This book is dedicated to the student body of the past academic school year, whose time spent on this campus is irreplaceable - always to be recounted but never to be relived. For them, this 113th volume of the Illio exists in honor of their definitive experience at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
table of contents
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A yearbook is a physical marker of moments past, a tangible object reminding us of what happened once that never will again. The pages of this Illio remain as proof of your presence at the University of Illinois from August 2005 to May 2006, so please turn the pages to trigger your memory.
a faded picture of \textit{college friends} tucked in an album
an old orange and blue t-shirt found in the bottom drawer
a dated schedule of student events still pinned to the bulletin board
saved from a show seen at Foellinger
a pair of mittens shoved in a pocket after the last cold walk to class
from a feature performance neatly filed away
a collection of *used textbooks* that lines the top shelf
each remains as an \textcolor{red}{	extbf{image}} of school semesters past.
such a large university, you will meet hundreds, maybe thousands, of fellow students during your four years here. Friends, acquaintances, or just familiar faces - these are the people with whom you share the college experience.

profiles

Names may escape your memory as those faces become a blur, but there will always be one person who left with you a lasting impression.
Opposite right: Justin Johnson and his dad are on the summit of Yvon Massif during a whitewash. Opposite left: Justin below Mount Aconcagua in Argentina. Above: The adventurous mountain climber poses in Yvon Massif, Antarctica.
JUSTIN JOHNSON

Hometown: Overland Park, KS  
College: Business  
Major: Accounting  
Year in school: Senior

Back in high school, my dad and I were sitting at a McDonalds in Minnesota. My dad, a generally crazy guy who has completed the Hawaii Ironman among other things, started telling me about this thing called "The Seven Summits," the goal of which is to climb the highest mountain on all the continents. We decided to give it a shot.

We started out by learning the basics of mountaineering on Mount Rainer in Washington. From there we traveled the world over the years, climbing the highest mountains in Africa, Australia, South America, Europe, and Antarctica. It hasn’t been easy, between altitude sickness and -45 degree temperatures in Antarctica, there has always been something trying to prevent me from reaching my goal. Hopefully, I’ll have a shot at Mount Everest in the future.

Why did you come to U of I?  
I knew I wanted to major in business, probably in accounting. U of I has an incredible accounting program, so I decided to give it a shot.

What are your post-graduation plans?  
Completing the one year masters program in accounting, then going on to work in Chicago. As far as traveling and climbing, I will be attempting Mount McKinley during late May and hope to visit Everest base camp in a year.

Why do you think you’ve left a lasting impression on your peers at such a large school?  
Because I am doing something that is different than what most people do.
Hometown: Wheaton, IL  
College: Fine and Applied Arts, School of Music  
Major: Viola Performance  
Year in school: Sophomore

I’ve been involved with music as long as I can remember. I started playing the violin when I was four at the local Suzuki program in my hometown. When I was eleven, I started taking private lessons with Drew Lecher of Naperville, Illinois. Through middle school and high school, I worked as a freelance musician, playing at weddings and restaurants, and performing regularly at St. Daniel the Prophet Church. I also began to branch out in the world of fine arts, excelling in theatre, public address and vocal music. In October and November of 2005, I played backup for multi-platinum hip hop artist Kanye West for the Champaign and Carbondale legs of his “Touch The Sky” national tour.

Now I’m working as a freelance musician, and focusing on chamber music and viola studies. I’m a member of a piano quintet here, and we’re hard at work preparing for our first CD release and our recital in May.

I WALK TO THE BEAT OF A DIFFERENT DRUMMER.

Why did you come to U of I?  
In high school, I had applied and was accepted into a master class with one of the violin professors here. We hit it off instantly, and he invited me to start college in January of 2005 on scholarship. I had applied to several other schools at the time, but I liked the teacher and loved the campus. I packed up my room, took all my finals, graduated from high school, and moved into my dorm room in four days.

What are your post graduation plans?  
Right now, I’m just focusing on tomorrow. I’m studying German, because I’d definitely like to study abroad. Austria and Germany have some of the finest music schools in the world. After that, I’d love to get my MM from one of the big name music schools like Julliard, Indiana, Rice, or New England Conservatory.

Why do you think you’ve left a lasting impression on your peers at such a large school?  
I think it’s because I’m unique. I’m usually the one off on my own doing something crazy, surprising, or even stupid. I definitely walk to the beat of a different drummer.
Patrick Shields
Illini cheerleader

Hometown: Mt. Sterling, IL
College: Agricultural Engineering
Major: Technical Systems Management
Year in school: Senior

“I remember the first time we had tryouts I was intimidated.” Patrick Shields, a six foot, 200 pound Mr. Clean look-a-like, said about his Illini cheerleading experience. "It was 100 percent new to me. I mean, I had never done anything like it."

After making the squad with no cheerleading experience, Shields was forced to play catch-up. He dedicated practice time to learning motions to the 25 or more cheers as well as the school fight song.

Cheerleading is always first on the list.

“There is a large time commitment,” Shields said. “Cheerleading is always first on the list. It’s hard because if you have other things you want to do... you have to make sacrifices.”

The team practices three times a week for three hours. On top of these practices, cheerleaders must lift weights at least three times per week. Shields can bench 400 pounds and squat 600 pounds.

His biggest asset to the squad, according to former teammate Steve Blenfnger, is his tremendous spirit. After allowing his normally shaved head to develop into a head of brown hair, Shields went to the extreme to illustrate how much spirit he had for the team. He chose to shave two large 1's out of his hair and then dyed them each orange. One 1 was cut directly on top of head and the other on the back.

"His head ended up on the cover of a local news magazine,” said close friend, Juliana Arsoniadis. Arsoniadis said that more importantly to Shields, however, was that the local Harley Davidson dealer put a picture of him and his 1 head on their web site. Clearly Shields’s Illini pride creates much attention among friends and Illini fans alike.

“When people find out I am a cheerleader they have two reactions,” Shields said. “First they are surprised. Then they talk about how cool it is.”
Why did you come to U of I?
One thing about Illinois that I could not get over—I felt like every person I met was just so talented in one way or another. A major draw was the Campus Honors Program, and I liked how UIUC was a self-contained campus but still had downtown Champaign/Urbana for something different.

What are your post-graduation plans?
After I graduate, I plan on getting my teacher certification and teaching fourth grade. I will work on my master’s degree in education while I teach.

Why do you think you’ve left a lasting impression on your peers at such a large school?
Give me the next three years, and I will continue to be involved with the issues I am passionate about. Hopefully the little bit I do will add up.

This year, I lived on the LEADS floor—the living learning community on the second floor of Garner—and I think that made a huge difference in making me comfortable with the school. So many opportunities were available to me because of LEADS—I was able to volunteer at the Eastern Illinois Food Bank, help plan a bake sale, etc. I also was one of the first graduating class of a new program called 1-LEAD, a weekend conference held at Allerton Park. I am now on the LEADS orientation team, to plan the Fall ’06 orientation for incoming LEADS residents—I am so excited about being involved with the orientation. I know how much LEADS orientation helped me to adjust to the University, and I can only hope that I can help to make the transition easier for the incoming freshmen.

Also, I was so proud to be part of such an important cause as the Women’s Room co-ordinator for Boxes and Walls. Becoming aware of your own prejudices, and consciously choosing to fight them, is the first step toward positive change in the world, and I think Boxes and Walls helps people to look within themselves, as well as realize the magnitude of prejudice that others have to face. It was an eye opening experience.

Hometown: Carol Stream, IL
College: Education
Major: Elementary Education
Year in school: Freshman

Becoming aware of your own prejudices is the first step toward positive change.
This year, I became very involved with ExplorACES, which is an annual event that allows students and their families to explore all that is offered through the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences. My role for the event was Co-Exhibits Director and Student Coordinator for the Department of Human and Community Development. I was able to work with numerous individuals within the College and together we created an extremely informational event for perspective students and their parents.

Also, my commitment and passion for ACES has also allowed me to become involved with the Student Advancement Committee (SAC) for the College of ACES and ACES Council in which I am the chair of Leadership and Diversity Development. Also, two of my peers and I are currently in the process of rebuilding the Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow organization—Illini ACT. Plus, I have been employed since February for The College of ACES Academic Programs as a Student Intern.

I have also been involved with the Illinois Street Residence Hall (ISR) programming board and attended three of the Illinois Leadership Center’s I- programs. I continue to maintain my passion for music while attending the U of I by playing my clarinet in the second concert band. This too has been an amazing experience and I allowed me to perform with my ensemble twice at Krannert.

I always try to do my very best.

Karlie Elliot

Hometown: Rankin, IL
College: ACES
Major: Agricultural Communications
Year in school: Freshman

Why did you come to U of I?
It was my dream and one of my top goals to attend the U of I since I was about in the third grade. Having grown up only 45 minutes from campus, I knew a lot about the University and some of the things that it had to offer. To me, there was no other University!

What are your post-graduation plans?
As an Ag Comm major, my concentration is news editorial. With my degree, I plan to acquire a position with an agriculturally based firm in Public Relations (PR). Additionally, I would like to receive my master’s degree.

Why do you think you’ve left a lasting impression on your peers at such a large school?
I believe I have made a lasting impression on one of my peers is because I am a “go getter.” I really enjoy being involved and am very passionate about ACES and all of the opportunities that our College and University has to offer.
Hometown: Oak Brook, IL
College: Business
Major: Finance
Year in school: Junior

I'm a very positive and outgoing person who enjoys meeting people and having a good time. I'm heavily involved in Illini Pride and specifically Orange Krush. This previous year I was the Orange Krush Foundation president. I was fortunate enough to be a leader of the organization when we donated our millionth dollar to charity and also reached record membership (just over 1200 members). The year before that, I got to go to the final four, which was one of the best experiences of my life.

I am a finance major in the college of business. A degree from the college of business will be extremely beneficial because it has helped me intern with Morgan Stanley in New York this summer. I am always open to new experiences, and living in New York for the summer will be a new experience that will help me learn a lot and have a ton of fun.

Why did you come to U of I?
I came to U of I for a few reasons. I've been an Illini fan since birth, mainly because my mom went to U of I (degree in psychology). The Illini have always been my favorite basketball team, and I wanted to come to school so I could support them. Additionally, I've had an interest in business since high school, and the University of Illinois has a great business program. I wanted a school with a good mix of academics and social life, and U of I shines in this respect.

What are your post-graduation plans?
I want to work in the financial services industry. I feel my degree from U of I business will allow me to explore a variety of different careers in the industry.

Why do you think you've left a lasting impression on your peers at such a large school?
I think I've left a lasting impression on my friends just because I consistently have a positive outlook on life. While college is obviously a great time, there is often potential for stress, and I think I help minimize it.
Hometown: New Lenox, IL  
College: Business  
Major: Organizational Administration  
Year in school: Junior

I love three things: service, travel, and culture. I intermix all of them in the activities I do in college, the three I love most being Boxes and Walls (creating an interactional diversity museum), Alternative Spring Break (sending service trips domestically), and International Impact (sending service-trips abroad). I challenge myself daily to be more than I am and as an incoming resident advisor and holding numerous exec positions in the next year, I've realized how much I've grown in the past year to someone completely opposite of my shy personality.

My dad was a doctor in the air force, so I have moved around a lot resulting in my love for travel and culture. My entire family is in the medical field, which I admire with all my heart because I can’t understand science for the life of me. My family’s the first people I look to for advice and they are my everyday role models and heroes but my friends are a close second and are my daily inspiration in life.

Why did you come to U of I?  
It’s close to home but gives me the opportunity to interact with a diverse range of students who have experiences very different than my own AND it gives me the chance to study/volunteer abroad. I’ve been to Ecuador, England, and Spain in the past year and these opportunities have truly reorganized my priorities for the future and life.

What are your post-graduation plans?  
I'll probably start out working in human resources, but I would love to do service work abroad. My dream is to work in publishing and record the stories of all the people who do not currently have a voice and have these stories available to the world.

Why do you think you’ve left a lasting impression on your peers at such a large school?  
If it’s anything, it’s my passion for being involved. I love talking about everything I do and getting others to make the most out of their college experience. I love to listen and to accept people for who they are.
My special talent is my ability to make friends easily and be a good friend. People have told me that I am very outgoing and that my personality is one of my key assets. I love to meet people of every different make and model. Meeting people is my way of gaining experiences and understanding why people do the things that they do.

Hometown: Edwardsville, IL  
College: Communications  
Major: Advertising  
Year in school: Junior

I love to meet people of every different make and model.

Why did you come to U of I?  
I came to the U of I due to its prestige and reputation. I was also lazy and did not apply anywhere else.

What are your post-graduation plans?  
After graduation I want to become a dramatic reenactment actor for the Lifetime channel.

Why do you think you've left a lasting impression on your peers at such a large school?  
I think people enjoy my presence and my being unique, and that is why I have apparently made an impression.
Hometown: Clifton, IL
College: Liberal Arts and Sciences
Major: English
Year in school: Junior

My favorite places on campus are the Quad Shop, the Quad, and especially the English building. I enjoy kite surfing, chocolate, poetry, and bicycling. I can blow air out of my eye. I am majoring in English with a minor in Information Technology. I am interested in race and gender studies, modern American poetry, spirituality, and the beauty of words and the beauty beyond words.

Why did you come to U of I?
The Morrow Plots.

What are your post-graduation plans?
Reading, writing, surviving. I would also like to practice sustainable agriculture on an organic farm in the Western United States, after traveling far, far away.

Why do you think you’ve left a lasting impression on your peers at such a large school?
People just know me. I’m fancy.

Words of wisdom to pass on to your fellow students?
“If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.” - C.S. Lewis

I am interested in the beauty of words and the beauty beyond words.

Top left: Cassie Cleary loves the feeling of sand between her toes. Top: Cassie dresses fancy for a night on the town with her friends. Above: Cassie enjoys big blue waves and jumping around in them. Left: Barn Dance Cassie and friend chew on straw like real cowboys.
While many people have asked me with a hint of envy, how I have come to live the way I do, I feel a combination of surprised and confused, because I simply dropped all inhibitions and starting living how I truly want to live. I consider myself an activist for a variety of social movements from human rights, to animal rights, and environmental rights. Opposed to ignoring the interesting (and sometimes horrifying) things I learn about injustices across this planet, I adapt my lifestyle to one that is guilt-free.

This includes a strict (but fun!) vegan diet, reusing everything or shopping second-hand, and when it does come time to buy stuff, I read the label to avoid supporting slave labor or corporations with ethics I don’t agree with. Many of my peers might consider these habits to be too difficult or inconvenient for their own tastes, but I absolutely love the treasure hunt; for example, involved with finding a pair of athletic shoes that has neither animal skin (leather) nor contributes to unsustainable economic systems overseas.
With all the money I save from abstaining from corporate indulgences, I love to travel. Last summer, my boyfriend and I backpacked from London, to Slovakia, and everywhere in between, including a protest parade in Pamplona, Spain, teaming up with amnesty international and oxfam in Berlin, Germany, and being at King’s Cross station in London when the terrorist bombs went off. Previous excursions have included studying monkeys in Nicaragua, and visiting Hawaii, Mexico, Ireland, and Australia with countless road trips in between - all on inexpensive budgets.

Also, living without TV or the internet at my apartment (since our campus provides wide internet access), I find myself with plenty of free time to perfect my GPA and pick up new hobbies, such as knitting and writing music.

**WE'VE BEEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITIES AND FREEDOMS TO HELP THOSE WITHOUT TO ACHIEVE THEM.**

**Why did you come to U of I?**
One of my only visits to the U of I previous to attending was a house party I went to while I was in jr. high to see one of my favorite bands play, so I always thought it was a cool campus. Additionally, I didn’t want to pay out of state for the other state schools I was looking at on the West Coast. I wanted to stay within a few hours of my family, and I love the wide variety of opportunities, both socially and academically at the U of I. Basically, I knew I would have the ability to to change my major a few times and still be in one of the nation’s best programs.

**What are your post-graduation plans?**
Most likely graduate school after a little more work experience. It looks like my passions would direct me towards working with a variety of nonprofits or socially conscious businesses, but I wouldn’t be surprised if I ended up at med school or doing something I haven’t even considered yet.

**Why do you think you’ve left a lasting impression on your peers at such a large school?**
I love talking to everyone, hearing a variety of points of view, and I find that usually once I start talking to someone, the feeling is mutual.
No longer adolescence but not quite adulthood, the student life is unlike any other.

**student life**

It may be the only time when noon seems too early and midnight's not late; when balancing studies with the social scene is your main source of stress. The responsibilities of the real world inevitably come, but the freedoms of college last an unforgettable four years.
Above: Dan "Petey" Peterson, lead singer of the band Eclectic Theory, sings as part of the lineup for Lambda Chi Alpha’s Back to School Bash. Left: Amanda Petkovic, junior in Educa-
tion, buys a ticket from Kevin Ferrinuth, sophomore in Business, at the Lambda Chi Alpha fund-raising event. Opposite page: Lambda Chi Alpha hosted a Back to School Bash on Sept. 24th to help raise money for the Jack Gottfried Memorial Fund. These t-shirts were part of the price for admission.
Photos by Mike Salwen
Students took a break from studying to enjoy good food and music in support of a good cause on the lawn of the Lambda Chi Alpha house, located between 2nd and 3rd Street on Armory. The men of Lambda Chi Alpha held a "Back to School Bash" on Thursday, Sept. 29 from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. to benefit the Josh Gottheil Memorial Fund. For $10 a ticket, students received a t-shirt, food provided by Qdoba and Silvermine Subs, drinks provided by Coca-Cola, and the opportunity to listen to the tunes of Mike and Joe, Weakdaze, and Eclectic Theory.

Frank Vanderwall, junior in Communications, said the fraternity used to do "Reggae Fest" a few years ago benefiting the Josh Gottheil Memorial Fund, and they decided to bring it back this semester. Vanderwall worked on the Back to School Bash for over eight months and said they sold around 500 tickets and hoped to sell 200 more the night of the event.

Lambda Chi Alpha received $1500 in donations from various sororities on campus as well as $750 from Joe's Brewery, Follett's Bookstore and the Mettler Center. In addition, Illini Media sponsored $1250 in free advertising and press coverage for the Back to School Bash in the Daily Illini and WPGU. In the end, the bash raised over $1000 for the fund.

The Josh Gottheil Memorial Fund is a non-profit organization that benefits lymphoma research. It donates money to be used by oncology nursing majors and was established in memory of Professor Fred Gottheil's son, Josh Gottheil. Josh was a music promoter who died from leukemia three months short of his twentieth birthday. The fund establishes grants to help oncology nurses further their education and training in order to improve the quality of care given to their cancer patients.

Gottheil, an economics professor, said that when Lambda Chi Alpha proposed the philanthropy, it was exciting because they showed him that the fraternity is part of a larger community, not just the Champaign-Urbana community.

Stephanie Swanson, a junior in Aviation, who attended the party, said she was in Gottheil's class and heard him mention his son's story.

"With the food, drinks, entertainment and t-shirt, you're getting a lot for it," said Swanson. "And it's a good cause."

"It's about people being involved with each other," Gottheil said.

Gottheil's passion was evident as he spoke about the commitment and responsibility Lambda Chi Alpha displayed in hosting the creative and fun Back to School Bash.

"Sometimes you get frustrated with students," Gottheil said. "But then they do something like this, and all of a sudden you just want to hug and kiss them all."

Story by Kate Hamilton
The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign boasts one of the biggest campuses nationwide, encompassing over 1,458 acres of land and 272 buildings. For those prospective students that wish to come to the U of I, the thought of such a huge school can be scary, exciting and overwhelming at the same time.

The Visitor’s Center, located on the first floor of the Levis Faculty Center, 919 West Illinois St. in Urbana, provides services such as information pamphlets and handouts, as well as tours of campus and residence halls, given by University students. Monday through Friday, which can be a helpful way for prospective students and parents to gain a better understanding of what the U of I has to offer. Tours are free of charge and only require an advanced reservation.
A typical tour consists of a media presentation, a discussion about admissions, an introduction to the University residence halls and a campus tour by foot, as stated by the University’s Visitor site. The media presentation is an accumulation of pictures and University programs organized in an attractive video, giving the prospective students and parents a virtual look into Illinois. The discussion on admissions answers any questions prospective students have about the application and admittance process, as well as any other concerns or questions.

The introduction to the residence halls gives prospective students an overview of university life, with tips on what to expect when living in the halls, how living and roommate arrangements are made and how the University’s meal plans work. The lengthiest part of the tour program is the campus tour, given by a seasoned university student, typically showing a group of 20 prospective students and parents around the quad and other popular areas, such as the Undergraduate Library or the historic Morrow Plots.

Tours can be extremely helpful to students not sure whether or not Illinois is the school for them. When they take a campus tour, they can better visualize themselves attending this school and understanding the dynamics of such a large university and diverse student body.

Freshman in Business, Nina Gluszek, attended a tour when she was a senior in high school, and said that the tour greatly influenced her decision to come here.

"I didn’t know if I wanted to go here or a smaller liberal arts college,” said Gluszek. “But after seeing the campus tour, I saw myself wanting to come here instead.”

Many students enjoy the expertise of a seasoned student tour guide, one who knows the ins and outs of University life and what to expect from classes and campus traditions. Elton Chu, junior in Engineering, was an I-Start tour guide for the summer orientation program, and said that new students really value the information they gain from a tour.

"I gave tours every day last summer,” said Chu. “And a lot of the new students were asking questions and taking notes.”

The University offers many other programs to help visitors, prospective students and new students become acquainted with they place they may call home for four years, such as help when planning a U of I trip including hotel and dining information, directions, and special programs for transfer and international students.
Top: Devastated by the Katrina's destruction, a young boy sits hopelessly among the wreckage. Above: Despite the destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina, graffiti provides an uplifting thought of rebuilding.

Left: A United States soldier patrols the flooded streets of New Orleans.

Photos courtesy of the Associated Press.

Top: Members of the U.S. jazz band perform at the "Shelter from the Storm" concert.

Middle:Fordham University staged the benefit concert for Hurricane Katrina.

Bottom: Members of the U.S. Black Choir sing on Friday, Oct. 2, at the "Shelter from the Storm" concert.

Photo by Christina Enberg.
New Orleans, La. was devastated when Hurricane Katrina swept through on August 29, 2005. The storm was the eleventh named tropical storm and the first Category 5 hurricane of the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season. As of November, the storm is the third most powerful after Hurricane Wilma and Hurricane Rita. The official death toll stands at 1,302 with several families still ripped apart because over a million people were displaced; the largest the U.S. has seen since the Great Depression.

Katrina has left behind anywhere from $70 to $130 billion in damages, making it the most expensive natural disaster in U.S. history. Over 90,000 square miles have been declared a federal disaster and volunteers are coming from all over to help the victims recover. On Sept. 3, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said Katrina was most likely the worst catastrophe in the country’s history.

Several organizations swarmed into help with the Katrina disaster. On Sept. 30, Chertoff took over the federal, state and local operations through the National Response Plan. Many states offered shelter to evacuees as far away as Oregon. College students were sent to other universities, which allowed students to enroll to keep up with classes.

The American Red Cross, Salvation Army and other charitable organizations are working together to provide housing, food and water to the victims. Students at the University of Illinois are also doing their part to help out with the Katrina relief.

Kerrin Thompson, a Human Resource Assistant Manager in University administration, coordinated the relief effort after the Chancellor’s office called her for help. She and her staff in the Human Resources department worked with several student organizations to collect money to donate to the American Red Cross.

Collections manned by faculty and students were set up at the Sept. 3 and Sept. 10 football games and collections were set up around campus during the week between the two games. The University was able to give $33,000 to the relief effort after their week of collection.

"This was the first time we worked with students and collected at a football game so we really had no idea how it was going to go," said Thompson. "We were quite impressed."

*story by Erin Lolley*
Above: Sherman Hall, which formerly housed only graduate students, opened its doors to undergraduate students this year. Opposite: Brett Demus, sophomore in LAS, studies for his upcoming journalism midterm in his silent room. Photos by Brittany Belles.
According to Jodie Castanza, the Assistant Director for Student Involvement in Residential Life, the decision to open Sherman to undergraduates was brought about by the incoming freshman.

"We opened up Sherman to undergraduates in a different way this year because of demands placed on the resident halls due to the increased number of the freshman class," Castanza said.

Reassignment was offered to current University students who had already registered to be reassigned to a residence hall. According to Castanza, the goal was to assign as many sophomores, juniors or seniors into Sherman before admitting freshmen.

"We really wanted to keep Sherman as a last resort for first year students," she said.

Azul is very happy with his decision to move into the graduate hall, although he misses the more social atmosphere of his previous residence hall.

"Living in Forbes last year was great because I got along really well with the people on my floor," he said. "This year in Sherman, I don’t even know half the people on my floor because it’s pretty antisocial. The good thing about living on an antisocial floor is that it’s a great place to study and get a lot of work done. So I enjoy living here during the school week, but I miss Forbes during the weekends."

Azul said that the advantages of living in Sherman, including sharing a bathroom with a smaller number of people than a typical residence hall, outweighed the disadvantages.

"I think the best thing about living in Sherman is the location," Azul said. "It’s seriously less than five minutes walk to the quad, so it’s really convenient not having to wait for the buses. The quiet environment is also an advantage for studying purposes."

However, living in Sherman is not perfect. Azul said another major disadvantage is the lack of a dining hall in the building.

"Personally, I think the major disadvantage would have to be not having a dining hall because I have to walk to the Six Pack [residence halls] to use my meals," he said.

Although there are both drawbacks and advantages to living in any residence hall, Azul is very content where he is, as are many of the undergraduates who relocated to Sherman Hall this semester.

Sherman Hall has been a haven for upperclassmen for years. Previously home only to graduate students and the occasional international student, Sherman was a quiet refuge for the upperclassman looking to avoid the chaos of the undergraduate residence halls.

Yet all of that has changed. As of the 2005 academic year, Sherman Hall has begun housing undergraduate students. The University Housing Division sent out a mass e-mail to all students who had registered online for room reassignment detailing the option of canceling the contract that they had signed earlier in favor of a single room in Sherman Hall.

"I initially was going to live with a random roommate, and I was a little worried about that," said Jameson Azul, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences and resident of Sherman Hall. "When I received the mass email about having my own room, I thought it would be perfect."

According to Cole Spencer, Assistant Director of Housing in the Housing Information Office, there are currently 135 undergraduate students living in Sherman. This is in comparison with the total occupancy of the hall which numbers 435.
Students have the opportunity to find their true loves, receive tattoos and get their minds read in one night at the Illini Union. Whether students are looking to speed date, visit a henna artist or watch a mentalist in action, there is something for everyone at IlliniTES, a weekend program sponsored by the Illini Union Board. IlliniTES runs from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. almost every other week. The program transforms the Union into a late-night campus hot spot that offers students the chance to take part in weekend festivities without going to parties or bars.

IlliniTES has just about everything packed into two floors of the Union including comedy shows, concerts, movies and games. Different student organizations and outside performers are invited to entertain students for an alcohol-free night.

Sophomore Megan Kohl is an IlliniTES committee member and said the committee started planning over the summer. The committee utilizes their budget to ensure everything is free for students. According to Kohl, IlliniTES attracts 800 to 1500 students on any given night.

After receiving a wristband at the door, each student enters a raffle in hopes of winning one of many tempting door prizes such as iPod Minis, X-Boxes, digital cameras and DVDs.

An Elvis impersonator decked out in a glittery white pantsuit and black wig serenaded students during “Vegas Night” on Saturday, Oct. 8. The Pine Lounge was converted into a Chapel of Love where students dressed up in outlandish bride and groom costumes to be photographed. As the familiar Vegas theme goes, “What happens at IlliniTES stays at IlliniTES.”

Mentalist Christopher Carter mesmerized the crowd with his knowledge of names of audience members as well as the ability to bend sterling silver spoons using nothing but the power of his mind. Students wandered around the Union, visiting a wide variety of attractions like miniature golf and karaoke. A palm reader and cartoonist drawing caricatures drew lines of eager students.
and a sumo wrestling area, complete with costumes, produced loud cheers from the crowd.

Students enjoyed the music and dance performances by the Cutting Edge Show Choir, No Comment Acapella, Illini N’ Motion, Vitality Dance Group, the Other Guys and Wastoid Workforce. The comedic stylings of Rick and Marty were held in the Court yard Café, temporarily deemed “Las Vegas Lounge” for the night.

The recreation room was packed with students showing off their Dance Dance Revolution skills as well as bowling and billiards. McDonalds stayed open late, but the $.25 Sbarro pizza slices were the main attraction in the food court.

Ivan Garcia, freshman in Engineering, was among the students playing in the Euchre tournament in the lower level of the Union. After attending a previous Illinites, Garcia explained that he tries to come every time because of the awesome door prizes and cheap food.

“This is my happy hour,” Garcia said.
THE MARCHING ILLINI

While most students are asleep at 5 a.m. on a Saturday morning, Caleb Hall, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is beginning his eleven hour day by eating breakfast with his alto saxophone section.

Hall is one of the 350 students that make up the Marching Illini. Before each home football game, the Marching Illini practice four hours before kickoff. They perform at Streetfest and pregame before taking their seats in the stands.

The band plays in the stands throughout the game and takes the field at halftime, where they perform traditional as well as modern routines, including the famous "Three in One." After the game, the Marching Illini performs a short, public concert on the steps of the Education Building.

The Marching Illini also take a road trip to one away game and play at other University-sponsored events, such as the Homecoming parade and this year’s inauguration of the new University President, B. Joseph White. The band also sponsors and plays at the Illini Marching Festival, and performs one formal concert at Assembly Hall.

In order to prepare for their extensive performances, the Marching Illini must hold long practice hours practice a lot. Brandon Dixon, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is a member of the drumline and said that his line practices about eight hours every week. That does not include the hour-long practices that Dixon partakes in daily.

Scott Malm, a sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, agreed that band rehearsals and performances are very time consuming.

"It's a big time commitment," said Malm.

However, Malm enjoys the friendships he has fostered through band on and off the field. Malm appreciates band because he said "it feels good to be doing something other than schoolwork" while he is at the University.

Dixon has been drumming since sixth grade and said he was ecstatic when he found out he had made the University’s squad.

"It was pretty much the best feeling I've ever had," said Dixon. He reminisced about the pre-season camps he had to attend prior to his freshman year.

Hall, too, was excited to learn that he has made the band. School and extra-curricular activities in high school kept him too busy to audition for his freshman year of college, so this is his first year in band. However, Hall has always enjoyed listening to the Marching Illini, and even owns CDs of their music. He loves to see himself on the big screen in Memorial Stadium during halftime shows.

Although it is sometimes a challenge to balance band with school work and social life, in the end it is well worth it.

"I wanted to be part of such a great traditional college band," said Hall. "They're the best band in the land."
Top: The Marching Illini perform a part of their Homecoming halftime show.

Left: The Marching Illini conclude their performance of "Twisted Entrance #3" for the Homecoming Pre-game show. Center: Sophomore in engineering Aaron O'Dowd serves as the director during a running of the pre-game show. Right: Sophomore in FAA and first-year Drum Major, Steve Riley leads the Marching Illini onto the field during the pre-game show. Opposite page: Juniors in LAS Andy Dittrich and Todd Miller, and senior in Engineering, Chris Ham, perform with the Illini Drumline for the Block I following a halftime show.

Photos by Christina Leung & Mike Salwan
Above: Andrew Davis, junior in LAS, Anthony Hillen, senior in LAS, and Sarah Kowalski and Steven Riley, sophomores in TAA, hang out after setting up for rehearsal. Above right: The staff takes time out for some lawn in the van. Right: Freshman in TAA, Liz Troyen, and freshman trombone player Dan Murphy talk about the coming rehearsal. Opposite top: LeRoy Benson, graduate student in engineering, talks with Graduate Assistant A. J. Gourzwei about the upcoming football game. Opposite middle: Mike Asslini, sophomore in engineering, hands out yard markers to LeRoy Benson and Sarah Kowalski prior to rehearsal. Opposite bottom: Jason Ambrose, junior in LAS, sets up yard markers before a rehearsal.

photos by Ruth Mullins
The Undergraduate Staff consists of seven students who are committed to performing organizational responsibilities for the Marching Illini.

According to Sarah Kowalis, a sophomore in Fine and Applied Arts, and Lis Troyer, a freshman in Fine and Applied Arts, some of the duties of the UGS include drawing the grid on the practice field, implementing sound systems, providing the band with water and setting up the conductor’s podium during football games. They are at rehearsals an extra 30 minutes before and after to set up and take down equipment. Each member of UGS plays a musical instrument but do not march with the band.

Both Troyer and Kowalis were very active in band during high school and wanted to continue their involvement at college. Each week, the UGS work about 14 hours, in addition to game days. Kowalis said it is sometimes hard to balance band with academics and social life.

"I think I spend more time doing this than some of my classes," said Kowalis. "I'm not going to lie."

However, she and Troyer agreed that the time commitment was worthwhile. Kowalis said being part of the Marching Illini has expanded her group of friends and allowed her to be part of something she enjoyed.

"I'm just doing it because I love band," said Kowalis. "I love music."

story by Emily Ward
The File Sharing Debate

The Illini Union Board, with the help of the Undergraduate Patent Law Society and Intellectual Property Legal Society, hosted a debate over file sharing at Foellinger Auditorium on Tuesday, Sept. 20. Discussing the ethics and legality of internet downloading were Chuck D, member of the rap group Public Enemy, and Hilary Rosen, head of Recording Industry Association of America from 1998 to 2003.

“We decided on this topic because we felt that it was particularly pertinent to college students, who are arguably the biggest downloading demographic,” said Meghan Bogaerts, co-chair for the IUB Lectures Committee.

The Illini Union Board advertised the debate by hanging posters, chalking the quad and placing ads in the Daily Illini. Members of IUB also set up a reception, put out a press release, marketed and met with Foellinger staff to discuss the event.

“We faced the problems we always face with a lecture: how to reach as many people as possible and how to get all the work done in time,” said Bogaerts. “But the planning of this lecture went fairly smoothly, and we had no unusual problems.”

Bruce Smith, a law professor at the University, moderated the debate and each speaker was allowed fifteen minutes to present his or her side, five minutes for rebuttal and three minutes for closing remarks.

Chuck D sparked a lot of laughter from the crowd while presenting in favor of file sharing. As an artist, he wanted to find another way for his music to reach the public other than through the recording companies.

“I wanted it under my own terms and without the middle person,” said Chuck D. “I didn’t want a big corporation between my music and the public.”

Chuck D believes file sharing allows an ”open door” policy where artists and the public can learn more before committing a lot of money to the music. Once people know what they like, they will buy the albums of their favorite artists.

Rosen agreed that recording companies made mistakes by “ripping off” artists in the past, keeping music offline, cutting
off communication to the public and charging more money for older music than the newer. However, she pointed out that it is the principle of the matter. In the end, file sharing is stealing and it affects everyone in the “food chain” of the music business.

“I like the fact that she was able to admit the massive failings of the recording industry while still pointing out that there has to be a more fair solution to the problem than freely downloading whatever we want,” said Bogaerts, who tended to agree with Rosen.

Although Foellinger was not filled, the committee was pleased with the audience because they were engaged and had many questions to ask the speakers.

“We were very satisfied with the speakers because they played off each other well and still maintained their own unique styles,” said Bogaerts. “The debate was passionate but good-natured and we think the audience reacted well.”

story by Erin Kelley
Opposite: Casey Bert, junior in LAS; Colten Peterson, senior in LAS; Shannon O’Laughlin, sophomore in ACES, and Emma O’Brien, junior in Communication, discuss and share stories during a meeting for the Positive Event Chain. Above: Abhi Stoto, freshman in LAS, interviews members of the Positive Event Chain about their favorite Halloween memories. Above Right & Right: Members of the Positive Event Chain circle up on the Quad to play a game during their weekly meeting. Photos by Beth Mullins
The words, actions and ways of strangers can cause a ripple effect that has the ability to change lives. Chris "Pocket" Earnhart, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Casey Best, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, founded the Positive Event Chain last year in order to do just that.

The "guerrilla volunteer organization," as Earnhart calls it, does random nice things for people, such as giving free compliments or free hugs on the quad.

"It’s easy to ruin five peoples’ day by being mean to one person," Earnhart said.

She explains that the trick is to do things the other way around.

"A lot of times people only notice when something goes wrong," Earnhart said. "People only talk about the bad things that happen to them."

For example, when a stranger holds a door open, it could easily go unnoticed. However, if cut off by a rude person while driving, the victim may tell everyone what happened. Earnhart said it is imperative to notice and appreciate the nice things.

The Positive Event Chain boasts around 30 active members and holds weekly meetings, consisting of games and laughter. Earnhart and Best invented the club in hopes of improving peoples’ days, so that they, in turn, might continue the chain of positive events in the lives of others.

The Positive Event Chain hands out free hugs, which Earnhart said is less popular but more personal because people have to step outside of their protective barrier. The club’s most popular event is handing out free compliments, which they do once a semester. Each hand-written compliment is personalized with "Compliments of Positive Event Chain" scrawled across the top.

Earnhart said the club gave away over 1500 compliments first semester. He added that while students are generally happy to receive the compliment, their reactions are interesting. Earnhart said his favorite reaction is when students snatch the compliment and walk away, assuming it is a typical political advertisement. When they finally look down and read it, they stop in their tracks and look back at the club in action.

The Positive Event Chain works to change the world one person, one favor and one nice thing at a time. So next time a stranger smiles at you or goes out of their way to help you, take notice, and as the club encourages, be sure to pass it on.

*story by Kali Hamilton*
On Sept. 26, Foellinger Auditorium was filled by many women and a few brave men to hear a lecture by Candace Bushnell, the author and creator of the popular novel *Sex and the City*. Bushnell regaled the crowd with personal anecdotes and words of wisdom and gave personal advice for young women today.

Bushnell was brought to the University by the Illinois Panhellenic Council as part of her national book tour to promote her latest novel, *Lipstick Jungle*.

Wearing a bright green sequined jacket, sheer leopard print top and four-inch heels, Bushnell sauntered onto Foellinger’s stage as the *Sex and the City* theme song played in the background. After briefly introducing herself, she turned her attention to the changes in the past 30 years in regards to women and society. Instead of attending college to simply seek mates, Bushnell acknowledged that now women go to college with the goal of obtaining a successful career.

Dating has also changed since Bushnell was in college. In the 1970s, premarital sex was slowly becoming acceptable. Bushnell recalled how her mother felt about this radical change when she asked her daughter, “Why buy the cow when you can have the milk for free?” The author received several laughs and nodding heads from the attentive audience.

In addition to these changes in society, Bushnell also acknowledged a discovery that she made while in college. She found that she wanted to become funny, witty, pretty and desirable; in short, everything that she felt like she was when she was with a man. Bushnell shared a personal experience with her own Mr. Big and revealed that her attraction was to his success, title and lifestyle.

This very discovery, Bushnell said, helped her conceive the idea for *Lipstick Jungle* and her other books as well. By looking within herself and not looking to someone else for approval, she could create her own life and take care of herself.

“You can’t find love until you love yourself,” said Bushnell, admitting the cliché was true.

“My favorite part was the importance Candace placed on having girlfriends,” said Amber Karecki, a senior in Business. “I know that my girlfriends have been some of the most important and influential people in my life.”

Karecki hoped that all women in the audience would take Bushnell’s message to heart and realize that girlfriends are the ones who will be there for you through any situation.

“Making time for and keeping in touch with these friends is essential,” said Karecki.

Emily Maslowski, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, liked that Bushnell spoke about self-appreciation, which was one of the main points of the lecture.

“When she spoke of the importance of women competing in the working world, and that other women should not be treated as our enemy, I thought that was a really great thing,” said Maslowski. “Her last message for women to go take over the world was really inspiring too.”

Story by Lauren Siebert
Above, right: Author Candace Bushnell talks eagerly with the media during her visit to the University of Illinois campus.

Opposite page: Kimberly Jacobs, senior in Communications; Jen Anderson, senior in LAS; Sara Dina, senior in Education and Meredith Schwaberg, senior in Communications, pose with Candace Bushnell after her Sept. 26 lecture.

Photo courtesy of Kimberly Jacobs
Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." The Indian Student Association (ISA) kept this quote in mind this year when choosing its theme "Be the Change!" for their second annual Gandhi Week, Sept. 26 through Oct. 1. This year’s ISA President Anil D’Souza, junior in Engineering, headed the celebration, which included a series of events honoring Mahatma Gandhi's work and spreading his message throughout Illinois campus.

"Its purpose was to revive the spirit of brotherhood and philanthropy embodied by Gandhi himself," said D’Souza.

ISA opened the celebration with a candlelight vigil on the quad on Monday at 9 p.m. Gandhi’s message of peace spread from person to person as attendees lit each others’ candles. External Vice President Mansi Kothari, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, was moved by what she saw.

“At that moment, you know that everyone is consciously thinking of the message Gandhi was promoting,” said Kothari.

On Tuesday, ISA hosted a bowling tournament sponsored by Sharro that raised $150 for the Hurricane Katrina relief fund. D’Souza estimated that over the entire week $400 was raised for relief aid.

The film Gandhi was shown on Wednesday following a discussion about Gandhi’s life and work. Starring Ben Kingsley, the movie is an epic that chronicles Gandhi’s life and death.

On Thursday, many people fasted to emulate what Gandhi himself often practiced as a means of meditation and political force. A dinner was held later that night to break the fast.

“The spirit of the affair could be felt throughout the day through members and non-members alike visiting the office to tell us how fasting affected them personally,” said D’Souza.

On Saturday, the designated day of service, approximately 70 volunteers helped at numerous organizations in the Champaign-Urbana area, including Habitat for Humanity, Swann Special Care Center, Hope Meadows and the Women’s Fund, a center for foster children and a soup kitchen.

While Gandhi week entertained a large crowd, some felt that the timing of the celebration may have limited the number of participants at the events.

“Gandhi week happened to be in the middle of midterms, which affected our turnouts,” said Kothari.

Regardless, D’Souza was pleased with the week and felt it accomplished the goal of making the campus more alive with the spirit of Mahatma Gandhi’s teachings.

INDIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Opposite left: Vinyas Sathyamoorthi and Nirav Ami, co-cultural awareness chairs, speak to the crowd about the meaning behind the candlelight vigil as President Anil D'Souza and Technology Chairman Sameer Kalwani observe. Opposite center: ISA members break the 24-hour fast to remember the great works of Mahatma Gandhi. From left to right: Sheila Das, Manish Kohli, Anil D'Souza, Arpit Agrawal, Kuna Soon. Opposite right: Internal Vice President by Parel bowls for Katrina B/Atishk. Top: Opposite: Ragul Neryk passes her flame to Bharat Srikhath. Right: Participants pass the flame in remembrance of Mahatma Gandhi. Photos courtesy of Samir Mirza
Cathie announces the final two constants, Kelly O'Boyle, junior in engineering, and Megan Pfeffer, sophomore in LAS, during the Homecoming game WPGU tailgate. Above left: Paul Butler, junior in Communications, announces the final two contestants, Kelly O'Boyle, junior in engineering, and Megan Pfeffer, sophomore in LAS, during the Homecoming game WPGU tailgate. Above center: Haley York, a sophomore at Centennial High School, was the WPGU Fan Factor challenge. Above right: Chris Levison, senior in LAS, responds to a question for the WPGU drag show, Man Bad Decisions 2009. Opposite: Taylor Swift, junior in communications, competes in the relay race at a WPGU tailgate.

photos by Megan Leahy
TAILGATING

Along with the great tradition of Illini football comes the equally spectacular tradition of pre-game activities to get students excited for the game.

By 9 a.m. on the day of a home football game, Kam’s is bustling with activity. While the music blares, some students swarm around the bar while others sit at tables playing drinking games outside.

Matthew Scott, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, was adorned in orange Illini apparel and juggling a beer in each hand as he stood conversing with friends around the bar. Scott said he comes to Kam’s religiously before every game and usually stays until two or three in the afternoon. In fact, Scott has only attended one football game while at U of I, since he enjoys pre-gaming at Kam’s above all else.

“I can’t even sum Kam’s up in words,” Scott said, “I love this place.”

Dan Fitzpatrick, sophomore in Business, works at Kam’s during the pre-game hours. According to Fitzpatrick, many pre-gamers stay at Kam’s the whole day rather than attending the football game. He said he doesn’t mind working during pre-game and through the actual game because everyone has a good time together.

“We’d rather be here with our friends and family than at the game,” Fitzpatrick said.

In the front yard of Tau Kappa Epsilon, Joe Roselius, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, played a game he calls “Level Four Beerpong” with several fraternity brothers. The game was a larger scale version of regular beer pong involving orange garbage cans and volleyballs instead of plastic cups and ping-pong balls. Usually, he participates in Football Block at Kam’s or Joe’s Brewery along with his fraternity and a sorority. The fraternity and the sorority then attend the game together, sitting in their own block.

The most traditional pre-game activity is tailgating. Tailgaters cover the grounds outside Memorial Stadium with tents and campers where they grill, play music and socialize hours before the game begins.

The WPGU tent is one of the many pre-game tents set up along First Street. The tent offers food, drinks, ticket-giveaways and raffles to the public. WPGU Pregame also features entertainment such as a Fear Factor game, line dancing competition and other contests on a stage set up in the corner of the tent. Paul Rotter, senior in Communications, is the assistant production manager and weeknight DJ at WPGU. He said his favorite part about the pre-game tent is the social atmosphere.

“Everybody is so excited,” said Rotter, “Tailgating brings the community together.”

Erin Roegge, sophomore in Education, enjoys playing 'bags,' a popular beanbag toss game, before most home football games with family and friends. Like Rotter, she said she tailgates because the atmosphere is great.

“Everybody is so unified,” Roegge explained, “Everybody is here to have fun, whether we win or lose.”

story by Emily Wood
On Saturday, Oct. 18, Foellinger Auditorium was no longer the quiet lecture hall it is during the week. Instead it was bumping with beats from hip-hop artists such as Beyonce, Trillville and Jay-Z. The lights were low and the auditorium was packed near capacity. The crowd was not there to hear an Economics lecture; they were there to watch dance squads from colleges throughout the state battle in Illini Union Board's Second Annual Urban Dance Competition.

The night kicked off with a performance by twelve-year-old Keonte, a student at Jefferson Middle School in Champaign. This performance ignited the audience with an energy they maintained for the rest of the show. The competition itself featured ten dance performances from teams representing the University of Illinois, Northern Illinois University and Illinois State University. Each performed a choreographed routine to their own original hip-hop mix tape.

House Arrest 2, from U of I, took home the first place victory as well as the $800 prize. Ulric Shannon, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, has been a member of House Arrest 2 for three years. Shannon admits that he and his teammates were nervous before their performance and unsure if their routine was up to par. The squad put a lot of pressure on themselves because they wanted to top their second place finish at the 2004 competition.

"I had butterflies like crazy," said Shannon.

However, as soon as he and his squad took the stage, he knew they were ready.

"The crowd and my fellow dancers gave me a powerful energy that made all of my worries go away," Shannon said.

Hip Note, also hailing from U of I, was awarded second
place. Marcus McFall, freshman in Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, has only been part of the Hip-Notic dance team for a month. Like Shannon, he was also nervous before his performance but was relieved after the routine went well.

"I just thought about all my moves and made sure I had them down pat before the show," said McFall.

Hosts for the evening were Calvin Evans, Gregory Wilson and Christina Alabi, who was also the executive producer of the program. After the show, a party was held at the Illini Union for the dancers and general public.

Rebecca Van Tine, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, was a spectator at the competition. She has always enjoyed hip-hop dancing and thought the Urban Dance Competition would be fun.

"It's one of the many opportunities U of I offers to show the different cultures around campus," said Van Tine.

She also appreciated the time and effort each team put into preparing their routine. "It made me want to learn how to dance like that!" said Van Tine.

When the end results were announced, Shannon said he and his fellow House Arrest 2 dancers were elated. They prayed together before performing to ease their nerves and felt like their dance routine was spectacular.

"We were so happy with our performance," said Shannon. "There was nothing but smiles and laughs."

*Story by Emily Ford*
From the big-name concerts at Assembly Hall to the shows of lesser-known bands at The Canopy Club and Foellinger Auditorium, students at this campus are not lacking for musical entertainment.

Jay Goldberg Events and Entertainment is responsible for booking the bands that come to The Canopy, such as Lifehouse and Lucky Boys Confusion, who made appearances during the fall semester. According to Goldberg, basic drawing power is an important when considering what bands should play. Once a headliner is chosen, The Canopy Club looks for up-and-coming bands to showcase as an opening act for the show.

In many instances, the showcase band is traveling on tour with the headliner. If this is not the case, then Goldberg looks for an area band that will help fill the concert package and fit with the genre of the headliner. On nights that there is not a headliner band, Goldberg looks to present groups that may appeal to the patrons of The Canopy Club.

Goldberg said that there are many bands that the club would like to bring in this year; however, touring dates do not always fit in with available dates. String Cheese Incident, moe., Joss Stone, Govt. Mule, Mudvayne, The White Stripes and Rat Dog were some of the bands Goldberg would love to see come to Champaign-Urbana this year.

"I could go on and on; there are so many bands I want to see play The Canopy Club," said Goldberg.

Lance Barke, freshman in engineering, attended one of the Lucky Boys Confusion shows. He said that he found the Canopy Club to be "high class" and he thought the band really got the crowd involved. Although Barke had never seen Lucky Boys Confusion perform before, he was impressed. As for the opening bands, Barke thought they gave a wide view of punk rock music, which he thought was good for all listeners.

Star Course, a live-concert promotion and production organization on campus, is another key player in the music scene. Under the advisory of Assembly Hall, members of Star Course plan entire events, from the booking of the artists, to the publicizing and selling of tickets, and finally to the setting up of stage equipment.

"Anyone involved in Star Course, whether you are a staff member, junior manager or senior manager, can recommend bands for shows," said Melissa Dickinson, senior in Business and Public Relations officer for Star Course.

Students outside of Star Course can also submit requests. Generally, Star Course aims to attract bands and artists that appeal to the campus population. Where they play on campus depends on how popular they are and on the demand for tickets. If an act is not very well known, Star Course books them for the smaller venue at Courtyard Café in the Illini Union instead of at the larger auditorium. In fall 2005, Star Course hosted such acts as Ludo and Blame Twilight at the Union and drew hundreds for Spoon and Death Cab For Cutie at Foellinger Auditorium.

Venues like The Canopy Club and student organizations like Star Course provide more intimate and independent acts outside the Assembly Hall arena, meeting the needs of those in the Champaign-Urbana area seeking an alternative music source.

story by Laura Siebert
searching for a home

For the thousands of University of Illinois students who choose to live in apartments instead of dorms or Greek houses, the search is a daunting task. Every fall following move-in weekend, students start checking classifieds and viewing apartments to find a place to live for the following year.

Amid the frustrations of finding the perfect pad, students have the option of visiting the Tenant Union, paid for by the Student Organization Resource Fee. According to the Tenant Handbook, the organization "is a resource for tenants who are looking for housing or experiencing landlord-tenant problems."

When visiting the Tenant Union, located in the Illini Union, students meet with housing counselors for basic information on housing, lease reviewing and landlord complaints. Nancy Dietrich-Rybicki, a housing counselor, recommends that all students make a visit to the Tenant Union before renting an apartment, if only to review the landlord complaint record. This written record, containing every complaint about a landlord in the Champaign-Urbana area from the last five years, allows interested lessees to see the nature of complaints as well as the amount of time that passed before the problems were fixed.

Housing counselors are also available to help decipher and fix any leases. Any student can bring in a lease and have a counselor help them delete and insert the proper phrases to make sure that their rental term is exactly what they expected, preventing possible problems.

For students on the housing hunt, the Rental Quick list, printed every fall in the Daily Illini, is another good place to start. Landlords pay to be represented in this publication, which lists available apartments and their locations, furnishings, and amenities.

Dietrich-Rybicki recommended that those looking for three, four or five bedroom apartments should start early, because those apartments quickly fill up. The Frequently Asked Questions section on the Tenant Union website at tenantunion.uiuc.edu says that "most three and four bedroom apartments will still be available for August leasing in November and a fair number of choices close to campus will still be on the market in December." One and two bedroom apartments have a much longer time frame; some remain available until the summer for renting in August.

Once students find an apartment they like, the Tenant Union provides a checklist that all potential residents should review before renting an apartment.

Kay Roberts, a rental agent at Barr Real Estate, said that checking out rental companies is the first thing to do when looking at a new apartment.

"The bathrooms, because I'm picky," said Roberts, when asked the second thing students should check out in apartment prospects.

While it is easy to become overwhelmed by the seemingly endless options provided in Champaign-Urbana, an early start and good utilization of the resources around campus can help take some of the stress out of searching for an apartment.

*story by jennifer m. kirtz*
Opposite page: The Daily Illini is a great source for students searching for apartments. It is also often used for students to list their apartments for subleases. Above: Chad Johnson, senior in AGL, and Eric Szevate, graduate student in English, listen to their leasing agent before signing a lease.

photo by Lara Bredberg
Above: Fundraising officer and senior in Education, Frit Imura, paints Japanese calligraphs for visitors while Kaye Abe, junior in Education, mounts the calligraphy on colored paper. "There are over 20,000 different characters in the Japanese language," Abe explained. (Opposite top) Participants of Ultra Quiz, a true/false game about Japan, run to one side of the room and gesture the false symbol. (Opposite bottom) Mai Takeuchi, a Packland student, teaches Dorm Meikyubunrei, senior in Engineering, how to put on a Yukata Kimono. Photos by Christine Leung.
Japanese Cultural Night

Students dressed in kimonos wandered around a room filled with oriental umbrellas that graced the tops of tables and Asian calligraphy that decorated the walls. As students, faculty and members of the community entered the Illini Union on Nov. 6, they were transported from Champaign-Urbana to Japan at the annual Japanese Culture Night. Japan Intercultural Network (J-Net) and Illini Japanese Association (IJA) organized the night to promote awareness about the Japanese culture.

“This year the event was a little challenge for us because we have all brand new officers,” explained Aki Ohtomo, J-Net President and junior in Engineering. “It was basically our first time putting something like this together.”

The ten J-Net officers and 50 group members started planning for the event in early September. A month before the Japanese Cultural Fair, J-Net held extra meetings to make sure all aspects of the night were planned.

“Our turn-out for the event last year wasn’t that great, so we decided we needed to step it up this year,” stated Ohtomo. “We added a main event, the game show, added more booths and advertised more.”

The group’s efforts paid off as nearly twice as many people came out for the evening to embrace the culture. Attendees to the Japanese Cultural Fair entered into a relaxed environment that encouraged them to visit the nine different booths at their leisure. Guests spent time learning Hanadua, a Japanese card game; had their picture taken wearing a Yukata kimono; and created paper cranes at the origami booth. They also jammed on an electronic guitar and drum set to advance to the next level in the videogames Guitar Freaks and Drum Mania. A ring toss allowed attendees to compete for Japanese treats. This game referred to as Pocky, is commonly played on the streets of Japan.

Dome Monogkolpradit, senior in Engineering, explained that his favorite activity was the Japanese caricature station.

“The artist did a great job capturing me,” said Monogkolpradit. Recent graduate in Liberal Arts and Sciences and annual Japanese Cultural Night attendant, Erin Evans, also favored the artistic booths at the event noting that her favorite was the Japanese calligraphy booth. Many of the other guests also enjoyed the calligraphy station. Some waiting in line for ten minutes to have a Japanese character painted.

After attendants visited the various booths for an hour, the entire group gathered for the main event of the evening, Maru-Batsu. The game consisted of true-false questions about Japan. Participants then moved to designated areas of the room to answer the question. This pattern continued until there were only two contestants left. The remaining two battled in Japanese "rock, paper, scissors" for various prizes like Japanese beverages, candy, umbrellas and lanterns.

story by Brittany Bekas
Top: With mugs in hand, four girls say “Cheers” to Oktoberfest. Center: Carie Letman, sophomore in FAA and Kurst Rechardt, junior in LAS, celebrate Oktoberfest at KAM’s. Left: Sophomores Ashley Reisch in LAS, Kate Gillespy in communications, Krysty Corcoran in FAA, Lindsey Wader in LAS, Kanin Soskop in ALS and Court- ney Schumacher in LAS show off the shirts they had made for Oktoberfest.
Opposite left: An Oktoberfest enthusiast holds a sign advertising the event.
Opposite right: Sarah Dehirms, a junior in Business, plays a drinking game in celebration of Oktoberfest.

Photos by Jennifer Rodogno
Can the students handle an Unofficial St. Patrick’s Day in the fall as well? The Booze News had confidence in their fellow students and their love for beer when they brought the newest holiday to campus: Oktoberfest. Oktoberfest 2005 took place on Friday, Oct. 14 with bars opening at noon to celebrate the greatness of beer. Co-Founders of The Booze News Derek Chin and Atish Doshi said they wanted an entire day where students could drink in the fall.

“It’s a day where everyone can come together and throw back a beer,” Chin said.

Students were encouraged to sport red clothing to honor the official color of Oktoberfest and arrive to the bars by noon. Kam’s, Station, Gully’s, Joe’s Brewery, White Horse and Brother’s sold official Oktoberfest mugs for $2. Each mug was filled with 22 oz of Miller Lite, High Life and Leinenkugel’s Oktoberfest Lager and refills were $2.

Members of The Booze News gathered at Kam’s to begin what Chin called “a double bar crawl,” where the staff will make their way to all the bars, take a quick break for food and then start the route all over again. The main goal for these determined students was to have a solid 14 hours of drinking on a beautiful autumn day. “We have to last to the end,” Chin said as another staff member refilled his Leinenkugel.

Last to the end they will, for the Booze News staff dedicated precious time and effort to the success of this newest holiday. After speaking to distributors and bars, Doshi said they worked on promoting the event through radio ads, fliers and dinner announcements. Doshi said the first year is always the hardest to launch such an undertaking.

“After classes end, we hope to see this place packed,” Doshi said.

Mark Greenlief, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is one of the devoted individuals who arrived at Kam’s promptly at noon in order to begin the celebration.

“Any chance I can get to hang out with my friends and have the times I’ll never remember with the people I’ll never forget. I’ll do it,” Greenlief said.

He added that the idea of Oktoberfest was amazing and he hopes it becomes a tradition.

“I think Oktoberfest will become the Unofficial of fall,” Greenlief said. “There’s great beer, great people, and a great atmosphere.”

Bobby Gantzer, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, employed at Kam’s as “the door guy” and said Kam’s opened at 11 a.m. instead of 3 p.m. on Oktoberfest.

“The keg room is stocked higher than I’ve seen in a long time,” Gantzer said.

While he did not think any holiday could live up to Unofficial St. Patrick’s Day, Gantzer liked the idea of Oktoberfest. “If I didn’t have to work, I’d be drinking right now,” he said.

While Gantzer will have to wait, other students, relieved of classes and work from the week, fill up Kam’s early Friday afternoon. Whether it’s the excitement of a new holiday or merely the effects of alcohol setting in, it is apparent that Oktoberfest has officially begun and will indeed become a new tradition at the U of I.
Homecoming Week

The third week of October was filled with several activities for University students, such as the Variety Show and tailgating parties, as they celebrated Homecoming. The week officially started Sunday, Oct. 16 with the Homecoming Kickoff celebration and Illini Stride 5K run/walk at Hessel Park in Champaign and ran through Saturday, ending with the Illinois versus Penn State football game.

The Student Alumni Ambassadors (SAA) are in charge of the majority of campus-wide Homecoming promotions. They promote the events using television and radio advertisements, posting up flyers and posters, and planning social events. Erik Larson, senior in business finance and external vice-president for the 2005 Homecoming, said that planning starts as early as March and continues through summer break.

"SAA is responsible for not only the advertising for these specific events, but of all the official campus-wide Homecoming events," said Larson.

The SAA Homecoming events this year included the Kickoff Celebration, Lunch on the Quad and the Pep Rally following the Homecoming parade. SAA also plays a role in theme selection. This year's Homecoming theme was "Ignite My Illini." Larson said that the theme was chosen from a list of submissions from University students and representatives from various student organizations.

"It was chosen as a symbol of the Illini spirit and to fire people up for Homecoming," said Larson.

The SAA also chooses different charities every year to share in the Homecoming proceeds from the 5K run/walk and the Homecoming Volunteer Project. This year's charities played off of the "Ignite My Illini" theme, working with Champaign Unit 4 School District's Warm-A-Kid program for the Illini Stride 5K Run/Walk and Ameren IP's Warm Neighbors program for the Homecoming Volunteer Project, said Larson.

The theme was worked into many Homecoming activities, such as the Oct. 21 parade starting at Taft Drive and Sixth Street and ending at the quad for the pep rally. This year's parade included appearances from the Royal Twirling Council with their flaming baton acts and restaurant "Garcia's Pizza" driving a company van with a flaming torch from a hot air balloon on the roof. The pep rally included an actual hot air balloon in the middle of the quad; its flame visible from any angle.

"The parade turnout was great," said Dan Kopelow, senior in Aviation and president of SAA. "There was a consistent row of spectators from the Education Building all the way around the quad."

Spanning the entire Homecoming weekend is an event called the "Illini Comeback Program" which invites three distinguished Illinois alumni back to campus for the weekend, said Kopelow. He said that the guests are encouraged to return to campus and interact with students, staff and faculty through formal programs, classroom visits and social activities. This year's chosen guests were Andrea Darlas, Stuart Kaminsky and Ann Davenport McBrien.

Included in the "Illini Comeback Program" is the involvement of the Homecoming Court, a group of 20 men and women possessing strong leadership and academic skills chosen through an application and interview process.

"Homecoming court represents a very important tradition on the University of Illinois campus," said Karen
Shafer, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences. "We are recognized as a group of seniors who have worked hard in the classroom by having strong GPAs as well as being leaders in our extra-curricular events on this campus."

Homecoming perks this year included more free food and giveaway items as well as increased attendance from students and alumni at many of the events. Larson said Homecoming is always a success if more students and alumni are involved and believes that this year's Homecoming was just that.
Illinois loves its baseball and when it looked like one of its very own Chicago teams might take its first World Series trophy in 88 years, students on campus were very excited.

The White Sox of Southside Chicago had an amazing regular season, remaining one of the best teams in baseball throughout the year. They never trailed once in their division and had three eight-game winning streaks. Although their lead was not as significant at the end of the regular season, they managed to stay ahead of the Cleveland Indians and go against the Red Sox in the American League Division Series.

They swept last year’s World Series champion in three games to move onto the American League Championship Series against the Los Angeles Angels. By this time, the campus had come alive with White Sox fever. Not only were the White Sox playing in the ALCS, but another close to home favorite, the St. Louis Cardinals, were playing against the Houston Astros in the National League Championship Series. Although the
Cardinals did not manage to beat the Astros, the White Sox took the Angels in five games.

On Oct. 16 the White Sox went to the World Series for the first time in 46 years. A large audience was glued to the TV on Oct. 22 and throughout the series, only die-hard fans who cheered the Sox since childhood, but also the Cubs and Cardinal fans whose teams did not make it to the Series.

Fans congregated in apartments, dorms and sports bars around campus to watch the games and root for their team of choice. Some lucky fans even attended the games at U.S. Cellular Field, paying almost $200 a ticket if they bought their tickets through Major League Baseball, and some spent thousands of dollars on purchases through online auctions like those on eBay.

White Sox Nation, a campus club headed by President Rob Petersen, had a banner year with 700 names on its email list. Petersen, senior in Business, said that members filled sports bars to watch the games and hopefully celebrate a victory.

The White Sox did not disappoint, sweeping the series in four games and making instant celebrities out of game winners like Jermaine Dye, the series MVP who had a home run in Game 1 and provided the game-winning hit in Game 4.

Of course, not everyone was thrilled for the White Sox win. The University is home to some Astros fans like Mark Goodwin, sophomore in Engineering, who was born and raised in Texas. While disappointed about the Astros outing at the series, he and the rest of Texas were happy to be in their first World Series ever.

"The Astros put up a fight in every single game," said Goodwin. "The White Sox played harder, but I am still extremely proud of the Astros."

Goodwin seemed to be outnumbered, however, as swarms of students corralled at the intersection of Sixth and Green immediately following the final game. Waving flags, shouting cheers and stopping traffic, University of Illinois students were extremely pleased with the Chicago World Series win.

story by Jenny Knox
Green Street, the main commercial district of Campus town, has added many recent additions during the past year. The addition of Noodles and Company, Firehaus, Potbelly’s Subs and Starbucks have given Green Street a mini-makeover, changing its appearance and attracting even more local customers.

“I’m a senior and in the years that I’ve been here, there hasn’t really been too much development on Green Street,” said Jenny Bozzetti, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences. “I think that every couple of years or so you need a couple of new establishments to keep the face of the street fresh.”

Firehaus, a 21 and older sports bar, has been in development since 2002. On Sept. 22, it opened its doors to the eager public who had been anticipating its business for years. Firehaus provides a choice atmosphere for its patrons with a unique combination of architecture and design.

“It’s a very relaxed place,” said Bozzetti. “It’s very obvious that it’s an upperclassmen bar. It’s not really a dancing bar, it’s a pretty calm place.”

Firehaus, according to Bozzetti, is also a sports bar. Students can go there and watch sporting events on any of the 17 plasma TVs scattered throughout the bar. During the day, the bar turns into a restaurant, open to all ages until 9 p.m. Appearing on the menu are several fire-themed dishes, like the cleverly named Backdraft Burger and Combustible Nachos.
Another addition to Campustown is Starbucks, located at 503 E. Green. Although a hot spot in cities all over the world, Lauren Lindholm, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, felt that it lacked the atmosphere that other campus coffee houses provided.

"Espresso Royale has a better ambience, I think. It's cozier than the Starbucks," she said.

The highly anticipated Noodles and Company restaurant, located on the corner of Sixth and Green Streets, held its grand opening on Oct. 25, 2005. It offers a wide variety of foods—not just noodles—and was eagerly welcomed by many.

"I'm glad that we finally have a Noodles here on campus," said Lindholm. "Their mushroom stroganoff is incredible and I've been craving some for a long time."

Other introductions to Campustown included the Mexican grille, Chipotle, at 528 E. Green, and Potbelly's, at 501 E. Green.

"I'm really glad that we've got a Potbelly's now," said Allison Ziola, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences. "They have great food, and it adds some variety to what's on Green Street right now."

With the addition of all of these chain restaurants, one might wonder if they will overshadow the smaller 'mom and pop' restaurants that have previously occupied Green Street space.

"It's a college campus. It's not like these large chain restaurants are going to attract more people than the smaller ones," said Bozzetti. "It will just create some more competition."
It is the time of year when pumpkin picking is a weekend activity, trips to haunted houses are a must and students all around campus are given an excuse to show off their creativity and sense of humor through unique costumes.

Many bars on and off campus held Halloween themed events and costume parties leading up to Oct. 31, 2005. There were also numerous costume parties and regular parties around the University.

The Highdive hosted the official U of I Pre-Halloween party on Thursday, Oct. 27. The First Annual "Black and Orange Affair" offered reduced cover all night to anyone wearing black or orange. Sexy singles were supposed to dress in black, while individuals already taken were clad in orange.

Justin Randall, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, attended Highdive with a group of friends. Randall spent most of the night on the dance floor, showing off his moves with the ladies amidst the radiant neon lights.

"I had a lot of fun," said Randall. "Highdive is a great place for all of my friends to get together in a different environment than we're used to, as opposed to campus bars."

Kate Esarey, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, exercised her creativity by creating a costume out of condoms. She stapled condoms together to create a skirt, and attached several to a white tank top that read "The Condom Fairy" across the chest and "Ms. Durex" on the back. Completing Esarey's ensemble was a condom crown, condom wristband, and a wand with a condom dangling off the end.

"I just wanted something that wasn't going to cost me anything," said Esarey. She and her friends acquired the roughly 300 condoms used for the costume for free at McKinley Health Center and it took Esarey about three hours to assemble.

"Plus, people love condoms," Esarey added. "I was promoting safe sex."

Esarey handed out free condoms to everyone in sight at The Clybourne on Monday night. She even interrupted couples engaged in public displays of affection to offer them a condom.

Other students, such as sophomore in Engineering, Ryan Ferguson, used simple materials they already had to compose a costume.

Ferguson duct taped a cardboard box covered in wrap...
Ping paper around his body and attached a gift tag reading "From God, To Women" on the box. A silver bow stuck to the side of his head topped off the costume.

Ferguson said a lot of girls wanted pictures with "God's Gift to Women," and he received numerous compliments and high fives throughout the night as well.

"It worked like a charm," Ferguson said with a triumphant smile. "I was a chick magnet all night."

Ferguson walked around campus to show off his costume before attending a friend's costume party. He then went to The Clybourne for the remainder of Saturday night. Ferguson said he had been anxiously waiting Halloween since July, which was when he came up with his ingenious costume idea.

To Ferguson and other college students past their trick-or-treating years, Halloween is much less about candy than it is about creativity.

"It did what it was supposed to do," Ferguson said of his costume. "It drew in the ladies and made people laugh. Mission accomplished."

*story by Emily Ward*
Above: Erica Mueller, a staff member at Extension, teaches Cumbia moves to Rebecca Martinson, senior in LAS.
Left: Brianna Mueller, staff member at Extension, teaches a group of students how to Cumbia dance on the quad during the festivities to celebrate Panama's Independence Day from Columbia. Opposite page: Christina Revilla, freshman in LAS, holds up a Panama flag to celebrate Panama's Independence Day from Columbia. Photos by Mike Salway.
Panama independence Day

Panama celebrated its independence from Colombia on Nov. 3, 1903, but it was not until 2005 that the Central and South American Student Association decided to bring the holiday to the University of Illinois. CSASA, a multi-cultural RSO founded in 2002, brought a bit of Panama to the quad by playing authentic Panamanian music and holding free Columbia dance lessons in front of the Union from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

CSASA encompasses 17 countries and boasts members from places like Chile, Colombia and Honduras. Santiago Torres, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is the vice-president of CSASA and said while there are many ethnic clubs on campus, many of those members are international. The majority of CSASA members are from Latin America but live in the United States.

"Our lives are here," Torres said.

Torres said CSASA wanted to represent the Panamanian population because little is known about Panama outside of the Panama Canal. Panama, the youngest country in Central America, is located between Costa Rica and Colombia and forms a land bridge that connects North and South America. The Panama Canal, completed by the United States in 1914, links the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific Ocean via the Caribbean Sea.

CSASA secretary Rebecca Martinez said the club wanted to make people aware of international events by "celebrating and educating."

"Nobody celebrates Central and South America. You never hear about anything diverse like that," Martinez said. Martinez said promoting Panama’s Independence Day is just one of many projects CSASA has undertaken. Members volunteer at Washington Elementary School, translating English for PTA parents. The club promotes multiculturalism and community service, but is a social organization as well. CSASA held a Taste of Colombia and Honduras in which traditional food was cooked and served in the kitchen of La Casa for free. CSASA also sponsored a clothing drive for the Honduran victims of Hurricane Katrina.

According to Martinez, New Orleans has the biggest population of Hondurans in the United States with over 140,000 people; however, they received little help after the storm because so few Hondurans were documented as United States citizens.

CSASA’s main fundraiser, "Arroz Con Leche," is a traditional Latin and South American breakfast served on the quad in November, with all proceeds going toward postage to send the clothes to New Orleans. The CSASA mission statement upholds unity and multiculturalism; bringing a bit of Latin America to campus for Panama's Independence Day was just a small part of a big goal.

Story by Katie Hamilton
A quick and easy way for anyone on campus to give back to the community is to donate their blood, which is a relatively painless process that lasts only an hour. Blood drives occur frequently at the University of Illinois, as the Community Blood Services of Illinois holds about 35 to 40 on campus every year according to Donor Relations representative Lisa Wright.

"Pretty much any group that will have us, we'll go," said Wright.

Community Blood Services visits many different groups on campus, including fraternities, sororities, dorms, alumni events, churches and the Union every 56 days, and these events provide area hospitals with over 1,000 units of blood a year.

Several charge nurses and phlebotomists, the people who draw the blood, staff each blood drive. At a Bloodmobile on the corner of John and Wright Streets, charge nurse Becky Ray oversaw the proceedings. She said the blood that was taken at that site and at other blood drives goes to Provena Hospital, Carle Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital in Danville, St. Anthony Hospital and Sara Busch Hospital.
Most of the blood drives on campus are whole blood donations. Enough blood is taken that it can provide blood for up to three different people. The actual process only takes five to 15 minutes according to the Community Blood Services website, www.bloodservices.org. Anyone who is at least 16 years of age and weighs 110 pounds will most likely be able to donate blood every 56 days.

When one actually goes to give blood at one of the many service locations, they go through a multi-step process. First-time donors read information concerning safety, and all donors answer series of questions to ensure that their blood is completely safe to use for hospital patients. Nurses also use a screening technique with a finger stick, which feels like a tiny prick and checks for anemia, or iron deficiency in the blood. According to Ray, this small prick is what most people consider to be the most painful part of the process. Community Blood Services has a very high standard for iron in blood, and it defers patients for one day if they do not qualify. If all goes well, the patient can continue with the actual blood donation. The phlebotomist hooks the donor up to a needle and draws two units.

When patients are finished they remain at the site, eating snacks and remaining seated to ensure they do not have an adverse reaction. When they feel well enough, they are cleared to leave. Everyone who gives blood is advised not to smoke and to drink plenty of liquids for the rest of the day.

This quick and almost painless procedure serves millions of people in Illinois. Through organizations like Community Blood Services, students voluntarily donate their time and their blood to several community hospitals to save many lives each year.

story by Jenny Knox
Above: Vivian Zapata, sophomore in FAA, won a $7,500 scholarship for her poster design. Photo by Alson Belisleamy.
Not many people can say that something they did received international recognition, especially at the young age of twenty. However, sophomore in Fine and Applied Arts Vivian Zapata became the official artist of the 2005 Latin Grammy Awards after winning a nationwide poster contest.

Zapata’s love for drawing and the arts influenced her winning design. She said art has been her favorite thing to do since she was young.

“My garage is filled with pictures I’ve made since I was four years old,” she said.

Zapata explained how she has taken art classes every year of school for the past ten years. Her talent and passion for art encouraged her to become a painting major in college.

During the spring of her freshman year at U of I, Zapata received an e-mail about the Latin Grammys poster contest, sponsored by an organization called Latino Art Beat.

“When I read about the competition’s content, I was drawn to and excited about the theme of the poster competition, which was to reflect your visions of the influence of Latin American music,” she said.

Zapata is Mexican and Columbian, so Latin American music has been a big part of her life.

“I’ve been exposed to all types of Latin American music, from folk to classical,” she said.

This exposure helped Zapata to create her winning poster entry. She began the process by researching Latin American instruments, symbols and costumes in magazines and online to find inspiration for her own drawing. She said her goal was to find “something with lots of energy that reflected life, happiness, and movement.” After numerous sketches, Zapata completed the work with colored pencils. The finished product is a vivacious drawing filled with music notes, instruments and other Latin musical decorations.

Over the summer, Zapata was shocked to hear she won the contest.

“When I found out that I was a semifinalist, I prayed that I would win. When I actually found out that I won, I was jumping around and screaming,” she said.

In November, Zapata attended the Latin Grammy Awards at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles where she was able to meet Latin music stars like Juanes, Alex Syntex and Reik. She also received a $7,000 scholarship from Latino Art Beat and the U of I School of Art and Design to cover her sophomore year tuition. To Zapata, the best part of winning the contest was the recognition she received.

“You name is put on a new level, like a pedestal,” she explained. It was encouraging to her to win a nationwide contest. It was extraordinary and empowering.”

Zapata believes the recognition will help her to advance her career as a professional artist, and she hopes this contest will only be the beginning of many more accomplishments to come.

Story by Jason Johns
Diwali, or the Hindu celebration of the New Year, fell on Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2005. Determined by the lunar calendar, the day designated as Diwali is known as the “Festival of Lights.” In India, the huge festival incites the decorating of homes, explosion of fireworks, and lighting of lamps. All of these things are done in order to worship the goddess Lakshmi, the Lord Ganesha and the return home of King Rama. Hindu families around the world commemorate Diwali.

“We go to the temple, perform rituals called pujas and we give gifts to our family and friends,” said Keerthi Subbarao, junior in Applied Life Studies. “We celebrate by getting together and eating with our family and friends as well.”

Diwali always occurs during October or November, so organizations like Hindu Students Council (HSC) and the Indian Graduate Students Association (IGSA) plan pujas and other parties to accommodate students. Diwali celebrations on campus are a way for students to maintain the traditions to which they are accustomed.

“It lets people feel like they are at home celebrating this holiday,” Subbarao said.

That Tuesday, HSC held a Diwali Puja celebration at Wesley Foundation, attended by over 200 people.

“Tnis was the largest audience for Diwali Puja yet,” Seema Kamath, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences said.

The hall was adorned with festive decorations to bring in the spirit, and a Pundit, or priest, came to perform the puja. Afterward, students sang bhajans, which are similar to religious hymns. A dinner catered by Bombay Indian Grill restaurant followed and the night concluded
ed with Garba and Bhangra, two ethnic dances from Northern India.

A special addition to this year’s Diwali celebrations was held on the Main Quad the night of Nov. 1, after the IGSA lit the crosswalks on the Quad with 1500 candles. Avnish Chaturvedi, graduate student in Business, came up with this idea.

“I was walking through the Quad and thought how beautiful it would be if we could light it up with candles,” said Chaturvedi.

Chaturvedi wanted to replicate the Diwali celebration as it is performed in India. Although it was very tough to get permission, school officials relented and IGSA became the first organization in history to get permission to light the Quad crosswalks. About 20 volunteers spent an hour setting up and lighting the candles. Chaturvedi was awestruck at the outcome.

“It was a beautiful experience, absolutely romantic,” said Chaturvedi.

Others were also amazed at the nighttime spectacle.

“I felt tingles on my back walking on the lit crosswalks,” said Kamath.

The week of celebration concluded on Nov. 5 when IGSA held their own Diwali night. The program for the night included performances of group songs and dances, games and a traditional Indian dinner with food such as pakoras, saag paneer and naan.

Overall, the celebration was definite success. This year’s festivities helped Hindu students remember the true meaning of Diwali at their home away from home.

story by Jamie John
BUSINESS FRATERNITIES

As the organization’s mission statement details, Phi Chi Theta works "to promote the cause of higher business education and training for all individuals, to foster high ideals for everyone pursuing a career in business; to encourage fraternity and cooperation among people preparing for such careers; and to stimulate the spirit of sacrifice and unselfish devotion to the attainment of such ends."

The University of Illinois is revered for a business school that produces efficient, polished individuals who will succeed in the workplace. The business fraternities on campus are one of the many reasons why graduates excel beyond the classroom in their professional careers and social lives. Focused on professional aspects, these fraternities work to build leaders while promoting philanthropy and social interaction.

Delta Sigma Pi President Anne Mitchell, senior, said becoming a member of a business fraternity is a rewarding experience that forms valuable contacts and friendships. The co-ed fraternity has 80 to 115 members at any given time and hosts professional speakers or business companies in every other week to lecture and give advice. Topics range from learning to land an interview to improving resume writing.

"You meet more people and learn more than you will ever learn in the classroom," Mitchell said.

Due to the resources the business fraternity offers, which include everything from meeting experienced alumni to ob
aining job interviews, members become heavily involved with their major while having still having fun.

"I'm just glad I found it," Mitchell said. "You make friends that are in all your classes. It was a great thing for me and I encourage everyone to join."

"I'm rarely in class by myself," junior Seth Franz said. "All my friends are in my business classes, so we can work together. They're all my best friends at school."

Franz is a member of Alpha Kappa Psi, the oldest professional business fraternity in the country. He said Alpha Kappa Psi's philanthropy includes a large range of volunteer opportunities, including helping out at the Times Center in Champaign and adopting families at Christmas.

"It is a good experience to learn things about the business world I otherwise wouldn't know," Franz said.

The Phi Gamma Nu fraternity stands on the pillars of not only professionalism and philanthropy, but brotherhood as well. Pledge trainer and senior Adam Safranek said he pledged freshman year for not only the professional aspect, but also for the social life. Although Greek life is popular on the University of Illinois campus, pledging a business fraternity is another way to become socially involved with a group of people who share similar interests.

"People learn more about themselves through interacting with other people," Safranek said.

From etiquette dinners to career presentations, business fraternities contribute to a well-rounded individual who will become a professional in any facet of society.

"It's a part of your life," Safranek said. "Whether it's business or not, professionalism is an aspect of life."

story by Kate Hamilton
A musical best known for its sexy showgirls, Cabaret was chosen for the fall’s Illini Union Board Musical. Performed in Foellinger Auditorium on Nov. 11, 12 and 13, the show had a cast of 23 students. While some are specifically dance or theater majors, many of the actors came from colleges outside the performing arts.

“It’s nice to find yourself in a community of people who understand that no matter how much the rest of your life may be spilling out of control, when that curtain goes up it’s show time,” said Susan Requa, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and stage manager of the play.

Based on a true story, Cabaret is set in the 1930s in war torn Berlin, Germany. The main character, Clifford Bradshaw, played by Beck Diefenbach, junior in Aviation, is an American writer who came to Berlin to finish his novel and to support himself by teaching English les-
sons. Bradshaw enjoys the Berlin scene and befriends a German, Ernst Ludwig, played by Michael Gardner, a junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The two rent an apartment under landlady Fraulein Schneider - played by Courtney Lewis, senior in Education - and meet an English dancer, Sally Bowles - played by Elise Tolish, freshman in Fine and Applied Arts - at the infamous Kit Kat club. The Kit Kat Club is the most popular cabaret in Berlin.

While featuring many jazzy dance numbers, the musical has a dark undertone throughout the first act that comes out full force into the second act. Almost as soon as Bradshaw is settled into his new apartment, he is joined by Bowles, who was kicked out by her former beau, the manager of the club.

The two start a life together in Berlin as two foreigners and together they watch the lives of their German friends change: Schneider and a Jewish man named Herr Schultz, played by Jake Szczepaniak, freshman in Fine and Applied Arts, fall in love and start planning their marriage. Ernst Ludwig continues his lucrative career of smuggling money from France to a political group in Germany.

The final scene of Act I opens at Schneider and Schultz's engagement party and it is there that the characters and audience learn Ludwig is a Nazi.

The play is set at the beginning of the Nazi movement, when Germans were trying to regain a sense of pride. From there the lives of the characters are torn apart. Schneider and Schultz are forced to abandon their marriage plans because of the danger it presents for them. Bowels and Bradshaw part ways because of their differing opinions about the severity of the situation.

The play, so full of life and beauty in the beginning, ends on a poignant note. The emotions were well played by all of the actors.

"Herr Schultz had a good stage presence and good understanding and physicality of the character," said Jen Goheen, sophomore in Fine and Applied Arts.

The cast of the IUB musical remained sensitive to the issues at hand, but still stayed true to their characters' emotions.

*story by Jenny Knox*
At a school as large as Illinois, it is easy for the needs of one student to disappear in the shuffle of 36,000 others. Many may feel they are merely a number in a university-wide head count, with no chance of having their voices heard or complaints considered by those who determine the rules and policies they follow. Serving as the ultimate representative to an enormous student population, the Illinois Student Senate (ISS) exists as a liaison between thousands of students and decision-making administrations.

Claiming to be the “Official Voice of the Student Body” on its Web site at www.iss.uiuc.edu, the Student Senate listens to the opinions of U of I attendees and expresses their needs and problems to members of campus faculty as well as local, state, and federal governments. The organization also represents students within the Urbana-Champaign Student/Faculty Senate, which is responsible for the policies made concerning the University of Illinois. With its involvement in the U-C Senate, students maintain a vote on discipline issues, admission requirements, grading regulations, and length of academic vacations.

“It’s important for students to be aware of the issues and concerns that affect them every day,” junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Student Trustee Christopher Kantas said. An infant organization, the Illinois Student Senate established in the spring of 2004 to replace the Illinois Student Government Assembly and the Student Senate Caucus. Both groups lacked enough participation to be effective, so the ISS formed in hopes of increasing student government involvement.

Senators are chosen through an online election process. Each col
college has a certain number of student representatives depending on its size; larger colleges like Liberal Arts and Sciences have several, while Fine and Applied Arts has only one. Anyone can run for a position as long as they obtain 50 signatures from fellow students, with 25 of them from members of the same college. Nominees promote themselves for a month on campus, and after the campaign ends in March, online polls open for two days to allow students to cast their votes.

"I ran for Student Senate because I'm a political science major," Kantas said. "It's personally been a very rewarding experience for me, and I encourage every student interested in all campus affairs, from tuition to the cost of textbooks, to join the Senate."

Not all members must be elected by the student body; in fact, anyone interested can attend weekly meetings and apply to serve on various committees. These committees pay close attention to one specific campus issue, such as the University budget, student rights, or cultural and minority affairs.

Jill Belsley, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences, joined because of her previous participation in student government.

"I was a very active member on my high school's student council," Belsley said. "Student Senate is just like that, but on a much larger scale. My school was small, so it's very fulfilling to think that I represent many more students at U of I."

One of the ISS's major contributions to student life is the Instructor and Course Evaluation System (ICES). At the end of each semester, evaluation forms are distributed to every class on campus asking questions about the quality of each instructor and course. The ISS determines six questions, and if chosen by faculty to appear on the ICES forms, the Senate then publishes the results on their Web site. The ISS also compiles a list of 'Instructors Ranked As Excellent' to help students know which professors and lecturers to choose when registering for classes.

Anne Marcellus, sophomore in Education, looks forward to the ICES results each time she makes course choices for the upcoming semester.

"I signed up for a history class based on the good reviews it got from people who had already taken it," Marcellus said. "I've learned to check the list before deciding my class schedule."

Whether guiding students along their academic path or debating the campus speed limit, the Illinois Student Senate proves to be a vast improvement from previous years of less successful student government.
All-campus Worship

Hundreds of people gathered in Foellinger Auditorium on Thursday, Nov. 17, with eyes closed, heads bowed and hands folded. It was not a typical event in the auditorium, but one that occurs only once a semester called All-Campus Worship. This event brings together all the Christian organizations on campus for a night of praise and worship.

"It’s goal is to foster unity within the Christian community on campus and to encourage intermingling among these groups since we all serve the same Lord and have the same purpose,” said Stephen McClintick, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and president of the Evangelical Christian Union.

Ester Cha, senior in Engineering, agreed with McClintick.

“All Campus gives a chance for you to make new friends and for Christians to come together to form one body to worship God and Jesus Christ,” said Cha.

Each semester, a different Christian organization is in charge of planning All-Campus Worship. The Evangelical Christian Union was placed in charge of the event for Fall Semester 2005. This organization is led by a group of leaders from Christian organizations on campus and around the community, such as InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Campus Crusade for Christ and others. One of the groups within ECU, Excel Campus Ministry of Urbana Assembly of God, was specifically in charge of planning this semester’s All-Campus Worship.

The night began with praise songs, led by a five-member band, which inspired the audience to sing louder and worship God. Powerpoint slides were displayed behind the band with words to all the songs.

After worship, the night continued with group prayer. The audience was encouraged to get into groups of three or four people whom they did not know from a different Christian organization. The groups prayed for those who are persecuted, missionary teams, those hurt in natural disasters and those of other religions.

Two special prayers were spoken in French and in a language from Nigeria.

“Something that stood out to me was praying in different languages and remembering that God understands every person’s heart no matter what language he or she speaks,” said McClintick.

Dick Brogden, a missionary from Sudan who works with Muslims gave a speech at the event. Brogden spoke of the growing civil war and genocide in Sudan. He mentioned all of the missionary accomplishments he and others achieved in Sudan by using everything from television, English lessons and Internet chat rooms to spread the word of Christ.

“Dick’s challenge to us was to share this message of Jesus to all the nations of the Earth,” explained McClintick.

Brogden’s story moved the audience.

“When I heard him give his message, I thought it was very inspiring and it made me want to go to Sudan to work for God,” said Cha.

At the end of the night, many Christian students left feeling satisfied.

“I thought it was probably one of the best All-Campus Worships because of the music and the speaker,” said Cha. “I think people who didn’t come really missed out.”

story by Jamie Johnson
With the numerous diet techniques and fads available to consumers to obtain the ideal standard of beauty, body image can be very difficult to cope with in today's society. Body image and health are different for all types of people. The Asian American Cultural Center hosted a seminar Thursday, Nov. 17, concerning body image and Asian Americans. The event was sponsored by the Asian Pacific American Coalition and facilitated by the Body Image Network, both registered student organizations.

Young-A Jo, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Director for APAC, said this event was needed, because there are few events specifically geared towards Asian Americans.

"It concentrates on factors of influence," Jo said. "Growing up in a society where ideal beauty is the Caucasian woman or man can have impacts."

The community outreach chairs in APAC organize and promote upcoming events and workshops for the campus Asian American community. Erin Chiou, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences and APAC Community Outreach Chairperson, contacted people from the Body Image Network and researched how body image affects the Asian American population to prepare for the workshop.

"We talked to the Body Image Network about issues that pertained to us," Chiou said. "And will cover everything from health to specific images, especially from the media."

Chiou said that the Body Image Network has done many workshops for different groups on campus, but this was their first Asian American geared workshop. There was also a psychologist intern from the Counseling Center on hand to explain social trends and issues directly related to Asian Americans.

Melanie Heckman, junior in Agricultural, Consumer, and Economic Sciences and Body Image Network Treasurer, co-facilitated the event and was very pleased with the turnout.

"The group discussion was very interactive and we heard a lot of good input from the perception of Asian Americans," Heckman said.

Heckman and Emily Ceisel, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Vice-President of the Body Image Network, discussed factors which influence perceptions of ideal body type and image. Heckman and Ceisel said that family and culture, college life and media are the top three factors that influence how society measures beauty and what is seen as acceptable. Both Heckman and Ceisel explained how women are normally concerned with beauty and men with masculinity.

"I wanted to bring up awareness and do some outreach for all groups of people because we all have similar problems," Heckman said.

Psychology intern for the Counseling Center Hsinya Liao was the guest speaker for the workshop. Liao explained how the non-Westernized Asian culture can influence self-esteem and perception, even among later generations of Asian Americans. She also works for the Eating Disorder Treatment Team at the Counseling Center.

"I've seen a lot of people suffer from low self-esteem and I really wanted to reach out to the minority population to see how body image affects them," Liao said.

Liao said she does not think that Asian Americans receive enough exposure when it comes to societal issues and topics, and has tried to expand awareness through her involvement with other Asian American workshops such as the weekly "Food For Thought," which entails a lecture-discussion on a topic pertaining to Asian Americans and a free lunch.

"The organizations on campus and the Asian American community are really helpful and are starting to stand up to let others know that we're here," Liao said.

"You can't fix what you don't know," she said. "We need to keep educating people about the Asian American experience and the beauty of being a minority."
Above: Hsin-Ya Liao from the counseling Workshop.

Left: Sarah Cho, junior in LAS, prepares snacks for visitors at the Asian American Cultural Center.


photos by Christina Leung
It is not uncommon to see a group of college students on any given weeknight traipsing down Green Street wearing matching t-shirts and being especially rambunctious. To those watching, this may seem like your average night on the town, but to those in the specially designed t-shirts, this is serious business. Known as a barcrawl, this purposeful excursion is not simply a traipse, but instead a determined march to visit an allotted number of bars in a single night.

Barcrawls come in all shapes and sizes. It seems that no matter what the organization, it is inevitable that it will plan a barcrawl. From five people to fifty, this parade of barcrawlers makes it their mission to follow the schedule they have planned for the evening.

Planning a barcrawl is simple. The schedule comes first. Creating a list of approximately four to five bars and planning to spend about an hour at each is the first goal. Some groups choose locations based on their proximity to each other, yet others pick their favorites, regardless of location. Despite differences in bar choice and order, most barcrawls remain in Champaign within a block of Green Street.

Some groups are especially fond of the t-shirt design process. Color can sometimes say it all. For example, those who wish to spend less money on shirts choose their colors carefully.

"Two of the barcrawls I've been on had gray or white shirts," said Andrew Davis, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences. "These are less expensive options and allow me to save money for beer."

Some other groups choose a color that represents their group and even others choose a color for no real reason. From neon green to black, these shirts also display a variety of images and slogans. The t-shirt design reflects a group's inside jokes and reasons for drinking. Once the t-shirt has been designed, the design can be taken to t-shirt or Campus Sportswear to have them printed in bulk.

"As long as you have the design of the shirt and we have the sizes that you need, we can have them printed in a week," Campus Sportswear employee Angie Johnson said. "We will call you when they are ready to be picked up."

However, professionally made t-shirts can be pricey. Some barcrawlers opt for making their own shirts. Often called "graffiti" barcrawls, participants wear white t-shirts and bring along markers for others to create personal designs on their shirts. This not only saves money but also provides entertainment for those in attendance.

Another part of the barcrawl to consider is attendance. Many groups insist that members pay for t-shirts in advance in order to determine the number that will be in attendance.
While some groups require membership for barcrawl attendance, others often extend their invitation to friends outside the organization.

After schedules, t-shirts and attendance have been discussed and decided, your group is ready to hit the town. A barcrawl is a well-planned event that has more advantages than a random night of bar-hopping. The barcrawl can be a group bonding experience while enjoying the atmosphere. Some bars even offer free cover and drink specials to the collective sea of matching t-shirts.

Residence hall floors, majors, classes, Greeks, RSOs and a plethora of others on campus with something in common organize barcrawls. Whatever your involvement at the University of Illinois, rest assured that you may invited to crawl from bar to bar at least once during your college career.

story by Lyndsey Groth & Jayme Swift
The Philippine Student Association is an active group at the University of Illinois in promoting the Filipino culture. Through their array of workshops and dances, variety shows, and fashion shows, PSA continues to grow and foster friendships and opportunities for its members.

One event that members look forward to each year is the Rice Bowl tournament. The tournament, which began in the 1990s, brings together Filipino organizations from six different Illinois universities to compete. Rice Bowl consists of male tackle football and female two-hand touch football teams.

On November 19, 2005, teams flocked to Schiller Woods in Chicago. The thought on everyone’s mind was the coveted first-place trophy. The teams had practiced for weeks in preparation, keeping victory on their minds.

The men’s team managed to pull out a victory against DePaul in their first game, and another against University of Illinois Chicago, the defending champions, in round two. Unfortunately, during the semi-final game against Loyola, they were unable to deliver the same results.

“They played their hearts out,” said Phyllis Ferrera, sophomore in Business and a team captain. “It was another challenging year for them.”

The women’s team, however, did not disappoint. In their first game, Thara Gagni, senior in Nursing and a team captain, ran in for a touchdown in the first half and the persistent defense managed to keep Loyola scoreless.

“It was a great play,” said Alison Saulog, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences. “I am glad we pulled off a strong finish in the first round.”

Excited about their victory in the first game, they were prepared for the second round against University of Illinois Chicago. The victory in round two managed to get them into the semi-finals against DePaul.

“The DePaul game was the roughest,” said Saulog. “I finally caught an interception and we got the ball back.”

Saulog’s interception was long awaited. After three scoreless overtimes, the team needed a great play to pull out a win. With the ball now in the Illini’s possession, Ferrera ran in a quarterback sneak to score a touchdown.

“We knew what we had to do to win,” said Ferrera. “After we got the
After a long day of winning for the women's team, the trophy was within reach. The last game for the Illini was a face-off with Northern Illinois University.

"The game was scoreless through the entire first half," Saulog said.

It was not until the second half that NIU managed to fumble a coveted possession, turning over the ball to the Illini.

"Abby Leynes picked it up and scored for the Illini," Ferrera said. "From there, NIU never had a chance to score."

For the third year in a row, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign women's team earned the Rice Bowl trophy. The team basked in the victory, which was well-deserved.

"We really owe it to our captains, our coaches, Rey Sriaaran, Kurt Fenner and Darren Bailey, our officer board and especially everyone that came to watch," Ferrera said. "We wouldn't have done it without all of their support."

story by Jayme Swift
BODY IMAGE

With the pressure of New Year's resolutions combined with the rapid approach of spring break, second semester is typically a period of very high gym use, and with the exercise facilities on campus currently undergoing construction, that means crowds and lines.

"As soon as the second semester starts, we experience the largest participation that we do in any part of the year," said Gary Miller, Associate Director of Campus Recreation.

This year's regular influx of exercisers comes at a time when student exercise facilities are limited in capacity. The Intramural Physical Education (IMPE) building closed the doors to its main workout area on Jan. 29, 2006. The East Wing of IMPE remains open for student use.

"I think that IMPE and CRCE are definitely, way overcrowded," said Erik Selman, sophomore in Business. "I think that they built them too small...intramural basketball takes up all the courts at IMPE in the evening and the East Wing isn't large enough, and CRCE is too small for the people that use it."

According to Miller, workout time has been made available at Freer Hall and Kenney Gym, so students can continue to swim, lift weights and play basketball, volleyball or badminton. Arrangements have also been made with the Urbana Park District to use their aquatic facilities.

Upon the completion of the IMPE renovation, which is tentatively scheduled to last until late spring or early summer of 2008, Campus Recreation hopes to be in a position to have a capacity of about 13,000 students, Miller said.

With all of this sudden focus on exercise, however, the question comes to mind, what is necessary to attain a desired body type and what constitutes going too far?

"The best way to lose weight is to eat a well balanced diet and get regular activity," said Kristen DiFilippo, a nutrition advisor at the Mettler Center. "Listen to your hunger cues — eat when you're hungry and don't eat when you're full. It sounds easy but it can be difficult."

According to DiFilippo, safe and effective weight loss is losing no more than two pounds a week. Losing any more than that in a one week period actually increases the chances of gaining the weight back.

"It's possible to lose weight quickly, but the chances of gaining it back are very high so it's not worth the effort," DiFilippo said.

DiFilippo also advises being wary of anything that sounds too good to be true, because it usually is. "Also, don't try anything that advises very rapid weight loss or getting rid of a particular food group," she said.

According to DiFilippo, the easiest and most effective way to lose weight and keep that weight off is also the most simple—diet and exercise.

"If you want to be healthy, eat a well balanced diet and incorporate activity into your lifestyle," DiFilippo said.

According to DiFilippo, one of the main reasons that people turn to supplements or unhealthy crash diets to lose weight and attain a physically fit body image is because of societal pressure.

"I would say that this country is obsessed with a certain body image, ultra-thinness for women and super muscular and strong for men, and that people at the college level definitely feel this pressure more," DiFilippo said.

Miller agrees with her.
"I do believe that there is a great deal of pressure, both in the advertising media and in the television media, whereby people are pushed toward a particular body image," Miller said. "You see one particular body type, a very long lean body type and that is portrayed to be ideal for everyone, which isn’t the case. We do get a package of genes from our parents which do dictate to some degree what shape you will be able to attain regardless of how much you work out."

Selman, however, doesn’t feel the pressure work towards a socially desired body type. Even though he said he tries to work out every day, he does it because he enjoys it.

"I think there are a lot of people that feel pressure to conform and try to look their best, but I also think there are a lot of people that just want to do what’s best for them, for themselves," Selman said.

Miller advocates an attitude similar to Selman’s, exercising for the good of it, not to attain a possibly unattainable body image.

"We want to be able to assist people in attaining a healthy long life, and if we can create habits in those people during their collegiate years, we hope that they will carry over to a lifetime of healthy activity."

story by Kyle Moncollie
The atmosphere of the Illini Union Board’s Fall Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre is unlike any other, because the audience members are encouraged to participate in the fun of the play, “The Diary of a Burning Women.” The 10 person cast of the play performed a total of four shows between Dec. 1 and Dec. 4 in the Illini Union Ballroom.

Audience members entered the ballroom to a buffet of fresh fruit, salad, rice, chicken, and fish. After attendants took their seats at a table to eat, they were greeted by cast members from the play that were dressed in costume and speaking in character.

Shanqing Yin, a junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, has attended other murder mystery dinners but stated that this production was one of his favorite events.

“This murder mystery dinner was more interactive than the ones I have been to before,” Yin said.

There was no stage or set to separate the cast from the audience in the hallroom, putting them on the same level which allowed for interaction. This close setting encouraged cast members and guests to mingle with one another. Audience members were also strongly encouraged to ask questions to the characters.

Yin explained that the audience members should ask a lot of questions during the meal, because they reveal the most helpful clues about the unknown murderer by doing so.

“Whatever information I could get out of the characters during dinner, I wanted to get,” Yin said.

Unlike the experienced Yin, Jennifer Mussan, freshman in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences and first time murder mystery dinner attendant, did not really take advantage of the opportunity to talk to the characters before the play began.

“I definitely did not ask enough questions while we were eating,” Mussan said. “I really wish I would have interacted with them more so I could have figured things out earlier.”

Because of the interactive nature of the play, much of the
majority of the production depended on the audience members' participation. The cast members fed off of the comments and questions that the audience presented.

Playing the role of Agnes in the play, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences Jessica Bersani decided to audition for the play because much of the acting was improvisational.

"I loved doing this play because it was a lot more performing with the audience as opposed to performing for the audience," Bersani said. "I could play off of them and change lines based on how people received it."

While there was a general story line, Bersani and the other cast members were encouraged to use their imaginations, and they spent an entire rehearsal just developing their characters.

"We each had to write a background about our character to see how every character's past intertwined," Bersani said. "We all had to learn the space we each had with one another in order to interact with the audience and put on this production."

The play was indeed a success, as members of both the cast and the audience did the detective work necessary to uncover the mystery of this year's IUB dinner theatre presentation.
Laughing and cracking jokes comes naturally to many of the students involved with campus' comedy groups. Three comedy groups include Spicy Clamato, an improvisational comedy group and the longest running improve troupe, De Bono, the university's only long-form improvisational comedy group and Potted Meat, which is a sketch comedy group.

The difference between the two types of comedy is that sketch comedy is pre-written and rehearsed, whereas improvisational comedy is made up on the spot, usually with help by the audience.

The comedy groups on campus have been thriving here on campus for a long time, and more and more students join the comedy troupes each year.

"Spicy Clamato] started about a decade ago," said Kirill Baru, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and president of Spicy Clamato.

Baru said the groups usually hold informationals every other semester for new faces and raw talent.

"There are 10 members," Baru said. "Nine-point-five if you consider that I'm not funny.

The hardest part of doing improvisational comedy is memorizing lines. Baru said. But he loves the fact that the group gets together every week to perform for free at the Courtyard Cafe in the Union he said.

"I love that it gets me away from my roommate for an hour a week," Baru joked.

The university's sketch comedy group Potted Meat is actually part of a bigger family of campus comedians, initially known as the Blue Parlor Players. Spicy Clamato and De Bono also belong to this. According to the Potted Meat website The Blue Parlor Players wanted to create both a sketch comedy group and improv comedy group, so they decided to break apart.

According to the Potted Meat site, the name Potted Meat derived from the "nastiest edible product" and Spicy Clamato came from the "nastiest drink they could think of."

Potted Meat has seven active members, some who are also group members of Spicy Clamato. They regularly perform at the Channing Murray Foundation. Potted Meat also partakes in Open Mic Night for Illinites, which is a part of the Ilini Union Board's entertainment program. It sometimes joins with the improvisational comedy brother Spicy Clamato for a big show.

"We write all of our own sketches ahead of time, sneaking into classrooms to rehearse during the week and typically being kicked out by more responsible groups who have already reserved rooms for their own meetings." Potted Meat members claim on their Web site.

There are many different comedy groups on campus, and even if students feel they don't have the comedic talent to brave the stage, there's always room for an audience member with a good sense of humor.
Opposite top: Ben Rothert, senior in LAS, performs a quick solo scene during a Spicy Climato show. Opposite bottom: Craig Colbrook, senior in Communications, and Jeremy Kantor, senior in Engineering, both arms to share a drink together. Top: Craig Colbrook, senior in Communications, falls off a cliff after being pushed off by other members of the group. Above: Aaron Pinkston, junior in LAS, Colbrook, and Kantor act as a group of gnomes during a science fiction Monday night at the Illini Union. Left: Freshmen in Business, Rob Silver, and graduate student in LAS, Hillary Mazze, take a break during a scene for Spicy Climato. photos by Mike Salwan
University students may find themselves in the middle of an uncomfortable predicament should they choose to disregard what used to be minor traffic laws. The University, Champaign and Urbana Police Departments are now enforcing jaywalking laws and the University even proposed a change to the on-campus speed limit.

"Pedestrian safety is something that we’re always concerned with," said Lieutenant V.G. "Skip" Frost, who is in charge of the patrol division of the University Police Department. "Unfortunately, sometimes it takes a tragedy to bring it to everyone’s attention."

One of the proposed changes to increase pedestrian safety was lowering the current campus speed limit of 25 miles per hour to 20, but this measure did not pass when it was brought before the Champaign City Council.

Sophie Doroba, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is the Illinois Student Senate’s Vice-Chair for Governmental Affairs Committee. She was part of a group that spoke to the City Council against lowering the speed limit.

"We felt that it was a knee-jerk reaction to the accident this fall and the three other accidents from last year," Doroba said. "We didn’t want them to just change the speed limit and ignore the real issues, lighting at intersections, crosswalk visibility and bus turning."

According to Doroba, lowering the speed limit would help increase pedestrian safety because the limit is not posted everywhere and is not enforced very harshly.

"The University was under a lot of pressure to make changes and lowering the speed limit was just a knee-jerk reaction to make it look like they were making changes," Doroba said. "I, personally, don’t think that drivers would actually be following the new speed limit."

Doroba added that changing the speed limit would not have any affect on the number of student-bus accidents in the future, as the previous accidents have involved busses in the process of turning rather than speeding.

"We asked [the City Council] to consider other precautions, like turning lights and sounds, bus driver retraining, adding stop signs, rerouting the bus routes and making crosswalks safer," Doroba said.

According to Doroba, the Champaign: Urbana Mass Transit District is currently in the process of adding turn lights and rerouting the busses so that there are not as many turns in the routes.

Another precaution that the University is taking to increase pedestrian safety is to start issuing jaywalking citations to students who choose to cross the street when the walk sign tells them not to.

"I was at Fourth and Gregory, crossing the street," said Jessa Becker, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences. "The sign said ‘don’t walk’ but there weren’t any cars and I was in a hurry and I went ahead and went. There was a cop standing there on the corner and she saw me."

Becker said she was issued a warning citation and did not have to pay the 75 dollar fine associated with a jaywalking ticket, but the warning was more than enough to scare her away from jaywalking in the future.

"I’ve definitely been more careful since getting my citation," Becker said. "Unless I’m in a huge hurry, I don’t cross the street anymore unless it says walk. I don’t want the ticket."

Doroba said she believes that the jaywalking tickets are one change that the University Police Department has made that will make a difference.

"I think that the jaywalking tickets have helped," Doroba said. "I have personally seen the police out and issuing tickets. I stopped and others stopped too. Even if they did cross, they would learn their lesson with a 75 dollar ticket. I like the idea; I think that it’s helping."

Becker agreed with Doroba.

"A lot of times, people are going to be in a hurry, but if someone gets a ticket, like me for example, they’re obviously going to be more careful crossing the street," Becker said. "I guess they can’t really fix the problem, but the tickets will definitely help it."

Another addition to the campus, neon green "look" signs, were placed at various intersections which have the reputation of being particularly dangerous, encouraging pedestrians to be aware of their surroundings.

According to Frost, these safety implementations should help to reduce the number of accidents between students and vehicles on campus.

"The message we’re trying to get across to pedestrians is be aware, pay attention to your surroundings," Frost said. "We want to inform as many people as we can as to the laws applying to them, pedestrian or driver. Safety is the most import issue right now, especially as more and more people use the campus, we have a lot of people sharing a confined space."
Above: Jack Wall, freshman in LAS, crosses the intersection at Fourth and Armory.
The big 2-1 is a landmark birthday that many college students celebrate to the fullest. After years of anticipating the event, when it finally comes around there is little to do but party, party, party. Some students choose to stay on campus and purchase their "landmark" first drink and receive their first (or first legitimate) wristband at the bars. Others choose to celebrate their special day miles away from Champaign...

Did anyone say Vegas?

Alex Grandpre, junior in Fine and Applied Arts, and Stacey Hultgren, junior in Communications, were two individuals lucky enough to celebrate their birthdays in Sin City.

Grandpre traveled to Las Vegas with his father the weekend after he turned 21.

"It was definitely awesome," Grandpre said. "You get free drinks and service while you are there, and free entertainment all the time. Something is always happening."

Grandpre's father takes regular trips to Las Vegas, so he had lots of coupons for freebies like hotel rooms, buffets, and $50 in the slot machines. Grandpre said these coupons financed the majority of his trip, with the exception of his gambling debt. Grandpre visited some of Vegas's finest casinos such as the Rio and the Bellagio.

Hultgren, too, flew to Las Vegas the weekend preceding her birthday. A close friend had invited her to be his guest at the semi-annual Marine Corps ball, and the event haphazardly fell the weekend after Hultgren's 21st.

Besides attending the ball, Hultgren and her friend took advantage of Hultgren's new privileges and hit the casinos. They also walked along the strip, watched the water show at the Bellagio, visited the famous "M&M's World" store, and went out for drinks. Hultgren said entertainment in Vegas was quite costly, as was the alcohol. Some of her drinks cost as much as twelve dollars.

"Gambling could have gotten really expensive, but I had given myself a set limit before I got to Vegas," explained Hultgren, "I ended up breaking pretty close to even."

Other students choose to stick around Champaign and celebrate their 21st birthdays with their friends.

Jake Linnell, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, spent his birthday surrounded by friends on the second floor of Joe's Brewery. Linnell's roommate and close friend, Hans Malebranche, threw the party for him. The party was themed "CEOs and Secretary Hoes."

"I had a lot of fun," Linnell said. "I like Joe's because people want to dance there, and if I go out I want to be dancing and having a good time."

Linnell wore a large crown to distinguish himself from the other "CEOs" as the birthday boy. He said he was treated like a king the entire night.

According to Malebranche, junior in Applied Life Studies, the celebration was originally going to be a surprise party. However, Malebranche was unsure of everyone Linnell would want at the party, so he had to break down and tell his friend his idea. Through a collaborative effort, the two created a guest list and sold 160 party wristbands to students at U of I as well as friends attending colleges out of state.

"Let's face it, we're nationwide. We don't play games when it comes to this," Malebranche said.
Linnell said it was way too hard for him to pick a single favorite moment of the night. Although the party itself wasn’t a surprise, two unexpected occurrences did take place that night. One of Linnell’s good friends showed up for a surprise visit, and Malebranche got the a capella group “The Girls Next Door” to serenade Linnell with a birthday song.

Linnell said he wasn’t surprised that Malebranche would do something like this for him because the two have been good friends since their sophomore year of high school. When asked why he wanted to throw a party for Linnell, Malebrance pondered a moment before answering with a cheesy grin. “Because I love him.”

story by Emily Ward
SOUTH FARMS
in the works

To students in the college of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, a trip to the South Farms in inevitable. This can be a rather disheartening experience, as many of the buildings in the South Farms, south of St. Mary's Road in Urbana, are "dilapidated," according to Dr. George Fahey, a Professor of Animal Sciences and Nutritional Sciences. As a result, Dr. Fahey and his colleagues are slowly implementing a South Farms Modernization plan, which has been in the works since 1996.

The University plans to purchase 2,418 acres to total the South Farms area out at around 4,000 acres. Many of the barns here on campus are from the early 1900s and are in fact on the historical register. These barns don't fulfill the needs of the researchers at the U of I today, so updating and completely revamping the program is a must. So far the beef and sheep barns have already been moved to Church and Race St., and the poultry farms are next on the agenda.

The old buildings do not go to waste, says Dr. Fahey. The sheep barn was bought by an artist, disassembled and rebuilt elsewhere. Similarly, the dairy parlor built two years ago is also relocating.

Unfortunately, no end is in sight for the completion of this multi-staged process. Due to the University budget crisis, many of the plans have been delayed. The land for the new Crop Sciences and Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences buildings has been purchased, but money to build the new field labs and farms has yet to be found.

Dr. Hans Blaschek, a professor in Food Science and Human Nutrition, is planning for an Integrated Post-Harvest Crops Bioprocessing and Research Laboratory. The center, part of the South Farms Modernization, will be a stand-alone facility for corn and soybeans, dealing with the possible food and non-food uses of the processing by-products of these crops. The University already has 15 scientists who are researching this "biomass conversion," according to Dr. Blaschek. The facility will be utilized by both the college of ACES and the new Institute for Genomic Biology and will hopefully assist Illinois farmers and provide research opportunities for students and faculty alike.

Fahey said the South Farms Modernization is all about the student of the future.

"Students need to have hands-on experiences," says Fahey and the close by South Farms aims to do just that.

It is difficult for teachers to teach modern technology in old buildings, and they are also limiting to students' experimental
learning capability. Students also need to be able to go to a lab and return to the campus in a timely fashion, which is why the farms are moving to a closer location.

Many students attend Illinois for its extensive agricultural studies program, and the modernization of the South Farms will allow for much needed experience for farming in the future.

Left, bottom, & below: The University's South Farms are covered in snow during the Illinois January.
photos by Melissa Levin-Cohen

story by Jenny Knox
Finding the perfect place to live while attending school can be a challenge for many students and faculty. Some options include living in the University dorms, private certified housing or an apartment. The many housing options cater to students and faculty in many situations, including those with families. Young families are given the opportunity to live at two of the University-run housing options: the Green–Goodwin Apartments and the Orchard Downs Apartments, both located in Urbana.

In order to be eligible for the family housing option, at least one resident of a Family and Graduate Housing apartment must be formally affiliated with the University and provide proof of that affiliation, as stated by University Housing. Students receive first priority, but faculty, staff and visiting scholars are eligible pending available spaces. Once affiliation with the University is terminated, the eligibility is also severed.

Ana Hernandez has been the associate director of housing for Family and Graduate Housing for three and a half years and has worked for University Housing for the past seven. She said that the Orchard Downs residence has 980 apartments with over 1400 residents and that Goodwin and Green apartments have 200 apartments with over 450 residents.

"About 50 percent of the apartments at Orchard Downs are leased by families compared to 17 percent at Goodwin–Green," Hernandez said.

Family housing accommodates students, faculty and staff with relationships such as marriage, siblingship, parents on site or any other type of committed relationship, upon proof of documentation such as marriage certificate/license or international equivalent, stated University Housing. Many find this living option very convenient and ideal.

Arash Mahdian, graduate student, has lived at the Orchard Downs apartments for seven years now with his wife and said that the residence is safe and has a very friendly atmosphere.

"What makes it a good place is safety and the fact that your entire neighborhood is graduate students," Mahdian said. "There are varieties of programs offered to families every week too."

The Orchard Downs apartments are located about 1.5 miles southeast of campus and encompass over 40 miles. There is a bus route that directly runs to and from those apartments and
around campus, ensuring convenience for the residents. Residents also enjoy basic cable included in the monthly rent and close-by public schools, shopping and campus.

"Some of the reasons residents say Orchard Downs is such a great place for families is because it is safe, welcoming and has ample green space and playgrounds," Hernandez said. "Our many children focused programs, including the Orchard Downs Pre-School and after-school program, are also a tremendous draw."

Mahdian recommends Family Housing due to its safe environment, but he thinks there could be some improvements, such as adding air-conditioning and carpeting.

"The only downfall is that the buildings are old and lack amenities," Mahdian said.

The Goodwin and Green apartments are located at the corner of Goodwin Avenue and Green Street in Urbana. These apartments offer young families the option of being near the heart of campus and all of its conveniences such as nearby restaurants, libraries and shopping. Amenities included in the monthly rent are gas, cable and telephone services.

University Housing stated that single residents are also welcome to live at the Orchard Downs and Goodwin and Green apartments. These residents may lease either a single occupancy apartment or a two bedroom apartment with a roommate of the same gender, referred to as a co-resident. Many single students do choose that option, which allows them to have their own place but still be under the wing of the University.

Family housing also has a "community aides" program at both of their residences. The community aides are residents who serve as liaisons between the residents and the Family and Graduate Housing office said Mahdian. The community aides function similarly to resident advisors and are a helpful tool which enables the tenants and housing authority to work together smoothly.

"They help new residents settle down, resolve any conflicts and provide a variety of programs for residents," said Mahdian, who serves as a community aide for Orchard Downs.

Though there are many living options available on campus catering to every type of person, the University Family and Graduate Housing has been serving students for over 50 years and still remains popular, supporting Housing's mission to provide for their diverse residents.

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story by Michelle Truong
Students who are looking for a change of pace in their nightlife do not need to resort to expensive or time consuming trips out of town to satisfy their need for entertainment. They only need to look down the street. A whole new atmosphere can be found only a few blocks off campus in downtown Champaign.

The downtown bar scene offers students a new nightlife than what can be experienced on campus. Students can dress to impress for the nightclub scene of the Soma Ultralounge, relax and enjoy a hookah at Nargile, or dance the night away at Chester Street Bar. No matter what your pleasure, there is a downtown bar that will appeal to most everyone’s taste.

Roger Mosley, a senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, says he prefers the downtown bars to on-campus ones because they harbor an older, more mature crowd. Mosley’s opinion is based on the fact that most of the bars require patrons to be 21 years of age to enter. Mosley does not enjoy dancing and explained that the downtown bars offer more seating and opportunities to enjoy a drink and mingle, as opposed to the fast-paced campus bars.

“I pretty much like to chill and enjoy the atmosphere,” Mosley said, “I’m really laid back.”

Mosley has been to quite a few downtown bars, but said he has the best memories from BarFly, which is on north Neil Street. Mosley went to BarFly with his friends and fraternity brothers to celebrate a friend’s birthday. He loved the outdoor deck and described it as a great place to mingle in the warmer months.

“I think we’re the only bar that has that,” said Patty Ham, 26, a bartender and waitress at BarFly, of the bar’s spacious outdoor patio and beer garden. “When it starts to get nice outside, it gets really packed.”
Ham said that BarFly is often a mixture of college students and adults in their late 20s and early 30s. Many students come during the week, when the age to enter the bar is lowered to 19. She believed students are attracted to the downtown bars because they seek a different atmosphere than what is offered on campus.

"They want a change. They want to get out of their normal scene, so they come downtown," Ham said.

According to Ham, the cleanliness and quality of downtown bars are also of a higher standard than bars found on campus.

"All of our shots are served in actual shot glasses, and we have actual glassware. It has a lot to do with respect," she stated.

Ham prefers the downtown bars to those on campus because they have a more mature feel. When she is not working, she often starts her nights at BarFly and then moves on to The Blind Pig and Mike and Molly’s. Ham said she enjoys the latter two because they have good beer — and lots of it.

Matt Berger, a junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, also enjoys the older crowd at the downtown bars, especially the ladies. Berger has been to High Dive and Nargile. While at Nargile, he enjoyed a hookah and relaxed on one of the bar’s giant red couches. He later danced a little bit. Berger said it was nice that the bar was not crowded and like Mosley, was pleased with the laid back atmosphere.

However, Berger has not frequented the downtown bars as often as he would like to. "The location is harder to get to because you have to drive and if someone is drinking its tough," remarked Berger, "If I had a car, I would go more."

In spite of the challenge of finding a ride to the off-campus bars, many students manage to spend a night out in the downtown scene at least once in awhile. Perhaps it is the allure of the nightclub setting that keeps the college kids coming back for more. Or maybe it is the relaxed atmosphere and calmer crowds found in some bar lounges that appeal to the students. Whatever the reason may be, downtown bars continue to be a popular alternative to on-campus nightlife during the week and on weekends for many U of I students.

story by Emily Ward
Greek Fraternities

The University has the largest Greek system in the country, so it has a wide variety of fraternities. Dan Bureau, Assistant Dean of Students and Coordinator of Greek Affairs, said that the University has an open policy for the expansion of new and returning fraternities. As a result, the number of fraternities could always increase.

Bureau said that it is good to bring new groups to generate interest. New groups typically result in high performing organizations since the men who start the group have to start it from scratch.

In the past two years, the University of Illinois has seen Pi Kappa Phi, Delta Sigma Phi and Phi Gamma Delta come back to campus. Additionally, other groups including Phi Kappa Theta and Phi Kappa Tau have expressed an interest in returning.

The campus can have many fraternities, but they may not have housing for all of them.

"Currently we don’t have enough structures to host the fraternities or sororities that want them," Bureau said.

Chapters can move houses because of their lease agree-
ment. It is often a financial decision. Once houses become vacant, the committee approaches existing organizations to see if there is interest.

In fall 2006, both Delta Sigma Phi and Phi Gamma Delta will be looking for new houses. Pi Kappa Phi recently finished building a new house. This project, according to Bureau, is an example of what can happen when renewed energy and strong alumni commitment are combined.

Adam Nekola, a senior member of Pi Kappa Phi and senior in Communications, said that the new house has been in the planning stages for years. The original house was paid off, but the chapter was not strong enough, so both were closed in 2000. After the housing corporation had some contractors look at the house, it became apparent that it was beyond saving. Tearing down the house and building new was actually cheaper than renovating.

Although the alumni did not have enough money, Pi Kappa Phi had to search for a developer willing to finance the project and found one from Chicago.

"The house was built as an apartment style housing so that in case the chapter could not fill it, apartments could be rented to pay the bills," Nekola said.

Construction was delayed and consequently recruitment was affected. Now Pi Kappa Phi must rely heavily on Spring recruitment.

"The house is definitely the best on campus so we expect it to help draw in men," Nekola said.

story by Laura Siebert

Opposite top: Michael Has, senior in Engineering, and Mike Munaretto, junior in LAS, play frisbee ball inside the Pi Kappa Phi house. Opposite bottom: Emery Lofh, sophomore in Engineering, relaxes on his couch in his room. Above: Michael Has and Mike Munaretto chat outside their house. Left: The new Pi Kappa Alpha house sits with on Gregory Street with a fresh coat of stucco.
photos by Mike Salzman
With the GKC Beverly Cinemas not far from campus and the Goodrich Savoy 16 Theater a small town away, students have plenty of movies and show times to choose from. Yet Champaign also hosts an alternative for those who tire of these mainstream multiplexes, and for those certain moviegoers interested in films that are not the most recent box office hits. Boardman’s Art Theatre, located downtown at 126 W. Church St., provides the ultimate authentic movie-going experience.

Constructed in 1921 and originally named the Park Theatre, Boardman’s possesses an undeniable historical character. Its old-fashioned outdoor marquee lists daily show times and coming attractions, and especially when it, the sign evokes a pre-multiplex movie era. Inside, a single ticket taker in the lobby leads to the theater’s only viewing screen. Designed at a time before packing seats was priority, the theater comfortably fits a maximum of 250 people, leaving much room in front for first row viewers and plenty for wheelchair accessibility.

"When I went to Boardman’s for the first time, I was surprised at how big the theater was," Erin Foley, junior in Communications, said. "Its age made it seem sort of fancy, too — you don’t get that at a commercial theater."

While the building quaintly shows its age, the technology at Boardman’s Art Theatre is not at all outdated. Extensive remodeling in 2003 resulted in a state-of-the-art sound system and utmost picture quality, and the Web site www.boardmansarttheatre.com brought online show listings and ticket ordering that same year. These updates, coupled with the theater’s 'high art' atmosphere have definitely attracted audiences to Boardman’s.

Boardman’s Art Theatre also sets itself apart from cinema chains with of the types of films it shows, which are considered not for their potential profitability but instead artistic quality. From independent and foreign films to documentaries and Japanese animations, lesser-known titles remain high on the booking list.

"We don’t follow box office numbers," co-manager of Boardman’s Art Theatre Mitchell Vaughn told Buzz in Jan. 2005. "The films we show don’t have TV spots, and their stars don’t necessarily frequent talk shows. We can’t be considered as competing with the Savoy or Beverly. We show different films that complement theirs by catering to a different crowd."

Boardman’s also hosts many scheduled events, from midnight showings of cult classics to film festivals involving movie-themed lobby decorations and local business giveaways. The University, in cooperation with Parkland College, presented The Tournees French Film Festival in Oct. 7-13, 2005. The theater also participates in Roger Ebert’s Overlooked Film Festival in April, cooperating with Champaign’s Virginia Theatre to highlight those lesser-known films deemed worthy of seeing by the famous film critic and UI alum.

Boardman’s does not disregard all big-name movies, however. It needs films that carry some mainstream popularity to maintain its business and chooses those with integrity and influence. The theater presented Michael Moore’s Fahrenheit 9/11 in 2004, George Clooney’s Good Night, And Good Luck in 2005, and recently began showing Peter Jackson’s much-anticipated remake of King Kong. Though the latter is playing at nearby multiplexes, Boardman’s Web site encourages viewers to "experience it the way movie-lovers are in Hollywood."

Pam Billing, freshman in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences, chose to see King Kong at Boardman’s over other cinema chains in the area.

"I enjoy the downtown atmosphere of the theater," Billing said. "It is much nicer than the Beverly or Savoy."

In the past few years, Boardman’s Art Theatre has contributed to the growing cultural landscape of Champaign. While the other theaters in town are fine choices for recent blockbusters or the latest Owen Wilson comedy, films at this independent movie house are more than just Friday night entertainment — they’re a form of art.
The University of Illinois offers several on-campus religious organizations that allow students to stay strong in their faith while away from their churches and youth groups at home. From InterVarsity Christian Fellowship to the Muslim Student Association, almost all denominations and beliefs are represented. The Hillel Foundation is an organization that revolves around Jewish students and culture.

The word Hillel comes from the name of a Palestinian rabbi who helped influence the understanding of Judaic law. Over 80 years old, this organization is one of the oldest established at the university. With almost 3,500 students of Jewish descent on campus, Hillel has a tremendous responsibility to make sure Judaism is a big part of these students’ lives.

Since Hillel has a large alumni base, many Jewish students heard about Hillel through their parents or friends even before they came to campus.

“My parents knew about Hillel because my dad went to school here,” said Elena Frankel, sophomore in Applied Life Studies. “They first thing they did when I came to visit campus was take me to Hillel.”

Hillel also attracts new students by hosting social events, such as welcoming barbecues.

Of course, keeping students in touch with their Jewish religion is Hillel’s main goal. One of the ways they do this is...
by having Shabbat services on most Friday nights, and almost 125 students attend these services weekly. Three different Shabbat services are performed - Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox - to accommodate all Jewish denominations. After the services, everyone gathers for a Shabbat dinner. These dinners are strictly kosher, so students do not have to worry about eating something that has not been prepared properly.

"Hillel keeps me in touch with Judaism culture because I pray there and I eat dinner there like I would at home," said Frankel.

Hillel also holds classes on Wednesdays that discuss modern issues relating to college students, and how they relate to Judaism. Topics range from abortion to tattoos. On Thursday nights, Hillel teaches traditional Israeli dances for its members to learn.

Groups to be involved through Hillel include a singing group, Chaiway57, which has previously performed on the quad during the Kristallnacht Memorial, and a cooking club, which meets regularly to learn how to prepare common food in Jewish culture, such as kugel, matzo balls, or hamantaschen.

Students at the foundation also visit Jewish patients at nursing homes and hospitals, and take hiking and canoeing trips as a group. Hillel also sponsors a program called Birthright Israel, which gives Jewish students a chance to visit Israel for free.

Ultimately, Hillel provides a way for Jewish students to stay connected to their roots at such a large school.

As Adina Rubin, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences says, "Coming into U of I as a freshman, Hillel made campus seem smaller as a whole."

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CHRISTMAS BOX STUFFING

’Tis the season for Christmas wish lists. ‘Early Bird’ super sales, and hectic holiday shopping. Although the holiday season has the potential to be a self-centered event, many student organizations around campus have opened their hearts, as well as their wallets, to help those in need have a Merry Christmas.

Programs such as “Adopt-A-Family” allowed clubs and departments within organizations to take a local family under their wing and provide them with gifts for the holiday season. Each family eligible for “adoption” provided forms about the age and gender of each family member, as well as some suggested gifts that could be purchased.

The Asian American Association (AAA), Taiwanese American Student Club (TASC), and Philippine Student Association (PSA) also collaborated efforts to raise funds for Operation Christmas Child.

The clubs took on the challenge as a philanthropy event and held hot cider and cocoa sales on the Quad to raise money. They also collected donations and shoeboxes to hold the presents in.

Fourteen different organizations contributed to Operation Christmas Child. The majority of them were fraternities and sororities, and students around campus, but Keds and Payless Shoe Store also provided boxes to wrap the presents in.

Operation Christmas Child collected $1500 in donations. Members of AAA, PSA, and TASC then went out and purchased presents to wrap.

“We bought everything from socks to stuffed animals to play jewelry and a bunch of other stuff,” said Bob Trieu, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, who was one of the coordinators for the event. “We tried to make it broad because we didn’t know what these children would need.”

Over 160 boxes were filled with gifts and sent to Meadowbrook Community Church, were they were then forwarded to a central location and distributed to children around the world who have been adversely affected by challenges such as natural disasters and wars.

Operation Christmas Child is a division of the larger organization "Samaritan’s Purse."

Trieu said he was surprised by the amount of outpouring at the University. “It makes you realize that a lot of people on campus do care,” Trieu stated. “That was the most rewarding part for me; it made the entire month worth it.”

The radio station Mx 94.5 also hosted a Christmas Wish Fund.

Every year, around the holiday season, the station does a stunt that will raise money to grant wishes for those in need who call or write in to the station.

This year, the station held a “roof sit” at the McDonalds on Neil Street and Kirby Avenue. Donations buckets were set up outside the restaurant, and the morning show hosts set up around 3:30 a.m. and began broadcasting at 5:00 a.m. The hosts braved snow and wind and stayed on the rooftop until 7 p.m. that night, when hazardous wind chills forced them to retire for the evening.

The next day, the station played requests from five to nine in return for donations, in an effort to raise even more money.

All in all, the station collected $10,000, which was their goal. “100 percent of it will be going towards granting as many wishes as we can,” said Ryan Leskis, Promotions Director for the radio station.

Leskis said that a committee at the station reads and grants wishes up until December 24th. These wishes range from making houses wheelchair accessible for families with handicapped children to paying for trips overseas to visit troops. After the committee makes their decisions, the disc jockeys call the winners and record them on-air as they tell them what they have won.

Many organizations selflessly donated to charitable causes this holiday season by collecting donations and undergoing self-sacrifices for the good of others.

“It’s a very heart warming experience to see what a small chunk of money can do for a lot of people,” said Leskis.
Erin Choi, sophomore in LAS, and Bob Trieu, senior in LAS, work together to fill a gift box for a young boy. Above: Nora Kuno, senior in Education, wraps a box with decorative Christmas paper. Right: Trisha Gutierrez, freshman in LAS, and Cathy Suh, sophomore in pre-nursing, discuss what positive Christmas greeting they should include in their gift boxes. Far right: Thora Gans, senior in Nursing, fills a brightly coloured gift box with school supplies and a stuffed animal for a young girl in the Philippines.

Photos by Alison Beloshapka
It is the time of the year when many families sit down to a large holiday dinner, unwrap the gifts under the tree and count their blessings for the year. While some families look forward to the holidays as a time of giving and receiving, others struggle to make ends meet. Fortunately, there are kindhearted people who spend their time making sure the holidays are happy for others.

Each holiday season, there are numerous companies and organizations that participate in the Adopt-A-Family program. In 2005, employees of the Illini Media Company decided to provide for needy families in the Champaign-Urbana community. Organized by the fall semester’s marketing team, promotion for the charitable effort included calling people, hanging up signs, and running advertisements in the Daily Illini. The goal was to convince groups on campus to participate in the philanthropic event.
"Once a group confirmed that they would like to participate, we provided them with more information and assigned them a family," Michelle DeKeyrel, freshman in Business and Daily Illini marketing director said.

Three Champaign area centers aided the marketing team in finding appropriate families: the Center for Women in Transition, Cunningham Children’s Home and First Call for Help. These centers chose a total of sixty families for the program and provided Illini Media with a wishlist for each. The participating groups on campus, including Greek houses, groups of friends, residence hall floors, registered student organizations, and campus offices "adopted" these families in hopes of making their Christmases merry.

DeKeyrel made clear that Adopt-A-Family is not a fundraiser, but a personal sponsorship of those families less fortunate.

"We did not exactly raise money, but rather found sponsors that then either raised money or used their own budget to pay for their gifts," she said.

The sponsoring groups were also responsible for the holiday shopping, choosing items based on the provided wishlists. They brought purchased gifts into the Illini Media office, where several employees spent many hours organizing and wrapping them.

"The IMC hallways were lined with presents," Emma Myers, senior in Communications and sales manager of the Illio Yearbook said. "I spent much of December wrapping, curling ribbon, and collecting money from the Illio staff for our family."

On Dec. 17, Illini Media delivered the gifts to the charity centers, whose workers then distributed them to the respective adopted families. The effort made by the Illini Media marketing team proved successful, as their collaboration undoubtedly brightened the holiday season for those in need.

"It was an amazing experience," DeKeyrel said. "Knowing that we were making their Christmas one of joy rather than stress was exhilarating."

story by Lyndsey Groth & Jayne Swift

Opposite: Mindy Viper, junior in LAS, along with Emma Myers, senior in Communications, wrap some of the presents for the Adopt-A-Family program. Above: A collection of gifts purchased for the Adopt-A-Family program by the Illini Media Company. Above left: One of many piggy banks that were set up to collect donations to buy gifts for the Adopt-A-Family program.
photos by Allison Belsaphia
Assembly Hall is not only home to the Men’s and Women’s Basketball teams. It also plays host to a variety of concerts and musicals. In the fall semester of 2005, the University brought in entertainment acts from almost every genre of music in order to appeal to the student body’s diverse taste. Acts ranged from the country twang of Brad Paisley and Rascal Flatts to the hard rocking vocals of Foo Fighters and Fall Out Boy to the calmer musicals such as “Gentlemen Prefer Blondes” and “Broadway’s Spirit of Christmas.”

In October, Shon Roegge, a sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, attended the Brad Paisley concert with his friend from high school. Roegge is a big fan of Paisley and had tickets for his concert at the State Fair last summer. However, that concert got rained out before its conclusion so Roegge thought he would attempt to see Paisley again.

Roegge had seats in the A section on the side of the stage. He said he caught a lucky break because someone had just returned those seats to the ticket center before he arrived.

"It was pretty much like a big party without alcohol," Roegge declared, describing the concert scene. "Everyone was on their feet cheering the whole time. It was a lot of fun."
Roegge said that besides the stereotypical cowboy hats one would expect to see at a country concert, some audience members also wore lampshades on their heads, in reference to a line in Paisley’s popular song, “Alcohol.”

Kanye West visited Assembly Hall over Homecoming weekend. Alisha Howell, a sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, was excited that the University was bringing in a good act at an affordable price for Homecoming.

“I’ve seen Kanye before in concert and he was so good that I had to see him again,” explained Howell.

She said West changed into an orange Illini shirt in the middle of the concert, which made the crowd erupt in cheers.

However, Howell’s favorite part of the concert was when West sang the song “All Falls Down.” She called her brother from her cell phone during it and the two sang along with West and the rest of the crowd.

“It was a really good atmosphere,” declared Howell. “I’ve never been to an all-college event before; it was entirely college students.”

Assembly Hall played host to the Nintendo Fusion tour on Nov. 19, which was headlined by Fallout Boy, but also featured The Starting Line and several other bands. Sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences Abhi Sarup attended the concert with a large group of friends from his dorm floor.

Sarup and one of his friends stood in line for tickets beginning at 7 a.m. in order to get their floor seats. Sarup said the floor was “mass pandemonium” during the concert and it was complete with a mosh pit of people. The floor was so packed that a person could lean with all of their weight to one side and feel confident that someone would be there to hold them up. The music was also very loud.
(continued from page 13)

"I could feel my jeans vibrating because of the bass," declared Sarup.

He also tried his hand at body surfing and although he lost his hat in the process, he said it was an exhilarating experience.

When Dave Matthews Band was set to perform at Assembly Hall on Nov. 30, self-described diehard fan Liz Toms, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, knew that she had to be there. This concert marked Tom's 80th time seeing DMB live.

"It's my hobby, it's my lifestyle," said Toms. "It is an expensive hobby. There are not many people like me, but for the few of us who are, we're hardcore."

Toms was pleased that her favorite band was playing in such a convenient location near her current residence. Even though she did not have the seats she would have liked, she still had a great time. She said meeting fellow fans and being with friends was a major part of the whole concert experience.

"There really is no bad seat in Assembly Hall," said Toms. "and it's not where you are, it's who you're with that matters."

story by Emily Ward
Today, reality television accounts for over half of the shows in production. What makes reality television so popular? There are many reasons, but one potential reason provides that the “ordinary” person is chosen over the professional actor or actress. Reality television has made an impact on the University of Illinois campus. It has even made two “ordinary” students, Jill Belsley, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Brittany Knott, senior in Business, seem quite extraordinary.

Have you ever been sitting around watching television and seen an advertisement about doing a reality show? Or have you ever checked your email and received an email requesting your presence at an audition to be on TV? This is exactly what happened to Jill Belsley, Miss Seventeen contestant, when she received an e-mail from Seventeen magazine three years before the show was even conceptualized.

“...At the very bottom of the e-mail was an explanation of this show they wanted to produce,” said Belsley. “I started to get interested because it sounded like there were a lot of opportunities.”

Before she actually knew that they were interested in casting her, Belsley had to fill out a fourteen page application and have multiple interviews. MTV, the network that produced Miss Seventeen, even called her family to try to dig up gossip about her.

Brittany Knott, a contestant on Beauty and the Geek, found out about the casting for the show through a friend.

“I loved the first season and thought it would be a great show to be a part of, “ said Knott. “My friend read in the newspaper that there was an open call audition at John Barleycorn Bar in Chicago, so I decided to give it a shot!”

While filming, many reality contestants worry about how they will be portrayed on television Knott said.

Belsley, who competed for an internship in New York and the cover of Seventeen magazine, hoped that the edited show would focus on the talks she had about politics, values and religion.

“I didn’t want them to show as much of the down time at the house,” said Belsley. “I hoped they would have focused on topics relevant to what we were being judged upon.”

Knott’s show, Beauty and the Geek, aired in early 2006. She said the show has done a good job at portraying her accurately.

“Of course, they are going to tend to show clips where I may not seem that smart,” said Knott. “But hey, I know everyone has odd moments everyday of their life. It’s not that often you’re getting taped.”

Since filming ended, both Belsley and Knott returned to the University of Illinois.

“I receive a lot of random friend requests and messages on Facebook, but I know the people who actually really know who I am,” said Belsley.

Knott has had similar experiences after returning to campus.

“Sometimes I’ll get a lot of stares when I walk into places,” said Knott. “But I guess being on the show has helped me to get into some of the bars faster and not have to wait in those long lines.”

Maybe next time you receive an e-mail or see a commercial for an audition for a reality television show, you will reconsider and think of the possibilities for the “ordinary.”

“...reality reality TV Contestants

Jill and Brittany

At the very bottom of the e-mail was an explanation of this show they wanted to produce,” said Belsley. “I started to get interested because it sounded like there were a lot of opportunities.”

Before she actually knew that they were interested in casting her, Belsley had to fill out a fourteen page application and have multiple interviews. MTV, the network that produced Miss Seventeen, even called her family to try to dig up gossip about her.

Brittany Knott, a contestant on Beauty and the Geek, found out about the casting for the show through a friend.

“I loved the first season and thought it would be a great show to be a part of,” said Knott. “My friend read in the newspaper that there was an open call audition at John Barleycorn Bar in Chicago, so I decided to give it a shot!”

While filming, many reality contestants worry about how they will be portrayed on television Knott said.

Belsley, who competed for an internship in New York and the cover of Seventeen magazine, hoped that the edited show would focus on the talks she had about politics, values and religion.

“I didn’t want them to show as much of the down time at the house,” said Belsley. “I hoped they would have focused on topics relevant to what we were being judged upon.”

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photos by Mike Salwan
The 62-member Illinois Wind Symphony has always maintained a high repertoire as a wind band, and this year it lived up to its reputation at New York City's renowned Carnegie Hall.

For Andrew Packer, graduate student in music education, playing in New York was the most rewarding musical experience he's had to date.

"When you're in [the symphony] for a while, all the performances at Kronert blend together," Packer said. "To be able to play at Carnegie Hall is a big achievement."

The symphony got the chance to play at Carnegie Hall after director James Keene received an invitation from Choice Music Events, according to the University of Illinois News Bureau. Keene has been the director of bands at the university for 21 years and has led the U of I wind symphony to produce recordings worldwide. He has also taken them through a tour of Great Britain.

"James Keene is fantastic," Packer said. "Every school has good musicians, but the fact that James Keene can take musicians that each have their own concepts of music and make them play the same thing... that's why he's world-renowned."

The performance at Carnegie Hall took place on Feb. 17 following a week-long tour of New Jersey High schools, which for some was the most strenuous part of the trip.

"It was really exhausting," Maggie Ritzenhaler, sophomore in education, said. "We were getting up early, playing a concert and then going home and falling asleep."

The week leading up to the performance may have been very tiring, but Ritzenhaler said it was well worth it.

"Being on stage and knowing that so many other talented people had been on that stage before me was amazing," Ritzenhaler said.

Ritzenhaler was doubly enthused about her chance to play at Carnegie Hall because she is one of the younger members of the symphony.

"I'm only 20 and this is only the start of my music career... I feel very privileged because a lot of the symphony members are graduate students," Ritzenhaler said. "I feel like I have a lot to live up to."

The experience was no less rewarding for third-year doctoral student in music education, Daniel Neunenschwaner...
For him, the greatest part was the standing ovation the band received. The crowd at Carnegie rose to their feet at the end of their final piece, "Illinois Fantasy," a compilation of traditional University of Illinois songs.

"I don't even know how to put it in words," Neuenschwander said.

Packer agreed that receiving the ovation was his favorite part of the performance as well.

"It was a large crowd and they really liked it," Packer said.

The audience, consisting of about 2,000 people, included Chancellor Richard Herman, President B. Joseph White and famous alumni film director Ang Lee.

"It was neat knowing that they were listening," Neuenschwander said.

While the performance at Carnegie Hall marks a milestone for the entire wind symphony, it is also a major highlight in the individual music careers of those involved.

"I was at the right place at the right time," Packer said. "I lucked out."

story by Sara Koenig
Sponsored by the Asian American Association, this year’s Taste of Asia was March 30 at the McKinley Foundation on campus. The annual event was funded by Student Organization Resource Fee and Cultural Programming.

“We estimated that around 450 people attended the event,” said Harrison Hsueh, Asian American Association Cultural Committee Co-Chair.

With a name like Taste of Asia, naturally people come for the food. With organizations representing Vietnam, China, Philippines, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, India and Asia Pacific, the food was varied and plentiful. Not only were there well-known favorites like egg rolls, lo mein and bubble tea, but there was exotic dishes like kimchi, a cabbage dish from Korea, dahiwada, a dumpling from India and che, a Vietnamese dessert.

The evening was not only about food though. Along with the various ethnic dishes, the event featured an educational slide show including cultural arts.

“The secondary goal of Taste of Asia is to bring together Asian-Pacific American Registered Student Organizations on campus into collaboration,” said Camille Bromley, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Asian American Association Cultural Co-Chair.

Bromley said she was happy with the number of student clubs that participated in the event. Taste of Asia had 12 clubs involved in the event.

The Taste of Asia not only urges student organizations to become involved, but also attempts to increase the community participation and introduce people to cultures they might not have previously familiar with. The Taste of Asia combines food with a learning experience about different cultures.

The large event ended Asian-American Awareness month at the University, which happened in March this year.

“This event is purposefully held in Asian-American Awareness month, because it bridges the gap between perceptions of Asian cultures and the experience of Asian culture,” said Bromley.

Free food on a college campus is naturally a hit, and having a cultural experience at the same time is a nice change from the college lifestyle. University of Illinois has a large diverse Asian American population. Since the dishes at Taste of Asia sample so many different nations’ cuisines, the tasters get a feel for the many different communities here on campus.

Opposite: Tricia Laybath, sophomore in Business, holds a poster outside McKinley Foundation to direct visitors to the entrance for “Taste of Asia,” an event where visitors get to experience free food from various Asian countries served by Asian Pacific American organizations on campus. Above: Alexi Fox, junior in Business and member of the Philippine Student Association, serves a visitor food. Left: Brian Peng, freshman in Business, and Christina Chua, freshman in LAS, present Taiwanese food to visitors.

Photo by Christina Leung
FREE Fortune Cookies!
for TASTE OF ASIA
Thursday
March 30th
5:00-8:00 PM
@ McKinley Foundation
unseen unheard
a cultural collision

Over the past two decades, the Asian American community at the University of Illinois has evolved from an underrepresented minority to having its own Asian American studies program and a cultural house. To celebrate this accomplishment, the Unseen Unheard conference chose the theme, “Evoking the Past to Envision the Future.” Beginning in 1996, the conference is held annually for Asian American students.

"Originally the conference was intended to bring attention to the student movement on campus to bring Asian American awareness to the U of I. With more than 10% of the student population being of Asian descent, it’s crucial that there is awareness to bring understanding," said Jonie Seo, junior in Communications.

This year’s conference was held from Friday, Feb. 17, to Saturday, Feb. 18. The two days included workshops, speakers, performances, and other exciting and thought-provoking events, including a showing of Leave it to Chance, a movie about a 20-year-old Filipino American man and the troubles he goes through with his dating life. After the movie viewing, there was a question and answer session with the cast and crew of the film.

To go along with the theme, the first two workshops concentrated on evoking the past. These workshops discussed past and current topics involving the Asian Pacific American community. Topics ranged from Asian American gender and sexuality to mixed-race identities to pop culture representations of Asian-Americans and its consequences.

The last two sessions focused on the second part of the theme, Envision the Future. This part of the program featured Asian American professionals who have excelled in their career fields and have become leaders in the Asian community. The workshops varied from topics such as law, business, film and health care.

On Saturday evening, the conference continued with a dinner reception at the Asian American Cultural Center. Later that night, the closing to the conference was held at Gregory Hall. Nancy Loo, a Chicago FOX News anchor, was the special guest and master of ceremonies. The closing featured performances from Asian cultural groups across campus such as the Vietnamese Student Association, Taiwanese American Student Club, Ghungroo Dance Company, and Chai-Town Acappella. The night and the conference concluded with an afterparty at Canopy Club.

"I liked the Lion’s Dance the best by the Vietnamese Student Association. It was amazing with the colorful costumes," said Jiho Issac, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Overall, the tenth annual Unseen Unheard conference was seen as a success by the organizers.

"I feel like those that attended were able to learn a lot from alumni about the past struggle that allowed us to have an AAS program and cultural center," said Seo. "At the same time, I think they were inspired to be the change they want to see on this campus."
One shrill whistle blows to signal a foul, and the harsh blast of another rings a couple courts away. At these sounds, the sweaty basketball players stop to acknowledge the call the referee has made. Clad in a black and white, striped jersey, basketball shorts and a whistle, the intramural referees are the authority.

During the winter months, it is basketball season at IMPE. From Sunday through Thursday, 7:00 p.m. until midnight, student intramural referees provide their services on the court. As a division of Campus Recreation, refereeing intramural sports at the University of Illinois does not just apply to basketball. Refs have the opportunity to officiate many other sports: football, volleyball, broomball, in-line hockey, soccer and softball.
For Christian Hildebrand, a junior in Engineering, this job gives him a chance to "see the other side of the coin." Having played basketball before, refereeing now gives him a different appreciation for the game and its officials. For the most part, working as an intramural referee has been an enjoyable experience. Right now, his focus is basketball, as it is his favorite sport to referee.

Compared to other jobs Hildebrand has held, working as an intramural referee offers a more laid back atmosphere, an opportunity to watch friends play and a camaraderie between coworkers. Hildebrand enjoys refereeing so much that he is a certified Illinois High School Association baseball umpire. After working as an intramural basketball referee, he plans on becoming certified with the IHSA as well.

Matt Gorney, sophomore in LAS, knew he wanted to work at IMPE but didn’t know what he would be doing. He was offered a position as an intramural referee and took the job. So far, basketball is his first sport and he plans to stick with this job and do as many sports as he can.

"It’s better than working at a fast food place," he said.

Since Gorney also used to play basketball, this is his favorite sport to referee. He feels it makes the job much easier because he knows the rules from previous experience. Dealing with players comes with the territory of being a referee, and Gorney admits that it is sometimes frustrating.

"You do a good job and no one notices; when you do a bad job, it’s the first thing everyone sees," he said.

To make the most of the experience as an official, IMPE gives training sessions on every sport, which include an introductory meeting, clinics and scrimmages. Becoming an intramural referee for Campus Rec provides students with a unique opportunity to work with their peers and manage flexible hours.

Opposite: Justin Burkart, senior in ACES, takes a breather during a player’s free throw attempt. Above: Justin Burkart hands the ball to a player for an inbound pass. Left: Jeremy Farmby, senior in Communications, makes a call during a game at IMPE.

Photo by Christina Leung

Story by Amanda Morse
Move over, Kelly Clarkson. U of I has its own Idol, and she didn’t even have to suffer the wrath of Simon Cowell.

KJ McKinnie of Champaign was named grand prize winner of the first ever U of Idol competition held every Tuesday at the Canopy Club from February 7 through March 14. Her winning performance was a rendition of Gloria Gaynor’s “I Will Survive” before a crowd of approximately 300. McKinnie’s prize was a five-day Bahamas Cruise for herself and four friends.

Mike Bray of Mohamut was named the People’s Choice winner for receiving the loudest feedback from the audience, and he walked away with a year-long pass to the Canopy Club as his prize.

U of Idol, which was a spin-off of the popular television show “American Idol,” was sponsored by radio station Q96, The Daily Illini, Budweiser, and the Canopy Club. The Canopy hosted the event after Live Karaoke Band, a band devoted to playing live music for karaoke singers, presented the idea after holding a similar contest in Carbondale. Club owner Ian Goldberg and Marketing Director Mike Armintrout collaborated on ideas for promotion and implementation, and the U of Idol contest was born.

Open auditions for the competition were held on Feb. 7 and 14. According to Armintrout about 70 people auditioned, and 30 were invited back for the qualifier rounds on Feb. 21 and 28, and March 7. Five finalists were chosen each night: one based on audience applause, and four based on the judges’ scoring. These finalists then advanced to the last round of competition on March 14 to compete for the grand prize. Armintrout said the judges chose winners based on four measures: vocal ability, entertainment value, stage presence, and personality.

“We had great judges, great feedback, and some really amazing vocal talents,” he said.

The Live Karaoke Band provided live back-up music for all competing vocalists. The band offered a wide array of styles and songs for contestants to choose from.
"The highlight for the band was the week before the finals," said Jeff Markland, the band's drummer. "All of the singers brought their 'A' game. The contestants were rockin' and there was good energy from the crowd. It laid groundwork for a great finals week."

Markland remembers a few standout performances, one by a girl who rolled around on the stage while singing Madonna's "Like a Virgin." Another was from a male performer who took his shirt off while singing "Sweet Child of Mine." Markland's favorite performer throughout the competition, however, was McKinne.

"We all knew she was going to win," said Markland. "She would raise the roof and take these songs vocally to a level that was jaw-dropping. She was awesome."

U of Idol fared so well that Armintrout says he plans to hold the event again next year.

story by Emily Ward
celebrate indonesia

Indonesia may be thousands of miles away, but for one night the rich culture of this nation was experienced just blocks from the heart of campus. On April 1, the Indonesian Students Club held its cultural night at the music building.

However, this cultural night was not the first one of its kind. Similar cultural events occurred in the past, but the last one was held in 1995. Indonesian Club members decided that the wait was too long.

"People have heard bad things about Indonesia such as terrorism and the tsunami," said Wiryaputra Pramono, junior in Engineering. "We wanted to try to introduce some of the culture and how diverse we are."
The club began planning last semester by forming committees and training for the occasion. One of the biggest obstacles in planning for the show was fundraising.

"Since admission was free, we had to organize a couple of fundraising events to make sure we would cover the cost," said Liana Gozalie, sophomore in Business and social chair of the Indonesian Students Club.

The club raised money by selling Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Valentine’s Day desserts, and batik, which is a type of fabric from Indonesia. They were also able to receive money from SORF and sponsorships from local restaurants.

Another step in planning the show was thinking of the theme. The club decided to call the cultural night "Journey Across the Archipelago." This was an appropriate title considering the fact that Indonesia is made up of almost 17,000 islands. Thus, it is known as the biggest archipelago country.

As for the show itself, the Indonesian Students Club really wanted performances that exemplified their homeland’s culture, especially its diversity.

"Being a big nation, Indonesia also has many ethnic tribes whose cultures vary as well," Gozalie said. "We wanted to focus on this diversity that we have and present the dances, musical performances, and skits that originate from different tribes as the audience ‘traveled’ across Indonesia."

To do this, the cultural night featured different forms of entertainment. Students performed traditional ethnic dances. There was also a musical performance of the angklung and talempong. The angklung is an instrument made out of bamboo sticks and the talempong is a small gong.

"Some of the people I had the chance to talk to enjoyed the angklung performance very much as they had never seen anything like it before," Gozalie said.

Other performances included a fashion show and a play based on the epic poem "Ramayana". The poem is about a prince whose wife is kidnapped by a demon.

Considering this is the first Indonesian Cultural Night in more than a decade, the student club was very excited about the results of the program, which may soon become an annual event.

"We are extremely proud...our months of hard work were totally worth it and I believe we would love to keep this event going in times to come," said Gozalie.
It's April 4 and the lights in the Gregory Hall are dim, except for a single spotlight, illuminating a band. The crowd cheers as they begin to play, but this band isn't just playing for themselves; they are a member of the IlliNOISE musicians' club and they are playing to support music programs of Champaign-Urbana high schools.

IlliNOISE, a University Registered Student Organization (RSO), was founded last year designed to create and strengthen the connections of the music community on campus.

"IlliNOISE is...based on letting musicians of all skill levels and styles meet once a week to play and build connections," said Patrick Gallagher, sophomore in Business. Gallagher is also founder and current president of IlliNOISE.

According to Gallagher, the group meets on Fridays to provide University students with the opportunity to get together and play music somewhere that they don’t have to worry about disturbing their neighbors.
"It's very hard, especially in dorms and apartments, to find a place to play with friends without bothering other people that live by you," Gallagher said. "Our club meets in the Armory when there's not classes and no one around. We're not bothering anyone that way, the club is unique in that people can come whenever without worrying about being a nuisance to others."

Gallagher also said that IlliNOISE is designed to spread the enjoyment of music to both University students and members of the surrounding community.

"The best thing about the club is that it allows musicians who don't get to play when they want or whatever they want to do that," Gallagher said.

The benefit held on April 4 by IlliNOISE was designed to benefit the music programs of the Champaign and Urbana high schools.

"A lot of musicians in the club had been in their high school band, that's how they first got interested in music," Gallagher said. "We realized instrument rental and equipment costs are very expensive and often professors have to pay out of their own pockets to fund the program."

"I think people, especially in high school, should be allowed to pursue their interests, whatever they may be," said Michael Demkovich, sophomore in Communications. "If economic status should prevent them from doing so, they should be helped with the cost."

According to Gallagher, although musicians' club hosted a smaller benefit last year, it was very last minute and a primarily acoustic show. This is the club's first big show.

"[The benefit] featured five acts that ranged from established bands to guys who had just got together and practiced for the show," Gallagher said.

According to Gallagher, the benefit raised about $50 dollars to benefit their charity and there were approximately 70 people at the show.

"I thought that the show was well put together, even though some of the bands were better than others, it was a quality show overall," said Demkovich who attended the benefit. "I was surprised to see as many people there as there were."

Gallagher said the benefit really embodied the mission of the club, spreading music while helping others at the same time.

"What we are really trying to do is allow people to get together whenever they want and play what they want, have fun and do some good at the same time," he said.

*Story by Kyle Moncelle*
One event most college students experience during their college years is spring break. While there are so many places to visit, there are also alternative choices to spring break that can be just as enjoyable as taking a crazy trip to Mexico.

Bridget McNamera, a sophomore in Communications, traveled to Guyton, Ga., with Greek IV, a Christian fellowship within the Greek community. For the last few years, Greek IV has worked with Habitat for Humanity help rebuild houses. This year they group went to, a small town right outside of Savannah.

McNamara said this was her second year going on this trip. While in Guyton, she encountered a man that recognized her from her previous trip. She described the event as one of her favorite memories.

"After all the people that have been involved in this program, he remembered me," McNamera said. "I actually understood how close you get to the people you are working with, even if it is for a short time."
Above: Caroleyn Ruscillo, sophomore in Engineering, Justin Jacobs, senior in F.A.R., Al Lohr, freshman in LAS, and Kelly Egan, sophomore in LAS, help repair a roof on a house in Pass Christian, Miss. For left: The group gathers for a break after a long day of construction. Center, right: Carey Schriber, sophomore in LAS, and Aaron Hart, junior in LAS, help drywall a house. Opposite left: A member of Campus Crusade for Christ volunteers his time reconstructing the walls of a damaged home. Opposite right: John Burton and Kyle Amdah, freshman in LAS, spend time with a volunteer for God's Kitchen in Pass Christian, Miss.

photos by Jeanna Elmore
McNamera said that she also became very close with the 14 Greek IV members that went on the trip.

"You spend all day working as a team trying to accomplish the unified goal of building a house for a family in need," McNamera said. "Plus, eighteen hours of driving there and back, you get especially close during an experience like that."

Jessica Elmore, a sophomore in Fine and Applied Arts, also spent her spring break building friendships with her team. Elmore spent her spring break in Pass Christian, Miss., with Campus Crusades for Christ to help the Hurricane Katrina victims.

Elmore said the team got very little sleep and engaged in hard labor, which mostly men were working on.

"But what was different about the situation down there was that the people whose houses we were fixing were working side by side along with us," Elmore said. "This made it more difficult not to get emotional because we had to be strong for these people."

For Elmore, this trip hit closer to home because she had lived in this area previously, she said.

"It was very upsetting as we were driving by old Southern mansions that are now just concrete, and all the places I use to go on dates completely destroyed," Elmore said. Elmore said that people do not understand the amount of damage that was done in Mississippi. She said that a victim said to her that they are not nearly close to rebuilding their city. He told her that they need the help of others, she said.

Both Elmore and McNamera said their spring breaks were unforgettable.

"It was the most gratifying experience to be able to help unfortunate families be able to have homes," McNamera said.

"The most gratifying experience to be able to help unfortunate families be able to have homes, McNamera said."

*story by Courtney Ludwig*
ILLINI MEDIA COMPANY

As of May 2006, Illini Media Company is calling a new place home. Built on land that was previously an old parking lot, the new Illini Media Company structure is the epitome of modernity. The new building, located in the heart of campus at 512 E. Green St., is four stories and will house separate divisions of Illini Media on each floor.

The first floor is primarily home to WPGU-FM and features a partial glass exterior to allow passersbys to see the DJs and live bands playing in-house. The first floor also hosts the new Illini Apple Center, which will provide new Apple Computer products to the students, faculty and staff of the University at a discounted price. The second floor of the building belongs to the advertising department, while the third floor houses the Daily Illini, Illio, Buzz and Technograph. The fourth floor remains open for future growth in the company.

Brock Williams, junior in Business, was one of four student members on Illini Media Company Board of Directors. Williams, along with the other board members, was responsible for overseeing the construction of the new building. The board approved design plans, chose contractors and approved financing of the new building. Although Williams was quite involved in the process, he credits Illini Media Company’s publisher and general manager, Mary Cory, with keeping the plan on track.

“Mary Cory deserves most of the credit for keeping this building project running smoothly,” said Williams. “She was responsible for making all the day-to-day decisions involved in a project of this size.”
Opposite top: As publisher and general manager of Illini Media, hard-hat wearing Mary Cory contributed to the construction. Left: The building took over a year to finish, beginning as a parking lot in March 2005 and ending as the new home of Illini Media in May 2006. Above: With WPGU and the Illini Apple Center on the first floor, the IMC building is a major addition to Champaign’s campustown. Photos courtesy of Illini Media Company.
Opposite top: Illini Media staff and friends gather in the new building's lobby on Apr. 21 to celebrate its completion.

Opposite top right: Students from WPGU Chris Perelli, senior in Engineering, and Chris Kirkham, senior in LAS, hang out with Mark Stoller, senior in Communications and Daily Illini student advertising manager, at the IMC building open house. Opposite center: Mike Zende, senior in LAS and WPGU DJ, says his thanks for a great year in radio.

Opposite bottom right: IMC employees Melissa Panco, Sarah Cai and Brandt Wills hang out on the building's fourth floor balcony that overlooks Green St. Above: WPGU employees Chris Lawton, senior in LAS, and Ryan Ricker, senior in Communications, serve as masters of ceremony for the IMC building open house. Left: The Illini Apple Center employees set up the store and prepare for its opening on Apr. 17.

photo by Eugene Perelli
Plans for construction began on Oct. 17, 2004. The building was near completion before school ended in May 2006, as many departments began moving in the Green St. location. According to Williams, the new site will bring the company closer to the students it serves. The old home of Illini Media and the separate WPGU station were located at the west end of Green St., which was too far away from campus.

Williams also said Illini Media Company wanted all divisions of their organization to operate under one roof.

"This new building will provide us with the opportunity to integrate several different aspects of media production from news to sales," Williams said. "I think it represents an exciting transition in the company. We are moving to a location in the heart of campustown and bringing greater visibility to our company and the five different media units we represent."

Kate Bowen, a freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is the director of promotions at WPGU-FM. She shared Williams’ enthusiasm for the new Illini Media building. She has worked with WPGU for just over a year, and although she loves Illini Media’s new location, it was a little hard to leave the old radio station behind.

"I miss the old station when I see how empty the new building is," Bowen said. "There was a lot of history in that place. But the new building is sort of like a blank canvas; we get to decorate the way we want and freshen up our image."

story by Emily Ward
Graduation is a joyous occasion, but with it comes bittersweet feelings of leaving the university and remembering time spent here.

Magda Gaucin, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, said that although the University of Illinois has been her home for the last five years, she is ready for her graduation day.

"Different colleges hold graduation ceremonies at different locations and times," Gaucin said.

She said her college holds two commencement ceremonies at Follinger Auditorium, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Linh Pham, graduate student in Business, will receive her Master’s degree. She said that after spending six years on this campus, she is ready to move on from U of I.

"I’ve had so much fun and made a lot of memories here," Pham said. "But I can’t wait to start making money and really living life."

Unlike Gaucin, Pham’s commencement ceremony for the College of Business will be at Assembly Hall.

Besides commencement ceremonies, graduates and their families and friends can attend open house on Saturday, May 13, at Alice Campbell Alumni Center in Urbana, hosted by the University Alumni Association.

Pham is planning on bringing her family there to start off the commencement weekend.

"It sounds like a great event to spend with friends and family before the big day," Pham said.

With all the thoughts of leaving U of I in the heads of the graduates, students seem ready to enjoy their freedom from homework, papers, exams and professors.

"I am not going to miss juggling school work and my job," Gaucin said. "And never being able to relax... always having something to do."

While Gaucin is ready to leave college, she said she will miss campus life when she graduates.

"I am going to miss this place," Gaucin said. "The comfort, the social aspect and the people I’ve met. There’s no other place like U of I."

Both the social and academic aspect of U of I taught Pham many lessons, she said.
"The best lesson I've learned here in college is just to embrace everything," said Pham. "The college experience is like no other and these are the years to really take control of your future."

Looking back on college, Gaucin said she wouldn't change any thing she did.

"I wouldn't change a thing, an experience, or the people I met, whether good or bad because those are the things that have helped me grow," Gaucin said.

Commencement, which takes place on Sunday, May 14, 2006, marks the end of those free spirit college days and the beginning of one's future in the real world.

story by Michelle Truong
Whether you’re a business student or an engineer, an English scholar or communications major, you can’t escape the pressures of earning an education. With all the time spent in lectures, labs, and libraries, college feels like a four-year full time job.

You take countless classes, write plenty of papers, and solve several problems, but none of these compares to the life lessons you learn.
University 101, a new course at the University this year, serves as an extension to the new student orientation process. According to Kristi Kuntz, a faculty member in the Provost’s office, who is responsible for its coordination, University 101 is an “umbrella title,” since several separate classes constitute the new program.

“This course is being administered and taught in different ways in each college,” said Kuntz. "In some cases the ideals of University 101 have been added to existing courses."

Examples of the course are the Institute of Aviation’s introduction into aviation, development activities for Kinesiology majors, a contemporary issues class for Agricultural Consumer and Environmental Sciences freshmen and a lecture for freshmen in Engineering.

The goal of these courses is to serve as an initial step in creating an educated, competent and productive citizenry by facilitating the students’ successful transition from high school to college. Students enrolled seek to strengthen their skills using campus resources, building career and professional awareness, enhancing information literacy and increasing knowledge of the academic community’s expectations.

Another key person to the implementation of University 101 is Gail Rooney, Director of the Career Center. According to Rooney, the core content in this type of course, for all variations, covers nine broad areas.

In addition to coursework, students map out their career exploration, find out where and how to
seek assistance for future career possibilities, receive records of that career exploration and search the Web site at www.epics.uiuc.edu for suggestions for future exploration.

This website, titled "Exploring Pathways in Career Successes," helps students begin their self-exploration and identification of academic and work options with creative connections to resources and career counselors based on their expressed needs. When designing EPICS, Rooney and the development team knew they only had 50 minutes to impact the student.

The Web-based program is interactive and engaging, allowing a student in his or her first semester on campus to choose their major and then plan their career in college.

Current EPICS modules consist of an interest explorer, a competency builder and in the spring of 2006, a dream resume builder. Each of these works to help students identify their strengths and finds ways to improve their weaknesses. As the University 101 program continues to expand, the EPICS team will develop new modules and guides to ease the transition into the college experience.

story by Laura Breitberg
Above: Joseph White shakes hands with an alumnus after the formal installation.
Far left: Joseph White listens to the speaker while waiting to be officially installed as the sixteenth President of the University of Illinois. Left: U.S. House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert sends his greetings to Joseph White through a video during the installation. Opposite page: Joseph White, the sixteenth President of the University of Illinois, poses with Dr. Laura Marie Bak. Regional Representative for Higher Education.

Photos by Christina Leung
The University of Illinois welcomed home B. Joseph White as the 16th President on Thursday, Sept. 22 at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. The Marching Illini led a procession of over 500 students, faculty, staff and alumni, decked out in full academic regalia, from the quad to the steps of Krannert.

Marching Illini member Nicky Harter said the band played traditional music, including the Illinois March which was written for the school by John Philip Sousa. Harter was taken by "the sheer magnitude of it all" and said White was very supportive and grateful for the musical accompaniment.

White was named university president in Nov. 2004 and took office on Jan. 31, 2005. He is now president of the university’s three campuses in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Springfield, totaling around 70,000 students.

In his inaugural address, White praised the prestigious history of the University, focusing on 138 years of quality education, research and monuments to excellence. He went on to present his vision for a successful future that would keep the University at a standard of excellence.

"With an institution like ours, a decline to good is usually a mere way-station on the path to mediocre," White said. "I did not come here to preside over decline."

White outlined his ideas for a positive future full of bright, creative minds, telling the students that "earning a degree is like investing in a stock, except that you can never sell it."

Encouraging big ideas, bold leaders, extended resources and strategic plans, White proposed the idea of creating a fourth virtual campus as well as leading the state of Illinois in sustainable energy and consumption through work on alternative energy sources. He added that national leaders require more than analytical intelligence, but practical and creative skills.

"You will find that I subscribe to the philosophy of 'yes'," White said. "Yes, we welcome your ideas. And yes, we can make them happen."

White’s ultimate goal is for Illinois to become the top public research university in the country. For this to happen, the University must become more aggressive and innovative, and gain the resources necessary to compete with other top schools.

White reminded his audience that the University’s distinguished past inspires and a brilliant future beckons.

"Together I know we can create it," he finished.

A reception followed the ceremony as guests had the chance to greet and shake hands with White and his wife, Mary, in the Krannert lobby, while enjoying punch and cookies.

Student Trustee Nick Klitzing, who served on the platform party during the ceremony, praised White’s passionate speech. While Klitzing agreed with White on the importance of preventing a slide to mediocrity, he remained optimistic about the University’s future.

"He has created his vision and I truly think he has the power to make his vision happen," Klitzing said.

Klitzing eagerly awaits the changes President White has in store for the University of Illinois as he works on creating a better future full of optimism and transformation.

story by Katie Hamilton
I'm telling a story, it seems. I must be careful, for I am Morph, the teller of tales.
ENGLISH/RHETORIC CLUB

POE NIGHT

A loud cry of "Here, here! It is the beating of his hideous heart!" echoed through the darkened atrium of the English Building on a fall night nearing Halloween. Freshman Jessica Lukefar, dimly lit by two candles, finished her monologue with a dramatic raise of the hand, casting a shadow on the wall behind her. The silent surrounding audience suddenly applauded, showing their appreciation for the reader’s rendition of Edgar Allan Poe’s "The Tell-Tale Heart."

On Oct. 26, members of the English/Rhetoric Club (ERC) held their third annual Poe Night to pay homage to the infamous author of all things horrifying. In the spirit of Halloween, several students volunteered to retell their favorite Poe poem or short story in front of their fellow English and rhetoric majors.

ERC co-president Camille Bromley feels there is definite reason for celebrating Poe’s work, especially outside the classroom. "We are interested in Poe because we enjoy his poetry and this is a casual way for students to gather and appreciate English," she said. After Lukefar’s reading, junior Andrew Hodge followed up with "The Raven," then Bromley, also a junior, read aloud the daunting "Annabel Lee." The show-stealing performance of the night came from junior Kyle Gortan, whose all-black attire and deep, theatrical voice contributed to his version of "Facts in the Case of M. Valdemar."

Co-president and junior Will Arndt lightened the gothic mood with his recitation of "So Edgar Allan Poe was in this car," written by Terry Jacobs. The humorous poem brought a bit of comic relief to the solemn scene and Arndt’s animated reading left the audience laughing.

"It’s neat to hear different interpretations of Poe’s poetry," Ashley Dihlippo, junior in English, said in response to the Jacobus poem. Junior Mark Steffen delved back into the work of Poe with "The Cask of Amontillado," and sophomore Ryan Ross rounded out the night with "Ulalume: A Ballad."

Following the readings, the English and rhetoric students gathered around a table of Halloween cookies and apple juice, complementing the readers on a job well done. The event drew other students besides those in the English Department, however. Jason Lewis, a freshman in general curriculum, said he attended because "Poe Night looks interesting." Gortan feels that reaching non-English majors is one of the benefits of the English/Rhetoric Club.

"It’s a great avenue to meet people and to cultivate literature throughout the campus," he said. In addition to the annual Poe Night, the English/Rhetoric Club not only hosts a euchre tournament and an English Course Information Night, but also provides volunteer opportunities for tutoring on campus.

Story by Lyndsey Cook.
For many students, it can be very intimidating to think that after four years at the University of Illinois, they will enter the real world. Between all the late night study sessions, research papers and last minute cramming, many students forget that all of their hard work is preparing them for the next chapter in their life. The Career Center is a service offered to all students to further prepare them as well as offer insight about options for their future.

One of the most utilized services of the Career Center is the web site www.careercenter.uiuc.edu. The site provides information about majors, internships and tips to build resumes and cover letters. According to the Career Center’s Information Specialist Lisa Redlinski, the website is where the most frequently asked questions are answered.

Sophomore Laura Mondt is one of the many students that utilizes the Career Center’s online services.

"I was interested in majoring in history so I used the web site to look up jobs I would be able to get with that major," Mondt said. "It gave me a lot of insight that I didn’t know and would have a hard time finding other places."
One of the most recent additions to the online resources is a program called I-Connect. Here students can login and search for employment opportunities, sign up for interviews and explore possible internships. Another great service I-Connect offers is the ability for students to post a resume online. Employers are then able to search student resumes and pursue those who they are interested in.

Although the online information is very helpful, The Career Center’s office offers many additional services. Located on 715 S. Wright Street, the resource center and library is one of the many tools helpful to students.

"Here is where students come if they have more concrete questions," said Redlinski. "Let's say if they are already interested in a certain industry or want to become a certain kind of occupation, and they just don't know how to break in or how to start."

The resource center offers information on a more narrow scale. For instance, students are able to research specific companies and read recent articles written about them. In addition, the Career Center offers one-on-one career counseling.

"These are counselors that you can talk to if you have questions about what kind of major would be good for you or how to connect a major with a career," Redlinski said.

Career counselors are also available to help students make decisions about what they would like to pursue after graduation based on their interests.

Thinking about the future can be stressful, but exciting at the same time. Whether students know exactly what they want to pursue after graduation and do not know how the make it happen, or if they have no idea what careers they are even interested in, the Career Center makes the transition from the classroom to the working world much easier.
Full Bleed, the name of the 2005 Graphic Design Exhibition, is also a graphic design term that means an image “bleeds” all the way to the edge of the paper, leaving no border. This method of design set the stage for this year’s University of Illinois graphic design show.

Full Bleed 2005 opened on Oct. 27 at 4 p.m. in the Link Gallery of Krannert Art Museum and featured a variety of works by students in the Graphic Design Program. Visiting Assisting Professor Daniel Goscha said that this year was unique because it was the first year that the show had all Graphic Design students: sophomores, juniors, and seniors, instead of it being a junior-only show as it has been in the past. In Goscha’s words, it was “inclusive of the breadth of work” by graphic design majors.

All art majors are required to settle on at least one concentration by the end of their freshman year and then take classes and studios in that area of art. Graphic Design is the study of any visual media, according to the UIUC website.

Students who chose graphic design did so for an interest in technology, a multitude of focuses or any one of many reasons. For sophomore Lauren Emerson, graphic design was her choice because it “incorporates text, which is unique to the other [art] majors.”

For instance, one class was drafted to come up with a School of Art and Design t-shirt to be given to prospective students. The top design was decided upon by faculty and displayed at the show. That same class also designed a logo for the Academy of Entrepreneurial Leadership’s lecture series with the top five presenting to the clientele. This process helps prepare students for the business world.

Another class collaborated with Industrial Design majors who created interesting grilling implements. The Graphic Design students then came in and designed logos and packaging, creating a complete product. Students also created posters for the play “For Colored Girls Considering Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf” and designed their own currency featuring things like state birds and national landmarks.
Students learned about modern graphic design artists through essays by Jeffrey Keedy and Rick Valicenti, and then took the prose and illustrated it, choosing typefaces, paper and layout. The same was done with the familiar Edgar Allan Poe poem, "The Raven." Using numbers and letters, students also emulated the Gestalt theory, the familiar pattern of something that could be two different things at once.

As a technology-based world demands more and more graphic designers, the University's program gives students a strong background in many different aspects of art, also allowing them to express themselves through shows like Full Bleed.

*story by Jenny Knox*
There are many student groups at the University of Illinois committed to the safety and well-being of its students. However, no group can compare to the dedication exhibited by the Illinois Emergency Medical Service.

This student run and student-funded group focuses on the training of Illinois students in CPR as well as educating the campus community about first-responder training. Their volunteers also concurrently staff numerous sporting events on campus and activities at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

A new addition to the IEMS services this year is the bike teams. Two Emergency Medical Training teams circle the outside of the stadiums in case there are patrons who are ill or are in need of emergency medical help. John Hagedorn, president and senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, believes that the student volunteers are invaluable.

“We are responsible for the well being of the people on this campus and we have saved lives on more than one account,” said Hagedorn. “The students take their responsibility very seriously and view it as a means to reach out.”

The EMT training that the students participate in is rigorous and graphic.

“The students participate in meticulous EMT training once a semester and are required to pass a national exam after the training in order to be certified EMTs.”
said Hagedorn.

The EMT course consists of approximately 15 hours a week of training. The students do not receive class credit for all the time and commitment, but they do earn pride and good experience.

This year, the student EMTs showed their devotion to aiding the helpless when a few students volunteered to go down to New Orleans after the destruction of Hurricane Katrina. Ten students were sent down for a period of five weeks to help the injured and needy after the deadly hurricane hit in late August.

"It was an experience that will be with me forever," stated Bethany Schmidt, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"We were in the same conditions as those people who had lost their home; it was unsanitary, dirty, and we were hungry. But it was worth every second of discomfort."

According to Schmidt, the volunteers helped firefighters and other volunteers.

"I am grateful that I was able to help those who really needed it," said Schmidt.

The students involved with the IEMS are diligent and dedicated to their cause. They make sacrifices in their own lives so that they are available for the students and faculty. With such dependability and commitment, the IEMS is a priceless organization at the University.
Anyone who has ever been acquainted with an architecture, industrial design or art major has heard the term “studio” thrown around. There are, however, very few people who are not required to spend time in studio that know what the term means.

To many, studio is simply an idea: this place where the architecture, industrial design or art majors go to do something related to their major. Studio is actually a place for students to go so that they can complete the work that they need to.

“You could sum up everything that we do in studio with one word: stuff,” said Mark Pavel, junior in Fine and Applied Arts. “We get a lot of projects all at once and you have to kind of work on them gradually so they don’t pile up.”

Located in the basement of the Art Building, the studio for industrial design majors is a number of rooms that contain a desk, chair and shelf. Each student is given their own workspace to use for their design projects.

“The nice thing about studio is that it’s your own space,” said Pavel. “Your desk is your desk. It’s an area away from a lot of distractions, even though there’s music playing a lot of the time. It’s like study hall. I know that I’ll do work when I’m there. Sometimes I’ll even bring work from other classes just because I know I can focus.”

Often times, the students do their work in studio simply because the work cannot be done in other places. According to Mark Arends, Chair of the University’s Industrial Design program, each studio has workshops that help students to complete their design projects. There is a wood shop, metal shop, computer lab, wireless Internet and anything else that the students might need to work on their projects.

“It doesn’t take a while to figure things out, but the process of getting it ready takes a while,” said Pavel. “You go through a research phase, then some sketches, models and a lot of the work requires the machines that studio has, so you can only do it there. I use the shops to fabricate things.”

According to Arends, the projects that the students work on in their studio space often become part of their portfolio, which they show later when interviewing for a job as part of their resume.

“The projects that these students do take a lot of time,” said Arends. “It’s kind of like building a deck in your backyard: it takes a while to put something like that together.”

Pavel said a typical week for him includes spending an average of 18 to 25 hours in studio working on a project. A larger project would require him to spend more time working in studio, but he logs a minimum of 18 hours.

“If I’m working on a big project, and I go to studio, I’ll lose touch with friends for a while,” said Pavel. “You feel very cut off from everything else, you can only spend so much time in studio.”

Apart from spending time working on their individual projects, many of these students’ classes take place in studio.

Although being one of the studio majors requires spending a lot of time working there, Arends said most of the students are happy to log the hours if they need to.

“A lot of students think that, when they design these projects, they’re doing it to help someone else, to eliminate some inconvenience in someone’s lives,” said Arends.

Another upside to logging so many hours in studio is that the students often form quality relationships with one another. They become a close-knit group working so close said Arends.

“Most of the art majors, industrial design, graphic design, painting, sculpture, and other typically spend a lot of time working in studio,” said Arends. “These majors involve a lot of what if thinking. You spend a lot of time trying things that don’t work until you get to something that does.”
Opposite: Teaching Assistant Jennifer Astwood discusses the project with Tiffany Cheng, sophomore in FAA. Top: FAA sophomore Hector Libo works on a project for an industrial design class. Above left: Bettany Rose, sophomore in FAA, sketches a rough design for her latest project. Above middle: There are numerous rooms in the Art and Design Building, each has its own array of supplies for students to use. Above right: Albert Lee, sophomore in FAA, spends another late night in the studio.

photos by Moshe Levin-Cohen
“Everybody should be so lucky as to be able to spend their days doing exactly what motivates them and pushes them to be the best they can be,” said Dan Kopelow who has been interested in flying ever since his high school days. Kopelow is a senior in the Institute of Aviation program, which allows students the chance to earn a degree from a nationally recognized research program in Science in Aviation and Human Factors.

The institute’s curriculum focuses on giving graduates a broad understanding of flight safety and accident prevention through the human factors component, which deals with cockpit and crew resource training. The appeal of the program stems from a number of reasons, from interest in aircraft to scenic perks.

“Handling an airplane makes me feel on top of the world,” said Kopelow.

The Institute of Aviation’s newly renovated main building is based in Savoy, about four miles south of the University. The institution uses on-site facilities such as Willard Airport, a university-owned airport that services University and business travelers. The airport offers 14 commercial flights a day. There are also organizations on campus such as the Flying Illini, an interest flying team that gives aviation enthusiasts a common ground.

Kopelow said that Aviation majors have very different schedules from more traditional majors. Mornings may start as early as 7 o’clock at Willard Airport and last until midnight on a long
Aviation courses are similar to any other university course, except for the fact that the labs are located at the airport and are two hours long.

"An aviation class is a big weekly commitment, with one class usually occupying about 12 hours of physical time a week," said Kopelow.

Even with the big time commitment associated with the major, Kopelow believes the benefits outweigh the downfalls. The fast and efficient courses allow even freshman students the chance to fly an aircraft by their second week of training and become certified flight instructors by the time they become seniors.

"We learn how to fly everything," said Kopelow. "From small planes to twin engine airplanes, from great clear days to in the clouds, and from big airports to little tiny grass runways."

According the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics civilian aircraft pilots and flight engineers held about 100,000 jobs in 2003 and the number is increasing every year. Upon graduation, Aviation majors can choose from an assortment of careers. Some of these careers include being a professional pilot, a flight instructor or even a flight safety instructor working for the Federal Aviation Administration.

"Most aviation majors graduate and spend a few years collecting hours in order to be qualified to fly with the airlines," said Kopelow. "I'd like to do that as well, but I don't think the airlines are for me."

Whatever the reason is for choosing Aviation and Human Factors as a major, one thing is certain.

"Aviation majors have the best view on campus," said Kopelow.

"story by Michelle Truong"
ART FOR PUBLIC PLACES

coloring the quad

The end of each semester is a stressful time for students on campus. With talk of projects and final exams lingering in the air, it can be difficult to enjoy something as simple as a walk on the quad. Yet for students in Art 305, "Art for Public Places," the stress of a semester project is concluded in a one-day exhibition for passers-by to enjoy.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the fall semester class set up displays on the quad. These large-scale items consisted of iPods to a Lego man, a shoe to a group of ducks. The class, taught by Professor Christiane Martens, "introduces the design and construction of free-standing site-specific sculpture...through the study of existing public works," according to the Campus Honors Web site.

"I walked through the quad on my way to class and thought this year's displays were great," said Carly Toepke, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences. "I was impressed by how detailed the iPod and the Lego figure were."

"I saw this exhibition when I got out of class," said Christina Leung, freshman in Communications. "It looked interesting so I asked students some questions about it."

The purpose of the project is to allow students to be creative in the design process and yet learn the responsibility of having the project ready by the installation date. Because these dates are set, it is imperative for students to meet the deadline as part of the grade for the project.

The class projects take a lot of time and in some cases, cost a lot of money. Peter Jang, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, stood next to the large iPod, a piece entitled "Me, Myself and iPod."

"It took more than a month to make this piece," said Jang. "I spent over $200 on the materials for it."

Stacy Kidd, senior in Fine and Applied Arts, on the other hand, spent a little more time on her project. Kidd's six dominos were placed to show that they would eventually fall. The project was entitled "Inevitable."

"It took about five hours a night for seven weeks," Kidd said in reference to the time spent building the project.

Another observer on the quad that day was Lyndsey Groth, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"The origami-looking birds in the trees by Greg Hall were impressive," said Groth. "The art brightened my walk on my way to the undergrad."

Because of the emphasis on the final project for this art class, the displays that students constructed for the quad are worth 70 percent of their final grades. They put a great amount of effort into the projects, as evident in the detail of the resulting display.

*photos by Christiana Leung

*Opposite: Joyee Zachariah, sophomore in LAS, stands next to her work entitled "Empty Masquerade," in front of the Beta Union. Above: Peter Jang, senior in LAS, poses for a picture next to his creation titled "Me, Myself, and I-Pod."
An American flag graces the dull white walls of the apartment bedroom. The only light glaring through the bedroom is a small glow protruding from a computer. Sunken into a red, white and blue bed sleeps Fred Kinkin, a sophomore in Business. Each toss and turn of his body echoes off the walls. Startled by a loud, repetitious beeping noise blaring from his alarm clock, Kikin rolls over to hit the snooze button only to see that it is 5:30 A.M. – wake up time for his physical training for ROTC.

"My alarm is the most evil thing in the world," Kinkin, a Navy ROTC member, joked. "Waking up for me is the hardest part about physical training."

Unlike many students at the University of Illinois, Fred Kinkin and other ROTC members must sacrifice sleep in order to train for their commitment to the United States.

"There are some days when I wake up and on my way out I see people coming home from a night of partying," Kinkin said.

Two to three times a week, the 120 Navy and Marine Corp. members meet at the Armory at 5:50 A.M. for an hour of physical training, which is referred to as "PT" among ROTC members.

Dressed in navy blue pants and grey t-shirts, the ROTC members are checked in for accountability. After everyone is accounted for, the group stretches out together before breaking up into smaller squads for conditioning. Typically, each Physical Training session begins with a 2-4 mile run. ROTC members run outdoors as far south as St. Mary’s during warm months or around the Armory track during the winter months.

"My least favorite thing about PT is waking up so early to run," said Navy ROTC member and Liberal Arts and Sciences sophomore, Alex Kikilas.

Upon completing the run, both the Navy and the Marine Corp. members do as many push-ups and sit-ups as an individual can in 2 minutes. Members are allowed a short break after completing this task and then they repeat this same exercise.

"You have to push yourself [during PT] if you want to get something out of it," said Kikilas. "You could slack off or give it your all if you wanted."

The hour long workout is completed once the group meets back together for a cool down stretch and listens to any important announcements that need to be made.

Sluggishly walking back into his bedroom, Fred Kinkin flops face-first into his puffy bed. He grabs ahold of his patriotic striped comforter, kicks off his running shoes and shuts his exhausted eyes. It is only 7:05 A.M.

"I don’t have class until 10 A.M..." Kinkin explains. "Why wouldn’t I go back to sleep?"
Above, above right: ROTC students stand in formation.

Opposite: Al Kikinis, sophomore in LAS, Fred Kinkin, sophomore in Business, and Brett Donan, sophomore in LAS, take time out before the spring parade. Right: Al Kikinis, sophomore in LAS, and Fred Kinkin, sophomore in Business, spend time with their dates at the Military Ball.

photos courtesy of Fred Kikinis
"It’s more than giving shots to puppies and kittens," reads a flyer in the Veterinary Medicine Basic Sciences Buildings. The University of Illinois has a thriving veterinary program, comprised of pre-vet undergraduate students and graduate and doctoral students. Veterinary medicine is a popular major for those who love animals and is an area of continuous growth.

U of I is the only college in Illinois to offer a veterinary medicine degree and only one of 28 nationwide. The small number of vet schools in this country makes it one of the hardest graduate schools to get into. Mary Kelm, Assistant Dean for Academic and Student Affairs, said that 15,000 people apply each year to those 28 schools. Illinois only takes 112 students, but Kelm stresses that being admitted is not impossible.

Kelm said that the difficulty of getting into vet school was exaggerated and most people only need to apply once. This past year only 17 people out of the 112 students accepted had applied previously.

Undergraduate students working towards vet medicine are generally in the Animal Sciences program, with a special pre-vet option. As the vet school recommends, the students take many biology, chemistry and organic chemistry classes along with some basic physics courses. Kelm recommends that students take as much science as they can and that they try to have as many animal experiences as possible. Some of these experiences can include working in a veterinarian office, farm or zoo.

Kelm stresses the importance of talking to people in admissions or major counselors. The admissions office is very happy and willing to talk to both high school students and undergraduates considering applying to vet school said Kelm.

Carla Manuel, the graduate program coordinator, echoed Kelm’s sentiments for vet school hopefuls. Part of the admissions is three letters of recommendation. Manuel believes that students should be making the connections now with professors by working in their labs or being advised for a senior project. Once students have been admitted there is no more “hand holding” according to Manuel. The Masters program is a 3 year program and the Ph.D program is 5 years, possibly more. A Masters student can look to at least 40 hours a week after starting the thesis project. Students are required to do a
thesis project but can chose to either have it written up as a thesis or as a paper to be published in a scientific journal.

U of I’s vet school is unique because it exposes students to all sides of veterinary medicine and not just research or practice. There is a large conservation ecology medicine and wildlife clinic run entirely by students. The clinic also features resident animals, mostly injured birds that cannot be released into the wild, which are used for education programs. Another new area is Urban and Shelter Medicine, which consists of a staff of veterinarians for both doctoring and rehabilitating abandoned animals.

Students who work hard and become a part of the U of I’s veterinary medicine program have a multitude of options upon graduating that will lead to a rewarding career.

*story by Jenny Knox*
The University's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences offers a bachelor's degree in Hospitality Management. This major teaches students business management skills and restaurant hospitality skills such as cooking, hosting, decorating and production. Beth Reutter is the program coordinator of the hospitality management curriculum and said that the major is relatively small with only 107 students currently enrolled.

"We choose to be small because we share our program with other undergraduate programs," said Reutter. "We don't want to overload."

Reutter said that there are perks when it comes to having a small group of students in the major. She said that the faculty knows every student's name as well as their personalities. This better allows them to serve their students' needs.

"One of our big philosophies is that we do know our students," said Reutter.

Jennifer Ferrin, junior in Hospitality Management and president of the Hospitality Management Association said that she loves the intimacy with peers that her major allows.

"The benefits of coming here are the connections that you make and the fact that it is such a small major. Its fun to know everyone or almost everyone," said Ferrin.

The Hospitality Management Association is an interest group that allows members a place to share their experiences and have fun together with events like monthly meetings, the ACES open house, tours and displays as well as a bar crawl.

"You'll end up with great friends and great connections," said Ferrin.

Hospitality management students receive hands-on learning with food production, management and business components. The latter includes subjects such as sales and marketing. The major is designed to include 21 built-in hours of business courses, which is just two courses short of a business minor.

"Students can easily receive their minor in Business as opposed to other majors where they have to take these courses in addition to their major," said Reutter.

Hospitality management majors also take on the responsibility of running two real food-related businesses: the Bevier Cafe and Spice Box. Both restaurants are located on the northwest end of Bevier Hall on the second floor. Juniors run Bevier Cafe, a cafeteria with all the traditional fixings that focuses on quality food preparation and service. The cafe serves an average of 150 customers a day.
"The cafe services mostly faculty from the surrounding buildings," said Reutter.

Seniors operate and manage the Spice Box, a restaurant serving themed meals. The Spice Box operates only in the spring semester and also serves as the senior capstone project. Freshmen in the course serve as the labor force, while the seniors function as the management. These two establishments are considered courses and students get graded on their performance and ability to draw a profit.

Graduates usually find a job straight out of college due to the high demand of hospitality personnel, said Reutter. The job security is high and earning a masters degree is not necessary unless one wants to enter the corporate sector.

"We don't like for our students to go into a masters right away," said Reutter. "It's best that they get some real world experience first."

A degree in Hospitality Management is growing more popular and more students are applying each year. Reutter said that the college works very hard to admit students with a sincere interest in food and management of hospitality related fields.

"The experiences you have as a hospitality management major are endless, from practical work, internships, field trips to guest speakers," said Ferrin. "It's a great place to be when you want to get to know your major and all the different aspects of it."
Dance Majors

At the University of Illinois, most students sit in class listening to a professor's lecture. Dance majors, however, have the advantage of moving freely about their classroom.

Unlike most majors, dance students are required not only to achieve academically, but also to perform physically. These students study, practice and attend class each day; some classes are lectures, others involve practical dancing.

"Dancers not only have to call upon their physical abilities," interim department head Sara Hook said, "but also their intellectual talent in order to understand different aesthetics of dance."

While intellectual talent may be called upon in dance class, it also needed for the general education academic classes each dance major is required to fulfill. According to dance sophomore Matt Johnson, some dance majors may take up to 20 hours of classes each semester.

"Balancing homework and studying with dance classes can get pretty crazy sometimes, especially after rehearsal when all you want to do is go home and sleep," he said.

Johnson students sometimes balance their homework with 5 to 10 hours of rehearsal a week for upcoming shows.

"The number of hours that [dancers] put in is truly astounding," said Hook.

However, for most dance students like Johnson, dance is more of a passion than a career choice, so the extra work is worth it.

"I chose dancing as a major because I wasn't passionate enough about anything that I'd want to study for 4 years," Johnson said. "I couldn't see myself doing anything else."

Outside of the classroom, students participate in productions that the dance department puts on each year. They audition for these performances at the beginning of the school year and begin classes immediately after each student is cast in a program.

According to Johnson, developing the piece is the most difficult aspect of preparing for a show.

You are learning the initial piece while the choreographers are still choreographing," he said.

Hook said that while students themselves begin practicing once school starts, organizing the show can begin up to a year in advance. She started preparing for next year's shows this February.

Though the shows require a lot of hard work from the department, Hook said that she really enjoys the "magical transition" of watching a show from studio to stage.

Hook said quality performance doesn't happen at every college, and she wants the U of I dance department to be more well known.

"Since the University of Illinois is not associated with an urban setting, people don't get to see the wonderful work we do," said Hook.

This is not only true for people outside of the Champaign Urbana area, but also for students on campus. According to Johnson, the arts are often overlooked here because students don't give them a chance.

"If more people were exposed, more people would like it and want to do it," said Johnson. "I've known football players who have dropped football and picked up modern dance."

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Image: Sara Keating.
Top: A student in the dance department stretches before class. Above: Members of the modern dance class practice a routine at Krasnoi Performing Arts Center. Right: Dance students perform floor exercises during the class period. Photos by Beth Mallins.
The University of Illinois offers a variety of programs within the College of Agriculture, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences. One of these areas of specialization is the Department of Crop Sciences.

The Department of Agronomy was developed at U of I in 1899. Nearly a century later, the department merged with the Department of Plant Pathology and became known as the Department of Agronomy.

The undergraduate program consists of class work in plant biotechnology and molecular biology, plant protection, agroecology, crop agribusiness, biological sciences, and crops. Specific classes deal with issues of herbicide and fertilization for plants, weed sciences, diseases of field crops, and genetics in plants and animals.

The graduate curriculum offers a Master of Science degree as well as Off-Campus Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Students pursuing these degrees are granted training and working opportunities with professors who are internationally recognized. In fact, the Department of Crop Sciences itself is a global leader in developing research that directly affects crop production and as a result, indirectly affects food and fiber production that is imperative for providing the global economy with food and clothing.

According to Department Head Robert G. Hoeft, in a welcome letter on the unit's webpage, the mission of the Department of Crop Sciences is to establish and transfer educational and research programs that encourage advancement of agricultural plant and production systems that are environmentally friendly, socially acceptable and economical.

Grant Anderson, a freshman in ACES, is pursuing a degree in the Crop Sciences department. His concentration is molecular and cellular biology, which entails the establishment of genetically modified organisms.

Anderson grew up in Naperville and never did anything agriculture-related before he attended the University. Anderson credits his best friend's mother, who happens to be an Ag teacher, with influencing him to pursue a crop science major. After studying anatomy and plants in high school, Anderson realized that a science division of agriculture was a path that interested him.

After receiving his bachelor degree, Anderson plans to attend graduate school.

"After grad school, I'd like to get a job with a major seed company like Monsanto and become a research scientist to develop new and better crops," declared Anderson.

Evan Hultine, also a freshman in ACES, is also pursuing a degree in Crop Sciences. However, unlike Anderson, Hultine has grown up around agriculture his entire life. His father runs a small family farm, and Hultine credits his lifelong involvement with the farm as his reasoning behind studying crop sciences.
Hultine foresees a career with large seed company upon graduation, or he may work on the family farm.

"I see myself working with plant breeding more than anything else," said Hultine, "I worked for Pioneer Research over the summer for the past five years and they do a lot of corn and soybean research."

Whatever crop science department graduates plan to pursue after leaving the University, one thing is certain: their outlook looks good. In the past, graduates have had at least two job opportunities at their fingertips upon completion of the curriculum. Due to the need for well-educated crop scientists to increase efficiency in areas of crop production, it is likely this trend will continue.

"Crop Sciences is the way to go," Anderson said.
Forestry Majors

The University of Illinois opened in 1868 as one of the 37 original public land-grant institutions for agriculture majors. Now expanded to eight colleges and the Institute of Aviation, the U of I has 29,294 undergraduate students many of whom know little about the College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES), and more specifically, majors like forestry.

Forestry is the sustainable management of forests for ecological and economic reasons. Simply put, it is managing forests to save money and the environment. It is part of the Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Department at the U of I, which is host to about 350 undergraduate students. However, according to John Brodbeck, a junior majoring in forestry, his is not the most popular major in this department. In his junior class, there are only 10 to 15 students that share his major. Though it may not be a popular field of study, the U of I’s forestry department is especially respected by foresters nationwide. This is because the degree is accredited by the Society of American Foresters, which according to Brodbeck, is a certification only a few schools receive.

While foresters across the country may know and respect Illinois’ forestry program, many students at the U of I do not know about the forestry department.

“I’m sure that a lot of people at the university don’t know about forestry,” Andres Sarmiento, junior in ACES, said. “When I tell people that it is my major, they are usually surprised to know that it is offered.”

Brodbeck agreed that most U of I students probably didn’t know about forestry, but he joked that it didn’t bother him because the fewer people in the field, the more jobs there are available.

According to Sarmiento, forestry majors typically become either county or park district foresters or work for tree services, lumber and paper companies. Sarmiento personally plans on moving out west to do land management for redwood forests. Brodbeck said that after graduation he would work in forest service, but that he would eventually be a consultant for private land owners and create a management plan for them.

“I think the stereotype is that we all become park rangers,” Brodbeck said. “I’m sure some do, but we’re just trying to manage timber resources.”

Both Brodbeck and Sarmiento said that their interest in majoring in forestry stemmed from their love for the outdoors.

“I love being outside,” Sarmiento said. “I really cannot stand working in a cubicle in some building. My Boy Scout roots got me into the outdoors and my high school counselor told me about forestry. I did some research on it and decided it was for me, and I’ve been happy with it ever since.”

Brodbeck shared the same sentiment.

“I grew up in the country and I always enjoyed the outdoors and hunting and fishing,” he said.

The required classes for the major range from forest policy and administration to dendrology, the study of naming trees. Though Brodbeck said that most of the classes aren’t particularly difficult, since coursework depends on your interests.

“If you enjoy what you’re doing then it’s not that hard,” he said.
Phi Eta Sigma, an honor society on campus, is not only about academic excellence, but also service. Founded in 1923, the Alpha Chapter at the University was the first charter chapter.

"We were the first, and there are currently 340 charters," Justin Litz, junior in LAS and president of Phi Eta Sigma said.

The honor society fulfills its national mission statement which is to, "promote superior scholarship amongst all members" by engaging in philanthropic work throughout the school year.

"Every fall we have a school supplies drive in the Union with the Office of Volunteer Programs. Then in the spring we do philanthropy work like Relay for Life," Litz said.

Being president of an organization requires much time, but he enjoys working with his executive board.

"We are a diverse group and have different outlooks of how to express academic excellence on this campus," Litz said.

To become a member of Phi Eta Sigma, one must meet the honor society's admission standards, such as a grade point aver-
age of 3.5 or above in the first semester of freshman year. One may also join the society with a 3.5 cumulative GPA at the end of the second semester. New initiates also must pay a one-time $35 fee.

"After we figure out who meets the standards, we send out emails, and then if you accept the invite you are a member for life," Litz said.

Admission requirements into the Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society are stricter than those of Phi Eta Sigma. According to its president, Professor Herman Krier, the society is open to undergraduate juniors who are in the upper five percent of the class in their specific college or a senior in the upper ten percent. Graduate students are also eligible to become members if they have a 4.0 in each of their courses.

"The juniors usually have a GPA of 3.7 and higher, and the seniors are around 3.65 and higher," Krier said.

Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and largest national honors society in the country, and it recognizes and encourages superior scholarship in all academic disciplines. Two Phi Kappa Phi initiations are held a year, one in each the fall and spring semesters at the Illini Union. The society accepts members for life, but Phi Kappa Phi has trouble getting students to join.

"The initiation fee is $70 and some won't join because they don't have the money. There are also dues," Krier said.

Krier noted that Phi Kappa Phi invites about 1500-2000 students, but only about 400 choose to accept that invitation.

Unlike Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi is run by the University of Illinois faculty. However, Litz seems to understand the importance of academic success just as well as any professor.

"Academic achievement can be a real marker for success in life," he said. "If you can have academic success at this University, then it's a testament to what you can do once you leave."

Story by Amanda More
Starting next year, the College of Communications will offer a four-year program at the University of Illinois. In fall 2007, sophomores as well as incoming freshman will be eligible to apply for admission.

"The main advantage will be recruiting students directly from high school," Ron Yates, dean of Communications, said. "We are at a disadvantage when we have to tell kids we’ve got a great school, but they can’t get in until their sophomore year."

Yates attributes the current two-year status of the college as a main reason Illinois loses potential communications students to other universities in the Midwest.

"We lose a lot of good students to schools like Missouri and Kansas," Yates said. "Right now, the fact that you have to get into the University, then take the risk getting into our college two years later is not appealing."
College of Communications Associate Dean Teresa Savage, who manages many of the college’s recruitment efforts, also says the focus will be reaching out to alumni.

“We are interested in out-of-state students, which we can reach through many of our East Coast alumni,” Savage said.

This change is also aimed at improving the life of students enrolled in the college. Savage hopes students feel they have a home for all four years and become better familiarized with the faculty and curriculum. Currently, the college recommends incoming freshmen declare themselves General Curriculum majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Financial considerations are also at stake in this decision. According to Yates, the college’s current status as a two-year school prevents it from receiving tuition from the students they teach.

“Under the current budgetary system, we were not getting tuition for two years while our students were already taking classes,” Yates said.

While Yates does not see any major changes for the college’s faculty as freshmen and sophomores will still be taking general education courses, he does hope to add a broad, entry-level communications class for first-year students.

“We want to create a class across the curriculums so students can get a taste of everything,” Yates said.

Meghan O’Kelly, sophomore in journalism, was concerned about the college’s application process during her college search in high school.

“Having to apply made me worried that I wouldn’t get in,” O’Kelly said. “I considered other schools because the college was only two years, and I questioned how good it really was.”

On the other hand, sophomore media studies major Emma Miller feels that the current two-year status of the college is appealing to university students already enrolled in other colleges. Miller switched from English to media studies during her sophomore year.

“I liked that it was only two years because I wasn’t worried about being too far behind,” Miller said. “At the same time, I feel as though I am not going to be able to take as many classes in communications in two years as I would like to.”

In the end, Yates thinks the goal of the college will be to reach out to high school students.

“I don’t want to lose any more great students from Illinois to out-of-state universities,” Yates said. “When kids come to visit the University, they should feel that they can get involved right away.”
Horticulture classes at the University of Illinois are becoming increasingly popular among students. As part of the department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, the horticulture classes students may choose from offer a chance to grow a vegetable garden, make a beautiful floral arrangement or learn about turf grass.

Heather LaHood, sophomore in Fine and Applied Arts, took Introduction to Floral Design (Hort 107) with Diane Nolane.

"I loved the class," LaHood said. "I thought it was really interesting and getting hands-on experience in the labs was fun."

Introduction to Floral Design is one of the popular choices among students because it is fun and creative. The class consists of a lecture and a lab and it is during the lab that design principles and techniques are put to practice. Another popular point of the class is that assignments are graded based on not only how well a floral arrangement was designed but also by the amount of effort put into the arrangement.

"It was a very relaxed atmosphere," LaHood said. "Everyone was there because they wanted to be, not because they had to."

The lessons in the classroom, however, do extend to the real world.

"I just made my mother a beautiful bouquet for my mom on Mother's Day... a similar bouquet probably would cost close to $50 at a flower shop and I spent about $20," LaHood said. "So, I not only saved money but it also meant more to her because I designed it."

Beck Diefenbach, junior in Aviation, has also taken a horticulture class. The class, Introduction to Horticulture (Hort 100), also had a laid back atmosphere to allow the students a chance to learn in relaxed surroundings.

"I thought the class was pretty decent," Diefenbach said. "The professor was fun and he seemed to really enjoy teaching that lecture."

Introduction to Horticulture gives students a chance to participate in activities such as t-budding, which involves making apple trees by slicing dead apple tree limb buds under the bark of the bush. The apple tree buds then grow and use the bush as its support.

"Overall I thought it would be a great experience," Diefenbach said. "It was also nice because during the lecture the professor would tell us which parts of his lecture are the important parts that we should be writing down."

There has become an increasing interest in the horticulture classes not only for their laid back atmosphere and easier grading scale but also because the classes are fun and allow students a chance to show their creativity.
Opposite: Meredith Miepert, senior in LAS, and a fellow classmate spread out the flowers they have chosen for their floral arrangement projects in Horticulture 107. Above: Melissa Kim, senior in ACES, and Rachana Yalamanchili, junior in LAS, work diligently to complete her project in Horticulture 107: Introduction to Floral Design.

photos by Allison Beloshapka
The University of Illinois’s theatre program is a part of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, which house numerous other popular majors such as architecture, dance, music and art and design. The college offers a comprehensive range of theatre programs both at the undergraduate and graduate levels, making it very competitive. Its three available programs of study include acting, theatre studies and design, technology and management.

Acting students are accepted after an audition, and those studying design or theatre submit a portfolio and interview with the head of the department. After the first two years of the comprehensive program, students must then pass a review for entry into the last two years to complete their degree. Throughout the first two years, acting students study and learn the different facets of theatre, such as technology and design, history, play analysis and dramatic literature.

Students who choose to study the design, technology and management aspect of theatre train through hands-on experience with sound, scene, prop, lighting design, costume, stage management, and technical direction. After the first year, students must choose a concentration.

Yen Vi Ho, junior in design, technology and management, chose to concentrate on properties, a part of scenic design.

“The scenery of theatrical art is what drives the mood of an entire work,” Ho said. “I like how I play in role through the scenery.”

The college’s Web site (www.theatre.uiuc.edu) states that the curriculum lays the groundwork for students planning to pursue professional careers in areas of theatre that require advanced training or specialization, such as directing, playwriting, social issues theatre, dramaturgy, adaptation and theatre history and criticism taught by its 34-member faculty team.

Ho said her experience with U of I theatre program has enriched her love for the art and motivated her to further her involvement in drama.

“Eventually I’ll be in charge of properties for a show, but that probably won’t be until grad school,” Ho said. “At Krannert, grad students are the ones who design the performances.”

The Krannert Center acts as a classroom facility and as the prime location for performance art on campus.
"Krannert is one of the most esteemed performance facilities in the world, and some really great acts come through there," Ho said. "Plus, all my classes are in one building, so I don't have far to go."

The University's program is a major draw for many students thinking about work in theatre and especially those seeking to express themselves through acting and artistic design.

"I transferred into this college and this major just last spring," Ho said. "And I wouldn't have done it any differently."

Opposite top: Anna Mormollien, senior in costume design, threads a needle for the hand stitching that she must do repair a tear in the lace undergarments. Opposite center: Yen V. Ho, junior in design, technology and management, studies some bloomers that will have to be patched before tonight's performance. Opposite bottom: Scott Wolfinbarger, freshman in theatre, helps behind the scenes by ironing a costume. Above: Maria Beyroudy, third-year graduate student in theatre, prepares for her role in Krannert's production of A Flea in Her Ear. Photos by Katie Wallenfang.
To many students on campus during the school year, the Undergraduate Library is like their home away from home. It is possible that students spend just as much time studying at the library or working on group projects as they do in class or sleeping. However, these students are likely to be surprised when visiting the library during the summer.

Beginning mid-second semester, the library change was in progress. Once full bookshelves became rapidly emptied and many of the study carrels on the lower level were moved. These changes mark the beginning of a process called "Extreme Makeover: Library Edition" to change the library into "Learning Commons." According to the library’s website, the Learning Commons will "accommodate student lifestyles with long hours and food services" and "connect students with the information, resources, and support they need to succeed on campus," among other things. Because the library was built so many years ago, in the 1970s, these changes are necessary to update the building into a more functional place for today’s students.

Unfortunately, as with any renovation, students have also had to deal with the frustration that a remodel can cause. Lana Stenger, junior in Spanish, spends time working on group projects in the library.

"I think the library will be great once it is finished," Stenger said. "But the renovation process has been somewhat of a distraction at times."

The commons, which are funded by the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, the University Library, and CITES, should prove to be beneficial for all students. The whole process will take two to three years but by the end will be worth the wait.

"I wish I was going to be here to see the entire process when it is completed," Stenger said. "But it will be nice for incoming undergraduates to have a nice place to study and work on projects."

The Undergraduate Library website contains information regarding the update process as well as a link to track the progress already made.
Right: One of the Extreme Makeover signs located in the Undergraduate Library.
photo by Jane Gadzior

Below: Stacks of books line the floors on the lower level.
photo by Christina Liang
university admissions

Applying for undergraduate admission to college can be a long journey filled with stress, excitement, anxious feelings and worries. The common question that goes through students' minds is, "Am I good enough to get in?"

When asked if she was worried that she wouldn't be accepted into the University of Illinois, Neetha Mamootile, sophomore in LAS, said, "I was so nervous because this was the school I wanted to go to and my ACT was borderline for my major. I didn't think I was smart enough to get in here."

Over the past few years, admission into U of I has become more and more selective. Illinois is no longer considered a 'safety' school when applying to college. For many, it's their first choice and the most competitive school they apply to. The reason for the increase in selectivity is because applicants are getting smarter and the number of openings cannot accommodate the amount of candidates.

The criterion for getting into specific colleges within U of I has increased as well. The most competitive colleges within U of I are Business, Engineering and Liberal Arts and Sciences. For 2005 freshmen admitted into the College of Engineering, the middle 50% had an ACT score between 29 and 32 and a high school rank in the 89th to 97th percentile. These numbers are very high considering these are only the scores of the middle 50% of students.

Although applying and gaining admission into U of I's undergraduate program remains competitive, its graduate school is even more so.

"Many students are going to graduate school because they have to get a graduate degree, they want to allow themselves to be paid better, or for personal achievement and growth," said Brandon J. Bute, the assistant director of The Career Center.

Bute says as the economy goes down, the number of graduate applicants increases. He also mentions that graduate school admissions have always been a competitive process.

U of I boasts some of the best graduate programs in the country in areas like Business, Law, Engineering, Veterinary Medicine and Fine Arts. The main factors in deciding admission to these programs are grades and test scores. Ted Ha, first year student in the Electrical Engineering graduate program, says that admission into the program is only the first obstacle.

"It's even more competitive to get a teaching assistant or research assistantship, which helps pay for school," Ha said.

Though admission to graduate school is difficult to achieve, students should not be discouraged from applying and furthering their education.

"In the future, I expect the competitiveness to get into graduate school to slowly go up, not a dramatic increase, but the same average increase as now," Bute said.
summer school
seen in the sun

When spring semester starts, January to May can feel like an eternity, as students wait eagerly for the temperature to rise, the snow to melt and the trees to grow leaves again. The weather eventually turns warm, and as soon as the last grueling week of finals ends, summer officially begins in Urbana-Champaign.

Many students return home to work or gain experience through internships, some study abroad or spend time traveling. Others, however, prepare to hit the books again, enrolling in summer school to squeeze in a few credit hours before the next academic year begins. The University’s first session of summer classes lasts four weeks, beginning on the Monday following second semester finals week.

“Summer school is rough, because it starts so soon after the regular year ends,” Stacy Zettinger, junior in Business, said. Enrolled in a business administration course for Summer Session I, Zettinger also feels the transition from spring to summer is difficult because of the longer class periods.

“BA 449 meets from 8 a.m. to noon every Tues., Wed. and Thurs.,” she said. “Four hours a day seems like a lot, especially since the professor has to cram many days of normal coursework into one. There’s just not enough time to process all the information.”

Though it may seem like an undesirable way to spend vacation, taking classes in the summer does offer several advantages. Christine Rush, sophomore in Business, chose to take Econ 302 during Session I so that she could focus solely on its coursework without a full schedule.

“I like summer school, if only because I can spend more time on a single class,” Rush said. “The econ I’m taking would be a lot to handle if I had to worry about my grades in 4 other classes.”

The University’s second summer session begins mid-June, and unlike the first, it runs eight full weeks instead of four. Zettinger looks forward to her second class of the summer, which she says will offer a much slower pace.

“I think session II will be better,” she said. “It’s just the right amount of time without all the pressure.”

Rush commented that even though she’s in class, summer school is much less stressful than the standard academic year.

“It’s nice that I don’t have to worry about club meetings and extracurricular activities, not to mention busy coffeehouses and packed libraries,” Rush said.

Zettinger also commented that campus is a peaceful place to be from June until August.

“Champaign in the summer is so quiet,” she said. “When thousands of people leave, the environment is much less distracting and more conducive to learning. Plus there’s always the option of studying poolside.”

Stories by Lyndsey Givok

Opposite: Joe Radosevich, sophomore in LAS, reads outside the English Building during Summer Session I.
Top: Relaxing on the quad with shoes off and book in hand, Jess Remke, senior in LAS, takes advantage of the warm May weather.
Above: Ellen Schirra, sophomore in LAS, asks Professor Jose Vanquez-Cognet a question during the summer session Econ 302 course.

Photo by Andrew Davis
Whether you’re on the team or in the bleachers, on the field or in the fan club, you consider yourself a part of the Fighting Illini.

Carrying on the Illinois tradition, you proudly wear your orange and blue and sing the words to the school fight song. No matter what the score at the end of the game, you stay true through hard-earned victories and heartbreaking defeats.
Senior Pramod Dabir will be remembered long after he graduates and leaves college tennis behind. Ted Brown, a senior on the men’s gymnastics team, though only a member of the Illinois team for three years, has accomplished more than enough to make sure his legacy prevails.

Although both of the Illini are extremely accomplished, they have achieved their glory while helping their teams to greater success. When asked to recall the highlight of their careers, they both point to team goals, not their individual accomplishments.

Brown does not mention his Big Ten title on the pommel horse, nor does he mention his trip to the U.S. National Gymnastics championships where he competed to earn a spot on the 14-member U.S. national team. Instead, when Brown
talks about his athletic accomplishments, he is more likely to mention the Big Ten team title the Illini won in 2004, it was the first time an Illinois team had accomplished that feat in more than a decade.

Dabir views his tennis accomplishments much the same way. He was a freshman on the Illinois men's tennis team when the Illini clinched the 2003 NCAA title in Athens, Ga. Although he watched that match unfold from the sidelines, being able to be part of that team is still one of his greatest memories from his Illini athletic career. Dabir chooses to define his success as an athlete through that championship, instead of focusing on his individual successes.

In 2003, Dabir competed in the U.S. Open, the most prestigious tennis event held in the United States. He also had the team's longest winning streak, dropping four of his first seven matches before starting a 21-match winning streak that lasted until fall 2004.

Both men know they will be remembered by their teammates long after graduation for more than their athleticism. But Brown does not want his legacy to be the type of gymnast he was, but rather what kind of person he was for helping his teammates with their pommel horse routines and offering support and encouragement.

"Outside of the gym, I want the guys on the team to remember me as someone they could always come talk to about anything," Brown said.

Dabir is a team player too. The younger Illini look up to him not only because of his success on the court but also because of his success in the classroom. Dabir will graduate in May with a degree in Electrical Engineering. He said being a student-athlete has helped him develop the work ethic necessary to work as an investment banker in the future.

"The business that I'm going into is going to be very cutthroat," said Dabir. "It requires you to put in a lot of work and a lot of time. Instead of putting forth (that effort) into tennis and academics, it will go into my job."

Many members of the sophomore class feel that Dabir has been instrumental in helping them learn to balance their studies and the pressures of competing in athletics.

"He is definitely a student-athlete in every sense of the word," sophomore Brandon Davis said.

It is Dabir's personality, upbeat nature and enthusiasm that shine through and make him an unforgettable part of Illinois tennis.

"Outside of his tennis, we'd miss something without Pramod," Dancer said. "He is a very lovable character."
The 2005 men’s cross country team has taken great strides in achieving many personal and team goals this season. However, the season was spent rebuilding when barriers such as injuries slowed the team’s progress.

The team opened their season with a second place finish at the Hawkeye Invite in Iowa. They competed on their home turf at the Illini Pack It Up Challenge, where Illini runners nabbed the top eight individual finishes.

Eric Wallor, a senior in Applied Life Studies, said the team runs about 15 miles a day for practice. They also have long weekend runs, which puts their accumulated weekly mileage around 85 to 95 miles.

“Practice doesn’t feel like practice,” said Wallor. “It just makes me feel free.”

Races are eight kilometers, except for Regionals and Nationals, which are ten kilometers. The Illini normally send their top nine or ten runners to each meet. Seven of these runners are allowed to compete, and five of those are included in scoring.

Wallor describes the team as a young one that is developing fast. He said the team’s progress was evident during the first meet of the season. According to Mike Kelley, junior in Business, many runners are getting racing experience that will enable them to step up and shine next year.

Dan Stock, junior in Business, identified the absence of the team’s two best runners as a major barrier this season. Senior Jason Bill redshirted because of an injury, while junior Trent Hoerr redshirted the season so he could train for next year. Stock himself could not compete for nearly two weeks at the beginning of the season due to an injured foot. He returned to be a huge contributor the team for the remainder of the season.

New head coach Wendel McRaven brought new ideology to the team as well. Kelley said that under McRaven, almost every runner has improved from last year.

“He’s very passionate about the sport,” explained Kelley. “All of the guys have a great deal of respect for him.”

The runners identified several group and personal goals for the season.

“One of my goals has always been to run under 25 minutes,” said Wallor. “He has come close to accomplishing this goal several times, but would like to seal the deal before he graduates.

Stock said he would like to receive All-Regional honors at the NCAA Midwest Regionals. To do this, he would have to be one of the top 25 finishers. As a team, Stock aspires to see an improvement from the disappointing Big Ten competition, where the team finished tenth.

Kelley said he would love to end the season on a positive note that would carry into track season. He identified a similar team goal.

“I’d like to see us rebound from our Big Ten performance and redefine our season by having a good performance at Regionals,” said Kelley.

Even if the team does not achieve their immediate goals this year, they have erected a foundation for a prosperous 2006 season. Besides, as Wallor pointed out, there is more to the sport than winning and losing.

“Doing well is great, but getting close with everyone on the team is what matters,” said Wallor. “When you grow as friends, you grow better as a team.”
Top: Sophomore Ian Clausen sprints toward the finish line to finish sixth in between sophomore Justin Aronson (374) and sophomore Dan Walters. Above far left & left center: Sophomore Maciej Sniegorski holds a commanding lead as a large group of runners trails behind in the distance. Above right center: Sophomore Tim Kelly pulls ahead of sophomore Michael Kelley at the finish line. Above far right: Sophomore Justin Aronson (374), sophomore Michael Kelley (377), and senior Eric Walker (304) lead a pack of runners. Opposite page: Sophomore Maciej Sniegorski pulls out to an early lead at the Illinois Park & Up Challenge on Sept. 17. Photos by Mike Salwan.
Riding a growing reputation and a determination to better last year’s 11th-place finish at Nationals, the women’s cross country team has approached this season with an intense focus. Ranked as high as No. 5 in the country thus far, Illinois has proved to its doubters that they belong running against the best.

"None of these girls have gotten the notoriety before," said coach Karen Harvey. "It’s brand new. We are the new kids on the block."

Junior Cassie Hunt was named Big Ten Athlete of the Year after winning an individual title at the Big Ten meet on Oct. 30. Hunt’s time of 21:00.54 for the 6 kilometer race destroyed the old Big Ten Championships record by over 30 seconds. The honor was even greater for Hunt, a native of Roachdale, Ind., since no other woman in Illinois history had ever won an individual Big Ten title. Hunt said that while the beginning of the season was "kind of rough, it was definitely a confidence booster and feels good to have reached that goal (of winning Big Tens)."

"To see her come out of (the slump) and be her old self again, it was awesome," Harvey said.

Freshman Katie Engel was also able to steal some of the spotlight, being named Big Ten Freshman of the Year, after finishing the race in 13th place with a time of 21:37.49, earning her all-conference honors. Junior Stephanie Simms’ time of 21:11 also earned her first-team all-conference recognition after she finished in fourth place, just one-tenth of a second behind the third-place finisher. Simms’ improved upon her 2004 finish by nearly 90 seconds.

Earlier in the season, the Illini competed in the Notre Dame Invitational on Sept. 30 in South Bend, Ind., and upset six nationally-ranked teams en route to a second-place finish. Har
vey called the race "a historic day" for their cross country program. Illinois came into the race ranked 20th and most notably upset host and No. 3 Notre Dame, No. 10 Arkansas and No. 12 Wake Forest. The team finished with 82 points and only fell to the defending Big Ten champion and cross-country powerhouse, Michigan, by five points. Illinois and Coach Harvey, though, believed that their best was yet to come.

"It's exciting to know what we did on a good day, and it's unthinkable to know what we can do on a great day," said sophomore Maggie Carroll, who finished the race in 21st place.

After the Illini's performance at Notre Dame, they moved up to fifth in the NCAA FinishLynx National Poll, a school record.

On Oct. 15 at Pre-Nationals, the team finished fifth, racing against 34 teams and an estimated 200 runners. Sophomore Katie Coppin, in her first 6 kilometer race, had a career day, finishing with a time of 21:11 -- a new personal best -- in 24th place. Coppin said that her improvement in races has been the result of "pure, hard work." Engel finished behind Coppin in 25th and made her way into the record books. Her time of 21:12 was the best-ever for an Illinois freshman in a 6 kilometer race.

The Illini then completed their roller coaster season when it finished fifth - its best showing in school history - at the NCAA Championships in Terre Haute, Ind. Bettering its 2004 finish by 15 places, the team "finally fired on all cylinders," head coach Karen Harvey said.

"I told them that if we run like we did at Pre-Nationals we'll definitely be top-10, which was an overall goal for us," Harvey said. "But they ran so much better than they did at Pre-Nationals, that's what happened."

Happy to only be at Nationals last year and to then improve its showing tremendously, Hunt said it is great for Illinois' program in the future, considering the number of freshmen and sophomores from this year's team already with extensive experience.

"That was the whole thing the last week, to go out with a bang," Hunt said. "We had it written in the locker room, so to have that happen, to go out with a bang, we're happy."

story by Erin Foley
Although the Illinois volleyball team was ravaged with several injuries this year, the team was still able to start off the season 10-1 and pull off a dramatic come-from-behind upset win over Ohio State on Sept. 24 in Columbus, Ohio. The team faced many challenges throughout the season, finishing with a winning record of 16-15. Even though the injuries devastated the team, Coach Donald Hardin said that wasn’t what will be taken from his experience during the season.

"The story of the year was the student section," Hardin said. "The connection between the players, the adversity we had this year and the fans is something that will be remembered from this year.

The women’s volleyball cheering section, the Spike Squad, traveled on charter buses to watch Illinois take on Northwestern on Sept. 30. Throughout the season, six Illinois players spent some time on the bench due to injuries including four starters, but several young players stepped up and contributed in their absence.

One of those players was freshman setter Lizzie Bazzetta, who immediately contributed, earning her first Big Ten start against Michigan on Oct. 7 in Ann Arbor, Mich. She delivered a stellar performance that weekend, posting 39 assists against Michigan and a career high 66 assists against Michigan State the very next night.

Sophomore Stephanie Obermeier shared the setter position throughout the year with Bazzetta, helping evenly distributing the ball and also helped with defense when needed. Both players steadily improved on their individual statistics almost every game.

The constant for the Illini this year was senior outside hitter Rachel VanMeter, who recorded her 1,500 kill when she posted 27 digs against Wisconsin on Nov. 4. Only four other players in Illinois school history have accomplished this feat.

The Preseason All-Big Ten selection was, at the end of
the season, unanimously named the first team All-Big Ten. At the end of the season, Van Meter held the school record for attacks in a game, season and career.

As Van Meter’s teammate, junior middle blocker Meghan Macdonald has experienced first hand how much Van Meter means to Illinois, and knows her contributions to the team go beyond how well she plays.

"Rachel has really stepped it up," Macdonald said. "She is such a leader. She really makes a statement on the court with her play and with her attitude. She has come a long way. I look to her to help me get motivated and play better on the court."

Although injuries had a major impact on Illinois’ final record, Hardin looked on the bright side, saying the experience gained from this season will help in the next couple years.

"The thing that will come from all of this is freshman experience," Hardin said. "While our younger girls are playing nationally ranked opponents night after night, other freshmen are sitting on the bench. We’ll be winning matches in the future because of this. If we don’t get discouraged by this and keep our heads up, it’ll help us in the future."

story by Troy Murray
women's swimming
winning in the water

"One more ladies, one more," said Sue Novitsky, head coach of the women's swimming and diving team. Novitsky encouraged her team to swim yet another length across the IMPE pool during team practice. Working hard and practicing intensely, the ladies are looking forward to a year of making goals and breaking records as a new batch of young swimmers and strong returning members gear up for a new season. The swimmers glide effortlessly through the water as they work to become faster and stronger with the new competitive season just getting underway in late October and continuing through early April.

Novitsky said the new influx of 11 freshmen on the team has required patience while the ladies adjust to their new role and environment as swimmers for the University.

"They are starting to gel as a team," Novitsky said. With tough losses in their first competition of the season against Kentucky and Louisville on Oct. 15, the team came back to defeat Oakland and Toledo the following weekend.

Novitsky said the team hopes to move up from their current ninth place standing in the Big Ten to a sixth place finish in 2006. Junior Barbie Viney, who received an honorable mention for All-American and broke a handful of individual records in 2004, said the freshmen are strong and the staff is explosive.

"This will be our season to really shine," said Viney. "I want us to go in there and do awesome throughout the season and end with a big bang finish at the Big Ten."

Viney speaks not only for herself, but also for her teammates as she focuses on the goals and obstacles facing them this season. Northwestern and Ohio State remain challenging competitors, but Viney remains confident in her fellow swimmers' dedication as they work together to improve.

Senior and team captain Sam Leibold said the team is hopeful for the future.

"We want to be the best team at all of our and keep improving at the Big 10," Leibold said.

The team set common goals to not only work hard and compete well, but to succeed in the classroom as well. Novitsky said she expects high grades and active community service from each swimmer.
"We want to be proud of not just swimming, but other stuff too," No vitsky said. The cohesiveness of this tight-knit group becomes apparent in their constant encouragement and genuine care for one another.

"We get along so well—we're together on the weekends," Leibold said. She added that the team loves to see the marked improvement of each individual at the end of the year.

"They are my family," Viney said of her teammates. "They are my sisters. They are my support group."

For this team, collective support remains imperative during both practices and competitions. As the team works hard to achieve their best at the individual and group levels, it is clear that they are focused not only on swimming, but on each other.

story by Kate Hamilton
With a roster full of veterans and newcomers, the Illinois women’s soccer team was well-equipped for a season of success. Although the ladies lost their first regular season game to Marquette, they bounced back to win their home opener versus Nebraska.

Janet Rayfield, fourth-year head coach for the Illini, described this win over Nebraska as her favorite game of the season. Despite their tough opening weekend, the Illini battled and defeated Nebraska 1-0.

“...a symbol of the resilience of the team,” said Rayfield. She described this year’s team as very focused and determined, yet an enthusiastic group that still has fun with the game.

Christen Karniski, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, played left back for the team; she said it is usually difficult for incoming freshmen to adjust to playing alongside more experienced seniors, but this year the squad had adapted well. The seniors worked with the newcomers since the previous spring to help them fill the voids of last year’s seniors.

Rayfield said that it has been a “rollercoaster season,” with some really bad games and some great games as well as several injuries. Despite these ups and downs, the team has not made any excuses.

“There have been challenges, but our team has seen them as such,” said Rayfield. “We haven’t lowered our expectations.”

Due to injuries of upperclassmen, many freshmen saw sub
stantial playing time. The freshmen, along with the leadership of the more seasoned players, were key to the team's success.

Rayfield identified the stamina and durability of senior defender Kelly Campbell as well as the reliability of Karniski, who has started every game, as major contributing forces to the team.

"It's great to know that I have been consistent enough to start every game of my career and to know that the coaches have confidence in me," said Karniski.

According to Rayfield, the soccer squad set high goals all the way back in January. They had hoped to make it to the Final Four as well as capture both the Big Ten and Big Ten Tournament titles but unfortunately lost in the second round of the NCAA tournament to Florida State.

Rayfield and Karniski both identified Penn State as their toughest opponent. Although Penn State defeated the Illini in regular-season play, Rayfield said her team hoped to see them again in the postseason because they wanted to redeem themselves.

Rayfield said that she loved coaching a group of young women who are 100 percent dedicated to achieving a goal, in this case, a Big Ten title. However, she felt the most rewarding aspect was witnessing the team's growth process and seeing them apply lessons learned on the field to their everyday lives.

"I tell people all the time I think I have the best job in the world," said Rayfield.

story by Emily Ward
Ron Zook took over the helm of the Illinois football program Dec. 7, 2004. Since then, he has been determined to turn around the program, which has seen little success since winning the 2001 Big Ten Championship.

Although the turn around has not happened as quickly as media and fans would like, Zook is still determined to bring the program back into the nation’s elite. He has a reputation for being a phenomenal recruiter, which means talented athletes can be expected to flock to Champaign-Urbana in the future. In 2003, he signed the nation’s No. 3 recruiting class while at the University of Florida. More importantly, he is a player’s coach that has the Illinois athletes still excited about the season, despite a disappointing record.

Zook is a convincing coach with 27 years of experience at the collegiate and professional levels. He had winning seasons each year he was at Florida and led the Gators to three straight bowl games. The 50-year-old is a native of Ohio with a Midwestern work ethic and an uncanny ability to immediately put people at ease. He has also found a way to convince the men on the football team that, despite their somber record, the team will become one of the best in the nation.

“He’s a firm believer in what he believes in and he forces that on every player,” senior defensive back James Cooper said. “You never see a moment where Coach Zook isn’t sure.”

Still, Zook is a realist and knows he is building a program at Illinois, not just a team for the present.

The starting lineup is dominated by underclassmen.
which shows how good the team could be in a few years.

"Experience is one thing you can't buy, so we're kind of a double-edged sword," Zook said during a weekly press conference. "We've got guys who are not only inexperienced but also learning a new offense as well. Hopefully our offense is going to continue to improve and get better."

Zook will continue working to achieve his goals to bring the Illinois football team back to the national stage.

"It takes a lot of hard work from a lot of good people to make dreams come true," Zook said when he was hired. "Without a shadow of a doubt, the situation, the administrators, and the heritage of this university are among the reasons that this is such a great opportunity for us."

Most importantly, Zook plans to build the program the right way: with hard work and integrity. He has no doubt that it will take time, more time than he or anyone else would like, but in the end he believes the team will flourish.

When Zook was hired, the football players wanted to work for a coach who would put wins on the board, but now many of the seniors feel there is something special on the horizon, and more importantly, are excited to help build the program to new heights.

"Everyone wants to see this program win and it's a program that should be winning - that's why I came here and that's what everyone wants to see," Illinois senior safety Morris Virgil said.

More importantly, Zook has instilled that sense of faith in the program to every member of the football team.

"From the day they put that team on the schedule, he knows we're going to win the game and that is one thing that is special about him," Cooper said.
ILLINOIS FOOTBALL
Ron Zook’s words after the season-opening overtime win against Rutgers, now almost three months past, came to characterize the 2005 football season.

“It really wasn’t pretty, but I think the biggest question since we’ve been here is what was our team going to do under adversity?” the head coach said following the game. “I told them (Friday) night, ‘we’re a better football team than you guys think we are.’”

The Illini faced challenge after challenge as a rebuilding team with a demanding schedule. And while the team set records for the worst season in program history, Zook continued to reiterate a theme it seemed only he believed.

“There’s no question in my mind that we are on the right track and we are going the right things,” Zook said at season’s end.

2005 was the year of the Youthful Illini. While the team showed potential in wins against Rutgers and San Jose State, it froze when it hit the road to face California in Berkeley on Sept. 17.

After leading 17-7 going into the half, the Illini squeaked out a single field goal in the last 30 minutes. Cal, on the other hand, found four touchdown opportunities.

“I could feel it on the sidelines. Instead of trying to win, we were trying not to lose,” Zook said.

It was the first big test for a new coach and a young team. After Cal came Michigan State, Penn State, Indiana, Wisconsin, Purdue, and the rest of a Big Ten schedule that turned out to be nightmarish. Each team seemed less survivable, and each deficit seemed to trump the last.

Illinois football went from a promising season offering surprises and hope, to a troublesome repetition of the last few disheartening years.

“The frustrating thing is that’s not who we are,” safety Kevin Mitchell said after the Michigan State game. “That team out there that just played that game, that’s not who we are. That’s not an excuse, and we’re not trying to make excuses, but we’ve just got to come out and play better. That’s the bottom line.”

Through all the team’s woes, however, the Illini found some bright spots on the horizon. While senior leaders like Jason Davis, Ryan Matha, Morris Virgil and Steve Weatherford brought a dose of maturity to Zuppke Field, it was the play of the freshmen and sophomores that proved there was hope — if not this year, then soon. In 2005, Illinois boasted the nation’s youngest team — and each time those players stepped on the field, it gave them experience they could build on for 2006 and beyond.

On offense there were players like lineman Eric Block — a true freshman who developed out of scout team to become a significant player on game day — and super-hyped rookies Derrick McPherson and Rashard Mendenhall. But Zook said he was most impressed by freshman wide receiver Kyle Hudson. Hudson finished the season with 31 catches for 469 yards, but it’s what the Mattoon, Ill. native can do in the next three seasons that excites both fans and those inside Illini football.

“Kyle did a great job,” Zook said. “He just kept his mouth shut and did his job.”

As Illinois’ defense struggled with tackling and allowed the most points in school history, it too showed some hope. There’s sophomore defensive end Xavier Futon, who was one of the defense’s most successful products until he tore his ACL. The secondary, too, has a future in sophomores Mitchell and linebacker J Leman.

Looking back, the Rutgers game showed Illini fans what the team could be, but was not a true indicator of success. It predicted upcoming adversity, and proved the 2005 Illini had the potential to overcome. Yet as the final 2-9-0-8 record proved, potential is something that would have to be realized in future seasons.

“We’ve got a great nucleus coming back,” Zook promised fans. “They’re guys who it’s important to, guys who want to be on the field.”

story by Courtney Landham
WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL
a winning tradition

While many students enjoy having late classes so they can sleep in, others start their day early. At IMPE, the sound of a basketball can be heard as early as 6 a.m. as the University of Illinois Men and Women’s Wheelchair Basketball team begins practice. The teams have practice every morning for two to three hours to help prepare them for their various tournaments and the ultimate goal of reaching the NCAA national championship games in late March.

The men and women’s teams are led by head coach Mike Frogley, who has 13 years of coaching under his belt, ten at Illinois.

Wheelchair basketball enforces the same rules for competition as traditional basketball, following NCAA standards. However, with the lack of lateral movement, Coach Frogley said that the absolute key in the game is position, which on the court is called wheel position.

Froglej said that better positioning means a lot more team basketball with a lot more kicking a rolling with a big emphasis on defense.

“The only way you can’t have a great superstar that is just going to dominate the game of wheelchair basketball is you got to play as a team,” said Froglej. “That’s one of the great things about our teams this year.”
Frogley holds three wheelchair basketball camps each summer at the University. Sarah Castle, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and four-year player for the Illinois’ women’s team, has attended a number of those camps.

“This is a world renowned program,” said Castle. “It was real hard to adjust to play with such a high caliber athlete, but you can’t learn from anyone better.”

The University started the first wheelchair basketball program in the country and has won 24 national titles since its initiation said Castle.

“Not a lot of people know about the U of I wheelchair basketball tradition,” said Castle. “To be regarded in that tradition is really special.”

Frogley led the women’s team to a second place victory in last year’s National Championship and the three years prior to that the team took all three National championship titles.

“We spend a lot of time this year working on our transition game,” said Frogley. “On areas that we felt were weak, that weren’t generating enough offense and enough production.”

The men and women’s teams have three days of strength lifting a week because of the upper body strength required to play the sport and operate the wheelchair. Matt Buchi, junior in Applied Life Studies, has played the sport for 13 years and said that maintaining arm strength is crucial to the game.

“The difficulty is that you have a sport that is made to be played with arms and legs and you have to do everything with your arms,” said Buchi. “Moving, shooting and seeing the court.”

Frogley said the game really emphasizes speed and knowing how to work the wheelchair as well as fundamentals such as ball handling and shooting.

The wheelchairs used for the sport are slightly different than the conventional chairs. They are much narrower to hold the player in securely, have slanted wheels for better precision and have a fifth wheel in the back for better stability. There are also ram bars in the front of the chair which allow more room between players and lessens the chance for players to become tangled, said Castle.

“We basically break the game down every single day,” said Frogley. “They’re doing a lot of fundamentals, a lot of one-on-one and on our team defense.”

Along with physical toughness comes mental toughness. Paul Ward, senior in Applied Life Studies and a four-year player, believes that the mental aspect of the game can be straining.

“The mental aspect is hardest, making sure you are prepared and don’t get down on yourself,” said Ward. “But that goes along with every sport.”

With game difficulty comes team resilience and the men and women’s teams this year are a tightly knit group of athletes who enjoy each other’s friendship and camaraderie.

“I love the team aspect,” said Castle. “It’s such a team sport and your teammates become your family. We just have a really great relationship.”

Ward said that the team can talk about anything and they all get along really well, which adds to their team dynamic. Buchi said that communication is what drives the men’s team.

“We want our team to be the best team to talk,” said Buchi. “So combined as a group we can learn to overcome anything on the court.”

**Story by Michelle Truong**
Illini fans are so loyal to their basketball team that they show up to the home court even when the team is away. That is what a few hundred fans did on Tuesday, Nov. 29, when they donned their orange and blue regalia and braved the frigid cold to cheer on the Illini by watching the ESPN broadcast in Assembly Hall.

The "watch party" was hosted by Illini Pride and followed the women's home opener game against Northern Illinois University. I-Pride distributed wristbands to all members allowing them to attend the festivities free of charge.

The women's basketball game against the Huskies began at 6 p.m. The team showed confidence and jumped to an immediate lead and held it to win a 73-57 victory.

Orange Krush member Cody Bornsheuer, sophomore in Fine and Applied Arts, said the women's games are a lot of fun and he enjoys being in the crowd.

I-Pride has been making an effort to encourage fan participation, offering "Road Trip" points for attending games and holding raffles with attractive prizes such as t-shirts, a pennant, Best Buy gift cards and an autographed jersey.

"Theresa Grentz has been making a grassroots campaign to get people out to the games," Bornsheuer said. "We are doing what we can. The team feeds off our intensity and we need more people so they can have a more successful season."

The event was the first Illinois basketball game for Jen Hughes, freshman in Applied Life Studies, and Ashley Johnston, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences, and after experiencing the enthusiasm in both the athletes and the fans, they both agreed the game would not be their last.

"I really wish more people would come out," Hughes said. "I'm going to try to make it out to all the games."

I-Pride Executive Board member Eric Anderson, junior in Communications, is the Orange Krush chair and said the club is helping the women's basketball program by attracting more fans.

"Illini basketball is so big on campus, but we don't want that to limit our help for other athletes," Anderson.

With the women's confident victory over the Huskies, this goal should not be hard to accomplish. As the men gear up for another exciting season, the passion of Illini fans is only just beginning to shine through.

From the look of the fans, the broadcast could have been a live match at Assembly Hall as their applause and screams filled the court from tip-off. The rematch against the Tar Heels reminds the
fans of the NCAA Championship that was missed by mere points last year.

"The Illini fans are more intense in numbers this year," Bornsheuer said, warning against the deep-seeded competitive streak that defines Orange Krush.

Returning starters Dee Brown and James Augustine had fans on their feet as they led the men to a narrow 68-64 win that proved to be too close for comfort.

"We're going to have our share of challenges and maybe not do as well as last year," Bornsheuer said.

Nevertheless, Illini fans will remain loyal to their basketball team and hold faith in the future.

"When everyone understands their role on the team, we will make some noise in college basketball," Anderson said.

story by Katie Hamilton

Opposite top: Jenna Monroe, senior in LAS; Megan Ward, freshman in ACES, and Laura Shaw, freshman in LAS, celebrate a great play for the Illini. Opposite bottom: Mike Isaac and Emily Forrier, seniors in LAS and members of the pep band, put down their instruments after the women's game to check out the men's game. Top: Senior guard Jessica Hughes looks to create space between the Northern Illinois defenders. Hughes scored 15 points in an Illinois victory. Above: Senior guard Dee Brown appears on the on the video screen during a stretch against the Tarheels. Photos by Mike Sehran
As the men's hockey team glides effortlessly back and forth across the ice during afternoon practice, the only sounds that escape during warm-ups are from Head Coach Chad Cassel's whistle and the wooden slap of hockey sticks connecting with ice. Yet the cohesion that exists between the group of 25 men both on and off the ice is strikingly apparent.

"We have a really close group," said Liberal Arts and Sciences senior Mike Roesch, the 2004-2005 Player of the Year. "There's a lot of young guys, but we mix in well and there's not a big division between the veterans and rookies."

After winning the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) Nationals last year, the team's most challenging goal was to repeat the path of victory.

"Last year was incredible, one of the best experiences of my life," said Roesch. "Now we're just trying to get back there."

In his ninth season as head coach, Cassel recently set the record for the most wins in Illini history after surpassing former coach Mark Roszkowski's 210 wins.

"They're a very young team, but very talented, as talented a team as I've ever had," Cassel said.

Despite the small size of the senior class, the leadership exuded by the older players sets the tone for the underclassmen. Standout leaders include goaltender Mike DeGeorge, junior in Business, who was voted Most Valuable Player at Nationals in 2005. Cassel calls Liberal Arts and Sciences senior Andrew Lubesnick "the best defensive man in the country," and said Roesch is one of the most skilled offensive players he has coached, whose free spirit keeps the locker-room light.

Cassel credits team captain, Steve Krates, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, for his unselfish playing and excellence in team leadership.

"We're looking strong," said Krates. "There's a lot of good young kids who stepped up for their roles."

"They're always a great group," Cassel said. "Everyone gets along well and working with them makes it fun. I watch them come in and develop over the course of the season; it's very gratifying."

The group dynamics seemed to be paying off. Halfway through the season, the team was undefeated with a record of 18-0. Unfortunately, the beginning of the spring semester was tough and the Illini lost five consecutive games, their only losses during the regular season. However, the team had a great season and ended up placing third in the ACHA national tournament.

Of course, the coaches and the players attribute much of their success to their fans: the wonder known as the Harassing Illini.

"The fans are very loyal," said Cassel. "They're a big part of our success. We rarely lose at home, and the fans are a big part of that."

"We've got the best fans in the league," said Roesch. "Very few schools get crowds like this."

While the fans play a large role in the success of the hockey team, it is important to see that success lies beyond the records, statistics, basic playing and coaching skills. It lies within the men themselves and their friendships with one another.

"We are a group of friends on and off the ice," said Roesch. "The best part of being on this team is getting to come to the rink everyday and seeing 25 of my best friends and then getting to go battle with them on the weekends."
Opposite: Forward Mike Kincaid, junior in ACES, hags fellow forward Nick Fabbrini, sophomore in business. Top: Forward Mike Rosch, senior in LAS, skates past his opponent during an offensive play. Far left: An Illini player battles for the puck against a member of the opposing team. Left center: Forward Ivy Rosch, sophomore in LAS, prepares to shoot against the other team's defenders. Right center, far right: Defensive player Pat Manzana, sophomore in ACES, and forward Steve Krebs, senior in LAS, work together for an Illini goal.

Photos courtesy of the Daily Illini
women's hockey

Of all the things that a typical college student does at 8:05 p.m. on a Monday night - watch TV, do homework, chat online with friends - the last thing on many minds would be playing hockey. But the piercing cry of a whistle inside of the Illinois Ice Arena has a group of players doing just that.

Heavily padded and skating gracefully across the ice, these players seem with barely breathing, check each other into the wall and when a goalie with the rubber puck. One would expect burly men with missing teeth to be playing under those protective layers, but under those pads are dedicated, hard-working women.

"People are really surprised when they find out I play hockey," Danielle Nesbitt, freshman in Applied Life Studies, said. "Usually the first question out of their mouths is, 'You mean field hockey, right?'"

Nesbitt, however, doesn't mean field hockey. A skater since she was four, Nesbitt's desire to play stems from her family, as her brother and father are also hockey enthusiasts. She actually got her high school's coach to found a women's team and that's how she got her start in the sport.

Courtney Cuthbertson, a first year graduate student, got involved in a similar way, but it was a girl on her floor who encouraged her to join the team rather than a family member. Also on the ice for the first time, Cuthbertson describes herself as "a converted figure skater."

The Illini Women's Hockey team isn't a university sanctioned sport, but rather a club team. This gives the team more flexibility in the constitution of its team.

According to Nesbitt, there are players from any number of ages playing on the team, from freshmen like her, up to graduate students and faculty.

"Here you just need to be associated with the university," she said. "There's a bigger age difference between some of the players and we're playing teams with older players as well."

The team is also divided into two separate teams, team one and team two. Cuthbertson said that the big difference between the two is their skill level.

Team one is more for competitive play, with teammates who have more experience, and team two is for beginners, she said.

Although the two teams are divided by skill level, both face similar obstacles during their season. Cuthbertson, who is a goalie for team two, and Nesbitt, who plays for team one, have both cited a short in the number of players on both of their teams.

"We have more players [than team number one], but we still need to work on our endurance," Nesbitt said. "Being in college, people have different priorities and can't always make it to every game and practice. We're on the ice for half of the game, and that gets pretty hard sometimes."

Cuthbertson also said her team needs to work on integrating the skills they learn during practice into their games.

"We always try to stay optimistic," Cuthbertson said. "Between periods we have a little time to talk to each other and we say things that went well, but also things that we need to improve in the next period."

Similar to their shortcomings, both Nesbitt and Cuthbertson said that their teams are optimistic about their season.

"We're pretty optimistic about our chances this year," Nesbitt said. "We've only played two games so far this season and we totally outplayed both teams."

It is now 9:35 p.m. and the Zamboni ice cleaner chugs slowly onto the ice, erasing the remnants of a hard practice. The women trudge off the ice and into the locker room; they're ready for a real game.
Leadership seems to be the strong point of this year’s Fighting Illini Men’s Wrestling Team. Six seniors are on the team this season, including All-American Alex Tirapelle.

“We have a lot of good leadership, and hard-working guys this season,” said John Wise, a red shirt freshman in Applied Life Studies. “There are a lot of older guys with experience.”

Wise transferred this year from Western Illinois University, where he played football. Coming off an injury and weeks of rehabilitation he is using this season to get back in the wrestling mode.

“I, myself have made huge leaps and bounds,” said Wise.

Due to his injury, Wise is unable to physically contribute as much as he’d like, but he said he still sees himself as a leader in encouraging his teammates and keeping the team moral high.

Though the wrestlers have leadership roles amongst themselves, the coaches are the leaders that each athlete recognizes as such. Whether it be preparing
the team for an upcoming match, or explaining to the athletes the importance of an academic education, the coaches take their leadership roles seriously.

"Leadership is my most important role because it helps them in terms of discipline and motivation," said head coach Mark Johnson.

In his 12th season as head coach, Johnson says that discipline is always something he helps his team with each season.

"[Before a match] I discipline them physically because they have to make weight one hour before the match," said Johnson. "So the day before they have a hard training to maintain weight."

Wise said he has been positively affected by the leadership of his coaches and is in contact with them outside of practice, as well.

"The staff has five coaches, and the head coach helped me by motivating me with talks about once a month," Wise said.

Johnson holds a team meeting before every match as well.

"He'll sit us down the night before and give us a pep talk, and motivation techniques and tell us weaknesses we need to work on," Wise said.

The Fighting Illini has been successful in consecutive years and Johnson believes this success enhances the mental trials of some athletes.

"We're always Top 10 in the country and this could be one of my best teams since I've been here because of their mental toughness," Johnson said.

Tournament success of this year’s team depends on both mental strength and leadership. Wise stresses that a lot of good leadership will lead to a season to be proud of at its end.

"We're pretty good [this year], and I think we'll do well at the Big 10 Tournament and Nationals," Wise said.

story by Aisha Howell

Opposite top: Alex Trupeci tries to pull in Michigan's Steve Lisle back into the circle. Opposite bottom: Cason Pero holds of Michigan's Josh Cherdnia for as long as possible, trying his best to keep the team's score high. Far left: Donny Reynolds shaves Michigan's Nick Roy what the Illini team is made of, though ultimately resulting in a disappointing loss for the team. Left, right center: Mike Perri takes down his Michigan opponent. For right: Pete Friedl takes down Michigan's Tyrel Todd on Feb. 3 at Huff Hall. photo by Eugene Pueyin
men's track

The men’s track team began their indoor season with high goals for the upcoming seasons. The hardworking team was determined to make those dreams a reality.

Head coach Wayne Angel said the team’s main focus was finishing in the top two at the Big Ten Championship. He also expressed a desire for a top 20 finish at Nationals, as well as an increase in the number of Illinois athletes who qualify for “All-American” status.

“I feel Nick Brown has a great opportunity to make All-American in the jumps,” said Coach Angel. “Trammel Smith also has a good chance in the 800, as well as Abe Jones in the 400.”

Coach Angel said that many athletes have improved since last year. Trent Hoerr has climbed to number two on the all-time best in the 3K, while Jones locked down spot three on the all-time best 800 list. Jones and teammate Adrian Walker also plan to try out for the 2008 summer Olympics.

Angel was confident that the 4x400 team of Jones, Smith, Walker, and Nathan Vadeboncoeur, would capture both the indoor and the outdoor Big Ten titles in 2006.

“Nobody can touch us in the mile relay,” Angel said. “We’re one of the best mile relays in the country.”

The team broke the school record at the Iowa State Classic with a time of 3:07.41. According to Adrian Walker, a senior in LAS who ran on the relay, the team also hopes to surpass their own record before the season is over.

“It felt good,” said Walker, of acquiring the new record. “The mark was set by runners who previously ran here. It was definitely one of our goals to get that record before we left.”

Besides the mile relay, Walker also runs the 400 meter hurdles, which he said was his “specialty” event. He started hurdling at the age of ten and said he always wanted to run at Illinois. Walker said it was an honor to run for Illinois. One of his favorite aspects of the experience is being around his fellow teammates.

“We all have a close bond and it shows when we’re on the track,” Walker said. “We all want to see each other do well.”

Freshman in LAS Dominique Worsley agreed. “I really liked the guys on the team,” said Worsley. “They were one of the most important factors in my decision to come here.”

Worsley runs sprints at Illinois. He hopes to break 21 seconds in the 200 this season, as well as capture the Big Ten title in the event.

The men’s season was full of accomplishments. Jones broke the school record in the 500 meters with a time of 1:01.40 at the New Balance Invitational. Trammell Smith made his mark in the record books with an Armory Record of 1:17 in the 600 meters.

“This year, our athletes are more mature, focused, and dedicated. They’re tough,” said Angel. “As you get older you realize how close your dreams are and that you can achieve them. That makes a difference in any program.”

story by Emily Ward
The 2006 women's track team is a well-rounded group of young women who excelled in all areas of track and field competition. The team opened their season with a bang at the Iowa Open on January 14. The Illini captured five first-place finishes, including sophomore Ashley Hanshaw's school record breaking vault of 12'05.50''.

Head Coach Gary Winckler described his athletes as a hard working team with high goals.

"To continue to be among the top three teams in the Big Ten Conference both indoors and outdoors is always one of our goals," said Coach Winckler. "We want to defend our outdoor Big Ten title in May."

Winckler said he expected many of his upperclassmen to be major contributing forces to the team this year. According to Winckler, many of the girls have improved from last year.

Yvonne Mensah, a junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, took some new events onto her shoulders this indoor season. Mensah began long jumping for the first time since her early high school days, and triple jumped for the first time ever. In her first meet attempt at triple jumping, she provisionally qualified for Nationals with a leap of 43'04.25''.

Mensah said she enjoys her newfound events, but the sprints are her specialty. Her main goal for the indoor season is to qualify for Nationals in the 60 meters.

Cassie Hunt, a junior in Applied Life Sciences, shares a similar goal. After finishing 8th in the 3000 meters at the Indoor Nationals last year, she hopes to return this year with a third place finish or better. In the spring, Hunt aspires to turn in a stellar performance in the Big Ten Championship Steeple Chase.

"If I win, that would be great," stated Hunt. "But I just want to improve my times and score as many points as possible to go towards a team championship."

Hunt qualified for Indoor Nationals in the 3000 meters at the Tyson Invitational. Her time of 9:15.16 also earned her the school record.

Pamela Wolf, a freshman middle-distance runner in the college of AIS, possessed individual goals of placing in the top three in the Big Ten Championship 600 meters, as well as qualifying for Nationals in the 800 during outdoor season. However, she shares Hunt's ideology that a team championship is of massive importance, and hopes to contribute as many points as possible towards obtaining this goal.

The women practice two to three hours, six days a week. Coach Winckler said that the winter indoor season is preparation for the outdoor season.

Being a part of the Fighting Illini Women's Track team is truly an experience like no other. Hunt expressed pleasure in being able to attend Illinois for academics, but also said she loved being part of the track team.

"There are so many good things about it," Hunt gushed. "My teammates are pretty much my best friends."

Mensah echoed Hunt's opinion. She said everyone gets along and jokes together.

"It's almost like a second family," explained Mensah, with a warm smile.

For Wolf, being a member of the track team makes her feel more involved with the University.

"It's a sense of pride; it's about doing something for the school," declared Wolf. "When I wear the U of I uniform, I feel proud."

Photo by Laura Hood
Opposite: Omonya Ugoh and Yvonne Mensah compete in a 200 meter race. Top: Alondra Cooper arches back for a high jump. Above far left: Rachel Glotter shows her strength as she competes in the long jump. Above left: Tiffany Nesfield is in perfect position for a successful hurdle race. Above right: Jackie Tongler displays good pole vault form. Above far right: Alondra Cooper reaches for distance in the long jump. Photos courtesy of the Daily Illini
men's gymnastics
Great Expectations

For the Illinois men's gymnastics team, 2006 was the year that almost was. After finishing the 2005 campaign in third place at nationals and losing to champion Oklahoma by only the slimmest of margins, big things were expected from its strong senior class and core group of sophomores. Although the end result was not what the team desired, the Illini walked away from the NCAA National Championships in Norman, Okla., in early April with a second-place finish, 14 All-America honors, four new All-Americans and two national championship event titles.

The Illini fell to defending national champion Oklahoma in the team finals by the score of 221.400–220.975, a new season-high for the team. Trailing the No. 1-ranked Sooners by just .550 points after five of the six rotations, the Illini believed they had a chance to capture the title if they could record a solid parallel bars score. The team's stellar parallel bars squad did its part with a team score of 37.875. But Oklahoma's last event score in vault was too much for the Illini to overcome. The lowest Sooners score that counted on vault was a 9.250.

"We had every other school on our side at the end of that team finals meet, we had the meet, it was so close," said Spring, winner of the Big Ten Gymnast of the Year award and the recipient of the prestigious Nissen–Emery award, given annually to the nation's best senior gymnast. "Any given day, any different arena, it could have been different."

Although disappointed in the team finals ending, the team ended the event finals the next day with a much better feeling. Seven gymnasts earned All-America honors and Spring earned his third and fourth national championships with wins on both high bar and parallel bars. Spring's parallel bars score of 9.825 was a new career-best. The Illini were also able to get some redemption when senior Adam Pummer and sophomore Wesley Haagensen joined Spring on the podium for finishing in the top three on parallel bars.

But it was senior Ted Brown, the 2005 Big Ten pommel horse champion, though who almost equaled Spring's national title. Brown finished second on pommel horse with a score of 9.312, a career best.

"It would have been disappointing if I had small mistakes in my routine, but I feel like it was the best routine that I've done in college," Brown said.

Even though the team missed out on a national title and a Big Ten title by the slimmest of margins, head coach Yoshi Hayasaki said that no matter what happened to the team this season, it persevered to have an "amazing year." The Illini endured multiple nagging injuries to key gymnasts, including the fall and collar bone bruise that kept Pummer out of the Big Ten Championships in late March, a new code of scoring and repeat losses to eventual Big Ten Champion Ohio State. But with their hardships, Spring said the team was able to end the season with their "heads still up." Haagensen put it similarly.

"The way we came together in the end as a team was incredible," he said. "Every single one of us gave it our best and put our hearts out for this one time (at nationals)."

story by Evan Filey
Head coach Bob Starkell said the key word for his team this season is potential. With seven freshmen entering the lineup of 14, he said he did not know exactly what to expect from his talented but young team.

“We have a lot of potential,” Starkell said. “But potential only gets us so far.”

Illinois began its season facing No. 6 Florida followed by No. 7 Iowa State. The Illini struggled and fell to both teams, but Starkell said he likes competing against tough competition at the beginning of the season so the team, especially the freshmen, can evaluate themselves amongst the best.

“The freshmen could be a major contribution to the team once they get experience under their belt,” said assistant coach Kim Mazza.

The freshmen proved to be major contributors to the team as they helped the then No. 16 Illini win seven of their next nine meets. Illinois showed it was on its way to a winning season when it carded its first Big Ten victory against Iowa. The victory boosted the team’s confidence and prepared them for the Big Ten teams they would face later in the season, Starkell said.

“We changed our attitudes completely, and we have so much more confidence in ourselves,” said sophomore Michelle McGrady. “Our mindsets are totally different; we had no doubts in our minds that we’d do well.”

The freshmen helped the Illini post their top score of the season (197.300) against Regional foe Illinois Chicago. Starkell said freshmen Marijka Bottermann, Julie Crall and Kim Kruk were phenomenal.

“In the first half of the season we weren’t sure if we were expecting too much from the freshmen,” Starkell said. “But in some ways the freshmen are trying to prove us wrong and saying we can do this—we’re going to get better.”

Illinois continued to prove its excellence as it claimed the unofficial state title at the Illinois Classic. The Illini vaulted past three other Division I Illinois teams to claim the status of the best in Illinois.

“We just keep getting better,” head coach Bob Starkell said. “We realized we can do this, and we put it all together as a team.”

However, Starkell’s team soon succumbed to injury as junior Danye Bottermann and McGrady were out for the season as the team headed to Big Tens. Starkell said the team had to adjust to last minute line-up changes and freshmen competing 13 of 24 routines at the Big Ten Championships.

The Illini’s winning season came to a close as they finished seventh at Big Tens. However, junior co-captain Cara Pomeroy continued to perform well and finished strong as she had all season, Starkell said.

After the struggle at Big Tens, No. 30 Illinois received a bid to the South Central Regional in Fayetteville, Ark. This is the Illini’s third trip in a row to Regional competition.

“We’re going to figure things out to make sure we do our best at Regionals and have no regrets to finish out the season,” Pomeroy said.

The Illini finished fourth at the Regional competition, but did not advance anyone to the NCAA Championships. Pomeroy summed up the season when she said, “We’ve had an up-and-down year.”
The men's baseball team started their season and Big Ten Conference play with a bang in front of a record-setting crowd of 1,012 at Illinois Field. The Illini's bats were on fire and a four run in the first inning eventually led to a 9-7 win over Purdue.

After practicing six days a week in the fall and lifting weights and conditioning during the winter, the first home game win for the Illini was well-earned.

The home opener against Purdue marked the first-ever Illinois home game for first baseman Dave Schultz, a senior in Lib
eral Arts and Sciences. Schultz joined the Illini squad this season after playing at Creighton University for the first portion of his college career.

Schultz has been a superb addition to the Illini. After going four for five with two homers against Cornell, Schultz leads the Illini in home runs, hits, and RBIs, as of mid-April.

"It's one of the best feelings in the world," Schultz said, of sending a long ball soaring over the outfield fence. "You hit it and know that you don't have to run."

Schultz said his major goal for the season is to do whatever he can to help the Illini win the Big Ten Conference. Teammate Shawn Roof, a junior in Applied Life Studies, agrees.

"Individual goals don't matter anymore," Roof said. "You just want to win and get another ring." Roof helped the Illini earn a Big Ten title in 2005. In addition to another win this year, Roof hopes his team will also advance to the College World Series.

Roof identified Schultz, infielder Mike Rohde, outfielder Trevor Huisinga, and pitcher Brian Blomquist as team leaders. However, Roof and Schultz were both quick to point out that no one man carries the team; it is a joint effort. Roof said its fun when everyone shares the spotlight.

The 2006 Illini are coached by Dan Hartleb, a first-year head coach who stepped up from his position as assistant coach to fill the shoes of Itch Jones, who retired in 2005. Schultz identified Hartleb as a "players' coach," meaning he could relate well to his team.

Roof and Schultz both agreed that the comradery shared amongst their teammates is one of their favorite aspects of playing ball for the Illini. Schultz said that the team is very close. Roof added that they are also comfortable enough around each other to pull pranks and let loose and have a little fun.

"Sometimes we do the 'Call on Me' techno song dance in the locker room," laughed Roof. "You have to keep it light because sports are stressful."

Although the men joke around, they take their sports very seriously. Schultz and Roof both share dreams of playing in the Major Leagues some day. With the hard work and dedication exhibited by the team this season, the Illini are well on their way to achieving their goals.

story by Emily Ward

Opposite: Ryan Hastings rounds the bases. Top: Trevor Huisinga watches the pitch before swinging. Second from top: Brian Long prepares for the pitch. Second from bottom: Dave Schultz slides into third base just before the ball is caught. Bottom: Omar Kadir throws the ball in an attempt to get the base runner out. photos courtesy of the Daily Illini
The women’s softball team fell in the Big Tournament first round in their second ever appearance in the tournament. Northwestern defeated the Illini, 4–1. The Illini fell short of a comeback effort in the seventh inning. Despite their quick elimination, the team showed heart all season long.

The Illini were led by senior Jenna Hall, who was named as a finalist for USA Softball player of the year. She finished the regular season hitting .488 with 13 home runs, 38 RBI and a .669 on-base percentage. Hall also led the NCAA in walks with 59. She finished the season ranked 15th all-time in career walks with 147. Hall also signed a professional contract to play for the Philadelphia Force of the National Professional Fastpitch League.

"I'm excited to learn more about the game and raise my level of play even more," Hall said in a press release May 16.

Even with their early exit in the Big Ten Tournament, the softball team boasted a pair of victories over nationally ranked opponents. Freshman pitcher Kacey Coonce went 3–4 with a grand slam when the Illini defeated #10 Baylor, 12–6, at the Getterman Classic in Waco, Texas on February 11. The Illini followed up this effort with a 5–4 win over #23 Virginia Tech on March 10. The Illini dug themselves out of a 4–3 deficit in the bottom of the seventh inning. Hall tied the game with a home run to start the inning. Three batters later, freshman Katrina Ross slapped a single to score sophomore Angelena Mexicano and give the Illini the win.

The phrase "never say die" was a mantra for the softball team this season. In a period of eight days in April, the team rallied to win three late inning games. On April 9, the Illini entered the bottom of the seventh trailing Penn State, 5–2. Freshman catcher Lana Armstrong led off with a single followed by two walks to load the bases. After the Nittany Lions got two outs via fielder's choice, Hall walked with the bases still loaded to score a run. Mexicano then belted a grand slam to right center, giving the Illini four runs and a walk-off victory.

"To be honest, my mindset was just to hit the ball hard and get a hit," Mexicano said in a press release April 9. "(Reynolds) had been pitching me outside, so I looked that way on the first pitch. I figured the ball was the in gap when I made contact, but when I rounded first and saw it hit off the scoreboard, I couldn’t believe it.”

Mexicano, who was named most improved player by the team, led the Big Ten with 45 RBI with 23 coming in Big Ten Play. She has also hit 11 homers, but none more impressive than her walk-off slam against Penn State.

Just three days later, DePaul fell victim to the Illini's late game heroics. After trailing 4–0 most of the game, the Illini scratched across two runs in the sixth. Hall then led off the Illini seventh with a home run to shave the deficit to one. Mexicano followed Hall with a single and sophomore Shanna Diller launched a home run to put the Illini up 5–4, a lead they would never surrender.

A grand slam was again the big blow in the Illini's 6–5 win over Indiana on April 16. This time, the Illini scored six straight runs to surprise the Hoosiers. The comeback was paced by junior Kristin Martin's grand slam in the fifth inning.

"Consistency is the key, and the players are really clicking on the field together," head coach Terri Sullivan said of her team taking two out of three games from Purdue and Indiana in a Daily Illini article April 18. "We want to keep up the feeling like we're playing at the highest level."
Opposite: The Illini softball team awaits for Jessica Hall to cross home base to end win 6 to 5 against Indiana. Top: Angelena Mexican cracks the ball to left field. Above left: Molly Lawhead catches a foul ball helping her team hold on to their score against Purdue. Above middle: Keren Martin smashes the ball to center field, grabbing her first base. Above right: Angelena Mexican races to home base.

photos by Eugene Feygin
Over the past four years, the men's golf team has finished runner up in the Big Ten tournament three times and has made two NCAA appearances. Applied Life Studies sophomore major Frank Alafoginis foresees another successful end to this year.

"We have a good shot of winning the tournament," said Alafoginis.

While the team is considered one of the top four in the Big Ten, the team has had a wide range of finishes in the ten tournaments which they have played, said Alafoginis. The team placed third in the Landfall Tradition tournament but placed fourteenth at the Pinehurst Intercollegiate tournament.

Even with this wide range of placing, Alafoginis says the team is better this year than past years.

"I think we’re a lot better this season because we’re more experienced," Alafoginis said.

This year the team is down to only one senior and three juniors, two of whom are red-shirted transfers. Even with the squad’s young members, Alafoginis says the team has still grown a lot.

"We have a lot more talent, but we are still young," he said. "We have talented freshman that haven’t come into their own yet."

In addition to gaining more experience, the team this year has also been working on establishing consistency.

"When we play good, we all play good," Alafoginis said. "And when we play bad, we all play bad and that is something we need to work on."

However, according to Kyle Hosick, a junior in Applied Life Studies, this is what makes playing on a golf team difficult.

"Each of us has our own strengths and weakness and being able to connect all styles of play into one score as a whole can be rather difficult," he said. "Each player has his own way of playing."

Alafoginis agreed saying that playing golf as a team puts more responsibility on each player.

"Most tournaments have anywhere from 12 to 18 teams, so you can’t ride the back of one hot player if you want to win," he said.

As the team continues to grow in the game, it has a lot to look forward to in the future as the team builds a new indoor facility and hosts its own tournament.

"The facility is going to be the best in the nation," Alafoginis said. "Our coach looked at all the indoor facilities and took the best aspects from all to turn it into one. Hopefully, it will help attract a lot of new recruits."

The $3 million dollar facility is expected to be finished by this November and is going to be named the Demirjian Practice facility after the primary donators, the Demirjian family.

According to Hosick, the tournament this fall will include 12 teams, half of which will be from the Big Ten and the others among the best college teams in the country.

With the new addition of the golf facility, the opportunity to host its own tournament and growth from experience, the team has a lot to look forward to this coming season.

"I think over the next few years, we have the potential to be in the Top 10," Alafoginis said. "For a few years we have been rebuilding and we have potential to get back to one of the more notable programs."

story by Sara Kessinger
As the 2005-2006 year of Illinois Women’s Golf comes to a close, so does Head Coach Paula Smith’s 28th and final year as coach.

Smith took over in the fall of 1978 and led the team into participation in Big Ten and NCAA competition as well as play under the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women. She was inducted into the NGCA Hall of Fame in 1997.

Smith has been an inspiration and motivator for the women on the team. Kristin Kallergis, a sophomore player, credits Smith for her decision to join the team.

"I was recruited by Coach Paula Smith, who has always been so welcoming and encouraging, that when I met her I knew I wanted to be a part of her team," Kallergis said.

Smith’s final season has been a success. This year the team finished in first place at the Plantation Inn Invitational in Crystal River, Fla. They also had a fourth place finish at the Illini Spring Classic at the Stone Creek Golf Club in Urbana.

The team consists of ten women, head coach Smith and assistant coach Wendy Evans.

"I am a second year sophomore on the team, along with four other sophomores, two freshman, two seniors, and one junior," Kallergis said.

The girls on the team are no strangers to the sport. Kallergis has been golfing since she was 13 years old and golfed at Lake Forest High School before coming to the University. All team members were avid golfers before they were recruited by Smith.

This doesn’t mean they do not need to practice.

"The biggest obstacle I have had to overcome this year has been my mental game, and I think it is something that the whole team is always working on," Kallergis said.

The team has a unique bond due to their small size, which is evident during team practices.

"The golfers enjoy interaction with each other, which is a good thing, but sometimes that interferes with focus in practice and in competition," Smith said.

The team practices multiple days a week and competes from September through May, with Big Ten and NCAA championship competitions beginning at the end of April.

"The team has made tremendous progress and I feel the team will really be focused for the upcoming championship phase of our season," Smith said.

As Smith faces retirement, she said, "I will miss the day-to-day interaction with the golfers, but I know they will continue to blossom and grow as great representatives of the University of Illinois. I would like to thank all of the former and current Illini golfers for allowing me to be a part of their lives. The University of Illinois has provided many memories for me and I will always be an Illini in my heart."
Opposite: Seul Ki Park follows through on her swing. Above: Megan Geoffroy eyes the hole as she prepares for a putt.

photos courtesy of the University of Illinois Division of Intercollegiate Athletics
men's tennis

The season was not perfect—for the first time in a decade, the Illinois men's tennis team did not win the Big Ten regular season. But, the team still believes that it is poised on the brink of greatness.

In Illinois' first year since former head coach Craig Tiley left to take over player development at Tennis Australia, the Illini have still remained among the nation's best. The Illini reached the semifinals of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association National Indoor Men's Team Championships before losing to eventual champion Georgia under the direction of senior leaders Ryler DeHeart and Pramod Dabir.

"We are not looking forward to the days without (seniors) Ryler DeHeart and Pramod Dabir on this team," said Illinois head coach Brad Dancer. "We could easily have stumbled at any time (this season)."

The Illini did stumble, losing to Texas, Texas A&M, Stanford and Ohio State. But the team did not fall into the hole some predicted they would. Instead, the team proved that it still has the same resiliency and tenaciousness that it had years ago when it won the NCAA title in Athens, Ga., after being down against Vanderbilt.

"DeHeart and Dabir have stepped up and taken control of this team," Dancer said.

Instead, the Illini are ready to avenge their losses and move forward into the Big Ten Championships and NCAA Championships. But first, they will have to knock off the Big Ten's top-seeded Ohio State.

"There are really no excuses," DeHeart said, following the team's losses in Texas. "We don't want to be known as just an indoor team."

By the end of the season, the team was starting to improve, get over injuries and return to their usually dominant form. Heading into the Big Ten and NCAA Championships the senior class is two wins away from becoming the winningest class in Illinois history.

Sophomore twin towers 6-foot-5 Ryan Rowe and 6-foot-7 Kevin Anderson led the Illini in doubles, knocking off several top teams to become the fifth-ranked doubles team in the nation. Dabir and DeHeart were the No. 12 team in the nation by the beginning of the Big Ten Championships. Several individuals were highly ranked as well including 2005 All-Americans DeHeart and Anderson.

"We're starting to get back to where we were before, and we're starting to get on a roll," DeHeart said, following the second to last match of the season against Minnesota. "I'm proud of these guys because they fought hard."
The Illini's lone newcomer Marc Spicijaric was a bright spot for the Illini all season. After a fall that included several strong doubles performances with Monte Tucker, including winning the Alabama Invitational, Spicijaric became a force for Illinois in singles during the spring. He helped the team to a Big Ten Conference record that included just one loss—the team is 9–1 in the Big Ten—and 20–5 overall.

"I'm glad that I'm able to step in as a freshman and make an impact, especially in the singles," Spicijaric said. "If they need a match or something, they know they can count on me."

story by Amber Gravales
It was a season of ups and downs for the Illinois women’s tennis team. However, the team set itself up to be a force in the future. This year’s season was merely building blocks for the team and Illinois tennis program.

The Illini finished the regular season with a 2-8 Big Ten record and a 7-14 overall record. Still, Illinois head coach Sujay Lama said that he is pleased with the way Illinois handled the adversity it faced. The team suffered injuries, setbacks and various obstacles throughout the season.

"Not one time this season have we put together our best effort, where everyone plays to their capability on the same day, but we are getting there," Lama said.

Although it was the first losing season that the team has
had in eight years. Lama said that he was impressed with the way the team competed throughout the season.

"This year to be where we are is a credit to the team's leadership," Lama said.

The goals for the season have not changed. The team is still focused on the future and their ability to win the Big Ten regular season and tournament titles.

The Illini, which hosted the Big Ten Championships in 2003 at the beginning of seniors Brianna Knue and Pavlina Akritas, hosted the Big Ten Championships in 2006 as well. The team enjoyed not having to travel long distances, to be able to sleep in their own beds, to compete in the Championships during the end of the season.

Lama said the Illini would be very dangerous on their home courts during the Big Ten Tournament, despite the fact that the women were not one of the top-seeded teams. Instead, unlike in years past, the Illini were forced to play in the opening-round tournament match.

The Illini, who were not Big Ten favorites, have used the season to prepare for the future. The team should improve next season, Lama said, especially because of sophomore Macall Harkins. With the addition of four new freshmen and the wealth of knowledge that the team already has, the Illini are convinced that they will be.

"One loss after another is tough, but we're working through it," Harkins said. "And we're just taking it one match at a time."

Losing just two seniors to graduation, the Illini should be contenders in the near future as well. Harkins said she knows that with a large recruiting class joining the Illini next year that she will need to step up even more than she has recently to teach the freshman how to dominate at the collegiate level.

But she has had two great seniors to model her leadership style after, under Akritas and Knue, who Lama calls the Dee Brown of women's tennis. Knue stepped in as a freshman to help the team to a successful season, and as a senior kept the team motivated through a rocky season.

"I learned pretty fast the amount of work it takes to be success (as a freshman)," Knue said. "(As a senior) I gained perspective on a lot of things and learned a lot about life. These are the things that you're going to have to deal with every day in life."

Opposite: Emily Wang and Macall Harkins play against Northwestern on court No. 1. Top: Brianna Knue prepares to serve during doubles match. Middle: Shivesh Dave returns a serve during doubles play against Wisconsin. Above: Memel Qa warms up before her doubles match. Photos by Christina Leung
The Illinois women's basketball team's 2006 campaign came to a close March 17 in Milwaukee, Wis., with a 64-44 loss to Marquette in the first round of the postseason Women's National Invitation Tournament. The team ended the season with a 16-15 record. Just a year earlier, the Illini suffered a preliminary loss in the same event to Indiana State. Although head coach Theresa Grentz's squad entered the postseason for the ninth time in the last 10 years, the year ended not as she had hoped.

Looking to ignite Assembly Hall on game nights with the same energy as the nationally-acclaimed men's team, Grentz wrote to 120 professors and went to as many as nine classes a day in the opening months of the school year. Her goal: to get the 7,800 freshmen on campus interested in women's basketball from the start.

"While they're working hard in the gym, I'm working hard to promote them on the outside," Grentz said in a press release Oct. 14. "When they see that place full, and they see that people really appreciate what they're doing, they're going to play that much harder."

The Illini won their season opener, but then seesawed back and forth in the schedule with wins and losses before the Big Ten season began with key victories coming against then-No. 15 Oklahoma, Bradley and Illinois State. After Illinois' 86-75 upset of Oklahoma, sophomore forward Danyel Crutchier was named Big Ten Player of the Week on Dec. 19, the first such honor of her career. The Orange, N.J., native had arguably one of her best games with a career-high 24 points (10-of-15 shooting) and also added 11 rebounds in her third double-double as an Illinois player.

Despite the non-conference schedule working in the Orange and Blue's favor, the Illini had a difficult time in Big Ten play. Although the team won four of its first five Big Ten games, it then went winless for eight games—a span of nearly a month. The eighth loss against Penn State on the road marked the longest losing streak since 1987-88 when the team lost 11 in a row.

Illinois concluded the regular season with a win over Michigan, which was also Grentz's 650th win as a head coach. The victory makes her just the 10th coach in the history of Division-1 women's basketball to earn the distinction. The team, though, then fell 68-57 to Purdue in the second round of the Big Ten tournament in March in Indianapolis. Despite getting out to an early 8-0 lead, Grentz's team could not keep the momentum.

"We were playing well and then panicked," Grentz said in a Daily Illini article on March 6. "We looked up at the scoreboard, saw that we were ahead and panicked."

Grentz also said in a press release March 3 of the Illini's problems with winning close games, "It's a mental thing. They have to realize that it's not okay to play hard and still lose."

Senior guard Janelle Hughes led the Illini in scoring on the season with 12.9 points per game and earned honorable mention All-Big Ten status. The native of Country Club Hills, Ill., led the Illini in scoring 14 times, a team best, and scored in double figures 23 times. Junior forward Erin Wigley also earned honorable mention All-Big Ten, freshman guard Lori Bjork was named to the Big Ten All-Freshman team.

story by Erin Foley
Opposite left: Sophomore Danyel Crutcher attempts a basket against Michigan State. photo by Christine Loung

Opposite center: Erin McCarthy, Stephanie Chellen and Audrey Tabon watch from the bench. photo by Mike Salwen

Opposite right: Maggie Acuna defends an Iowa player as she sets up her offense. photo by Alisse Belleskeya

Above: Senior Jostie Hughes puts up a 3-point bomb against a Michigan State opponent. photo by Christine Loung
men's basketball

a successful season

Sitting in a locker room in San Diego, Dee Brown had little to say about the 26-7 season that had just come to an end. He talked about the teammates that surrounded him, the game he had just finished, and the missed three-point attempt that sent Washington to the Sweet Sixteen—and meant the Illini would see the Washington, D.C. regional from home rather than as participants.

"I'm just thinking about the game, what I could have done to help us to win," Brown said after the loss. "You always have to look back and think about it."

A year after the super season that sent Illinois basketball to its first National Championship game, things looked much different at Assembly Hall—and it wasn't just the new court installed at the beginning of the season. With Brown and fellow senior James Augustine as the only returning starters, Illinois turned to a bench full of raw talent to replace the NBA-quality stars that had defined 2005.

"I think it was a success," sophomore forward Brian Randle said of the season. "We didn't get a championship or go to the Final Four, but in terms of what we wanted to accomplish, we made some strides."

But while 26-7 was the second-worst overall record of Brown and Augustine's careers, the 2005-06 basketball season had to be measured against stiff competition. And, as head coach Bruce Weber said after the Washington game, the years was a rollercoaster ride no fan nor player would soon forget.

Illinois started its season with a series of home wins against the kinds of teams you'd expect a major basketball program to handle with ease. But when the Illini returned from a Thanksgiving trip to the South Padre Island Invitations with the tournament title in hand, they faced one more monumental challenge before critics would begin to think this would make a splash.

Opposite: Dee Brown drives into the lane against Georgetown. photo by Mike Sab ware
Top: Head Coach Bruce Weber coaches his team from the sidelines. Middle: Brian Randle fields a question at the post-game press conference. Bottom: New freshman guard Lamar Smith dribbles around his Georgetown opponent. photos by Christina Leung
They had to play North Carolina, the 2005 NCAA tournament Champions, in Chapel Hill.

With Weber nearly missing the game with a broken foot and the young Illini and Tarheels flailing around the court, the trip to UNC proved not to be pretty. But Illinois’ seniors came up strong, with Brown scoring 14 points and Augustine adding 13 points and 13 rebounds. In the end, Illinois walked off the baby-blue court with a 68-64 win. It didn’t equate to a National Championship, but it put the Illini back in the top 10 when the AP rankings were released a week later.

"It makes us a little bit more confident," Augustine said after beating UNC. "We finally came on the road, played a good team and pulled it out, so we’re going to be happy with it."

But with the Big Ten as strong as it had been in years, Illinois’ conference schedule would not be easy. The Illini handled Wisconsin and Michigan State on the road, but gave up losses at Iowa, Indiana, Ohio State and Michigan. The falter that hurt the most, however, was a 66-65 defeat at home against unranked Penn State. Illinois lost one of the longest home-win streaks in the nation, and began to lose confidence at a crucial point in the season. Still, the Illini finished tied for second in conference and felt confident going into the postseason.

A loss to Michigan State in its first game of the Big Ten tournament would be a painful wake-up call, sending the Illini back to Champaign long before planned. But nothing would compare to that Washington game, in which questionable officiating and a guard/forward named Brandon Roy haunted the Orange and Blue.

"Obviously, we’re very disappointed," Weber said following the loss. "I guess we didn’t understand the level of intensity and how physical they were going to play."

Brown and Augustine, the winningest players in Illinois history, will never again don Illini Orange. And even though a crowd of top players is waiting to step out of the pair’s shadow, Weber does not expect moving on to be an easy task.

"It’s the end of an era, but it’s college basketball. You lose guys," Weber said. "We’ll have a little bit of empty nest syndrome."

story by Courtney Lindhan

Opposite: Senior forward centre Jason Augustine displays satisfaction after a dunk.
Middle: Warren Carter concentrates on making his free-throw.
photo by Eugene Frayre
Top: Seniors Dee Brown and Jason Augustine prepare for one last play as the game clock winds down against Michigan. Dee and James finished the season with the most victories of any Illini basketball player in school history.
photo by Mike Saliman
Bottom: Junior guard Rich McBride battles to the basket in a loss against Penn State.
photo by Christine Leung
VARSITY CHEERLEADING

"I-L-L...I-N-I!"

The student body voted this famous chant as their favorite cheer, according to the I-book Daily Planner.

"That cheer really riles up the crowd," cheerleader Amy Cimmarusti said.

Cimmarusti is a sophomore at the University of Illinois, currently serving her second year on the Illinois Varsity Cheerleading Team. Like many of the Illinois cheerleaders, Cimmarusti was a cheerleader throughout high school and wanted to continue in college.

The team is co-ed and looks for individuals that are athletically talented, physically fit, experienced in cheering and committed to obtaining a college education. It is important for the cheerleaders to be school leaders because they stand as representatives of the University.

Dean Ordzowialy, a junior and male cheerleader, never pictured himself as a cheerleader during his high school track career. When Ordzowialy went to college, he wanted to be athletically involved and tried out for the cheerleading team.

"Cheerleading is harder than track," he said. "I am more tired after cheerleading practices."

There are 15 male cheerleaders on the team and many of them have a background in gymnastics and other sports.

"Some people make fun of male cheerleaders, but it takes a lot of strength to be able to hold a girl up above your head with one hand," Ordzowialy said.

Cheerleading takes a lot of strength, and the cheerleaders are required to weight-train three times a week. Their season lasts from August to the end of April and includes practice over academic vacations and participation in a summer cheerleading camp.

According to Cimmarusti, her team has two to three practices a week for about two hours. When they are preparing to compete nationally over winter break, practices are longer and harder. This year the team competed in Orlando, Fla., and placed 18th in the Nation.

The cheerleaders' main responsibilities are performing at football and men's and women's basketball games as well as many other school functions. The cheerleaders also perform at Quad Day, in the Homecoming Parade and at pep rallies.

A select number of cheerleaders even have the opportunity to travel to all away football and non-Big Ten men's basketball games, along with any post-season games such as the NCAA Final Four and championship game last year.

The University of Illinois Varsity Cheerleading team represents the school, and Ordzowialy commented that this experience can be quite invigorating.

"There is no rush like running across the field with the giant Illinois flag and the whole crowd chanting," he said.
Hayley Nealey, freshman in LAS, hobblés on crutches to a waiting bucket of ice.

"I sprained it at cheerleading practice," she said, pointing to her swollen ankle.

Nealey is a first-year member of Illinois Competitive Cheerleading. In its third year, the squad is one of many registered organizations on the U of I campus. The team consists of around 50 girls and is performance and competition oriented. They make appearances at numerous competitions in Illinois and compete nationally through the National Cheer Association.

Nealey attended try-outs at the beginning of the school year, hoping to continue the pastime she enjoyed throughout high school.

"I have always loved cheerleading and I love competing," she said.

For try-outs, candidates demonstrated jumps as well as advanced tumbling and stunting skills. They also learned a short dance, which they performed in front of judges. The girls were also evaluated based on their presentation and crowd appeal. Anyone that could perform very difficult tumbling skills, including a standing back tuck, round-off, back handspring and full twist, automatically made the team.

"I was so excited when I made the team because a lot of talented girls tried out," Nealey said. Her main motivation for trying out for the team was the opportunity to compete.

This year, the club split into two competitive squads—the blue squad and the orange squad. This provides an opportunity for more team members to compete nationally.

The team competes in "All Girl Division 1," one of the toughest divisions at nationals for the National Cheer Association (NCA). This year the squad placed 3rd for their 2005-2006 NCA Bid Tape and 7th Place in the All-Girl Division at the 2005 Nationals. They were also featured in the September/October 2005 issue of American Cheerleader Magazine.

The squad practices approximately three days a week. In the practice session, head coach Tim Babin and assistant coach Kevin Burnside demand much from their squad.

"We do a lot of stunting and tumbling," Nealey said. "When it comes close to competition time we have to stay late. We don't like it, but we know that it will pay off in the end."

The girls on the squad spend a lot of time together both at practice and in their free time. Nealey describes the group of girls as "close-knit."

"We have a lot of inside jokes because we spend so much time together," Nealey said.

Nealey is looking forward to the squad's next National competition, even though she may not be able to perform.

"My ankle is pretty injured," she said. "but I still have a few good years left!"

The squad holds try-outs every April and again in the Fall. Nealey hopes to make the team again so she can continue to do what she loves.
Imagine being towed by a boat going at extreme speeds. Your breath catches in your chest as you leap from the wake, spinning and doing a flip at the same time. Sound extreme? Now picture yourself perched on the edge of a cliff, a long cord the only thing that stands between you and a long way down, should you lose your grip. How's that for extreme?

As exciting as these situations might sound, there are University students who do these things for fun, and they have their own clubs dedicated to these activities.

One such group, which is a registered student organization (RSO) at the University, is the Illini Wakeboard Club. As the name might suggest, this RSO is dedicated to providing knowledge and training to students who are interested in the sport.

“We love teaching people and introducing them to our obsession,” said Adam Wallace, senior in LAS and the founder of the Illini Wakeboard Club.

Although the club has only been existence for a little over a year, they already have made a name for themselves.

“We decided to take things to a new level and went to the Collegiate Wakeboard Nationals in Orlando, Florida,” Wallace said. "With our
awesome performance at nationals, we were nationally ranked fifteenth out of 23 in our rookie year."

This ranking made the Illini Wakeboard Club the top ranked Midwest team at the competition.

Even though the wakeboard club attends competitions in both the spring and the fall, it isn’t all about the competitions, however.

"Our team travels a lot," Wallace said. "We go to tournaments in the fall and spring and free ride whenever we can...Since there are not many places to wakeboard near the University, we have taken to several different bodies of water—pools, ponds and beaches."

Wallace was drawn to wakeboarding almost ten years ago when vacationing with his family in southern Wisconsin. I learned much of what I know now, I learned from myself, he said.

"The feeling that I get when I’m flowing over the water or popping off the wake always keeps me coming back for more," Wallace said.

Another option for adventurers is the University’s Climbing Club. Founded six years ago, there are about 80 members, and 30 who consider themselves to be incredibly active in the organization.

According to Sean Cheng, a junior in Engineering and current president of the Climbing Club, the group is dedicated to introducing students to climbing and working out trips to climbing locations in the US.

"We go on trips about two to three times per week," Cheng said. "There are trips going all over the place at all times."

We have one big call out trip a year where we go to a location in southern Illinois, Chen said. All the serious people go and all the newcomers who are interested to learn about climbing.

Cheng said even though membership in the club provides such benefits as discounts with gear manufacturers, the biggest benefit is learning to challenge yourself.

"The greatest reward I’ve gotten out of climbing is learning to push your own limits, what you think you can do and what you can do," Cheng said. "You may surprise yourself."

Cheng also said climbing teaches people the benefits of commitment. If you commit to something and go all out, you can accomplish almost anything, he said.

All in all, the risk associated with these two clubs can be a detriment to people who are considering joining a more relaxing RSO, but these same risks are also the same reason that the people who are involved love what they’re doing.

"These risks are why we love wakeboarding, though, clearing gaps, leaping over obstacles and getting booted off a kicker are what we love, the riskier (the trick), the better," Wallace said.

story by Kyle Moncelle
Brianna Knue enjoys smashing a tennis ball with a fierce forehand. Rachel Frank must protect the soccer goal. Their endeavors may be different, but what these athletes do have in common is a shared devotion to their respective sport here at the University of Illinois. For the past three years, Knue and Frank, who are now seniors, have sacrificed blood, sweat and tears to know what success tastes like at the Division I level.

Tennis has been a defining facet of Brianna Knue's college experience. Because there is really no off-season, Knue has given up breaks from school and summer vacations to hone her skills and improve her craft.

The extra time she put into her skill proved her dedication and paid off early in her career, Knue said. A memory that still resonates with Knue is her freshman year doubles victory against then #1 ranked Duke. Illinois, ranked 45th at the time, had found a way to win at home.

Finding a way to win in general has been the mode of operation for Brianna Knue, whether it is against ranked opponents or conference teams. She hopes she will not have to give up her passion after graduation.

"I am not really sure if I want to give up tennis. I might try and play professionally for a year and see how it goes," said Knue, a psychology and chemistry major who hopes to attend medical school.
Playing soccer for the University is also a big deal. Many are unaware that the Fighting Illini soccer team reached the Elite Eight in the NCAA tournament last year. For senior keeper, Rachel Frank, losing to an "excellent Santa Clara team" in that round still felt "unreal" because they made it that far.

The Illinois soccer team was elevated to "demanding national recognition" instead of trying to earn it, said Frank. Playing for head coach Janet Rayfield, "whose passion for the game is rivaled only by her dedication to the team," is an experience that Frank hopes to take with her long after her soccer days are over.

Knue and Frank represent the essence of what it is to be a true Fighting Illini. Dedication and hard work on the field and court have provided these women with the expertise for future endeavors, whether it is professional athlete, career woman, role model, friend or teammate.
FIGHTING ILLINI

BASEBALL: SOFTBALL
BASKETBALL
GOLF
GYMNASTICS
SOCCER: SWIMMING & DIVING
TENNIS
TRACK & CROSS COUNTRY
VOLLEYBALL: WRESTLING
FOOTBALL

men's baseball


men's basketball

women's basketball


men's gymnastics

2006 Fighting Illini Team Roster: Front row: Jessica Jenne, Julie Croll, Lindsey Smith, Katie King, Uzama Osman, Kim Kruk. Back row: Michelle McGrady, Katie Wild, Emily Enloe, Krysta Mielzinski, Danny Borterman, Marsha Borterman, Melissa Singer, Cara Pomeroy

women's gymnastics

2006 Fighting Illini Team Roster: Marc Spritzke, GIO Jones, Brandon Davis, Kevin Anderson, Ryler DeHeart, Ryan Rowe, Robert Gonzalez, Pranod Dahir.

men's tennis

women's tennis

2006 Fighting Illini Team Roster: Mounia Els, Anastasia Sokolova, Marcella Harton, Bruna Bastos, Parvina Atrifay, Shreya Dave, Emily Yung, Alexandra Mota Guadiza.


women's

men's

Involvement in student organizations is more than paying dues and attending meetings; it’s how you discover your niche on campus. While learning leadership skills and gaining volunteer experience, you find where you fit in at a large university.

Fraternity brothers, sorority sisters, and fellow group members: these are the people who become your closest college friends.
Year Founded: 1998
Students work in:
writing
editing
photography
graphic design
page design
Buzz is the Daily Illini’s weekly entertainment magazine. Every Thursday, Buzz helps readers gear up for the weekend with anything and everything that is entertainment in Champaign-Urbana. Film, television, music and theatre reviews, a calendar of events, feature stories on the local entertainment scene and several annual “theme” issues are just a few of the reasons to read Buzz every week. Students working for Buzz get the chance to interview and photograph many of the area’s biggest names in entertainment, as well as a few more famous faces, such as Hugh Hefner and Roger Ebert - both University alumni - and Frank Black and Moby. Students do it all, working as writers, critics, photographers, designers and editors. The Buzz has already won awards on the national level for its innovative design and outstanding content.
The Daily Illini has been the University of Illinois' student-run newspaper 135 years. The Daily Illini publishes 20,000 free copies, five days a week, every day when the University's fall and spring classes are in session; 10,000 copies each day during the second summer session.

As the only local morning newspaper in Champaign-Urbana and with more than 250 distribution sites, the Daily Illini is the source of information on campus from local and world news to campus commentary to food and drink specials to film and theater reviews.

A New Student Guide, Touchdown Times, a Dining and Entertainment Guide and many more special editions round out coverage of the University community.

The Daily Illini is respected as one of the best college newspapers in the country, regularly garnering national recognition, such as Columbia Scholastic Press Association, Gold and Silver Crown awards and the Associated Collegiate Press Pacemaker award.
Year Founded: 1871
Circulation: 20,000 people
Students work in:
news
sports
opinions
features
editing
page design
photography
graphic design
advertising
circulation
promotions
production
business

WPGU-FM is the University of Illinois' student radio station, though their modern rock format draws an audience from all over Champaign-Urbana. WPGU is a commercial radio station up and running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with live student disc jockeys. Popular on-air personalities, remote broadcasts from all over Champaign-Urbana, regular feature programming, and exciting contests and promotions are all reasons the University community has stayed tuned to WPGU for more than 30 years.
Above: Jon Hoven participates in a beauty contest at a WFGU tailgate. Right: Joe Dien makes an announcement at a WFGU tailgate. Below: Matt Stillman is shocked to have his picture taken at the WFGU Christmas party. Opposite top left: This year's Christmas party was a hit. Mauricio Herrera and Travis Wayne Hurt administer one of the evening's events. Opposite bottom: Jon Finnetty and Christine Italia get into the spirit of the holidays by wearing Christmas colors to the WFGU Christmas party.

Photos by Megan Leith

Opposite top right: Evan Mundschenk, Bill Martin, Joe Dien, Maggie Judson, Lauren Thorstensen and Kate Pokorney hang out and enjoy the entertainment at the WFGU tent on Quad Day.

Photo courtesy of wfgu.com
ILLINI MEDIA COMPANY

board of directors

Year Founded: 1911
Original Name: Illini Publishing Company
Units:
  Buzz
  Daily Illini
  Illio
  Technograph
  107.1 WPGU

The Illini Media Company Board of Directors meets regularly to make important decisions to ensure the financial and media success of the company. The board is comprised of four faculty members and four students from the University and must include one professor from the College of Communications and one professor from the College of Commerce.

The board elects faculty members for four-year, renewable terms, with one term expiring each spring. The student members consist of three undergraduates and one graduate student.

The board hires and determines the salaries for the print general manager and broadcast general manager. The student managers are also selected by the board for one-year terms. These positions include: editor-in-chief and student sales manager of the Daily Illini; editor-in-chief and marketing director of the Illio; editor of the Technograph; and program director, news director and student sales manager at WPGU-FM.
Year Founded: 1894
Students work in:
writing
editing
photography
design
business
Pages published: over 400 annually

"Welcome to my boot into the side of your head."

ILLIO YEARBOOK
editorial staff
The Illio is the official yearbook at the University of Illinois. With an annual publication of more than 400 pages, each volume provides a unique look at life in a year at the University. Since 1894, the Illio has received recognition and numerous awards for its design and content on a regional and local level. Additionally, the 2005 Illio won a Gold Crown award from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. Through its elaborate documentation of the school year, each published volume provides a memorable keepsake of your stay at the University. Writers cover a variety of campus events, while photographers visually capture student life through their own perspective. The editorial staff works together to edit, design and construct the collective edition, using cutting-edge, industry standard professional software. Those who work in the business department handle marketing for book sales, scheduling senior portrait sittings, page sales and other divisions of advertising.

“See, that’s the thing about bald people.”

Opposite top: The 2006 Illio Editorial Staff: Becky Kari, Brittany Nelson, Fai Zhao, Kyle Grimes, Jessica Rudzik, Jayme Swift, Clara Kim, Lynsey Groth, Christina Moore and Andrew Davis. Opposite middle: Ryan Almsh, former Illio editor, Jayme Swift, current Illio editor, Sarah Cala, Illio advisor, and Mary Cory. Illio Media publishers stop for a photo outside the Tyler Publishing plant after a plant tour on a December trip to Dallas, Texas. Opposite bottom: Even through all the “your mom” jokes and frequent shots of “Look up, Andrew!” Andrew Davis and Jayme Swift remain good friends. The two love each other so much that they hugged for a picture during the Illio headcount... just moments before Andrew started complaining about not having a Illio shirt because he wanted to save his money for beer. Top: Illio staff members on their bus ride (clockwise from left): Kyle Grimes, Emma Myers, Clara Kim, Lynsey Groth, Andrew Davis, Jessica Rudzik, Alison Beloshapka and Mike Salzman. Above right: One of the numerous pictures of Jayme Swift, Lynsey Groth and Clara Kim during the Illio headcount. Far right: Andrew Davis being his usual self and hanging out in a box. He was rumored to love FedEx. Right: Clara Kim, Lynsey Groth and Jayme Swift spent many nights “burning the midnight oil” in room 9 while talking about Andrew’s mom and making “The Office” references. Joe and Pam were as in love.

photos by Mike Salzman & Jayme Swift
The Illinois Technograph is the University of Illinois' award-winning engineering magazine. Since 1885, the Technograph has covered the cutting edge of science and technology at the University and throughout the world. This student-produced magazine is packed with informative articles on all aspects of engineering and new technology, and features profiles on leaders in the field. The Technograph gives engineering students a unique chance to express themselves and their interests on the printed page. The Technograph is published four times during the school year and is distributed free of charge on the engineering campus. More than 1,000 copies are sent to high school libraries across the state of Illinois.
"Phi Alpha Delta in conjunction with the Pre-Law Club provide numerous opportunities for students to learn more about law school and legal careers. Through a variety of events, the organizations offer the chance to meet other individuals from many different backgrounds all with a similar interest in the law."

Year Founded: 1902 in South Haven, Michigan
U of I Founding Date: April 5, 1994
Nickname: PAD
Colors: Purple & Gold
Symbols: Coat-of-Arms, Red Carnation

The Pre-Law program is a subset of the organization and was founded in 1980 at the 1980 Convention in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Our Coat of Arms consists of a shield divided vertically into two parts. On the right side appears the Book of Law and on the left side, the Scales of Justice. Above the shield is the Lamp of Learning surrounded by the Wreath of Victory. Below the shield is the Scroll which bears our name, Phi Alpha Delta. Sustaining and supporting all is the column.

The mission of the Pre-Law Club is to provide pre-law students with resources and information regarding admission into law school, attending law school, and practicing in the field. We welcome students from all majors and years. We are also the only pre-law association on campus that is affiliated with the pre-law office.

PHI ALPHA DELTA

Nickname: PLC
Symbol: Scales of Justice
The Pre-Law Club provides a variety of opportunities to volunteer in the community.
Year Founded: 1872 at Syracuse University
U of I Founding Date: 1922
Nickname: A-Phi
Symbols: Ivy Leaf
Colors: Silver & Bourdeaux

Alpha Phi runs a fall and spring philanthropy. The fall philanthropy, known as Operation Ivy Leaf, is a kickball tournament which raises money to support kidney cancer research. Our chapter was unfortunate one year to lose a member to kidney cancer and felt compelled to create a philanthropic event in her honor. The spring philanthropy, called King of Hearts, raises money to support heart disease awareness. In this philanthropy, men compete to be the King of our Hearts through displays of Greek spirit, intelligence and talent.
Opposite top: The Alpha Phi 08 pledge class excitedly awaits the arrival of potential new members on the third invite party. Opposite bottom: We fight heart disease by supporting the Red Dress campaign and donating money towards awareness organizations. Our King of Hearts philanthropy collects a generous amount of proceeds each year to support heart healthy lifestyles. Above: Great but not forgotten, the seniors of Alpha Phi paw for one last Recruitment event. Our chapter will never forget them. Congrats Alpha Phi '06! Right: Members of Alpha Phi try to assist participants in King of Hearts through a race that requires both intelligence and agility. Below: Alpha Phi’s newest pledge class is welcomed into the house on Bid Day with live music and lots of great food.
Kappa Delta has represented a motivational force; a place that has guided me towards becoming the person I am meant to be. I know that the friendships, values, and opportunities given to me by my chapter will transcend the brief years of college, and for that, I will always be thankful.

Bridget Swift
Year Founded: 1897 in Farmville, Virginia
U of I Founding Date: October 23, 1923
Nickname: Kay Dee
Symbols: Teddy Bear, Nautilus Shell, Dagger, Katydid
Colors: Olive Green and Pearl White

Every March, we hold our annual philanthropy, Shamrock Event. Last year our chapter raised over $14,300 that was donated to Prevent Child Abuse America and the Champaign Crisis Nursery.
Year Founded: 1870 at Monmouth College
Nickname: Kappas
Symbols: The Key, Fleur-de-Lis, Owl
Colors: Light Blue & Dark Blue

We hold a four-on-four men’s volleyball tournament each fall called Kappatat. The proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity. We have also had many ladies from our house volunteer their time and efforts to help build a house to benefit Habitat for Humanity.
Year Founded: 1921
Nickname: EC
Symbols: EC
Colors: Blue and Orange

This year, Engineering Council has become increasingly involved in the community. Some of the events that EC has organized include building a haunted house at the Halloween Fun Fest, numerous soup kitchen visits, making cards for children at Carle Hospital, participating in the Giving Tree, hosting Engineers Bowl for Kids' Sake, various fund raisers and much more.
"Engineering Council has been and continues to be a place where students can come together for the betterment of the College of Engineering. We provide an excellent opportunity for students to make a difference with their undergraduate experience."
We are the largest student organization on campus! This year's membership is over 2000 members. Illini Pride began in 1977 and has continued to be the most loyal supporters of all varsity sports at Illinois.

Year Founded: 1977
Nickname: I-Pride
Colors: Orange & Blue
"Illini Pride has been a lot of memories... Final Four, USC volleyball, and the Sugar Bowl and social events, to name a few. But it also has been more than just sports. It has been friendships and an experience that has shaped my college career."
ILLINOIS
student senate

Year Founded: 2004
Nickname: ISS

Illinois Student Senate serves as the "official voice of the student body" and works to address and discuss student concerns. This semester, ISS has organized a townhall meeting with state representatives, created a task force to investigate racial profiling and has distributed information about students' rights. ISS is comprised of several committees that collaborate to best serve the needs of the student body.
"Illinois Student Senate has served as a meaningful organization to enact changes that aid the students we represent."

Ritu Parish
& Meghna Srinivasan
Year Founded: 1897 at Columbia University
U of I Founding Date: February 27, 1911
Nickname: Alpha O’s
Symbols: Jacqueminot Rose, Ruby, Sheaf of Wheat, Panda
Colors: Cardinal Red

AOPi hosts an event in the fall called Mud Olympics where teams from sororities, fraternities, and other campus organizations compete in events like tug-of-war and relay races, all with a lot of mud thrown in. Proceeds go to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Lymphoma and Leukemia Society. In the spring, AOPi sponsors Run for the Roses, an annual run/walk. Proceeds from the 2005 event went to the National Arthritis Research Fund.
"It's impossible to say what Alpha Omicron Pi has meant to me, because it implies past tense. Alpha Omicron Pi was my home here on campus and as I leave these four years behind me, the friendships I have made and the lifelong loyalty to each other will continue with me for the rest of my life."
Year Founded: 1895 at the University of Arkansas

U of I Founding Date: June 1, 1900

Nickname: Chi O’s

Symbols: Owl

Colors: Cardinal and Straw

Our main philanthropy is through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. We hold an annual talent show featuring comedy groups, musicians, and singers throughout the U of I community.
"Chi Omega is a true sisterhood. I have never made closer friends, shared such crazy experiences, and felt so apart of a family away from my family at home."
Year Founded: 1902 at Miami University, Oxford, OH
U of I Founding Date: October 21, 1921
Nickname: DZ, Delta Zee
Symbols: Killarney Rose, Roman lamp, Diamond
Colors: Rose & Green

Our main philanthropic event is Krazee Bowl, where other sororities and fraternities come together to bowl in crazy ways and raise money. The proceeds go to the Speech and Hearing department at Gallaudet University. In addition, we participate in other organizations' events.
"As cliché as it may be, I would honestly not be the person I am today without Delta Zeta. These past four years at U of I have been unforgettable, and my Delta Zeta sisters have made them unbelievable. I am going to miss my DZ’s when I graduate, but I know that the close friendships I’ve gained, the laughs I’ve had, and the memories I’ve made will last a lifetime."
Year Founded: 1867 in Monmouth, Illinois
U of I Founding Date: October 26, 1895
Nickname: Pi Phi
Symbols: Arrow
Colors: Wine & Silver Blue

Arrowgames is an annual event to benefit The Arrowmont School and Links to Literacy. The 2005 Arrowgames was a dodgeball tournament.
"As an out of state student far away from home, Pi Beta Phi has given me wonderful friendships and qualities I never thought I had. I have shared fun, exciting, and challenging experiences with these women. I am confident that these friendships through Pi Beta Phi will last a lifetime."
Year Founded: 1912
Nickname: UBC

We support Samaritan's Purse, ABC-USA International Missionaries, Operation Sleighbell, Restoration Urbana Ministries, and do a Latin American Mission Project. During Spring Break we take Habitat for Humanity trips to Arkansas, Oklahoma, and have a group that works in Champaign with the local Habitat chapter.

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13. That is what UBC has been to me. UBC has encouraged my faith in Jesus as my Savior, given me hope for the future and what God will do in my life, and shown me the incredible love God has for all of His children. It has also given me the opportunity to let God's love flow through me by participating in service activities.
"IEMS has been a way for me to make a difference in the university community and make friends. Without IEMS I would not know as many people or be as active in the university as I am today."


Year Founded: 1979
Nickname: UBC
Symbols: Star of Life
Colors: Red, White, Blue & Orange

Providing free stand-by emergency medical care to the university community.
Year Founded: 1906  
Nickname: Presby  
Colors: Yellow & Green

Founded in 1906, Presby House has been a staple in the lives of many girls during college. The 2005-2006 academic year represents the last year Presby House will be in the current building at 405 E. John Street in Champaign. The house is made up of up to 30 girls, freshmen through senior, representing diverse backgrounds including farms, small towns and suburbs. As private certified housing, Presby organizes many events for its members, including Turkey Talent, an annual barn dance and formal, and a summer “Pow-Wow.” During the semester, the house regularly has exchanges with fraternities such as Nabor House, Alpha Gamma Sigma, Psi Upsilon, Phi Kappa Sigma, and others. This last year in Presby House celebrates the lifelong friendship made and the contribution of Presby House sisterhood to University of Illinois campus life.
STUDENT ALUMNI AMBASSADORS

"Student Alumni Ambassadors truly has been a life changing experience. In addition to making lifelong friends, I have had the opportunity to take advantage of unique leadership opportunities no other organization on campus can provide."

Year Founded: 1979
Colors: Orange & Blue

Year Founded: 1904 at Syracuse University
U of I Founding Date: June 12, 1918
Nickname: Alpha Gams
Symbols: Red & Yellow Rose, Squirrel
Colors: Red, Buff & Green

Alpha Gamma Delta's philanthropy is Water Wars, a competition between teams involving games with shaving cream, water balloons, and slip 'n' slides. The money raised goes to the Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation, which in turn supports juvenile diabetes.

"Throughout my years here at Alpha Gamma Delta, I have built true lasting friendships with a fun, exciting, and genuine group of diverse women. I will always cherish the time spent and memories made with my Alpha Gam sisters."
Year Founded: 1934
Nickname: Etas
Symbols: 4-Leaf Clover
Colors: Green & White

Our philanthropy, Journey, honors the lives of Jennifer and Jackie Esworthy. These two sisters were killed on June 8, 1997 when a drunk driver broadsided their car. Journey’s mission is to keep repeat drunken drivers off the road. We raise money through an annual Euchre tournament held each spring and Etas Bake for You, a bake auction, each fall. The money raised is used towards increasing the number of videocameras available in police cars so officers can videotape a driver’s reactions.

"Living at 4-H House has given me an opportunity unlike any other. I have made friends, gained a sense of belonging, and developed leadership characteristics, all of which I can carry with me throughout the rest of my life." - Amanda Moffit
The goal of Alpha Gamma Rho is to make better men. Our common background in agriculture lays the foundation for solid relationships. Our involvement within the house and on campus allows us to build strong relationships that last a lifetime.
Year Founded: 1922 at Ohio State
U of I Founding Date: 1949
Colors: Blue and Silver

Friendship and equality through education and cooperation.
Year Founded: 1888
U of I Founding Date: 1920
Nickname: Tri Delta
Symbols: Pearl, Pine, Pansy
Colors: Silver, Gold & Blue

Tri Delta hosts an annual Greeks at Bat Softball Tournament. All proceeds go to support St. Jude’s Children’s Memorial Hospital.

"Tridelta has been the forum through which I have gained unforgettable memories, unconditional support and lifelong friendships. I could not imagine my college experience without my wonderful sisters of Tridelta."
Once again this year, Farmhouse Fraternity held our 3rd Annual Bags for Babes philanthropy event. On October 18th, 30 teams from sororities across campus participated in the bags tournament, where all proceeds went to benefit the Crisis Nursery of Champaign.

"Even though you go to college for four years, the memories and friendships I have made living at Farmhouse Fraternity will stay with me forever." — Andy Brantner
During the month of April, Psi Upsilon has a booth on the quad to inform students of organ donation awareness, and to urge students to sign the back of their driver’s licenses. We do this in memory of Sam Biardo, a member who passed away in April of 2001.

"The most incredible thing about this fraternity is the knowledge imparted to the younger members by the older ones through their example and wisdom. In all my years in the fraternity, I quickly found that regardless of the situation, there was always someone who knew how to handle it because they had been there before. It has been an honor as an older member to make a positive impact in the lives of the younger members of the fraternity by passing this knowledge and legacy on to them. There are many conceptions about the meaning of fraternity, and of brotherhood. Psi Upsilon has embodied mine by creating an environment in which members can benefit so much from the influences of their brothers. The men I have known in this fraternity have helped me shape my life, and I can only hope I’ve had the same effect on some of them."
SIGMA PHI DELTA

Year Founded: 1924 at the University of Southern California
U of I Founding Date: January 25, 1928
Symbol: Castle
Colors: Red & Black

Above: Sigma Phi Delta and Alpha Omega Epsilon members with the Homecoming float that took 2nd place in the Fraternity/Sorority category.
Right: Sigma Phi Delta 2005-2006 picture.
Year Founded: 1852 in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania  
U of I Founding Date: November 18, 1904  
Symbols: Coat of Arms  
Nickname: Phi Psi  
Colors: Cardinal Red & Hunter Green

Our fraternity works nationwide with the Boys and Girls Club of America. We helped the local Boys and Girls Club with their biggest fund raiser, the Great C-U Duck Race, and organized a holiday event. Additionally, we regularly volunteer at the Urbana Business Association’s Sweetcorn Festival and International Beer Tasting and Chili Cook-Off event.

"Being a member of Phi Kappa Psi has offered me the opportunity to experience the joys of leadership and the comradery of living with 50 of my best friends. Phi Psi has taught me to be a better man, and to that ideal I will hold true forever."
"There's so much that can be said about being part of something so unique like PSP. It's given me the chance to explore my leadership abilities and give back to the community. But, most importantly, it's given me the opportunity to create unlikely friendships, unforgettable moments, and countless memories. It's something that's given definition to not only my college experience but to my life and my future.

**Year Founded:** 1916 at Central Missouri State University

**U of I Founding Date:** December 4, 2004

**Nickname:** PSP, EZ

**Colors:** Purple & Gold

American Cancer Society Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk and Relay for Life; Boys and Girls Club in Champaign Game Drive and Duck Race volunteers. Others include holiday cards for sick children in Carle Hospital and Support the Troops Drive.
Left: Exchange with Kappa Kappa Gamma. Kevin Konicki, sophomore; Jon Houston, fresh- 
mans; Quinn Fouts, sophomore; Todd Lastich, freshman; Ryan Lindahl, freshman; Ian 
Kirk Lichtenberg, freshman; Jan Bull, junior; Ryan Fabritius, sophomore; John Beller, ju-
niер; Ryan Anderson, sopho-
more; Justin Leven, junior; Ian Nelson, junior. Below middle: Bruce Weber visits SigEps. Justin Leven, junior; Dan 
Ziemiecki, junior; Mark White, senior; Phil Katz, senior. Bottom: SigEps Winter 
Service Trip. Donnie Stout, se-
nior; Red Zamparo, freshman; 
Adam Hallihan, junior; David 
Sedgwick, sophomore; solo 
Marchant, sophomore; Ryan 
Anderson, sophomore; Bob 
Wile, junior; Justin Leven, ju-
niю; Evan Mickey, sophomore; 
John Malezak, junior; Ryan 
Duckworth, sophomore; Brad 
Prazak, sophomore; Randy 
Parkinson, senior; Eric Holmen, 
junior; Kevin Conetta, sopho-
more; Cliff Vasca, senior.

SIGMA PHI EPSILON

Year Founded: 1901 at Richmond College
U of I Founding Date: 1903
Symbols: Golden Heart
Nickname: Sig Eps
Colors: Red & Violet

Strike Out AIDS (fall philanthropy) is a bowling event open to the campus to raise money for Youth AIDS. Sig Eps’ national charity. Jog for Josh (spring philanthropy) is a 5k run open to the public to raise money for the Joshua Gottheil Memorial Fund, which supports lymphoma cancer research.

“Throughout my years as a Sig Ep, the organization has been more than a fraternity. It represents a family of over one hundred men, working together to accomplish great things.”

John P. Bottom
"My experiences here at the University of Illinois started and will end with Theta Xi. The lasting friendships and sense of confidence that I will carry away from my time in Theta Xi are invaluable. Being a critical part of a whole has given me direction and purpose and being a member of a brotherhood has taught me that the relationships we forge and the fleeting moments we share define us as individuals and strengthen the community at large."
"Dodging Illini has taught me that having the balls is everything to life."

**DODGING ILLINI**

"hardcore ballers"
The Illinettes are a group of 28 girls who perform at every home football and men’s basketball game. As part of the Marching Illini and Basketball Bands, we are the official dance team of the University of Illinois. We look forward to dancing at other various sporting events as well as half times with the Orange Krush and the Other Guys’ Holiday concert.
Year Founded: 1885 at DePauw University  
U of I Founding Date: December 8, 1899  
Symbols: Lyre, Red Carnation  
Nickname: A-Chi-O  
Colors: Scarlett Red & Olive Green

Alpha Chi Omega's national philanthropy is victims of Domestic violence. Every year we hold a fundraising event called "Camp Alpha Chi," and all proceeds are donated to the Crisis Nursery of Champaign to help victims in our area.

"The women of Alpha Chi Omega have been a huge pillar of support in my life throughout my entire undergraduate experience. They were there to make the rough times a little easier and the great times even happier. I cannot imagine the University of Illinois without my Alpha Chi Girls!"
Year Founded: 1851 at Wesleyan Female College
U of I Founding Date: March 28, 1912
Symbols: Lion & Woodland Violet
Nickname: ADPi
Colors: Azure Blue & White

During the fall semester, we host ‘Kickin’ It with ADPi’ - a soccer tournament for kids, U of I students, and community members. In the spring, we invite the campus community to our house for a pancake dinner fundraiser. The proceeds from these events go towards Ronald McDonald House. Through the year, we have groups of girls go to the Ronald McDonald House in Springfield to cook dinner for the families.

“ADPi has taught me a lot about myself and who I want to be. I’ve gained valuable leadership experiences and built friendships that will last a lifetime.”
"Over the past four years, the Panhellenic Community has molded me into a woman that embraces scholarship, leadership, philanthropy, and social development. I am instilled with the belief that I am truly a wiser and more confident woman because of my involvement with Panhellenic life.

The Panhellenic Council is the student-run government body of the sorority community. In joining a sorority, a woman becomes a member not only of her respective sorority, but also of the sorority community, a community which encompasses twenty-three sororities and over 3,200 members.
Year Founded: 1858 in Bethany, Virginia
U of I Founding Date: 1872
Nickname: Delts
Colors: Purple & Gold

Each Spring, Delta Tau Delta hosts Deltona Beach, a three-day event with proceeds going to the United Services Organization, a charity that holds special meaning for members as fellow brothers currently serve in our nation’s armed forces.

"Delta Tau Delta is not only a place to domicile, but a chapter where truth and loyalty run rampant to preserve the traditions of an outstanding organization."
The women of Gamma Phi Beta participate in philanthropy activities as a chapter and as individuals. Special Camping for the Challenges of Youth is a Gamma Phi Betas international philanthropy. Each year, the Gamma Phi's at U of I hold their Annual Golf Tournament and Taco Fiesta Dinner to support Camp Fire USA.

"Gamma Phi Beta's mission is to foster a nurturing environment that provies women the opportunity to achieve their potential through life-long commitment to intellectual growth, individual worth, and service to humanity."
"To me, Delta Gamma represents all of the amazing experiences I have had these past few years. The friendships I have made, the opportunities I have been given, and the feeling of having a home away from home is irreplaceable."

Delta Gamma's philanthropic events all benefit the organization "Service for Site." To raise funds and awareness, for this program, we run a swim contest, a denim sale, ice cream social, and a talent show. We love giving back to the community through all of these exciting events.
"Illini-n-Motion has given us so many opportunities. The friends we’ve made, dance experience, and memories will last a lifetime. We will miss everyone and keep dancing."

Year Founded: 1995
Nickname: INM

Our focus is to expose the UIUC community to the artistic world of dance and to give those individuals who have an interest in dance an opportunity to learn and grow in their performance of various techniques and styles.

"IUB has been an amazing experience where I’ve made great friends and gained knowledge and skills which will greatly contribute to my life after Illinois."

Year Founded: 1942
Symbols: Illini Union Cupula
Nickname: IUB
Colors: Orange & Blue

As the campus’ largest programming board, the Illini Union Board is charged with the duty to provide cultural, educational, social and recreational programs for the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests of the university.
"Nabor House has been a home for me in all aspects of the word. Everyday I get home and kick back with a group of friends who seem more like family. Together we've celebrated the highs and fought through the lows. Thus far, this has been the best experience of my life."

**Nabor House Fraternity**

**Year Founded:** April 29, 1939  
**Colors:** Green & Gold

As the campus' largest programming board, the Illini Union Board is charged with the duty to provide cultural, educational, social and recreational programs for the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests of the university.

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**Stratford House**

**Year Founded:** 1949  
**Nickname:** "Strat"  
**Colors:** Wine & White

Every semester the girls vote on an organization or cause for the spending of the money set aside for the mission budget. In the fall, Stratford partners with Komonia House to put on kairos, a live event aimed toward meeting new people and reaching out to the campus. Stratford members also engage in different activities with churches and campus ministries, such as Sunday school, Wednesday night youth ministry and this fall especially, hurricane relief participation.
Our natural philanthropy organization is the American Cancer Society. Locally, we serve many groups, Center for Women in Transition, Crisis Nursery, St. John's Soup Kitchen, by offering volunteer work.
"Being an active in Phi Eta Sigma made a great impact in my 4 years at U of I. Traveling to the national convention in Savannah, Georgia was one of the highlights of my college career. On campus, this society got me involved in countless philanthropy events and brought many people into my life, all of whom are unforgettable."

**Year Founded:** 1937  
**U of I Founding Date:** March 22, 1923  
**Symbols:** Torch, book, Pyramid, Gold Star  
**Nickname:** PES  
**Colors:** Black & Gold

Phi Eta Sigma is involved in a variety of philanthropic activities. At the start of the school year, PES organized a school supplies drive for needy children. In the fall they hosted a volleyball tournament for charity. They are also active participants in Relay for Life every year in the spring.

"Being in Alpha Rho Chi has broadened my horizons, not only architecturally and professionally, but also in a personal way. I will carry with me for the rest of my life the friends I have met and the memories we have made."

**Year Founded:** 1914  
**Symbols:** White Rose  
**Nickname:** Archis

Left: Mary Krist, Candy Beppum  
Roger Barak, John Doutchett, Andrew  
Eugene, Dag, Teller, veggies  
Gabriel, Adam Michelson, Umar Mubarak, Shannan Vobbel, Eve Schrupp  
Rebecca Schuler, Kate Pomerating  
Jaime Elgin and Jake Hansen
Atius-Sachem

"Atius-Sachem is an organization that has given me great opportunities to show my appreciation to parents, give back to the community and meet some amazing people. It has provided me with a unique experience that I will always treasure."

Year Founded: Founded on campus in the 1930s

Atius-Sachem participates in numerous philanthropies. Dad’s Night Out is in the fall semester and proceeds go to the Women in Transition Center. It is a free program for students and dads during Dad’s Weekend. Mom’s Day Sing is another event held in the spring semester. The sing is an annual tradition that dates back to the early 1900s. The sing takes place during Mom’s Weekend each year and consists of groups of students who get together to compete for the best sing and dance performance.

Symbols: Trefoil
Colors: Blue & Green
Adopt-a-Pathway & Girl Scout Badge Workshops.

"It has been a 'Club for the Restivus!' From doing the opposite of every other club on campus to having a Newmannium Party to celebrating Festivus, it’s all been like a fantasy, yet it is all too real!"
"LAS Leaders has combined leadership activities, alumni relations, and stewardship to the college in a fun, close-knit group atmosphere. My membership in LAS Leaders has presented so many great opportunities, and I am so glad I have been blessed to be a member of this organization."

As members of LAS Leaders, students assist the college’s Office of Advancement with a variety of events and activities—greeting guests at receptions and banquets, conducting alumni campus tours, and serving as hosts/hostesses at alumni and college events. In addition, LAS Leaders participate in volunteer efforts, such as Relay for Life and Crisis Nursery, and a variety of activities across campus as part of their leadership training and commitment to service. Other activities include College Against Cancer, Eastern Illinois Food Bank, Forrest Preserve Cleanup, Adopt-A-Family, and Christmas From D.C.F.S.

**Ma-Wan-Da**

**U of I Founding Date:** 1912  
**Symbols:** Bronze Arrowhead  
**Colors:** White

Ma-Wan-Da brings senior leaders together in a selective honor society which recognizes the members’ commitment to our campus community.

**STUDENTS FOR WAR**

**Founded:** 1969  
**Nickname:** SECS

We participate in a variety of volunteer activities like cleanups of the Sangamon and Salt Fork Rivers. This year we also teamed up with the Illini Bicycle Racing Club to conduct a bike tune-up that raised over $580 to go towards Hurricane Katrina victims. On campus we have set up drop off points for students to recycle used batteries and ink jet cartridges. We also strive to raise campus awareness on a wide variety of environmental issues by bringing in guest speakers, holding panel discussions and by helping to publish the new Green Observer magazine.
Women's Glee Club

Year Founded: 1895
Symbols: Treble Clef & Little Angel
Nickname: WGC, Women's Glee

"I have been a member of women's glee club since my freshman year, and I feel a great sense of community with the other girls. WGC represents good musicianship through performing quality literature from a variety of genres. I have really enjoyed my experience in this choir."

Want to see your group here?
To purchase space for the 2007 Illio, contact: illiomarketing@illinimedia.com.
Many may start careers, some go on to grad school, and others take time to travel.

**seniors**

With diplomas earned and goodbyes said, graduates look forward to what lies ahead. Looking back on your time in college, it may seem like freshman year began just yesterday, but you've come so far since that first semester.
Gercken, Scott
Music Education, Bloomington II.

Germain, Andrea
Wine & Viticulture, Devault II.

Germeno, Megan
Nutrition Science, East Lansing II.

Giacone, Nicole
Bachelor of Science & Family Studies, Barrington, IL.

Gill, Maura
Human Development & Family Studies, Wyoming, MI.

Gillespie, Brandon
Criminology, Whitmore, MI.

Gillespie, Regina
Early Childhood Education, Urbana, IL.

Gillespie, Travis
Enrollment, St. Joseph, MI.

Gillis, Elizabeth
Creative Writing & English Literature, Kettering.

Gilreath, Matt
Industrial Design, Wexford, MI.

Girod, James
Communications, Warren, MI.

Girley, Kalani
New Media Journalism, Urbana, IL.

Goddard, Megan
Marine, Traverse City, MI.

Goettinger, Michael
Natural Resources & Environmental Studies, Jacksonville, IL.

Gold, Daniel
Sport Psychology & Movement Science, Champaign.

Goldberg, Jay
Public Relations, Highland Park, IL.

Gonzalez, Ashley
Pharmacy, Champaign, IL.

Gonzalez, Michelle
Journalism, North Andover, MA.

Gorczynski, Joanna
Fashion Design, Benedictine, IL.

Gorski, Mark
Computers & Information Science, Chicago, IL.

Gorzewski, Julie
Human Development & Family Studies, Chicago, IL.

Gough, Kathleen
Economics, Naperville, IL.

Gould, Cynthia
Family & Consumer Science, Champaign, IL.

Grabinski, Joseph
Economics, Otisville, PA.

Graczyk, Holly
Architecture, Illinois Institute of Technology, IL.

Granger, Teresa
Economics, Grove City, PA.

Gray, Alexander
Economics, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL.

Gray, Brandon
Sports Communication, Champaign, IL.

Green, Crystal
Business Administration, Detroit, MI.

Green, Kevonna
Community Health, Chicago, IL.

Greenwald, Chris
Psychology, Boston, MA.

Greenspan, Lisa
Psychology, Parkville, MI.

Green, Scott
Anthropology, Louisiana State, LA.

Greviskes, Amber
Journalism, Champaign, IL.

Griggio, Joe
Accountancy, Warren, MI.

Grote, Jessica
Mathematics, Stevens Point, WI.

Graves, Alana
Environmental Science, Champaign, IL.

Grubbs, Allison
Communications Studies, Champaign, IL.

Grunenke, Ivan
Communications, Westfield, NJ.

Grunthamer, Dana
Marketing, Ocean City, NJ.

Gryllaki, Amaryllis
Fiveter, St. Louis, IL.

Guadino, Zachary
Mathematics, East Lansing, MI.
Michelle Kirkham, Sociology, Harvard, IL
Kimberly Klein, Kristin
Timpanaro, Corey
Computer Science, Sharon, MA
Tobin, Nicholas
Industrial Engineering, Framingham
Todt, Matthew
Chemical Engineering, Framingham
Tomn, Bryan
Mechanical Engineering, Boston
Toord, Kelly
Art History, Inman, MA
Trepina, Mike
Communication Studies, Sharon

Trible, Christina
Philosophy, Westford
Tran, Richard
Computer Science, Boston, MA
Troy, Aaron
Economics, Dedham
Turk, William
Economics, Norwood
Turk, Angela
Business Administration, Dedham

Ubele, Thomas
Computer Engineering, Chicopee, MA

Ufka, Laura
Human Development & Family Studies, Easton
Uhe, Elizabeth
Speech & Hearing Sciences, Boston
Urban, Daniel
Baton, Victoria, LA
Vaccaro, Victoria
Elementary Education, Norwood
Van Tine, Grant
Biological Sciences, Sandwich, MA
Vanuordall, Carlisa
English, Brookline, MA

Vanharium, Susan
History, Santa Barbara, CA
Vance, Joseph
Economics, Dedham
Vandike, Nathan
Mechanical Engineering, Framingham
Vandre, Brian
Mechanical Engineering, Marlborough
Vandrey, Lauren
Community Health, Cohass
Vasco, Andrea
Marketing, Canton

Vasquez, Cesar
Accounting, Framingham
Vaughn, Amber
English, Sandwich, MA
Vaughn, Christopher
Economics, Dedham
Vaughn, Jessie
Economic, Sandwich, MA
Velasco, Jennifer
Psychology, Sandwich, MA

Vicenico, Yvette
Psychology, Weymouth, MA

Vieira, Clifford
Highland Engineering, Sandwich
Vigletti, Michael
Math, Sharon, MA
Vigilizma, Emily
French, Sharon, MA
Vileta, Elaine
Environental Science, Dedham
Villarorota, Jr., Walther
Civil Engineering, Framingham
Villiger, Kelly
Economics, Norwood

Vinh, Thuan
Computer Engineering, Framingham
Vrtnsko, Jacob
Economics, Framingham
Vogel, Jacqueline
Economics, Dedham

Volk, Cheryl
Economics, Norwood
von Hatten, Jill
Economics, Norwood
Vourchers, Ryan

[Image of students' photos]
The 2006 Illio Yearbook at the University of Illinois, Volume 113, was created with Adobe InDesign and Photoshop and printed by Taylor Publishing Company in Dallas, Texas. Ryan Almon and Jane Cluver served as Taylor Representatives for the Illio, and Pam Ringold was the Customer Service Advisor at Taylor.

Cover: Jayme Swift, Lynndsey Groth, and Clara Kim designed the 2006 cover. The cover material is brown matte 119, silk screened in brown 883 and tan 888 with a duotone tip-on.

Tip-on photo was taken by Mike Salwan from the fourth floor balcony of the Illini Media Building at 515 E. Green St. The binding is Smyth sewn, Round and Back with headbands.

Endsheets: The endsheets material is rainbow stock in oatmeal.

Paperstock: All 438 pages are printed 100 pound enamel.

Typography: Body copy for the entire book is 10 point Franklin Gothic with 16 point leading. Captions are in 6 point Warnock Pro with 6.5 point leading. Headline and subhead fonts are Franklin Gothic Book and Zapfino, respectively.

Design: Both members of the design staff composed front pages under the supervision of the editor-in-chief and assistant editor. The assistant editor designed and wrote copy for the opening, closing and division pages and designed the Profiles section. The editor-in-chief compiled and designed the Team Photos, Groups & Greeks and Seniors sections. All inside pages were produced on eMac and iMac computers using Adobe InDesign CS2 and Adobe Photoshop CS2: the cover was created in Adobe Illustrator CS2.

Photography: The Illio photography staff took the majority of the photos for the book with Nikon D70 and Nikon D50 equipment. Some photos were courtesy of University of Illinois Sports Information and the Daily Illini. The senior portraits were taken by Thornton Studios, New York, NY, and digitally submitted.

Copy: All copy in the book was written and edited by the Illio editorial staff.

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365. And then some.
A heart to heal.

Long before their gentle laughter
Helped you past your fear.

Long before their tender touch
Brushed away your tear.

Long before the hours of class
That gave them their ideals.

Long before they learned their craft
They had a heart to heal.

Powerful healing requires more than skill and experience. It takes nurses with a passion to make a difference in the lives of those in need. Dedicated men and women make powerful healing a reality every day at Provena, through their strength, commitment, compassion and their heart to heal.

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Every job is a self-portrait of the person who does it. Autograph your work with excellence.  
unknown

Lyndsay:
for introducing me to the wonder that is chai latte,
for your OCD that made this book look great,
for spending 12+ hour days and 36-hour weekends with me in the Illus office,
most importantly, for being a great friend.
Are we serious about doing this again next year?

Andrew:
for accompanying me on this yearbook journey since high school,
for never judging,
for making me laugh,
for loving my "your mom" jokes,
last stop making fun of me, k?

Clark:
for being Janmar Smith of the Illus staff,
for your design skills, dedication, and hard work,
for your respect,
for putting up with my nonsense.

Sarah Cain/Durham:
for being a lot of fun on the Dallas trip,
for being an amazing Illus advisor,
for always listening,
for your understanding.
I hope you are as proud of this book as I am.

Mary Cory & Elmi Media Company Board:
for this amazing opportunity,
for entrusting me to be next year's Marketing director.
I look forward to working with all of you for another year!

Emma:
for letting me follow in your footsteps,
for your advice,
for your friendship.
I'm going to miss you!

Jane:
for all of your help this year
for your understanding through all of our proofs (and reproofs...and reproofs of reproofs) and questions (especially about the cover).
I'm looking forward to working with you again next year.

A friend is one who believes in you when you have ceased to believe in yourself.  
unknown

Ryan:
for always being there,
for your understanding and patience,
for never being afraid to be honest with me,
for your love.

Alison:
for sharing my love of horrible '90s pop music,
for always being there when I needed you,
for your enduring compassion.

Kyle:
for never doubting me,
for always listening,
for being a true friend.

Evan, Kaylee:
for your friendship,
for laughing at my nonsense (and really lame puns too),
for being there to listen when I needed to talk (or make Becky references).

Grant Coel, Ryan:
for Laela's brace, Mudlark, Celine, Maggie, Elizabeth, Christine, Zach
Advertising Classmates, Fellow Glota Employees, Advisory Council Members, everyone in Between:
for your support,
for your friendship,
for making U of I home.

Other things may change us, but we start and end
with the family.  
Anthoni Brandt

Dad:
for your strength and courage,
for sharing your hard work ethic genes,
for your love and encouragement.

Mom:
for always listening,
for your support,
for your love and friendship.

Bob:
for being the best step-mom I could ever ask for,
for your honesty,
for being one of my best friends.

Rick:
for being a great step-dad,
for having confidence in me,
for just being.

Kelley, Travis, Brandon:
for being amazing siblings,
for your talks,
for looking up to me.

Laura Leblat:
for never treating me like a step-sibling,
for your friendship.

Kenneth, Makenna:
for being the most beautiful people in the world,
for making me smile.

Graeme:
for being one of my biggest supporters,
for being strong,
I miss you.

I love all of you.
five deadlines

I wish these were the

year

an editor's guidelines

01 learn to love those four office walls.
02 be your own art director.
03 come to terms with your OCD.
04 never count on computers working.
05 always count on losing sleep.
06 try to survive until deadline five.
07 drink a lot (of coffee, that is).
08 if all else fails, fix it on proofs.
01 staff
A round of applause goes to the writers, photographers, designers, and
members of the editorial staff, the brave souls who survived the year and
made this book happen. You should all be proud of the effort you put into
this finished product! To Clara and Andrew especially, thank you for your
dedication to design and your ability to withstand my obsessive compulsive
behavior.

And I, your partner in crime, if you were worried that we had only 12 months
left to save up the glory of yearbook publication, rest assured that 50 more
years in this business is ahead, and we will meet again at an Iowa
conference far, far away. I can see it now...our shoulder pads billowing, bang-
bang, and pink tights applied as we ram obscenely floral saltwater
trough the reviled doors of some obscure midwestern hotel, eager to chat
about all that is yearbooks. Are we serious?

02 support
A huge thank you to Sarah Cain for your excellent
advising this year and to the Illini marketing staff
for selling this thing. Many thanks to Jane Olstoff for your assistance
and interest in this book.

Lastly, thanks to Mary Cery and members of the IM
Board for providing me with the
opportunity to make
yearbooks at Illini Media.

03 friends
Thanks to all the people I’ve met that have made U of I
seem a little smaller and a lot friendlier. To Erin, for
your constant support and much-needed help with this book,
and to Jen, for always letting me borrow your green hat when
I need it. Stacy and Christine, it’s been an eventful year
in sp. 19, to say the least. I’ll miss Bash Ct. when we
move.

04 family
And most importantly, thanks to my family: to Mom, for your constant
advice, your friendship, and for making sure your 20-year-old daughter was still
in the same class in the morning. To Dad, for your encouragement, your wisdom, and for
being so proud of me and my English major.

To Cassidy, for your confidence, your authenticity, and the bump in hard
work, honesty, and integrity. Everything I am is because of you, my greatest friend. I love you and thank God for you.

05 and then some
This is the part where I thank all the people who will help design the book, so
close to Adobe InDesign and those beautiful blue screens are the InDesign staff.

Get Heartbreaking Work oF Stepping Denoue And A Pleasure In Single-Winning The English
Appliances Mac supply, Virgin Records, BBC London, England and Irish, Bavarian Crest, German girls, Philip Seymour Hoffman, and two blind mice walking in London. To the
office...

Sophie Holger’s whole bean hazelnut, and 2011 Edition Of For One Farm, the Roger
Duffie of lake gillenhaal movies. Luckily, The W & A, the most single-minded design
right now. Jane Augustin’s zoe’s sleeping in. From printed gillenhaal to the Reality
world, all the all nighters, the realization of dreams, and the future in the Now
publishing. It’s been a good year.

Lyndsey Groth
Assistant Editor
LAST THINGS FIRST

Owens

Other Destinies

Harris

LAST THINGS FIRST

New Trails

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and MARTIN H. GREENBERG
as finals finish and your books close
a once crowded campus becomes quiet and empty
marking the end of another school year.