—and learned—from Todd Horman, Shaw and Walsh. Horman, a former student of College of Fine Arts and Communication dean **Paul Kreider**, is an original cast member of "Urinetown, The Musical." Horman met with WIU cast members of the production, which was performed Feb. 25-28 on Western's Macomb campus. A few days later, Walsh, director of the School of Theatre at the University of Windsor-Canada, presented a workshop on Michael Chekhov acting techniques, while Shaw, the artistic director of ColeBeanBay, presented a master class and held auditions for musical theatre students.

According to **David Patrick**, WIU theatre and dance



**Todd Horman, an original cast member, works with WIU Urinetown cast members.**

chair, the workshop session with Horman really provided a reality check about surviving in the business, while the audition workshop with Shaw provided the students further insight into what a casting director looks for. The Chekhov workshop demonstrated yet another approach to creating a character on stage, he noted.

"The professional theatre world is harsh and any input provides our students with another vitally important tool to help them survive," said Patrick. "Objective input from guest artists during these workshops provides fresh views of the skills the students have attained and areas for improvement, and students really gain self-confidence in their skills from feedback through guest artists."



**Landon Shaw talks about preparing for an audition.**

**Jillian Weingart**, a senior musical theatre major from Crystal Lake (WI), participated in the audition workshop with Shaw. She agreed with Patrick's opinion that the input from those in the field is "important and necessary.

"I love the workshops that are provided to us. It gives students yet another opinion about our performances. The real world is a hard place for an actor and it's easier if you have people and places to go that will help you learn," she said. "It's great that Western gives us these opportunities—and fits them into our busy schedules. Landon was a blessing. He really was here to teach us how to be our best."



**Chekhov technique class**

**Gary Brice**, a senior theatre major from Alton (IL), added that it's not everyday that students get to attend a Chekhovian acting workshop – at no cost.

"I knew I couldn't miss out on an opportunity like this," Brice said. "It not only made me more aware of my physicality on stage, but also helped me to better envision different environments."

Graduate theatre major **Danny Pancratz** of Dubuque (IA) participated in workshops with Horman and Walsh. He noted that Horman was an "intriguing resource into the world of 'Urinetown: The Musical.'

"Lionel's workshop on the Michael Chekhov technique left me invigorated and enthused. The exercises helped me connect the dots on some of the physical characterization I had been working towards with my character in 'Urinetown,'" he said.

Pancratz added that Shaw's workshop was insightful and stimulating.

"He really helped us further hone the skills we develop in our classes and rehearsals into an audition package that shows potential employers our talent and personality," Pancratz said. "I followed some of his advice at an audition the next day and it may have landed me a summer job."

## Art alumnus brings work to WIU gallery

Western Illinois University alumnus **Doug Goessman '91** was one of 12 featured artists—and the organizer of—the exhibit "Satellite City Transmissions: A Collaboration of Twelve Peoria Area Artists" featured in the WIU Art Gallery's Spring 2009 season.

Goessman reached out to other artists to exhibit together as a unified group that became known as the "Satellite City Transmissions." In addition to Goessman, the group was comprised of Heather Brammeier, William Butler, Jennifer Costa, Cheryl Dean, Jacob Grant, Chris Hutson, Richard Kirchgessner, Erin Robert, John Tuccillo and Steph Van Doren and current Western student **Chad Ellison** of Galesburg (IL), who is completing his teaching certification for art education.

Since 2004, Goessman has maintained a studio at the

Contemporary Art Center of Peoria (IL), and he teaches in the Peoria School District. Goessman uses familiar pop culture icons, such as Uncle Sam, in his colorful, mixed-media paintings to focus on the relationship between pop and abstraction in his works. The WIU art graduate, with an emphasis in printmaking, was a designer and screen printer in Chicago after graduation before moving to the Peoria area to work as a graphic designer for the University of Illinois' College of Medicine for nearly 14 years.



**Doug Goessman '91 (top right corner) organized, and displayed his work in, the WIU Art Gallery exhibit "Satellite City Transmissions: A Collaboration of Twelve Peoria Area Artists."**

# The man behind the menu

'83 alumnus critiques cuisine—and film, football, too

By Alison McGaughey

**Dave Faries '83 MA '85** was on a path that might have been perfectly primed for academia. He graduated from Western with bachelor's and master's degrees in history; did Ph.D. work at Pennsylvania State; and his parents taught at the college level—at WIU, in fact.

Instead he became a sportscaster, documentarian, football player, and, most recently, food critic.

For the past three years, Faries lived and worked in Prague, even joining a Czech football team.

Now, back in Dallas (TX), where he has been a critic since 2000, Faries reviews restaurants for the "Dallas Observer," sampling a blend of the city's fare—even if it means saying "I'll have the sea urchin, please."

## WN: What led you to decide on attend WIU?

Really, my world kind of revolved around Western growing up. I really didn't consider another school.

My father, **Clyde Faries**, was a professor—eventually the former College of Communication Arts and Sciences department chair. And my mom, **Liz**, was an instructor. Our neighbors were staff and faculty. It was an interesting life.

## WN: How did studying history prepare you for your career(s)? Was there any certain professor or experience that particularly influenced you?

The study of history teaches you to research deeply and learn a subject from every angle—and to be critical.

After about two lectures in my first course in the fall of 1980—a 100-level ancient history course with Dr. **Tom Watkins**—I asked what I needed to do to be a history major. Dr. **John Werner** was great, always throwing in extra credit questions about old war films. Dr. **Cady** encouraged me to go to graduate school. Dr. **Shadwick**, Dr. **Brown**, Dr. **Egler**, Dr. **Balsamo**, and others—they could pick apart your essays, expose shallow arguments, challenge you...yet they didn't try to mold you or force you in a certain direction. They just made you better.

## WN: So what led you into sports coverage and documentary?

As kid I wanted to be a sportswriter (if not a professional athlete—which turned out to be out of the question. One of those lack of talent deals). I loved history

ever since I can remember.

I got the opportunity to do an internship on the football highlights show at WPSX-TV at Penn State, so I quit my Ph.D. program and found myself with a press pass to Penn State games.

There's nothing like the pressure of a live sports broadcast. You have a short time to prepare, but you have to cover every possibility—know the quirks and details of every player. The odd thing is this: after the game, you could never remember the score.

While working on the Penn State Football Story (the highlights show), I introduced the idea of a documentary about the then hot topic of preservation. In 1988, a developer tried to put a shopping mall on a portion of land that happened to figure prominently in the second battle of Bull Run. That seemed like a good topic. I had been in television all of one year—so, looking back, I could have done a better job. But I was producer, director and writer of a nationally distributed PBS documentary, "The Vanishing Civil War" (1993).

By sheer fate, maybe, the host I wanted—because I liked him in "Hamburger Hill"—was **Michael Boatman '04**. I didn't know until we spoke that he had gone to Western.

## WN: So how does a person with a history and sports background become a food critic—both in Texas and across the world?

I started writing for a Dallas technology publication during the "dot com boom"—and I was very critical. The Observer saw some of my stuff and liked it.

The columns gave me a chance to talk to all kinds of people and learn food and nightlife from every perspective—consumers, chefs, bartenders, servers, health inspectors, you name it.

I learned a lot in a short time: classic cocktails, what goes into a real Margarita and why tastes have strayed from the real thing; the history of dishes and how those change when settlers from one country move to another—for example, Texas chicken fried steak is basically German schnitzel, jambalaya is what happens when you try to make paella in the bayous of Louisiana. It was perfect training.

One day, I saw on a journalism web site that the "Prague Post" needed a restaurant critic—so I applied. I had been all over Europe, but never to Prague—that was even more appealing. I didn't know what I was getting



**Dave Faries '83 MA '85 examines the Dallas skyline, keeping his back to the camera to protect his anonymity as a food critic.**

into. One day I arrived in Prague with my cat and had about a week to learn the dining scene, find a flat, get assimilated. Plus you had to navigate the city, try to learn an impossible language, meet deadlines.

I also had the chance to act as sports editor. But the greatest moment was that last year I joined the Prague Lions football team—American football, not soccer—as third string quarterback...at the age of 46.

## WN: How do you study and critique a new restaurant while still staying anonymous?

It's a matter of three visits or so, sampling a range of their dishes, from specialties to menu items that seem a bit out of place—you want a real good feel for the kitchen's quality, consistency and creativity, as well as how they work under pressure. So you go on busy nights as well as quiet evenings.

I never use my real name when making a reservation.

Restaurateurs and chefs have thin skins sometimes. They threaten to sue you. Readers love you or hate you—I hear it all. You just have to ignore it and be accurate.

## WN: What is a food critic's main goal?

I'm not an advocate, but a judge. A real, professional review is never about personal likes, dislikes or desires. I order things all the time that I personally can't stand. Like beets. Or sea urchin. But I know when they've made it right, when they've departed from traditional presentation, how the seasonings layer to bring out one flavor or wash over another. That's what I'm looking for.

I'm no fun to eat with. I tend to ignore my friends during dinner conversation. I have to concentrate. I don't take notes until I get home, so I must remember every detail. Guess I can be a really dull dinner date.

## CLASSNOTES

### CLASS NOTE CRITERIA

Information received will be published in the next edition of Western News only if any of the following have occurred in the past 12 months: a job change; promotion; special honor; retirement; marriage (include date); births or adoptions, (include date).

Information will be listed by year of first degree earned. Due to the high volume of address changes, information will not be published if there simply has been a change of address. All information submitted will be updated in the Alumni database and can be viewed in the online alumni directory as well as in the online version of Western News at [wiu.edu/alumni](http://wiu.edu/alumni).

— WIU Alumni Programs

### 1967

**Janet Seley Fife-Lafrenz**, Keokuk, IA, has retired as a first grade teacher from the Keokuk School District.

### 1968

**Stephen Dougherty**, Cartersville, GA, is president of North Georgia Technical College in Atlanta.

**Eugene Dwyer**, Bettendorf, IA, has released the novel "She Walks On Gilded Splinters" and is a partner/lawyer for Dwyer & Wing P.C. in Davenport.

### 1970

**Marshall Laitsch MBA '73**, Corona Del Mar, CA, is director of 1st Pacific Bancorp and 1st Pacific Bank in San Diego.

**Robert Wilson**, Orlando, FL, is assistant vice president of human resources for McCoy Federal Credit Union. ([carmenbob47@att.net](mailto:carmenbob47@att.net))

### 1971

**Lizbeth Gerson Bishoff**, Evergreen, CO, a 2006 WIU Alumni Achievement Award winner, is director of digital and preservation services for Bibliographical Center for Research in Aurora. ([lbishoff@bcr.org](mailto:lbishoff@bcr.org))

**Sue Verschage Haka**, E. Lansing, MI, is president of the American Accounting Association.

### 1972

**Karen Wehrmacher Sabey**, Waverly, IA, is an adjunct instructor in math education at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls. ([sabey@uni.edu](mailto:sabey@uni.edu))

**Scott Shalek**, Ringwood, is owner of Shalek Financial Services. ([sshalek@comcast.net](mailto:sshalek@comcast.net))

### 1973

**Michael Beran**, Naperville, is vice president of operations for McDonald's Corporation Japan. ([mberan@aol.com](mailto:mberan@aol.com))

**Janet Addair Blum**, Orlando, FL, is associate superintendent of career and technical education at Orange County Public Schools. ([janet.addair@gmail.com](mailto:janet.addair@gmail.com))

### 1974

**Kathy McAfee Finn-Brennan**, Beaverton, OR, is center director for the YMCA of Columbia Wilamette. ([finnkathy@comcast.net](mailto:finnkathy@comcast.net))

1975

**Linda White Clemons MA '82**, Carbondale, is director of financial aid at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

**Susan Stepek D'Alexander**, Western Springs, has earned the Accredited Business Communicator designation from the International Association of Business Communicators.

**Alan Hegwood**, Morrissey, is a teaching assistant at Morrison Community Schools. ([ahegwood@mchsi.com](mailto:ahegwood@mchsi.com))

**Eve Lendway Hollender**, Berea, OH, is a German teacher at Strongsville City Schools.

**Donna Wolf-Roberts MS-ED '76**, Mansfield, retired from teaching at Mt. Pleasant Community High School. ([donnaroberts77@yahoo.com](mailto:donnaroberts77@yahoo.com))

1976

**David Boberg**, Simi Valley, CA, is an adjunct lecturer at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks. ([dboberg@yahoo.com](mailto:dboberg@yahoo.com))

**Deb Cannon Bothner**, Boulder, CO, is a senior financial analyst at Molson Coors Brewing Company in Denver and also is president of the Colorado Treasury Management Association. ([dcbothner@gmail.com](mailto:dcbothner@gmail.com))

**Ann Engle Calamaio**, Prescott, AZ, is the Northern Arizona executive director for ResCare. ([amcalamaio@rescare.com](mailto:amcalamaio@rescare.com))

**Dirk Christiansen**, Schaumburg, retired as chief of staff from the Schaumburg Police Department.

**John Clark**, Canton, was elected Fulton County State's Attorney in Lewistown. ([jclark@9thjudicial.org](mailto:jclark@9thjudicial.org))

**Mary Ellen Keegan**, Cincinnati, OH, is vice president of contracts at StandardAero.

**Thomas Nardi**, Naperville, is executive vice president and chief financial officer for Navigant Consulting, Inc., Chicago.

**Richard Osborn MA'78, ED-SP '83**, Johnson City, TN, is assistant vice provost for academic support and public service at East Tennessee State University. He is also president of the Association for Continuing Higher Education. ([osbornr2@gmail.com](mailto:osbornr2@gmail.com))

1977

**Michael Colar**, Frisco, TX, is distribution manager for Terex Mining. ([mccolar@tx.rr.com](mailto:mccolar@tx.rr.com))

**Martin Conboy**, Mansfield, MA, is vice president at Lynch & Conboy Insurance in Brockton and opened a second location in West Bridgewater. ([martyconboy@lynchandconboy.com](mailto:martyconboy@lynchandconboy.com))

**Steve Hollender**, Berea, OH, is a German professor at Baldwin-Wallace College.

**John Lowenberg MS**, Chicago, is vice president of philanthropy at Rush University Medical Center.

**Doug Smith**, Naperville, is athletic director at Naperville North High School and received the National Federation of State High School Association 2008 Citation Award.

1978

**Debra Knight**, Royal Oak, MI, is an associate professor at the University of Detroit-Mercy. ([knightde@udmercy.edu](mailto:knightde@udmercy.edu))

**Ted O'Sullivan MBA '79**, Naperville, is vice president of PNC in Downers Grove. ([tlosullivan1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tlosullivan1@sbcglobal.net))

**Mike Vondruska**, Bolingbrook, is a Veracruz, Mexico adventure travel consultant for Discover Veracruz Tours LLC. ([info@discoververacruztours.com](mailto:info@discoververacruztours.com))

**John Weddle MS '80**, St. Louis, MO, is a retired special agent from the U.S. Department of Interior/National Park Service. ([chigger8@mindspring.com](mailto:chigger8@mindspring.com))

1979

**Kathryn Golden MA**, Bridgewater, MA, is a retired criminal justice professor from the College of DuPage. **Gregory Hoskins**, Chicago, is president/owner of Hoskins Investment Management Inc. ([gregory.hoskins@ipl.com](mailto:gregory.hoskins@ipl.com))

Peoria Alumni & Friends Event

11/17/08 Radio City Christmas Spectacular at the Peoria Civic Center

Row 1, l-r: President Al Goldfarb, Lois Thomas Boaz '74, Al Boaz '75, Steve Larson '78 MBA '79 and Tina Larson. Row 2, l-r: Debbie Wisdom, Alumni Achievement Award recipient Mike Wisdom '76 and Patti Royce Shoemaker '72. Row 3, l-r: Brenda Promen Shawgo '92. Row 4, l-r: Michele Robinson-Molton '95 and Mike Christman. Row 5, l-r: Theresa Tee, Tony Tee '87, Shirley Firnbach Stabler '74, Deborah Robinson Christman '75 and John Stabler. Row 6, l-r: Richard Coon '63 MS '66, Nancy Guilinger Coon MS '66, Sue Walbolt Fluegel '67 and Nancy Southall Leigh MS '90 MS '91. Row 7, l-r: Jim Carr '87 and Cres Fluegel '66 MS-ED '70.



WIU Educational Networking Social

11/20/08 McCormick & Schmick's



L-r: President Al Goldfarb, Director of Admissions Eric Campbell, Jim Carter '75 and Board of Trustees member Bill Epperly '68.



L-r: Michael Liccardi, Sara Bowman, Brett Rausch and Nicole Rausch.



Front row, l-r: Alumni Council member Lyneir Cole '87, Victor Easley '99 and Director of Admissions Eric Campbell. In back: Byron Thornton '87.



L-r: Lejon Busch, Nanette Conley '85, Kim Calhoun Dawson '89, British Jefferson-Minor, Joyce Ross '87 and Robbin Ware Johnson.



L-r: Tamara Anderson-McClain '98, Kenita Jones Taylor '99 and Jonnita Dockens '99.



L-r: Miranda Jones and Lauren Eldridge '06.



L-r: Darlene Lyons and Monique Rolling '03.

**Barbara Sells Lorenzen**, LaGrange, is associate regional director for examinations in SEC's at the Chicago regional office.

1980

**Kathy Mason Clair, MS-ED**, Ottawa, is director of the Reddick Public Library.

**Joseph Comeau MS '93**, Plano, TX, retired from the University of Hartford as director of student centers and activities. ([josephcomeau@ymail.com](mailto:josephcomeau@ymail.com))

**Brian Malloy**, Hebron, KY, is chief customer officer and a senior vice president of sales and marketing for CHEP USA.

**Shawn Shianna**, Freeport, is assistant vice president of physician practices at FHN.

1981

**William Hazelgrove MA '83**, St. Charles, has published the novel "Rocket Man." ([billhazelgrove.com](http://billhazelgrove.com)).

**Daniel Heneghan MBA**, Irvine, CA, was elected to Micrel's, Inc. board of directors.

**Patricia Lovelass King**, Watseka, is office manager at Northeastern Illinois Railway Service Inc. in Iroquois. ([trish.nirs@hughes.net](mailto:trish.nirs@hughes.net))

**John Ridder**, Quincy, was inducted into the Quincy Notre Dame Hall of Fame for tennis and soccer. ([ridder@jkcreative.com](mailto:ridder@jkcreative.com))

**Paul Smolinski**, Orland Park, is an attorney and owner of Palos Elder Law Ltd. in Palos Heights. ([paul@smolinskildt.com](mailto:paul@smolinskildt.com))

**Dave Webster MS '87**, Decatur, is director of the Scovill Zoo.

1982

**Jim Rowland**, Haiku, HI, is an EMS coordinator for the University of Hawaii in Kahului. ([jrowland5@hotmail.com](mailto:jrowland5@hotmail.com))

## Chicago Alumni & Friends Event

12/15/08 Howl at the Moon



L-r: Kristi Carlson '07, Jenny Wittman '07, Asst. to the Dean of the College of Education and Human Services Dana Stites Moon '98 MBA '01, Kellie Kohler Esters MS '93, Kim Twaddle and Tom Twaddle.



L-r: Allison Winchester '07, Kathy Grele '07, Kelley Rice, Barry Schain, Christina Frank-Prothero '98, Scott Hawthorne '02, Twila Ash '00, Diane Dalcamo and Bernie Dalcamo.



L-r: Adam Ton '06, Jenny Wittman '07, Nick Cortesi '06, Kristi Carlson '07, Kellie Kohler Esters MS '93, Dan Szajna '00, Heather Werner Alejos '99, Jesse Alejos '98, Carol Brown MA '02, Vice President for Advancement and Public Services Dan Hendricks, College of Education and Human Services Development Director Jennie Hemingway, Lemarr Ketchens '02 and Nanette Conley '85.

## WIU vs. Cincinnati Pre-Game Social

11/22/08 The Holy Grail

Seated, l-r: Trudy John, Gary John '71, Mike Madison '81 and Paige Durkee Gibson MS '97. Standing, l-r: Theresa Drobot Baker '88, Director of Alumni Programs Amy Spelman MS '98, Sharon Horne Dolan '78, Kevin Dolan '78, Mark Wagher '83, Marc Wise '91 and Arlene Timpson Wise '91.



community relations departments of Chicago 2016, a non-profit corporation working to secure the XXXI Olympics in Chicago.

**Susan Murzyn**, Elgin, is the manager of corporate marketing for Sears Holdings Corporation. ([smurzyn@sears.com](mailto:smurzyn@sears.com))

### 1990

**Mary Evans Campbell**, Chicago, is a correctional officer for the Cook County's Sheriff Department. ([marimax\\_67@yahoo.com](mailto:marimax_67@yahoo.com))

**Susan Pietzmeier Romano MS**, Macomb, is an assistant professor of biological sciences and geography at Western Illinois University and a research fellow for the Institute for Environmental Studies.

### 1991

**Steven Cosmos**, Wildwood, is the technology lab facilitator at Woodland School District in Gurnee. ([s.cosmos@yahoo.com](mailto:s.cosmos@yahoo.com))

**Jennifer Hutchings**, Cypress, TX, is a registered nurse case manager for the intensive care units at the Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center in Houston. ([jennrn\\_10@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jennrn_10@sbcglobal.net))

**Michael Reynolds**, Maitland, FL, is the director of fleet for Orkin.

### 1992

**Wendy Kelley Weikel**, Wonder Lake, is a qualified health services professional for Pioneer Center for Human Services in McHenry. ([trap64@yahoo.com](mailto:trap64@yahoo.com))

### 1993

**Michael Eveland**, Canton, is a sergeant for the Canton Police Department.

**Cindy Hiel McGrew MS-ED '06**, Havana, was named Volunteer of the Year by The Nature Conservancy in Illinois.

**Scott Wiseman**, Muscatine, IA, is a senior vice president of state affairs and outreach for the American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity.

### 1994

**Melissa Hoskins**, Aurora, CO, is a probation officer for the State of Colorado. ([melissahoskins2001@yahoo.com](mailto:melissahoskins2001@yahoo.com))

**Mark Hutchinson**, Cumming, GA, is an assistant director at Mission Network USA in Alpharetta. ([mwhutchinson@gmail.com](mailto:mwhutchinson@gmail.com))

**Kim Jennings**, Kewanee, was named Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year.

**Dennis "Deni" Mayer**, New York, NY, works for C3NY as a standardized patient educator.

**Michael Weber**, Chicago, is a master sergeant for the Illinois State Police. ([mweber@narcint.com](mailto:mweber@narcint.com))

### 1995

**Paul Berglund**, Fargo, ND, is the international procurement manager for SK Foods International.

## Chicago Alumni & Friends Event

11/21/08 Illinois Association of School Boards Conference

Front row, l-r: Robert Marshall, Barb Oaks Closen '88 MS-ED '91, Asst. Professor of Educational Leadership John Closen, Assoc. Professor of Educational Leadership Lloyd Kilmer, Dean of the College of Education and Human Services Bonnie Smith-Skripps '73 MA '74 ED SP '89 and Asst. Professor of Educational Leadership Bridget Sheng. Back row, l-r: Andrea Allen '74 MS-ED '94, Marge Schmidt, Betty McEnroe, James McEnroe and Department of Educational Leadership Chair Jess House.



### 1983

**Sharon Bouchard MS '85**, Dexter, MI, is a driver operator for Ann Arbor Fire Department and competes as a competitive Masters Rower, taking three medals in the 2008 Masters National Competition. ([sbouch121@comcast.net](mailto:sbouch121@comcast.net))

**Melony Shumard Cardoza**, Galesburg, is retired from the U.S. Army after 21 years of service.

**Carlo Carlotta MA '95**, Schaumburg, is a patrol officer in the Village of Elburn.

**Julie Colwell**, Lincolnwood, served as a state final referee to the 2008 IHSA Girl's Volleyball State Tournament.

**Gregory Pappas**, Homer Glen, is owner of GCP, Inc. ([gpcgroupinc@comcast.net](mailto:gpcgroupinc@comcast.net))

### 1984

**Beatrice Jackson Brickhouse**, Albuquerque, NM, has been appointed to the civil and family court divisions of the Second Judicial District Court.

**Lori Torgerson Chesser**, Des Moines, IA, is a senior shareholder of Davis Brown Law Firm and chair of the firm's immigration department, and has been recognized by "Best Lawyer in America" (2009) magazine.

**Vanessa Wynder Quainoo MA**, Saunderton, RI, is chair of the African-American Studies department at the University of Rhode Island.

### 1985

**Scott Enslin**, Sycamore, is an executive research specialist at Merck and Company. ([scottdens@comcast.net](mailto:scottdens@comcast.net))

**Joseph Wazny**, Evanston, is a commander for the Evanston Police Department.

### 1986

**John Harman**, Savage, MN, is a loan officer at the US Bank in Bloomington.

### 1987

**Kimberly Frohn Lasek MS-ED '03**, Coal Valley, is a title reading teacher in the Moline School District. ([kimlasek@hotmail.com](mailto:kimlasek@hotmail.com))

**Rick Lasek**, Coal Valley, is the Community Bank president of Port Byron State Bank. ([awmc@mchsi.com](mailto:awmc@mchsi.com))

**Michael White**, Rockford, is a managing partner at Waterside Advisors. ([mwhite@watersideadvisors.com](mailto:mwhite@watersideadvisors.com))

### 1988

**Allan Lolie**, Shelbyville, has been re-elected to a third term as Shelby County State's Attorney. ([alolie@consolidated.net](mailto:alolie@consolidated.net))

**Juli Shadle Schwab**, Rock Island, is the owner of Juli's Book Keeper.

**Julie Chenoweth Terstriep**, Industry, served as line judge for the Illinois High School Association at the State Volleyball Finals in Bloomington.

**Jeffrey Wolff**, Lake St. Louis, MO, is the assistant fire chief and fire marshal for Kinloch Fire Protection District. ([jvwolff@charter.net](mailto:jvwolff@charter.net))

### 1989

**Brian McCarty**, Elburn, is a sergeant for the Kane County Sheriff's Office.

**Mike Murnane**, Chicago, works in the marketing and



**Michael Carpentieri**, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, is deployed with the U.S. Army Reserve until January 2011. ([dadio54@hotmail.com](mailto:dadio54@hotmail.com))  
**Rebecca Fortier**, Des Plaines, is the event manager for the Illinois Institute of Technology.  
**Nelson Placa**, Kissimmee, FL, is the assistant principal at Liberty High School in Osceola County. ([placanr@osceola.k12.fl.us](mailto:placanr@osceola.k12.fl.us))  
**Julie Wiesemann**, Hope Mills, NC, is a teacher for Cumberland County School District.

**1996**  
**Kimberley Nathan Buchanan**, Inverness, is an attorney. ([kimberleybuchanan@comcast.net](mailto:kimberleybuchanan@comcast.net))  
**Chris Connealy**, Cedar Park, is the chair of the Texas Fire Protection Commission.  
**Suzanne Kearney-Cumesty**, Knoxville, TN, is a sales associate for Scrapbooks and More. ([knoxkearncumesty@charter.net](mailto:knoxkearncumesty@charter.net))  
**Daniela Burd Fuller**, Chicago, is the recruiting lead for Accenture. ([daniela.fuller@accenture.com](mailto:daniela.fuller@accenture.com))  
**Indra Merrill Perry**, Springfield, is a corporate training officer for Town and Country Bank. ([indra.perry@comcast.net](mailto:indra.perry@comcast.net))

**1997**  
**Jeremy Boehle**, Byron, is a sergeant for the Byron Police Department. ([jboehle@es-il.org](mailto:jboehle@es-il.org))  
**Paul King**, Venice, FL, is the managing director for Comprehensive Securities Compliance Solutions, Inc. ([paul.king@cs2compliance.com](mailto:paul.king@cs2compliance.com))  
**Douglas Marsden**, Wasilla, AK, is a special agent for the National Marine Fisheries Service in the Office of Law Enforcement. ([nedsramd@live.com](mailto:nedsramd@live.com))  
**Dustin McDermith**, Sullivan, is a buyer for the GSI Group.  
**Ramon Rodriguez de Paoli MA**, Budapest, Hungary, is a manager for IBM. ([ramon.rodriguez@hu.ibm.com](mailto:ramon.rodriguez@hu.ibm.com))  
**David Seward**, Bartonville, is the divisional director of operations at Bickford Senior Living. ([david.seward@comcast.net](mailto:david.seward@comcast.net))  
**William Syrcle MS '99**, Macomb, is the owner of the executive coaching and clinical counseling practice Synago.

**1998**  
**Jolotta Roth Kerpan**, Gurnee, is a marketing specialist for Canon Business Solution, Inc. in Schaumburg. ([rothage30@yahoo.com](mailto:rothage30@yahoo.com))

**1999**  
**Jennifer Wagner Burke**, Plainfield, is a teacher at Valley View School District # 365-U.  
**Joseph Butcher**, Macomb, is assistant director at the Western Illinois Tourism Development office. ([joebutcher00@hotmail.com](mailto:joebutcher00@hotmail.com))  
**Sylvia Cage**, Kankakee, is the assistant manager for Security Finance. ([sylviacage@yahoo.com](mailto:sylviacage@yahoo.com))  
**Keith Heim MA '07**, Mt. Juliet, TN, is the assistant band director at Gallatin High School in the Sumner County School System. ([keithandmolly@tds.net](mailto:keithandmolly@tds.net))  
**Tyler Hennings**, Monmouth, is an assistant professor at Monmouth College and exhibited his art at Aurora University.  
**Randal McKinney**, Shamokin Dam, PA, is a veteran education adviser at the Pennsylvania Department of Education in Harrisburg.  
**Erica Nowak Proctor**, Godfrey, works in administration physician relations at St. Anthony's Health Center. ([eproctor@sahc.org](mailto:eproctor@sahc.org))  
**Jay Regennitter MA'01**, Normal, is the lead pastor at Morningstar United Methodist Church.

**2000**  
**David Burke**, Plainfield, is a computer technician at Crusader Computers.  
**Jutta Ackelbein Cook MA**, Biberachan der Riss, Germany, is the head of regional public relations at Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma BmvH & Co KG. ([cookie.cook@web.de](mailto:cookie.cook@web.de))

**Jeremy Massie**, Milan, is a lab technician at SSAB. ([hogleg83@yahoo.com](mailto:hogleg83@yahoo.com))  
**Nick Maurer**, Chicago, is a managing attorney at The Maurer Law Group. ([nickmaurer@maurerlawgroup.com](mailto:nickmaurer@maurerlawgroup.com))  
**Tricia Wallen**, Kansas City, MO, is a foster care program manager at Catholic Charities of Kansas City - St. Joseph. ([tjwallin@hotmail.com](mailto:tjwallin@hotmail.com))

**2001**  
**Dinah Markland**, Canton, is a follow-up legal advocate for Fulton Mason Crisis Service.  
**Julie Schwegel**, St. Peters, MO, is an English as a Second Language teacher for the Parkway School District in Chesterfield. ([julieschwegel@hotmail.com](mailto:julieschwegel@hotmail.com))  
**Stacey Rogers Wiltermood**, Leland, is a recorder at First American Title in Warrenville. ([swiltermood@firstam.com](mailto:swiltermood@firstam.com))

**2002**  
**Julie Bergschneider**, Rushville, is the production manager for Beardstown Newspapers Inc. ([jbergs05@gmail.com](mailto:jbergs05@gmail.com))  
**Amy Brown Bowen**, Burlington, IA, is an IM worker for the State of Iowa. ([ambrown033@yahoo.com](mailto:ambrown033@yahoo.com))  
**Desmond Bynum**, Pflugerville, TX, is an IT manager at Shoreline Christian Center in Austin.  
**Stephanie Balistreri Bynum**, Pflugerville, TX, is the global manager and business intelligence for Harte-Hanks in Austin.  
**Michael Louie MS**, Chapel Hill, NC, works in grants administration at the National Institute of Environmental Health Science in Durham.  
**Jonathan Paisley**, Morrison, works in special education for West Carroll District # 314. ([ddpaisley79\\_97@yahoo.com](mailto:ddpaisley79_97@yahoo.com))  
**Charles Simer**, Mt. Vernon, is a science teacher at Woodlawn Grade School.

## Chicago Alumni & Friends Event

1/25/09 Steppenwolf Theatre



L-r: Don Bouseman '49, President Al Goldfarb, Howard Kite, Barb Wilson Kite '72, Linda Savage, Brian Savage '73, Gayle Odeen Findley '71, Carol Mellem and Nancy Mellem '90.



Front row, l-r: Francine Koszut Moran, Diane Leib, Sarah Garvey and Susan Gorman Winstead '83. Back row, l-r: Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Roger Miller '67, Alumni Council member and Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Kirk Dillard '77, John Garvey '78, Jim Leib and Tom Moran '76.



Seated, l-r: Marilyn Preston Heinemann '74 and Alumni Council president Pam Rigsby Hoffman '70. Standing, l-r: Tom Watrobka '73, Peggy Preston Watrobka '72, Alumni Council member and Alumni Achievement Award recipient Steve McLaughlin '70 MS '71, Jules Heinemann, Karen Hartman Bondy '72 and Tim Bondy '71.



L-r: John Mahoney MA '76, Sondra Swindell Epperly, Board of Trustees member Bill Epperly '68, Tom Irwin and Gail Lothian Lingle '73.



L-r: Alumni Council member and Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Kirk Dillard '77, Stephanie Dillard and John Mahoney MA '76.



L-r: Tom Irwin, President Al Goldfarb and John Mahoney MA '76.



Front row, l-r: Alumni Achievement Award recipient Ron Comm '70, Alumni Council member and Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Kirk Dillard '77, Rhonda Johnson Nelson '86 MS-ED '88, Alumni Achievement Award recipient Rob Christie '76, Dee Christie, Gail Lothian Lingle '73, Diane Jagger Maxwell and Board of Trustees member Bill Epperly '68. Back row, l-r: Bill Nelson '85 MS-ED '88, Alumni Achievement Award recipient Ernie Blomquist '68, Bobbie Buechner Blomquist and Joe Maxwell '71.



Stars of "The Seafarer" John Mahoney MA '76, who played Richard, and Tom Irwin, who played Mr. Lockhart, visited with Alumni and Friends after the show at Steppenwolf Theatre.



## Orlando Alumni and Friends Event

1/29/09 Eola Wine Company



Seated, l-r: Katie Bourne '02, Jay Hadad '97 and Shelley Dittmer. Standing, l-r: Joy Sabol, Byron Sabol '67, Shawna Whalen '98, Bill Deutsch '74, Dave Aschenbach '69 MBA '74 and Rhonda Rodeffer '00.



Seated, l-r: Bonnie Clow Stanich MS-ED '75, Garnette Stockstad Hallwas '89 and Jill Fitzsimmons Mross '75 MS '79. Standing, l-r: Jim Mross, Johnny Larson, Terry Dittmer '67, Alumni Achievement Award recipient John Hallwas '67 MA '68 and Marty Dupuis.

**Matthew Shoemaker**, St. Louis, MO, is a real time software engineer for The Boeing Company.  
**Daron Wildrick**, Hamilton, is the driver's education instructor at Quincy Senior High School.  
**Joshua Woosley**, Rockford, is the operations supervisor at Stewarts & Associates Inc.  
**Rachel Humphry Woosley**, Rockford, is the account manager at Crosby & Associates.

### 2008

**Debra Collins**, Atlanta, GA, is a recreation therapist for Inner Harbour Hospital in Douglasville.  
[debbie.collins@innerharbour.net](mailto:debbie.collins@innerharbour.net)  
**Justin Jones**, Peoria, is a teacher at Farmington Junior High School.  
**James Kveton**, Schaumburg, is a business valuation analyst for Accountancy Associates in Buffalo Grove.  
[jd-kveton@wiu.edu](mailto:jd-kveton@wiu.edu)  
**Jessica Langenstrass**, Elgin, is an early childhood special education teacher at District U-46 in Elgin.  
[jessicalangenstrass@u-46.org](mailto:jessicalangenstrass@u-46.org)  
**Matthew Wrage**, Emden, is a crop insurance specialist at Farm Credit.

## Weddings and Civil Unions

**Chad Aden '06 and Ann Paul '06**, Aug. 31, 2008.  
**Angela Altevogt '06 and John O'Mahony III**, Nov. 9, 2008.  
**Jeremy Boehle '97 and Carrie**, May 10, 2008.  
**Chris Bowen '01 and Lynn Moeller**, July 26, 2008.  
**Jessie Boyer '06 MS '08 and T.J. Zambrovitz '06**, June 21, 2008.  
**Shawna Casady '91 and Shannon Davis**, Dec. 13, 2008.  
**Ryan DeRudder '07 and Stephanie Dykeman '06**, July 19, 2008.  
**Amanda Dial '06 and Bobby Collins, Jr.**, June 28, 2008.  
**Paige Durkee MS '97 and George Gibson**, Nov. 1, 2008.  
**Jennifer Gamage '03 MS-ED '08 and Mitchell Houch '02**, Nov. 1, 2008.  
**Abby Glasgow '05 and Robert Branch**, July 26, 2008.  
**Kerry Hansen '06 and Makoto Yamagishi**, Aug. 15, 2008.  
**James Jobst '06 and Jennifer Murphy**, Aug. 1, 2008.  
**Randall Kinney '77 MBA '92 and Debra Miller**, Dec. 7, 2008.  
**Seberina Lacey '06 and Shawn Thrush '06**, Aug. 8, 2008.  
**Melinda Landsford '98 and Joshua Dobreiner**, Apr. 19, 2008.  
**Jane LeSage '89 MS-ED '94 and Matthew Stropes**, June 21, 2008.  
**Valerie Lybarger '96 and Tony Adams**, Nov. 15, 2008.  
**Jill McGarry '08 and Daniel Deutsch '08**, July 12, 2008.  
**Paul Munda '06 and Erica Whalen**, Oct. 4, 2008.  
**Shannen Painter '07 and T.J. Lindburg '07**, Dec. 27, 2008.  
**Amanda Papreck '05 and Josh White**, June 21, 2008.  
**Marc Peterson '98 and Starr Fernandez**, June 21, 2008.  
**Michael Rieber '04 and Ashley Miller**, Jan. 2, 2009.  
**Pamela Spencer '88 MS-ED '01 and Dale Telsrow**, Nov. 28, 2008.  
**Nathanial Swanson '01 and Renee Zimmerman**, Oct. 4, 2008.  
**Heather Todd '03 and Daniel Berg**, Oct. 11, 2008.  
**Kristen Tripicchio MS '05 and Gary Nesvacil**, Sept. 13, 2008.  
**Stacey Verkruyse '02 and Jeffrey Detra**, May 10, 2008.  
**Lannie Wagner '07 and Scott Lehman**, Sept. 6, 2008.  
**Deborah Whitmire '93 and Christopher Cardone**, Oct. 18, 2008.  
**Joshua Woosley '07 and Rachel Humphry '07**, Sept. 6, 2008.  
**John Young '93 and Amy Gregory**, Jan. 3, 2009.

## Births and Adoptions

**Jennifer Doshier Alexander '97 and Chad**, a daughter, Ella, Dec. 13, 2008.  
**Katherine Fijalkowski Alstadt '99 and David Alstadt '99**, a son, David Joseph, Sept. 26, 2008.  
**Alison Tingley Armstrong '04 and J.R. Armstrong '03**, a son, Mitchell John, July 12, 2008.  
**Alice Bobber Arnold '01 and Aaron Arnold '99**, a daughter, Erica Florence, Oct. 10, 2008.  
**Lori Schumaker Attig '99 and Scott**, a son, Alex John, Oct. 23, 2008.  
**Christine Rose Booth '02 and Stephen**, a daughter, Annalise Rose, Dec. 10, 2008.

## Ft. Lauderdale Alumni and Friends Event

1/30/09 15th Street Fisheries



Seated, l-r: Betty Veach '62 and Ellen Hull Filipelli '81. Standing, l-r: Curtis Veach '75, Richard Shreve '60 MS-ED '62, Victoria Kolokolnikova Shreve, Lucy Kaplan '72 MS-ED '77, Bob Pellegrino '86 MBA '87 and David Bremer '91.



Front row, l-r: Terry Manning '80, Tim Birkett '93 MA '97, Victoria Birkett, Adrienne Wolfsohn Birkett '92, Chrissie Lafleur and Walter Herlitschek. Back row, l-r: Sam Nelson, Michele Watt Nelson '72, Eileen McGuire '69, Gerry Winterrowd '69 MS-ED '73, Lucy Kaplan '72 MS-ED '77, Dave Cappitelli '76 and Joanne Pflaum-Martel '75.

**Kristin Hestrom Spensley**, Moline, is a bodily injury claims representative for Sentry Insurance in Davenport, IA.

### 2003

**Kevin Breden**, Peoria, is a chemist at Lonaz, Inc.  
**Amber Peebler Krus**, Burlington, IA, is a clerk for the United States Postal Service.  
**Tanya Do Soule**, Laveen, AZ, graduated with a Ph.D. in microbiology from Arizona State University.  
**Joseph Swain MA**, Russellville, AR, is an assistant professor of geography at Arkansas Tech University and received his Ph.D. in geography from the University of Oklahoma. ([jswain@atu.edu](mailto:jswain@atu.edu))  
**Shana Williams '04**, Springfield, graduated from the University of Illinois with a master's degree in communication.

### 2004

**Ta'Melka Bradley**, Chicago, is the group housing coordinator at the Hilton Chicago.  
[djuicy\\_1@yahoo.com](mailto:djuicy_1@yahoo.com)  
**Amanda Buhs Breeden**, Peoria, is a behavioral health therapist at the Children's Home Association of Central Illinois. ([af\\_buhs@yahoo.com](mailto:af_buhs@yahoo.com))  
**Trena Myers Gologan**, Lawrenceville, GA, is an admissions recruiter for the Georgia Campus-Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Suwanee, GA. She does motivational speaking and has published three books. ([trena\\_gologan@hotmail.com](mailto:trena_gologan@hotmail.com))  
**Andrew Neuman**, Minonk, is a police officer for the Sycamore Police Department.  
**Jacqui Dal Santo Jones '07**, Peoria, is a teacher for Bartonville Grade School. ([jones@bartonville66.com](mailto:jones@bartonville66.com))  
**Brent Wikgren**, Chicago, is an attorney at AzulaySeiden Law Group. ([bwikgren@azulayseiden.com](mailto:bwikgren@azulayseiden.com))  
**Mark Yearian MA**, Belleville, is an adjunct professor at Southwestern Illinois College.

### 2005

**Alison Thompson McGrew**, Good Hope, is the agricultural educator at Avon Community Unit School.  
[jamcgrew07@hotmail.com](mailto:jamcgrew07@hotmail.com)  
**Luke McIntyre MS '07**, Bradley, is a production supervisor for CSL Behring.  
**Lynn Molck McIntyre**, Bradley, is a scientist 1 for CSL Behring.  
**Kristen Tripicchio Nesvacil MS**, Normal, is the assistant director for the fitness and informal programs at Illinois State University. ([kmtripi@ilstu.edu](mailto:kmtripi@ilstu.edu))  
**John Osmer II**, Beardstown, is a sheriff's deputy for Sangamon County.  
**Kelly Kocal Plath**, Rockford, is the convention and catering sales manager at Clock Tower Resort and Convention Center.  
**Amy Prophter**, Davenport, IA, is a property manager for Dial Properties. ([aproph@gmail.com](mailto:aproph@gmail.com))  
**Emily Randell**, Aiken, SC, is the director of parks and recreation for the City of Barnwell.  
[barnwellrec@bellsouth.com](mailto:barnwellrec@bellsouth.com)

### 2006

**Adam Anderson**, Nashville, TN, is the Mid Atlantic educational, sales representative, and trade show coordinator for Meinl USA L.C.  
**Jacqueline Flickinger**, Palatine, is a fourth grade teacher for District 96.

### 2007

**Ashley Davis**, Schaumburg, is an LDP at MB Financial.  
**Ashley Deutsch**, Freeport, is a 911 telecommunicator for the Stephenson County Sheriff's Office.  
**Kyle Dierking**, Tulsa, OK, is a video journalist for NewsOn6.com.  
**LaReese Jeffries**, Bloomington, is a computer tech at Technisource/State Farm. ([reese\\_bmjb@hotmail.com](mailto:reese_bmjb@hotmail.com))

## Ft. Meyers/Naples Alumni and Friends Event

1/31/09 Colonial Country Club



Seated, l-r: Dick Dickason '57 MS-ED '58, Nori Tanii Dickason, Pat Goodwin Kaiser MS-ED '71 ED SP '88, Sharon Cobb King '67, Rita Heimer Litchfield '60 and Jacquie Brattain. Standing, l-r: Larry Litchfield '62, Stan Kaiser '68 MS-ED '72 ED SP '75, Frank Canavit '58, Shirley Green Canavit, Pete Johnson '59, Sandra Bennis Johnson MS-ED '84, Ken Bryant '75, Jim Ream '61 and 2007 Honorary Alumni recipient Bill Brattain.

**Amy Brown Bowen '02** and Marty, a son, Prior Joseph, Dec. 13, 2008.  
**Kimberley Nathan Buchanan '96** and **Paul Buchanan '94**, a son, Brady Graham, Dec. 26, 2008.  
**John Comerford '96** and Rachel, a daughter, Reagan Renee, Dec. 30, 2008.  
**Tammi Musil Duncan '02** and Joshua, a son, Noah Matthew, Apr. 23, 2008.  
**Michelle Forbes-Parks '90 MA '02** and Bill, a daughter, Molly Jean, Oct. 14, 2008.  
**Daniela Burd Fuller '96** and Luke, a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, Apr. 1, 2008.  
**Stephanie Adams Greiner MS '01** and Jeff, a son, Oliver Randall, Oct. 9, 2008.  
**Katie McKeever Hensley '02** and **Mark Hensley '02**, a son, Finn Howard, July 1, 2008.  
**Jamie Cambron Hernandez '02** and Gabriel, a son, Anthony Gabriel, Oct. 30, 2007.  
**Amanda Wallace Hinthorn '06** and **Dale Hinthorn '07**, a son, Owen Matthew, Oct. 24, 2008.  
**Donald Jones '89** and Melissa, a son, Liam Richard, Nov. 13, 2008.  
**Nicholas Jones '02** and **Jennifer Kick Jones '04**, a daughter, Sophia Marie, Apr. 16, 2008.  
**Shelby Mackie Kaiser '01** and Michael, a son, Brayden Jay, Dec. 6, 2008.  
**Joletha Roth Kerpan '98** and Tony, a daughter, Jacalyn Lorraine, July 19, 2008.  
**Mary Jae Paul Kleckner '94** and Andrew, a son, Brian Bo, Sept. 23, 2008.  
**Barbara Anania Lach '95** and **Christian Lach '95**, a son, Jason Michael, Oct. 29, 2008.  
**Jeremy Massie '00** and Amy, twin daughters, Aubrey Kay and Alexa Marie, June 30, 2008.  
**Whitney Carr May '04** and **Chris May '04**, a son, Gavin Christopher, Aug. 31, 2008.  
**Jeffrey McElroy '97** and **Julie Risvold McElroy '97**, a son, Brady Randall Lance, Oct. 17, 2008.  
**Darci Deter Paisley '01** and **Jonathan Paisley '02**, a son, Holden Charles, Dec. 19, 2008.  
**Indra Merrill Perry '96** and Rodger, triplet sons, Rodger Tristen, Camden Ray, Ethan Tyler, Aug. 1, 2008.  
**Elizabeth Ludolph Scheetz '01**, and Bryan, a daughter, Emma Grace, Oct. 20, 2008.  
**Jill Andrews Shoemaker '01** and **Matthew Shoemaker '07**, a daughter, Keeley Josephine, Oct. 24, 2008.  
**Sarah Mix Skiles '02** and **Chad Skiles '95**, a son, Jackson Neil, Apr. 28, 2008.  
**Phil Trudeau '00** and **Jessica Popik Trudeau '00**, a son, Logan Philip, May 27, 2008.

## Nashville Alumni & Friends Event

2/5/09 Sambuca



L-r: Jimmy Robinson '05, Amanda Robinson, Nicki Fosdyck Robins '03 and Matt Robins '03.



L-r: Cory Fosdyck '01 MBA '02, Hilary Fosdyck and Amanda Kaufman Donohoe '01 MS '03.



L-r: Vasanta Nandyal Knight '95, Andrea Serra Gecan '04, Gabriel Gecan '04, Paul Butler '86, Bruce Siegel MA '89 and Dora Siegel.

**Lisa Shroeder Walter '02 MBA '04** and Drew, a son, Aiden, Jan. 5th, 2009.

**Stacey Rogers Wiltermood '01** and Mark, a son, Avan Lane, June 9, 2008.

**Dana Schmitt Zitzka '00** and **Tony Zitzka '01**, a daughter, Alexandra Grace, Dec. 13, 2008.

### Deaths

**Betty L. Adair**, Macomb, Oct. 29, 2008.

**Bernard M. Bucher**, Macomb, Nov. 5, 2008.

**Sherrod R. Carson**, Macomb, Jan. 21, 2009.

**Arnold E. Chandler**, W. Palm Beach, FL, Aug. 20, 2008.

**Nancy L. Francis**, Macomb, Nov. 27, 2008.

**Earl Gately**, San Antonio, TX, Aug. 30, 2008.

**Delores Morgensen Heuer**, LaGrange, Dec. 3, 2005.

**Mary E. Weinant McCandless**, Nyack, NY, Dec. 9, 2008.

**Donald W. "Don" McCleery**, Bushnell, Jan. 17, 2009.

**Paul D. McPheeters**, Birmingham, MI, Jan. 27, 2004.

**Mervin L. Moody**, Rock Island, June 2, 2008.

**Robert S. Morsch**, Colorado Springs, CO, Jan. 4, 2009.

**Robert J. Motley**, Macomb, Jan. 13, 2009.

**Howard J. Parker**, Cedar Rapids, IA, July 4, 2006.

**Robert Ring**, Macomb, Dec. 11, 2008.

**James Robert "Bob" Roark**, Bushnell, Oct. 30, 2008.

**Walter H. Roderick**, Springfield, MO, Jan. 18, 2009.

**Natalie Joan Anhalt Samuelsen**, Houston, TX, Aug. 25, 2006.

**Howard R. Settles**, Macomb, Jan. 19, 2009.

**Robert W. Shelton**, Estes Park, CO, Nov. 25, 2008.

**Stephen A. Straub**, Macomb, Jan. 20, 2009.

**1933 Isabelle Stenzel Reeder '33**, Burlington, IA, Nov. 5, 2008.

**1934 Ruth Speer Kramer**, Avon, Dec. 27, 2008.

**1935 Ruth Romona White Maurer**, Houston, TX, Oct. 9, 2008.

**1936 Helen Lucille Watson Means**, Hamilton, Nov. 27, 2008.

**1939 James Rexroat "Rex" Thompson MS-ED '51**,

Tuscaloosa, AL, Oct. 27, 2008.

**1940 Galen H. Pittman**, Austin, TX, Dec. 28, 2005.

**1941 Julia Elizabeth Oberlies Bain**, Quincy, Oct. 28, 2008.

**1942 Hilda Susan Bastable Blunt**, Morrison, Dec. 29, 2008.

**1945 Bettie J. Kingery**, Macomb, June 7, 2007.

**1947 Lavona M. Johnson**, Freeport, Nov. 15, 2008.

**1948 Thomas P. McKinney MS-ED '52**, Coalgate, OK,

Jan. 9, 2007.

**1950 Charles D. Roudelbush MSE '52**, Gainesville, VA,

Oct. 19, 2008.

**1951 Donald N. "Don" Rasmussen**, Peoria, Nov. 22, 2008.

**1952 Andrew "Dean" Abolt**, Milan, Nov. 13, 2008.

**1952 Richard C. Keeley, Sr.**, Springfield, Oct. 29, 2006.

**1957 Norman F. Brasel**, Alameda, CA, Sept. 10, 2008.

**1957 Harriet Arlene Willits Rooth**, Joy, Nov. 3, 2008.

**1959 Charles Richard Heisler**, Warsaw, Jan. 21, 2009.

**1959 Charles "Dave" Mercer**, Ft. Branch, IN, Nov. 13, 2008.

**1960 Lamar Arthur Gillam**, Ottawa, Jan. 31, 2008.

**1962 Marjorie C. Corsaw**, Smithfield, Dec. 2, 2008.

**1963 William "Randell" Dorch**, Coal Valley, Aug. 9, 2008.

**1963 Gary R. Roush**, Princeton, Oct. 5, 2008.

**1964 Lois J. Sterett Hunter**, Yates City, Sept. 7, 2004.

**1964 Thomas Jon "Tom" Kaelke**, Quincy, Oct. 22, 2008.

**1964 Alma L. Simpson Shipman**, Carthage, Nov. 11, 2008.

**1967 David E. Barger**, Freeport, Nov. 2, 2008.

**1967 Carol Ann Rozkuszka Floreth**, Litchfield, Nov. 11, 2008.

**1967 Matthew Lawrence Havard MS-ED**, Lakeland, FL, Aug. 11, 2008.

**1967 Mary Alice Bell Lewis**, Macomb, Oct. 25, 2008.

**1968 Joanne J. Martin**, Elgin, Nov. 13, 2008.

**1969 Donovan Loren Seck**, Wagoner, OK, Oct. 13, 2008.

**1969 Harvey "George" Sperry**, Macomb, Nov. 4, 2008.

**1971 Charles Fredrick Filbert**, Garden City, ID, Nov. 18, 2008.

**1971 Sekou Karanja**, Dallas, TX, Apr. 16, 2008.

**1971 Robert J. Keating**, Chicago, Dec. 17, 2008.

**1972 Carol Jean Schuett Mindrup**, Davenport, IA, July 1, 2006.

**1973 Russell K. Vail**, Benton, KY, Dec. 18, 2008.

**1974 Linda L. Jarvis**, Rask, Lewistown, Aug. 22, 2008.

**1974 William A. "Bill" Snyder**, Dunlap, June 18, 2008.

**1975 Donald L. Kellerstrass**, Washington, Nov. 20, 2008.

**1975 Robert Joseph "Bob" Ketchum**, South Bend, IN, Oct. 14, 2008.

**1975 David L. McCauley**, Fremont, IN, May 7, 2008.

**1975 John Daniel Nesovic**, Billings, MT, Apr. 17, 2008.

**1976 Robert F. "Bob" Burnham**, E. Galesburg, Sept. 19, 2008.

**1976 Kevin P. Cain**, San Jose, CA, June 27, 2008.

**1976 Deborah Sue Randall Kinney MS-ED '85**,

W. Burlington, IA, July 22, 2008.

**1976 Jolene Lesko**, Springfield, May 25, 2007.

**1976 David E. Osborn**, Silvis, Nov. 29, 2008.

**1976 Arturo Sierra MS-ED '82**, Peralta, NM, Nov. 5, 2008.

**1978 Georgia Lou Clayton MS-ED**, W. Des Moines, IA,

Aug. 28, 2008.

**1978 Emerit D. Lindbeck MS-ED**, Kewanee, Aug. 27, 2008.

**1979 Timothy O'Malley Bodie**, Las Vegas, NV, Oct. 22, 2008.

**1979 Margaret J. Slagle Johnson MS-ED**, Jacksonville, Dec. 17, 2007.

**1980 Ann Marie Dittus-Krone**, Pleasant Plains, Dec. 25, 2008.

**1980 Douglas R. Palmquist**, Schaumburg, Sept. 24, 2008.

**1982 Julie Ann Cole MA**, Brownsville, TX, July 21, 2008.

**1982 Kris Kenneth Moore**, Macomb, Nov. 26, 2008.

**1983 Carle William Howell**, Macomb, Dec. 15, 2008.

**1986 Robert B. "Rob" Corrie**, Rushville, Oct. 10, 2008.

**1986 Theodore Carroll Knupke**, Nashua, NH, Oct. 31, 2008.

**1987 Gregory David Joos**, Beloit, WI, Oct. 27, 2008.

**1987 Mary Ann Butterbaugh Marconi**, Joliet, Dec. 31, 2008.

**1988 Carol Jeanne Smith Hanna**, Hickory, NC, May 1, 2007.

**1988 Lisa Lyn Maxwell Havens**, Marietta, Oct. 29, 2008.

**1988 Michael Lawson Kaminski**, Chicago, Nov. 15, 2008.

**1992 Linda Ruth Haggerty Adams MS-ED**, Canton,

June 8, 2008.

**1993 Barbara Sue Apple Hull MS-ED**, Payson, June 4, 2007.

**1993 Jerald William Payne**, Junction City, KS, Oct. 19, 2006.

**1993 Linda J. Wadsager MS-ED**, Spring, TX, Mar. 4, 2008.

**1994 Rick Kenneth Richter**, Breese, Sept. 15, 2006.

**1997 Chad Michael Nusbaum MS-ED**, Galesburg, Nov. 8, 2008.

**1998 Arlene Beth Ginocchio**, Wilmette, Apr. 15, 2008.

**2002 Alex Spencer Barrett**, Jerseyville, Jan. 16, 2006.

**2002 Bret Allen Dunblazer MS '04**, Fairview, Nov. 26, 2008.

## Stephen Straub, WIU professor emeritus, passes away

Stephen A. Straub, professor emeritus in Western Illinois University's information systems and decision sciences (ISDS) department, passed away Jan. 20 at his home in Macomb.

Straub joined the faculty in WIU's College of Business and Technology (CBT) in 1981 and retired as a full professor in May 2008. His teaching interests included descriptive and inferential statistics, systems analysis and design, decision support and cyber crime. Although retired, Straub taught one course in the ISDS department in Fall 2008 and was contracted to teach one ISDS course in Spring 2009.

He was recognized for outstanding teaching in the CBT in 1997.

In addition to his nearly 30 years at WIU, Straub worked as a consultant and administrator at a computing laboratory that served 17 departments in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of South Carolina. He also reviewed several monographs on the topic of information systems; authored and presented academic papers on information systems and computerization; and attended the Management Information Systems Faculty Development Institute at the University of Minnesota in the summer of 1985.

Straub received his bachelor's degree in psychology from St. John's University (1969), his master's degree in experimental psychology from Hollins College (1973) and his Ph.D. in experimental psychology from the University of South Carolina (1980).

He was preceded in death by his wife, LaVonne Straub.

"Steve was a fantastic colleague and was the instrumental architect in the curriculum design of the department's management information systems concentration [now information systems]," noted Tej Kaul, ISDS department chair. "He will be dearly missed."

**25 Year, 40 Year and 50 Year Reunion**

**1959 • 1969 • 1984**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Western Illinois University  
2009 Reunion**

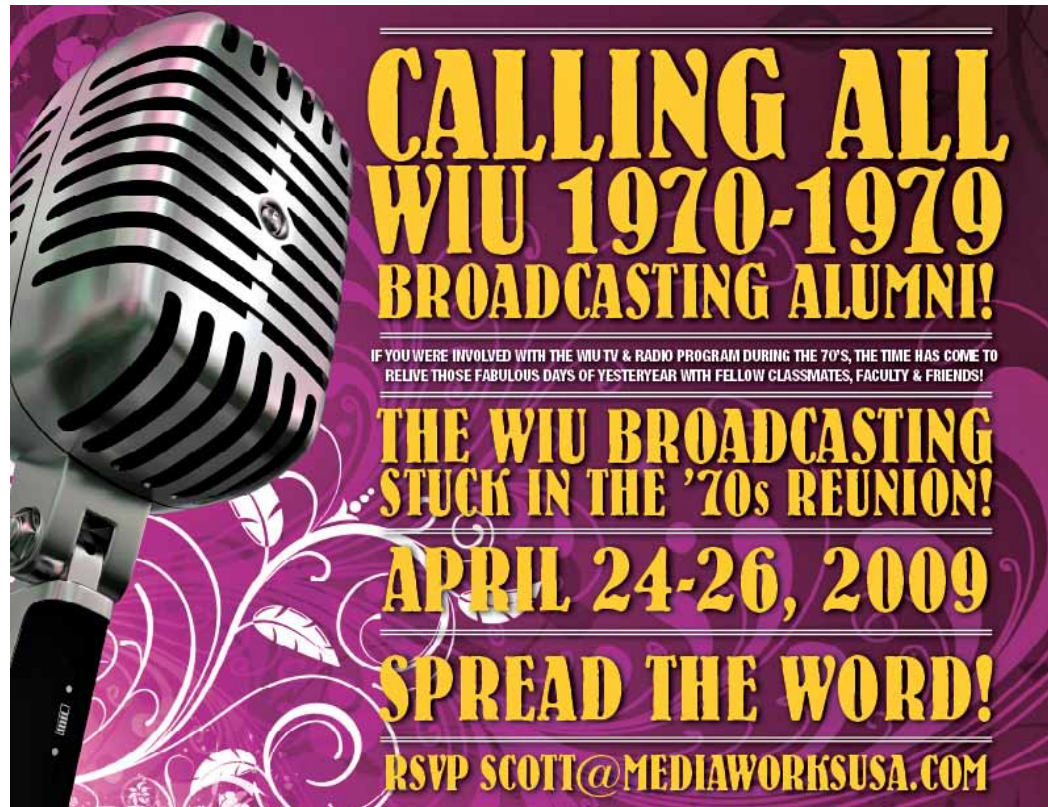
**October 16 & 17**

During Homecoming 2009

**TWO great events...**

**ONE trip to Macomb**

This Homecoming, we will welcome back the classes of 1959, 1969 and 1984 to celebrate your class reunion. Mark your calendar for Oct. 16 & 17 and reserve your hotel room today!  
We hope to see you then!



### Send Us Your News

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grad. Year \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a new address?  Yes  No

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (Select  Home or  Business) \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status:  Married  Single  Divorced  Widowed  Domestic Partner

Is spouse/domestic partner a WIU graduate?  No  Yes, Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

If yes:

Spouse/Domestic Partner Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Include Information in Western News?  Yes  No

Additional Information for Western News: \_\_\_\_\_

### Send Us Your Feedback

Western News wants to know! How are we doing? What items are your favorites, or which items don't you read, in Western News? Tell us what you think.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Send updates and feedback to: Alumni Association, 1 University Circle, Macomb IL 61455-1390, fax (309) 298-2914, or online at [wiu.edu/alumni](http://wiu.edu/alumni).

\* NOTE: Information will be included in Western's online directory and in the online Western News.