



**THE COACHING STAFF**



# TIM BECKMAN

HEAD COACH

FINDLAY, 1988

THIRD SEASON AT ILLINOIS

Tim Beckman begins his third season leading the University of Illinois football program. He was named the 23rd Fighting Illini head football coach by director of athletics Mike Thomas on Dec. 9, 2011.

Beckman helped the Illini double their win total in 2013 as the offense made dramatic improvements over 2012. Illinois's offensive unit jumped at least 50 spots in the national rankings from 2012 to 2013 in first downs, passing offense, long scrimmage plays, total offense, passing efficiency and scoring offense, with the biggest turnaround an 95-place jump in first downs per game.

Beckman's first Fighting Illini team produced four 2013 NFL Draft picks – OL Hugh Thornton (third round, Colts), DT Akeem Spence (fourth round, Buccaneers), DB Terry Hawthorne (fifth round, Steelers) and DE Michael Buchanan (seventh round, Patriots) – the most by any Big Ten team.

The Illini also have excelled in the classroom under Beckman's leadership. Twenty-one players earned degrees in 2014 after 16 did so in 2013 and 15 in 2012. For four consecutive semesters at least 40 football student-athletes have posted at least a 3.0 grade-point-average: 42 in fall 2012, a program-record 51 in spring 2013, 43 in Fall 2013 and 41 in Spring 2014. The Illini also have been active in the community, hosting free weekly youth clinics during the season and making regular visits to local schools and hospitals throughout the year.

Prior to Illinois, Beckman spent three years as head coach at Toledo, where he led the Rockets to two bowl appearances and a Mid-American Conference West Division co-championship.

Beckman engineered an impressive turnaround at Toledo in his three years at the helm after inheriting a team that went 3-9 in 2008. The Rockets improved to 5-7 in 2009 before going 8-5 with a 7-1 record in the MAC and a berth in the Little Caesars Pizza Bowl in 2010. Toledo posted an 8-4 record in 2011, including another 7-1 MAC record, a share of the MAC West Division title and a berth in the Military Bowl. In the last two seasons, Beckman compiled a 14-2 record in MAC games, second best in the conference over that span.

He has learned under some of the finest coaches in America, including Pat Dye, Urban Meyer, Mike Gundy and Jim Tressel. When he guided the Rockets to an 8-4 regular-season record and a bowl appearance in 2010, it was UT's first bowl since 2005. In addition, his last two recruiting classes at Toledo have been widely praised, earning a No. 1 ranking among MAC teams by Rivals.com in both seasons after landing two of the three four-star prospects signed by conference schools.



Beckman sent a pair of Toledo players to the NFL in defensive back Barry Church and receiver Stephen Williams in 2010. Three players earned first-team All-MAC honors in 2011, including Eric Page, who earned first-team honors as a receiver, kick returner and punt returner.

Before accepting Toledo's head coaching position, Beckman had 21 years of experience as an assistant coach. He served as the defensive coordinator at Oklahoma State (2007-08), the cornerbacks coach at Ohio State (2005-06), the defensive coordinator/assistant head coach at Bowling Green (1998-2004), the defensive coordinator at Elon (1996-97), the secondary coach/recruiting coordinator at Western Carolina (1990-95) and a graduate assistant at Auburn (1988-89).

Beckman's two seasons as the defensive coordinator at Oklahoma State were successful, as the Cowboys posted a

## THE BECKMAN FILE

### HOMETOWN

Berea, Ohio

### BIRTHDATE

Jan. 19, 1965

### FAMILY

Wife: Kim

Sons: Tyler and Alex

Daughter: Lindsay

### EDUCATION

Bachelor's degree, physical education  
– University of Findlay, 1988

Master's degree, education - Auburn  
University, 1994

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

University of Kentucky, 1983

University of Findlay, 1984-87

### BOWL GAMES

2010 Little Caesars Pizza Bowl

2007 Insight Bowl

2007 BCS National Championship Game

2006 Fiesta Bowl

2004 GMAC Bowl

2003 Motor City Bowl

1989 Hall of Fame

1988 Sugar Bowl

16-10 record, including a 9-4 mark in 2008 and an appearance in the Holiday Bowl. In 2007, the Cowboys went 7-6, including a win over Indiana in the Insight Bowl.

At Ohio State, Beckman mentored the Buckeye cornerbacks. During his stay at Ohio State, the Buckeyes were 22-3 and played in two BCS bowl games. Along the way, he coached six All-Big Ten defensive backs and five future NFL players. His final game as a coach with Ohio State was the 2007 BCS National Championship Game against Florida, where Beckman faced his former boss from his days at Bowling Green, Urban Meyer.

At Bowling Green, Beckman was a three-time nominee for the Frank Broyles Award, presented annually to the nation's top assistant coach. He was a finalist for the Broyles Award in 2001, and *College Football News* named him one of the country's top defensive coordinators. During his stay at Bowling Green, the Falcons won two bowl games, a MAC East division title and finished ranked in the national polls in 2003.

Beckman began his coaching career in 1988 as a graduate assistant at Auburn, where he earned his master's degree in education. His first full-time coaching job came at Western Carolina, where he coached the secondary and served as recruiting coordinator from 1990-95. Beckman then served as the defensive coordinator and recruiting coordinator at Elon College from 1996-97 before moving on to Bowling Green.

Beckman started his collegiate playing career at Kentucky but transferred to Findlay and excelled under Hall of Fame head coach Dick Strahm. A 1988 graduate of Findlay, Beckman majored in physical education and lettered in 1984 and 1985 on Oiler teams that qualified for the NAIA playoffs both seasons. Prior to that, he attended Forest Park High School in Beaumont, Texas, for two years before completing high school at Berea (Ohio) High School near Cleveland.

The son of longtime college and NFL coach Dave Beckman, Tim is a native of Berea, Ohio. He and his wife, Kim, also a Findlay graduate, have three children: Tyler, Lindsay and Alex. Tyler is a member of the Fighting Illini support staff, while Lindsay is a senior at Oklahoma State. Alex is a junior quarterback at Urbana High School.



The Beckman Family in Spring of 2012 (left to right): Tyler, Kim, Tim, Lindsay and Alex.

## THE BECKMAN FILE

### BECKMAN'S COACHING EXPERIENCE

2012-	Illinois (Head Coach)
2009-11	Toledo (Head Coach)
2007-08	Oklahoma State (Defensive Coordinator)
2005-06	Ohio State (Cornerbacks)
1998-04	Bowling Green (Defensive Coordinator/Assistant Head Coach)
1996-97	Elon (Defensive Coordinator/Recruiting Coordinator)
1990-95	Western Carolina (Secondary/Recruiting Coordinator)
1988-89	Auburn (Graduate Assistant)

### TIM BECKMAN'S HEAD COACHING RECORD

YEAR	SCHOOL	OVERALL	CONF.	CONF. FINISH	BOWL	FINAL POLLS
2009	Toledo	5-7	3-5	4th (West)	---	NR/NR
2010	Toledo	8-5	7-1	2nd (West)	Little Caesars	NR/NR
2011	Toledo	8-4	7-1	T-1st (West)	Military*	NR/NR
2012	Illinois	2-10	0-8	6th (Leaders)	---	NR/NR
2013	Illinois	4-8	1-7	5th (Leaders)	---	NR/NR
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5 YEARS</b>	<b>27-34</b>	<b>18-22</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2 BOWLS</b>	

*Polls listed as AP/Coaches*

*\*Led Rockets to Military Bowl berth but did not coach game*





Beckman and the Fighting Illini sing "Hail to the Orange" with the Block I student section after a win over Southern Illinois on Aug. 31, 2013.



Dave Beckman with sons, Tim (left) and Ted (right), during his coaching stint at Evansville.

### BECKMAN VS. OPPONENTS

Arizona	0-1	.000
Arizona State	0-1	.000
Ball State	3-0	1.000
Boise State	0-2	.000
Bowling Green	2-1	.667
Central Michigan	2-1	.667
Charleston Southern	1-0	1.000
Cincinnati	1-0	1.000
Colorado	1-0	1.000
Eastern Michigan	3-0	1.000
Florida International	1-1	.500
Indiana	0-2	.000
Kent State	1-0	1.000
Louisiana Tech	0-1	.000
Miami (OH)	2-1	.667
Michigan	0-1	.000
Michigan State	0-1	.000
Minnesota	0-1	.000
Nebraska	0-1	.000
New Hampshire	1-0	1.000
Northern Illinois	1-2	.333
Northwestern	0-2	.000
Ohio	1-0	1.000
Ohio State	0-4	.000
Penn State	0-2	.000
Purdue	2-2	.500
Southern Illinois	1-0	1.000
Syracuse	0-1	.000
Temple	1-1	.500
Washington	0-1	.000
Western Michigan	3-1	.750
Wisconsin	0-2	.000
Wyoming	0-1	.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>27-34</b>	<b>.443</b>

### BECKMAN YEAR-BY-YEAR

#### 2013 // University of Illinois (4-8, 1-7 Big Ten)

Aug. 31	vs. Southern Illinois	W	42-34
Sept. 7	vs. Cincinnati	W	45-17
Sept. 14	vs. 19/23 Washington (Chicago)	L	24-34
Sept. 28	vs. Miami (Ohio)	W	50-14
Oct. 5	@ --/25 Nebraska	L	19-39
Oct. 19	vs. 25/-- Wisconsin	L	32-56
Oct. 26	vs. Michigan State (Homecoming)	L	3-42
Nov. 2	@ Penn State	L	17-24 (OT)
Nov. 9	@ Indiana	L	35-52
Nov. 16	vs. 3/3 Ohio State	L	35-60
Nov. 23	@ Purdue	W	20-16
Nov. 30	vs. Northwestern	L	34-37

#### 2012 // University of Illinois (2-10, 0-8 Big Ten)

Sept. 1	vs. Western Michigan	W	24-7
Sept. 8	@ Arizona State	L	14-45
Sept. 15	vs. Charleston Southern	W	44-0
Sept. 22	vs. Louisiana Tech	L	24-52
Sept. 29	vs. Penn State	L	7-35
Oct. 6	@ Wisconsin	L	14-31
Oct. 13	@ 25/-- Michigan	L	0-45
Oct. 27	vs. Indiana (Homecoming)	L	17-31
Nov. 3	@ 6/-- Ohio State	L	22-52
Nov. 10	vs. Minnesota	L	3-17
Nov. 17	vs. Purdue	L	17-20
Nov. 24	@ Northwestern	L	14-50

#### 2011 // University of Toledo (8-4, 7-1 MAC West co-champs)

Sept. 1	vs. New Hampshire	W	58-22
Sept. 10	at 15/15 Ohio State	L	22-27
Sept. 16	vs. 4/4 Boise State	L	15-40
Sept. 24	at Syracuse	L (OT)	30-33
Oct. 1	at Temple	W	36-13
Oct. 8	vs. Eastern Michigan	W	54-16
Oct. 15	at Bowling Green	W	28-21
Oct. 22	vs. Miami (OH)	W	49-28
Nov. 1	vs. Northern Illinois	L	60-63

Nov. 8	vs. Western Michigan	W	66-63
Nov. 18	at Central Michigan	W	44-17
Nov. 25	at Ball State	W	45-28
Dec. 28	vs. Air Force*	W	42-41

\* Beckman did not coach Toledo in Military Bowl

#### 2010 // University of Toledo (8-5, 7-1 MAC)

Sept. 3	vs. Arizona	L	2-41
Sept. 11	at Ohio	W	20-13
Sept. 18	at Western Michigan	W	37-24
Sept. 25	at Purdue	W	31-20
Oct. 2	vs. Wyoming	L	15-20
Oct. 9	at 4/4 Boise State	L	14-57
Oct. 16	vs. Kent State	W	34-21
Oct. 23	vs. Ball State	W	31-24
Oct. 30	at Eastern Michigan	W	42-7
Nov. 9	at Northern Illinois	L	30-65
Nov. 17	vs. Bowling Green	W	33-14
Nov. 26	vs. Central Michigan	W	42-31
Dec. 26	vs. Florida International*	L	32-34

\* Little Caesar's Bowl, Detroit, Mich.

#### 2009 // University of Toledo (5-7, 3-5 MAC)

Sept. 5	at Purdue	L	36-52
Sept. 11	vs. Colorado	W	54-38
Sept. 19	vs. 11/11 Ohio State (Cleveland)	L	0-38
Sept. 26	at Florida International	W	41-31
Oct. 3	at Ball State	W	37-30
Oct. 10	vs. Western Michigan	L	26-58
Oct. 17	vs. Northern Illinois	W	20-19
Oct. 24	vs. Temple	L	24-40
Oct. 31	at Miami (OH)	L	24-31
Nov. 11	at Central Michigan	L	28-56
Nov. 20	vs. Eastern Michigan	W	47-21
Nov. 27	at Bowling Green	L	24-38



# TIM BANKS

**DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR / SECONDARY**

**CENTRAL MICHIGAN, 1995**

**THIRD SEASON AT ILLINOIS**

## THE BANKS FILE

### HOMETOWN

Detroit, Mich.

### BIRTHDATE

Dec. 16, 1971

### FAMILY

Wife: Robin

### EDUCATION

B.S., industrial management –  
Central Michigan, 1995

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Central Michigan, 1991-94

### BOWL GAMES

2011 Liberty Bowl  
2010 GMAC Bowl  
2008 Motor City Bowl  
2007 Motor City Bowl  
2006 Champs Sports Bowl  
2004 Gator Bowl

Tim Banks is in his third season as Illinois' defensive coordinator and also works with the Illini secondary. He was hired in January 2012 as part of Tim Beckman's first staff at Illinois.

Three players from the 2012 Illini defense were selected in the 2013 NFL Draft, with Akeem Spence going to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the fourth round, Terry Hawthorne being picked by the Pittsburgh Steelers in the fifth round and Michael Buchanan being selected by the New England Patriots in the seventh round.

Banks has spent the past six seasons as a defensive coordinator, two at Cincinnati as a co-defensive coordinator and the previous three at Central Michigan.

Under his guidance, the Bearcats improved 33 spots from 2010 to 2011 in the rushing defense national statistical rankings, from No. 39 to No. 6, and moved up 21 spots in total defense, from No. 63 to No. 42. Cincinnati led the nation in tackles for loss in 2011 after ranking No. 38 the year before and also ranked No. 2 nationally in sacks in 2011, up from No. 38 in 2010. UC improved 48 spots in scoring defense from No. 68 in 2010 to No. 20 in 2011 and jumped 110 spots in turnover margin from No. 119 in 2010 to No. 9 in 2011, largely as a result of forcing 33 turnovers in 2011 compared to 14 in 2010.

Cincinnati also improved 62 spots in pass efficiency defense from 2010 to 2011, moving from No. 106 to No. 44. After finishing 4-8 in 2010, the Bearcats rebounded to post a 10-3 record in 2011, including a win over Vanderbilt in the 2011 AutoZone Liberty Bowl.

Banks' 2009 Central Michigan defense led the Mid-American Conference in scoring defense (18.9), ranked second in rushing defense (122.8), third in pass efficiency defense

(117.4), and fourth in total defense (344.2) as the team went 12-2 overall and 8-0 in the MAC.

The Chippewas led the MAC in rush defense in both 2007 and 2008, and the 2008 defensive unit led the conference in sacks with 35.

Four players earned first-team all-MAC honors during Banks' tenure: linebackers Red Keith and Ike Brown in 2007 and linebacker Nick Bellore and defensive end Frank Zombo in both 2008 and 2009.

CMU generated five turnovers in a game three times during a two-season span, including a seven-turnover effort against Army in 2007. Cornerback Josh Gordy tied a school record with three interceptions in that game against the Cadets.

Following the 2007 season, Banks was invited to participate in the NCAA Expert Coaches Academy.

Prior to CMU, Banks spent four seasons at the University of Maryland (2003-06) before returning to his alma mater. He coached the Terrapins' secondary in 2006 after spending his first three seasons with the inside linebackers.

Under his guidance, linebacker D'Qwell Jackson was a two-time All-Atlantic Coast Conference first-team selection (2004-05), ACC Defensive Player of the Year (2005) and a Bednarik Award finalist (2005).

Jackson (Cleveland Browns) is one of three players Banks coached at Maryland who played in the NFL. The others are linebacker David Holloway (Arizona Cardinals) and cornerback Josh Wilson (Seattle Seahawks).

Prior to Maryland, Banks spent two seasons as an assistant at the University of Memphis (2001-02) and two years at Bowling Green (1999-00). At Memphis, the Tigers ranked ninth in Division I-A in pass defense in 2002 – his only season working with the cornerbacks.

Banks was a four-year letterman and two-time All-MAC second-team selection (1993-94) at Central Michigan. Banks was a co-captain for the Chippewas' 1994 MAC championship team and led the 1993 team in tackles with 105. He graduated from Central Michigan in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in industrial management.

## BANKS YEAR-BY-YEAR

2012-	Illinois (defensive coordinator/secondary)
2010-11	Cincinnati (co-defensive coordinator/defensive backs)
2007-09	Central Michigan (defensive coordinator)
2003-06	Maryland (defensive backs, 2006; inside linebackers, 2003-05)
2001-02	Memphis (defensive backs, 2002; outside linebackers, 2001)
1999-2000	Bowling Green (defensive backs, 2000; running backs, 1999)
1997-98	Ferris State (defensive backs)
1996	Bowling Green (graduate assistant)



# BILL CUBIT

**OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR / QUARTERBACKS**

**DELAWARE, 1975**

**SECOND SEASON AT ILLINOIS**

## THE CUBIT FILE

### HOMETOWN

Sharon Hill, Pa.

### BIRTHDATE

Oct. 14, 1953

### FAMILY

Wife: Nancy

Son: Ryan

Daughters: Stacey and Sheri

### EDUCATION

B.S., business administration –  
Delaware, 1975

M.S., education – St. Joseph's, 1981

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Delaware, 1971-74

### BOWL GAMES

2011 Little Caesars Pizza Bowl

2008 Texas Bowl

2007 International Bowl

1989 Freedom Bowl

1974 NCAA College Division runner-up

1971 Boardwalk Bowl

Bill Cubit is in his second season as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Illinois in 2014. He was hired in January 2013 following an eight-year stint as head coach at Western Michigan. Cubit led WMU to a 51-47 overall record and three bowls during his tenure in Kalamazoo.

Cubit guided the Illini offense to a dramatic improvement in his first year, as Illinois jumped at least 50 spots in the national rankings from 2012 to 2013 in first downs, passing offense, long scrimmage plays, total offense, passing efficiency and scoring offense, with the biggest turnaround an 95-place leap in first downs per game. His 2013 unit ranked third in school history in passing yards per game (287.7) and fourth in total yards per game (426.7) and points per game (29.7). Quarterback Nathan Scheelhaase posted the third-most yards of total offense in a season in school history under Cubit in 2013 and broke the school record for completion percentage.

Cubit's 2011 Western Michigan squad set records for points (459), touchdowns (58), pass attempts (554), completions (369), passing yards (4,385), total yards (5,960), offensive plays (945), first downs (320), passing first downs (204), kick returns (63), kick return yardage (1,409) and total return yards (1,658). In 2010, two of his receivers (Juan Nunez and Jordan White) topped 1,000 yards in receiving, before White earned consensus All-America honors in 2011 while leading the nation in receiving yards and receptions.

Cubit brings 33 years of coaching experience, including 17 years as a head coach on the collegiate and high school level. He also has spent eight years as an offensive coordinator at five NCAA Division I schools working the sidelines in five of the nation's premier conferences (BIG EAST, Big 12, Mid-American, PAC-10 and Southeastern).

Prior to returning to Western Michigan as head coach in 2004, Cubit served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach

at Stanford in 2003, directing a Cardinal offense that ranked 28th in NCAA passing (247.3 yards per game). Prior to his time at Stanford, Cubit served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Rutgers (2001-02) and at Missouri in 2000.

In his first stint at WMU from 1997-99, Cubit oversaw an offense that ranked in the NCAA Top 25 in passing offense, scoring offense and total offense in back-to-back seasons. In 1998, the Broncos were the nation's 20th-highest scoring team with an average of 32.7 points per game, and were 20th in the nation in 1999 with an average of 31.1 points per game. His quarterback during that period was Tim Lester, who finished fifth in NCAA career passing yards (11,299) and seventh in career touchdown passes (87).

Cubit's head coaching experience includes five seasons (1992-96) at Division III Widener University in Philadelphia, Pa. He led the Pioneers to a 34-18-1 mark, two Middle American Conference championships and a pair of NCAA Tournament appearances while twice being named conference coach of the year.

Other collegiate stops for Cubit include two years (1990-91) as running backs coach at Akron, a season (1989) as quarterbacks coach at Florida, three seasons as assistant head coach (1985) and the secondary coach (1983-85) at Central Florida and two years (1975-76) coaching running backs and receivers at Swarthmore College. As a high school coach, Cubit compiled a nine-year record of 79-15-2 at three different programs - Martin County (Fla.), Academy Park (Pa.) and his alma mater, Sharon Hill.

A Sharon Hill, Pa., native, Cubit (59 years old/DOB: 10-14-1953) earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Delaware in 1975. He played quarterback and wide receiver for the Blue Hens (1971-74), earning Associated Press All-America honorable mention in 1974. He also set school records for catches in a game (10) and a season (47), along with receiving yards in a season (787).

In 1981, he earned a master's degree in education from Saint Joseph's University. Cubit and his wife, Nancy, have three grown children: Stacey - who was married on March 3, 2007 - Sheri and Ryan, who is director of football student-athlete development for the Fighting Illini. Cubit also has three grandchildren.

## CUBIT YEAR-BY-YEAR

2013-	Illinois (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
2005-12	Western Michigan (head coach)
2003-04	Stanford (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
2001-02	Rutgers (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
2000	Missouri (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
1997-99	Western Michigan (offensive coordinator)
1992-96	Widener (head coach)
1990-91	Akron (running backs)
1989	Florida (quarterbacks)
1985	Central Florida (assistant head coach/secondary)
1983-84	Central Florida (secondary)
1975-76	Swarthmore College (running backs/receivers)



# MIKE BELLAMY

## WIDE RECEIVERS

### ILLINOIS, 1990

### THIRD SEASON AT ILLINOIS

Mike Bellamy begins his third season on Tim Beckman's staff and second in a coaching role, as he was promoted to wide receivers coach in February 2013 after serving one year as assistant director of player personnel and relations.

Bellamy molded an unheralded group of receivers into one that helped Illinois record the most total passing yards in a season in school history (3,452) and third-most passing yards per game (287.7). He guided Steve Hull's transition from defensive back to receiver in Hull's final season, helping him rank in the top 10 in school history in season receiving yards (993), season touchdown catches (seven) and season 100-yard receiving games (five). Hull also was the nation's most prolific receiver over the final four weeks of the season, posting 653 yards and six touchdowns on 40 catches (16.3 ypc) during that span.

In his role with the Fighting Illini in 2012, Bellamy coordinated all former player events, assisted with on-campus recruiting and recruiting mailings, helped coordinate the annual Illinois high school coaching clinic and coordinated all functions with Block I, fraternities and sororities. He immediately served as a bridge between Beckman's staff and former Illini players, coaches and staff across the country, building numerous relationships.

As a player at Illinois (1988 and '89), Bellamy was a second-team All-American and a first-team All-Big Ten receiver in 1989. He recorded 59 receptions for 927 yards and eight TDs for the Illini that season, the fourth-most TD catches in a season in school history and the ninth-most receiving yards. He also returned 16 kickoffs for 459 yards, an average of 28.7 that ranks second in school history.

Bellamy stands second in Illini history in career kickoff return average at 26.4 yards per return, and his 170 kickoff return yards against Indiana on Nov. 18, 1989, remain the single-game school record. He was named one of the top 10 receivers in Illinois history in 2008 and was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Hall of Fame in 2007 for his achievements at the College of DuPage in suburban Chicago.

After earning a bachelor's degree in speech communication from Illinois in 1990, Bellamy was a second-round selection by the Philadelphia Eagles in the 1990 NFL Draft, playing two seasons for the team. He also played for the Indianapolis Colts, Chicago Bears and Oakland Raiders from 1992-95 before playing for Frankfurt Galaxy of the World League in 1995-96, winning the World Bowl in 1996.

Bellamy came to Illinois after serving as the receivers and specialists coach at Clark-Atlanta University in 2011. Prior to that, was the passing game coordinator, receivers coach and specialists coach at Sprayberry High School from 2008-10. Bellamy has assisted at camps at Illinois, Virginia and Georgia State, as well as the 2010 and 2011 Under Armour Combine and the 2009 and 2010 Georgia High School All-Star game.

Following his playing career and before joining the coaching ranks, Bellamy and his wife, Tanya, built a successful business in the beauty industry in the Atlanta area. The couple has three children: Mike, McKenna and McKoy.

## THE BELLAMY FILE

### HOMETOWN

Chicago, Ill.

### BIRTHDATE

June 28, 1966

### FAMILY

Wife: Tanya

Sons: Mike and McKoy

Daughter: McKenna

### EDUCATION

B.S., speech communication –  
Illinois, 1990

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Illinois, 1989-90

### BOWL GAMES

1991 Hall of Fame Bowl

1990 Citrus Bowl

## BELLAMY YEAR-BY-YEAR

2013-	Illinois (wide receivers)
2012	Illinois (assistant director of player personnel and relations)
2011	Clark-Atlanta University (receivers/specialists)
2008-10	Sprayberry High School (passing game coordinator/receivers/specialists)





# TOM BRATTAN

## OFFENSIVE LINE

DELAWARE, 1972

## FIRST SEASON AT ILLINOIS

Tom Brattan is in his first year as the offensive line coach at Illinois after being hired in July 2014. He spent the last 13 seasons at Maryland, where he helped the Terrapins to eight bowl games. A 37-year coaching veteran, including 31 at the collegiate level, Brattan has been a part of record-setting offenses throughout his career.

In his 13 years with the Terps, Brattan produced five players who earned six All-America honors. His linemen also garnered 17 All-ACC laurels, including seven first-team accolades. He helped guide Maryland to eight bowl games and three consecutive 10-win seasons from 2001-03. He also helped the Terps break the school's single-season scoring record in 2001 and the single-season total offense record in 2003.

Brattan also has prepared a number of players for the next level with 18 former players reaching the NFL, including Bruce Campbell, a fourth-round choice of Oakland in the 2010 NFL Draft.

Brattan mentored four All-Americans in his first three seasons at Maryland, as Melvin Fowler (2001), Matt Crawford (2002), Todd Wike (2002) and C.J. Brooks (2003) all earned third-team honors. In 2007, Andrew Crummey notched second-team All-America accolades from Sporting News & third-team honors from Associated Press. And in 2005, Brattan mentored Jared Gaither to third-team Freshman All-America honors.

He produced three All-ACC honorees in 2008, including first-team pick Edwin Williams. While Crummey earned second-team All-America honors in 2007 and All-ACC laurels in 2006 and 2007. Brooks was a first-team All-ACC honoree in 2003, while Crawford and Wike were All-ACC first teamers in 2002. Wike and Fowler earned first-team All-ACC honors in 2001.

Brattan's offensive line opened holes for four of the top eight running backs in Maryland history and three of the top rushing seasons ever in College Park. Lance Ball piled up 2,487 yards from 2004-07, Bruce Perry gained 2,424 yards from 1999-2003, Davin Meggett posted 2,411 yards from 2008-11 and Da'Rel Scott gained 2,401 yards from 2007-10. In addition, Perry's 2001 season (1,242 yards), Chris Downs' 1,154-yard campaign in 2002, and Scott's 1,133 yards in 2008 account for three of the eight 1,000-yard seasons in Maryland history.

Prior to coming to Maryland, Brattan spent two years (1999-00) at Stanford, where he served as the Cardinal's line coach in charge of centers and guards. Stanford went 8-4 in 1999 en route to a Rose Bowl bid. The 1999 Stanford offense scored at least 31 points in all but three games and hit the 50-point plateau three times. That year, Brattan's offensive line allowed just 15 sacks in 385 passing attempts (one sack for every 27 attempts).

Brattan took his first full-time job at the collegiate level at William & Mary in 1983 as an offensive backfield coach. After just one season, he was promoted to offensive coordinator and served the remainder of his tenure (1984-91) in that capacity. He also worked with the offensive line at William & Mary. In that time, the Tribe advanced to the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs on three occasions. From 1986 to 1990, William & Mary earned national rankings in three seasons (No. 9 in 1986; No. 13 in 1989; No. 7 in 1990).

The success was largely a product of Brattan's offensive design as his unit ranked in the top 20 in offense in 1985 and 1986, while it had the top-rated attack in Division I-AA for the 1990 season and the sixth-best in '91.

Brattan took his success at the I-AA level to his next job, Northwestern, where he resided from 1992-98 as offensive line coach. In Brattan's first three years at the school, the Wildcats continued to struggle, pushing their streak of seasons without a winning mark to 23.

Then in 1995, the Wildcats were in the national spotlight as they came seemingly out of nowhere to win the Big Ten championship for the first time in 47 years and advance to the Rose Bowl where they ultimately fell to USC. They finished the year ranked No. 7 in the nation with a 10-2 mark. Brattan's line allowed just eight sacks all year while helping propel Darnell Autry to a new school rushing record. Northwestern finished fifth nationally in rushing.

The Wildcats posted a combined 15-1 league record in 1995 and 1996, taking the Big Ten crown both years after having won just five league games in the previous three years. In 1996, they earned a bid to play Tennessee in the Citrus Bowl.

Brattan got his start in coaching as a graduate assistant at his alma mater, Delaware, in 1972. After one year in Newark, he took his first full-time coaching post at Highland Springs (Va.) High School as an offensive line coach. After three years (1973-75) at Highland Springs, he moved back to his home state of Delaware and took his first head coaching job at McKean High School in 1977. He spent one year at McKean - the same high school that helped produce Maryland legend Randy White - before moving back to Virginia and taking over as the head coach at Lloyd C. Bird High School. After serving at Bird in 1978, he returned to Highland Springs -- this time as a head coach -- for his final four years (1979-82) at the prep level.

A native of Newark, Del., Brattan is a 1972 graduate of his hometown school where he earned his bachelor's degree in history and later earned his master's degree in education in 1977. He was a member of the Blue Hen football team, lettering in 1971. He and his wife, Anne, have three daughters, Kristen, Kate and Megan.

## THE BRATTAN FILE

### HOMETOWN

Newark, Del.

### BIRTHDATE

Oct. 14, 1950

### FAMILY

Wife: Anne

Daughters: Kristen, Kate and Megan

### EDUCATION

B.A., history – Delaware, 1972

M.S., education – Delaware, 1977

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Delaware, 1971

### BOWL GAMES

2013 Military Bowl

2010 Military Bowl

2008 Humanitarian Bowl

2007 Emerald Bowl

2006 Champs Sports Bowl

2004 Gator Bowl

2002 Peach Bowl

2002 Orange Bowl

2000 Rose Bowl

1997 Citrus Bowl

1996 Rose Bowl

## BRATTAN YEAR-BY-YEAR

2014-	Illinois (offensive line)
2001-13	Maryland (offensive line)
1999-2000	Stanford (offensive line)
1992-98	Northwestern (assistant head coach/offensive line, 1997-98; offensive line, 1992-96)
1983-91	William & Mary (offensive coordinator/offensive line, 1984-91; offensive backfield, 1983)
1979-82	Highland Springs (Va.) High School (head coach)
1978	Lloyd C. Bird (Va.) High School (head coach)
1977	McKean (Del.) High School (head coach)
1973-75	Highland Springs (Va.) High School (offensive line)
1972	Delaware (graduate assistant)





# GREG COLBY

## DEFENSIVE LINE

### ILLINOIS, 1974

### 10TH SEASON AT ILLINOIS (SECOND ON BECKMAN'S STAFF)

Greg Colby is in his second stint on the Fighting Illini coaching staff, returning to the Illini staff in 2013 to coach the defensive line after previously serving as an assistant at Illinois from 1988-95. Colby came to Illinois following a five-year stint as head coach at Millersville University, an NCAA Division II institution located in Millersville, Pa. He played both football and baseball for the Illini from 1970-74.

Colby is a 35-year veteran of the coaching profession, including 27 years as a collegiate coach and 10 years as a defensive coordinator at the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) level. He has been on staff for two Big Ten championships and 12 bowl games. In his nine years as a high school football coach, Colby won a pair of state championships.

Prior to his head-coaching stint at Millersville, Colby spent six years as defensive coordinator at Northwestern under Randy Walker and Pat Fitzgerald. During his time there, the Wildcats posted three consecutive six-win seasons for the first time in 70 years and six-win seasons in four out of five years for the first time since 1905. Northwestern appeared in the Motor City Bowl in 2003 and the Vitalis Sun Bowl in 2005.

During Colby's tenure, Northwestern won the American Football Coaches Association award for highest graduation rate four times. The Wildcats ranked second during the other two years Colby was there.

Prior to his time at Northwestern, Colby spent four seasons as the defensive coordinator at Kent State under Dean Pees, who is currently the defensive coordinator for the Baltimore Ravens. In 2001, Colby's defense ranked third in the Mid-American Conference and helped the Golden Flashes to its first winning season in 15 years.

Colby helped Michigan State to three bowl appearances from 1995-97 while coaching the defensive line, outside linebackers and serving as co-special teams coordinator under Nick Saban.

The Spartans played in the 1995 Independence Bowl, the 1996 Sun Bowl and the 1997 Aloha Bowl.

From 1988-95, Colby was assistant coach for outside linebackers and special teams at Illinois, helping the Fighting Illini to a Big Ten Championship in 1990 and six bowl appearances in seven years. He helped the Illini to a 53-38-3 record over that span, with trips to the Citrus Bowl, Hall of Fame Bowl, Holiday Bowl, All-American Bowl, Liberty Bowl and John Hancock Bowl.

Colby served as a graduate assistant at Michigan State from 1986-88, working with the defensive line and helping the Spartans to the 1987 Big Ten championship and a berth in the 1988 Rose Bowl.

That was preceded by a seven-year stint as a high school coach. He led Danville's Schlarman High School to consecutive IHSA Class 2A state championships in 1980 and 1981, compiling a 25-1 record. He then guided Naperville Central High School to a 24-13 record from 1982-85, including a conference championship in 1983.

As a student-athlete at Illinois, Colby was a three-year starter for both the Fighting Illini football and baseball teams, serving as captain of the baseball squad as a senior in 1974. He is a native of Danville, Ill., and graduated from Danville High School in 1970, where he was an all-state team captain for the football and baseball teams during his senior year.

Colby and his wife, Janet, have two sons: Matt and Mike.

## THE COLBY FILE

### HOMETOWN

Danville, Ill.

### BIRTHDATE

Feb. 25, 1952

### FAMILY

Wife: Janet

Sons: Matt and Mike

### EDUCATION

B.S., physical education –  
Illinois, 1975

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Illinois, 1970-73 (football)

Illinois, 1971-74 (baseball)

### BOWL GAMES

2005 Sun Bowl

2003 Motor City Bowl

1997 Aloha

1996 Sun Bowl

1995 Independence Bowl

1994 Liberty Bowl

1992 Holiday Bowl

1991 John Hancock Bowl

1991 Hall of Fame Bowl

1990 Citrus Bowl

1988 All-American Bowl

## COLBY YEAR-BY-YEAR

2013-	Illinois (defensive line)
2008-12	Millersville (head coach)
2002-07	Northwestern (defensive coordinator)
1998-2001	Kent State (defensive coordinator/defensive line/linebackers)
1995-97	Michigan State (def. line/inside linebackers/co-special teams coord.)
1988-95	Illinois (outside linebackers/defensive ends/special teams)
1986-88	Michigan State (graduate assistant (defensive line)
1982-86	Naperville (Ill.) High School (head coach)
1979-82	Danville Schlarman (Ill.) High School (head coach)
1978-80	Illinois (assistant baseball coach)
1977-78	Illinois (graduate assistant football coach)
1975	Illinois (assistant baseball coach)
1974-75	Illinois (graduate assistant football coach)



# ALEX GOLESH

**TIGHT ENDS / RUNNING BACKS / RECRUITING COORDINATOR**

**OHIO STATE, 2006**

**THIRD SEASON AT ILLINOIS**

## THE GOLESH FILE

### HOMETOWN

Dublin, Ohio

### BIRTHDATE

June 24, 1984

### FAMILY

Wife: Alexis

Daughter: Corbin

Son: Barrett

### EDUCATION

B.S., education – Ohio State, 2006

### BOWL GAMES

2011 Military Bowl\*

2010 Little Caesars Pizza Bowl

2008 Holiday Bowl

2006 Poinsettia Bowl

2005 Fiesta Bowl

2004 Alamo Bowl

*\*Did not coach in game after accepting position at Illinois*

Alex Golesh begins his third year on the Illinois staff as the tight ends and running backs coach, and recruiting coordinator. He came to the Illini from Toledo along with head coach Tim Beckman and assistant coach Mike Ward.

Golesh guided a productive group of tight ends that combined for 52 catches, 545 yards and eight touchdowns in 2013, including four touchdowns against Miami (Ohio), the most tight end TDs in a game in school history. He also helped punter Justin DuVernois to another solid season, as the junior posted a 41.1 yard-per-punt average with 10 over 50 yards and 13 downed inside the 20.

Golesh, who was named a top-10 recruiter in the Big Ten by Rivals.com in 2013, guided DuVernois to a strong sophomore campaign in 2012 as he ranked fourth in the Big Ten in punting with a 41.9 yard-per-punt average, with a long of 72 yards, 16 fair catches, 19 punts downed inside the 20 yard line and 15 punts of 50 or more yards.

Golesh was on Beckman's staff at Toledo for three years from 2009-2011, serving as both the tight ends coach and the recruiting coordinator. Golesh aided the UT program in securing the No. 1 recruiting class in the Mid-American Conference in consecutive years. The 2010 UT class was No. 1 according to Rivals.com, while both Rivals and Scout.com rated the 2011 class No. 1.

Golesh's tight ends served as key blockers in a Rocket rushing attack that ranked No. 3 in the MAC in both 2010 and 2011. In 2009, Golesh coached the running backs at Toledo, helping senior running back DaJuane Collins earn third-team All-MAC honors.

Prior to going to Toledo, Golesh spent three seasons as a graduate assistant, two at Northern Illinois (2006-07) and one at Oklahoma State. Golesh worked with the outside linebackers at Oklahoma State in 2008, helping the Cowboys to a 9-4 record and a berth in the Holiday Bowl. At NIU, Golesh worked for one season assisting with the secondary and one season with the offensive line, helping the Huskies make the 2006 Poinsettia Bowl.

Golesh got his start in the coaching business as a student assistant coach while attending Ohio State as an undergraduate. He spent two-and-a-half years aiding the Buckeyes' defensive coaches, with responsibilities that included working with the defensive line and helping to break down film. During his time at Ohio State, the Buckeyes claimed the 2005 Big Ten Championship and went on to earn a victory in the Fiesta Bowl over Notre Dame. OSU also posted a win in the 2004 Alamo Bowl over Oklahoma State.

Golesh also spent one year as a defensive line coach in a first-year football program at newly opened Westerville Central High School in 2002.

Golesh was born in Moscow, Russia, but grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y., and Dublin, Ohio, where he was a three-year letterwinner in football at Dublin Scioto High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in education from Ohio State in 2006. He and his wife, Alexis, had a daughter, Corbin, in May 2011, and welcomed a son, Barrett, in July 2014.

## GOLESH YEAR-BY-YEAR

2012-	Illinois (tight ends/running backs/recruiting coordinator, 2014; tight ends/specialists/recruiting coordinator, 2012-13;)
2010-11	Toledo (tight ends/recruiting coordinator)
2009	Toledo (running backs/recruiting coordinator)
2008	Oklahoma State (graduate assistant)
2006-07	Northern Illinois (graduate assistant)



# TIM SALEM

## SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR

### ARIZONA STATE, 1985

### THIRD SEASON AT ILLINOIS

#### THE SALEM FILE

##### HOMETOWN

Minneapolis, Minn.

##### BIRTHDATE

Oct. 1, 1961

##### FAMILY

Wife: Wendy  
Sons: Taylor and Landan  
Daughter: Kylan

##### EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree — Arizona State, 1985

##### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Arizona State, 1983-84  
Minnesota, 1980-82

##### BOWL GAMES

2010 Liberty Bowl  
2009 St. Petersburg Bowl  
2007 Liberty Bowl  
2005 Hawaii Bowl  
2001 Outback Bowl  
1999 Sugar Bowl  
1998 Sugar Bowl  
1990 Freedom Bowl  
1987 Rose Bowl  
1985 Holiday Bowl

#### SALEM YEAR-BY-YEAR

2012-	Illinois (special teams coordinator, 2014; running backs/special teams coordinator, 2012-13)
2004-11	Central Florida (tight ends/special teams coord., 2009-11; offensive coord./running backs, 2007-08; offensive coord./receivers, 2006; offensive coord./tight ends, 2005; offensive coord./quarterbacks, 2004)
2003	Eastern Michigan (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks/kickers)
1997-2000	Ohio State (quarterbacks, 1997-99; quarterbacks/wide receivers, 2000)
1991-96	Purdue (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks, 1994-96; quarterbacks, 1991-93)
1989-90	Colorado State (running backs/special teams)
1987-88	Phoenix College (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
1985-86	Arizona State (graduate assistant)

Tim Salem is in his third season at Illinois as the special teams coordinator. He also coached running backs in 2012 and 2013. He was hired in January 2012 as part of Tim Beckman's first staff at Illinois.

Salem oversaw dramatic improvements in the Illini's punt return unit in 2013, as Illinois ranked 16th in the nation after standing 118th in 2012. Return man V'Angelo Bentley became the first Illini to return both a punt and a kickoff for touchdowns in the same season, and he ranked sixth nationally in punt return average with 15.8 yards per return.

Salem also guided a group of running backs that featured Josh Ferguson, who broke the school record for receiving yards by a running back in a season with 535 and also led the Illini with 11 total touchdowns.

Salem came to Illinois from UCF, where he helped guide the Knights to four bowls in eight seasons. Most recently, he spent three seasons as the Knights' tight ends coach and special teams coordinator. Salem served the previous five years as UCF's offensive coordinator.

With Salem leading the way in 2011, UCF once again boasted one of the top kickoff return units in the nation. The Knights jumped into the top five thanks in large part to true freshman Rannell Hall, who was the lone freshman to earn first-team All-Conference USA honors. In fact, Hall became the third Knight in the last four years to serve as the All-C-USA first-team kick returner (Joe Burnett in 2008, Quincy McDuffie in 2010).

UCF's special teams units also excelled in 2010, propelling the Knights to the top season in program history. UCF went 11-3, won seven games in C-USA play, claimed the league title and defeated Georgia in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl. The Knights led the nation in kickoff returns, ranked third in kickoff return defense and 12th in punt returns to rank as the No. 2 overall special teams unit in the country. McDuffie ranked second nationally in kickoff returns, while Josh Robinson was eighth in punt returns. McDuffie garnered All-C-USA first team honors for his special teams play, while Robinson was a second-team pick.

UCF's special teams units were a strength in 2009, as well. The Knights ranked fifth nationally in punt return defense, 10th in kickoff return defense and 13th in kickoff returns.

As offensive coordinator in 2007, Salem guided UCF to one of the best seasons in program history. Behind a high-powered offense, the Knights won 10 contests, claimed the C-USA title for the first time and participated in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl. UCF broke several school records in 2007, including points (502), touchdowns (62) and rushing yards (3,287). The Knights averaged 35.86 points per game, which ranked 17th nationally.

Salem also served as the program's running backs coach in 2007, guiding Kevin Smith to one of the best seasons in college football history. The consensus All-America tailback and C-USA Co-Offensive Player of the Year rushed for 2,567 yards, second-most in a season in NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision history, and scored a nation-best 29 rushing touchdowns. Smith was selected by Detroit in the third round of the 2008 NFL Draft.

In 2006, Salem coached UCF's receivers while serving as offensive coordinator, and the Knights ranked 30th nationally in passing offense (233.8 ypg) and 34th in total offense (373.2 ypg). Receiver Mike Sims-Walker thrived in Salem's system, garnering first-team All-C-USA honors after averaging 7.5 receptions, third-most in the country. Sims-Walker was selected by Jacksonville in the third round of the 2007 NFL Draft.

Several Knights posted impressive campaigns in Salem's offense during the 2005 campaign, in which the Knights won the C-USA East Division championship and participated in the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl. Smith was named the league's freshman of the year, while receivers Brandon Marshall and Sims-Walker combined for 2,050 yards and 20 touchdowns.

Prior to working at UCF, Salem was the offensive coordinator, quarterbacks coach and kicking coach at Eastern Michigan in 2003, where he mentored Lou Groza Award finalist Andrew Wellock.

From 1997-00, Salem was the quarterbacks coach at Ohio State, where he coached Joe Germaine to the 1998 Big Ten Player of the Year honor. Germaine threw for more than 300 yards in 10 games that season, compiling 3,330 yards and 25 touchdowns with only seven interceptions while leading OSU to an 11-1 record.

Salem also worked at Purdue for six seasons as the quarterbacks coach, while also serving as the offensive coordinator for three years. The Boilermakers led the Big Ten in rushing in 1995. Prior to Purdue, Salem spent two years at Colorado State (1989-90) as the running backs and special teams assistant coach and two seasons at Phoenix College (1987-88) as the offensive coordinator, quarterbacks coach and assistant athletic director.

A 1985 graduate of Arizona State, Salem began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at his alma mater for two seasons. Salem began his collegiate playing career at Minnesota, where he broke the Big Ten record for consecutive pass completions in 1980, before transferring to Arizona State for the 1983-84 seasons.

Salem is a native of Minneapolis, Minn., and starred at the prep level at St. Thomas Academy. His father, Joe, was the head football coach at Minnesota from 1979-84. Salem and his wife, Wendy, have three children: sons, Taylor and Landan, and daughter, Kylan.



# AL SEAMONSON

## OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

### WISCONSIN, 1982

### SECOND SEASON AT ILLINOIS

## THE SEAMONSON FILE

### HOMETOWN

Stoughton, Wis.

### BIRTHDATE

Sept. 7, 1959

### FAMILY

Wife, Kristi

Daughter: Kylen

Sons: Calvin and Karter

### EDUCATION

B.S., physical education/coaching  
K-12 – Wisconsin, 1982

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Wisconsin, 1978-81

### BOWL GAMES

2010 Military Bowl

2008 Humanitarian Bowl

2007 Emerald Bowl

2006 Champs Sports Bowl

2004 Gator Bowl

2002 Peach Bowl

2002 Orange Bowl

1985 Peach Bowl

1984 Hall of Fame Bowl

1982 Independence Bowl

Al Seamonson is in his second season as the outside linebackers coach at Illinois. He was hired in February 2013 following coaching stints at Central Florida, Maryland, Bowling Green State, The Citadel, Army and Wisconsin. Seamonson, who spent the 2011 coaching linebackers at UCF, works with the “LEO” and “Star” positions at Illinois.

Seamonson helped LEO Houston Bates earn honorable mention All-Big Ten honors in 2013 after ranking ninth in the conference in TFLs per game (1.0) and standing second on the team with 12.0 TFLs on the season.

In 2010, Seamonson helped Maryland go 9-4 and conclude the season with a No. 23 national ranking in the Associated Press Top 25 and a victory over East Carolina in the Military Bowl. He spent his first eight years in College Park working with the Terrapin outside linebackers before taking over as the coach for all linebackers in 2009. He served as a special teams assistant throughout his time under Ralph Friedgen and also was the Terps’ defensive coordinator for the end of the 2008 season.

A 1982 graduate of Wisconsin and a two-year letterwinner at wide receiver, Seamonson got his start in coaching in Madison. In 1982, he served as a volunteer coach for Wisconsin’s wide receivers. The next two years, he was a graduate assistant working with the secondary.

Seamonson’s first stop after leaving Wisconsin was at the U.S. Military Academy (Army) in West Point for the 1985 and ’86 seasons, helping the Cadets to a 31-29 Peach Bowl victory over Illinois in 1985. From Army, he moved to The Citadel, where he helped coach five linebackers to All-Southern Conference honors and one (J.J. Davis) to an appearance in the Senior Bowl. The highlight of his tenure was in 1992 when the Bulldogs led Division I-AA in scoring defense, yielding just 13.0 points per contest en route to a Southern Conference championship and their third berth in the I-AA playoffs in five years.

In 2000, Seamonson coached at Bowling Green State under Gary Blackney and along with Tim Beckman, Tim Banks and Mike Ward,

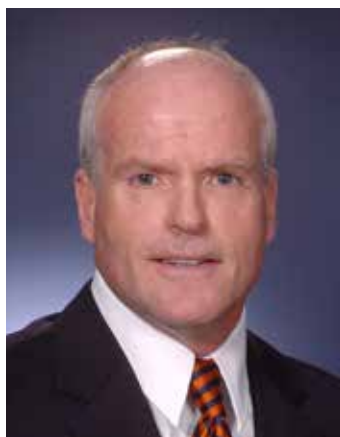
helping the Falcons rank fourth in the MAC in rushing defense and total defense. He then spent 10 years at Maryland, working mostly with strong-side linebackers and the LEOs (linebacker/end option). Seamonson had a hand in grooming most of the six Terrapin linebackers who went on to NFL careers, including All-Pro Shawne Merriman. In 2003, Maryland finished sixth in the nation in scoring defense and 15th in total defense. In 2011, he was on the staff at Central Florida with current Illini running backs coach and special teams coordinator Tim Salem.

A native of Stoughton, Wis., Seamonson was a wide receiver at Stoughton High School and was a captain for the all-state shrine team in 1977. He and his wife, Kristi, have three children: Kylen, Calvin and Karter.

## SEAMONSON YEAR-BY-YEAR

2013-	Illinois (outside linebackers)
2011	Central Florida (linebackers)
2001-10	Maryland (linebackers/special teams, 2009-10; OLB/special teams, 2001-08)
2000	Bowling Green (linebackers/special teams)
1987-99	The Citadel (special teams/linebackers/wide receivers)
1985-86	Army (linebackers)
1982-84	Wisconsin (grad. asst. defensive backs, 1983-84; vol. wide receivers, 1982)





# MIKE WARD

## INSIDE LINEBACKERS

### GEORGETOWN COLLEGE, 1984

### THIRD SEASON AT ILLINOIS

Ward is in his third season at Illinois after joining the Fighting Illini staff as an assistant coach in December 2011, coming to Champaign from Toledo along with head coach Tim Beckman and assistant coach Alex Golesh.

A 21-year veteran of the coaching profession, Ward's two pupils — Jonathan Brown and Mason Monheim — finished in the top three on the team in tackles with 119 and 97, respectively, in 2013. Brown earned second-team All-Big Ten honors, as he ranked second in the conference in tackles and fourth in tackles for loss (1.3 per game, 15.0 total), while also totaling 5.0 sacks and four PBUs. Monheim had 6.5 TFLs and one sack on the season.

Ward guided Monheim to a stellar freshman campaign in 2012, as the rookie linebacker earned second-team Freshman All-America honors from Phil Steele after leading the Illini and all Big Ten freshmen with 86 tackles.

Prior to coming to Illinois, Ward was the assistant head coach and co-defensive coordinator on Beckman's staff at Toledo from 2009-11 and was instrumental in the rapid development of the Rockets' defense. The last two seasons, the Toledo defense ranked among the national leaders in turnovers forced and turnover margin. In 2010, the Rockets forced 34 turnovers, the fifth-highest takeaway total in the nation and 13 more than the previous season. That total included 20 interceptions, the eighth-most in the country. In 2011, Toledo forced 28 turnovers and had the third-best turnover margin in the nation (1.33).

The defensive turnaround helped propel Toledo to an 8-5 season and its first bowl appearance in five years in 2010, and an 8-4 season, a share of the MAC West Division title and a berth in the Military Bowl in 2011.

Ward, who coached the linebackers, also helped guide five players to All-MAC honors in 2010 and 2011.

Prior to coaching at Toledo, Ward spent 17 years as an assistant at Bowling Green, including five years working with Beckman (2000-04) and the final two as the defensive coordinator. He began as the program's strength coach from 1992-99 before coaching the defensive linemen from 2000-06 and serving as the defensive coordinator in 2007-08. From 2000-08, Ward coached one All-American, one Academic All-American and nine All-MAC performers. The Falcons had six winning seasons and played in three bowl games during that span.

Prior to becoming a Falcon, Ward was an assistant football coach and strength coach at his alma mater, Georgetown College, for two years. Ward earned a bachelor's degree in health and physical education from Georgetown in 1984. He later earned a graduate degree in secondary education from Georgetown. As a player at Georgetown, he earned second-team NAIA Division I All-America football honors as a guard in 1983.

After completing his education at Georgetown, Ward was an assistant football coach at the University of Findlay for six years. He served as the linebacker coach and the strength and conditioning coordinator for the Oilers before leaving to join BGSU in 1992.

A Mansfield, Ohio, native, Ward attended Mansfield Lexington High School. He is certified by the National Strength and Conditioning Association as a Strength and Conditioning Specialist. His colleagues in the MAC twice named him as the NSCA Professional of the Year. Ward and his wife, Jody, have two children, Michaela and Addison.

## THE WARD FILE

### HOMETOWN

Mansfield, Ohio

### BIRTHDATE

Feb. 21, 1962

### FAMILY

Wife: Jody

Daughters: Michaela and Addison

### EDUCATION

B.S., health and physical education - Georgetown, 1984

M.S., secondary education - Georgetown, 1986

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Georgetown College, 1980-83

### BOWL GAMES

2010 Little Caesars Pizza Bowl

2008 GMAC Bowl

2004 GMAC Bowl

2003 Motor City Bowl

## WARD YEAR-BY-YEAR

2012-	Illinois (linebackers)
2009-11	Toledo (assistant head coach / co-defensive coordinator / linebackers)
2007-08	Bowling Green (defensive coordinator)
2000-06	Bowling Green (defensive line)
1992-99	Bowling Green (strength and conditioning coach)
1986-91	Findlay (linebackers / strength and conditioning coach)
1984-85	Georgetown College (assistant coach / strength and conditioning coach)

## ILLINI FAMILY PHOTOS



◀ **THE BECKMAN FAMILY (L-R)** Tyler, Kim, Tim, Lindsay and Alex



**THE SEAMONSON FAMILY ▶**  
Top: Karter, Al, Kalvin  
Bottom: Kylen and Kristi



◀ **THE BANKS FAMILY** Tim and Robin



**THE BELLAMY FAMILY ▶**  
Mike, McKenna, McKoy, Tanya, and Mike Jr.



## ILLINI FAMILY PHOTOS

**THE GOLESH FAMILY (L-R) ▶**  
Alex, Corbin, Barrett and Alexis



◀ **THE CUBIT FAMILY** Bill and Nancy  
Not pictured: Ryan, Stacey and Sheri



**THE COLBY FAMILY ▶**



**THE WARD FAMILY (L-R) ▶**  
Jody, Addison, Mike and Michaela



◀ **THE SALEM FAMILY (L-R)** Landan, Tim, Wendy, Kylan and Taylor.



## THE ARNHEIM FILE

### HOMETOWN

Orlando, Fla.

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Western Michigan, 2008-11

# ROBERT ARNHEIM

OFFENSIVE GRADUATE ASSISTANT

WESTERN MICHIGAN, 2012

FIRST SEASON AT ILLINOIS

Robert Arnheim is in his first year on the Fighting Illini coaching staff in 2014 after spending the past two seasons as a graduate assistant at Western Michigan, where he also was an All-MAC receiver. Arnheim will assist with the offensive skill positions at Illinois.

In 2013, Arnheim served as Western Michigan's assistant quarterbacks coach, where he developed practice scripts, conducted self-scouting reports, ran the defensive scout team, assisted with special teams and served as on-field liaison to the offensive coordinator on game day.

In his first year on the Bronco staff, Arnheim was the assistant receivers coach and compiled weekly passing quality control charts and scouting reports, worked with receivers and special teams during practice and the scout secondary and special teams units. On game day, he signaled plays, assisted with communication of personnel and served as liaison with coaches in the press box.

Arnheim racked up 1,696 career receiving yards and nine touchdowns on 151 receptions, which ranks eighth in WMU history. An All-MAC performer in 2009, his four career 100-yard games stand 12th in program history. Arnheim also served as a team captain and earned the Mike Gary Sportsmanship Award at the team's postseason banquet in 2011.



## THE WILLIAMS FILE

### HOMETOWN

Cincinnati, Ohio

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

University of Charleston, 2006-09

# LEDOMINIQUE WILLIAMS

DEFENSIVE GRADUATE ASSISTANT

UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON, 2009

FIRST SEASON AT ILLINOIS

LeDominique Williams is in his first year on the Fighting Illini coaching staff in 2014 after spending the past two seasons as a graduate assistant at Ohio University. Williams will assist Greg Colby with the Illinois defensive line.

Williams spent the 2012 and '13 seasons as a member of the Ohio University coaching staff. In his role, Williams worked primarily with the Bobcats' defensive line unit, while also serving as video coordinator for the 2012 season.

Williams spent 2011 at Ashland University, serving as a defensive graduate assistant and assistant video coordinator. At Ashland, Williams was the program's point person with the DVSPORT software. He also coached the defensive end position and recruited the Cincinnati, Ohio area.

Prior to his time at Ashland, Williams spent two seasons as an assistant coach at the University of Charleston - his alma mater - where he served as the safeties coach in 2009 and the linebackers coach in 2010. In addition, Williams ran lifting, conditioning and speed training sessions.

Williams earned two bachelor's degrees from the University of Charleston in business administration and sports administration, and is finishing up his master's degree from Ohio University in coaching education.





## THE JACKSON FILE

### HOMETOWN

Champaign, Ill.

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Illinois Wesleyan University, 2004

# KOLBY JACKSON

## DEFENSIVE GRADUATE ASSISTANT

ILLINOIS, 2008

FIFTH SEASON AT ILLINOIS

Kolby Jackson enters his fifth year on the Fighting Illini staff in 2014, moving to the defensive side of the ball after spending the past four on offense. Jackson spent 2012 and '13 as Illinois' special teams and offensive graduate assistant and was the Illini's offensive quality control coach in 2010 and '11, including coaching the Illini's receivers in the 2011 Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl. In 2012, Jackson also worked with the Illini running backs.

In his current role, Jackson assists defensive coordinator Tim Banks with the defensive backs and also works with special teams coordinator Tim Salem in all aspects of special teams.

As Illinois' offensive quality control coach in 2010-11, Jackson assisted with coaching the receivers and assisted in game planning, scouting reports and directing the scout team. The 2010 Illini offense broke the school records for points per game and total points and Illinois won bowl games in

consecutive years in 2010-11 for the first time in school history.

Jackson came to Illinois in 2010 after coaching receivers and running backs at Champaign Centennial High School and spending one season (2009) as a business development support intern for the St. Louis Rams in 2008-09.

Jackson played one season at Illinois Wesleyan University in 2004 before transferring to the University of Illinois and graduating magna cum laude with a degree in recreation, sport and tourism, and a minor in business administration in 2008. He completed a master's degree in sport management in May 2012.



## THE JOHNS FILE

### HOMETOWN

Waynesfield, Ohio

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Findlay, 2009-12

# TYLER JOHNS

## OFFENSIVE GRADUATE ASSISTANT

FINDLAY, 2013

FIRST SEASON AT ILLINOIS

Tyler Johns is in his first year on the Fighting Illini staff, serving as the offensive graduate assistant. Johns will primarily assist offensive line coach Tom Brattann.

Johns comes to Illinois after spending 2013 as the assistant offensive line coach at Iowa Western Community College. He helped the Reivers to an 11-1 record, their second-straight Midwest Football Conference championship, their fourth-straight NJCAA Region XI championship and a win over Butler County in the Graphic Edge Bowl. IWCC finished the season ranked No. 2 in the country.

Prior to his time at Iowa Western, Johns was a three-year starter at the University of Findlay, earning honorable mention All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) honors in 2012 after helping the Oilers to a 7-3 record. Johns started every game of his final three seasons at right tackle and finished his career with 35 starts.



# TIM KNOX

**DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL OPERATIONS**

**HIRAM COLLEGE, 1997**

**THIRD SEASON AT ILLINOIS**

Tim Knox is in his third season as the director of football operations for the Fighting Illini. He was hired to head coach Tim Beckman's first staff at Illinois on May 21, 2012.

In the role as director of football operations, Knox handles the logistical facets of team travel during the season, many aspects of the summer camps, and the logistics of Camp Rantoul, while also coordinating many of the team's community service efforts.

Knox came to Illinois after 15 seasons with the Western Michigan football program, including three as a graduate assistant (1997-99), one season as running backs coach (2004) and 11 (2000-03, 2005-11) seasons as director of football operations.

A 1997 graduate of Hiram College, Knox lettered four years at cornerback for the Terriers, earning All-Ohio Athletic Conference Second-Team honors in 1995 and 1996, and honorable mention accolades in 1994. He was also a two-time OAC All-Academic selection in 1995 and 1996.

As a Terrier, he also lettered as a member of the baseball team in 1996 and 1997 and acted as a student assistant coach with the men's basketball program for three years.

A native of Branbridge Township, Ohio, Knox is a 1993 graduate of Kenston High School, where he earned eight varsity letters in football, basketball and baseball. He earned a bachelor's degree in history at Hiram and a master's in sports administration from WMU in 1999.

Knox's father, Al, retired in May of 2013 after 48th year of teaching in Northeast Ohio. He has taught students who have gone onto great professional careers, namely movie star Halle Berry (Bedford HS) and LeBron James (St. Vincent-St. Mary HS) of the Miami Heat.

Knox and his wife, Danielle, were married in June 2014. They have one son, Caleb, and one daughter, Langley.

## THE KNOX FILE

### HOMETOWN

Branbridge Township, Ohio

### EDUCATION

B.S., history – Hiram College, 1997

M.S., sports administration –  
Western Michigan, 1999

### FAMILY

Wife: Danielle

Son: Caleb

Daughter: Langley



# RYAN CUBIT

**DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL STUDENT-ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT**

**WESTERN MICHIGAN, 2006**

**FIRST SEASON AT ILLINOIS**

Ryan Cubit is in his first season at Illinois as the director of football student-athlete development. The son of Fighting Illini offensive coordinator and former Western Michigan head coach Bill Cubit, Ryan comes to Champaign after spending five seasons on his father's staff at WMU, achieving the position of co-offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach in 2012.

As director of football student-athlete development, Cubit will oversee all on-campus activities of student-athletes in the Illinois football program. He will manage and coordinate all on-campus admissions for incoming freshmen and transfers, perform preliminary transcript evaluations for those prospective student-athletes and manage all official and unofficial visits for football recruits. He will serve as football admissions coordinator and work closely with the associate athletic director for academics in that pursuit, and also will work closely with compliance staff regarding the recruitability of prospective student-athletes.

Cubit helped engineer the golden age of offense in Western Michigan history from 2008-12, guiding Alex Carder to a record-setting campaign in 2011 that included 3,873 yards passing and five games of 400-plus passing yards. Carder was the fourth consecutive All-Mid-American Conference honoree under Cubit, as he earned the award in 2010 and 2011 after Tim Hiller was named to the All-MAC teams in 2008 and 2009.

As a player, Cubit finished his career tied for the career completion percentage record at WMU (60.2 percent) and was fifth in career passing yards (4,729). He played three seasons in Kalamazoo after starting his career at Rutgers. Cubit graduated with a degree in business administration in 2006 and completed a master's of business of administration in 2008. He led WMU to its first bowl berth in nearly 20 years as he guided the Broncos to the 2007 International Bowl.

Cubit has two daughters, Lila and Claire.

## THE CUBIT FILE

### HOMETOWN

Kalamazoo, Mich.

### EDUCATION

B.S., business administration –  
Western Michigan, 2006

M.B.A. – Western Michigan, 2008

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Western Michigan, 2004-06  
Rutgers, 2001-02

### FAMILY

Daughters: Lila, Claire



# SCOTT YIELDING

**DIRECTOR OF PLAYER PERSONNEL**

**THE CITADEL, 1993**

**FIRST SEASON AT ILLINOIS**

Scott Yielding is in his first season on the Illini staff as director of player personnel after spending the past two seasons as tight ends coach and academic coordinator at The Citadel.

Prior to his time at his alma mater, Yielding spent four years at Oklahoma State as assistant director of football operations and assistant director of recruiting. His duties included recruiting, coordinating and selecting walk-on players for the Cowboy roster.

With Yielding on the staff, the Cowboys were recognized as producing some of the nation's finest recruiting classes.

During his stay in Stillwater, Oklahoma State posted a record of 41-11, including a 23-3 mark in Yielding's final two years. In 2011 the Cowboys finished 12-1, won the Big 12 title and defeated Stanford in the Fiesta Bowl to earn the No. 3 spot in the final national polls. The previous season, Oklahoma State finished No. 10 in the country, shared the Big 12 South

championship and was victorious over Arizona in the Alamo Bowl.

Prior to his stint at Oklahoma State, Yielding spent 10 years coaching on the high school level, beginning his career at North Charleston High School (1998-00) and then coaching at four different schools in Georgia.

Yielding earned his bachelor's degree in history from The Citadel in 1993 and received a master's degree in secondary education from The Citadel in 1998. While a graduate student, he worked in the office of admissions and served as NCAA and academic liaison to the football program.

Yielding and his wife, Valerie, have a daughter, Georgia Lee.

## THE YIELDING FILE

### HOMETOWN

Atlanta, Ga.

### EDUCATION

B.A., history – The Citadel, 1993

M.S., secondary education –  
The Citadel, 1998

### FAMILY

Wife: Valerie

Daughter: Georgia



# JUICE WILLIAMS

**DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI AND FORMER PLAYER RELATIONS**

**ILLINOIS, 2009**

**FIRST SEASON AT ILLINOIS**

Juice Williams is in his first season at Illinois as the director of alumni and former player relations after joining Tim Beckman's staff in March 2014.

Williams manages all alumni and former player relations and functions, assists with on-campus recruiting, helps coordinate the annual Illinois high school coaching clinic and maintains relationships with Block I, fraternities and sororities.

A Chicago native, Williams broke Illinois record and ranked fifth on the Big Ten career total offense list with 10,594 yards upon his graduation, helping Illinois lead the Big Ten in rushing in 2006 and 2007, and in passing in 2008. He engineered an Illini offense that broke school records for total offense and rushing offense in 2007, and led the Orange and Blue to a monumental 28-21 victory at No. 1 Ohio State on the way to the Rose Bowl that season.

He finished his career third in passing yards in school history with 8,037 and ranked sixth in career rushing yards

(2,557), becoming the first non-running back in school history to surpass 2,000 yards on the ground. Williams also broke Illinois records for single-season total offense, single-season rushing yards by a quarterback and career starts by a quarterback.

An honorable mention Freshman All-American by Sporting News in 2006 and a three-time All-Big Ten selection, Williams' 56 career touchdown passes rank second in Illini history.

Williams is engaged to Jamillah Bowman and the couple is planning to be married in December. Jamillah, the sister of former Flyin' Illini guard P.J. Bowman, ran track at and earned a bachelor's degree from Georgetown. She later obtained a master's degree from Michigan before earning Ph.D. and J.D. degrees from Stanford. Williams has a daughter, La'Chez, and a son, Layden.

## THE WILLIAMS FILE

### HOMETOWN

Chicago, Ill.

### EDUCATION

B.A., communication – Illinois, 2009

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Illinois, 2006-09

### FAMILY

Fiance: Jamillah Bowman

Daughter: La'Chez Williams

Son: Layden Williams



## THE CHESTER FILE

### HOMETOWN

Medina, Ohio

### EDUCATION

B.A., sport management – Baldwin-Wallace College, 2010

# DANE CHESTER

## DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL GAME ANALYSIS

**BALDWIN-WALLACE, 2010**

**FIRST SEASON AT ILLINOIS**

Dane Chester is in his first season as director of football game analysis after joining Tim Beckman's staff in July 2014. He has previously worked for the Cleveland Browns and Ohio State Buckeyes, as well as industry leader DVSPORT Software.

Prior to joining the Fighting Illini, Chester worked as a support manager at DVSPORT Software, where he provided technical support to NFL, NCAA and Replay clients, and tested future products. He also served as replay conference coordinator for the Big Ten, ACC and Mid-American Conferences.

Chester spent the 2012 season as a video intern with the Cleveland Browns, where he videotaped practices and entered practice data, managed video needs in meeting rooms and created weekly highlight packages.

He served as assistant director of football video operations at Ohio State in 2011, videotaping practice and games, overseeing OSU's student video staff and managing the program's video database for recruiting, practice and games.

Chester also spent the 2010 season as the video coordinator for the Arena Football League's Cleveland Gladiators.

Chester graduated from Baldwin-Wallace College in 2010 with a degree in sports management and minors in business management and marketing. While there, he served as assistant equipment manager for the football team for two seasons and also worked as the football video coordinator.

He supplemented his video experience while in college by working as an instant replay field technician for Browns games from 2006-10.



## THE CHESNUT FILE

### HOMETOWN

Hoopeston, Ill.

### EDUCATION

B.S., business administration – Southern Illinois, 1990

### FAMILY

Son: Jake

# TRENT CHESNUT

## HEAD FOOTBALL EQUIPMENT MANAGER

**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS, 1990**

**15TH SEASON AT ILLINOIS**

Trent Chesnut is in his 15th season with the Fighting Illini as the head football equipment manager, handling all of the day-to-day aspects of the football program, including purchasing, maintenance, organization and management of the student assistant program. Chesnut is responsible for all home games and practice set-up, tear down and storage of equipment as well as assigning and managing team and official locker rooms, chain gangs and game-day ball crews.

Prior to returning to his home state of Illinois, Chesnut was the head equipment coordinator at the University of Nevada for eight years and worked for three seasons as the UNLV assistant equipment manager. During his time at Nevada, he was responsible for the football and baseball programs as well as overseeing the entire athletic equipment department.

Chesnut earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Southern Illinois University in 1990. He has been an active and certified member of AEMA since 1992 and also is a member of the Schutt Athletic Council.

A native of Hoopeston, Ill., Chesnut has one son, Jake, who is a current student at Illinois and is a manager for the football program.





# AARON HILLMANN

## HEAD FOOTBALL STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH

MISSOURI, 1991

### THIRD SEASON AT ILLINOIS

Aaron Hillmann is in his third year as head strength and conditioning coach for football at Illinois. He was hired in January 2012 as part of Tim Beckman's first Illini coaching staff. On May 9, 2013, Hillmann was named a master strength and conditioning coach by the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches association (CSCCa), the profession's highest honor.

Hillmann spent the 2011 season as an assistant strength and conditioning coach at the University of Michigan, working with football.

He brings over 20 years of strength and conditioning experience to Illinois, previously serving as an assistant strength and conditioning coach at Michigan, working with football. Prior to that, he spent nine years as the head strength and conditioning coach at Bowling Green University, overseeing all 18 sports at BGSU. Prior to his stint with the Falcons, Hillman served as an assistant strength coach at Notre Dame (1998-2001), Connecticut (1996-98), Cincinnati (1995-96) and Ball State (1992-95).

Hillmann also spent time as a strength and conditioning specialist for the Pittsburgh Steelers in the summer of 1994, assisting in the supervision of their preseason strength and conditioning program.

A native of St. Louis, Mo., Hillmann graduated from Missouri in 1991 with a bachelor of science degree in secondary education. He and his wife, Dina, have two sons, Jacob and Jonah, and a daughter, Skylar.

## THE HILLMANN FILE

### HOMETOWN

St. Louis, Mo.

### EDUCATION

B.S., secondary education –  
Missouri, 1991

### FAMILY

Wife: Dina  
Sons: Jacob and Jonah  
Daughter: Skylar



# JAKE NAAS

## HEAD FOOTBALL ATHLETIC TRAINER

ILLINOIS, 2009

### SECOND SEASON AT ILLINOIS

Jake Naas is in his first season as head football athletic trainer after serving as interim head football athletic trainer in 2013. Before coming to the University of Illinois, Jake worked in athletic training for the Seattle Mariners organization.

He obtained his master's degree in sports medicine from Virginia Tech in 2010, where he also served as a graduate assistant athletic trainer with Virginia Tech football.

Prior to that, he attended the University of Illinois and earned his bachelor of science in athletic training in 2009. Naas also has had the opportunity to work with the Buffalo Bills in summer camp as an athletic training intern.

Jake is married to Illinois assistant athletic trainer Meaghan Naas, who works with the Fighting Illini tennis teams.

## THE NAAS FILE

### HOMETOWN

Tonica, Ill.

### EDUCATION

B.S., athletic training –  
Illinois, 2009

M.S., sports medicine –  
Virginia Tech, 2010

### FAMILY

Wife: Meaghan



# MIKE THOMAS

DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

COLORADO STATE, 1983

FOURTH YEAR AT ILLINOIS



Mike Thomas is in his fourth year at the University of Illinois in 2014-15 after being named the school's 18th director of athletics on Aug. 10, 2011, following six successful years as the director of athletics at the University of Cincinnati. A 29-year veteran of college athletics administration, Thomas is leading the Fighting Illini athletic program to national prominence.

In three years leading the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics at Illinois, Thomas has executed a number of major projects. Thomas launched the three-year, \$170 million State Farm Center renovation project – including a landmark 30-year, \$60 million naming rights agreement that is the largest for a college-only venue in the country. Construction started in winter 2014 and will be completed in full before the 2016-17 season.

Thomas spearheaded a \$7.2 million project at Memorial Stadium that included a new video board, ribbon boards, auxiliary video boards, sound system and control room to enhance the fan experience at Illini football games. Along with head coach Mike Small, Thomas oversaw the fundraising for and construction of the \$5.5 million Lauritsen/Wohlers Outdoor Golf Practice Facility. In addition, the \$1.2 million second-phase renovation of Huff Hall, which featured a new floor and lower bowl bleachers among other upgrades, was completed in summer 2014. And in spring 2014, Thomas moved forward with two studies – renovating the south and east sides of Memorial Stadium and developing a master plan for Olympic sport venues – to be completed in September 2014.

On the branding front, Thomas guided Illinois through an 18-month collaboration with Nike, completed in April 2014, that resulted in a new brand and identity system including new uniforms and consistent colors, logos, lettering and numerals. He also led a group that signed a 10-year agreement with Learfield Sports estimated to be worth more than \$60 million to become DIA's exclusive marketing partner and multimedia rights holder, and launched "Illinois. Our State. Our Team." as the theme for Fighting Illini athletics.

During Thomas' tenure, the I FUND has seen impressive growth in donations fueled by the launch of the Illinois Renaissance to renovate State Farm Center, with first-year fundraising efforts for the campaign totaling nearly \$95 million in cash and pledges. Total I FUND fundraising of \$29.2 million for 2013-14 marked a record high and is 73 percent increase over 2011-12. Thomas and the I FUND also announced an ambitious long-term goal of "15 x 15 x 2020," which aspires to more than double both the donor base to 15,000 and total amount donated to scholarships to \$15 million annually by the year 2020.

On the competitive front, Illini teams have compiled one NCAA championship, six Big Ten titles, and 11 individual NCAA titles during Thomas' three years at the helm. In 2012, Thomas' first year at Illinois, the Fighting Illini finished 21st overall in the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup standings, marking the program's second-best finish in the 21 -year history of the award.





Thomas began his tenure in Champaign-Urbana by hiring Tim Beckman as the Fighting Illini head football coach in December 2011 and naming John Groce and Matt Bollant the head coaches of Illinois men's and women's basketball, respectively, in April 2012.

In the classroom, Fighting Illini student-athletes posted an impressive 3.23 overall GPA for the Fall 2013 semester and 3.14 for Spring 2014. Ten teams posted a perfect 1,000 in the NCAA Academic Progress Rate (APR) for the 2012-13 academic year — baseball, men's cross country, men's golf, men's gym, wrestling, women's golf, softball, women's soccer, women's tennis and volleyball — while five earned the NCAA Public Recognition Award by ranking in the top 10 percent of their sport nationally for the four-year period ending with 2012-13: baseball, men's golf, women's golf, soccer and women's tennis. For the third straight year, Fighting Illini student-athletes, coaches and staff completed over 7,000 hours of community service.

Prior to his move to Illinois, Thomas revamped and led a vibrant Cincinnati Bearcats athletic program from 2005-11, directing the school's launch into the Big East Conference and earning several Big East championships, as well as multiple Big East academic excellence awards.

In 2006, Thomas hired head football coach Brian Kelly and the Cincinnati football team made program history in the three following seasons by achieving a 34-6 record, consecutive Big East Championships and appearances in the Orange and Sugar Bowls. The 2009 season ended with UC finishing 12-0 and No. 3 in the final BCS rankings. Thomas also hired Butch Jones, who went on to ensure Cincinnati's dominance on the conference scene, sharing in a Big East title in 2011 and 2012.

Thomas brought back a Bearcat when he hired former UC assistant Mick Cronin as head men's basketball coach in 2006. Cronin returned the program to national prominence with appearances in the NCAA tournament the past four seasons.

UC grew to be one of the most recognized schools in the 16-member Big East for academic success and earning multiple Big East Academic Excellence Awards, including a league-high five Big East Academic Excellence Awards in 2009-10.

The overall APR of all Bearcats programs also increased during Thomas' tenure. In the final APR report from his tenure, five UC athletic teams

earned perfect APR scores of 1,000, including men's basketball. In that same time period, the Graduate Success Rate (GSR) for student-athletes increased from 66 percent to 77 percent.

From 2006-11, UC's student-athletes emerged as community leaders, with annual community service hours growing from 1,000 to over 5,500.

On the external side, the University of Cincinnati grew at a tremendous rate. Thomas increased UC's athletic department budget 20 percent, while simultaneously reducing the annual operating deficit by more than \$6 million.

UC established single-season attendance and revenue records for football in each of the three seasons from 2008-10. Football attendance skyrocketed, with season-ticket package sales exploding by 277 percent since 2006 and resulting in record football revenues.

In terms of donor development, membership in UCATS increased by almost 300 percent during Thomas' tenure and the department raised \$70 million during his arrival. Thomas raised private funds and built the Sheakley Athletics Center, providing football and other UC athletic teams much needed additional practice and competitive space.

In 2008-09, Thomas revamped UC's multimedia rights partnership, reaching an agreement with IMG College for a new multimedia rights partnership, increasing overall revenues in this area by over \$17 million.

Prior to taking the athletic director position at UC, Thomas spent five years as the Director of Athletics at the University of Akron and seven years as associate athletic director at the University of Virginia, an institution known for achieving impressive success both academically and athletically, before bringing that model to Akron. Virginia finished in the Top 25 in the Director's Cup in each year of Thomas' tenure there while at the same time finishing in the Top 10 nationally in student-athlete graduation rates.

Under Thomas' direction, Akron rose from last place to second among Mid-American Conference schools in the Director's Cup annual rankings. Simultaneously, Akron vaulted from last to second place in the MAC Academic Achievement Awards. Thomas increased the financial base of the Akron athletics program through increasing corporate sponsorship levels by 750 percent and boosted annual giving to athletics to its highest



level in the school's history. Community support was rallied, with record increases shown in both football and basketball attendance.

During this time period, the Zips won their first and only MAC football championship and participated in the program's lone FBS bowl game in history. Thomas' hire of men's basketball coach Keith Dambrot led to unparalleled success on the hardwood with Dambrot's program becoming one of the most successful in the MAC over the past 10 seasons, including eight postseason appearances. While at Akron, support services and facilities for academic support for student-athletes were significantly improved, resulting in jumps in grade point averages and graduation rates of UA student-athletes.

During his career in collegiate athletics, Thomas has coordinated over \$350 million in facility construction and renovation, including \$25 million in capital improvements at Akron that featured a new indoor fieldhouse and golf facility, a football practice complex, and a softball facility. He also spearheaded the new on-campus football stadium and was instrumental in the development and launching stages of the \$61 million facility, which opened in September of 2009.

At Virginia, Thomas served as a member of the senior staff and was sport oversight for eight programs. He served as the department liaison for the \$86 million renovation to UVA's football stadium and oversaw several other capital projects. In addition, Thomas served as the Chair of the Atlantic Coast Conference Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee and also served on the ACC Sportsmanship Committee.

Recognized for his administrative acumen by his peers, Thomas has served on several national and conference committees, including the NCAA Division I Championship/Sports Management Cabinet (where he also served as the NCAA men's basketball liaison to the cabinet and as a member of the cabinet's four-person Administrative Committee) and the NCAA Men's Basketball Issues Committee. Thomas also previously chaired the Big East Championship and Competition Committee and served as a member of the NCAA Division I Championships/Competition Cabinet, the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Issues Committee, the NCAA Division I Academics/Eligibility/Compliance Cabinet, the NCAA Postseason Bowl Licensing Subcommittee and the Division IA Athletics Director's Association Legislative Review Committee. He presently serves on the Big Ten Legislative Review Committee.

Twice during his career, Thomas has received distinction for his efforts and dedication as a director of athletics, garnering the General Robert R. Neyland Outstanding Athletics Director Award in 2005 at Akron and then again in April of 2008 at Cincinnati. He has been recognized by the Cincinnati Sports Professionals Network as the 2009-10 Sports Executive of the Year.

Prior to his experience at Virginia, Thomas spent seven years at the University of Denver as assistant athletic director for internal operations, serving as chief financial officer and overseeing the departments of compliance, merchandising, and facilities. He began his athletic administration career at the University of Iowa as an administrative and operations intern.

Thomas received his bachelor's degree in business administration from Colorado State University in 1983, and his master's degree in athletic administration from Western Illinois University in 1986. He and his wife, Jenifer, have four children: Vince, Joey, Mick and Meredith.



## ILLINOIS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR HISTORY

1892-94	Edward K. Hall
1894-95	Fred D. Dodge
1895-98	Henry H. Everett
1898-1901	Jacob K. Shell
1901-36	George A. Huff
1936-41	Wendell S. Wilson
1941-66	Douglas R. Mills
1966-67	Leslie Bryan (interim)
1967-72	E.E. (Gene) Vance
1972	Charles E. Flynn (interim)
1972-79	Cecil N. Coleman
1979	Ray Eliot (interim)
1980-88	Neale R. Stoner
1988	Ronald E. Guenther (interim)
1988	Dr. Karol A. Kahrs (interim)
1988-91	John Mackovic
1991-92	Robert Todd (interim)
1992-2011	Ronald E. Guenther
2011-	Michael J. Thomas



## DIA ADMINISTRATION / FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF



**Jason Lener**  
Executive Senior Associate  
Athletic Director



**Maria Woods**  
Senior Associate Athletic  
Director / SWA



**Rick Darnell**  
Senior Associate Athletic  
Director / Development



**Warren Hood**  
Senior Associate Athletic  
Director



**Paul Kowalczyk**  
Senior Associate Athletic  
Director



**Susan Young**  
Senior Associate Athletic  
Director



**Kent Brown**  
Associate Athletic Director  
Communications



**Zach Goines**  
Associate Athletic Director  
Development (Chicago)



**Jason Heggemeyer**  
Associate Athletic Director  
Ticketing



**Howard Milton**  
Associate Athletic Director  
Development



**Keiko Price**  
Associate Athletic Director  
Academic Services



**Ryan Squire**  
Associate Athletic Director  
Compliance



**Kevin Ullestad**  
Associate Athletic Director  
State Farm Center



**Chris Span**  
Faculty Representative



**Matthew Wheeler**  
Faculty Representative



**Zach Acton**  
Event Coordinator



**Nicole Anderson**  
Football Office Administrator



**Chris Andrews**  
General Manager  
Fighting Illini Sports Properties



**Shari Atwell**  
Football Office Manager



**Nina Baloun**  
Assistant Recruiting  
Coordinator



**Dr. Robert Bane**  
Team Orthopedic



**John Birdsell**  
Assistant Equipment Manager



**Dustin Boyer**  
Assistant Director of  
Premium Seating



**Chelsea Burkart**  
Director of Sports Nutrition



**Derrick Burson**  
Assistant Athletic Director  
Communications



**Bobbi Busboom**  
Assistant Director of  
Development / Premium Seating



**Katelyn Christensen**  
Academic Counselor



**Terry Conlon**  
Director of Concessions



**John Donohoe**  
Facilities Supervisor



**Charlie Drewek**  
Player Personnel  
Graduate Assistant

## DIA ADMINISTRATION / FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF



**Patrick Embleton**  
Football Operations  
Graduate Assistant



**Karl Feak**  
Assistant Director of Sports  
Marketing



**Haven Fields**  
Associate Director of  
Development (Chicago)



**Max Ford**  
Assistant Football Strength &  
Conditioning Coach



**Andrew Grubb**  
Assistant Football Strength &  
Conditioning Coach



**Dr. Robert Gurtler**  
Head Team Physician



**Gene Honda**  
Memorial Stadium  
Public Address Announcer



**Barry Houser**  
Marching Illini Director



**Kathy Hug**  
Assistant Athletic Director  
Event Management



**Loren Israel**  
Asst. Athletic Director  
Compliance, Risk Mgmt & Quality



**Kathy Kaler**  
Academic Counselor /  
Illini Life Skills



**Marty Kaufmann**  
Assistant Athletic Director  
External Relations & Licensing



**Adam Kazmierczak**  
Video Production Specialist



**Father Greg Ketcham**  
Chaplain



**Steve Landrus**  
Director of Ticketing



**Frank Lenti**  
Associate Director of  
Video Services



**Adam Marantz**  
Web and New Media  
Designer



**Jason Marry**  
Associate Director of  
Video Services



**Katie McKinney**  
Director of Varsity Room



**Derryl Myles**  
Assistant Athletic Director for  
Video Services



**Derek Neal**  
Associate Director of  
Communications



**Justin Neally**  
Team Chaplain



**Josh Ok**  
Football Student Assistant  
Coach



**Chris Peacock**  
Assistant Athletic Director  
for Development



**Nate Peoples**  
Associate Football Strength &  
Conditioning Coach



**Kathy Plunk**  
Marketing Communications  
Specialist – AD Office



**Rick Raven**  
Head Equipment Manager



**Stephanie Record**  
Cheerleading Coach



**Heidi Rivers**  
Senior Graphic Designer



**Nick Rogers**  
Assistant Athletic Director for  
Information Technology



## DIA ADMINISTRATION / FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF



**Eva Schmidt**  
Assistant Director for Special  
Events / Development (Chicago)



**Paul Schmidt**  
Director of Sports Medicine



**Holly Stalcup**  
Assistant Athletic Director  
Event Management



**Lori Stalter**  
Athletic Training  
Administrative Assistant



**Eric Streeter**  
Assistant Athletic Trainer



**Carla Suber**  
Learning Specialist



**Brad Swanson**  
Director of Sports Marketing



**Ben Taylor**  
Assistant Director of  
Communications



**Chris Tuttle**  
Associate Director of  
Development / Varsity "I"



**Carrie Ummel**  
Assistant Athletic Director  
for Development



**Chris Walker**  
Assistant Athletic Trainer



**Freddie Walker**  
Associate Football Strength &  
Conditioning Coach



**Brian Walsh**  
Director of Summer Camps  
and Clinics



**Annie White**  
Academic Counselor



**Matt Wille**  
Assistant Director of  
Communications – FB Programs



**Lenny Willis**  
Director of Facilities



**Will Wyss**  
Graphic and Web Designer



**Lee Zerrusen**  
Event Coordinator



**Dr. Jerrad Zimmerman**  
Team Physician

## 2014-15 ATHLETIC BOARD

**Alumni Members**

Carrie Casper  
Anne Perry  
Audwin Rowe  
Richard Stockton

**Faculty Members**

Cleo D'Arcy, chair  
Kathryn Clancy  
Vicente Diaz  
Adrienne Dixon  
Michael LeRoy  
Michael Raycraft  
Tom Ulen

**Faculty Athletic  
Representatives**

Christopher Span  
Matthew Wheeler

**Student Members**

Erin Ahern  
Brianna Alston  
Brent Nelson

**Ex-Officio Members**

Mike Bass  
Mike DeLorenzo  
Mike Thomas

## UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION


**ROBERT A. EASTER**  
**PRESIDENT**

Robert A. Easter was appointed president-designate of the University of Illinois in March 2012, and became the university's 19th president in July 2012.

Before becoming president, Easter spent his entire, nearly 40-year career as a senior administrator and faculty member on the university's Urbana-Champaign campus, where he earned his doctorate

in animal science in 1976. He was interim chancellor from 2009-2011, serving as chief executive officer of the 42,000-student campus, and also served as interim provost and interim vice chancellor for research.

From 2002-2009, he was dean of the nationally ranked College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Before that, he served as head of the Department of Animal Sciences, where he has been a faculty member since 1976.

An expert in livestock feeding, Easter has co-authored a book on livestock production and has written more than 90 peer-reviewed articles, 11 book chapters, and numerous papers for conferences and industry publications. He also has spoken to audiences in the U.S. and 30 foreign countries on livestock feeding.

In 2006, he was appointed by President George W. Bush to the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), and was appointed as chair of BIFAD in 2007. He also is a member of the American Society of Animal Science and the British Society of Animal Science, and he serves on the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation and the Governor's Committee on China.

Reared on a grain and livestock farm in southwest Texas, Easter earned an undergraduate degree in agricultural education in 1970 and a master's degree in animal nutrition in 1972, both from Texas A&M University. He completed a doctorate in animal science at the University of Illinois in 1976 and immediately joined the Animal Science Department as an assistant professor of swine nutrition and management. He presently holds the rank of Professor Emeritus.

His teaching has been recognized by the Midwest Section of the American Society of Animal Science and at the departmental and college levels. In 1992, Easter received the American Feed Industry Association Award in Nonruminant Nutrition Research from the American Society of Animal Science. In 1994, the University of Illinois College of Agriculture awarded Easter with the prestigious Paul A. Funk Award for contributions to Illinois agriculture.

He operates a small grain farm in central Illinois and is a retired officer in the U.S. Army Reserve, where he served for 20 years. He also is an avid gardener and reader.

Easter and his wife Cheryl have two adult children and six grandchildren.


**PHYLLIS M. WISE**  
**CHANCELLOR**

Phyllis M. Wise, Ph.D., was named Chancellor of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Vice President of the University of Illinois on Oct. 1, 2011.

Dr. Wise is the chief executive officer for the Urbana-Champaign campus and is responsible for all financial programs, campus policies, and priorities with the mission of ensuring a transformative

educational experience for America's next generation of leaders. The Urbana-Champaign campus has a budget of \$1.5B with more than \$400M in annual research expenditures. There are 42,000 students and 3,000 faculty members. The university is renowned for its interdisciplinary collaborations, advances in human understanding, community outreach, global partnerships, and life-changing scientific developments.

Prior to this appointment Phyllis M. Wise was interim President of the University of Washington in 2010-2011. Before that appointment, she served as Executive Vice President and Provost at the University of Washington, a position she held for five years. During that time Dr. Wise was a professor of physiology and biophysics, biology, and obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Washington.

Dr. Wise was dean of the College of Biological Sciences at the University of California-Davis for three years. Prior to that, she was professor and chair of the Department of Physiology at the University of Kentucky in Lexington from 1993 to 2001. Wise also was a faculty member at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, from 1976 to 1993, promoted through the ranks to full professor of physiology in 1987.

A fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine, she holds a bachelor's degree from Swarthmore College in biology and a doctorate degree in zoology from the University of Michigan.

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