GETTING FESTIVE: HOMECOMING 2008
FRONT COVER: Inset: Robert '46 and Charlotte Beesley Moorehead '47, who were named 2008 Alumnus of the Year, wave to the crowd after being recognized at the Homecoming football game; the campus statue with personality, Mr. B.B., gets ready out for the big weekend, thanks to some help from Millikin students.

ON THIS PAGE: Blackburn Hall, a women's residence hall.
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At left: Gorin Hall
Over the past several years, Millikin has seen a continuous progression of positive changes that have strengthened academic programs, increased our pool of talented faculty and staff, updated and improved the grounds and buildings of our physical campus, fortified our financial underpinnings, and completed the most successful capital campaign in the history of the university.

However, our university – along with the rest of the country – now must face the repercussions of a global financial crisis that will affect all of us, in ways both large and small. The near economic collapse of the U.S. financial market and the immediate rippling effect felt throughout the world’s economy has impacted higher education across the U.S. For students and their families, it has become more difficult to manage college costs, even as they tap into their savings and take advantage of what loans are available to them. Before this crisis, more than 97 percent of our students already relied on financial aid, including Millikin scholarships, to help fund their education. In the months ahead, scholarship support for deserving students – funded by our generous donors – will become even more vital to help keep those students in the classroom.

At institutions of higher education, the changing world economy is perhaps most keenly observed at this point in the decreased value of university endowments. Most universities rely heavily on a percentage of their endowments’ earnings to help drive annual operating expenses, including the scholarship support just mentioned. As a result, there is additional pressure on universities as they struggle to meet their students’ financial needs and balance their annual budgets in the face of this decline.

For Millikin, one bright spot has been the diversity of our endowment holdings. Although the university’s endowment declined approximately 8.7 percent in value since July 1, that’s still significantly less than the overall 17.7 percent average decline to date for the U.S. stock market. Millikin also has been blessed to receive gifts of farm property that have continued to increase in value and help stabilize the overall university endowment.

In addition, since I became president in 2003, we have reduced debt by nearly 45 percent, grown our endowment by nearly 50 percent (before the market decline) and increased faculty and staff salaries to more competitive levels. Despite this progress, our point of most vulnerability continues to be the fact that tuition alone accounts for 75 percent of our annual budget revenue.

However, in the midst of this concern and the current economic turmoil, there are positive signs to indicate that Millikin will continue as usual to attract students and draw support from alumni and friends. This fact, combined with our board of trustees’ strong engagement and personal commitment to the university, bodes well for Millikin’s future.

For example, the Millikin Fund, the donor-supported fund that provides a needed supplement to the university’s annual operating budget, continues to garner strong support. Gifts to the fund presently run ahead of last year, including donations designated for support of specific university priorities, such as student scholarships.

Here’s more good news. At present, applications from prospective fall 2009 freshmen have increased about 30 percent over last year. This significant boost is a welcome and encouraging sign, although we do have some work to do in the area of student retention. An aggressive effort is underway to implement plans to help more of our students successfully complete their education at Millikin and counteract a resulting decline in enrollment within the constraints of a volatile economic climate.

As a result, reductions are ongoing to the university’s fiscal year budget that ends in June. The next challenge is to create a balanced budget for the upcoming fiscal year despite continuing uncertainty about the impact of the economic downturn. It is imperative to put in place additional foundational financial elements that will enable the university to remain stable and meet our mission.

In the more than 100-year history of our university, there have been many challenges: wars, a depression, recessions and more. Through it all, Millikin leaders have remained clearly focused on the university mission while making the sometimes difficult decisions needed to secure the institution’s future viability.

This current economic situation will pass, but in the meantime, it will require a diligent and steadfast effort to maintain the positive momentum we have experienced, especially in recent years.

As we manage changes and adjustments in the allocation of resources, I know that the leadership of our trustees, administrators and faculty provides the combined intelligence to make the right decisions for this critical juncture and the resiliency to create an even brighter future for Millikin.

It is with great respect for the institution and its employees – those dedicated men and women who deliver on the promise of education for more than 2,400 students – that I rest my confidence in what lies ahead for Millikin. ●

“This current economic situation will pass, but in the meantime, it will require a diligent and steadfast effort to maintain the positive momentum we have experienced, especially in recent years.”

President’s Perspective

Douglas Zemke ’66, Millikin President
Students bring international flavor to campus department

The Tower of Pisa leans toward the window, as Michelangelo’s “David” gazes longingly toward the Colosseum, possibly listening to the operatic voices of the nearby Three Tenors. A couple dances the Argentinean tango near a mountain range, while, on the other side of the room, a French woman and the Eiffel tower exist in a world of their own.

These colorful, global images blend in Shilling Hall’s modern language’s lab in a mural dedicated to cultural awareness and education, the result of collaboration between Dr. Eduardo Cabrera, professor of Spanish, 13 graphic design-illustration students and their professor, Stephanie Augustine, former instructor of art. The students appear to have taken the Disney song, “It’s a Small World” to heart, with artworks reflecting cultures of the world.

“The purpose of the mural was to provide beautification for the area and to give students a sense of artistic style they would find in other countries,” Augustine says. “Dr. Cabrera was big on portraying certain elements that a student would experience in a different culture.” The mural, which spans the entire room, is a collage of famous landmarks and cultural references that encompass different courses of study in Millikin’s modern language department, including Spanish, French and Italian.

The color block design used for the mural was the creation of sophomore Elias Stein, a graphic design major from Decatur. His design was selected for the project following a class competition.

“Elias outlined everything from his design using a projector,” Augustine says about Stein’s work. “His designs were very accurate, so we didn’t have to do a lot of adjusting.”

“This was a good opportunity to apply some of what I had learned to my artwork,” Stein says. “As an artist, I had never done anything on such a large scale before. The process proved to be both challenging and rewarding.”

The modern language department, especially Cabrera, was particularly impressed by the students’ work and the mural’s impact.

“Many of our students haven’t had the opportunity to experience [these sights] for themselves,” Cabrera says. “Hopefully, this will give them the inspiration to go to these places and learn more about these cultures from direct experience.”

by Rachel Fry ’08
Faculty to hold art show

The art department will hold a biennial exhibit of the works of art department faculty members from Jan 12-30 in Parkway Gallery, Kirkland Fine Arts Center. Regular gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.

The exhibit is free and tickets are not required.

Kirkland Fine Arts Center: changing for a Web 2.0 world

For years, the Kirkland Fine Arts Center series has entertained the Millikin and Decatur communities, but more recently, the goal is something more: community involvement and education. This fall, Kirkland kicked off its new season with a world premiere: “DBR: Darwin’s Meditation for the People of Lincoln,” which combined an orchestra and rock-infused sound with musings on Darwin and Lincoln, two influential men born on the same day in 1809.

The performance set the tone for the theme for Kirkland’s newest season, “engagement through access,” which combines unique artists and ideas with community involvement. DBR’s performance ended with a 20-minute “talk back” session, where audience members could comment on and ask questions about the performance. “You’ve pierced my heart,” a female audience member told DBR.

“The world premiere of a new piece is a feeling the artist never gets back,” says Barry Pearson, dean of the College of Fine Arts. “The audience can really speak from the heart and their response can give the artist ideas about what they might rework.” The audience feedback gave DBR time to tweak the show before its October New York debut and national tour.

The “engagement through access” theme is aimed toward both older and younger generations. “Both older and younger groups want something special to take away from a performance,” says Pearson. “[The] Baby Boomer generation is interested in continuing to learn and grow and doesn’t want to be a passive audience.” Pearson hopes the idea of audience engagement will attract both groups back to the performing arts and help rebuild the audience base. Other events that Pearson hopes will excite audiences include Sweet Honey in the Rock (Feb. 10) and the Tango Decatur project (Feb. 21).

Sweet Honey, an all-female a cappella group, performs blues, spirituals, traditional gospel hymns, rap, reggae, African chants, hip hop, ancient lullabies and jazz improvisations.

Tango Decatur represents an effort for the category of “largest dance by couples,” with 1,100 couples. Pearson hopes the event attracts enough Millikin and community volunteers to join in the five-minute dance and challenge the current record.

“Tango Decatur is our big, grand-scale event for the year,” says Pearson. “We’re offering dance lessons and a chance for people to physically engage in a performance.”

Kirsten Williams ’07, a member of the Millikin dance team as an undergraduate, volunteered to assist with the dance lessons. “I’ve seen a side to the community I’ve never experienced before,” she says. “People young or old, knowledgeable in the ballroom or not, are coming together to learn something new.”

Kirkland’s efforts at community involvement are, Pearson believes, just one part of Millikin’s mission. “I believe in the power of the arts,” says Pearson, “and we’re discovering artists to help us in that mission.”

Learn more: www.millikin.edu/kirkland/ www.kirk-out.com/tangodecatur/

Art exhibit serves as joint learning project

Millikin’s Entrepreneurship Center and art department joined together to coordinate the exhibition and catalogue release of master printmaker Ray George this fall in Kirkland Fine Arts Center.

The exhibition and catalogue celebrated the life and work of Ray George (1933-2005), a master printmaker and art educator for 30 years.

Faculty and students in the art department put together the exhibit as an educational experience, cataloguing more than 2,400 works overall. The exhibit itself was made up of 31 selected works, with supporting material including ceramics, jewelry and printing plates, as well as personal tools from George’s home studio.

The catalogue was comprised of the selected works from the exhibit. Biographical commentary was written by Professor Ed Walker, chair of the art department, and the catalogue was published by Bronze Man Books, Millikin’s student-run publishing company.

The catalogue and select original Ray George prints are available for purchase at Blue Connection, Millikin’s student-run retail art gallery.

This cross-campus collaboration is part of the Entrepreneurship Center’s “Artist as Entrepreneur” program, which promotes self employment in art-related fields.
Helping Fido find a home
Dr. Rene Verry, associate professor of psychology, and her students did their part this fall to find good homes for furry friends currently housed in area animal shelters. Verry’s freshman university seminar class, appropriately titled “Pet Shelter Tales,” focused on the ethical issues in animal-human relationships, as well as an individual’s moral responsibilities towards animals. The class explored how their choices impact the quality of life for animals, children and the elderly. Students also were asked to reflect on the similarities between animal neglect and abuse vs. human neglect and abuse.

Through the course, students helped increase the adoptability of dogs and cats housed at Homeward Bound Pet Shelter and the Decatur-Macon County Animal Control & Care Center by conducting socialization and obedience training for the prospective pets. Lessons in creativity and frugality were part of the course, as students learned to make dog and cat toys using gloves, fleece and rope. The toys were used to increase socialization and reduce the stress of dogs and cats until they found permanent homes.

Brooks recognized
Dr. Randy Brooks, professor of English and acting dean for the College of Arts and Sciences, received runner-up honors from Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA) magazine for “Most Valuable Programs for 2008.” Brooks received the award for a series of haiku classes he taught at Centennial High School in Champaign, Ill. The program, “Haiku Cut: The Social Art of Kukai Competition,” took place over three weeks at Centennial High School in April 2007, and was featured in the October 2008 issue of VOYA. It was funded by the Centennial High School Library, Tepper Electric Arts Endowment and the Champaign Public Library.

MU and Parkland sign transfer agreement
Through a new agreement, Parkland College students interested in completing degrees in accounting, marketing and business management at Millikin now have a smoother path toward earning four-year diplomas.

Representatives of both schools recently signed an articulation agreement for these degrees, mapping out a transfer path for Parkland graduates seeking further education.

The two schools came together in order to better serve the needs of students by smoothing transfers, minimizing duplication of instruction and building on community college and university learning experiences. The agreement is twofold: Students who wish to earn a Millikin degree will be provided with a four-year plan in addition to automatic acceptance into Millikin baccalaureate degree programs.

Millikin joins 11 other four-year institutions that currently partner with Parkland to offer degree completion programs at Parkland’s campus or online.

This is not the first time Millikin and Parkland have worked together. Millikin’s Professional Adult Comprehensive Education (PACE) program currently offers early childhood and elementary education classes at Parkland toward completion of a bachelor of science degree.

For more questions on obtaining a Millikin business degree, call the Tabor School of Business at (217) 424.6285 or toll free at 1-800-373-7733, or submit comments online at www.millikin.edu/tabor/contacttabor.asp.

Science symposium hosted in January
High school science students, take note of this potential college-funding opportunity: Millikin is hosting a science symposium on Friday, Jan. 23, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Leighty-Tabor Science Center. The symposium is open to all Illinois high school students.

Participants are encouraged to make a poster describing their best AP science class work or independent science project. Entries are eligible to win up to a $1,000 Millikin scholarship.

Science symposium events include science fair competition, college lab experiments, an in-depth tour of Millikin’s science facility and observatory, faculty and student panel discussions, and lunch and an awards ceremony.

The symposium is free and open to all interested high school students with or without science projects. Registration is due by Jan. 16 and can be completed online at www.millikin.edu/sciencefair.
Recognize this building? Learn more about it and its predecessor beginning on page 10.
Lindsay Ippel meets Lindsay Medallion

Lindsay Ippel ’08 has received many awards for her skills on the basketball court, but this is the first award to bear her name. Ippel, a Decatur native and nursing major, was presented with the Lindsay Medallion on Nov. 1 in recognition of her outstanding performance on the Big Blue women’s basketball team. The medallion is named in honor of the late F. Merrill Lindsay, trustee emeritus, and his late wife, “Sis” Lindsay, community leaders and long-time Millikin supporters.

“Lindsay is truly one of the most gifted student-athletes to ‘wear the blue’ for Millikin,” says Lori Kerans, women’s basketball coach. “She quickly learned how to balance, prioritize, work and learn in a very busy, rigorous curriculum.”

During her career as a student athlete, Ippel received numerous awards and honors. A center for the women’s basketball team, she was named the ESPN The Magazine’s Academic All-District Second Team for the 2006-07 season. Ippel was twice named a D3hoops.com All American First Team selection, a WBCA State Farm All-America First Team member, the women’s D3 News Preseason Player of the Year and D3hoops.com’s Central Regional Player of the Year for both the 2006-07 and 2007-08 seasons. Ippel was also named the CCIW Most Outstanding Player in both her junior and senior seasons and was a three-time All-CCIW First Team selection; one of only two Big Blue players to earn that honor.

Ippel is Millikin’s all-time leading scorer for women’s basketball and the only Big Blue player to reach more than 2,000 points. Overall, she set 18 Millikin and eight CCIW records. As a junior, Ippel led all NCAA women’s divisions in scoring (25.9 points per game) and also led Division III in field goal percentage (.658). As a senior, Ippel again led Division III in scoring with a scoring average of 25.5 and was seventh in Division III field goal percentage.

Ippel earned NCAA championship status as a freshman when the Big Blue won the Div. III National Championship and Ippel was named to the All-Final Four Team.

Currently, Ippel is a registered nurse at Decatur Memorial Hospital, where she works in the intensive care unit.

Former coach remembered for his caring

A coach with an unending love for baseball and an inspiration to those who knew him — former Big Blue baseball coach Galen Woods died Sept. 25 at age 77. Woods, a University of Illinois graduate, coached the Millikin baseball team from 1974 to 1990, for a total of 192 total wins, including a conference championship in 1975. He had the longest career of any Big Blue baseball coach.

“He touched a lot of lives,” says Tim Littrell ’77, instructor of physical education and former Big Blue baseball coach. Littrell’s first year as a student and athlete at Millikin was also Woods’ first year as a coach, a partnership that lasted through Littrell’s senior year. “I truly enjoyed the four years I associated with Coach Woods,” he says.

Former player Mike Rowland ’75 of Scottsdale, Ariz., agrees, recalling the team’s 1975 CCIW title win. “We won the conference championship – not because we had the best talent but because we played with passion. That was due to Coach Woods,” he says. “You can always find someone to explain the mechanics, but you can rarely find someone who will work without regard for personal recognition, take on the tough tasks and lead.

“There are people in your life you do not want to disappoint – your parents and people you respect,” he says. “Coach Woods was one of those people.”

Woods influenced players on many different fields, not just at the Big Blue. He coached at every level of baseball at one point during his career, from Little League to the NCAAs. Woods even had his hand in independent-league baseball, as owner and manager of the Decatur Blues baseball team from 1996 to 2002.

“Coach Woods did it all, for the good of the players and for baseball, without thanks or adequate recognition,” Rowland says. “He did it because he cared.”

Away from the field, Woods worked as a salesman for Chem-Lube Corp. and during the Korean conflict, he served in the U.S. Air Force. “He was a truly well-rounded man,” Littrell says.

Woods is survived by his wife, Rita, and four children: sons Eric, Charley ’83, and Michael, and daughter Susan. Michael’s wife, Ellen Radcliffe Woods, is a 1974 Millikin graduate.
Men’s team takes down Division I foe

The men’s basketball team became the first NCAA Division III program to defeat a NCAA Division I team this season when they defeated Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville 70-59 on Dec. 4 in Edwardsville. At press time, Millikin was 8-0 on the season, the best season start for the men’s basketball team since 1919.

Millikin used a strong second half rally to rebound from a nine-point halftime deficit. With 17:35 left in the second half, the Big Blue trailed by 12 points. Millikin’s rally was keyed by some hot shooting and strong rebounding work. Millikin players shot 54 percent from the three-point line including hitting five of six three-pointers in the second half. Millikin also won the battle on the boards 41-31.

Big Blue sophomore Justin Thompson came off the bench to lead Millikin in scoring with 24 points. Thompson put Millikin ahead for the first time at 46-43 with a three-pointer at the 10:22 mark in the second half. Thompson had seven of 10 shooting for Millikin, including hitting all four of his three-point attempts and going six for six at the free throw line.

Important baskets down the stretch also came from several key Big Blue players, including Tunde Ogunleye, Mark Patrick, Joscar Demby, and Robert Burton. Ogunleye finished with 13 points and eight rebounds. Patrick had five points. Joscar Demby had eight points and six rebounds and Burton had six points and three rebounds.

Corey Mitchell was the Big Blue’s top rebounder with nine rebounds and three points.

SIU-Edwardsville, a provisional Division I team, falls to 2-6 on the season. The program is in the second year of transitioning from Division II to Division I.

The last time the Big Blue defeated a Division I opponent was in 1986-87 when Millikin downed Eastern Illinois University 90-77.
TOP: During the ’60s and ’70s, students gathered at the University Center to dine and socialize.

ABOVE: Nola Treat (left), class of 1907, and her long-time business partner, Lenore Richards.

LEFT: Students head to the newly opened University Center for a meal break.

RIGHT: The University Center was more than just a place to eat. Students used it as a campus “living room” to study, meet and relax.
The University Center: the campus living room

In early June 1959, construction began on two new buildings for the Millikin campus – Millikin’s first permanent men’s residence hall (Mills) and a new University Center, to replace the SUB, a converted former military mess hall used as a University Center. Construction was completed in September 1960 and the two buildings were dedicated during the 1960 Homecoming Weekend. That same night, the annual homecoming bonfire featured the incineration of the old SUB building.

Despite a complaint about its “lack of ‘homey’ atmosphere” in an Oct. 14, 1960, Decaturian editorial, initial reaction to the new University Center was positive. Students hoped that the center, which was close to the residence halls, library and Liberal Arts Hall (now Shilling Hall), would further “Millikin’s role as a campus community.” The University Center was a campus hub throughout the 1960s and 1970s, and served as a campus living room where students relaxed, studied, played games or conversed. On April 24, 1970, it even became the scene of student protest when members of For Soul Only, the black student group on campus, locked themselves into the basement of the University Center until the university committed to creating a black culture house on campus. They left the next day after agreeing to meet with administrators, and the cultural facility opened the next year in the lower level of the Old Gym.

By the late 1970s, the University Center was in need of a major overhaul, and when Nola Treat, class of 1907, offered gifts totaling nearly $1 million in 1977, construction began on the new Richards Treat University Center (RTUC), named in honor of Miss Treat and her long-time business partner, Lenore Richards, with whom she operated the Richards Treat Cafeteria in Minneapolis. RTUC was built around the old University Center and opened in August 1979. During its dedication week in October that year, the menu at RTUC featured an item each day taken from the book, “Quantity Cookery,” a cookbook written by the two women. (A copy of the book is in Staley Library’s special collections).

Like its predecessors, the SUB and the University Center, RTUC has served as Millikin’s living room for thousands of students as it approaches its 30th anniversary in 2009. And just like all living rooms, it will need updating to meet the current needs of its ever-changing residents. ● by University Archivist Amanda Pippitt and Archives Associate Todd Rudat
Scholarships allow legacy to live on

Walter Peiper of St. Louis devoted his career to helping youth succeed in life before his death on Jan. 25, 2008. It’s a generous legacy that will continue for generations to come through the Millikin student scholarship support established by the 1950 graduate and his wife of over 50 years, Gwendolyn Newbould ’50, a music major. They met in their freshman Spanish class, and “it was love at first sight,” she remembers. They were wed shortly after graduation, raised a son, and spent most of their married life in the St. Louis area, where Walter initially worked as an instrumentation engineer for McDonnell Douglas. Soon though, he was again drawn to serve underprivileged youth as he had during his time at Millikin. He completed a master’s degree in social work and served for 11 years as director of social service and later as acting superintendent for a school that served hundreds of disadvantaged and troubled inner-city teen boys. During his career, he also served as executive director for a treatment center for adolescent girls and a not-for-profit adoption agency as well as director for a center for disturbed adolescent boys and girls. He also taught graduate students at several area universities. Later, he and his wife established the Musical Arts Academy of Webster Groves, where she continues to teach private piano lessons today.

“He had a way about him that young people would gravitate to,” Gwendolyn says. “He was always an optimist, and they could tell he believed in them.”

When the couple decided to give back to their alma mater, it seemed only fitting that their gifts would be designed to help give young people opportunities to succeed. First, in 1978, they dedicated memorial gifts made in honor of her late parents toward establishing the Chalmer and Lulu Newbould Music Scholarship to assist deserving piano majors. “My mother was a piano teacher and musician, and she left a small amount to Millikin in her will,” Gwendolyn says. “We dedicated ourselves to add to it as we could toward creating the scholarship.” Through their persistence, the endowed scholarship grew and has provided benefits to numerous students in need of financial aid through the years.

After Walter died in 2008, Gwendolyn decided to set up a similar legacy to honor his life, asking that memorials be made to The Walter T. Peiper Scholarship at Millikin. Several memorial gifts have already been received, as well as her own support, along with the help of her son. She hopes that the fund will grow to the $10,000 level, where it becomes endowed and annual benefits are given to qualified students. Initially, Gwendolyn prefers that the scholarship will support Millikin students majoring in human services in recognition of Walter’s career, with the award alternating between human services and her field of music after her eventual death.

“Walter was so quiet and modest,” she says. “He didn’t need the fanfare.” Instead, a legacy of helping youth will continue in his name.
A gift that will last forever

An Endowed Scholarship Fund

Yes, I want to learn more about setting up an endowed scholarship at Millikin.

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Clip and mail to Millikin University, Alumni and Development Office, 1184 West Main Street, Decatur, IL 62522 or call toll free for information to 1-877-JMU-ALUM.
Don’t let digital dirt dash your dreams

by Pam Folger, Director of Millikin’s Career & Experiential Education Center (CEEC)

Facebook … MySpace … Friendster … Of the numerous social networking sites in use today, Facebook is the most popular among college students and young adults. According to Career TV, 85 percent of college students use Facebook. That adds up to 7.5 million college students with online profiles. Social networking sites can be a great way to stay connected to established friends or meet new ones (though it does give new meaning to what it means to be a friend – sometimes it is as little as giving someone who requests it access to your personal profile). However, they have also become a means for employers to research job candidates and dig up what is now commonly referred to as “digital dirt.”

More and more employers review online social networking sites such as Facebook as a part of the pre-interview screening process to conduct background checks on job candidates, often finding very personal information that can easily harm job prospects.

How many employers actually look at a candidate’s online profile? Estimates vary, but it’s clear this is becoming the norm for employers who heavily recruit Generation Y. According to CollegeRecruiter.com, 77 percent of employers use a search engine to uncover information on job candidates. Anywhere from 10 to 40 percent will view online profiles on sites such as Facebook. And of those who view online profiles on a social networking site, 35 percent report having dismissed a candidate due to what they found.

The top reasons for dismissing a candidate included evidence of excessive drinking or illegal drug use, inappropriate or provocative pictures, poor communication skills or bad-mouthing an employer or fellow employee.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers reported that more than 78 percent of employers who review social networking sites said the information they find there has some influence on their hiring decisions – positive or negative.

Five minutes on a candidate’s Facebook profile will often tell prospective employers far more about a job candidate’s character and judgment than time spent speaking to references. The job may be lost and the hopeful candidate may never know that it was his or her online profile that ruined a chance for employment with the company.

What does this mean for job seekers?

Use a little common sense and clean up your digital dirt! A good rule of thumb is to ask the question, “Would I let my mother or grandmother look at my online profile?” If the answer is no, then it’s time to clean it up. We can debate whether or not it is ethical or fair for an employer to use a social networking site to make hiring decisions, but why risk having pictures from last week’s party dash your hopes of landing your dream job? Do you really want to run that risk, especially with the recent economic downturn and uncertainty of today’s job market? After all, if the information is on the Internet, it is considered open to the public.

The good news is that employers are also using social networking sites to include job candidates in the hiring process rather than to exclude them. Ernst & Young, for example, uses Facebook as a means to recruit young talent and many other employers are following suit. It’s a smart recruiting move when you consider the extensive hours Generation Y spends online.

When used correctly, Facebook and other social networking sites give job seekers a positive online presence for professional networking and highlighting leadership skills, campus and community involvement, and other important attributes that could help you get hired. It’s also a great way to convey your personality, values and positive attributes to potential employers.

Once you land that dream job, continue to be cautious about your online presence and keep it professional. The same employers who screen online profiles may keep tabs on them as a way to track current employee behavior and what they may be saying about the company or its employees.

Don’t let digital dirt cost you the job once you get it. ●

Pam Folger, director of Millikin’s Career & Experiential Education Center, has more than 21 years experience in career and employment services, more than 10 of them at MU.
In fall 1908, a group of 14 male students chose to band together through the newly popular Greek system, sparking a movement that led to the university’s first nationally chartered fraternity, Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE). A century later, TKE will celebrate its 100th anniversary this April with a two-day centennial celebration.

On April 17, 1909, a banquet was held to officially declare the new Millikin chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon, designated as the Beta (second national) chapter. Illinois Wesleyan University became the Alpha chapter and three years later, the University of Illinois established a Gamma chapter, forming an equilateral triangle on the Illinois map, today known as the international TKE symbol.

Tau Kappa Epsilon served as a predecessor to Millikin’s Greek community, and many national and international fraternities and sororities joined soon after.

In the late 1940s, the chapter moved to their current home at 1225 West Main Street, directly across from Shilling Hall (at that time known as LA Hall). That move sparked growth, and during the 1960s, the Beta TKEs grew so rapidly in membership that they acquired the property adjacent to their chapter house and combined the two buildings. During the 1970s, it was common to see national headquarters name the Beta TKEs “Top TKE chapter,” the highest honor a chapter can receive.

As the April celebration of the Beta TKEs first century approaches, the members have begun to give their historical fraternity a fresh start for the chapter’s next century. Last year, the chapter received “Top TKE chapter” honors for the first time in over 20 years. Members also doubled their roster, recruiting 25 new members, including 10 dean’s list students, several student athletes and two Presidential Scholars.

“Our 100-year celebration is really the turning point for our fraternity in general,” says Basil Bakakos ’77, chairman of the Beta Chapter Alumni Association. “Without Beta, there wouldn’t be a TKE nationally.” During this year’s Homecoming celebration, both alumni and active members agreed that their experiences as TKEs were among the best four years of their lives. “The friendships I made and the knowledge I gained really converted me from an adolescent adult into a man,” Bakakos says.

On April 17-18, 2009, student and alumni TKEs are invited to gather for a centennial celebration, which will include a social gathering at the chapter house, an alumni golf outing and a banquet. Members of the Millikin community and representatives from TKE’s national headquarters will be represented.

“Our chapter is as strong as it’s ever been,” says current chapter president Pat Anderson, a sophomore from Elk Grove Village, Ill. “As we turn 100, we are very excited to celebrate with alumni and friends, especially at a time when our chapter is experiencing a great deal of success.”

TKE Founder’s Day
April 17-18, 2009, Millikin campus
For more information about Founder’s Day, visit www.betatke.org or call Pat Anderson at (847) 924-8645.
Forbes composes national renown in no time

Inspired by his passion for song, in just three short years Dr. Guy Forbes, associate professor of music, has composed seven choral ensemble pieces, with two of them already gaining nationwide recognition. It’s a perk that many composers don’t enjoy in a lifetime of writing music.

Indeed, his quick jump to acclaim is something of which he is keenly aware: “One of the things I’m most proud of is that all of the things I’ve submitted have been published,” says Forbes, who has taught at Millikin since 1995.

His rapid success as a composer is an unusual accomplishment in the slow-moving music publishing world, where it isn’t unheard of for pieces to linger more than year from submission to release.

In fact, the industry’s selectivity first deterred Forbes’ entry into composition, but the lure of voices raised in song eventually drew him in. “I like writing for just voices,” he says. “I’m a pianist but not a concert pianist. My principal instrument was voice, not piano.”

He has enjoyed his career specializing in voice but didn’t decide to try his hand at writing music until he was working on his master’s degree at the University of Florida. “I taught public school for 14 years in Florida,” he says. “I was always looking for quality repertoire, and it was always a difficult search.” His first piece, “Shenandoah,” was well received at its premiere performance by the university’s men’s glee club, but it would be nearly 20 years before Forbes put pen to paper again.

Between working on his dissertation, teaching a full-time course load and taking on various professional involvements, the years passed and composing just wasn’t part of the schedule.

But around 2005, Forbes decided composition was something he could no longer ignore. “It’s a passion,” he says. “Like all art, there’s a certain amount of drive to do it because it needs to be done. It’s one of those things that I do to put the cares of the world aside and immerse myself in something that doesn’t have deadlines or other pressures.”

Once he finally began putting notes on the staff again, the music poured forth. While composition certainly isn’t the fastest art (“Cantate Domino” came in a quick “couple of months”), Forbes found time for it between his many university responsibilities: serving as coordinator of music education and associate conductor of choirs, teaching senior-level music education classes, and conducting and directing the Freshman Women’s Ensemble and the Chamber Chorale, as well as his numerous professional association responsibilities.

A well-timed sabbatical gave him the opportunity to compose his three latest pieces, “Ubi Caritas,” “Magnificat” and “Cantate Domino.” “Magnificat” would be familiar to the audiences at the 2008 Vespers, where it was performed near the beginning of the concert.

Forbes attributes much of his productivity to the university’s dynamic environment. “Millikin is fortunate to have a large number of composers on a small campus,” he says. “Randy Reyman, John Stafford, Michael Engelhardt, Jeremy Brunk, Brad Holmes and Dave Burdick have all enjoyed notoriety, some of them worldwide. It’s a very exciting, vibrant atmosphere to be in.”

Seeing his work premiered by Millikin groups, including the University Choir, Women’s Ensemble, Chamber Chorale and Women’s Choir, is especially gratifying for Forbes. “It’s exciting to see how others interpret the work,” he says. “It’s a real reward to see your music appreciated and performed by others. It’s not the reason for writing, but it’s a really nice by-product.”

Forbes’ ability to bring words and music to life quickly gained him prestige. “O Nata Lux,” a Christmas piece loosely translated to “Light Born of Light,” took top honors in the 2006 Vanguard Premiers Choral Composition Contest and received the Editors’ Choice Award from JW Pepper Music, the country’s largest music distributor. His graceful setting of “Ave Maria” won the 2005 Roger Wagner Contemporary Choral Composition Competition, and Choral Journal, the profession’s premier publication, recently called the piece “a refreshing addition to the sacred repertoire” and “likely to become a contemporary classic for women’s ensembles.”

To hear Forbes’ music and learn more about his work, visit www.guyforbes.com or www.pavanepublishing.com/site/78. • by Joli Hohenstein
In Shakespeare’s “Hamlet,” Ophelia states, “Lord, we know what we are, but know not what we may be.” Professor Emeritus of English Dr. Richard Pacholski also didn’t realize what he could be before he came to Millikin. For 28 years until his 1998 retirement, plus three more years as a part-time faculty member, Pacholski had the opportunity to expand, not only the minds of many Millikin students, but his own. His interests in the arts and sciences and Millikin’s support of his exploration of new fields of study and travel have helped shape him, then and now. It’s a journey he’s still taking toward his boyhood dream of becoming something of a “Renaissance Man.”

“In my boyhood, through high school and into college, I stuttered,” Pacholski says. “At Millikin, I finally developed a voice of my own.”

Pacholski’s voice has echoed not only throughout Millikin but in learning communities around the globe. He taught nearly two dozen different classes during his tenure at Millikin, but his favorite courses — Shakespeare, Literature of the Holocaust, and Literary Approaches to Death, Dying and Bereavement — were also considered by many students to be his signature classes. His international travels, including a trip to Jerusalem to immerse himself in Holocaust scholarship, provided unforgettable learning experiences to share with his students. Many of them remember Pacholski as an accessible and supportive professor who invited students to his home to watch Shakespeare plays or discuss literary topics.

Father Nicholas Smith ’83 is one of those with fond memories of Pacholski. Smith was an assistant in the English department during his Millikin years and the two became good friends. “He was my favorite professor and a mentor to me,” Smith says.

Smith now teaches theology at St. Louis University, but he has never forgotten Millikin or his former professor. The two have stayed in touch, and in 2006 they collaborated to create the Smith/Pacholski book award, given to a sophomore or junior English major to assist with the purchase of textbooks.

“I think a lot of who I am today is the result of Millikin, and [Dr. Pacholski] really took me under his wing,” he says.

Pacholski may be on permanent vacation from formal work since his retirement, but he refuses to take a vacation from learning and teaching. He has been invited to lecture on many subjects locally and at universities, and he happily shares his knowledge. Last spring, for example, he served as a visiting scholar at Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, a connection made through his former Millikin student, Thomas Velek ’88, currently professor of history at MUW. While there, he taught classes in history and Shakespeare, conducted a colloquium on humanities as the core, the heart and soul, of a university education, and presented a controversial “International Series” lecture titled, “Why the Holocaust Should Matter to Americans, and Why It Shouldn’t.”

Pacholski has also been a guest speaker at Holocaust seminars and remembrance ceremonies and written several book reviews in recent years. Along the way, he makes time for relaxation and travel.

“As far as this retired person is concerned, all my time is free time,” Pacholski says.

Nevertheless, Pacholski still takes true delight in teaching. He reaches out, not just to Millikin students, but also to his community, including church groups, schools and professors in a wide variety of disciplines. His primary objectives are to express the interconnectedness of human experience and encourage empathy for humankind.

“I profess a commitment to relationships with other human beings marked by respect, compassion and benevolence,” he says. “This, I believe, was the most profound contribution I could make as a university professor, forming in my students a seedbed of altruism, the core value of human life.”
Curious about the interesting “Homecoming 2008” design at right? It’s a design from “chalk the walk,” an annual homecoming event at MU. During homecoming week, students sprawl designs for their organizations based on the homecoming theme on the sidewalks around campus and compete for the best chalk design.

**Pictured below, clockwise, from top:**
Herb Zuegel ’52, on his way to donate his beanie to the Millikin archives.
Four participants at the young alumni bags tournament. From left to right, Betsey Burkhart ’02, Kristin Trotter ’02, Kira Bulva Scherschel ’04 and Laura Zimmerman ’06
Betty Lou Conrad Lawhead and Marty Carlson Attaway, both ’48, check out the Bronze Man’s reading material.
Alumni practice their enunciation while singing during Alumni Choir rehearsal.
Center photo, from left to right, Jim Yeakley ’66, William Phillips ’71, Charles Currie, Cheryl Gary Currie ’68, Carol Black Phillips ’68 and Sharon Liston Yeakley ’68, enjoy the all-alumni luncheon.
The 2008 Millikin homecoming court: front row, from left to right, Jaclyn Weiseborn (Queen), Amanda Morse, Kristina Decker, Maura Spangler, Katie Gifford. Second row, from left to right, Alex Berry (King), Donnie Glowinski, Bill Ryan, Tom Heuer, Russ Boulton.
Millikin running back Brent Smith breaks a tackle.
Homecoming 2008: It’s their story

Hundreds came to remember and celebrate. Some came to share their stories and be honored, including the alumni on the next few pages.

2008 Alumnus of the Year
Robert “Bob” D. Moorehead ’46 and Charlotte Ann Beesley Moorehead ’47 of Olympia Fields, Ill., are co-recipients of the 2008 Alumnus of the Year award. Bob and Charlotte have demonstrated a strong commitment and dedication to Millikin for many years, both through service and generous financial support. The couple is a living example of Millikin’s mission to help prepare students for professional success, democratic citizenship in a global environment and personal lives of meaning and value.

Charlotte has volunteered extensively in her community, including spending more than 20 years assisting handicapped preschoolers at the Good Shepherd Center. She also helped organize the Chicago South Suburban Alumnae Club of Pi Beta Phi sorority and is a member of PEO. Both Bob and Charlotte have been active members of Flossmoor Community Church since 1952, where they have held numerous offices and responsibilities. The couple has traveled to 29 different countries, most recently to Chile in 2006.

The Mooreheads have endowed several scholarships at Millikin, including a 2007 gift to create a scholarship in memory of Bob’s father, Lee C. Moorehead, as well as earlier endowing the Geraldine and Everett Beesley scholarship in honor of Charlotte’s parents and the Winifred Moorehead scholarship in honor of Bob’s mother. They have also contributed to the Lee C. and Betty Birmingham Moorehead scholarship in memory of Bob’s brother, Lee. Bob and Charlotte also are generous supporters of the Millikin Fund.

Bob earned his bachelor’s degree in economics from Millikin, while Charlotte earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and the men’s tennis team. Charlotte was a member of Pi Beta Phi social sorority. Bob went on to earn his master’s degree in business operation and organization from the University of Illinois, and is retired from a career with Standard Oil of Indiana and Amoco. The Mooreheads have three children: Robert, Gerald and Ellen Moorehead Youstrah.

The couple, who met at Millikin as students, followed in the footsteps of an extensive family legacy by attending the university. Family members who are Millikin alumni include Charlotte’s parents, the late Everett ’12 and Geraldine Pletz Beesley (a 1908 graduate of the Academy); her uncle, the late Oscar Vernon Beesley ’16; Bob’s father, the late Lee Moorehead ’14, and his late mother Winifred Davis Moorehead ’41; Bob’s brother, the late Rev. Dr. Lee C. Moorehead ’41 and his widow, Betty Birmingham Moorehead ’42; and Bob’s sister, the late Rosemary Moorehead Barnwell ’35. Other Millikin graduates in the family include Bob’s nephew, David Bruce Moorehead ’68, his wife Joanne Abell Moorehead ’70, and Bob’s grandniece, Katherine “Katy” Moorehead ’05.

2008 Alumni Loyalty Award
Daniel Austin ’71 of Taylorville, Ill., is recipient of an Alumni Loyalty Award in recognition of his faithful service to Millikin and long history of community service.

Austin is an attorney at law and partner at Meyer, Austin and Romano P.C. in Taylorville. Last year, he completed a three-year term on Millikin’s Alumni Association board of directors, serving as president his final year. He has served as fundraising class agent for the class of ’71 numerous times, most recently in 2008, and was his class reunion chair in 2001 and 2006. Austin is a Career Connections volunteer, a Millikin phonathon volunteer and has also given several presentations on contracts at transition seminars held for graduating seniors. He and his wife, Ann Fisher Austin ’71, were co-presidents of Millikin’s parent board for the 1998-99 academic year when their daughter, Elizabeth Austin ’00, was a student. The Austins are also generous contributors to the Millikin Fund.

In 1993, Austin received the Outstanding Citizen Award from the Taylorville Chamber of Commerce. He is president of Christian County Crimestoppers and also serves as a member of numerous other boards, including the advisory board of directors for Bank One in Taylorville. Taylorville Memorial Hospital board of trustees and the Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) board of trustees, where he voted in favor of an articulation agreement between Millikin and LLCC making it easier for students to transfer from the community college to Millikin. Additionally, Austin served as president on various other boards, including the LLCC Eastern Region Advisory Board, Taylorville United Way, the St. Vincent Memorial Hospital Foundation, Taylorville Chamber of Commerce and the Christian County Bar Association.

A member of the Assembly of the Illinois State Bar Association, he was awarded the honor of “Illinois Leading Attorney” in 1999 and has been included in Who’s Who in America and Who’s Who in American Law.

Austin earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Millikin, and received his juris doctorate from Washington University in St. Louis in 1974. While at Millikin, he was a member of Student Senate and Kappa Sigma fraternity, where he served as scholarship chair. He also was named the T.W. Samuels Outstanding Pre-Law Student and was a member of the Order of Barristers. Austin’s sister-in-law, Carolyn “Sue” Fisher Boucek, is a 1968 alumna, and his cousin, Beverly Brown Warner, graduated in 1967.

John Cardamone ’86 of Bloomington, Ill., is the recipient of the Alumni Loyalty
Award in recognition of his faithful service to the university and outstanding community service.

Cardamone, a systems manager for State Farm Co. in Bloomington, is active in assisting Millikin through his career at State Farm. He has been instrumental in securing two generous gifts from State Farm to improve technology on campus and has helped host luncheons at the company for Millikin alumni who are State Farm employees.

In addition to his role as a campus recruiting manager, he has been instrumental in securing summer internships at State Farm for several Millikin students, as well as positions with the company. He also has coordinated three daylong student visits to State Farm, where students met with alumni employees to discuss career opportunities. In 2004, he spoke at a Tabor School of Business conference on the topic “Global Communication: Integrating Systems around the Globe.” In 2007, he helped coordinate an “Attracting Students to IT” conference hosted at Millikin, which targeted Central Illinois high school teachers and guidance counselors to raise awareness and provide suggestions for increasing student interest in technology.

An enthusiastic supporter of Big Blue athletics, particularly football, Cardamone serves as a member of the Big Blue Club Advisory Board and has hosted several tailgate and post-game events in Bloomington. Four years ago, Cardamone and fellow ’86 graduate Joe Godsil created and supported a plan to increase the membership of graduates athletes in the club. Cardamone is also a loyal phonathon caller, asking former Millikin alumni who are State Farm employees.

Cardamone earned a bachelor’s degree in applied mathematics from Millikin, where he was quarterback of the nationally ranked Big Blue football team, serving as co-captain his senior year. He is ninth in all-time passing for the Big Blue.

Cardamone and his wife, Susan Speers Cardamone ’90, have two daughters, Cayla, 13, and Caroline, 10.

2008 Alumni Merit-Loyalty Award

Luke Thornton ’50 of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., is the recipient of the Merit-Loyalty Award for his loyalty and dedication to Millikin and outstanding career in real estate development.

Thornton is owner of Thornton Enterprises in Florida and director and owner of Skateland in Brandon, Fla.

After serving in the U.S. Navy, he began his career in real estate with Equitable Life as an appraiser of commercial property in Chicago, before working for a mortgage banking firm in Chicago, and becoming a real estate developer. For 20 years, Thornton was responsible for the design, financing and construction of over 1,000 apartment units and several industrial complexes, office buildings and condominiums in the Chicago area. Recently, Thornton has begun developing properties in Decatur, including Mound Plaza Shopping Center and a Subway franchise, both on Mound Road.

Thornton is a generous and consistent donor to Millikin, and has contributed to the “Advancing the Vision: Millikin’s Second Century” capital campaign and the Millikin Fund. A Decatur native, he also established the Luke Thornton Endowed Scholarship in 2001 to benefit deserving freshman students from Decatur.

Thornton participates in various activities in Florida. He has been a member of the Sawgrass Country Club since 1985, serving on its finance committee and previously acted as the club’s governor. A summertime resident of Evanston, Ill., he has also been a member of the Westmoreland Country Club in Wilmette, Ill., since 1979. He was also a 20-year member of the Union League of Chicago, serving from 1960 to 1980.

Thornton graduated summa cum laude from Millikin with bachelor’s degree in history. While at Millikin, he was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity and Phi Kappa Phi honorary society. He and his wife, Barbara, have two grown children, Wendy and Tod.

2008 Alumni Merit Award

Gary R. Mormino ’69 of St. Petersburg, Fla., is recipient of a Merit Award for his outstanding career as an author and historian.

Mormino is director of the Florida studies program at the University of South Florida-St. Petersburg, where he is also the Frank E. Duckwall professor of history, a title he has held since 1997. He began his tenure at the University of South Florida in 1977, transferring from the university’s Tampa campus in 2003.

A recognized expert on the history of Florida, Mormino is former executive director of the Florida Historical Society. He is also a frequently published author and has written numerous articles and professional papers for scholarly journals. Currently, Mormino is a correspondent for the Tampa Tribune newspaper, contributing a bi-weekly history column. He has published several books, including “Land of Sunshine, State of Dreams: A Social History of Modern Florida” in 2005, which was awarded the Charlton Tebeau Book Prize by the Florida Historical Society in 2006. His other books include “Spanish Pathways to Florida, 1492-1992,” “The Immigrant World of Ybor City: Italians and their Latin Neighbors in Tampa, 1885-1985” and “Immigrants on the Hill,” in which Mormino discusses the St. Louis neighbors’ beginnings in Italy and Sicily to contemporary times, focusing on the Hill community’s cultural pride.

Mormino has been recognized for his excellence in both writing and history. In 2003, he received the Humanist of the Year award from the Florida Humanities Council. Additionally, Mormino received the D.B. McKay award for outstanding contributions to Florida history in 1991. In 1997, he received a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship from the Bellagio Center in Italy, and was named a Seaside Institute Fellow in 2007. In 2007, PBS aired “The Florida Dream,” a film based on his most recent book.

Several of Mormino’s other books have
“The Immigrant World of Ybor City,” was selected as the inaugural book in the “Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Centennial Series,” and received the Theodore Saloutos Prize for outstanding book on immigration history by the Immigration History Society. “Immigrants on the Hill” was selected as an outstanding book in Italian history by the American Catholic History Society. He is currently at work on two new books about Florida.

Mormino earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Millikin, where he was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity. He earned both a master’s degree and a doctorate from the University of North Carolina, in 1971 and 1977, respectively. His wife, Lynne Wheeler Mormino ’68, earned bachelor’s degrees in history and political science at Millikin, and was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority. The couple has two daughters, Amy and Rebecca.

2008 Young Alumnus
Matthew West ’99 of Franklin, Tenn., is the recipient of the Young Alumnus Award in recognition of his outstanding career in the music field.

West, currently a recording artist and songwriter for Sparrow Records, has released four albums, including his most recent album, “Something to Say,” which he is currently on tour promoting. Previously, he has toured with groups such as tobyMac and BarlowGirl.

Additionally, West’s first music video for his song, “Nothing Else,” recorded at the request of the Billy Graham Association, premiered last March in the organization’s television specials.

West’s career as a songwriter has been successful as well. He landed a songwriting contract in Nashville, Tenn., a couple weeks before graduating, which was a Millikin first, according to Dr. Stephen Widenhofer, director for the School of Music. West has written songs for a variety of Christian artists, including Natalie Grant and Point of Grace. He has also written songs for recording artists in other genres, including popular country group Rascal Flatts, former American Idol contestant Mandisa and country and Disney Channel star Billy Ray Cyrus.

West has received numerous accolades for his songs. His popular song “More” took the 2003 American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP) Christian Song of the Year award. West was nominated for four Dove Awards at the 2005 Gospel Music Association Awards, including Song of the Year, New Artist of the Year, Pop/Contemporary Recorded Song, Pop/Contemporary Album and Recorded Music Packaging of the Year, which he won for his first album “Happy.” He was nominated for two songs at the 2007 Dove Awards, including “Completely,” recorded by Ana Laura, for Inspirational Recorded Song of the Year and “Broken and Beautiful,” sung by Mark Schultz, for Pop/Contemporary Recorded Song of the Year. Most recently, his single, “You Are Everything,” was in the top 20 on Billboard’s Christian/gospel charts for more than 40 consecutive weeks, peaking at number one for several weeks last spring.

West earned a bachelor’s degree in commercial music from Millikin, where he was active in numerous student organizations, including InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Millikin Men and the Concert Choir. He also helped found the successful a cappella group Chapter 6.

West and his wife, Emily, have been married for five years and have a daughter, Luella “Lulu,” 2, and are expecting their second child this spring.

2008 School of Nursing Alumna of the Year
Ann Strieker Derrick ’83, R.N., M.S.N., of Springfield, Ill., received the School of Nursing Alumnus of the Year award at Homecoming 2008. Derrick has been assistant administrator and chief nursing officer at St. John’s Hospital in Springfield since 2007 and has worked at the hospital for more than 25 years. She began her career at St. John’s in 1983 as a staff nurse, and has worked in several capacities, including as supervisor of home health services and director of home health services. Prior to her promotion last year, she served as director of post acute care, medical and oncology services, and psychiatric services.

Ann earned her master’s degree in nursing from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, and her areas of expertise are community health nursing and administration. She is also licensed as a nursing home administrator in Illinois. She was an adjunct faculty member at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, Ill., for five years, instructing courses in community health, nursing theory, nursing research and leadership. She was vice president of the Illinois Home Care Council Board from 2000 to 2004 and was chair of the Illinois Hospital and HealthSystems Association’s home care constituency steering committee in 1999. She was also a member of the Association’s post acute care constituency steering committee from 2000 to 2007, and has served on the executive committee representing home care.

Ann is married to Jeff Derrick ’81, an internal auditor with the State of Illinois.

2008 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees
Bradley Cain ’96 of Peoria, Ill., was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame for his excellence in swimming.

A four-year letterman, Cain was Millikin’s Most Valuable Swimmer in 1995 and 1996 and was co-MVP in 1994. Team captain his junior and senior years, he still holds the Millikin record for the 500-yard freestyle (4:36.74 in 1995). He also set MU records for the 1650 freestyle (15:57.66) and 100-yard backstroke (54.87) during his Millikin career and the McIntosh Pool record in the 1000-yard freestyle. He competed all four years at the NCAA championships, where he was named All-American three years in a row, from 1994 to 1996, and received honorable mention in 1993. During the three years he was named All-American, Cain earned four All-American titles and three honorable mentions. He also earned Academic All-American honors in 1994.

Cain was named the CCIW’s Most Valuable Swimmer in 1995 and 1996, and shared the award in 1994. He is tied for second in CCIW history for most individual titles, with 11 total. Cain also held CCIW titles for the 500 and 1650 freestyle in 1993; 200, 500 and 1650 freestyle in 1994; 200, 500 and 1650 freestyle in 1995; and 200, 500 and 1650 freestyle in 1996. His senior year, Cain received the M Award, which was awarded to seniors who contributed the most to Millikin’s athletic program.

Cain, a native of Portage, Ind., earned a bachelor’s degree in management information systems from Millikin, where he was a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, the Millikin Marketing Association, Interfraternity Council and Order of Omega. He has served as the head official for Millikin swim meets since 1996. He is currently a certified information systems security professional and senior information technology analyst in information security for Caterpillar Inc. in Peoria, Ill.

Ronald Kurza Jr. ’89 of Naperville, Ill., was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame for his excellence in swimming.

Kurza won four CCIW individual titles in 1988 and 1989 (50-meter freestyle and 100-free) and was a member of the Big Blue team that won six CCIW titles from 1986 to 1989 in the 400-medley and 800-free relays. During his junior year, he was named All-CCIW in the 50-, 100- and 200-free; 400-medley; and the 200-, 400- and 800-free relay. He was a member of the Millikin team that won the CCIW team championship in 1987, 1988 and 1989. That team still holds the CCIW meet record for the 800-free relay, set in 1986, and the CCIW open record for the same event, set in 1988 with a time of 6:48.90. Kurza was named Most Valuable Swimmer in the CCIW in 1987, set the NCAA meet record in the 100-backstroke (48.80 in 1988) and was a member of the Big Blue team that won the NCAA championships in 1987 and 1988.
Millikin Athletic Hall of Fame 2008 Inductees

Brad Cain ’96
Ron Kurza ’89
Chuck Martin ’90
Bob Meyer ’01
Guy Neibuhr, coach
Mandi Podeschi ’02
Gerald Temples ’73
Walt Wessel ’69

Swimmer and served as swim team captain his senior year. He was also a member of the 1988 team that set Big Blue records for the 200-free and 400-free relay that still stand today. During his four years of swimming, he earned numerous national All-American Swimmer awards in both individual and relay events.

Kurza earned a bachelor’s degree in communication from Millikin, where he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity and served as its president and secretary. As a student, he also was president of Interfraternity Council and served as chairman for Greek Week, homecoming and his senior class. He was treasurer of Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, a member of the homecoming committee and yearbook staff, and was voted homecoming king. Additionally, Kurza served as a freshman camp counselor for Millicamp, which he co-chaired his senior year, and was inducted into Who’s Who Among American College Students.

After graduation, Kurza served as secretary of Kappa Sigma Housing Corporation and coached age group swimming. He is currently a member of the Naperville Waves Swim Club where he holds numerous team records and currently holds two national U.S. Masters Swimming records in the 400- and 800-freestyle mixed relays. He has served on the board of governors of the Millikin Club of Chicago for 10 years, and was reunion chair for the 10th and 15th reunion of his Millikin class in 1999 and 2004.

Kurza is currently operations manager in the electronic banking division for CheckFree, an affiliate of Fiserv. He has two children: Kendall, 10, and Evan, 7.

Chuck Martin ’90 of Hudsonville, Mich., was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame for his excellence in coaching and football.

Since his graduation from Millikin, Martin has held an impressive 15-year coaching career, highlighted by two back-to-back NCAA Division II national championships as the current coach of the Grand Valley State University Lakers, where he currently leads the winningest Div. II football program in the country.

Martin started his career as an assistant coach at Wittenberg College for two years before returning to the Big Blue to serve as defensive coordinator for the team from 1996 to 1998. He then served two years as assistant coach at Eastern Michigan University before being named an assistant coach at Grand Valley in 2000. He was named Grand Valley’s head coach in 2003 and since then has led the team to winning the NCAA national championships in 2005 and 2006, three consecutive undefeated regular seasons, a semi-finals appearance in 2007 and quarter-finals appearances in 2004 and 2008. Under his leadership, the Lakers set an all-time Div. II winning streak record of 40 consecutive wins, surpassing the old mark of 34. Martin was named the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Div. II Coach of the Year in 2005 and 2006 and AFCA’s Div. II Region 3 Coach of the Year in 2007.

As a Big Blue football player, Martin was a first team All-CCIW defensive back in 1989, a CCIW kicker in 1987 and a second team GTE Academic All-American from 1988-89. He was also a four-year letter winner and co-captain of the Big Blue team in 1989. In his football career, Martin had 97 tackles, two tackles for loss, three fumble recoveries, two interceptions, 89 of 97 points after touchdown, and 12 of 23 field goals.

At Millikin, Martin also played basketball as a student and was named co-MVP for the 1989-90 season, notching the best defensive record, most assists and most rebounds. Martin was also a member of the men’s baseball and golf teams.

Martin was first an auditor after graduating from Millikin, but next served three years at Wittenberg College as an assistant football coach, then another two years at his alma mater as defensive coordinator for the Big Blue football team, from 1996 to 1998.

Martin earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Millikin and a master’s degree in physical education from Mankato State University in 1993. While a student at Millikin, Martin was a Presidential Scholar and a resident assistant. He and his wife, Dulcie, have two children: son Max, 8, and daughter Emma, 4.

Bob Meyer ’01 of Algonquin, Ill., was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame for his excellence in football.

Meyer was named to the All-CCIW first team as a linebacker during his sophomore, junior and senior years, and was named to the second team his freshman year. In 1999, he was named CCIW co-defensive most valuable player of the year and two-time player of the week; Hewlett Packard second team All-American; and Football Gazette All-North Region All-American third team. During his senior year, Meyer was named All-American by Football Gazette, which also named him to its All-North Region first team, and he led the Big Blue in tackles with 79. In his career at the Big Blue, Meyer had 362 tackles (217 solo), 37 tackles for loss and led the Big Blue in tackles three out of his four years on the team. He also made seven fumble recoveries and six pass deflections. Meyer was named co-captain his junior and senior years and most valuable player his junior year. Additionally, he served on the Captain’s Council and was a fall sports mentor for two years.

Meyer played for the Peoria Pirates arena football team from 2002-03 and was voted the Pirates’ Most Inspirational Player. The Pirates won the Arena Cup in 2002, with Meyer leading the team in rushing yards and yards per carry. He also was voted a three-time recipient of the league’s “Built Ford Tough” Ironman award during the 2002 season.

Meyer earned his bachelor’s degree from Millikin in secondary education-exercise science. He has taught special education since 2003 and is currently a special education teacher for Rolling Meadows High School, where he also coaches the varsity defensive line for the football team. He and his wife, Rebecca, have a 1-year-old son, Joseph.

Guy Neibuhr of Decatur was inducted into the Millikin Athletic Hall of Fame for his excellence in coaching track, tennis and football at the university.
Neibuhr was head track coach for the Big Blue from 1974-78. During that time, he coached three CCIW champions: Kent Phillips ’76 and two-time champion Ken Russell ’78 in long jump and two-time champion Steve Schepper ’76 in 120 high hurdles. He also coached three CCIW champions during his career as head tennis coach from 1968-73: Rich Davis ’73, Steve Moline ’75 and Bill Wells ’75, each who notched the singles championships. For several of the years he served as head tennis coach, Neibuhr also served as assistant football coach, from 1967-78, during which time the Big Blue won three conference championships, in 1974, 1977 and 1978. In addition to his coaching duties, Neibuhr served as a member of the physical education faculty from 1973-1978.

Neibuhr earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Illinois State University, where he was a starter, four-year letterman in football and a member of the Illinois State Letterman Club. He also was a rifle coach for the U.S. Marines Corps. Immediately after graduating from ISU, he was hired to start the football program at Warrensburg-Latham High School, where as head coach he had a very successful tenure for six years.

Neibuhr currently owns a real estate and building company in Decatur. He and his wife, Marge, have three children: son Douglas Neibuhr ’75, who played football for his dad as a Millikin student and is currently the Big Blue’s head football coach, and daughter Sherry Neibuhr Thomas ’79, a middle school physical education and health teacher as well as cheerleading coach at Warrensburg-Latham High School, and son Jeff, deceased. Other relatives who attended Millikin include Sherry’s husband, Andrew Thomas ’78, and Neibuhr’s nephews, Michael Fombelle ’83, Kenneth Parker ’93 and Jason Spang ’01.

Mandi Landacre Podeschi ’02 of Mt. Zion, Ill., was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame for her excellence in track and cross country.

Podeschi is among the top 10 all-time Big Blue finishers in three track events: 10,000-meter run (1st), 5,000-meter (4th) and 3,000-meter (9th). She also ranks third all-time in the 5,000-meter and fifth for the 3,000-meter for indoor track.

Podeschi received the 2003 Lindsey Medallion, presented annually to honor outstanding Millikin student athletes. She was named Academic All-American her senior year, and was the C.W. Barnes Scholar-Athlete in 2001. She also received the Millikin University Senior Athletic Award in 2002, and was named Most Valuable Athlete in both cross country and track her freshman, sophomore and junior years. Podeschi was co-captain of cross country and track her sophomore, junior and senior years, and also helped organize volunteers for three national track meets held at Millikin.

Podeschi has coached the Staley Striders in cross country for 14 years and volunteers at junior and high school cross country and track meets, as well as the Decatur Park District’s summer and fall park runs. She was instrumental in creating the annual Penguin in the Park 5K race, and continues to serve as key organizer for the event. The race features nationally known Runner’s World magazine columnist, John “The Penguin” Bingham ’70, to benefit the Millikin Fund. She also coordinates with Bingham to host Millikin alumni competing in the Chicago Distance Classic half-marathon each year.

Podeschi earned a bachelor’s degree in secondary education-social science at Millikin and a master’s degree in history from the University of Illinois at Springfield. She was a James Millikin Scholar and earned numerous academic honors as a student, including the 2002 Albert T. Mills Award given to an outstanding history student.

Podeschi continues to serve her alma mater as associate director of development for Millikin’s alumni and development office. She is married to R.J. Podeschi ’02/ MBA ’04, senior database administrator for Millikin’s information technology department. Her two sisters, Lisa Landacre ’05/ PACE ’07 and Lori Landacre ’05, are also alumni, and her mother, Cindy Landacre, is administrative assistant to the dean of the Tabor School of Business.

Gerald Temples ’73 of Mattoon, Ill., was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame for his excellence in coaching.

A retired football coach and athletic director, his high school coaching record includes 12 playoff appearances as a head coach, as well as winning records of 20-9 record at Macon High School, 30-11 at Shelbyville High School and 62-48 at Mattoon High School, where he inherited a 28-game losing streak and had nine losses in the first season. Despite having the smallest enrollment in the Big 12, he rebuilt the Mattoon team, leading them to six playoff appearances, the Big 12 conference championship in 1999, and the semi-finals in 2003. Temples also served as head coach at Oakland High School for two years with an overall record of 22-7 and playoff appearances in 1982 and 1983, including reaching the semi-finals in 1983. He was defensive coordinator at Central A&M High School for the 1996-97 season, where he was able to help coach his son, Wes. That particular team finished second in Class 2A.

Temples was an assistant coach at Millikin from 1989 to 1996 under former Big Blue head football coach Carl Poelker ’68. During that time, he was also the Big Blue’s golf coach and led the golf team to two CCIW championships as well as second-place finishes in 1991, 1992, 1994 and 1996.

Temples is a member of the Illinois Athletic Directors Association, Illinois Football Coaches Association, Decatur Area Football Coaches Association, National Football Coaches Association, National Golf Association and served as chairman of the NCAA Golf Selection Committee.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in physical education, secondary teaching, from Millikin and a master’s degree from Eastern Illinois University. At Millikin, Temples played on the football team and was co-captain his senior year. He retired from coaching in 2008 and works at Daktronics, a scoreboard manufacturing and design company. He and his wife, Angela, have two children: daughter Kamala Temples Hefner ’97, and son Wes. His sister, Cheryl Temples Arnold Ritter ’76, is also a Millikin graduate.

Walt Wessel ’69 of Decatur was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame for his excellence in football and coaching.

In football, Wessel was co-captain of the 1967-68 and 1968-69 Big Blue football teams and was named Most Valuable Player for the 1967-68 season. He was also named an All-CCIW linebacker for both seasons and was named to the All-District 20 NAIA football team for the 1968-69 season.

Wessel was assistant coach for Millikin football in 1969. Additionally, along with Dr. Bill Bodamer, professor emeritus of religion, he helped start the men’s soccer program at Millikin in 1986 and served as assistant coach alongside head coach Bodamer from 1986-91. Under their leadership, the Big Blue finished with six wins and eight losses that first groundbreaking year, and the team finished third in the conference for two years in a row after only a year of playing in the CCIW.

Wessel earned his bachelor’s degree in secondary physical education and was president of the Independent Student Association while a Millikin student. After graduation, he taught in the Decatur area before spending two years in the U.S. Army, where he served as chaplain’s assistant and received the Army Commendation Medal. He began his professional career with Millikin in 1973 as an admissions counselor and has also served as assistant and associate director of admission and as dean of enrollment management. He has been university registrar since 1987 and has positively affected the lives of thousands of Millikin students, recruiting many of them to attend the university.

Wessel, a native of Barrington, Ill., has also served as a member of the school board for St Teresa High School in Decatur. He and his wife, Mary, have five children: Andrea Reeser Shaffer ’82, Joseph Reeser ’89, Aimee Reeser Duggar ’91, John Wessel ’98 and Katherine Wessel. ♦
HOMECOMING 2008 REUNION PHOTOS

Class of 1943
Row 1: Virginia Martin Weakly ‘42, Lucie Lorton Bollheimer, Betty Birmingham Moorehead ‘42. Row 2: John Weakly ‘74 (son of Virginia Martin Weakly), Harriett McDonald Douglass, Gerald Reece.

Class of 1958

Golden Anniversary Class

Did You Know?

At Homecoming 2007, the central campus greenspace between Shilling Hall and Kirkland Fine Arts Center was dedicated and renamed in honor of Dr. and Mrs. J. Roger Miller. Miller served as university president from 1971 to 1991, the longest presidential term in MU’s history.
Class of 1953

Class of 1963

Class of 1948
Did You Know?

During Homecoming 2003, Millikin concluded its centennial celebration with the opening of the “cornerstone box,” which had been placed inside the cornerstone in Shilling Hall 100 years earlier. The box contained, among other treasures, a copy of the Daily Herald newspaper, dated Sept. 22, 1901, and Millikin’s original charter.

Class of 1968

Class of 1978

Class of 1973
Class of 1983

Class of 1988

Did You Know?
Millikin held its first fall homecoming celebration in November 1915.
Class of 1993
Row 1: John Denham, Mary Abbott (wife of Brian Abbott), Brian Abbott, Golne Taylor Lawrence. Row 2: Tom VanHowe, Matt Fowler.

Class of 1998

Did You Know?
Millikin held 73 alumni events during Homecoming 2008.
Did You Know?

MU elected its first Homecoming queen, Jessie McKeown Miller, in 1937. However, the first homecoming king, Mark Kuhnke, was not elected until 1976.

Communications (Students of Dr. Stacy Myers 1972-79)
Row 1: Peggy Smith Luy ’75, Brenda Everman Wilcott ’76, Dr. Stacy Meyers, former communication department chair and professor; Jenifer Brucks ’79, Diane Metternich Flynn ’74. Row 2: Karla Brady Wilhelm ’80, Joyce Geisert Mazzotti ’79, David Brown ’75, Stephanie Markou George ’79, Barry Yontz ’74, Amy Weyand ’73, Donna Metternich Sternaman ’76, Lisa Ganschinietz Brandon ’78, Lisa Griebel ’78, Kevin McGreevey ’78.

Class of 2003
SAEs of the 1960s

Save the Date: Homecoming 2009, Oct. 16-18! Come join the fun next year!

Pictured above are a few candids from this year’s homecoming festivities. From left: Two friends enjoy the Alpha Phi Alpha BBQ and alumni, students and friends of color gathering; students create larger-than-life bubbles during the spirit games; Kristi Salmon Geggie ’83, Alumni Relations Director Jan Devore and Suzi Pearman Arp ’83, at Friday’s Alumni Awards Dinner and Athletic Hall of Fame Inductions. Dr. Devore was honored during Saturday night’s Casual Connection for her 30 years at Millikin. See more candids from the weekend at muhomecoming2008.shutterfly.com.
Blast from the Past

Check out these photos from some past Millikin holiday events! Know the stories behind them? We would love to hear them! Send your stories to Millikin Quarterly, 1184 W. Main, Decatur, IL 62522.

Christmas concert, circa 1930.

Cookie Party 2003, featuring faculty server Virginia McQuistion, reference library emeritus.

MilliSTAT members at the Alumni Association board of directors holiday party in 2004. From left: Karl Kruger ’05, Courtney Condon ’05, Amanda Russell ’05, Nate Towne ’06.
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
Spring Issue ...................... Feb. 1
Summer Issue .........................May 1
Fall Issue ............................... Aug. 1
Winter Issue ...........................Oct. 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-J MU-ALUM (568-2586).

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 22). 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.

An ornament you can pass from Generation to Genera-

Join in the 50th celebration of Vespers, Millikin’s annual holiday concert, with your purchase of a limited edition Vespers ornament, the fifth in an annual series honoring this university vocal tradition. The ornament, which was designed by senior graphic design student Chris Knudson, is available for sale for $15 at Millikin’s Blue Connection gallery in downtown Decatur during regular gallery hours. Take home a piece of a timeless tradi-

Blue Connection gallery (217) 428-0112
117 N. Water Street in Decatur’s Madden Arts Center millkinblueconnection.com
At first glance, a video game producer’s life seems more like that of a rock star: parties in Las Vegas, New York and Germany, the chance to collaborate with artists from MTV and pulling all-nighters. Look more closely, though, and you begin to see that the video game industry is a tough one, where only the strong survive for more than a few years.

John Podlasek ’88, now living in the Chicago area, stuck with it for almost 19 years, and his perseverance paid off: He was senior producer at Midway Games for the immensely popular “Mortal Kombat” games, including “Deadly Alliance,” “Deception,” “Armageddon” and the newly released “Mortal Kombat vs. DC.” Podlasek is currently senior product manager at Video Furnace, a company that enables organizations to securely deliver video over their network to any connected desktop, laptop computer or TV for live broadcasts and public addresses.

“I enjoyed being part of an industry that I grew up on pumping quarters into arcade machines,” says Podlasek. “At Midway, I was able to work and become friends with the original designers of the games I loved playing, like “Spy Hunter,” “Robotron,” “Defender” and “Smash TV,”” he says.

Creating some of the world’s most popular video games was no small task. As deadlines approached, Podlasek logged some serious hours at his desk. “I turned my office into a makeshift dorm room with a pull-out futon, coffee-maker, alarm clock and a few changes of clothes,” he laughs. Podlasek was sometimes forced to call in artists to make improvements on their games on weekend nights, and he created his own concoction to help them focus: “I brewed some super-strong coffee with Diet Coke mixed in the water to try and sober them up,” he says.

The long hours Podlasek worked didn’t earn him any overtime compensation. “You either [create games] for the experience and resume building, or because of dedication to the team and the game, which was the case with the Mortal Kombat series,” he says.

Still, the perks that came with his job helped make those late hours worth it. After the creation and release of “Mortal Kombat: Deception,” Podlasek attended a launch event on the rooftop of the Standard Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. “There were enormous projection TVs and a giant Mortal Kombat logo shining on the building next door like the bat signal,” he laughs. Another memorable event involved collaborating with Mike Judge, creator of movies and TV shows like “Ofiice Space” and “King of the Hill,” to create a Beavis & Butt-Head video game, a project that also involved Kurt Mitchell ’74, an artist, writer and illustrator. “We’d swap stories about Millikin and professor emeritus Marv Klaven, former head of the art department,” says Podlasek.

Podlasek says he learned several valuable skills at Millikin that helped him later in his career. “It sounds weird now, but back then there were only a few computers in the art lab because they were so expensive,” he says. “I liked spending hours of uninterrupted time learning all the tools and working on projects, so I had to develop my night owl skills.” Podlasek also met his wife, Karen Stegman Podlasek ’88, during his sophomore year. “[Our meeting] is a long, complicated story involving fire escapes and phone calls, but the short version is that we met at a party,” he laughs. “She’s an amazing woman with a great deal of patience for putting up with my years of strange hours and schedules.” The couple has two sons, fraternal twins Jack and Erik, 7. “Like most kids, they love video games, but they only get to play on weekends – and no Mortal Kombat fighting!”

● by Carol Colby ’08
Looking to reconnect with your Big Blue classmates?

Check out our alumni group on the social networking site Facebook! More than 1,000 alumni are already reconnecting; come join in at tinyurl.com/bigbluefb

More interested in professional networking? We’re on LinkedIn, too! Visit tinyurl.com/bigblueli and join the more than 100 Millikin alumni in our LinkedIn alumni group.

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

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.
What’s the perfect job for a guy who loves sports? For Patrick Kinas ’92 of Raleigh, N.C., it’s a career in sports broadcasting. Kinas is director of broadcasting for a professional minor league baseball team, the Carolina Mudcats, where he has anchored the team’s broadcasts for the past 10 years. During the team’s off-season, Kinas broadcasts games for North Carolina State University’s women’s basketball team in the Atlantic Coast Conference and is a television commentator for the East Carolina Pirates football and men’s basketball programs in Conference USA.

As Kinas (picture above - second from right - with several members of North Carolina State’s women’s basketball support staff) attests, there is no typical day in his career. He must remember and be able to recite details about each of several players and coaches. During interviews, he may broadcast while listening to the director feed information into his headset and count down to commercial breaks. “The concentration is intense, and I do my best to be a traffic cop – keeping all of the action and events flowing,” says Kinas. During one memorable game, while throwing batting practice to a former New York Yankee, he was hit in the side of the head by a baseball flying at 110 mph and almost dislocated his ear. “A trainer used Scotch tape to hold my ear in place, and I needed 13 stitches,” he said. Unfortunately, his intern had laryngitis, so Kinas continued broadcasting for five hours before receiving medical treatment!

In addition to broadcasting home games, Kinas travels with his teams to away games, either by charter bus or plane. “Basketball [air] travel with North Carolina State is terrific – busing onto the tarmac directly to the plane makes me feel like a rock star for a day,” he says.

Sometimes, the hectic schedule can hinder his social life and non-work related activities. “There are many things to love about working in this industry, but it’s a difficult life for family and other social events,” says the single Kinas. “There are no vacations, no long weekends, no holidays and no such thing as laryngitis.” Still, he wouldn’t have it any other way. “I love the bonds that are created through working in sports – I’ve had a chance to spend months with Hall of Famers, All-Stars, coaches and players,” he says, naming Tony Perez, Andrew Dawson and Miguel Cabrera among others.

A communications major at Millikin, Kinas says his experience as an undergraduate prepared him for the world of broadcasting. “I was lucky to have an interest [in broadcast] when I came to Millikin as a freshman, but the immediate opportunities given to me at WJMU radio by the late Jimm Seaney, then general manager, were invaluable,” he says. “Jimm brought me into the football booth my first fall on campus, threw a headset on me and I wound up calling games with him for the next four years.” Kinas also worked as a DJ for the station, enticing listeners to tune in to his show through various promotions – such as offering frozen Cornish game hens as prizes.

The faculty and staff at Millikin produced an environment that allowed him to flourish, Kinas says, leading to the career he has today. “Opportunities like those at WJMU simply do not exist everywhere,” he says. “It gave me a head-start that I

A cause for bowling

“I live my life by trying to help others and trying to do the right thing,” says Kinas. This commitment led him to participate in marathon bowling to raise money for the Sept. 11 Fund in 2001. Kinas shattered the Guinness World Record®, bowling for 34 hours and 23 minutes and raising more than $5,000 for Sept. 11 victims. “After it was over, my body collapsed for a couple of days,” he says. Though his record no longer holds, Kinas says it wasn’t about seeing his name in the record books. “I wanted to do my infinitesimal part in raising money for those who had their lives and families destroyed,” he says. In the future, he plans to attempt 100 hours of bowling in the hopes of raising $1 million to fight cancer.
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!

Something old, something new, something borrowed, something Big Blue!

James Brophy ‘06 and Courtney Primm ‘07, July 4. (See page 44 for class note.)

First row from left: Chad Howard ‘05, Justin Baer ‘08, David Marlow ‘09, Phil Rachal ‘07, Courtney Primm Brophy ‘07 (bride), James Brophy ‘06 (groom), Emily Fogler ‘07, Phil Koberlein ‘07, Kirsten Williams ‘07. Second row from left: Clayton Walker ‘05, RJ Meyer ‘04, Brian Wussow ‘07, Megan Stadick Mitchell ‘07, Monica Romo ‘07, Zach Uttich ‘07. Third row from left: Cassie Gonzalez ‘06, Sam Chwalek ‘08, Bob Jabaay ‘08, John Fueger ‘06, Stephanie Janecke Fueger ‘06, Nate Towne ‘06, Colin McCormick ‘06, Jon Mitchell ‘07.

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!
Liz Luttrell Conaway ‘05 is taking on the world of journalism, all by herself. Conaway is editor-in-chief of the Herald-Star weekly newspaper in Edinburg, Ill., serving as a one-woman staff for the newspaper’s production. She took over production of the paper from her grandfather, Glenn Luttrell, only a few days after graduating from Millikin in 2005. Glenn Luttrell had originally planned to sell the business but was glad to keep the Herald-Star in the family.

“My grandparents were thrilled that I was interested in following in their footsteps and had complete faith in me,” Conaway says. As the paper’s sole employee, she spends most of her time reviewing press releases, writing articles, designing layouts and selling advertisements. Fortunately, Conaway had plenty of experience in the field of journalism before her endeavors at the Herald-Star.

She graduated with a degree in English-writing and acquired four years of experience working for Millikin’s student newspaper, Decaturian. “I felt very prepared. Millikin had offered me a terrific education,” Conaway says.

After taking control of the Herald-Star, one of the first changes Conaway made as editor-in-chief was implementing computer publishing technology. “My grandfather printed the newspaper in-house on a web-fed Goss press,” Conaway says. “Now I lay the entire paper out on the computer and e-mail the finished product to a larger newspaper office in Taylorville, Ill., for printing.” Her subscribers immediately noticed the improvements made possible by computer technology. While Glenn Luttrell rarely included photographs due to the expense and difficulty, Conaway’s digital camera and computer layout made it simple to add color photos to the publication.

Using the new technology gives Conaway more free time to spend with her friends and family, including her husband, Justin (pictured with her at their wedding, above), whom she married in June 2007, and their dog, Olivia. She also coaches cheerleading for Edinburg High School.

Besides Conaway’s short-term goals of increasing circulation and continuing to provide an informative, relevant paper for the community, she seeks to expand her readership to a younger demographic. “I think it is very important for the younger generation to be educated as to what is going on around them,” Conaway says. She plans to work with the Edinburg school district to initiate a program that encourages local youth to read newspapers.

Taking on such a responsibility so quickly after college might have been overwhelming for some, but Conaway feels nothing but excitement for her position and the future of the paper. “My first few issues were definitely a learning experience,” Conaway says. “But now that I have gotten into the swing of things, I feel really confident about my job.” ● by Rachel Fry ’08

“I felt very prepared. Millikin had offered me a terrific education.”

Liz Luttrell Conaway ’05
Editor-in-chief, Herald-Star
Shrimp gumbo, shrimp scampi, fried shrimp...
Young alumni enjoy good food and fellowship at Fast Eddie’s restaurant in Alton, Ill., in November. Among those attending were, from left: Rachel Kirleis Huffman ’05, Darryl Laster ’05 and Larry Huffman ’03.

They went on a bike ride ... around Europe.
Several Millikin alumni and friends hiked along the Danube River last summer. First row, from left: tour host Mandi Landacre Podeschi ’02, associate director of development; Julie Petrucha Rincker; Carol Bond; Anne Heinle Edsall ’68. Second row, from left: Lori Landacre ’05; Lisa Landacre ’05/PACE ’07; Ruth Milhauser ’89, Jerilyn Beckley ’01; Monica Parker ’01. Third row, from left: Carl Milhauser; Jon Rincker ’07; RJ Podeschi ’02/MBA ’04, senior database administrator for Millikin’s information technology department; Brian Bond ’86; tour guide Sebastian Lotsch; Sam Edsall.

Care for dessert?
Alumni gather for a photo and refreshments at a November dessert reception in Indianapolis. A few of those who gathered included, from left: Carol Knoche Helmus ’90 and her husband, Mark Helmus; Charles Miller ’84 and his wife, Ellen Winchell.

Upcoming Events

**Monday, Jan. 12**
Chicago - 6:30 p.m. Millikin musical theatre students put on an evening performance featuring two new musicals at the Chicago Center for the Performing Arts, 777 Green Street. A $10 per person donation includes admission to both plays and light refreshments with a cash bar available. RSVP by Jan. 7 to the alumni office.

**Saturday, Jan. 17**
Decatur - Join the Millikin Central Illinois Alumni (MCIA) for an Italian buffet from 5 to 7 p.m. at Tuscany Steak and Pasta House, 1099 W. Wood, served between the Big Blue women’s basketball game vs. Illinois Wesleyan at 2 p.m., and the men’s basketball game vs. the Wheaton Thunder at 7:30 p.m., at Griswold Physical Education Center (special seating for our group). Attend both games or take your pick. Cost for buffet is $15 per person. To RVSP, visit www.millikin.edu/alumni/mcia_bball_buffet08.

**Sunday, April 19**
On campus - Join the Millikin Central Illinois Alumni (MCIA) for Sunday brunch in lower Richards Treat University Center, with entertainment from the School of Music. Cost is $12 per person. After brunch, you’re invited to attend your choice: A Department of Theatre and Dance production of “Romeo and Juliet” in Albert Taylor Theatre or a concert by the Millikin Symphonic Bands at Kirkland, both at 2 p.m. Ticket price for “Romeo and Juliet” is $8/11 (receive a 10 percent discount with your alumni association card), and the concert is free. Contact the Kirkland Box Office for tickets at (217) 424-6318 or visit www.millikin.edu/kirkland.
They visited the home of the Tango.
The Millikin group gathers for a photo in front of the Iguazú Falls during an alumni and friends trip to Argentina last May. First row: Erin Trader and Trisha Yardley. Second row, from left: Barry Lasswell ‘90; Heather Hoke ’03; Stan Jones ’52 and his wife, Roberta Jones; tour host Peg Smith Luy ’75, vice president for alumni and development; tour guide Eduardo Cabrera, associate professor of Spanish; Peggy Madden, Millikin trustee; Dick Phillips.

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

University Choir Tour 2009

» Friday, Jan. 2
Springfield, Ill. - 7:30 p.m. at Central Baptist Church, 501 S. Fourth Street.

» Saturday, Jan. 3
St. Louis - 7 p.m. at Manchester United Methodist Church, 129 Woods Mill Road, Manchester, Mo. Host families needed; call church at (636) 394-7506.

» Sunday, Jan. 4
Tulsa, Okla. - 7:30 p.m. at All Souls Unitarian Church, 2952 South Peoria. Host families needed; call church at (918) 743-2363.

» Monday, Jan. 5
Fort Worth, Texas - 7:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Ft. Worth. 1000 Penn Street. Host families needed; call church at (817) 335-1231.

» Tuesday, Jan. 6
Clovis, N.M. - 5 p.m. at St. James Church (Moore Hall), 1117 N. Main Street. Host families needed; call church at (575) 763-4638.

» Wednesday, Jan. 7
Taos, N.M. - 7 p.m. at St. James Episcopal Church, 208 Camino De Santiago. Host families needed; call church at (575) 758-2790.

» Saturday, Jan. 10
Albuquerque, N.M. - 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1100 Indian School Road NE.

» Friday, Jan. 16
Bloomington, Ill. - 7:30 p.m. at Second Presbyterian Church, 313 N. East Street.

» Saturday, Jan. 17
Wheaton, Ill. - 7 p.m. at College Church, 332 E. Seminary Avenue. Host families needed; call church at (630) 668-0878.

» Sunday, Jan. 18
Decatur - 7 p.m. University Choir tour finale concert at St. Patrick Church, 407 E. Eldorado.

You are invited to meet choir members following their performances.
Free will offerings will be accepted at most concerts.
For more information, visit www.millikin.edu/music.
Completed in 1970, Griswold Physical Education Center was named for the late John C. Griswold (at left) and his wife, Louise, who gave several generous gifts to Millikin, including a grant for construction of the physical education center in the late 1960s. The first event in the center, an exhibition game between two NBA teams, the Chicago Bulls and Cincinnati Royals, was held in October 1971. Today, the nearly 40-year-old building serves as the center of activity for the exercise science and sport program and houses athletic training facilities, the six-lane McIntosh Pool and a gymnasium that seats 3,052.
Every dollar makes a difference.

Millikin has provided me with many opportunities: a strong education, plus the chance to participate in Division III athletics, hold an executive board position, serve on numerous committees, volunteer and more. Your Millikin Fund gift helps fund scholarships for students like me, supports excellence in teaching and academic rigor, and upgrades to university facilities and technology. I ask for your assistance in helping the many students whose educations would not be possible without your financial support. Please consider contributing to the Millikin Fund this year. Your gift is greatly appreciated!

Molly Jennings ‘09
Athletic Training
Major

Your gift helps ensure a quality education for Millikin students by updating facilities and technology, bringing top faculty to campus, establishing scholarships and more. And Millikin is a good investment: the university spends less than 7 cents in fundraising costs for each dollar raised, well under the national average of 25 cents in fundraising costs spent to raise a dollar. At Millikin, more than 93 cents of each dollar raised goes directly to where it is needed most — to benefit students.

Give online at www.millikin.edu/gifts.asp

Mail to: Millikin Fund
Millikin University
1184 West Main Street
Decatur, IL 62522-2084
(or call us toll-free at 1-877-JMU-ALUM.)

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The influence of an alumnus with a large heart will live on at Millikin.

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