

COACHING STAFF



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HEAD COACH JOHN GROCE



THE GROCE FILE

BORN

Sept. 7, 1971, in Muncie, Ind.

HOMETOWN

Danville, Ind.

FAMILY

Wife, Allison;
Sons, Conner and Camden;
Daughter, Cate

EDUCATION

Taylor University
B.S., Mathematics, 1994

PLAYING EXPERIENCE

1991-93

Taylor University

COACHING EXPERIENCE

1994-96

Assistant Coach
Taylor University

1997-2000

Assistant Coach
North Carolina State University

2001

Assistant Coach
Butler University

2002-04

Assistant Coach
Xavier University

2005-06

Assistant Coach
Ohio State University

2007-08

Associate Head Coach
Ohio State University

2009-12

Head Coach
Ohio University

2013-

Head Coach
University of Illinois

“Why can’t we become the standard of excellence among those teams in the Big Ten competing for championships? Why can’t we do that consistently here? The answer is, we can.”

— John Groce at his introductory press conference (March 29, 2012)

John Groce enters his fourth season in charge of the Fighting Illini program in 2015-16. He has led the Illini to an average of more than 20 wins per season and postseason appearances in his first three years in Champaign, owning a combined record of 62-42.

During the 2014-15 season, Groce directed Illinois to 19 wins and its first .500 campaign in Big Ten play in four years. The Illini battled through injuries to key players and other adversity to challenge for an NCAA Tournament bid before earning a No. 3 seed in the NIT. Off the court, meanwhile, the coaching staff continued to strengthen the Fighting Illini roster for the future by signing a top-20 recruiting class, the UI’s second nationally ranked class in three years under Groce.

Illinois extended the nation’s longest November winning streak with another perfect opening month, topped by a victory over Baylor in the Las Vegas Invitational title game that moved the Illini into the Top 25 rankings. Another non-conference highlight was the first buzzer beater in the history of the Braggin’ Rights series, as Rayvonte Rice drained a 3-pointer with time expiring to give the Illini a second-straight victory over Missouri.

Included in the UI’s nine conference wins were three victories over teams that finished in the top four of the Big Ten standings, as the Illini took down 11th-ranked Maryland and Purdue at home and defeated eventual Final Four participant Michigan State on the road.

Illinois’ two RPI top-10 wins tied for second nationally during the regular season. Groce’s third Fighting Illini squad also set a pair of statistical milestones, leading the nation in free throw percentage with school-record accuracy of 79.4 percent, and setting another program record for fewest turnovers per game at 9.9.

Groce guided one of the youngest and most inexperienced teams in the nation during the 2013-14 season to 20 wins and a No. 2 seed in the NIT, as the Illini narrowly missed a trip to the NCAA Tournament. Entering the year with nine newcomers and returning just three rotation players, Groce emphasized defense to his young squad and it delivered, finishing the season ranked 11th nationally in defensive efficiency.

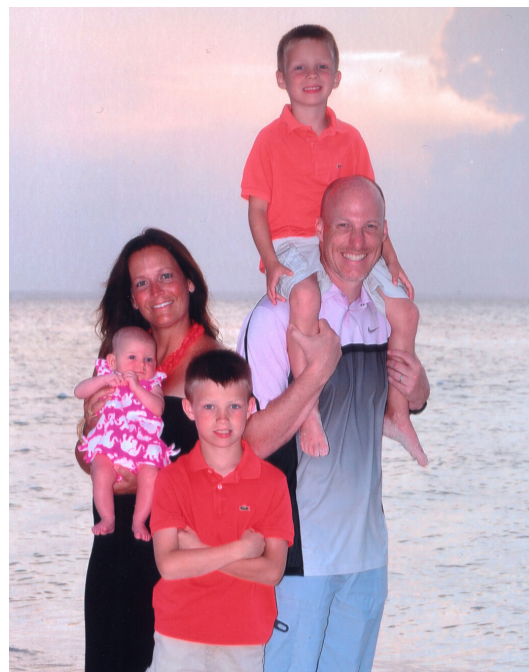
Illinois won 13 of its first 15 games, highlighted by thrilling wins at UNLV, in the Braggin’ Rights game over No. 23 Missouri and against Indiana in overtime on New Year’s Eve. The Illini then played some of their best basketball late in the season, a staple of Groce’s teams throughout his coaching career. Illinois won four of its last five regular season games,

with three of those victories coming on the road at Minnesota, at No. 18 Michigan State and at No. 24 Iowa. The Illini added wins over Indiana in the first round of the Big Ten Tournament and at Boston U in the first round of the NIT to finish the season with six victories over its final nine contests, with both postseason losses coming by just one point apiece.

Groce led the Illinois program to a number of achievements during his first year in 2012-13 – including a 23-win campaign that marked a six-win improvement from the UI’s previous season – culminating in an NCAA Tournament appearance and subsequent victory to advance to the Round of 32.

Illinois won its first 12 games in 2012-13, equaling the sixth-best start in school history and matching the best start ever for a first-year UI coach. Included in that stretch was a dominating performance in Hawaii as the Illini captured the school’s first-ever Maui Invitational championship. Illinois also recorded arguably the most impressive win of college basketball’s pre-conference season, winning at No. 10 Gonzaga by double digits.

The Illini spent eight weeks ranked in the Top 25, reaching as high as No. 10 in the national polls. Illinois recorded two more top-10 wins during conference play in one of the most difficult seasons in Big Ten history. The Illini defeated No. 8 Ohio State on Jan. 5 by 19 points, the UI’s largest margin



Illinois head coach John Groce with his wife, Allison, their daughter, Cate, and sons, Conner and Camden (top).

HEAD COACH JOHN GROCE



of victory over a top-10 opponent since 1964. Then on Feb. 7, Illinois garnered national headlines with a thrilling last-second home victory over No. 1 Indiana. The Illini won it at the buzzer on a layup by Tyler Griffey, leading to a court storming celebration as Illinois defeated a No. 1-ranked opponent for just the third time in school history.

The Fighting Illini earned a No. 7 seed in the NCAA Tournament and defeated No. 10 Colorado in the Round of 64 as Groce improved his record in the opening round of the Tournament to 9-0 during his coaching career, and 3-0 as a head coach.

In addition to the success on the court, Groce also made an immediate impact on the recruiting trail, signing a top-25 ranked class in less than eight months on the job in Champaign.

Groce was named the 17th Fighting Illini men's basketball coach on March 29, 2012. He arrived at Illinois after four seasons as head coach at Ohio University, where he led the Bobcats to an 85-56 overall record as well as Mid-American Conference Tournament titles and NCAA Tournament appearances in 2010 and 2012.

Ohio was the story of the 2012 Tournament, advancing to the Sweet 16 as a No. 13 seed with victories over No. 4 seed Michigan followed by No. 12 seed South Florida. The Bobcats finished just short of the Elite Eight, falling to top-seed North Carolina in overtime in the regional semifinal. It marked just the second time in Ohio's school history and first since 1964 that the Bobcats won multiple games in the NCAA Tournament. Ohio finished the 2012 season with a school-record 29 wins and was known for its pressure defense, ranking second nationally in turnover percentage and third in steals percentage.

Ohio also made noise in the 2010 postseason. Playing in the school's first NCAA Tournament game in five seasons, the Bobcats received a No. 14 seed and defeated No. 3 seed Georgetown. With the 2010 and 2012 NCAA performances, Ohio became just the sixth school ever to win Tournament games as both a 13 and 14 seed.

The 44-year-old Groce has a total of 22 years in the coaching profession and has been part of teams that have made 19 postseason appearances. His record in 15 years as an assistant was an impressive 349-156, giving him a combined record of 496-254.

Groce earned his first head-coaching job at Ohio following four seasons on Thad Matta's staff at Ohio State from 2005-08, the first two as assistant coach and last two as associate head coach. During Groce's

GROCE'S CAREER COACHING RECORD

HEAD COACH

University of Illinois

	<u>Overall/Conf. (Finish)</u>	<u>Postseason</u>
2012-13	23-13 / 8-10 (7th)	NCAA Round of 32
2013-14	20-15 / 7-11 (8th)	NIT 2nd Round
2014-15	19-14 / 9-9 (7th)	NIT 1st Round
Three Years	62-42 (.596) / 24-30 (.444)	

Ohio University

	<u>Overall/Conf. (Finish)</u>	<u>Postseason</u>
2008-09	15-17 / 7-9 (9th)	
2009-10	22-15 / 7-9 (9th)	NCAA Round of 32
2010-11	19-16 / 9-7 (5th)	CIT Quarterfinal
2011-12	29-8 / 11-5 (3rd)	NCAA Sweet 16
Four Years	85-56 (.603) / 34-30 (.531)	

ASSISTANT COACH

Ohio State University (Head Coach Thad Matta)

	<u>Overall/Conf. (Finish)</u>	<u>Postseason</u>
2004-05	20-12 / 8-8 (6th)	
2005-06	26-6 / 12-4 (1st)	NCAA Round of 32
2006-07	35-4 / 15-1 (1st)	NCAA Runner-Up
2007-08	24-13 / 10-8 (5th)	NIT Champions
Four Years	105-35 (.750) / 45-21 (.682)	

Xavier University (Head Coach Thad Matta)

	<u>Overall/Conf. (Finish)</u>	<u>Postseason</u>
2001-02	26-6 / 14-2 (1st)	NCAA Round of 32
2002-03	26-6 / 15-1 (1st)	NCAA Round of 32
2003-04	26-11 / 10-6 (3rd)	NCAA Elite Eight
Three Years	78-23 (.772) / 39-9 (.813)	

Butler University (Head Coach Thad Matta)

	<u>Overall/Conf. (Finish)</u>	<u>Postseason</u>
2000-01	24-8 (.750) / 11-3 (1st)	NCAA Round of 32
One Year	24-8 (.750) / 11-3 (.786)	

North Carolina State University (Head Coach Herb Sendek)

	<u>Overall/Conf. (Finish)</u>	<u>Postseason</u>
1996-97	17-15 / 4-12 (8th)	NIT 2nd Round
1997-98	17-15 / 5-11 (8th)	NIT 2nd Round
1998-99	19-14 / 6-10 (5th)	NIT 2nd Round
1999-2000	20-14 / 6-10 (6th)	NIT Semifinal
Four Years	73-58 (.557) / 21-43 (.328)	

Taylor University (Head Coach Paul Patterson)

	<u>Overall/Conf. (Finish)</u>	<u>Postseason</u>
1993-94	29-5 / —	NAIA 2nd Round
1994-95	17-14 / 8-6 (4th)	
1995-96	23-13 / 10-4 (2nd)	NAIA 1st Round
Three Years	69-32 (.683) / 18-10 (.643)	

CUMULATIVE COACHING RECORD

Head Coach (7 Years): 147-98 (.600)
 Assistant Coach (15 Years): 349-156 (.691)
 Total (22 Years): 496-254 (.661)

HEAD COACH JOHN GROCE

time in Columbus the Buckeyes amassed a record of 105-35, advanced to the NCAA Championship game in 2007 and second round in 2006, claimed back-to-back outright Big Ten Championships in 2006 and 2007 and won the NIT in 2008. Groce played a key role in recruiting many of the top players at Ohio State and was named Rivals' 2006 National Recruiter of the Year.

In all, Groce spent eight years as an assistant under Matta. Prior to his time at Ohio State, Groce served three years on Matta's staff at Xavier from 2002-04 and one season at Butler in 2001. The Musketeers went 78-23 and made three straight NCAA appearances, advancing to the second round in 2002 and 2003 and the Elite Eight in 2004. Xavier also won consecutive Atlantic 10 titles in 2002 and 2003. Butler, meanwhile, went 24-8 and won a conference crown in 2001 while also advancing to the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

Groce entered the Division I coaching ranks as a member of Herb Sendek's staff at North Carolina State from 1997-2000. The Wolfpack went 73-58 overall and advanced to the NIT in each of the four seasons Groce was in Raleigh, including a trip to the semifinals in 2000.

Groce got his start in coaching as an assistant at his alma mater, Taylor University, an NAIA school in Upland, Indiana. Groce spent three years on Paul Patterson's staff from 1994-96, helping lead the Trojans to a 69-32 record and pair of trips to the NAIA national tournament. Groce played for Patterson for three years from 1991-93 before making the transition to a student assistant role as a senior. Taylor compiled a 90-16 record and made three trips to the NAIA Tournament during Groce's playing career, including a 1991 NAIA Final Four appearance during his freshman season.

Groce earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Taylor in 1994. John and his wife, Allison, have two sons, Conner and Camden, and a daughter, Cate.

NBA DRAFT PICKS COACHED BY GROCE

Player	Pick (Overall)	Team	Year
Greg Oden	No. 1	Portland Trail Blazers	2007
Evan Turner	No. 2	Philadelphia 76ers	2010
Mike Conley Jr.	No. 4	Memphis Grizzlies	2007
David West	No. 18	New Orleans Hornets	2003
Daequan Cook	No. 21	Miami Heat	2007
Kosta Koufas	No. 23	Utah Jazz	2008
Lionel Chalmers	No. 33	Los Angeles Clippers	2004
David Young	No. 41	Seattle SuperSonics	2004
Jon Diebler	No. 51	Portland Trail Blazers	2011



GROCE'S HEAD COACHING RECORD VS. ALL OPPONENTS

Opponent	ILL W-L	TOT W-L
Akron.....	0-0	6-4
Alabama.....	0-1	0-1
Alabama State.....	1-0	1-0
American.....	1-0	1-0
Arkansas State.....	0-0	1-0
Auburn.....	2-0	2-0
Austin Peay.....	1-0	2-1
Ball State.....	0-0	3-3
Baylor.....	1-0	1-0
Boston U.....	1-0	1-0
Bowling Green.....	0-0	3-6
Bradley.....	1-0	1-0
Brown.....	1-0	1-0
Bucknell.....	0-0	1-0
Buffalo.....	0-0	5-4
Butler.....	1-0	1-0
Central Michigan.....	0-0	2-2
Chaminade.....	1-0	1-0
Chicago State.....	1-0	1-0
Clemson.....	0-1	0-1
Colgate.....	1-0	1-0
Colorado.....	1-0	1-0
Coppin State.....	1-0	1-0
Dartmouth.....	1-0	1-0
Delaware.....	0-0	2-1
Eastern Kentucky.....	1-0	2-1
Eastern Michigan.....	0-0	2-2
East Tennessee State.....	0-0	0-1
Elon.....	0-0	1-0
Gardner-Webb.....	1-0	1-0
George Mason.....	0-0	0-1
Georgetown.....	0-0	1-0
Georgia Southern.....	1-0	1-0
Georgia Tech.....	1-1	1-1
Gonzaga.....	1-0	1-0
Hampton.....	1-0	1-0
Hawaii.....	1-0	1-0
Holy Cross.....	0-0	1-0
Illinois State.....	0-0	2-0
Indiana.....	3-3	3-3
Indiana State.....	1-0	2-0
Iowa.....	1-3	1-3
IPFW.....	1-0	1-0
IUPUI.....	0-0	1-1
Jacksonville State.....	1-0	1-0
Kansas.....	0-0	0-1
Kennesaw State.....	1-0	2-0
Kent State.....	0-0	4-5
Lamar.....	0-0	2-1
Louisville.....	0-0	0-2
Marietta.....	0-0	1-0
Marshall.....	0-0	2-3
Maryland.....	1-0	1-0
Miami.....	0-2	0-2
Miami (Ohio).....	0-0	6-3
Michigan.....	1-6	2-6
Michigan State.....	2-3	2-3
Middle Tennessee.....	0-0	1-0
Minnesota.....	3-2	3-2
Missouri.....	2-1	2-1
Morgan State.....	0-0	1-0
Nebraska.....	4-2	4-2
Norfolk State.....	1-0	2-0
North Carolina.....	0-0	0-1
North Carolina A&T.....	0-0	2-0
Northern Illinois.....	0-0	4-0
Northern Iowa.....	0-0	1-0
Northwestern.....	3-2	3-2
Oakland.....	0-0	1-1
Ohio Valley.....	0-0	1-0
Ohio State.....	1-4	1-4
Oregon.....	0-2	0-2
Penn State.....	4-0	4-0
Pittsburgh.....	0-0	0-1
Portland.....	0-0	1-0
Purdue.....	2-3	2-3
Robert Morris.....	0-0	0-3
Rutgers.....	1-0	1-0
St. Bonaventure.....	0-0	0-1
St. Francis (N.Y.).....	1-0	2-0
St. Francis (Pa.).....	0-0	1-0
Santa Clara.....	0-0	1-0
South Florida.....	0-0	1-0
Temple.....	0-0	0-1
Tennessee.....	0-0	0-1
Tennessee-Martin.....	0-0	1-0
Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.....	0-0	1-0
Toledo.....	0-0	5-1
Tulsa.....	0-0	1-1
UIC.....	1-0	1-0
UNC Asheville.....	0-0	1-0
UNLV.....	1-0	1-0
USC.....	1-0	1-0
Valparaiso.....	1-0	2-0
Villanova.....	0-1	0-1
Western Carolina.....	1-0	1-0
Western Michigan.....	0-0	3-2
William & Mary.....	0-0	1-0
Winthrop.....	0-0	1-0
Wisconsin.....	0-5	0-5
Wright State.....	0-0	2-0
Xavier.....	0-0	0-1
TOTAL.....	62-42	147-98

DUSTIN FORD

ASSISTANT COACH



Dustin Ford is in his fourth season as an assistant coach for the Fighting Illini.

Prior to coming to Illinois, Ford served on John Groce's Ohio University staff for four seasons from 2009-12, helping guide the Bobcats to an 85-56 overall record. Ford specialized in working with the frontcourt, aiding in the improvement of players such as Jerome Tillman (first-team All-MAC in 2009), DeVaughn Washington (honorable mention All-MAC in 2011) and Ivo Baltic (honorable mention All-MAC in 2012).

Before his stint in Athens, Ford served three years as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator on Larry Hunter's staff at Western Carolina from 2006-08 and was promoted to associate head coach in the spring of 2008. During his tenure at Western Carolina, he was responsible for recruiting two eventual Southern Conference Defensive Players of the Year in Brigham Wager (2010) and Richie Gordon (2011), and a SoCon Freshman of the Year in Harouna Mutombo (2009).

Ford began his coaching career as the head varsity coach at Jackson High School in Jackson, Ohio, for four seasons from 2002-05.

Ford was a standout player before entering the coaching profession, starting all four years at Ohio from 1998-2001. He led the Bobcats in 3-point field goals as a junior and senior. Ford's 166 career 3-pointers and 310 career assists currently rank seventh and eighth, respectively, in Ohio school history.

Dustin is the son of longtime basketball coach Gene Ford, who retired in 2015 from his head

coaching position at Muskingum College. His brother, Geno, meanwhile, spent 10 years as a college head coach, most recently at Kent State and Bradley.

Ford graduated from Ohio in 2001 with a degree in communication studies. He and his wife, Marcie, have a daughter, Abbie, and son, Max.

PARIS PARHAM

ASSISTANT COACH



Chicago native Paris Parham is in his fourth season as an assistant coach on the Fighting Illini staff.

Parham came to Illinois after five years as an assistant coach at Illinois State. ISU won 104 games during Parham's tenure on former head coach Tim Jankovich's staff. The Redbirds recorded four 20-plus win seasons in five years, advancing to the NIT four times and the Missouri Valley Tournament championship game three times.

Parham spent the previous three years in Chicago, serving one season as head coach at Morgan Park (2007) and two seasons as head coach at Phillips Academy (2005-06). He was the Chicago Public League's Red-Central Coach of the Year in 2005 after leading Phillips to an undefeated conference record. During this time, Parham also coached with the AAU program Full Package and assisted at the Chicago Bulls Training Academy.

Prior to his coaching stops at the high school level, Parham served for three seasons as an assistant coach at Maryland-Eastern Shore (2002-04). He entered the coaching ranks at his alma mater, Minnesota State (formerly Mankato State), serving as a graduate assistant (1996) before spending five seasons as an assistant coach (1997-2001).

Parham's collegiate playing career included two years each at Lincoln College (1992-93) and Minnesota State (1994-95). At Lincoln, Parham was a two-year team captain and set the school's single-season assist record.

Parham completed his career at Minnesota State with 556 points in 54 games (10.3 ppg). He led the team in assists in consecutive years, with his 5.2 average ranking eighth on the Mavericks' all-time single season assists list. He also still holds the school record for career steals average at 1.9 spg. Parham earned All-North Central Conference (NCC) honorable mention honors as a senior in 1995 and also was named the league's co-most improved player.

Parham earned two degrees from Minnesota State, a bachelor's in business administration in 1995 and a master's in education administration in 2000. He and his wife, Keisha, have two sons, Paris Jr. and Kai.

THE FORD FILE

HOMETOWN

Cambridge, Ohio

FAMILY

Wife, Marcie;
Daughter, Abbie; Son, Max

EDUCATION

Ohio, B.S., 2001

COACHING EXPERIENCE

2002-05

Head Coach
Jackson (Ohio) High School

2006-08

Assistant Coach
Western Carolina University

2009-12

Assistant Coach
Ohio University

2013-

Assistant Coach
University of Illinois

THE PARHAM FILE

HOMETOWN

Chicago, Ill.

FAMILY

Wife, Keisha;
Sons, Paris Jr. and Kai

EDUCATION

Minnesota State, B.S., 1995
Minnesota State, M.S., 2000

COACHING EXPERIENCE

1996
Graduate Assistant
Minnesota State University

1997-2001

Assistant Coach
Minnesota State University

2002-04

Assistant Coach
University of Maryland-Eastern Shore

2005-06

Head Coach
Chicago Phillips High School

2007

Head Coach
Chicago Morgan Park High School

2008-12

Assistant Coach
Illinois State University

2013-

Assistant Coach
University of Illinois

JAMALL WALKER

ASSISTANT COACH



Jamall Walker is in his fourth season as an assistant coach for the Fighting Illini. He was hired in April 2012 to coach John Groce's first staff at Illinois.

Walker was part of Groce's original Ohio University staff during the 2009 season. After serving as Director of Basketball Operations for Sean Miller at Arizona in 2010, Walker returned to Athens to assist Groce from 2011-12. His specialty is working with guards, and Walker mentored one of the best in the nation in OU's D.J. Cooper, a two-time first-team All-MAC selection and 2012 MAC Tournament MVP.

Before arriving at Ohio, Walker spent one year as an assistant coach at Murray State in 2008, preceded by a one-year stint as an assistant at St. Louis in 2007.

Walker entered the Division I coaching ranks at Ball State, where he was an assistant and recruiting coordinator for two years from 2005-06. During his time in Muncie, Walker played a key role in recruiting Chicagoland guard Maurice Acker, the 2006 MAC Freshman of the Year.

Prior to Ball State, Walker spent two seasons as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at Redlands Community College in El Reno, Oklahoma. While there he helped lead Redlands to a runner-up finish in the 2004 NJCAA DI tournament.

Walker's coaching career began as a varsity assistant at Alton (Ill.) high school during the 2000 season before serving in the same position at F.L. Schlagle High School in Kansas City, Kansas, from 2001-02.

Walker played point guard at St. Louis for four years from 1996-99, helping lead the Billikens to the NCAA Tournament in 1998. He earned Conference USA All-Freshman Team recognition in 1996 and ranks seventh in St. Louis school history with 350 career assists.

Walker graduated from St. Louis in 2000 with a degree in secondary education. He has a daughter, JaShawn, and he and his wife, Rebekah, have two sons, Braylon and Andrew.

DARREN HERTZ

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE HEAD COACH



Darren Hertz is in his first season on the Fighting Illini staff, serving as special assistant to head coach John Groce. Hired in June 2015, Hertz came to Illinois from the University of Florida, where he spent 19 seasons working for former Gators head coach Billy Donovan.

During Hertz's association with Florida basketball, the Gators totaled 467 wins, two national championships, four Final Fours, 14 NCAA Tournament appearances, six Southeastern Conference regular season championships and four SEC tournament titles.

Hertz spent the last three years as Director of Basketball Operations, leading the daily operations of the Gator program including scheduling, organizing recruiting, planning team travel, and directing the Billy Donovan summer camps.

That followed a seven-year tenure as Assistant to the Head Coach, where he was charged with similar administrative duties while continuing his work with video scouting and edits and hiring and overseeing the team's student managers.

Hertz became Florida's first Video Coordinator in 2001, which evolved into a full-time position in July 2003. During his time as video coordinator he was responsible for running various editing systems, breaking down film for opponent scouting, making individual and team edits from practices and games, producing motivational videos and coordinating film exchange.

Hertz began his tenure in the Florida basketball program as a student assistant during Donovan's first season as head coach in 1996-97 and continued working with Gator basketball as a UF graduate student before assuming the role of video coordinator.

The Miami native was an All-Dade County point guard as a senior at Miami Killian High School. Hertz earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Florida in 1997 and obtained a master's degree in sport management from UF in 2001. He was an instructor

THE HERTZ FILE

HOMETOWN

Miami, Fla.

FAMILY

Wife, Julie;
Son, Brandon; Daughter, Alexa

EDUCATION

University of Florida, B.S., 1997
University of Florida, M.S., 2001

EXPERIENCE

1997-2001
Student/Graduate Assistant
University of Florida

2002-05
Video Coordinator
University of Florida

2006-12
Assistant to the Head Coach
University of Florida

2013-15
Director of Basketball Operations
University of Florida

2016
Special Assistant to the Head Coach
University of Illinois

for the University of Florida's College of Health and Human Performance from 1999-2001 while earning his master's.

Hertz is married to the former Julie Vogelmann. The couple has one son, Brandon, and one daughter, Alexa.

THE WALKER FILE

HOMETOWN

Wichita, Kan.

FAMILY

Wife, Rebekah;
Sons, Braylon and Andrew;
Daughter, JaShawn

EDUCATION

St. Louis University, B.S., 2000

COACHING EXPERIENCE

2000
Assistant Coach
Alton (Ill.) High School

2001-02
Assistant Coach
F.L. Schlagle (Kan.) High School

2003-04
Assistant Coach
Redlands Community College

2005-06
Assistant Coach
Ball State University

2007
Assistant Coach
St. Louis University

2008
Assistant Coach
Murray State University

2009
Assistant Coach
Ohio University

2010
Director of Basketball Operations
University of Arizona

2011-12
Assistant Coach
Ohio University

2013-
Assistant Coach
University of Illinois

MARK MORRIS

DIRECTOR OF BASKETBALL OPERATIONS



Mark Morris is in his fourth season as director of basketball operations after being hired in May 2012 to head coach John Groce's first staff at Illinois. Morris previously served on Groce's staff at Ohio University for two seasons as a graduate assistant.

Morris performs a variety of administrative functions for the Fighting Illini including team travel, housing, weekly scheduling, summer camps, budget management, supervision of student managers, liaison for State Farm Center renovations and overseeing facility

improvements at Ubben Basketball Complex.

While at Ohio, Morris was part of a successful Bobcats program that in 2012 won a school-record 29 games, advanced to the NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 and earned a final national ranking of 25th in the coaches' poll.

Prior to graduate school at Ohio, Morris spent four years as a student assistant at Murray State University from 2006-10 under then-head coach Billy Kennedy. During Morris' senior year in 2010, the Racers won a school-record 31 games, claimed Ohio Valley Conference regular season and tournament titles and advanced to the NCAA Tournament Second Round.

Morris earned a bachelor's degree in marketing from Murray State in 2010 and a master's degree in sports administration from Ohio in 2012. He and his wife, Erin, reside in Urbana with their daughter, Jane.

WALTER OFFUTT

GRADUATE MANAGER



Walter Offutt is in his second season as graduate manager for the Fighting Illini, now serving on John Groce's staff after playing for Groce at Ohio University.

Offutt started every game during his two seasons with the Bobcats, totaling 817 points. He averaged 12.4 points and 3.5 rebounds as a junior in 2012, helping lead Ohio to 29 wins and an NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 appearance. He was named to the NCAA Midwest Region All-Tournament Team after scoring a career-high 26 points against North

Carolina in the regional semifinal. Offutt averaged 10.6 points and 4.2 rebounds as a senior and team captain in 2013, garnering All-MAC third-team honors and Academic All-MAC accolades.

Offutt received two degrees from Ohio University, earning a bachelor's in business and human relations in 2012 and a master's in coaching education in 2013. Prior to joining the Illinois staff, he spent one year as varsity assistant coach at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, where he also worked as a teaching assistant.

A native of Indianapolis, Offutt is currently enrolled in Illinois' master's degree program in educational policy studies.

JAMES HARING

GRADUATE MANAGER



James Haring is in his second season on the Illinois staff, serving as graduate manager. He also is enrolled in the university's master's degree program in educational policy studies.

Haring spent the previous four years as a student manager for the West Virginia basketball program, including head manager duties as a senior. He also served on the event staff of the LeBron James and Kevin Durant skills academies in the summer of 2013, and was named ProCamps Intern of the Year in the summer of 2012.

A native of New Lenox, Illinois, Haring graduated summa cum laude from West Virginia University with a bachelor's degree in sport management in 2014.

ADAM FLETCHER

STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH



Adam Fletcher is in his first season as strength and conditioning coach for the Fighting Illini men's basketball team after joining the program in August 2015.

Fletcher came to Illinois from Towson, where he served the last three years as the Tigers' strength and conditioning coach. After less than a year on the job, he was promoted to director of strength and conditioning, leading the department while working with Towson's men's basketball, men's lacrosse and golf programs.

During his time at Towson, the 2013 team made the largest single-season turnaround in NCAA history while the 2014 team won a program Division I record 25 games. Towson also won its first two postseason games as a D1 program.

Prior to arriving at Towson, Fletcher spent two years as assistant strength coach at Michigan, working primarily with men's basketball. The Wolverines went 45-24 during his two seasons in Ann Arbor, winning a share of the 2012 Big Ten title and advancing to the NCAA Tournament both years.

His professional experience began with a series of internships, including IMG Academy and his alma mater, Miami-Ohio.

Fletcher was a four-year letterwinner and two-year starter on the RedHawks basketball team, playing from 2007-10. He served as team captain as a senior and also was named the team's top defensive player.

Fletcher earned a bachelor's degree in kinesiology from Miami University in 2010 and a Master of Science (Strength and Conditioning) degree from Edith Cowan University in 2011.

A native of St. Albans, W.Va., Fletcher is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist by the National Strength and Conditioning Association and Certified Sports Performance Coach by USA Weightlifting. He also holds first aid, CPR and AED certifications.

PAUL SCHMIDT

DIRECTOR OF SPORTS MEDICINE



Paul Schmidt is in his fourth season as Director of Sports Medicine for Fighting Illini athletics, as well as his fourth season in charge of athletic training for the Illini men's basketball program. Now in his 22nd year working in college athletics, Schmidt was promoted to oversee the UI sports medicine program on Aug. 27, 2012.

Schmidt is in his 10th year at Illinois, serving the previous six seasons as athletic trainer for the Illini women's basketball team.

The Lombard, Illinois, native spent four years as the head athletic trainer at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, before coming to Illinois in August 2006. Prior to that, he spent eight years working as an athletic trainer at Syracuse University.

Schmidt received his B.S. in physical education from Northern Illinois University in 1992 before spending one year as an athletic trainer at the High Plains Sports Medicine Clinic in Hays, Kansas.

He then headed to Syracuse to pursue a master's degree and work as a graduate assistant athletic trainer for the Orange sports programs. Schmidt earned his M.S. in exercise physiology from Syracuse University in 1996 and spent the next six years there as an assistant athletic trainer.

Schmidt is an Illinois State Licensed Athletic Trainer, an American Red Cross Certified Instructor for First Aid, CPR & AED, and a National Academy of Sports Medicine Performance Enhancement Specialist. He also is a member of the National Athletics Trainer Association and the Illinois Athletic Trainers Association.

BASKETBALL SUPPORT STAFF



ROD CARDINAL **COORDINATOR OF SPECIAL PROJECTS**

After 30 years as head athletic trainer of the Fighting Illini men's basketball team, Rod Cardinal served five years as director of basketball operations and is now in his eighth season as coordinator of special projects. Cardinal is involved with alumni correspondence and reunion plans for the basketball program, in addition to fulfilling many other duties for the athletics department.

Cardinal joined the Illinois staff as assistant athletic trainer at the UI in July 1973 and retired from that position in the summer of 2003 as one of the most respected athletic trainers in the nation. He then spent two years in charge of preparations for the centennial celebration of Illinois basketball, which took place throughout the 2004-05 season.

Prior to his appointment at Illinois, he served in a similar capacity as athletic trainer at the U.S. Military Academy. A native of Blaine, Minnesota, Cardinal graduated from Southwest State University (Minn.) in 1971 with a B.S. in health and physical education. He was a student trainer in high school, and in college for three years prior to his West Point position. He also played varsity basketball in college.

Cardinal earned a master's degree in 1977 from Illinois in physical education and sports medicine with an additional emphasis in educational administration. He received the Alumni Achievement Award from Southwest State University in 1995 and has been honored as an Honorary Varsity "I" member at Illinois.

Cardinal, along with his wife, Mary, have three grown children and reside in Loda, Illinois. Their youngest son, Brian, was an All-Big Ten selection at Purdue and played 12 seasons in the NBA, winning a world championship in 2011 with the Dallas Mavericks.



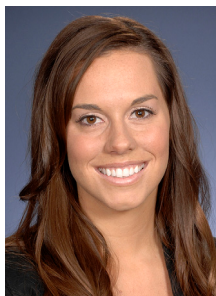
JULIE PIOLETTI **ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY**

Julie Pioletti is in her ninth year as administrative secretary for the Illini men's basketball program. Pioletti performs countless organizational and business duties for the office, maintains Coach Groce's schedule, and also assists in summer camp preparations.

Pioletti joined the basketball office after spending seven years as an administrative secretary with UI athletics marketing and corporate sponsorships departments.

Prior to her tenure in the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, she spent seven years as an administrative assistant in the UI police department after beginning her career at the University of Illinois in personnel.

Pioletti and her husband, Pat, reside in Philo. She has a son, Jarrod Spoonemore, and daughter, Jacy Spoonemore.



JESSICA GOERKE **ACADEMIC COUNSELOR**

Jessica Goerke is in her third year at the University of Illinois after joining the academic services staff in October 2013. In her role as academic counselor, Goerke provides academic support to the men's basketball team including time management, study skills, life skills, degree attainment, eligibility monitoring and assisting with recruiting. In addition to her duties with the Fighting Illini men's basketball program, she also works with the women's track and field and cross country teams.

Goerke arrived at Illinois after spending 16 months as an academic coordinator for Georgia Tech football. While there, she monitored the academic progress of her designated cohort as well as coordinated nightly study hall operations and facilitated the guest coaching program. Prior to her time at Georgia Tech, Goerke was a graduate assistant in academic support services at Akron where she worked with the football and men's and women's track and field teams.

A native of North Aurora, Illinois, Goerke earned a bachelor's degree in history/secondary education from North Central College in 2010 and a master's degree in higher education administration from the University of Akron in 2012. Goerke resides in Champaign.



DERRICK BURSON **ASSISTANT ATHLETICS DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATION**

Derrick Burson is in his 17th year as a member of the Illinois athletics communication office, and 15th year full time in the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics. He was promoted to Assistant Athletics Director for Communication in October 2013, following three years in the role of associate sports information director from 2010-13. He served as assistant SID for nine years from 2001-10 after beginning his career in the DIA in 1999 with a

two-year internship.

Burson handles publicity efforts and is the media liaison for the Fighting Illini men's basketball program. He also serves as student coordinator for the athletics communication office and assists the DIA on a number of projects, which include leading the selection process for student-athlete awards, planning for the all-sports celebration banquet, contributing to the annual report and strategic plan, and preparing materials for the Mannie L. Jackson Illinois Basketball Hall of Fame.

Burson has covered the men's basketball team since 2000, taking over as primary contact for the sport in 2007. Illinois men's basketball has had seven All-Americans, won four Big Ten championships and participated in 11 NCAA Tournaments during his tenure, highlighted by a trip to the NCAA Championship game in 2005. Burson also was a member of the Illinois Basketball Centennial Committee in 2004-05.

He previously served as athletics communication contact for the Illinois volleyball, men's and women's golf, men's and women's track and field and men's and women's cross country teams and assisted with Fighting Illini football. In 2013, he served as communications director for the NCAA Men's and Women's Tennis Championships, hosted by the University of Illinois.

Burson is a member of the College Sports Information Directors of America and U.S. Basketball Writers Association. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Illinois in 1999. He and his wife, Karry, reside in Mahomet with their daughter, Aubrey, and son, Evan.

DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS MIKE THOMAS



Mike Thomas is in his fifth year at the University of Illinois in 2015-16 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 30-year veteran of college athletics administration, Thomas is leading the Fighting Illini athletic program to national prominence.

In four 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 corporate naming rights agreement that is the largest for a college-only venue in the country. In the three years since the start of the State Farm Center fund raising campaign, approximately \$100 million has been raised for the project. Construction started in winter 2014 and will be completed in full before the 2016-17 basketball 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 – that were completed in the summer of 2015.

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.

Under Mike Thomas' leadership, a new baseline trend of funding is taking place through the Illinois Renaissance of State Farm Center and within the I FUND scholarships. In 2011, average cash contributions were \$17 million and new business pledges totaled \$14 million annually. Heading into the 2015-16 season, contributions and investments are on an upward trajectory. Over the past three years, the average cash contributions are over \$25 million per year with an all-time high of \$29.2 million in 2014 and \$26.7 million in fiscal year 2015, the second-highest in Illinois history. Over the past three years, new business pledges have been \$77.5 million, \$29.4 million and \$25.9 million, with all three ranking in the top four all-time at Illinois.

Additionally, the launch of a new athletics development website, I FUND benefits, giving levels, and the new slogan "I AM THE I FUND" is re-energizing and invigorating donor support. I FUND Scholarships (annual giving program to support the scholarships of 500+ student-athletes) exceeded \$8 million in 2015, for the third-highest total in program history, surpassed only by the 2008 Rose Bowl season and the following year in 2009.

On the competitive front, Illini teams have compiled one NCAA championship, 10 Big Ten titles, and 13 individual NCAA titles during Thomas' four years at the helm. The spring of 2015 was especially fruitful, with baseball, men's golf, men's tennis and men's track and field all winning Big Ten titles to mark the first time since 1927 that four Illinois teams won spring conference titles. 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 22-year history of the award.

In the classroom, Fighting Illini student-athletes posted an impressive 3.25 overall GPA for the Fall 2014 semester and 3.24 for Spring 2015, up from 3.05 when Thomas arrived in 2011. Thirteen teams posted a perfect 1,000 in the NCAA Academic Progress Rate (APR) for the 2013-14 academic year – Baseball, Men's Basketball, Football, Men's Golf, Men's Tennis, Women's Basketball, Women's Cross Country, Women's Golf, Women's Gymnastics, Softball, Women's Swimming, Women's Tennis, and Volleyball – while seven earned the NCAA Public Recognition Award, a new school record, by ranking in the top 10 percent of their sport nationally for the four-year period ending with 2013-14: Baseball, Men's Golf, Women's Golf, Women's Gymnastics, Soccer, Volleyball, and Women's Tennis. For the fourth 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 athletics 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 11 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 approximately \$360 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, United States Tennis Association (USTA) Athletic Director Advisory Committee and is Co-Chair of the annual Collegiate Sports Summit.

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.

DIA ADMINISTRATION / SUPPORT STAFF



Jason Lener
Executive Senior Associate
Athletics Director



Rick Darnell
Senior Associate AD
Development



Warren Hood
Senior Associate AD
Capital Projects/Facility Operations



Paul Kowalczyk
Senior Associate
Athletics Director



Mike Waddell
Senior Associate AD
External Relations/Strategic Communication



Maria Woods
Senior Associate AD
Senior Woman Administrator



Susan Young
Senior Associate AD
Business Affairs



Kent Brown
Associate AD
Media Relations



Zach Goines
Associate AD
Development, Chicago



Jason Heggemeyer
Associate AD
Ticketing and Sales



Howard Milton
Associate AD
Development



Keiko Price
Associate AD
Academic Services



Ryan Squire
Associate AD
Compliance



Kevin Ullestad
Associate AD
State Farm Center



Brad Wurthman
Associate AD
Marketing and Fan Development



Christopher Span
Faculty Representative



Matthew Wheeler
Faculty Representative



Zach Acton
Event Coordinator



Brian Amentt
Director
Ticketing



Chris Andrews
General Manager
Fighting Illini Sports Properties



Dustin Boyer
Assistant Director
Premium Seating



Dee Brown
Special Assistant to the
Athletics Director



Bobbi Busboom
Director
Premium Seating



Troy Collier
Team Chaplain



Terry Conlon
Director
Concessions



Kyle Croy
Assistant Manager
Equipment



Eddie Diazmunoz
Creative Director



Tom Divan
State Farm Center



Haven Fields
Associate Director
Development, Chicago



Lauren Frantz
Learning Specialist
Academic Services

DIA ADMINISTRATION / SUPPORT STAFF



Dr. Robert Gurtler
Head Team Physician
Orthopedic Physician



Dr. Jeremy Henrichs
Team Physician



Stephanie Horvath
Director
Sports Nutrition



Barry Houser
Conductor
Athletic Bands



Kathy Kaler
Assistant AD
Academic Services



Marty Kaufmann
Assistant AD
Business Development



Maria Kenner
Assistant Director
Development



Frank Lenti
Associate Director
Fighting Illini Productions



Adam Marantz
Director
Digital Design and Production



John Marquardt
State Farm Center



Jason Marry
Associate Director
Fighting Illini Productions



Derryl Myles
Assistant AD
Fighting Illini Productions



Derek Neal
Associate Director
Athletics Communication



Bill Nesnidal
Assistant Director
Development, Chicago



Rick Raven
Equipment Manager



Stephanie Record
Cheerleading Coach



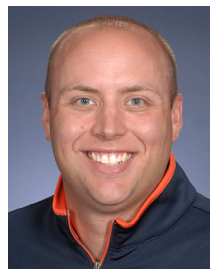
Nick Rogers
Assistant AD
Information Technology



Eva Schmidt
Assistant Director
Development, Special Events



Holly Stalcup
Assistant AD
Event Management



Brad Swanson
Director
Marketing



Abby Treece
Graphic Designer



Chris Tuttle
Director
Varsity "I" Association



Carrie Ummel
Assistant AD
Development



Sue Walker
State Farm Center



Brian Walsh
Director
Summer Camps and Clinics



Brady Welsh
Assistant Strength Coach



Lenny Willis
Director
Facilities

2015-16 ATHLETICS BOARD

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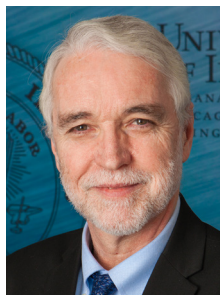
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Hannah Taylor

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Mike Bass
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Mike Thomas

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

TIMOTHY L. KILLEEN PRESIDENT



Timothy L. Killeen was named as the 20th president of the University of Illinois in November 2014 following a national search. He assumed office on May 18, 2015.

Beginning in 2012, he served as vice chancellor for research and president of the Research Foundation at the State University of New York, one of the nation's largest higher education systems with 64 campuses, 465,000 students, 88,000 faculty, and more than 7,600 degree and

certificate programs.

As president of SUNY's Research Foundation, Killeen was head of the nation's largest, most comprehensive university-connected research foundation, administering about \$900 million annually across SUNY's 29 state-supported research campuses. In his dual role as vice chancellor for research, he was at the center of SUNY's strategy for research growth and works with campus leaders to increase basic, clinical and translational research.

Before joining SUNY, he served for four years as assistant director for the geosciences at the National Science Foundation. He also has served as Lyall Research Professor at the University of Colorado, as director and senior scientist for the National Center for Atmospheric Research, and spent more than 20 years as a faculty member and researcher at the University of Michigan, where he also served as associate vice president for research.

He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2007. Killeen is a member and past president of the American Geophysical Union and a member of the American Meteorological Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the New York Academy of Sciences.

A leading researcher in geophysics and space sciences, Killeen received his bachelor's degree and Ph.D. at University College London, where he earned his doctoral degree in atomic and molecular physics at the age of 23. He is a U.S. citizen and a native of Wales.

His research has earned three achievement awards from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and he has received awards for teaching and research excellence from the University of Michigan College of Engineering. He has authored more than 150 publications in peer-reviewed journals, along with more than 300 other publications and papers.

Killeen's wife, Roberta M. Johnson, was executive director of the National Earth Science Teachers Association and a clinical professor in the Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences at the State University of New York at Albany. They have three children.

BARBARA WILSON INTERIM CHANCELLOR



Barbara Wilson is the interim chancellor of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In this role, she serves as the chief executive officer for the campus and is responsible for leading the faculty, staff and students of one of the nation's original land grant universities. She was appointed to this role on August 12, 2015.

Dr. Wilson has been a member of the Illinois faculty for 15 years, most recently as the Harry E. Preble Dean of the campus' College of Liberal

Arts and Sciences, a role she continues to hold. Dr. Wilson's academic home is in the Department of Communication, where she is the Kathryn Lee Baynes Dallenbach Professor and served as department head.

Prior to her 2014 appointment as dean, Dr. Wilson spent five years in the Office of the Provost, providing campus leadership on strategic and financial planning, faculty hiring, training and promotion, and innovative academic programs. She served as vice provost for academic affairs and later, as the executive vice provost for faculty and academic affairs.

Dr. Wilson is an elected fellow of the International Communication Association and her scholarly work is extensively published, with dozens of books, chapters and articles on a wide range of issues involving the social and psychological effects of media on children. Before joining the Illinois faculty, Wilson worked as a professor of communication at the University of California, Santa Barbara. During that time she served as director of graduate studies for the Department of Communication. She earned her bachelor's degree in journalism and her master's degree and PhD in communication arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. Wilson is a native of Appleton, WI. Her spouse, John Lammers, is a senior faculty member in the Department of Communication. They have two children and reside in Champaign.

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RICHMOND ENDOWMENT

RICHMONDS ENDOW BASKETBALL COACH'S POSITION

The legacy of Jack Richmond abounds at his alma mater, the University of Illinois.

The Champaign resident, retired businessman, and U of I graduate and benefactor died April 17, 2011. But his love of his university lives. One of the more recent gifts from the lifelong Fighting Illini fan and his wife, Marge, endowed the salary of the men's basketball head coach position. This \$2 million gift significantly increased their previous seven-figure commitment to the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Their generosity extends across the U-C campus. In 2004, Mr. Richmond made a six-figure gift creating the Jack C. Richmond Scholarships for members of the men's varsity gymnastics team. In 2003, the Richmonds made a \$1.5 million gift resulted in Richmond Family Gallery, the first floor reception area in the Alice Campbell Alumni Center. The Richmonds also provided a \$2 million gift to the College of Communications in 1998 that created the Richmond Journalism Teaching Studio, a broadcast facility for journalism students in Campbell Hall for Public Telecommunication. The Richmond Studio and the Richmond Family Gallery honor Jack and Marge as well as the memory of Jack's parents, Arthur Dean and Mildred Hummel Richmond.

"The Richmond Family Endowed Men's Head Basketball Coach" is another example of the generations-long benevolence of the Richmond family. Jack's ancestors helped settle Champaign County, and his parents contributed to the U of I for the construction of Memorial Stadium. Seven-year-old Jack was on hand for the dedication of Memorial Stadium on Oct. 18, 1924, a day forever highlighted by Red Grange's five touchdowns during an Illinois romp over top-ranked Michigan. Jack Richmond was hooked on Fighting Illini sports for the rest of his life.

But before he could attend the U of I, he learned a few lessons in life. The Richmonds were devastated by the Great Depression, losing their significant holdings of farmland and other assets. The dramatic change in lifestyle had a profound effect on young Jack.

It also made him further appreciate the University of Illinois.

His years at the U of I were greatly satisfying. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta social fraternity and was active in sports. As a freshman gymnast who earned his numerals with the U of I team, Jack broke his sternum following a dismount from the flying rings. No longer able to compete as a gymnast, he focused his attention on weight training. At that point, weights weren't popular and were nonexistent at the U of I.

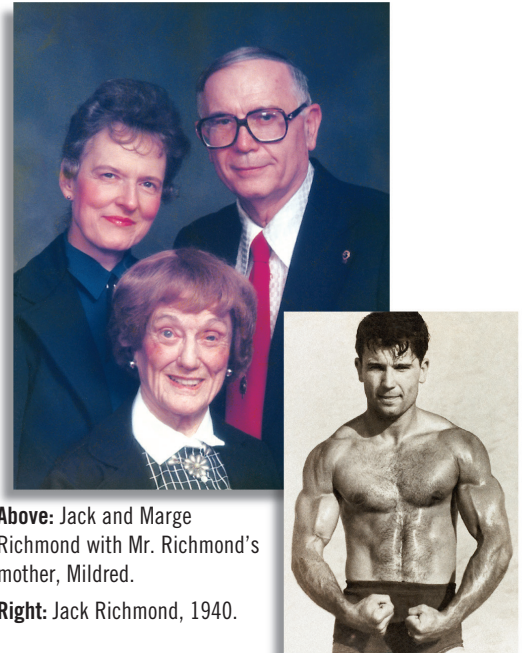
Still, he convinced Seward Staley, director of the U of I School of Physical Education, to purchase a set of Olympic weights. A small but dedicated weight lifting team was formed, and the sport spread to first to the intramural level and then was adopted by the physical education department as a P.E. course.

Today, the benefits of weight training are widely recognized and top-notch equipment is available across campus.

Those muscles paid off for Jack, who was a railroad worker, wrecking crew member, meat truck driver, corn detassler, lifeguard, bouncer and even a model for the U of I art school to pay for his education. He graduated in 1943 with a bachelor's degree in agriculture.

He followed up his four years of ROTC at the U of I with a tour in the Army. Then he put his degree to work when he joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service as a county farm planner, opening district offices in Macon County and Clark County.

Later, Mr. Richmond was recruited by a former member of the U of I gymnastics team as a salesman for Marchant Calculators. His capacity to sell was exceptional, and he soon had clients from area grain elevator operators to the U of I. He remained with Marchant, which was acquired by Smith Corona and became known as SCM Corp., until 1972. Then he was ready to embark on a new course — the stock market.



Above: Jack and Marge Richmond with Mr. Richmond's mother, Mildred.

Right: Jack Richmond, 1940.

He had dabbled in the market since 1955, but by the early 1970s he had the time and resources to become more active in the stock market. He enjoyed success in this realm as well, and was more than willing to share. A donor since 1965, his generosity to the U of I increased significantly over the years. Jack and his mother became members of the Presidents Council in 1976 and Marge became a member in 1990.

Always interested in athletics at the U of I, Jack and Mildred Richmond had made a \$1 million commitment to the Athletic Department in 1981. He became an honorary member of the I Man's Association and had been a member and former president of the Illini Quarterback Club since 1955. He also joined the Rebounders Club shortly after former head coach Lou Henson founded it and had been a life member of the Fighting Illini Scholarship Fund.

The Richmond name will be forever associated with athletics at the U of I through the endowment of the men's basketball head coach position. For lifelong Fighting Illini fan Jack Richmond, that always seemed most appropriate.