

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 fifth season in charge of the Fighting Illini program in 2016-17. He has led the Illini to an average of more than 19 wins per season during his tenure along with postseason appearances in three of his first four years in Champaign, owning a record of 77-61.

Groce continues his relentless pursuit to build a championship program in all phases. There have been signature wins on the court, player development improvements, recruiting success, and achievement in the classroom as well. Illinois has carried a team GPA over 3.0 for five consecutive semesters, highlighted by a 3.27 in fall 2015 – tied for the highest among all UI men’s teams – and a 3.07 in spring 2016. A team-record six players earned 2015-16 Academic All-Big Ten accolades, and the program’s most recent NCAA Academic Progress Rate (APR) multiyear score of 990 ranked third in the Big Ten.

Last year’s team dealt with an unprecedented number of injuries. Groce employed 14 different starting lineups as a total of seven players missed a combined 101 games. But the Illini continued to battle in the face of adversity, playing 14 contests that were either decided by five points or less or tied at the end of regulation. Illinois won 15 games, including top-25 victories over No. 20 Purdue at home and against No. 20 Iowa in the Big Ten Tournament second round, with the Illini becoming the lowest seed ever to advance to the league’s tournament quarterfinal.

During the 2014-15 season, Groce directed Illinois to 19 wins and its first .500 campaign in Big Ten play since 2011. After falling just shy of an NCAA Tournament bid, the Illini earned 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 Groce’s first three seasons.

Illinois went perfect in the month of November for the third straight year, capped with 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. 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.



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

HEAD COACH JOHN GROCE

Groce led the Illinois program to a number of achievements during his first year in 2012-13 – including 23 victories 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 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 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 made a strong push for the Elite Eight before falling to No. 1 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 45-year-old Groce has a total of 23 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 511-273.

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 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

GROCE'S CAREER COACHING RECORD

HEAD COACH

University of Illinois

	Overall/Conf. (Finish)	Postseason
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
2015-16	15-19 / 5-13 (12th)	
Four Years	77-61 (.558) / 29-43 (.403)	

Ohio University

	Overall/Conf. (Finish)	Postseason
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)

	Overall/Conf. (Finish)	Postseason
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)

	Overall/Conf. (Finish)	Postseason
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)

	Overall/Conf. (Finish)	Postseason
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)

	Overall/Conf. (Finish)	Postseason
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)

	Overall/Conf. (Finish)	Postseason
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 (8 Years): 162-117 (.581)
 Assistant Coach (15 Years): 349-156 (.691)
 Total (23 Years): 511-273 (.652)

HEAD COACH JOHN GROCE

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 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 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
Chattanooga	0-1	0-1
Chicago State	2-0	2-0
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	3-5	3-5
Indiana State	1-0	2-0
Iowa	2-4	2-4
Iowa State	0-1	0-1
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	1-1	1-1
Miami	0-2	0-2
Miami (Ohio)	0-0	6-3
Michigan	1-7	2-7
Michigan State	2-4	2-4
Middle Tennessee	0-0	1-0
Minnesota	6-2	6-2
Missouri	3-1	3-1
Morgan State	0-0	1-0
Nebraska	4-3	4-3
Norfolk State	1-0	2-0
North Carolina	0-0	0-1
North Carolina A&T	0-0	2-0
North Dakota State	1-0	1-0
North Florida	0-1	0-1
Northern Illinois	0-0	4-0
Northern Iowa	0-0	1-0
Northwestern	3-3	3-3
Notre Dame	0-1	0-1
Oakland	0-0	1-1
Ohio Valley	0-0	1-0
Ohio State	1-6	1-6
Oregon	0-2	0-2
Penn State	4-1	4-1
Pittsburgh	0-0	0-1
Portland	0-0	1-0
Providence	0-1	0-1
Purdue	3-4	3-4
Robert Morris	0-0	0-3
Rutgers	3-0	3-0
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 Dakota	1-0	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
UAB	1-0	1-0
UIC	2-0	2-0
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	2-0	2-0
Western Michigan	0-0	3-2
William & Mary	0-0	1-0
Winthrop	0-0	1-0
Wisconsin	0-7	0-7
Wright State	0-0	2-0
Xavier	0-0	0-1
Yale	1-0	1-0
TOTAL	77-61	162-117

DUSTIN FORD

ASSISTANT COACH



Dustin Ford is in his fifth 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 Waginger (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 at Kent State and Bradley and is now an assistant coach at Stony Brook.

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 fifth 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 fifth 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 second 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 his last three years at Florida 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 a son, Brandon, and 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

ADAM FLETCHER

STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH



Adam Fletcher is in his second 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 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

ATHLETIC TRAINER



Paul Schmidt is in his fifth season in charge of athletic training for the Illini men's basketball program.

Now in his 23rd year working in college athletics, Schmidt is in his 11th year at Illinois after previously serving 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.

JAMES HARING DIRECTOR OF BASKETBALL OPERATIONS



James Haring is in his first season as director of basketball operations at Illinois after being hired in September. It is his third season overall on head coach John Groce's staff, following two years as a graduate manager.

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

Prior to arriving at Illinois, Haring was a student manager for the West Virginia basketball program, under the direction of coach Bob Huggins, for four seasons from 2011-14. He earned the title of head manager during his senior year in 2014. 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 and earned a master's degree in educational policy studies from the University of Illinois in 2016.

DREW DUNN GRADUATE MANAGER



Drew Dunn is in his first season as graduate manager for the Fighting Illini.

Dunn previously served three years as a student manager on coach John Groce's staff, including head manager duties as a senior during the 2014-15 season.

Prior to rejoining the Illinois program, he spent one year as a cash accountant with Health Alliance.

A native of Decatur, Illinois, Dunn graduated with honors from the University of Illinois in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in accountancy.

BASKETBALL SUPPORT STAFF



DERRICK BURSON
ASSISTANT ATHLETICS DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATION

Derrick Burson is in his 18th year as a member of the Illinois athletics communication office, and 16th 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.



JULIE PIOLETTI
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Julie Pioletti is in her 10th 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 fourth 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 also serves as the DIA's representative on Inclusive Illinois, the University's commitment to celebrating diversity and cultivating inclusion. She is in her second year, meanwhile, on the Ethnic Concerns Committee (ECC) for the National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletics. In August 2016 she assumed the role of Region III liaison with the ECC's outreach initiative.

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.



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 ninth 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 recognized 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.

DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS JOSH WHITMAN



Illinois alumnus Josh Whitman was hired as the university's 14th permanent director of athletics on February 17, 2016. On March 7, less than 48 hours following his first official day, Whitman made national headlines when he announced the hiring of coaching icon Lovie Smith as the new Fighting Illini football coach. Whitman's "We Will Win" mantra and message of unity, optimism, and bold action have rekindled the fire in the hearts of Illini fans everywhere.

"It is a dream come true for me to return to my alma mater as the next director of athletics," Whitman said after being hired at Illinois. "With strong leadership, a bold vision, daring integrity and an unparalleled commitment from a unified and active Illini Nation, together we can build an athletics program befitting our great institution. I will work tirelessly to achieve our goals. The future is bright for the Illini."

Barbara Wilson, who was serving as interim chancellor at the time, said Whitman's Illinois heritage made him an appealing candidate for the position. "He impressed us all with his work ethic, his passion, his concern for the welfare of student-athletes and his commitment to diversity. He has a record of leaving programs under his leadership better and stronger than when he arrived."

Wilson commented on Whitman's record of improvements in facilities, increased fundraising activity and strategic organizational changes that positioned his programs for successful futures.

"He understands the business of modern college athletics, but he hasn't lost any of the sense of fun and joy that should be part of amateur sports," Wilson said. "At Illinois, we want to compete hard, act with integrity and give our student-athletes the kind of positive experiences that stay with them throughout their lives and careers. If you want to see what that looks like, you just have to look at the leadership and accomplishments of Josh Whitman."

UI ATHLETICS 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
2011-2015	Mike Thomas
2015-16	Paul Kowalczyk (interim)
2016-	Josh Whitman

University of Illinois President Tim Killeen said he was impressed in his personal meeting with Whitman by his integrity, experience and vision for leading the Illinois athletics. "Josh has excelled at every level - student and professional athlete, attorney and athletic administrator," Killeen said. "Orange-and-blue is in his bloodstream, and he is committed to the U. of I. for the long run. He will take the Illini athletics program to great success, and he'll have all my support."

Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delany described the selection as an outstanding hire. "Josh is well-respected, very bright, and as an

alum, knows what it means to be a member of the Fighting Illini," Delany said. "He will be a terrific addition to the university and the conference, and we look forward to working with him."

Prior to coming to Illinois, Whitman spent nearly six years as an athletics director at two universities. At those two institutions, Whitman's teams earned four national titles and 24 top-five team finishes, plus 34 conference championships.

The 37-year-old Whitman came to Illinois following almost two years as director of athletics at Washington University in St. Louis, a nationally recognized NCAA Division III program with 19 varsity sports and approximately 500 student-athletes. During Whitman's tenure, the program posted seven top-five NCAA finishes, a combined GPA of 3.35, and a graduation rate of 99 percent. Of the more than 450 Division III schools, Washington University ranked No. 1 in the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup at the time of Whitman's departure.

Whitman has two Illinois degrees. He graduated with Bronze Tablet honors in 2001 while earning a bachelor's degree in finance. In 2008, he graduated summa cum laude from the Illinois College of Law. He also worked in various administrative capacities within the Illinois athletic department while attending law school.

On the gridiron for the Fighting Illini, Whitman was a four-year starting tight end from 1997-2000 and two-time First Team Academic All-American. He then spent parts of four seasons as a player in the National Football League, including stints with the San Diego Chargers, Miami Dolphins, Seattle Seahawks and Buffalo Bills.

Before joining Washington University, Whitman served as the director of athletics at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Previously, he practiced law in Washington, D.C., with Covington & Burling LLP, a firm with a preeminent sports practice that represents, among many other clients, the NFL. He also served as a judicial law clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

He remains a licensed attorney and is a member of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics and a member of the Sports Lawyers Association.

Whitman grew up in West Lafayette, Indiana. He and his wife, Hope, reside in Champaign with their daughter, Tate.



DIA ADMINISTRATION / SUPPORT STAFF



Warren Hood
Deputy Director of Athletics



Paul Kowalczyk
Executive Senior Associate AD
Sport Administration



Jason Lener
Executive Senior Associate AD
Sport Administration



Susan Young
Executive Senior Associate AD
Chief Financial Officer



Maria Ochoa Woods
Senior Associate AD
Senior Woman Administrator



Marty Kaufmann
Senior Associate AD
Business Development



Howard Milton
Senior Associate AD
Development



Keiko Price
Senior Associate AD
Sport Administration



Ryan Squire
Senior Associate AD
Chief Integrity Officer



Randy Ballard
Associate AD
Sports Medicine



Kent Brown
Associate AD
Media Relations



John Chipman
Associate AD
Business Affairs



Marlon Dechausay
Associate AD
Academic Services



Zach Goines
Associate AD
Development



Jason Heggemeyer
Associate AD
Ticketing and Sales



Nick Rogers
Associate AD
Information Technology



Holly Stalcup
Associate AD
Event Management



Kevin Ullestad
Associate AD
State Farm Center



Carrie Ummel
Associate AD
Development



Benjy Wilber
Associate AD
Compliance



Lenny Willis
Associate AD
Facilities



Brad Wurthman
Associate AD
Marketing and Fan Development



Christopher Span
Faculty Representative



Matthew Wheeler
Faculty Representative



Zach Acton
Event Coordinator



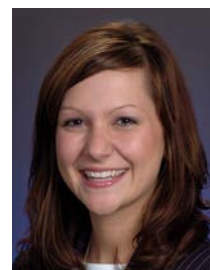
Brian Amendt
Director
Ticketing



Cory Ansfield
Assistant AD
I FUND Scholarships



Dustin Boyer
Director
Premium Seating



Bobbi Busboom
Assistant AD
Development, Operations



Troy Collier
Team Chaplain

DIA ADMINISTRATION / SUPPORT STAFF



Terry Conlon
Director
Concessions



Kyle Croy
Assistant Equipment
Manager



Eddie Diazmunoz
Creative Director



Tom Divan
Director of Facility Management
State Farm Center



Haven Fields
Assistant AD
Development, Chicago



Lauren Frantz
Learning Specialist
Academic Services



Dr. Robert Gurtler
Head Team Physician
Orthopedic Physician



Davis Hendrickson
Assistant Director
Development



Dr. Jeremy Henrichs
Team Physician



Barry Houser
Conductor
Athletic Bands



Kathy Kaler
Assistant AD
Academic Services



Adam Marantz
Director
Digital Design and Production



John Marquardt
Assistant Director
State Farm Center



Jason Marry
Associate Director
Fighting Illini Productions



Maria McDevitt
Assistant Director
Development



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
Cheerleaders Coach



Michelle Stenger
Digital Strategist



Sabrina Thiel
Director
Marketing



Chris Tuttle
Director
Development



Sue Walker
Associate Director
State Farm Center



Brian Walsh
Director
Summer Camps and Clinics



Brady Welsh
Assistant Strength Coach



Randy Younker
General Manager
Fighting Illini Sports Properties

2016-17 ATHLETICS BOARD

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Ann K Perry
Audwin Rowe
David Williams

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Kelly Bost
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Michael LeRoy
Michael Raycraft
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Faculty Athletics Representatives

Christopher Span
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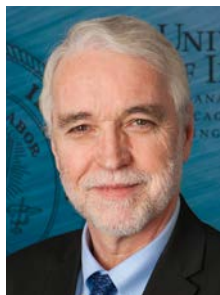
Dillan Cazley
TBA
TBA

Ex-Officio Members

Mike Bass
Mike DeLorenzo
Josh Whitman

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.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Karen Hasara
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Patrick J. Fitzgerald
Dr. Timothy N. Koritz
James D. Montgomery

Ramón Cepeda
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Jill B. Smart
Collin Schumock, student
Jauwan Hall, student
Nathan Hoffman, student

ROBERT JONES CHANCELLOR



Robert J. Jones was named chancellor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign on July 19, assuming office on Sept. 26. Jones, who served as president of the University at Albany, State University of New York (SUNY) since 2013, is an experienced and accomplished scientist and research university leader.

Jones' tenure at one of the SUNY system's leading research universities followed a 34-year career at the University of Minnesota, a Big Ten land-grant institution, where he began as a plant physiologist in the department of agronomy and plant genetics and rose through a series of academic administrative appointments, serving as senior vice president for academic administration at the University of Minnesota System from 2004 to 2013.

A Georgia native, Jones, 65, earned a bachelor's degree in agronomy from Fort Valley State College, a master's degree in crop physiology from the University of Georgia, and a doctorate in crop physiology from the University of Missouri, Columbia. He began his academic career as a faculty member at Minnesota and became an internationally respected authority on plant physiology. He is a fellow of the American Society of Agronomy and the Crop Science Society of America.

In addition to serving as chancellor of the Urbana university, Jones will be a vice president of the University of Illinois System, which also has universities in Chicago and Springfield. Jones' tenured faculty position will be in the Department of Crop Sciences, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES). Jones is the first African-American scholar appointed as Urbana chancellor since the office was created in 1967.

During his tenure at UAlbany, Jones launched that university's largest and most strategic academic expansion in 50 years, including establishment of the nation's first integrated College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity. He created the university's first College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, nurtured a deep academic affiliation with historic Albany Law School, established the UAlbany's first vice presidency for health sciences and biomedical initiatives, and has started the conversation about reinvigorating the arts and humanities.

Throughout his distinguished career at the University of Minnesota System and on the Twin Cities campus, Jones held several progressively responsible positions at the Big Ten institution.

While senior VP for academic administration, Jones had administrative and budgetary responsibilities for public engagement initiatives central to the academic mission of the University including Minnesota's Extension Service and the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Stations. He played a leadership role in establishing a new four-year campus in Rochester and established the University's first urban research and outreach/engagement center designed to help address challenges in an economically depressed urban community. The center was recently named after Dr. Jones.

Jones is married to Dr. Lynn Hassan Jones, a diagnostic radiologist. Together they have five children and two grandchildren.

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.

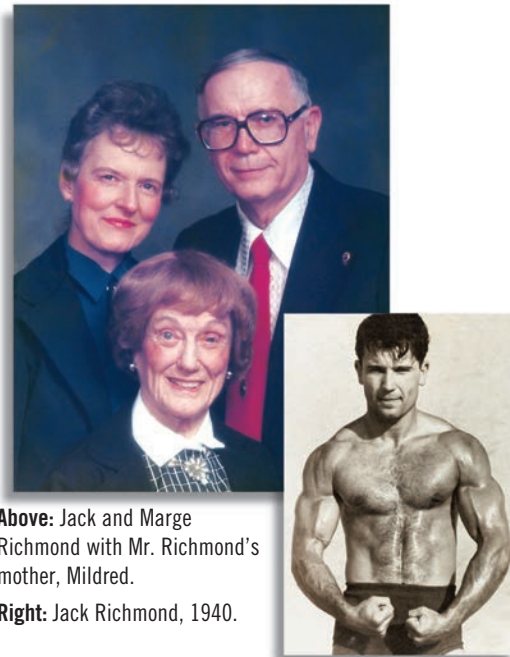
Still, he convinced Seward Staley, director of the U of I School of Physical Education, to purchase a set of Olympic weights. A small but dedicated weight lifting team was formed, and the sport spread to first to the intramural level and then was adopted by the physical education department as a P.E.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