GETTING WIRED
An explosion of online social networking – what’s it mean for MU?
ON THE COVER: Fireworks over Shilling Hall? It’s just some visual trickery to celebrate Millikin’s Quarterly’s 25th year.

Millikin Quarterly magazine has been recognized with national APEX awards of excellence for three years in a row and is the recipient of a 2008 bronze award from the Council for the Support and Advancement of Education, District V. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the magazine.

ON THIS PAGE: The view from Dr. and Mrs. J. Roger Miller Centennial Quad looking west toward Gorin Hall.
LIVING IN THE U.S.A.
ALUMNI LIVING IN THE U.S.
(TOTALS CURRENT AS OF JUNE 25, 2009)

Alabama: 68
Alaska: 14
Arizona: 319
Arkansas: 74
California: 617
Colorado: 253
Connecticut: 47
Delaware: 13
Florida: 604
Georgia: 240
Hawaii: 14
Idaho: 13
Illinois: 13,645
Indiana: 692
Iowa: 187
Kansas: 113
Kentucky: 129
Louisiana: 43
Maine: 14
Maryland: 76
Massachusetts: 73
Michigan: 238
Minnesota: 201
Mississippi: 34
Missouri: 873
Montana: 28
Nebraska: 74
Nevada: 50
New Hampshire: 16
New Jersey: 97
New Mexico: 71
New York: 199
North Carolina: 198
North Dakota: 5
Ohio: 278
Oklahoma: 61
Oregon: 81
Pennsylvania: 141
Rhode Island: 12
South Carolina: 123
South Dakota: 6
Tennessee: 205
Texas: 538
Utah: 26
Vermont: 10
Virginia: 189
Washington: 111
West Virginia: 11
Wisconsin: 393
Wyoming: 5

District of Columbia: 21
Puerto Rico: 3
In the late 1980s and the early 1990s, most office jobs were very different. You went to work, perhaps poured yourself a cup of coffee, got out your letter opener and set to work answering the morning mail and returning phone calls. There were no e-mail messages, no Internet and no ubiquitous cell phones. The few computers that did exist were cumbersome, large in size, and difficult for most of us to operate except for all but the simplest software.

Today, most of us are juggling an explosion of communication and other devices competing for our attention in the workplace. They’ve created a demand for immediate responses that has turned us into the kings and queens of multi-tasking, adapting to a world that is eternally shifting in how we communicate and perform the duties required for our jobs in the workforce. By necessity, we’re constantly in change mode, and each year it seems another level of technological complexity is added to our job responsibilities. In fact, job positions that don’t require a grasp of at least some technology are becoming fewer and fewer.

In many ways, we have made tremendous strides since the 1990s, but some of us – perhaps many of us – find ourselves asking the question: “How much more of this can we take? Can I adapt as quickly as necessary?”

The balancing act of living and working in the 21st century has many of us feeling overloaded as spare time becomes more and more a creative luxury that we push aside in our efforts to get things done. Some days it seems as though we spend much of our time simply answering the demands of this “hurry up and do it now” world.

At Millikin, we have accepted the obligation to prepare our students to be competitive in terms of their abilities to function at the highest levels in this ever-changing and often stressful environment. If we hadn’t accepted this challenge, we would have failed to deliver on the promise of education, and our students would fail to fulfill their full potential. We must help instill in our students, not only knowledge and a finely developed set of critical-thinking skills, but the confidence they need for success.

How do we accomplish this? We base it on our founder’s philosophy of combining the theoretical with the practical in education, so that the more our students “perform” their skills, the more they generate the confidence to be successful in whatever endeavor they choose.

When we help our students gain that confidence, we take away a huge roadblock to them reaching their potential: the fear of failure. And if we do our job right – and our alumni tell us over and over again that we do – our students leave here with the abilities to perform at an extraordinary level on the job.

The added value that’s found through a Millikin education doesn’t go away or diminish. It has a longevity to it that is unmatched in other areas of life. Nothing else you can purchase has that longevity – not a car or a house or other tangible assets. The critical thinking skills developed as a student don’t deteriorate. Each student’s Millikin experience prepares him or her to develop a set of tools to help cope with life’s constant changes.

In the same manner, the discipline of learning never goes away. It is a lasting gift of education to be used in all aspects of life, both on the job and off.

There’s nothing more powerful than an educated mind and few things in life are more rewarding than seeing individuals develop their minds through education. That’s just one of the reasons why, at Millikin, we have made it our business to ensure success for our students. We have committed to delivering on the promise of education as it evolves, through the 2000s and beyond.

“Each student’s Millikin experience prepares him or her develop a set of tools to help cope with life’s constant changes.”
Dahl named interim dean

A temporary change in structure finds the dean of the Tabor School of Business heading up the College of Professional Studies for the 2009-10 academic year. The current dean of the College of Professional Studies, Dr. Kathy Booker, will be at Yale University for the year, so Jim Dahl, dean of the Tabor School of Business, will serve as interim dean of the College of Professional Studies. In the interim, the Tabor School will move into the College of Professional Studies and Dr. Larry Stapleton, associate professor of production/operations management, will serve as interim director for the Tabor School of Business.

Freeman named Employee of the Year

Nancy Freeman, auditions coordinator for the School of Music, was named the university’s 2008-09 Employee of the Year in April.

The winner was chosen by a vote of the Millikin faculty, staff and students. The competition is open to hourly and professional staff at Millikin.

Freeman was previously employee of the month for April 2008. She began working at Millikin in 1998 and has worked for both the School of Music and the department of theatre and dance.

Other employees who earned Employee of the Month honors were Deania Luthy, Safety and Security; Todd Rudat, Staley Library; Sally Pflaum, School of Nursing/exercise science & sport; Michael Rausch, marketing; Kim Wenthe, School of Nursing; Amy Colvin, student programs; Cheryl Agee, university services; Zach Uttich ’07, admission; and Amy Briley, student programs.

During the April ceremony, several other employees were recognized for five, 10, 20, 25 or 30 years of service. Shelley Cordulack, associate professor of art history, and Clarence Josefsen, professor of chemistry, were both recognized for 35 years of service.

SON announces new MENP program

An innovative new Millikin master’s degree program created to help relieve a critical need for clinical nurse leaders and nursing educators has received $476,000 in funding from the federal government. Through the new 18-month Master’s Entry to Nursing Practice (MENP) program, college graduates with a bachelor’s degree in any major, not just nursing, can earn their registered nurse professional license in an accelerated study format followed by 18 months of graduate study to earn their master’s degree in nursing with a focus on clinical nurse leadership or nursing education. Millikin’s request for funding was strongly supported by Sen. Richard Durbin, D-III.

In a March 12 memo to campus, Millikin President Doug Zemke ’66 said, “With Senator Durbin’s support and confidence in Millikin to ‘deliver on the promise of education,’ and the known quality of our nursing faculty and programs, the accelerated nursing program can now become reality.”

The new School of Nursing program will receive the $476,000 from a $410 billion stimulus bill signed into law in March by President Obama.

With a nationwide shortage in registered nurses, as well as qualified teaching nurses, MENP will assist Millikin in expanding the supply of graduate nurses who can provide care within the region and also create additional faculty in nursing, adjunct support for science courses, much needed faculty development and physical plant adaptations to enhance teaching-learning spaces. The curricular model is under development, Zemke said.

“This funding will allow Millikin to increase capacity by nearly 10 percent in the coming two years to help meet the need for clinical leaders and nursing educators in the State of Illinois,” Zemke said.

Currently, the School of Nursing offers a bachelor of science degree in nursing program for traditional students, an RN to BSN program for registered nurses looking to further their careers, and a master’s degree in nursing (MSN) for nurses who already have their bachelor’s degrees in nursing. Total enrollment in the programs currently exceeds 250.

For more information about the MENP or other nursing programs, call the School of Nursing at (217) 424-6348 or toll-free at (800) 373-7733.

Weiss receives 2009 Hollis Prize

Percussionist Rachel Weiss, a 2009 music performance graduate from Milwaukee, was recognized as the 2009 Hollis Prize winner at the annual Hollis Recital in March.

The Hollis Prize recognizes an outstanding music student in good academic standing. Annually, three top students from the School of Music compete at a spring recital for the award, which was made possible through a gift from Dr. C. Kimm Hollis ’72, department chair and professor of music at Hanover College in Hanover, Ind.

In conjunction with her award, Weiss performed at the Harold Washington Library in Chicago in April.

Other finalists included Donnie Glowinski ’09, a double major in instrumental performance and music business from Indianapolis, and Megan Dodder ’09, a commercial music major from Muscatine, Iowa.
Celebrating student scholarship

More than 220 presentations were given at the second annual Celebration of Scholarship (COS) event in April. The day-long event showcased research, scholarship and creative efforts of Millikin students from all four colleges and the university-wide Honors Program.

In addition, both the 16th annual Millikin University Undergraduate Research Poster Symposium and the 2009 Business Creation Challenge (see related article at right) were held in conjunction with the event.

For more information, visit the COS website, www.millikin.edu/cos.

Outstanding faculty recognized at Honors Convocation

Millikin recognized several faculty members for excellence and outstanding contributions to the university during the annual Distinguished Faculty Lecture and Honors Convocation held April 23 in Kirkland Fine Arts Center.

Judith Middendorf Crowe ’91, assistant professor of English and director of the Millikin Writing Center, received the Alpha Lambda Delta Outstanding Teaching Award, honoring a faculty member with outstanding contributions to freshman learning, based on teaching ability, knowledge of subject area, ability to present material in a clear and understandable manner, capacity to motivate students to self-discovery in learning and concern for students shown in and out of the classroom. The award is voted on by members of Alpha Lambda Delta, an honor society for first-year students.

Crowe has been part of the English department since 1998. She currently teaches all levels of freshman writing courses in addition to EN 180, Introduction to Tutoring.

Dr. Marianne Robertson, professor of biology, was awarded Millikin’s Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award, given in recognition of an outstanding faculty member who has made a distinctive difference on campus through teaching excellence and campus leadership.

Robertson has taught at Millikin for 15 years, and has received praise for her active participation in her department and her dedication to student learning.

Mary Jane Linton, associate professor of nursing, was recognized as a recipient of the 2009 Teaching Excellence award. This award honors faculty members annually for teaching excellence and innovation.

In addition, three faculty members were awarded the Faculty Research and Artistic Achievement Award, which is presented annually for outstanding scholarship or artistic achievement at Millikin.

Ed Walker ’85, associate professor of art, Lori Bales, associate professor of theatre and dance, and Dr. Eduardo Cabrera, associate professor of modern languages, were honored for exploring new territory, contributing to their field of study and making significant contributions to Millikin and its students.

Students participate in Business Creation Challenge

Millikin’s Center for Entrepreneurship and the student organization MU-CEO held the 2009 Business Creation Challenge in April as part of Millikin’s Celebration of Scholarship.

The 2009 Business Creation Challenge is an opportunity for students to gain real world experience in developing a viable business. The challenge allows students an opportunity to pitch business concepts and develop their skills in identifying market needs, financial statements and planning, and leadership.

This year’s winners included:
- 1st Place Business Plan: Senior Andrew Schenk of Rensselaer, Ind., Schenk Studios
- 2nd Place Business Plan: Brady Rhoades ’09 of Decatur, ZeroEight Design.
- Feasibility Plan Winner: Matt Nelson ’09 of Naperville, Ill., Light the Way Recordings
- Feasibility Plan Winner: Kayla Bennett ’09 of Linden, Ind., Showcase Wrangling

For more information, visit www.millikin.edu/entrepreneurship/bcc.asp.
In third grade, Catherine Roosevelt ’09 of Glen Carbon, Ill., hoped to someday run the family business … and the country. A distant relative of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the recent graduate once had designs on becoming the third Roosevelt president. Even though she realized her passion was more history than politics, she was always fascinated by her historical family roots. Last summer, she had the opportunity to combine her interests by completing a two-part internship at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and at the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, both in Hyde Park, N.Y.

She began in the museum’s archives, where she learned to preserve artifacts. “I helped restore and clean original documents,” she says. “I also assisted in the research room where historians and professors come to examine those documents.” Roosevelt learned a great deal about how museums operate behind the scenes, including working in a hidden room of FDR book collections.

During the second half of her internship, Roosevelt worked at the Institute, where she assisted directors with their projects. She even completed a project of her own — screening and selecting films for a film festival commemorating the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

“Eleanor Roosevelt was influential on the passage of the declaration, so I really enjoyed this project,” she says. “I especially admire Eleanor because she was such a strong woman and performed great amounts of humanitarian work around the world.”

Prior to the internship, Roosevelt and her family attended a presidential families convention along with other descendents of presidents, historians and directors of presidential institutes. “My family takes pride in being part of the Roosevelt family, and I grew up hearing stories about Franklin and Eleanor,” she says.

Roosevelt says her summer in Hyde Park benefitted her in a variety of ways, such as improving her public speaking skills and knowledge of museums and nonprofit organizations.

“This internship was a great opportunity for a history major like me to learn more about the Roosevelts and American history,” she says. “I discovered that I want to get involved in museum studies, and I would love to work as a curator or exhibit designer someday.”

Since graduating from Millikin in May with degrees in history and international and global studies, Roosevelt has been pursuing work in the museum or government fields, and she hopes to begin a master’s degree in museum studies within the next year.

She credits the opportunity to research her family roots as a most valuable lesson.

“The most important thing that I took from the experience was a greater knowledge of the Roosevelts and their substantial impact in American history,” she says. “I’m proud to be a Roosevelt.”

● by Natalie Perfetti ’09

The Roosevelt-Millikin connection
Catherine isn’t the first member of her family associated with the Millikin campus. On a western campaign, President Theodore Roosevelt made several stops in the Midwest, including one at Millikin to dedicate the new university on June 4, 1903. During his address, President Roosevelt praised James Millikin and declared that Illinois has “the right stuff for citizenship.”

Roosevelt was the first of three presidents to speak at Millikin, followed by President Howard Taft in 1911 and President Ronald Reagan in 1984. (Learn more about Reagan’s visit on page 9.)
Have you buddied up to the Big Man on Campus?

Have you taken yours yet? Mr. B.B., short for “Mr. Big Bronze Man on Campus,” never says no to photos. The life-sized statue, eternally reading “Man’s Search for Meaning” by Viktor Frankl, came to MU in 1997 as a gift from C.D. “Perk” Perkinson, and his late wife, Patricia ’45. Crafted by sculptor J. Seward Johnson, Mr. B.B is located just north of Shilling Hall.

So shoot away and e-mail your high resolution photos (300 dpi or higher) to MillikinQuarterly@millikin.edu or mail your actual photographs to Millkin Quarterly magazine, 1184 West Main Street, Decatur, IL 62522. We’ll try to print at least one in each issue, space permitting.

Stephen Larson ’07 serenades Mr. B.B. with his trumpet. Larson had an annual photo taken with Mr. B.B. during each of his four years as a student.

Millikin alumni surround Mr. B.B. for a photo op during Homecoming 2007. From left, seated: Arlyn Poppen ’87, Lori Conlin Poppen ’87, Mr. B.B., Mike Reid ’87. From left, standing: Julie Blomberg Steele ’87 and Kristina Reid.

Ashley Longtin ’12 reads with Mr. B.B. while enjoying last year’s Fall Family Weekend with her parents, Donald and Pamela.

BY THE NUMBERS

71 The number of summer 2009 immersion courses, including travel courses to Africa and Europe

18 The maximum number of credits a student may take without paying an overload fee

7 The cost (in cents) of lunch in MU’s dining hall in 1907

50 The cost (in cents) of a day-old loaf of bread at the campus Jimmy John’s

350 The number of study seats at Staley Library including those at tables, carrels, sofas and easy chairs

3.5 The grade point average required to remain in the Presidential Scholar Program

419 The number of alumni from the class of 1959. The class will be recognized at their 50th reunion during fall’s Homecoming.

3,654 The number of applications received from prospective students for fall semester 2009, the highest number in Millikin’s history. (stats current as of June 23)

7 Seven out of nine women receiving Decatur’s YWCA women of excellence award this spring were associated with Millikin: Professor Annette Russo ’80, Coach and Professor Debbie Kiick, Trustee Peggy Madden, Gloria Marshall ’76 and wife of Coach Dick Marshall, St. Mary’s Hospital Executive Theresa Rutherford ’90, Professor Sharon Alpi and Carol Chiligiris ’78, former health center nurse.
Stollsteimer named men’s soccer head coach

A 12-year Division II veteran joins the Big Blue this fall as the new men’s soccer head coach.

Mark Stollsteimer comes to Millikin after spending 12 years as head coach at Davis & Elkins College, an NCAA Division II School, in Elkins, W.Va.

Under Stollsteimer’s leadership, Davis & Elkins Senators produced one All-American, 11 All-Region selections and 23 All-Conference performers. He also had 21 players earn Academic All-Conference Honors.

In 2007, his team won the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference regular season championship and Stollsteimer was named the conference’s Coach of the Year with his team being ranked in the Top 25 nationally in Division II in four defensive categories, including shut-outs and goals against average. In 2008, his Senators spent five weeks nationally ranked in the NSCAA (National Soccer Coaches Association of American) Top 25 poll reaching No. 10 in week five of the season.

“Mark Stollsteimer’s extensive head coaching experience should be a real boost to our program,” says Athletic Director Joe Hakes. “He has been successful in a very difficult league, and we are confident that he will transfer that success to Millikin quickly. I am really looking forward to seeing him build a consistently strong program.”

Stollsteimer inherits a Millikin men’s soccer program on the upswing with a wealth of talent. In the fall, the Big Blue expects to return 21 letter winners from a team that went 10-8-2 last season and was competitive in every game. He replaces B.J. Noble, who left Millikin earlier this year to become the director of soccer operations at Notre Dame de Namur University, an NCAA Division II school in Belmont, Calif.

“I plan to continue to build on the recent success of the Millikin men’s soccer team,” Stollsteimer says. “My goal is to consistently qualify for the CCIW tournament and a berth in the NCAA tournament.”

Basketball alumna inducted into All-America Hall of Fame

Former Academic All-America women’s basketball player Julie Roe Lach ’97 was inducted into the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-America Hall of Fame in June along with four other inductees.

Roe Lach helped her Millikin team win four conference championships and make four trips to the NCAA Division III Tournament. She holds six school records, and as a senior, she was a finalist for the 1997 NCAA Woman of the Year.

After graduating, she began her professional career as a two-year intern for the NCAA national office in Indianapolis before being named NCAA director of student-athlete reinstatement. While in that role, she earned her law degree from Indiana University’s Law School-Indianapolis. After graduating from law school, she was named NCAA’s director of enforcement in the major infractions division, where she has worked for the last five years.

She currently serves on Millikin’s board of trustees, is a member of the Millikin Club of Indianapolis and the Big Blue Club, and is a class agent.
The visit of a sitting U.S. president in 1984 garnered much media attention, including a cover story in the first issue of Millikin Quarterly magazine, 25 years ago this summer.

Three sitting U.S. presidents have visited Millikin’s campus: Theodore Roosevelt, who dedicated the university in June 1903 (see related article on page 6); William Howard Taft, who gave a speech on free trade with Canada on Feb. 11, 1911, in what would become Albert Taylor Theatre; and Ronald Reagan, whose last visit to campus was to attend an agribusiness forum in Richard's Treat University Center (RTUC) on Aug. 20, 1984.

It was Reagan’s third recorded visit to Millikin. His first was as a student athlete on the Eureka College football team in 1929. In only the second night football game ever played at Millikin, Reagan and his Eureka Red Devil teammates were crushed by the Millikin Big Blue, 45-6. Reagan remembered that game 55 years later during his 1984 visit as one in which he was thoroughly beaten by freshman Millikin lineman George Musso ’33, a future NFL Hall-of-Famer. An account of the game from the Oct. 24, 1929, issue of the Decaturian is available on page 6 of the Digital-Decaturian website (see box at right for link).

Reagan, by then a well-known actor, returned to Decatur on Oct. 12, 1955, as host of television’s General Electric Theater, which was on a tour of the General Electric plants. Ironically, the former Red Devil athlete gave a speech on how the Actor’s Guild had rooted the “reds” out of Hollywood. Since Reagan had been a member of the fraternity Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) at Eureka, Millikin’s TKE chapter took the opportunity to honor him with a plaque for outstanding achievement. According to the Nov. 12, 1948, Decaturian (see box at right for link), the TKE house was the first in Macon County to have a privately-owned television, so it seemed fitting for them to honor their fraternity brother, a television star. A photo of Reagan pausing in front of the Lincoln statue on Millikin’s campus was taken that day; it also appeared in the Quarterly’s first issue 25 years ago.

Reagan’s third visit garnered the most attention. He was scheduled to visit the 1984 agribusiness forum with only 10 days notice, and during that time, RTUC had to be transformed, adding platforms for news cameras and more than 100 phone lines. The forum lasted 45 minutes and was moderated by then Millikin President, Dr. J. Roger Miller. Much of the discussion revolved around the issue of free trade, the same topic that President Taft had discussed at Millikin 73 years earlier.

The Millikin Quarterly article not only covered President Reagan’s visit, but also reviewed the process of preparing campus as well as commenting on the media’s latest Millikin misunderstanding. Historically, adding an “e” to Millikin was a common media error; in 1984 it was RTUC being misidentified as “Richard’s Street University Center.”

Want to learn more about presidential visits to campus from a student perspective? Check out Decaturian articles covering these historic events on the Digital-Decaturian website:

- **Roosevelt Visit Story:** collections.carli.illinois.edu/u?/mil_dec,746
  Decaturian, November 1903, pgs. 1-2
- **Taft Visit Story:** collections.carli.illinois.edu/u?/mil_dec,4661
  Decaturian, February 1911, pgs. 1-7
- **Eureka Game Story:** collections.carli.illinois.edu/u?/mil_dec,11166
  Decaturian, Oct. 24, 1929, pg. 6
- **TKE TV Story:** collections.carli.illinois.edu/u?/mil_dec,5511
  Decaturian, Nov. 12, 1948, pg. 1

President Reagan in front of the Lincoln statue during his visit in 1955. The photo, taken by the Decatur Herald & Review, was featured in the inaugural issue of Millikin Quarterly magazine.

Millikin President J. Roger Miller and President Ronald Reagan during Reagan’s 1984 visit to campus.
Managing stress in tough times

by Pam Folger

With layoffs and budget cuts becoming common, stress in the workplace is skyrocketing, and we are all feeling added pressure. Stress is a normal part of everyday life, but in the current economy, you may find it more difficult to cope. Now is the time to learn how to manage workplace stress effectively to improve your job satisfaction and possibly even help you retain your current job.

Make a commitment to maintain and/or improve your physical and emotional health and stick with it. Research shows that this has a significant impact on reducing stress.

Identify any negative behaviors or attitudes in yourself that could be adding to your workplace stress. These are energy drainers. Work on eliminating them by replacing them with positive behaviors or attitudes. You’ll be surprised how this will boost your energy for your job and improve your overall job satisfaction.

Improve communication with coworkers and supervisors. This includes clearly defining roles and responsibilities and maintaining a friendly work atmosphere.

Don’t get caught up in gossip or doom and gloom predictions about the company’s ability to survive in this economy. This type of talk only creates a negative work environment.

Manage your time effectively so you can meet work and family obligations. Prioritize tasks in order of importance. Break down large tasks into smaller, more manageable components. This will make achieving work/life balance easier.

Don’t set unrealistic goals for yourself. Being willing to take on additional responsibilities could help you outshine the competition and possibly help you outlast a round of layoffs, but don’t set yourself up for failure and overwhelming stress.

Recognize and manage your emotions and behavior in order to adapt to a changing workplace.

Be empathetic. You never know what may be happening in someone’s life. Perhaps a coworker’s significant other has lost a job. Being sensitive to this and allowing him/her to talk about it can go a long way in reducing stress. Hopefully he/she will return the favor and listen when you need to vent.

Nurture work relationships. You never know how the structure of the organization may change in order to survive in this economy. Your supervisor or work team may change. By developing positive working relationships, you’ll be less stressed as organizational changes occur.

Don’t take life too seriously. Find humor in your workplace challenges. Laughter is sometimes the best medicine; however, be sure that you and your coworkers are laughing together and not at someone.

Kevin Graham ’76, Millikin’s director of counseling, says you can reduce stress by taking care of yourself. He offers the following tips:

- Eat healthy. Skipping meals can make you even more irritable and anxious. Eating too much can make you drowsy. Strive for balance.
- Exercise regularly. Just 30 minutes of regular aerobic exercise can reduce stress, lift your mood, give you increased energy and help you sleep better.
- Sleep regularly. Sleep can be one of the first victims when you are stressed. Strive to maintain a regular sleep pattern – eight hours per day is suggested.
- Use alcohol and nicotine in moderation. Alcohol can cause anxiety. Similarly, many smokers think a cigarette calms them down, but nicotine is actually a stimulant that can increase anxiety.

A multitude of stress management books and online resources offer tips and techniques that could help you through your particular circumstances. Although career stress is a part of everyday life, you can greatly reduce its impact on you by employing stress management techniques.
Thanks for the banners, class of 2009!

It was a “banner” year for the class of 2009. This May, graduating students took pride in the new campus lamp post banners congratulating their academic achievement. However, the pride was for more than just the upcoming commencement ceremony. It was also for the banners themselves.

Last year, the class of 2008 raised funds to buy a $6,000 server to give each alumnus of the university a free Millikin e-mail address and account.

This year, the class of 2009 raised more than $6,000 through a series of fundraising activities to provide the new lamp post banners as their class gift to the university.

“The senior class committee took recommendations from the campus community,” says Jaclyn Weisenborn ’09, senior class committee chair. “After discussing several ideas, the banner project seemed like the best way to provide campus with a timeless and relevant gift.”

Individuals gave outright gifts totaling more than $1,000, and the class also raised funds by selling T-shirts and diploma frames, holding bake sales and senior night activities, even checking coats for tips at campus events. In the end, the class raised the funds just in time to get the banners made and hung for spring’s commencement ceremonies.

The banners will be used for commencement in the years to come, and additional banners, with themes yet to

Thanks to the class of 2009, banners congratulating graduates were hung on campus lamp posts this May.

be finalized, will also be purchased with the remainder of the class gift.

“Last year’s city streetscape project, which included the addition of the lamp posts, transformed the main corridor through campus, and these banners provide a nice final touch,” says Dan Stuby, ’07, associate director of young alumni relations and senior class committee adviser. “We’re grateful to the class of 2009 for making this possible.”

by Kate Eagler ’11

Rewarding student success

More than 75 awards were given at April’s Honors Convocation ceremony, a Millikin tradition honoring outstanding students and faculty. Many of the awards and prizes given were established over the past 100 years as a way to remember the Millikin students, faculty, staff and friends who have left a lasting impression on the university, including Walter Witt.

Walter “Walt” Witt served as superintendent of the Millikin mail room for more than 20 years. Known as “a great favorite of students, faculty and administrators,” he was a passionate supporter of the Big Blue athletic teams. The idea for this award to honor this long-time university supporter was established by two alumni, Frank Van Dorn ’56 and James McCarthy ’56. The first Walter Witt award was presented in 1978.

The Walter Witt Award for outstanding junior(s) in the department of exercise science and sport was presented to students Joshua E. Meyer of Decatur and Jillian L. Schneider of Hawthorne Woods, Ill., at the 2009 Honors Convocation ceremony.

Scholarship sponsors, recipients do lunch

This spring, 31 scholarship luncheons were held on campus. The annual luncheons are an opportunity for scholarship sponsors to meet their recipient(s) and hear how their gifts have transformed Millikin student lives. In turn, student recipients have the opportunity to see the faces behind the scholarship, faces that often helped make their education possible, and thank them personally for their valued assistance.

At left: Sponsor Darrell Beck ’54 of Decatur with Meghan Mitchell of Warrenville, Ill., and Nicole Emperor of New Lenox, Ill., both 2008-09 recipients of the Darrell and Ursula Beck Scholarship.
In the mid-1990s, the e-mail craze changed communication as we knew it. With a click of a button, we could now send messages that were received just minutes later, no matter if they were sent to the cubical next to you or halfway around the world. Back then, no one could imagine a faster, more immediate or dynamic medium.

Enter Facebook, a social networking site that has changed how society communicates today, just as e-mail did in the ’90s. With messages, posts, groups, event invites and status updates pushing out information through multiple applications, electronic communication has progressed to a whole new level.

Particularly involved are members of the Millennial generation, including today’s traditional Millikin students, but Big Blue alumni of all ages are signing up, too.

In a technology questionnaire administered to first-year students during Millikin’s First Week in fall 2008, 52 percent reported having an account on Facebook prior to coming to Millikin. And why not? Facebook is top dog among online social networking sites with more than 200 million users worldwide since its creation just five years ago (see next page for information about two other popular sites). In April alone, 13.9 billion minutes were spent on Facebook, according to a recent Computerworld.com article.

It’s a phenomenon that has no age limits, too. Although Facebook was originally created for college students, its reach has grown to such an extent that recent statistics show the over-40 crowd to be the fastest growing demographic on Facebook. Clearly, those individuals also find it an easy method for reconnecting with former classmates and professors.

How does it begin? Joe Hardenbrook, Millikin educational technology coordinator, research/instruction librarian and assistant professor, says that freshmen who come to Millikin without a Facebook account usually create one because it tends to be more popular among college students than other social networking sites, including MySpace, a popular site with the high school crowd.

During their Millikin years, students typically add friends, post photos and update their status regularly, if not obsessively, as many will attest. And it’s a habit they take with them after graduation, since it gives them a quick and easy way to stay in touch with Millikin friends – and even former professors.

“About a quarter of my Facebook friends are Millikin students and alumni,” says Hardenbrook.

Hardenbrook points out that according to Millikin policy, the e-mail system is the official means of electronic communication between students, faculty and staff. For that reason, he doesn’t use Facebook to talk to his students about academic matters. Plus, he doesn’t want to infringe on a student’s social space.

“Most students want to use Facebook for fun,” he says.

However, he does feel that Facebook is a great way to promote university events, such as discussions, music and activities to students, alumni and university friends.

Dr. Michael O’Conner, chair of Millikin’s English department, associate professor, and director of Millikin’s honors program, has about 200 students as Facebook friends.

“I think Facebook allows faculty members to have a better understanding of what is going on in a student’s world outside the classroom,” he says.

O’Conner created a Facebook group
for current English majors and alumni and encourages students to friend him on Facebook so he can get to know them better as individuals and stay in touch, even after graduation.

Staying in touch with alumni after they leave Millikin is a priority for Dr. Jan Devore, alumni relations director, who has found Facebook to be a good vehicle for communicating with members of the Millikin community—although she sometimes finds herself stretched thin in order to keep up with these new online communication tools. After more than 30 years at Millikin working in student life and then alumni relations, she’s become a Millikin touchstone to thousands of alumni who now seek to maintain that connection online, too. Devore currently has more than 750 Millikin Facebook friends and nearly 200 Millikin connections on LinkedIn, a professional networking site, and more alumni seek her out each day. It’s both a blessing and a burden, although a welcome one.

“As alumni relations director, I think it’s important to maintain the personal touch that our alumni have come to expect from Millikin,” she says. “So I communicate personally with each alumnus who gets in touch with me through Facebook or LinkedIn. It takes some time on my part, but our alumni expect nothing less from Millikin. Plus, it’s great to have this new way to find out what everyone has been up to in their lives after leaving the university. I’ve even re-connected with several alumni we had listed as ‘lost’ by using these new communication tools.”

In addition to making a personal Jan Devore connection, more than 1,800 alumni have joined the Millikin Alumni Facebook group and hundreds have signed up for various Facebook fan pages, including ones for Staley Library, Kirkland Fine Arts Center, the Center for International Education, Millikin Quarterly and the university itself.

“We’re discovering that it’s an effective and no-cost way to help spread the word about upcoming alumni events,” Devore says, noting that she relies heavily on her associate director of young alumni relations, Dan Stuby ’07, to help prepare and send invitations for alumni events in various areas through Facebook to those who have signed up for the Millikin Alumni group.

What will this explosion of online communication mean for future generations of Millikin students and alumni?

Hopefully, it will further enhance and build the connections between alumni and their alma mater, Devore says.

“As our alumni find new ways to communicate, we at the university need to be accessible and able to respond,” she notes. “It’s a challenge at times, but we do our best to keep connected with our alumni through whatever means they choose to communicate with us.”

FACEBOOK GLOSSARY

-Friend (n.)—A user that associates with another user. A Facebook friend can view the profile of the user he or she is associated, post on his/her wall, etc. (v.) The act of adding someone with a Facebook account as a friend. The user must accept the friendship request before the two are officially Facebook friends.

-Post (n.)—Information added to a user’s profile page such as status updates, wall messages, notifications, etc. (v.) Adding information to a user’s profile page such as status updates, notifications, etc.

-Status (n.)—A post that indicates what a user is doing, thinking, feeling, etc. (e.g. “Marty Millikin is eating a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.”)

-Wall (n.)—Section of a user’s profile page where other users can write messages, post photos, leave virtual gifts or post other content.

-Fan page (n.)—A profile page that is not for individual use but for some entity, such as a business or a musical band, to use to post information. Users become fans of such entities and receive notifications, messages, etc., from the page. Millikin University has a fan page—so does Millikin Quarterly magazine (hint, hint).

-Groups (n.)—A page that users with common interests can join and interact with each other.

-Causes (n.)—An application that allows a user to support a particular cause. Examples include Autism & Asperger’s Awareness, the Human Rights Campaign and the Millikin Fund.

Twitter: twitter. Tweet. What? Like Facebook, usage of other online networking sites, including Twitter and LinkedIn, have also skyrocketed among the Millikin community.

Twitter, started in 2006, is growing fast in popularity and has approximately 8 million members, including many Millikin students, alumni and faculty (see box below). Twitter functions as an update site—each user sends brief updates with no more than 140 characters. These updates are called “tweets,” and Twitter users sign up to “follow” each other, which means they can read the tweets of those they follow.

Millikin fans of Twitter say it’s a good way to keep in touch with others, and some alumni view it as a potential replacement for Facebook. However, so far, Millikin is just dipping its toes in Twitter waters: Alumni and friends of the university can sign up to follow millikinminute, a Twitter feed put out by Millikin’s marketing office with the latest news about the university, but that’s the only official Millikin “tweeting” at this point. More official Millikin Twitter sites are sure to follow as the networking site gains popularity and respect for its ability to spread information quickly.

Another popular site is LinkedIn, a professional networking website formed about six years ago. It currently has about 39 million users worldwide and allows registered users to maintain a list of contact details, called “connections,” of individuals with whom they have a business relationship. More than a year ago, Millikin formed a group on LinkedIn for university alumni. Nearly 700 alumni members have joined to use the site for professional networking and the number continues to grow. Options for group members include having discussions and posting job-seeking information or openings within their company. Want to join them? Go to linkedin.com and under “Search Groups,” type in Millikin Alumni.
**“The Believers” by Zoe Heller**
Heller does sharp satire on contemporary themes. In this book, a politically activist family in New York encounters problems that defy ideological fixes. One daughter returns from Cuba disillusioned with the Revolution and, contrary to the family’s dogmatic atheism and much to her mother’s disgust, begins to attend an Orthodox synagogue. Heller is Jane Austen for the 21st century. (Instructor Andy Matthews)

**“The Big Sleep” by Raymond Chandler**
This novel takes on the age of hard-boiled, noir detective fiction: The seedy sides of life, police on the take, gorgeous-society people compromising their images after hours, the tough detective with a bottle of whiskey in the desk to get him through the day. These stories are appealing as a type, and of that type Chandler’s are the best. The writing is clever and nuanced; the detective Phil Marlowe is thoughtful and can take a punch. (Professor Stephen Frech)

**“Chaos Theory” by Sandra McKenna**
Millikin professor Sandra McKenna gathered poems from three sequences into “Chaos Theory,” including "Box of 64" (based on the Crayola 64 crayons), "Women Under the Influence" and "Not Quite Haiku." For years at Millikin’s Literary Festival, Sandra has delighted audiences with her funny and candid poems, including fun favorites like “Medusa,” “Nude Haiku” and “Sex After Fifty.” At other times, such as in the refrain of “Mary’s Lamentation,” her poems speak a lived, serious wisdom: “You did not speak of this,” Mary laments to God as she watches her son die. (Frech)

**“Coraline” by Neil Gaiman**
Coraline is the story of a young girl bored in her new home and practically forgotten by her busy parents. She discovers a door that opens into another world, a world similar to hers and yet distinctly different. Gaiman’s pacing, descriptions and setting create a creepy atmosphere perfect for this scary story. (Professor Devon Fitzgerald)

**“The Forger” by Cioma Schonhaus**
The extraordinary aspect of this true story isn’t only that a Jew survives in Berlin during World War II. What will delight you here is the voice of a man who lost so much and survived such ugliness, yet came out fully available for the joys in life. The author lives the rest of his life in France, marries, raises a family and looks back on his uncommon escape with a tone that is not burdened with grief or the gravity you might expect. (Frech)

**“The Dark Villages of Childhood by Stephen Frech**
Stephen Frech’s latest collection of poetry draws his reader into this series of searing vignettes with lovely, tangible imagery. Each poem moves gently from image to meaning with a light, deft touch, and the final surprise gives the reader something larger to ponder. It is a pleasure to unwrap Frech’s poetic language and find, curled in a hidden corner, a wise and wonderful surprise. (Professor Sandra McKenna)

**“The Cholera Years: The United States in 1832, 1849, and 1866” by Charles E. Rosenberg**
Cholera was the classic epidemic disease of the 19th century, just as the plague had been for the 14th. Its defeat was a reflection not only of progress in medical knowledge but of enduring changes in American social thought. Rosenberg focused his study on New York City, the most highly developed center of the U.S. Carefully documented, full of descriptive detail, yet written with an urgent sense of the drama of the epidemic years, this narrative is as absorbing for general audiences as it is for a medical historian. (Professor Kevin Murphy)

**“The House at Riverton” by Kate Morton**
This story of the aristocratic Hartford family with a history of secrets is told in flashback by Grace Bradley, a servant who joins the family in 1914 at age 14. She becomes obsessively close to the family, especially the two daughters, Hannah and Emmeline, and is witness not only to the eventual decline of a vanishing aristocratic lifestyle, but also to the suicide of a young poet, whose death has a few other guilty witnesses as well. As a first novel, Morton’s story is smoothly paced and well-crafted, with intriguing details a close reader will appreciate. (Professor Judi Middendorf Crowe ’91)

**“Johnny and the Bomb” by Terry Pratchett**
Probably best known for the Discworld series, Prachett has written a fascinating time travel novel set in both 1990s Britain and World War II. Johnny travels back to the Battle of Britain, arriving in his village just before a German bomb is dropped on it. The novel explores the complexities of time and gives contemporary adolescents a view of wartime Britain. (Professor Jim Meyer)

**“Jurassic Park” by Michael Crichton**
A prolific and talented writer, Crichton’s novel differs vastly from the Spielberg film. The novel is not just the story of John Hammond’s amusement park. It is, rather, a critical look at the bioengineering industry and a frightening look at what he sees as inevitable if the industry is not regulated. (Professor Michael George)

*continued on page 16*
Soak up a good book this summer!

2009 summer reading
Each year, Millikin’s English department faculty members compile a summer reading list popular with students and alumni. On these pages are excerpts from the 2009 list for your reading pleasure, along with the names of the individuals who recommended each book.
“Let the Right One In” by John Ajvide Lindqvist
In a suburb of Stockholm, Sweden, 12-year-old Oskar is struggling with unrelenting bullies and his own coming of age when he befriends Eli, who lives in his apartment complex and “has been twelve for a very long time.” Oskar’s gradual discovery as to who — or what — Eli really is, compounded by his fascination with a series of rather gruesome local murders, comes together in a tale that is as engagingly creepy as it is beautifully executed. (Crowe)

“Millikin University Haiku Anthology”
edited by Dr. Randy Brooks, et. al.
This is a collection of haiku written by the Millikin University haiku community. The editors are an interesting group of people — a professor, a physics and applied math major and an English major. The poetry they have chosen for this anthology is equally diverse. This anthology will encourage you to enjoy the world around you and maybe even write your own haiku! (Cindie Zelhart, English department office manager)

“The Painter from Shanghai”
by Jennifer Cody Epstein
Jennifer Cody Epstein creates a riveting novel based on the life of Pan Yuliang, a real woman who created scandal in her personal life and in her art. At the turn of the 20th century, China was a dismal, impoverished and politically divided country. Young Pan Yuliang is sold into prostitution by her opium addicted uncle, rescued by an unlikely hero and finally, launched into fame and notoriety through her art — largely nudes, many of them self-portraits. Epstein creates a vivid portrait of the dark Shanghai so realistic that your nostrils fill with the stench of opium and you flinch at the touch of the dark and greasy men Pan Yuliang must serve while she is still a young girl. (McKenna)

“Pride and Prejudice and Zombies”
by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith
This book is a fun, entertaining parody, with some laugh-out-loud moments. Grahame-Smith imitates Austen’s prose while retaining much of the original text (about 85 percent, as he points out, which explains the co-authorship credits), weaving in well-placed zombie moments. This book proves that the occasional embellishment of a classic can certainly be refreshing. (Crowe)

“The Reader” by Bernhard Schlink
The plot of this story may be more familiar since the release of the Oscar-nominated film of the same name, but the book is much more compelling and certainly more rewarding. Fifteen-year-old Michael Berg meets Hanna, a woman twice his age, shortly after World War II, and their friendship turns into a romance abruptly ended one day when Hanna suddenly disappears. As Michael matures and attends law school, he connects to Hanna once again as he witnesses her stand trial for war crimes against the Jews for whom she was responsible. A dark love story as well as one of guilt and responsibility, issues of culpability — on many levels — are much more powerful in the book, as are the characters and conclusion. (Jacque Wrigley, executive assistant to the vice president of academic affairs)

“The Secret Scripture” by Sebastian Barry
This beautifully written book explores questions of memory and mental health in the context of modern Ireland. As an old mental institution is to be replaced by a modern facility, both the director of the institution and its oldest resident write their stories. The history of Ireland, the changing role of the Catholic church and the ways in which we judge others are all part of Barry’s novel. (Meyer)

“Still Alice” by Lisa Genova
A story about a woman whose relationships with her husband, family and work colleagues change when she is diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. This compelling story, told from her perspective, begins with the early onset of the disease and the downward spiral. (Wrigley)

The Uglies Series (“Uglies,” “Pretties,” “Specials,” “Extras”) by Scott Westerfield
Tally Youngblood lives in a world obsessed with beauty. On their 16th birthday, all teenagers undergo an operation to become pretty. Another Ugly tells Tally about a world outside their utopia and where they can escape, but Tally questions why anyone would seek to avoid a world of fun, happiness and beauty. Ultimately Tally’s choices unravel deep, dark secrets, which once unleashed, change society as she knows it. Westerfield’s skillful writing creates a different world with different rules. The book is a part of a series infused with moral dilemmas, cultural insights and satire, raising questions about individual freedom, free will and access to information. (Fitzgerald)

“The Three Stigmata of Palmer Eldritch”
by Philip K. Dick
Recognized not only as a top science fiction writer but also as a postmodern pioneer, this novel, originally from 1964, imagines a future where Mars is colonized by a draft. To cope, the colonists turn to a mind-altering substance. The novel brilliantly presents several themes common to Dick’s fiction: the nature of reality, corruption and altered states. (George)
I first met Doug Ashcraft on “dance” night at Millikin’s 1984 Freshman Camp at the 4-H campgrounds in Monticello, Ill. A quick, hot and rowdy bus ride away from campus, and there we were: plunged into an overnight camp experience that was a blur of meeting other newbies, visiting with professors and being led about by good-natured counselors, who seemed incredibly sophisticated and “in the know.”

Although I was excited about the whole college idea, I spent the first day of Freshman Camp feeling utterly and completely lost. It was nice to meet so many great kids that evening in a less structured setting. That’s when I was introduced to Doug, who, being from Kansas, probably felt more lost than most of us.

Many of us were there with high school classmates, and others had met some of the other freshmen before at sports meets, music camps and the like. But Doug had come to Millikin all the way from Independence, Kan., to study with Doug at the University of Tulsa. Mancinelli was then an artist-in-residence at Millikin and Doug, being an artist himself, followed his teacher to Central Illinois.

As it turned out, Doug took to Illinois like a duck to water. In my opinion, he was not only one of the most talented instrumentalists to ever come through the School of Music but also a fine scholar to boot. We found ourselves in the same James Millikin Scholars humanities honors seminar section and soon formed a fast bond with several like-minded individuals. Having much the same outlook on things and sharing the same sense of humor, our little group formed something that seemed like a family.

As a family does, we basked in the talents of our members. There were many jaw-dropping recitals from Doug. There were also numerous common miracles, including the fact that he always sight-read the accompaniment for my (and others’) semester-end juries. That’s probably not a miracle for most pianists at Millikin, but it certainly was to me.

Most vividly, I recall evening hours spent sitting on the floor of Doug’s practice room in the School of Music building. I would practice my own music for the prescribed 60 minutes, swallow my frustration at my ineptitude and knock softly on his door. Then I’d sit quietly and listen as the room filled with lovely sounds beyond description, occasionally punctuated

continued on page 37
Millikin celebrated spring commencement with two ceremonies. On Saturday, May 16, Millikin held a ceremony for graduates of its Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Professional Adult Comprehensive Education (PACE) programs in Kirkland Fine Arts Center with 29 receiving their MBA degrees and 67 PACE students participating in the ceremony. Circuit Judge Lisa Holder White of Decatur gave the commencement address. PACE graduate Stacey Schwab of Springfield, Ill., and MBA graduate Katrina Casner of Pana, Ill., addressed the graduating class during the evening ceremony as well. A second ceremony for nearly 400 traditional students was held Sunday, May 17, at the Decatur Civic Center. Patricia Woertz, chairwoman, chief executive officer and president of Archer Daniels Midland Co. (ADM), delivered the commencement address. Selected by his fellow classmates, David Pica of Champaign, Ill., also addressed his class during the ceremony.

Patricia Woertz, chairwoman, chief executive officer and president of Archer Daniels Midland Co. (ADM), received an honorary degree during Sunday’s commencement exercises.

Kendrick Tunstall ’08 congratulates new graduate Allison May during commencement weekend. Tunstall is a financial adviser at Edward Jones Investment in St. Louis. May plans to be a certified athletic trainer.

David Pica (center), elected student speaker for Sunday’s ceremony, applauds Patricia Woertz after her commencement address.
Above: Again this year, faculty and members of the board of trustees honored the Millikin tradition of applauding the graduates during their processional into the auditorium.

Above: Judge Lisa Holder White of Decatur delivers the commencement address to the MBA and PACE graduates during the Saturday evening ceremony. Judge White’s husband is James White ’85.
Throughout the years, Albert Taylor Theatre, previously known as Assembly Hall, has showcased numerous speakers and musical and theatrical performances on its stage, including some of the theatre’s earliest programs highlighted here.
S. Robert Young of Columbia, S.C., retired as distinguished professor emeritus of obstetrics and gynecology from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine – Columbia. During his 30-plus years at USC-SOM, he founded the division of clinical genetics, initiated and directed prenatal diagnosis by amniocentesis and chorionic villus sampling, began a master’s degree in genetic counseling and started a cancer genetic counseling and testing program. He and his wife, Dorothy, have two grown children, Donnelly and Alex, and two grandchildren.

1941
Nancy Stookey Hunter of Bozeman, Md., was honored by her church for her work, including serving as secretary of a steering committee to acquire state memorial markers for the 18 Civil War soldiers buried in their church cemetery. Her late husband, Al Hunter ’39, also served on the committee. She enjoys working for her church, gardening and took two courses in painting last year.

1942
Martin Shallenberger and his wife, Virginia Lambert Shallenberger ’44, of Lombard, Ill., celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary at their home in June. Martin retired from Amoco Oil Co. in 1984 after 38 years of service. Virginia retired in 1983 after working 18 years for the DuPage County Health Department.

1944
The name of the late Eileen Holm Hudgins, deceased Aug. 5, 2007, was omitted from the list of Tower Club donors in the Millikin University Honor Roll of Donors, published in the winter 2008-09 issue. Only her husband’s name, Donald R. Hudgins, was published. The staff of the alumni and development office apologizes for the error.

1949
Warren Reckmeyer of Mt. Morris, Ill., is retired from teaching after a 37-year career for Illinois public schools. He now directs two bands, in addition to playing in two other bands. His community band was first organized in 1844 and is one of the oldest in Illinois. He has been directing it since 1956. He also teaches students privately and tunes pianos.

William Schuett and his wife, Beverly, of Libertyville, Ill., recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. He retired as business manager of Highland Park and Deerfield High School District in Lake County, Ill. He served as president of the Illinois Association of School Business Officials (IASBO) from 1979 to 1980. Bill and Beverly have four grown sons. They, along with their son, Tom, lived in one of the trailers on campus provided by Millikin from 1946 to 1949.

1951
Victor Durchholz of Peoria, Ill., coaches runners for high school track at Illini Bluffs High School. He has been a high school track coach for 55 years.

1953
James Fisher of Venice, Fla., Millikin trustee emeritus, co-authored the book, “Born Not Made: The Entrepreneurial Personality,” published in 2008. The author or editor of 11 books, he has also written numerous professional articles and has been published in The New York Times, The Washington Times, The Baltimore Sun and The Palm Beach Post. He is a registered psychologist and president emeritus of both the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and Towson University. He has taught at Northwestern University, Illinois State University, Johns Hopkins University, Harvard University and the University of Georgia.

1955
Mary Jo Kellams Wagner of Streamwood, Ill., is retired and “enjoying the great amenities of Chicago.”

1958
James Grace of Libertyville, Ill., a retired teacher, is director of music at the Libertyville United Methodist Church, where a concert was held in April to celebrate his 50 years of music service to the church. He directed two children’s choirs from 1959 to 1984, started the Heritage Bell Choir in 1984, which he continues to direct, and was associate/back-up organist from 1959 to 1969. He became the full-time organist in 1969 and became music director in 1999 upon the retirement of his wife, Nancy, a retired music teacher. He is a member of the Illinois Retired Teachers’ Organization, American Guild of Organists and American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. Paul Howe Hunt of South Bend, Ind., founded The Homeless Community Alliance, whose mission is to link job opportunities with homeless adult men and women in South Bend.

Submission policy
We welcome your latest news! Millikin Quarterly publishes four issues yearly: spring, summer, fall and winter. To submit your news for a specific issue, please make sure we receive it by the deadlines below. The editor reserves the right to edit for space, style and clarity.

Issue deadlines
Fall Issue ...........................Aug. 1
Winter Issue ..........................Oct. 1
Spring Issue ..........................Feb. 1
Summer Issue ..........................May 1

How to send us information
You may send us your news for Class Notes through the Internet or by e-mail, fax or regular mail. A form is provided in this issue to assist you. Sorry, no telephone submissions.

Through the Internet, fill out the class notes form at: www.millikin.edu/alumni/class_note.asp and/or the alumni questionnaire at: www.millikin.edu/alumni/update_info.asp

Through e-mail, write to: alumnews@millikin.edu

By fax, fill out the form in this issue and fax your news to: 1-217-424-3755

Or fill out the form in this issue and mail your news to:

Millikin Quarterly
1184 West Main
Decatur, IL 62522-2084

Questions?
Call us toll free at 1-877-JMU-ALUM (568-2586).
Mark your calendar!

Class reunions will be held at Homecoming 2009, Oct. 16-18. If you would like to volunteer to help your reunion chair (see list below) with planning, call the alumni office toll free at 1-877-JMU-ALUM.

E. Hoyt Kerr ’39
Sally Burks Krigbaum ’54
Martha Robinson Grohne ’54
Patricia Talbert Smith ’54
Ann Geddes Haab ’59
Barbara Zimmer Hazelrigg ’59
John Humphrey ’64
Betty Cordes Chapman ’64
George Carnall ’69
Jan Hurd Kelsheimer ’74
Leslie Hannapel-Kessler ’79
Charles Miller ’84
Ronald Kurza ’89
Amy Hagen ’94
Tricia Bechman ’99
Karen Kuchar ’04

LeRoy Hagenbach of Peoria Heights, Ill., was inducted into the Association of Equipment Manufacturers Hall of Fame last November in recognition of his outstanding leadership in the off-road equipment industry. He is the president and co-founder of Philippi-Hagenbuch Inc., an engineering and manufacturing firm. He is credited with 89 patents, 38 granted in countries other than the U.S. The most recent patent refines rear-ejection technology, allowing operators to push the load from the back of a haul truck instead of raising the bed.

1963
Larry Neuzel of Lexington, Ky., is retired after a long career in broadcasting. After graduating from Millikin, he worked full-time at WTVP-TV as a studio cameraman, later moving to the film department. (See related photo on page 27.) He then moved to Rockford, Ill., and worked as a film editor at WCEE-TV. In 1968, he settled into a 33-year career at WLEX-TV in Lexington, Ky., where he held several positions, including traffic manager, assistant to the program director and director of community affairs, which was his title when he retired in 2001. He and his wife, Leona, enjoy spending time with their grandchildren, who also live in Lexington.

James Walker is co-author of “Work Wanted: Protect Your Retirement Plans in Uncertain Times,” published by Wharton School Publishing. This new book defines retirement today as “moving on and doing different things,” including finding work to provide income and rebuilding retirement assets. He was former leader of The Walker Group human resource (HR) consultancy and former vice president and director of Towers Perrin’s HR planning consulting practice. He authored the award-winning text, “Human Resource Planning,” co-authored “The End of Mandatory Retirement,” and founded the Human Resource Planning Society. He and his wife, Harriet, live in La Jolla, Calif.

1966
Jim Deremiah of Decatur set the rope-skipping record for all ages while competing in the 60-to-64 age division at the Illinois Senior Olympics in February. At the competition, he completed 550 jumps in three minutes, besting his 2006 record of 502 jumps. He had previously won the rope-skipping event at the South Dakota Senior Games in September, jumping 552 times in three minutes, exceeding the old record by 30 jumps. He is a retired teacher and coach and was inducted into the Millikin Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006.

1969
Barbara Hughes Janes of Mt. Zion, Ill., is enjoying retirement by serving on the Habitat for Humanity board, where she also works on the construction crew, and volunteering at Scovill Zoo. She and her retired husband, Larry, enjoy gardening and golfing.

Sue Hawk Ridgley of Decatur co-authored “The Murder at Centerville,” a book about a feud-related murder in her family in 1888. She is a retired teacher for the Decatur School District and previously worked in Millikin’s education department. She is married to Dwight Ridgley ’68.

Linda Gunst Stoff of Land O’ Lakes, Fla., retired from teaching in 2006 after 31 years of service in South Salem, N.Y. She now supervises teacher interns and teaches an undergraduate course at the University of Tampa.

1971
Dave Weber of Decatur is market president of Busey, a financial services company, for Macon and Shelby counties. He and his wife, Liz Gerlach Weber, also ’71, have three children and two grandchildren.

1973
Gerald Temples of Mattoon, Ill., was inducted into the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame in April. He is a retired high school football coach and athletic director for Mattoon High School and former assistant football coach at Millikin from 1989 to 1996. He was inducted into the Millikin Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008.

1975
Stephen Korbet is nephrology division chief at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. He and his wife, Sheri, live in Oak Park, Ill.
Polishing the Apple

A 1971 graduate helps grow one big Apple.

From the development of the first home computer to the creation of the iPod, a media player so small it fits in a pocket, Apple Computers helped transform the computing world forever. Fred Bockmann ’71 was at the forefront of this technological revolution and would continue to be an integral part of its development for the next 25 years.

Bockmann first became interested in computers while teaching at Brush College Elementary School in Decatur. More than five years after graduating from Millikin, he built his first computer, composed of used parts — a black and white TV for a monitor and an old teletype machine for a keyboard. Taking up an entire six-foot table, his newly-created machine was difficult to keep secret from his students. And when Bockmann introduced the computer to his class, it was a perfect match.

“This was long before anyone knew that kids and computers got along very well,” Bockmann says. “Two years later, I made my first contact with Apple and eventually started working with the Apple II computers in schools.”

In 1982, Bockmann accepted a job with Apple as a technical sales person, embarking on a career that would involve numerous positions and span more than two decades. “They hired me because not a lot of the sales people knew about computers in the way that I did,” he says. Getting back to his teaching roots, Bockmann also trained other sales representatives. One of his most memorable Apple moments happened while attending a sales conference the following year.

“In 1983, I was at an Apple sales conference in Honolulu,” he says, “and I was setting up secret new prototype Macs on the beach!”

While with Apple, he was contacted by the Illinois State Board of Education to head a project that explored how computers could be used in education. “It was a really exciting time,” Bockmann says. “I had a 12-person staff and worked with over 80 school districts.” Following that project, he relocated to Apple headquarters in the San Francisco Bay area in 1997 and worked at the corporate level designing training programs until he retired 10 years later.

During his time at Apple, Bockmann sometimes worked with Steve Jobs, the company’s founder and CEO. He accompanied Jobs on sales calls to various universities, giving presentations on Macintosh computers.

“It was like a movie buff getting a job with Warner Bros.,” Bockmann says. “I couldn’t believe they paid me to do this.”

Along with helping to advance the Apple brand, Bockmann was also a witness to PC history. While teaching programming in the computer science department at the University of Illinois - Chicago in the mid-1980s, he observed the development of a web browser now known as Internet Explorer. “It was very exciting for me to be a part of that,” he says.

Although Bockman graduated with a bachelor’s degree in English literature, “Millikin gave me the ability to learn and that allowed me to learn things my entire life,” he says. “I had no idea computers would turn into my career, or that I would wind up working with a computer company.”

A diverse course load wasn’t the only thing Bockmann found at Millikin. He also met a music major who became his wife, Sue Duffy Bockmann ’71. The couple has one daughter and are the proud grandparents of two boys.

Bockmann retired from the computer business in 2007 and today works as a studio technician for a public access channel. He also began working as a docent and naturalist within the California State Park system, where he once again finds himself in a teaching role, educating visitors at the Año Nuevo State Reserve about Northern elephant seals.

by Sam Sinkhorn ’09

“It was like a movie buff getting a job with Warner Bros. I couldn’t believe they paid me to do this.”
**Birks Museum**

is located in Millikin’s Gorin Hall. The museum was founded for the purpose of storing and sharing timeless works of art and craft.

**HOURS**

Open 1-4 p.m. every weekday during the school year.

**TOURS**

The museum welcomes tour groups. Please call ahead to discuss the needs of your tour. (217) 424-6337

**TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS**

If you are a collector and would like to discuss having your collection in a show at the Birks Museum, contact Curator Ed Walker ’85 at ewalker@millikin.edu.

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**1976**

Carol Trolia Condon of Glendale, Mont., is marketing director at Glendale Medical Center, where she is also foundation director for the hospital. She and her husband, Tom, have a son, Tommy, 14.

Brad Jackson of Mt. Zion, Ill., is chief executive officer and president of State Bank of Niantic.

**1977**

Ramona Carlyle of Morton, Ill., is a staff companion at Bradley University. She has four children, Megan, Brandon, Brett and Jacob, and two grandchildren, Jackson and Jorja.

Susan Grosse Reynolds of Springfield, Ill., is a student adviser at Robert Morris College. She and her husband, Curt, a GIS programmer for the Illinois Department of Transportation, are grandparents to Esmé, daughter of their daughter, Aubrey.

Lawren Tucker of Springfield, Ill., is chief deputy director at the Illinois State Library.

**1979**

Angela Beck of Houston is girls athletic director and head girls basketball coach at Clear Lake High School. Under her leadership, the Clear Lake basketball team won their first district championship in 16 years. The team went on to the second round of the state playoffs but lost in overtime.

Brice Elliott is vice president for the manufacturing group at Endeca Technologies, an enterprise software company. He and his wife, Melissa, a stay-at-home mom, live in Sahuarita, Ariz. He has six children: Patricia, 23, Andrew, 21, Ryan, 17, Christian, 9, Sierra, 7, and Pierce, 3.

Paul Pipiani of West Caldwell, N.J., is director of loss prevention at The SwatchGroup US, a jewelry business in Secaucus, N.J.

**1980**

Doug Fleener of Lexington, Mass., is president and managing partner at Dynamic Experiences Group LLC, a speaking and consulting agency.

Tim Grosee of Whisett, N.C., is regulatory affairs manager at North State Communications in High Point, N.C. He married his wife, Denise, in 2006, and has two daughters, Kristina, 24, and Lindsey, 22.

**1981**

Elizabeth Jones Bartimus of Decatur was named outstanding educator of the year at the Partners in Education Salute luncheon in March. She teaches science at Eisenhower High School.

Nancy Branz Hayes of Naperville, Ill., is a partner at Riverstone Wealth Partners, an investment advisor company. She and her husband, Phillip Hayes ’80, have two children: Christopher, 22, and Elizabeth, 18.

**1982**

Joe Rubino of Park Ridge, Ill., is national channel account manager at Xerox Corp. He and his wife, Patricia, a treatment assistant at Ross E. Rubino D.D.S., have three children: Lisa, 16, Michael, 14, and Madeline, 10.

**1984**

Janet Dorn of Cary, Ill., received her elementary education certification in June 2008 and teaches first and second grade at Robert Crown Elementary in Wauconda, Ill.

David Via of Port Jefferson, N.Y., is vice president of sales and marketing at D’Addario & Co. Inc., a music accessories and cable solutions company in Farmingdale, N.Y. He is completing a master’s degree in business administration from Babson College and is an adjunct professor of music business and percussion.

**1985**

Sharon Peters Bloch of St. Louis completed the St. Louis Marathon in April. She is a senior scientist in the School of Medicine at Washington University, where she has worked for 10 years.

Linda Lee Castor of Springfield, Ill., is a registered nurse and a licensed clinical professional counselor at a Springfield counseling practice. She completed a master’s degree in human development counseling at the University of Illinois at Springfield.

Rob Grady Jr. of Willowbrook, Ill., is director of Christian education at Trinity Lutheran Church in Burr Ridge, Ill. He and his wife,
Leslie, a fifth grade teacher at Trinity Lutheran School, have two sons, Ethan, 11, and Timothy, 8.

Diane Attig Scott of Lisle, Ill., is vice president and account executive at Lockton Companies, an insurance broker in Chicago. She and her husband, Jay, regional vice president at Hanover Insurance Co., celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary in August.

Jeff Wildman is manager of operations at BASF Corp. in Southfield, Mich. He and his wife, Molly, live in Canton, Mich.

1986

Dan Kampwerth of Breese, Ill., is vice president and business development officer at National Bank in Carlyle, Ill. He and his wife, Cheryl, a computer specialist for the U.S. government, have two children: Brendan, 16, and Bailey, 14.

Steve Mochel of Rye, N.Y., founded Fresh Green Light LLC, a teen driver education facility. He and his wife, Laura, have four children between them: Harry, 16, Cooper, 14, Ava, 13, and Jack, 12.

David Nelson of Streamwood, Ill., is a computer programmer for Hensgroft LLC. He also serves as technical director for Overshadowed Theatrical Productions.

1987

Susan Bright-Moore of Pearland, Texas, is a freelance educational writer and consultant. She and her husband, Bob Moore, also ‘87, have two children: Abbey, 9, and Drew, 7. He is managing partner at AMS-PAR Consultants.

Tammie Spires Buzan of Decatur is a registered nurse at Springfield Clinic. She and her husband, Jeffery, a self-employed farmer, have three children: Hannah, 18, Kimberly, 16, and Nicholas, 12.

Kathryn Maguet of Amherst, Mass., is director of performing arts at the University of Massachusetts Fine Arts Center, where she recently presented a concert by the men’s vocal ensemble, Cantus, featuring Aaron Humble ‘00 and Chris Foss ‘05.

1988

Joe Guin is wealth management advisor at Guin Financial in Vernon Hills, Ill. He and his wife, Amy, a stay-at-home mom, live in Hawthorn Woods, Ill. He has five children: sons Joshua, 18, and Conor, 7; daughters Madison, 9, Alyssa, 5, and Sydney, 3.

Lou Javois of Bronx, N.Y., is president and founder of Javois Development Group, an information technology management consulting firm.

Jay Marshall of Richmond, Ill., was the official starter for the Illinois Elementary School Association state track and field meet in May. He is a certified official for the Illinois High School Association and has been officiating for 12 years. Jay is a science teacher for the Antioch School District. He is married to Beth Nohling Marshall ‘91.

Lori Liles Massutti of Decatur became a certified valuation analyst in December. She is a tax manager at Sleeter, Diskrow, Tarro & Lively LLC.

Glen West of Geneva, Ill., is sound designer at GAP Digital, a recording studio in Wheaton, Ill. He and his wife, Kelly, have a daughter, Alessandra.

1989

Sean Caldwell of Bloomington, Ill., is director for operations and business development at Confidential On-site Paper Shredding. He and his wife, Tracie, marketing project manager at Country Insurance & Financial Services, celebrate their second anniversary July 27. He has a daughter, Sydney, 16.

John Dwyer of Plano, Texas, is vice president for engineering at Flextronics, an electronics manufacturing services company. He and his wife, Jeanna Hoppenjans Dwyer ‘88, a stay-at-home mom, have three children: Kelsey, 16, Alec, 14, and Jordan, 11.

Mardie Knobeloich Ellington of McQueeny, Texas, is a self-employed quality assurance nurse consultant.

David Thompson of Coal City, Ill., is project manager RCDD at Continental Electrical Construction Co. in Carol Stream, Ill.

1990

Jennifer Bartolini Groeber of Lowell, Ind., is a senior lecturer at Governors State University, where she earned her master’s degree in health administration in 1999. Jennifer is completing a doctorate in adult and higher education at Northern Illinois University. She and her husband, David, supervisor of track at Gary Railway U.S. Steel, have three children: sons Eric, 14, and Joshua, 11; and daughter Gianna, 9.

Stephanie Cleland Manint of Rantoul, Ill., is a data and grants coordinator for the Senior Resource Center at Family Service of Champaign County. Her husband, Marc, is a computer aided drafting (CAD) draftsman and geotechnical lab technician at Brierly and Associates.

Gary Kriz of Spring Grove, Ill., plays for the Midwest Suburban League Cubs, a men’s adult league baseball team based out of the Chicagoland suburbs. The team will play at Miller Park, home of the Milwaukee Brewers, on July 17. He works at PowerVar Inc. in Lake Forest, Ill. He is married to Suzy Gill Kriz ‘91.

1991

Denise Fogle of Naperville, Ill., is senior manager at Crowe Horwath LLP, an accounting and consulting firm.

Erika Gant Heth of Grand Ridge, Ill., teaches third grade for Ottawa Elementary Schools. She and her husband, Jim, who works in sales at Golden Rule Lumber, have three daughters: Jordan, 18, Kori, 11, and Randi, 7.

1992

Tammy Turner of Anna, Ill., is a trooper for the Illinois State Police. She has two sons: Riley, 8, and Seth, 6.

Jeff Weber of Eureka, Mo., is vice president for agent development at IPMG, an insurance firm.

1993

Heather Corwin of Altadena, Calif., performed the role of Gail in a production of “Everybody Say Cheese,” which was staged at the Falcon Theatre in Los Angeles this spring. The play was written by actor and director Garry Marshall, creator of television’s “Happy Days.”

Frank Costabile of Long Grove, Ill., is managing partner at Costabile & Steffens PC, an accounting and tax service company in Rolling Meadows, Ill. He and his wife, Stacey, treasury manager at American Hotel Register, have two children: Kyra, 3, and Frank, 1.

Anthony Riedlinger of Arlington, Va., is a supervisory special agent in the violent crimes/major offenders unit at the Federal Bureau of Investigations headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Jennifer Sawyer Seidler of Lodi, Wis., is a senior attorney at NSI/West Bend Mutual Insurance Co. in Middleton, Wis.

Out of the Blue

Are you on our mailing list?

Keep up on the latest Millikin news with Out of the Blue, the monthly online alumni and friends newsletter! Send your e-mail address to alumnnews@millikin.edu and start getting monthly updates on upcoming alumni events in your area in addition to news about MU - sent directly to you! And don’t forget to let us know if your e-mail address changes.
1994
Nicole Breymeyer of Cabery, Ill., is office manager at the Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley in Kankakee, Ill.

1995
Jennifer Armstrong of Chicago is director for community arts development programs at the Illinois Arts Council.

Joe Armstrong of Los Angeles recently released his latest album, “Silverface Champs,” which features 12 original songs and performances by several Millikin alumni, including Jayson Lauden ’99, Darice Bailey ’00, Suzanne Spinoso ’96, Anne Hamilton Katzfey ’94, Alison Ewing ’96 and John Mezzano ’93. For more information, visit www.joearmstrong.com.

Gretchen Fritz of Plainfield, Ill., is chairperson of the Will County Young Republicans. She was on the team that organized a Tax Day Tea Party for Will County, Ill., which attracted more than 500 protesters.

Edlyn Choi Moy of Lake Villa, Ill., is a stay-at-home mom. She and her husband of eight years, Rick, a personal health insurance broker, have two children: Caleb, 2, and Natalie, 1.

Tony Piscotti of Portland, Ore., performed in “American Notes,” a Will Act For Food (WAFF) spring production directed by Corri Feuerstein ’96. He is also web developer for GrumpyFILMS Inc., cofounded by Jason Jude Hill ’97.

Krista Furlong Sherrock of Sherman, Ill., was elected a trustee for the Village of Sherman. She is human rights investigator for the Illinois Department of Human Rights. She and her husband, John, who works at Patterson Oil and Gas, have two sons: Cale, 9, and Cade, 3.

1996
Tosha Cantrell-Brice completed a doctorate in public administration from the University of Illinois at Springfield in December. Her studies focused on needs assessments and evaluation of state and nonprofit organizations. She presented her dissertation findings at both the national Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) conference and the American Evaluation Association (AEA) conference last fall. She and her husband, Marcus, live in Carlinville, Ill.


Corri Feuerstein of Chicago was director of “American Notes,” a Will Act For Food (WAFF) spring production. She also wrote “Mystique,” a 10-minute “short short” film for GrumpyFILMS Inc., a new production company cofounded by Jason Jude Hill ’97.

Charlie Harper of Cincinnati is head of information technology and e-commerce at Abco Safety. He and his wife, Jeanne, a ballet teacher at The Studio for Dance, have two children: Grace, 6, and Samuel, 3.

Chad Mitchell of Forsyth, Ill., owner of Chad Mitchell Photography, was recently featured on WCIA Channel 3 news for his “trash the dress” projects, which highlight brides doing unusual and messy poses in their wedding gowns, such as plunging into pools. The story was reported by WCIA’s Amanda Evans ’06. Chad and his wife, Gail Burren Mitchell, also ’96, have two children: Taylor, 9, and Pete, 6.

Jennifer Wilson of Columbia, S.C., is a professor in the language and literacy program at the University of South Carolina. A Fulbright Roving Scholar in American studies, she is traveling around Norway this year, giving presentations to students and teachers about U.S. culture.

1997
Paul Combes of Forsyth, Ill., is director of tax at GSI Group in Assumption, Ill. He is married to Janice Earl Combes, also ’97.

Sarah Stopek Hirsch of Chicago is vice president for business development at Sublime Promotions, a full-service promotional...
products company she founded in 2004. The company recently became partners with InnerWorkings Inc., a leading global provider of managed print and promotional solutions to companies across a wide range of industries.

Sarah Holtschlag of Durham, N.C., is scientist I at Diosynth Biotechnology in Cary, N.C.

Paul Lillie of Honolulu is rector at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church.

Michael Smith of Chicago is an environmental and mass tort claims consultant in the legal department at CNA. He is also co-founder and creative director at Eschmitte’ Brand Clothing LLC, a high-end apparel company. For more information, visit www.eschmittebrand.com.

Matthew Wiedle (stage name Mathew Edwardsen) of San Francisco performed the role of Alfredo in a production of the opera “La Traviata,” which toured in California and New Mexico.

1998

Tim Berg of East Dundee, Ill., is director of regulatory operations at Career Education Corp. in Hoffman Estates, Ill.

Sara Brown of Kansas City, Kan., is a research associate in the department of internal medicine at the Kansas University Medical Center, where she is studying the effects of environmental toxicants on embryo development. She was certified by the American College of Sports Medicine as a health fitness specialist and personal trainer in 2008.

Jennie Josefson of Chicago completed a master’s degree in occupational therapy in 2007 and was chosen by her classmates as a speaker for the student response during the graduation pinning ceremony. She is an occupational therapist in acute care at Swedish Covenant Hospital.

Austin Robert of St. Louis is associate wealth manager at Northwestern Mutual Financial Services.

Mike Wille of Bloomington, Ill., recently completed an artist residency in South Africa, where he made paintings at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Pietermaritzburg and presented a solo exhibition of the created paintings at the conclusion of his residency. He is an assistant professor of art at Illinois State University.

Emir Yonzon of Sherman Oaks, Calif., is vault cashier in the finance department at NBC/Universal Studios in Universal City, Calif.

1999

Jenny Weaver Barbieri of Deland, Fla., performed in “Sweeney Todd,” a semi-staged musical with the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra in March. It starred Broadway Tony-winner Faith Prince.

Tricia Bechman of Franklin, Ind., is executive director for the Franklin Chamber of Commerce. For four weeks this spring, she participated in the Rotary Group Exchange Program, a group study program in the Berkshire region of England to study the country’s institutions and ways of life, observe the same vocations as practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships and exchange ideas.

Steve Duzan is academic coordinator for athletics at Indiana State University. He and his wife, Lisa, live in Terre Haute, Ind.

Leah Jones of Chicago founded Nativ Arts & Media, a marketing and communications business, where she trains artists, musicians and writers to use social media tools (blogs, Facebook, Twitter, online video and photo) for their own marketing. She also is a grant recipient from ROI120 for a Jewish education series called “Itza Mitza.” She previously worked at Edelman PR.

Anne McMill of Long Beach, Calif., is a full-time design faculty member in the department of theatre and dance at California State University in Los Angeles.

CORRECTION: Joe Shimp of Greenwood, Ind., teaches percussion and strings at Center Grove Middle School North. He and his wife, Erin, a guidance counselor at Custer Baker Intermediate School, have been married since November 2007.

Sarah Smith of Edwardsville, Ill., is deployed as deputy staff judge advocate in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Task Force Phoenix VIII with the 33rd IBCT of the Illinois National Guard. The mission is to train and mentor the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police. During her deployment, she worked closely with the Afghan minister of women’s affairs to coordinate humanitarian assistance drops to refugee camps and has also worked with the ministry of defense in training and mentoring female Afghan soldiers and officers. She was promoted to major in May and will return to her private litigation firm in November.

Blast from the Past

Do you have photos from your days as a Millikin student? Send them our way. We’re looking for photos to use as the Blast From the Past feature, found at the beginning of the Class Notes section (see page 20). Send your snapshots to Millikin Quarterly, 1184 W. Main St., Decatur, IL 62522 or e-mail digital photos* to MillikinQuarterly@millikin.edu. Please identify alumni in the photo, including class years and maiden names (if applicable).

*Photos must be at least 300 dpi for print publication.
Rickey Williams Jr. of Danville, Ill., was recently elected Ward 1 Alderman in the city of Danville by a 4-1 margin and is the youngest city councilman. He is executive director of the Boys & Girls Club of Danville, where he has doubled membership, quadrupled member honor and high honor roll attainment from 9 to 40 percent, and created 10 new full- and part-time jobs.

Genevieve Hurst Thompson of Chicago, co-founder of the Infamous Commonwealth theatre company, was director of the company’s production of John Steinbeck’s “The Grapes of Wrath,” featuring Stephen Dunn ’96.

2000
Mary Cassell, also MBA ’03, of Decatur is business analyst II at Archer Daniels Midland Co. She and her husband, Mike, marketing director at Decatur Memorial Hospital, have a son, Guerin, 4.

Michelle Elam of Peoria, Ill., is branch manager at Adecco, an employment services company in Peoria Heights, Ill. She and her husband, Daniel, have a son, Logan, 1.

Jay Schlepenbach of Chicago recently published his article, “Looking Back at 2007: Another Good Year for the Enforcement of International Arbitral Awards in the U.S.,” in the Dispute Resolution Journal. He is an associate attorney at Jenner & Block LLP.

2001
Drew Blickensderfer, originally of Decatur, is NASCAR crew chief for driver Matt Kenseth.

Toby Cryns of Minneapolis owns The Mighty Mo! Design Co., a website design company.

Eric Luchetti of St. Louis is director of marketing for St. Louis University’s department of athletics, where he oversees the web, print and media campaigns for all 18 Billiken athletic programs. He and his wife, Michelle, live with her son, Thomas, 5.

2002
Tara Losch of McHenry, Ill., is proposal specialist at Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics in Deerfield, Ill. She completed a master’s degree in arts management, visual arts, at Columbia College.

Kristin Richards of Springfield, Ill., is director of policy and budget for Illinois Senate President John Cullerton.

Joe Whitaker of Asheville, N.C., is regional manager at Horizon Medcorp, a medical sales company.

2003
Bradley Hofbauer of St. Louis teaches math at Christian Brothers College High School. His wife, Elizabeth, is a medical student at St. Louis University.

Brock Peoples of Champaign, Ill., is completing a master’s degree in library and information science at the University of Illinois. He is married to Michelle Deterding Peoples ’04.

Sara Ray of Columbus, Ohio, presented her research topic, “Theoretical Studies of the role of Vibrational Excitation on the Dynamics of the Hydrogen-Transfer Reaction of F(P) + HCl → FH + CI(P),” at the American Chemical Society’s third annual Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) Alumni Lecture held at Millikin in April. She is completing a doctorate at The Ohio State University.

Adam Sawyer of Chicago is wholesale account manager at Scooter Works, the largest Vespa and scooter parts distributor in the country.

Jennifer Brandt Schwartz of Indianapolis completed a master’s degree in student affairs and higher education from Indiana State University. She is assistant registrar at Marian College.

2004
Brad Binder of Denver is a software test engineer at Northrop Grumman, a defense contracting company.

Chad Francis of Springfield, Ill., is a graphic designer at IDSigns. He is married to Megan Lusch Francis ’05.

Dee Fryer of Decatur is a customer service representative at StarTek Inc.

Kara Guy, originally of Carroll, Iowa, performed the role of Rusty in the Prather tour of “Footloose.” The show also features Alex Jorth ’06.

Nicholas Kouchoukos of Chicago completed a master’s degree in accountancy from Western Michigan University. He is a staff accountant at Crowe Horwath LLP in Oak Brook, Ill.

AJ Wooldridge of Urbana, Ill., is marketing specialist at Carle Foundation Hospital. He and his wife, Kayla, have two children: Mariah, 3, and Brighton, 1.

2005
Tyler Albright of Carmel, Ind., performs as swing in a production of “42nd Street” at the Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam, Conn.

Katie Cooper of Louisville, Ky., is flying producer at ZFX Flying Effects, a theatrical flying effects company. ZFX is best known for providing the flying effects for Cathy Rigby’s “Peter Pan” and the Broadway production of “Wicked.”

Michelle Exarhos of Studio City, Calif., is post-production coordinator at Paramount Pictures.

Megan Lusch Francis of Springfield, Ill., works at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois. She is married to Chad Francis ’04.

Kyle Hemenover of Chicago is an accountant at McGladrey & Pullen LLP.

Zach Hubner of Oreaua, Ill., is a chiropractor at Decatur Back and Neck Center.


Ian Liberto of Libertyville, Ill., performed the role of Bobby in the national touring company production of “A Chorus Line” at the Oriental Theatre in Chicago in April. He was featured in an April article in the Chicago Sun-Times. The show continues to tour the U.S. and Canada throughout 2009.

Sarah Mastalski of St. Charles, Ill., owns Encore Video Productions, a videography company, and teaches private voice and piano lessons to students in the Fox Valley area.

Julia Rush of St. Louis is digital art director at Momentum Worldwide, an advertising agency. She also owns Paper2Pixel, a freelance web design company.

Amanda Russell of Chicago is a consultant at Health Care Futures, where she does management and business strategy consulting for U.S. healthcare providers.

2006
Emily Broadhead of Lenexa, Kan., is senior executive recruiter in the sales, marketing and advertising division at Morgan Hunter Companies, a recruiting firm in Overland Park, Kan.

Shaneal Clayborne of East St. Louis, Ill., is coordinator of recruitment and community education at Ethel Hedgeman Lyle Academy in St. Louis. She is completing a master’s degree in education at Lindenwood University and a master’s degree in business administration at Webster University.

Anna Gendel of Chicago is a global treasury analyst at William Wrigley Jr. Co.

Alex Jorth, originally of Davenport, Iowa, performed the role of Lyle in the Prather tour of “Footloose.” Kara Guy ’04 is also in the show.

Caleb Keith, originally of Champaign, Ill., is completing a master’s degree in college student affairs administration at the University of Georgia. This summer, he is an intern in housing and residence life at the Qatar Foundation in Doha, Qatar.

Sarah Choike Mathis of Decatur works for Country Financial in Bloomington, Ill. She is married to Blayne Mathis ’04.
DreamVizion Productions combines the two words that define what Michael Scherer ’06 of Decatur had before he launched his new audio production company: a dream and a vision. Three years later, Scherer turned his dream of entrepreneurship into a business vision and finally a reality.

Scherer, owner and CEO, had his “heart in the right place to start DreamVizion” after he graduated from Millikin, but he says, “My mind wasn’t at the point to be able to handle running a business.”

It wasn’t until two years later, after traveling and performing with a jazz group, “Half Note Trio,” that his passion to launch his own business returned.

In May 2008, he met with professor Sharon Alpi, director of Millikin’s Center for Entrepreneurship, ultimately working all summer with her and Gary Stacey, a SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) mentor. The two taught him how to set up a business plan and run a company.

Next, Scherer enrolled in the First Step Fast Trac program, an 11-week course offered by the university’s SCORE chapter, a non-profit organization offering business advice to entrepreneurs.

After completing the course in November, Scherer had the confidence to immediately launch DreamVizion Productions. “I spent nine straight months planning to launch my company, and that was after I had the desire for three previous years,” he says.

The company’s big break came just a few months later when they received a call from GoBro Productions, an independent film production company in Chicago, requesting DreamVizion to produce the score of their action-comedy film, “Slap Down,” scheduled to debut at the Sundance Film Festival and show at other international film festivals.

“They called me on a Friday, drove down to Decatur to meet me the next day, and signed us to score the full-length feature film on the same afternoon,” Scherer recalls. “This movie has opened many doors for me, including the opportunity to score full orchestral music.”

DreamVizion’s current major project is promoting the release of Scherer’s debut smooth jazz CD, “Exceeding Expectations.” The CD offers 14 original compositions and features musicians and singers who work with him.

Scherer recently hired a director of marketing, and they hope to make the company known in the national market. “My goal is to create the music for advertising campaigns of Fortune 500 companies,” he says. He believes that once DreamVizion has created a name for itself in the national market, he will be able to push into a rapidly expanding global market.

As a commercial music major at Millikin, Scherer focused on the recording studio, composition and performance, often meeting individually with teachers and professors to strengthen his musical abilities. He says, “It’s great to be able to say that I am using 100 percent of the skills and training I received through my Millikin degree.” Scherer still meets with some of his professors to catch up and get ideas from them for his company. He also tries to give back to the university as he can; most recently, he served as a judge for this spring’s Business Creation Challenge held by the Tabor School of Business.

Scherer says he felt it was important to take his time at the university seriously. “My goal from day one my freshman year was to gain the necessary skills I would need so that the moment I walked across the platform to get my diploma, I would have a plan in motion,” he says.

His question to current students is, “What are you doing now to plan for what you will do once you graduate? Getting an education is great, but if you don’t start planning for life after college now, you are going to find reality to be a major slap in the face,” he says. “Don’t let anything stop you from seeing your potential become reality.” ● by Kate Eagler ’11

Scherer’s company scored the film, “Slap Down,” co-produced by Alex Kapper and Josh Lee, both ’08 (see note on page 30), and scheduled to debut at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival. Learn more about DreamVizion Productions at dreamvizionproductions.com.
2007

Curt Baker of Ottawa, Ill., completed a master’s degree in business administration at Northern Illinois University in May, where he graduated cum laude. He was also inducted into the SIE Management Honor Society.

Sarah Davis (stage name Collette Wagner) of Los Angeles, formerly of St. Louis, performed stand-up comedy at the HaHa Café in North Hollywood, Calif. She is an actress and comedian.

Kyle Fowler of Astoria, N.Y., is a professional actor. He recently performed at the Tuacahn Center of the Arts in Utah in Irving, Utah.

Ollie Green of St. Louis is a law student at St. Louis University. This summer, she is completing an internship with the U.S. Navy’s Judge Advocate General Corps.

Stephen Moore of Minneapolis is a freelance lighting designer. Since moving to Minneapolis in January, he has designed for productions of “Aladdin Jr.,” “High School Musical 2” and “Rossum’s Universal Robots,” in addition to a St. Louis production of “The Slaughter Project: UnBOUND.” This summer he is designing lights and directing at Peck summer theatre in Montana.

AJ Nowicki of South Bend, Ind., is associate human resources generalist at Benteler Automotive, a manufacturing company in Goshen, Ind.

Rebecca Rappleyea Gercken of Oakwood, Ill., teaches music at Danville Lutheran School. She and her husband, Scott, band and choir director for Oakwood School District, were married July 21, 2007.

Justin Rosenberg of Birmingham, Ala., is director of media relations for the Birmingham Barons, a minor league baseball team. In addition to facilitating all media inquiries and requests relating to the Barons, he is the primary editor for both the team’s souvenir program and media guide. He also maintains the team’s website, oversees the press box staff and writes and organizes public announcements that are read during the games.

Lisa Wilder of Decatur is sales and market information specialist at Tate & Lyle Sucralose LLC.

2008

Natalie Colgan of Evanston, Ill., teaches kindergarten through second grade at Madison Elementary School in Skokie, Ill.

CORRECTION: Liz Cook of Belvidere, Ill., is head athletic trainer at Accelerated Rehabilitation Centers.

Eileen Figueroa of Decatur is child care counselor and mental health practitioner at Webster-Cantrell Hall.

Colleen Hillyer of Morgantown, W.Va., is completing a master’s degree in flute performance at West Virginia University.

Megan Jones of Assumption, III., is a special care registered nurse at Taylorville Memorial Hospital in Taylorville, Ill.

Caleb Jump of Decatur is a financial services consultant at Soy Capital Bank & Trust. He is a board member for the Decatur 501 Club and campaign co-chair for the United Way.

Brittany Lewis of Philadelphia is completing a master’s degree in art therapy at Drexel University and an art internship at Germantown Intensive Out Patient, where she works with schizophrenic clients. She also works with substance abusers at Kirkbridge Center.

Brad May of The Colony, Texas, is a business solutions analyst at Perot Systems, an information technology/business solutions outsourcing company in Plano, Texas.

Brittany McClarey of Decatur is a human resources generalist at Lincoln Prairie Behavioral Health Center in Springfield, Ill.

2009

Lauren Olliger of Mahomet, Ill., is special services aide at Mahomet-Seymour High School.

Alex Kapper of Peoria, Ill., and Josh Lee of Hanover Park, Ill., both ’08, are co-producers of “Slap Down,” an original feature film cast and shot in Decatur with the help of screenwriter/director Bongsoo Go, an experienced filmmaker from South Korea, and cinematographer/actress Jessica Kook, a recent graduate from a Korean film school who won a prestigious award for a film she made for a national competition. The filmmakers held casting auditions in February and began shooting in spring.

The film is a comedy with a touch of film noir, kung fu and espionage, focusing on a character who experiences a spiritual conversion. “We are very excited about the final product, but what is important is the process of making the movie,” Lee said.

Additional performances to be announced.

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Kirkland presents the 2009-2010 season!
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October 16-18

Homecoming 2009!

This year’s reunions include classes ending in 4 and 9.

Interested in helping plan a reunion for your class or organization? Contact the alumni relations office at 1-877-JMU-ALUM (568-2586)

SAVE THE DATE!

Homecoming 2009
Oct. 16-18
**Marriages**

Mary Strine '76 and Ralph Miller, Aug. 31. Mary is director of corporate communications at Abbott Laboratories in Abbott Park, Ill. Mary has two children: Joseph, 21, a senior at Carthage College; and Jamie, 18, a Millikin freshman this fall. Ralph is a partner in Chester Construction Group, general and electrical contractors for home remodeling. They live in Northbrook, Ill.


Kimberly Reinemann '89 and Stephen Vick, Oct. 4. Kimberly is a staff nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Stephen is a fireman and paramedic. They live in Tinley Park, Ill.

Kevin Bodine '90 and Damary Gomez, Jan. 5, 2008. Kevin is recruiting manager in the permanent placement division at Robert Half Technology. Damary is lead therapist at Massage Envy in Glen Ellyn, Ill. They live in Lombard, Ill.

Gretchen Wendt '94 and Mark LaCivita, Feb. 7. Gretchen is a program coordinator at Children’s Memorial Hospital. Mark is a police officer with the Chicago Police Department. They live in Chicago.


Amy Sarver '99 and Christoph Renwanz, March 7, at the Millikin Homestead. Amy is a homemaker. Christoph is a software engineer at Bosch. They live in Stuttgart, Germany.

Anna Mills '01 and Cory Griffin, Jan. 2. Anna teaches business education and Cory teaches chemistry, both at Schaumburg High School. They live in Schaumburg, Ill.

Amy Smeets '01 and Paul Bonner, Sept. 20. Amy is a singer and songwriter. Paul works in radiology non-destructive testing (NDT) at Jan-x. They live in Hermitage, Tenn.

Kurt Tiede '01 and Molly Britton, Oct. 18. Kurt is a freelance designer and illustrator. Molly is an electrician at the St. Louis Opera Theater. They live in Collinsville, Ill.

Anna Forslund '03 and John Hartmann, June 14, 2008. Anna is teen librarian at Council Bluffs Public Library in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She completed a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Illinois in May and a master’s degree in mass communication and media arts from Southern Illinois University in 2007. John is completing a doctorate in philosophy from Southern Illinois University and works part-time as a coffee roaster at Hill of Beans. They live in Omaha, Neb.

Chase Agnello-Dean and Kirsten Leyndyke, both '06, Nov. 22. (See page 33 for class note.)

From left: Mike Mullan '06, Tom Beckmeyer '06, Beau Hanger '06, Genevieve Baird '06, Joshua Streeter '06, Heather Vrshek Mehrabian '06, Ashlee Peth '05, Kirsten Leyndyke Agnello-Dean '06 (bride), Chase Agnello-Dean '06 (groom), Steven Freitag '06, Corey Vaughn '06, Mallory Spencer '07, Jessica Hiatt Gabel '06, Ryan Gabel '06, Kenny Scruggs '06, Nick Whelan, Stacey Shonkwiler '07, Erik Johansen '06.

Submit your wedding photo to our online wedding album:

www.millikin.edu/alumni/weddingdex.

Wedding party photos must feature Millikin alumni for eligibility (see above for an example). Don’t forget to include the name and class year of each Millikin alum pictured, and be sure to include the date of your wedding. Submitted wedding photos will be included in our online wedding album and each quarter, one of those recently received will be featured in Millikin Quarterly magazine.
Natasha Jones ’04 and Matt Wattleworth, Oct. 4. Natasha is assistant nurse manager of the emergency department at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago. Matt is a consultant at Hewlett-Packard in Chicago. They live in Downers Grove, Ill.

Melissa Anderson ’05 and Troy Peterson, Oct. 4. Melissa is an adjunct professor of voice at Maryville University and assistant executive director for the Innisbrook Institute Summer Music Academy and Festival. She completed a master’s degree in vocal performance from the University of Missouri in 2008. Troy is a doctoral researcher at the University of Missouri. They live in Columbia, Mo.

Vanessa Bettcher and Spencer Lent, both ’05, Aug. 2. Vanessa teaches general music at Lincoln Elementary School in Bellwood, Ill. Spencer is a general music and chorale teacher at Roosevelt Middle School in Bellwood, Ill. They live in Addison, Ill.


Chase Agnello-Dean and Kirsten Leyndyke, both ’06, Nov. 22. Chase is photo editor at the Chicago Tribune’s Red Eye. Kirsten is a singer, actor and dancer working in Chicago. They live in Chicago. See photo on page 32.

Jenna Schulteis ’06 and Brian Clark, April 18. Jenna is a staffing consultant at Westaff. Brian is a sheet metal journeyman at King-Lar. They live in Decatur.

Gage Lyons ’08 and Rachel Anderson, June 28, 2008. Gage is completing a doctorate in physical therapy and Rachel is completing a doctorate in pharmacy, both at Midwestern University. They live in Lisle, Ill.

Births and Adoptions

Michael and Angela Thomson Dixon ’87 of Southlake, Texas, daughter Rylan Michele, Jan. 5, welcomed by sister Regan, 3. Angela is currently a stay-at-home mom after leaving her position as information technology solutions officer for the application development and management department of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. Michael is a federal agent in the U.S. Secret Service.

John Roth and DeeDee Dorn Roth, both ’91, of Dow, Ill., son Dylan Andrew, Feb. 20, welcomed by brother Alex, 11, and sister, Libby, 8. DeeDee and John own Midwest Motor Sports, a motorcycle dealership in Hartford, Ill.

Christopher and Joella Theobald VanOostenthuysen ’93 of Muskegon, Mich., twins Alexander and Samuel, Sept. 30, welcomed by brothers Riley, 4, and Simeon, 2. Joella is a stay-at-home mom and teaches piano lessons and consorts with contemporary worship churches. Christopher, director of Internet and retail marketing at Torresen Marine Inc., is an Internet consultant and entrepreneur, including IncredibleShopper.com.

Richard and Stephanie Gardner Curry ’94 of Lilburn, Ga., son Jonas Dade, March 30. Stephanie is vice president of learning & development and Richard is a web developer, both at PKF North American Network.

Todd and Georgene “Gigi” Kowalski Kivlehan ’94 of Grayslake, Ill., son Griffin Vaughn, March 10, welcomed by brothers Spencer, 8, and Aidan, 6, and sister Aubrey, 3. Gigi is a stay-at-home mom. Todd is a director at Baxter International.

Kristin and Travis Stolz ’94 of Fairfax, Va., son George Wayne, May 16, 2008, welcomed by sisters Ella, 8, and Gillian, 6. Travis is an analyst for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C. He is completing a doctorate in religious studies at Marquette University. Kristin is a stay-at-home mom.

David Wasserkrug ’94 and Kimberly Minor Wasserkrug ’95 of Forsyth, Ill., daughter Ava Marguerite, March 15, welcomed by sister Hannah, 11, and grandparents Cheryl and Dick Chamblin of the Tabor School of Business. David is training coordinator at Macon Resources. Kimberly is executive director of quality control and quality assurance at Akorn Inc., a pharmaceutical company.

Charles and Megan Centers Mazokopos ’96 of Wayland, Mass., daughter Alexa Sophia, Oct. 24, welcomed by sister Mia, 6, and brother Nathan, 4. Megan is a registered nurse in the emergency room at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Charles is a landscape construction contractor.

David and Tish Middendorf Vanoni ’96 of Lakewood, Colo., son Garrett John, Nov. 21, welcomed by brother Davin “DJ,” 2. Tish is a stay-at-home mom. Dave teaches special education and coaches varsity football at Littleton Public High School.

Brandi and Joe Berry ’97 of Martinsville, Ind., daughter Jenna Grace, March 3, welcomed by twin sisters Addalyn and Cassidy. 2. Joe is an assistant senior biologist at Eli Lilly and Co. Brandi is a pharmacist at CVS.

Blake and Melissa Biddle Good ’97 of Urbana, Ill., daughter Lauren Elise, July 11, 2008, welcomed by brother Rylan, 3. Melissa is an esthetician at BJ Grand Salon & Spa. Blake is a project manager at Horizon Hobby.

Jeff and Shannon Deeds Harrison ’97 of Pawnee, Ill., daughter Lyla Anne, Sept. 22, welcomed by sister Maura, 2. Shannon is a part-time registered nurse in the labor and delivery department at Memorial Medical Center. Jeff works at United Parcel Services.

Tim and Shannon Ruot Young ’97 of Macon, Ill., triplets Alyssa Kate, Brady Michael and Mallory Jo, Jan. 29, welcomed by sister Karlie, 3. Shannon is a stay-at-home mom. Tim is factory superintendent at Caterpillar Inc.

Jim and Tonya Burnett Davis ’98 of Danvers, Ill., son Jason Michael, Jan. 13, welcomed by brother Sam, 3.

Sarah and Dan Ellis ’98 of Shorewood, Ill., twin daughters Carina Danielle and Hannah Jean, March 11. Dan is a firefighter and paramedic for the Glenview Fire Department. Sarah is a stay-at-home mom.


That’s news to us!

Tying the knot! Expecting the pitter patter of tiny feet? We’d love to help share your news in the Quarterly! While we can’t print news about anticipated weddings or babies, let us know when your plans become a reality and we will announce it to your classmates.

Don’t forget to send your wedding and baby photos to MillikinQuarterly@millikin.edu.
Robert Siekmann Jackson ’43 of Atlanta, Dec. 21. Survivors include her husband, Ed Jackson, whom she met March 13, 1943, at an Alpha Chi Omega open house for the first group of Millikin aviation cadets, all from the south.

Although his assignment to Millikin was only eight weeks, Roberta and Ed continued to correspond until the end of World War II. Soon thereafter, the younger Alpha Chi sisters arranged for Ed to return to campus as Roberta’s surprise “blind date” for homecoming in 1945, which led to their subsequent marriage of 61 years.

Alumni

Dorothy Stuckey Foster ’29 of Decatur, Feb. 16.

Robert Grissom ’38 of Omaha, Neb., March 17. He received an Alumni Merit Award in 1996 and an Alumni Merit-Loyalty Award in 2002. Survivors include his wife, Virginia, and brother Wayne Grissom ’37.

Rosemary Reid Meek ’39 of Decatur, Feb. 15.

Walter Mory of Decatur, Millikin trustee emeritus and 2001 James Millikin Award recipient, March 18. Survivors include his wife, Dorothy; daughter Marcia Mory ’78; and son-in-law Robert Smith ’75, trustee emeritus. Memorial gifts may be made to the Walter T. Morey Scholarship, Millikin University, and Alumni Development Office, 1184 W. Main St., Decatur, IL 62522.

Kaley ’78; son-in-law Mark Kaley ’75; and brother William Rotz ’50. He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen Sona Rotz ’41.

Memorial gifts may be made to Millikin University, Alumni and Development Office, 1184 W. Main St., Decatur, IL 62522.

Delina Fraser Stone ’41 of Dallas, formerly of Addison, Texas, March 5. Survivors include her sister, Juanita Fraser Peifer ’44.

Mary Anna Green Jacobs ’42 of Philadelphia, Nov. 13.

Harry “Cecil” Skipper ’42 of Blue Mound, Ill., Feb. 25. Survivors include his wife, Dorothy Anne.

CORRECTION: Mary Margaret “Mickey” Lively Winninger ’42 of Indianapolis, Jan. 4.

Harold McAdamis ’43 of Chesterfield, Mo., formerly of Decatur and Carbondale, Ill., Feb. 7. Survivors include his wife, Erma.

Mary Ann Spangler White ’43 of Decatur, March 9. Survivors include her husband, Charles “Bill” White ’42, and sisters Jean Spangler Goretzke ’52 and Vera “Bea” Spangler Lewis ’42.

Richard Henry ’44 of LaPlace, Ill., April 7. Survivors include his wife, Jean; and brothers Robert Henry ’49 and Martin “Mutt” Henry ’50.

Barbara Smith Flanders ’46 of Decatur, Feb. 12. She is preceded in death by her husband, L. Richard Flanders ’50.

Phyllis Cast Thalman ’46 of Yuma, Ariz., April 21. Survivors include her husband, Bill Thalman ’45, and daughter Ann Thalman Hudgins ’73.


Neyl Keller ’47 of Springfield, Ill., March 24. Survivors include his wife, Georgeanna, and sister Jean Keller Markel ’52.

William Olsen ’47 of Decatur, April 16. Survivors include his wife, Jacqueline Grabb Perry Olsen ’55; son Chris Olsen ’74; and daughter-in-law Deborah Moore Olsen ’74. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Harriet Boz Olsen ’43.


Patsy Shumate Lumm ’48 of Clinton, Ill., March 13. Survivors include her husband, Ed.

Deaths

Friends

Ed Hutton of Cincinnati, trustee emeritus and 2007 James Millikin Award recipient, March 3. Survivors include his wife, Kathryn.

Kathryn Mariano Dooren and Brent Dooren, both ’00, of Mount Wolf, Pa., daughter Meredith Grace, Dec. 10, welcomed by sister Annemarie, 2. Kathryn is a nurse anesthetist at Anesthesia Associates of York, Pa. Brent is a senior financial analyst at Wellspan Health.

Donald and Jennifer Newall Fleck ’00 of Weston, Fla., son Dane William, Dec. 15, welcomed by brother Ryan, 4. Jennifer is a self-employed writer and web designer/developer. Donald is pricing analyst supervisor at Cardiacill Inc.

Michael and Phyllis Day Silverio ’00 of Roswell, Ga., daughter Mia Therese, June 2, 2008. Phyllis teaches second grade. Michael is a compliance officer in Marietta, Ga.

Jamie Niess Koweta ’01 and Erik Koweta ’02 of Champaign, Ill., son Declan Joseph, Oct. 23, welcomed by sister Anna, 3. Abbie Wessler Miller, of Concord, Ill., son Samuel Ryan, Dec. 21. Survivors include her husband, Ed Jackson, son Ethan, 3. Sarah is a stay-at-home mom doing part-time freelance work and consulting. Erik is deputy director for the Champaign County Economic Development Corp.


Stefan and Mia Anderson-Dawson ’03 of Springfield, Ill., son Nehemiah Rashad, Dec. 18. Mia is a juvenile probation officer for Sangamon County Juvenile Center. Stefan is a legislative liaison for the State of Illinois department of children and family services.

Tony Egizi ’03 and Carrie Whelan Egizi ’04 of St. Louis, son Luca Thomas, Dec. 28. Tony works for the Center of Interventional Pain Management. He completed a doctorate in physical therapy from Boston’s MGH Institute of Health Professions in 2007. Carrie is a registered nurse in the cardio-pulmonary stepdown unit at St. Luke’s Hospital in Chesterfield, Mo. She completed a bachelor’s degree in nursing from St. Louis University in 2007.

Abbie Wessler Miller and Ryan Miller, both ’03, of Concord, Ill., son Samuel Ryan, Oct. 23, welcomed by sister Anna, 3. Abbie is a stay-at-home mom. Ryan is an insurance and real estate broker at Desollar and Wessler Bros. Agency.

Zachary and Blair James Angel ’06 of Pana, Ill., son Maxyus Ryder, June 6, 2008, welcomed by brother Kadin, 5. Blair is a registered nurse at Pana Hospital. Zachary is an asbestos remover for Triple A Asbestos Services.

Robert Grissom ’38 of Omaha, Neb., March 17. He received an Alumni Merit Award in 1996 and an Alumni Merit-Loyalty Award in 2002. Survivors include his wife, Virginia, and brother Wayne Grissom ’37.

Rosemary Reid Meek ’39 of Decatur, Feb. 15.

Margaret Berge Pearse ’39 of Farm Ridge, Ill., April 20.


Margaret Westervelt Bauman ’41 of Monticello, Ill., Feb. 16. Survivors include her daughter, Barbara Baumman Lintner ’64.

J. Sidney “Sid” Rotz ’41 of Decatur, April 17. He received an Alumni Loyalty Award in 1970 and was inducted into the Millikin Athletic Hall of Fame in 1984. Survivors include his son, John Rotz ’69; daughter-in-law, Gail Foster Rotz ’70; daughter Nicholeen Rotz Kaley ’78; son-in-law Mark Kaley ’75; and brother William Rotz ’50. He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen Sona Rotz ’41.

Memorial gifts may be made to Millikin University, Alumni and Development Office, 1184 W. Main St., Decatur, IL 62522.

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Patsy Shumate Lumm ’48 of Clinton, Ill., March 13. Survivors include her husband, Ed.
What’s happening?

What’s new? Here’s your chance to let your Millikin friends know what you’ve been doing lately. Have you moved? Been promoted? Have you become a parent or spouse? Share your news now and watch for it in an upcoming issue of Millikin Quarterly. Don’t forget to let us know your current address and please include a recent photograph of yourself if possible (we’ll print the photograph with your news item if space permits). Please print.

Here’s my news (please attach separate sheet if necessary):

Name __________________________ Class year ______

Maiden name (if applicable) __________________________

Spouse’s name __________________________ Class year ______

(if applicable)

Your home address __________________________

City __________________________ State ________ Zip ________

Your home phone __________________________

Your cell phone __________________________

Your place of employment and job title __________________________

Spouse’s place of employment and job title __________________________

Your work phone __________________________

Fax __________________________ ○Home ○Work

E-mail address __________________________ ○Home ○Work ○Display on Milli-Link XP

Paul Tolly ’48 of Kankakee, Ill., Jan. 5. Survivors include his wife, Palmer.

Jerry Bickes ’50 of Decatur, Feb. 8. Survivors include his wife, Kay; son-in-law Gary Stacey ’73; and sister-in-law Sandy Brumley Bickes ’62.

Thomas Krigbaum ’50 of Kohler Village, Wis., Feb. 11.

Jack McKinley ’50 of Decatur, March 12. Survivors include his wife, Martha.

Ray Meisenhelter ’50 of Springfield, Ill., April 4. He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris Keys Meisenhelter ’44.

Dale Wonus ’50 of Eustis, Fla., Jan. 13. Survivors include his wife, Violet.

Barbara Downing ’51 of Decatur, Feb. 22. Survivors include her sister, Pat Downing Miers ’66.

Edwin Clesson ’52 of Lilburn, Ga., March 23, 2008. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marilyn Morgan Clesson ’52.

Jack Holt ’52 of Decatur, March 25.

Alvin LeDoux ’52 of Indianapolis, Jan. 25. Survivors include his wife, Phyllis.

Duane Loofbourrow ’53, formerly of Decatur, April 12. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marilyn Jean Meyer Loofbourrow ’52.

Shirley Spear Hedberg ’55 of New Port Richey, Fla., March 23. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Hedberg ’55.

Paul Hung ’56 of Bryn Mawr, Pa., March 28. He received an honorary doctorate in 1997, received the Alumnus of the Year Award in 2001 and was inducted into the Millikin Medallion Society, also in 2001. Survivors include his wife, Nancy Clark Hung ’59.

Thomas Lambert ’56 of Fenton, Mich., Feb. 6. Survivors include his wife, Kay.

Gerald Dalton ’57 of Mesa, Ariz., Jan. 2. Survivors include his wife, Virginia.

Robert Glass ’57 of Tremont, Ill., Feb. 15. Survivors include his wife, Martha.


Donald Uhl ’59 of Decatur, March 20. Survivors include his wife, Barbara.

Jan Oxley ’61 of Mathews, N.C., Jan. 4.

LeRoy “Lee” Crisman ’62 of San Francisco, formerly of Decatur, Feb. 5. Survivors include his wife, Annette.

Edna Mae Riggs ’62 of Decatur, March 23.

CORRECTION: Victorine Hachenberg ’64 of Taylorville, Ill., formerly of Stonington, Ill., Nov. 25.

Barbara St. John Byrnes ’66 of Wheaton, Ill., April 13. Survivors include her husband, Patrick.

Barbara Bielefeld Weaver ’68 of Burbank, Ill., formerly of Decatur, March 16.

Judith Mason ’71 of Decatur, March 7. Survivors include her husband, Terry, and brother-in-law, Jim Mason ’64.

Tade Geeding ’05 of Minneapolis, formerly of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, March 23. Memorial gifts may be made to support the fine arts at Millikin University, Alumni and Development Office, 1184 W. Main St., Decatur, IL 62522.

Mail form to: Alumni Relations Office, Millikin University, 1184 West Main St., Decatur, IL 62522-2084. Or fax this page to 217-424-3755.

Need to update your contact info? Visit www.millikin.edu/alumni/milli-link-xp.
A group effort

With the help of a student-run publishing company, a 2008 alum turns her idea into a published book.

At age 14, Sarah K. Johnson '08 of Peoria, Ill., fought the battle of her life, following a diagnosis of Philadelphia Positive Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia in 2000.

Following her successful chemotherapy treatment and remission, friends and family suggested she write a book about her experiences. However, Johnson didn’t know where to start.

“I let go of the idea for quite some time,” she says.

Fast forward to 2007. As a student in a Millikin children’s literature class, Johnson was assigned to create her own children’s book. She used this opportunity to create the book she had hoped to write following her treatment.

“I knew I did not want to write a book about my life story or my specific cancer experience,” she says. “I realized during my cancer treatment that a gap in communication existed among pediatric cancer patients and their doctors, nurses, family and friends … and decided that I wanted to write a book that would lessen this gap.”

Her professor encouraged Johnson to publish her book, but she was hesitant since she didn’t know much about the publication process; however, the project remained in the back of her mind.

That summer, Johnson completed a research fellowship at Millikin, where, under the guidance of Communication Instructor Matthew Tucker, she analyzed scholarly articles on health communication and palliative care, focusing on cancer patients. In addition to her research, she attended a summer cancer camp, interviewing more than 30 young adult cancer patients/survivors from the U.S. and Canada.

“The results showed that I was not the only one who had experienced hurt feelings or disappointment due to people’s inappropriate comments,” says Johnson. “Many times, people had the best intent at heart, but used the wrong approach or words to relay their message.”

Her research with the campers spurred her into action. That fall, after discussing the publishing process with Dr. Randy Brooks, acting dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, she pitched her book, “Oops! Did I Say That?,” to Bronze Man Books, Millikin’s student-run publishing company.

The company, staffed by students enrolled in Millikin’s art of publishing course, liked Johnson’s vision.

“The editorial board loved Sarah’s concept,” says Brooks, who also serves as adviser to Bronze Man Books. “The concept had a powerful and universal message. Plus it was written by a Millikin student, which is something we always look for at Bronze Man Books.”

However, the editorial team saw the opportunity for growth.

“At first, the book only focused on what not to say, leaving readers wondering what was appropriate to say,” says Brooks. “The editorial board suggested Sarah incorporate positive messages as well, so that the reader could understand what messages were hurtful and which ones were appreciated.”

Intrigued by the suggestion, Johnson and the Bronze Man team moved forward to revise the manuscript.

“Bronze Man immediately captured my vision and made it their own,” Johnson says. “In working with the publishing team, we collaborated in formulating the style and narrative of the book, as well as press kits and a marketing strategy.”

A year and a half later, and with the help of the Bronze Man team, most notably book illustrator Stephanie Pezzelle Gagnon ’08, the book was picked up by a publishing company.

“I have never had great skills in drawing or graphic design,” says Johnson. “Stephanie had done some amazing graphic design work for various companies in the Decatur area and offered her services as illustrator for my book.”

With all the pieces finally in place, Johnson’s book launched this spring.

“We reached our first goal in having a publishing company do a print run of the book,” Johnson says. “Our second goal is to spread awareness of the book, so that we are able to get it in the hands of people who need it most, narrowing the communication gap. We have high hopes that the book will be a success nationally, drawing attention from various media sources, hospitals and foundations.”

Brooks and the Bronze Man team share in Johnson’s hopes of success.

“People read the book and realize immediately that it does have a significant impact,” Brooks says. “When we were bidding the book out to printers, representatives would call us back crying. That’s how we know this book is valuable and real for people.”

“Oops! Did I Say That?” is sold for $12 at Amazon.com; BronzeManBooks.com; Blue Connection, Millikin’s student-operated gallery; and other outlets; 10 percent of proceeds are donated to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

For more information, visit www.bronzemanbooks.com/ops.
Something like a family

by the “click” of fingernails on the keyboard if he hadn’t trimmed them or a softly whispered self-recrimination if he caught himself in a mistake I hadn’t even noticed. He’d just start over and play it again. Everything – the scale exercises, the pieces he was working on – sounded like it originated in a world apart.

Although he worked harder on his music than any of us, his playing seemed absolutely effortless. The other thing I remember was that he had to play and touch and live his music, every single day. I think we, his teachers and friends, knew that we were in the presence of a great, great talent.

Since then, it’s been a delight to watch Doug as he has followed his career path, earning his doctorate at the University of Southern California, winning accolades at music festivals and solo performances and teaching piano at Idyllwild Arts Academy in Idyllwild, Calif. Now dean of arts at Idyllwild, Doug has turned his attention to shaping the fine arts program at this prestigious boarding school, which draws talented high school students from all over the world. If you’re interested in learning more about Doug’s views on music and education, just visit his Idyllwild blog: www.artin3d.org.

The Idyllwild faculty are lucky to be working with him. The Idyllwild students are luckier still; he is certain a wonderful teacher. And us, his old college gang? I think we count ourselves among the luckiest of all, because we are, and always will be, his friends.

My turn

founding, which is probably why we actually celebrated the occasion for three straight years, from the signing of the charter in 1901 to the day that President Teddy Roosevelt dedicated the university in 1903 (see more about that on page 6). Bill always saw Millikin as something to be celebrated.

Listening to alumni share stories of legendary Millikin professors like Graham Provan, Glen Smith and Carl Weatherbee, as well as new legends in the making, including professors like Marianne Robertson, Rick Bibb and Dave Burdick. Provan kept a class riveted to jaw-dropping lectures given without notes. Burdick keeps students in the Millitrax studio all night to simulate an actual real-world recording session. The list goes on and on. Our alumni don’t forget these types of unique experiences and the impact our faculty members have on their lives.

Marking the silver anniversary of this magazine this year. Celebrating 25 years of past issues would not be complete without a nostalgic look at a cover story in the inaugural issue about a campus visit made by then President Ronald Reagan (see page 9).

Last August, I filed away a new memory: saying a tearful goodbye to my daughter in her Blackburn Hall room after moving her in for her freshman year, only to have her show up in my Millikin office a few days later to borrow my car keys so she could drive home to do her laundry. As she makes her way at Millikin, I know she’ll leave here with her own abundance of good memories, along with the knowledge and confidence she needs to succeed professionally and personally – and obtain the resources to pay for her own washing machine.
MU out and about
Check out some of last spring’s regional and local events that kept Millikin alumni and friends out and about.

Making connections.
Several alumni and friends attended an April networking event in St. Louis, hosted by Jump Co. and its owner Jon Tiede ’92. From left: Steve Zuber ’90; Jeff Weber ’92; Rick Bibb, associate professor of marketing; and Tiede.

Good game.
Dallas-area alumni and friends gathered to enjoy a Mavericks basketball game in late March, hosted by Trustee Gary Griffith ’68. From left: Bob Gendry ’62, Patricia Payton, Pamela Gendry and Frank Payton ’71.

Upcoming Events

» Saturday, July 25
Des Moines, Iowa
4 p.m., Miniature golf at West Grand Golf, 6450 Raccoon River Drive. Cost for golf is $6 per person age 10 and up; $5 for children 9 and under. Join us afterwards for a Dutch treat dinner at Fuddruckers, 6378 Mills Civic Parkway, West Des Moines. RSVP by July 22 to Emily Oshita Layton ’98 at 641-445-5145, 515-979-3542 or send her an e-mail, etlayton@grm.net. Please RSVP even if you are interested in just golf or just dinner.

For more information on the upcoming events listed above, call the alumni office toll free at 1-877-JMU-ALUM (locally, dial 217-424-6383) or e-mail alumnews@millikin.edu.

» Oct. 16-18
On campus - Save the date for Homecoming 2009. Reunions for classes ending in four and nine, in addition to several other gatherings and events. A brochure with more details will be mailed later this summer, and watch for updates in Out of the Blue, the monthly alumni and friends e-newsletter, and on the homecoming website at www.millikin.edu/homecoming.

It’s not business as usual.
Forty-six alumni and friends attended May’s Chicago Business Forum and Networking Luncheon, “U.S. Banking System: Down, But Not Out,” held at the University Club of Chicago, including Courtney Condon ’05 and Rosemarie Breske Garvey ’04.

At this year’s Chicago Business Forum and Networking Luncheon, a panel of banking experts discussed the crisis facing the U.S. banking system. From left: David Dixon ’83; panel moderator Dave Marshall, professor emeritus of accounting; Jim Esposito ’81; and Millikin trustee Van Dukeman.
It may have been cold, but it was fun.
Despite the rain and unseasonably cooler temperatures, several Millikin alumni and friends participated in the annual Decatur Penguin in the Park 5K race held in late March, hosted by John “The Penguin” Bingham ’70 of Runner’s World magazine. Bundled up for the event above are Jennifer Gawrysh, Tiffany Gawrysh and Kira Bulva Scherschel, all ’04.

Meet your new Alumni Association officers.
The Alumni Association board of directors gathered on campus in late spring to elect the new 2009-10 officers. From left: Jim Schwarz ’74, vice president; Chris Bullock ’90, president-elect; Case McGee ’98/MBA ’04, president; Terri Buckley Kuhle ’81, secretary.

Brotherly love.
Alpha Phi Alpha brothers and alumni gathered on campus in late April to celebrate the fraternity’s founders day, including Mylas Copeland ’92 and Anthony Biggs ’95.

Celebrating a century.
Several Tau Kappa Epsilon alumni and their families returned to campus in April to celebrate the chapter’s 100th anniversary. Among them, from left: Owen Bass ’99, Scott Venters ’97, Kelly Seamann Fusco ’99, Neal Fusco ’99, Kristin Harres Bass ’00.

Good friends, good food, good times.
In April, members of the Millikin Central Illinois Alumni (MCIA) group returned to campus for a luncheon buffet followed by their choice of Millikin musical or theatrical entertainment. From left: Dick Dechert ’54, Patsy Wieland ’54, Dave Rayhill ’58 and his wife, Carol.

Send us your photos!
Have a photo of you and your alumni friends getting together? Share it with the alumni office for possible publication in the magazine. Send your photos to Millikin Quarterly, 1184 W. Main, Decatur, IL 62522 or e-mail high resolution digital files to millikinquarterly@millikin.edu.
It’s my turn now; could it be your turn next?

Four times a year, we want to turn this space over to you. The readers of Millikin Quarterly magazine range in age from around 22 to 102 and have opinions on topics ranging from serious to humorous, unusual to mundane.

This is your invitation to send us your opinion – in 600 words or less – on a topic or issue that you know well. Maybe you want to tell the world about the value of being a stay-at-home mom. Maybe you have tips to share on how to enjoy a prosperous and fulfilling retirement. Maybe you just want to reminisce about a particular Millikin memory. This opportunity is wide open, so send us your opinion on a subject that is close to you. For each issue, our editors will select one of the best articles submitted and print it in this space. There is no limit to the number of articles you may submit.

Why should you do it? We can’t promise that you’ll make big bucks in writing for your alumni magazine, but we will give you more than a penny for your thoughts (actually a small stipend) and a big audience – more than 25,000 alumni and friends of the university are on our mailing list. And how often do you get the chance to tell 25,000 people exactly what you think?

This spring, I received a small golden lapel pin for working 15 years at Millikin. Immediately, I proudly pinned it on my collar and then promptly forgot about it, only to find myself pawing through the laundry basket that weekend trying to find it before it became a victim of the spin cycle.

In a way, that sort of sums up how I feel about the university. I’m proud of this place and its people. I cherish what we do here every day. This is a place where lives are changed; where students find out the how and why of what they want to do after they leave here. I’m surrounded daily by examples of this transformational process as students try out their knowledge and build their confidence through presentations and performances. I even love it when things don’t go so well, when students and faculty question administrative policies and even caustically probe why things are the way they are in the world, because at times a large part of learning consists of challenging the status quo.

I wear this place on my sleeve just as I wore that little pin on my collar, but – just as with that pin – I sometimes tend to take my Millikin experience for granted. So, just for the record, I’ve rummaged through my mental file cabinet to list just a few of the Millikinisms I don’t want to forget. When I’m old and feeble, wrapped in my Shilling Hall afghan and tapping my orthopedic shoes to the 100th anniversary musical collection of the Millikin Jazz Lab Band, I will remember these uniquely Millikin moments, among thousands of others:

- Backing away from Rob Prange ’97, then a student, as he attempted to explain his research on the Madagascar cockroach – while holding the biggest live roach I have ever seen – at one of the very first Undergraduate Research Poster Symposia. The symposia, led by Dr. Rene Perkinson, celebrated their 16th year this spring, and Rob, still in a teaching role, is the new principal of Decatur’s Johns Hill Magnet School.
- Standing in the rain to watch then Millikin President Curt McCray use a bulldozer to turn some earth at the groundbreaking ceremony for Dolson (formerly Oakland) Hall in 1996. It was my first Millikin groundbreaking ceremony, followed by ones for The Woods Apartments at Millikin, Leighty-Tabor Science Center, Pilling Chapel, an addition to Perkins Music Center and the Decatur Indoor Sports Center (DISC) at Millikin. Students aren’t the only things being transformed at Millikin – so are our historic campus facilities in order to serve the changing needs of a modern student population.
- Watching the late Bill Eichenauer ’51 and his wife, Nancy ‘53, cheering from the back of a 50th reunion trolley with their classmates during the 2001 Homecoming Centennial parade. No one had more enthusiasm or was more supportive of his alma mater than Bill. He led the Centennial Committee in planning the 100th anniversary celebration of Millikin’s...
Blackburn Hall

Blackburn Hall is home to 99 first-year students and is currently Millikin’s only all-female residence hall. Opened in 1965, the hall was named in honor of Bonnie R. Blackburn, a 1908 graduate and a 46-year faculty member of the department of foreign languages. Blackburn Hall once housed a 24-hour study area, learning enhancement center and computer lab on the first floor, but now this area is home to the Decaturian, Millikin’s student newspaper, which was most previously housed in the basement of the Percussion House (formerly known as the Corner House).

Did you know...?

- Women moved into Blackburn Hall in fall 1965 even though the newly constructed building was still missing shower curtains, air conditioning and room buzzers.
- Bonnie Blackburn served as one of the editors for the first edition of the Alumni Journal, a predecessor to Millikin Quarterly magazine published quarterly from 1920 to 1925.
- Decaturian staff members won eight awards at the annual Illinois College Press Association conference in February.
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Millikin Quarterly
25 years
1985-2009