

# BIRD'S VIEW

SUMMER 2007

## Jankovich Hits the Ground Running

While most college coaches would acknowledge that the job is a 24-hour, 365-day-a-year process, few would have further proof of that phenomenon than new Illinois State head basketball coach Tim Jankovich. Since officially starting at ISU on March 26, following Kansas' run to the NCAA Tournament Elite Eight, Jankovich's life has been a whirlwind that's yet to stop.

Through the first six weeks of the job, recruiting, interviewing assistant coaching candidates, and house shopping have occupied the majority of Jankovich's time. When this publication went to print, he had signed two junior college standouts to join the Redbirds for next season, and welcomed two new assistant coaches to his staff.

Jankovich's first signing was 6-2 guard Emmanuel Holloway, who starred at Iowa Western Junior College for the past two seasons. Brandon Sampay, a 6-8, 255-pound post player from Howard College (Texas) quickly followed by signing a national letter of intent on May 8. Both players will have two years of eligibility beginning next season.

ISU's two newest assistant coaches are nine-year Division I coaching veteran Anthony Beane, and Paris Parham, a well-respected high school coach in Chicago's Public League. Beane is beginning his second stint at Illinois State, where he assisted under former head coach Tom Richardson for two seasons (2000-02), and Parham also boasts 10 years of college coaching experience.

As for the house shopping, he and his wife Cindy, and son, Michael, purchased a brand new home in Bloomington in early May. Cindy and seven-year-old Michael will make the move to Illinois following the end of the school year back in Lawrence, Kan.

After officially completing his staff (he still has one assistant coaching position to fill), Jankovich will begin evaluating tape from the 2006-07



Head coach Tim Jankovich was formally announced on March 20.

campaign and finalizing next season's schedule.

With a coaching lineage that reads like a Who's Who in college basketball and over two decades of success on the hardwood, Jankovich was a logical choice for Illinois State's Director of Athletics Dr. Sheahon Zenger when searching for a replacement for Porter Moser. Along with his two previous head coaching stops (North Texas and Hutchison Community College), Jankovich had positioned himself as one of the most respected and sought after assistant coaches in the college ranks over the past eight years.

While Jankovich longed to be a head coach again, he acknowledged that it would take a unique and special university to lure him away from Kansas, one of the most tradition-filled programs in college basketball.

"Kansas is an amazing place, and it was very difficult to leave there," said Jankovich. "It is indescribable from a basketball standpoint. Michael Jordan once said that the field house 'sweats' with tradition. You also feel that when you are coaching there.

"And so to leave Kansas, my criteria was pretty strong," Jankovich added. "It had to be a university that I felt great about. I wanted to be coaching a team that I felt was in place to build on; I wanted to be working for an administration that was committed to excellence and the quality of the facilities were certainly a priority. All of those things needed to be in place for me to leave a great situation at Kansas, and ISU fit all of those descriptions. Illinois State is that special of a place."

## TRC Annual Fund On Track for 3-year Goal

With a rapid climb in new Redbird Club members and annual dollars during last year's drive, expectations heading into the 2007 TRC Annual Fund Drive were mixed.

"We came out of the gate so strong last year and really made up a lot of ground (from where the development efforts had been)," said Doug Banks, assistant athletics director for the annual fund.

The drive completed with 85 new members and \$146,000 in new revenue, falling short of the goals set prior to the drive. However, Banks and the development staff are still on pace for their three-year goals of 1,500 new members and \$1.5 million in total revenue.

"Our objective this year was to get as many new members as possible, regardless of their contribution amount," Banks said.

Another target group the fund drive teams focused on were the former TRC donors.

"We have a list of 2,300 lapsed TRC donors that were supporting Redbird athletics, but have since dropped off," Banks said. "We have been working hard on that list. It will always be a list that we will work off and we are starting to get them back in the fold."

For the second straight year, the team led by TRC President Jack Currin won the top fundraising honors. Team Currin finished with \$26,000 in new revenue.

"We did have good results from our fund drive groups this year," Banks said. "It is an on-going process and we feel comfortable with the direction we are going. On behalf of the department, I would like to thank all of our fund drive volunteers for their time and effort."

The door is always open to new TRC members, who can join by calling 309/438-3803.

## Building it Brick by Brick

While filtering through his morning mail a couple of months ago, Illinois State Associate Athletics Director for Development Aaron Leetch stumbled across a letter from Andy Smith, a TRC member and 1981 ISU graduate. The note confirmed Smith's commitment to ISU Athletics and to the Hancock Stadium renovation project, while the enclosed \$20,000 check illustrated his passion.

"Both Dr. Bowman and Dr. Zenger have talked many times about athletics being the front porch of the university, and I feel that Hancock Stadium, on Illinois State's campus, is the front porch of the front porch," Smith said. "There have been a lot of great games played at that facility and I just think it is time to dress it up. Illinois State is a large, progressing university, and it needs to have a football stadium to reflect that."

To add to the story, Leetch and Smith had never really met, only through TRC membership correspondence.

"Anytime you receive a gift from someone of \$5,000 or more that is unsolicited, it is a tremendous surprise," Leetch said. "We don't get that very often in our line of work. Typically gifts over \$5,000 come from relationships that have been built over time, not from someone you haven't met."

The estimated price tag for completing Phase I of the Hancock Stadium renovation is \$15 Million, which includes reconstructing the east side and replacing the existing press box and coaching boxes, while adding corporate suites.

The stadium is currently undergoing a bit of a facelift with the turf replacement project, which included a new drainage system and under-surface base, and the scoreboard replacement project, which will be highlighted with a new LED video board.



Left to right: Denver Johnson, Andy Smith and Aaron Leetch.

## Southwick's Final Mic Check

For almost 30 years, Skip Southwick could be found running cables on a game day or setting up for Illinois State's athletic events. However, once the football season kicks off this fall, Redbird Athletics will skip a beat as Southwick retires from the university in June.

A native on Long Island, N.Y., Southwick originally started his career as a member of the Illinois State police department, after applying for an opening in February of 1978. He worked there for nearly six years before moving just across the street to become a member of the Horton Field House facilities crew in October 1983.

Since his start as a weekend crew member in 1983, Southwick has been involved with setting up for nearly all of ISU's athletic events, as well as concerts, trade shows, and yearly commencement ceremonies that take place inside Redbird Arena. Southwick has handled sound duties for every ISU commencement held in Horton Field House and Redbird Arena since taking over as the head sound technician.

With all of that time spent in Horton Field House, Southwick fondly remembers some of the great basketball games held in the storied building.

"When we would set up for games in the field house, it just had a different feel," said Southwick. "Those games and the crowds were so loud that it was amazing. There was no doubt that our crowds in that building gave us a home court advantage and we certainly used it in our favor."

Despite Skip's retirement, there will still be a Southwick on the facilities crew as his son, Adam, will carry on the family name. Southwick will also get to spend more time with his wife, Sharon, who works at Country Insurance and Financial Services in Bloomington.



Skip Southwick

# Windy City

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# GO RED BIRDS .COM

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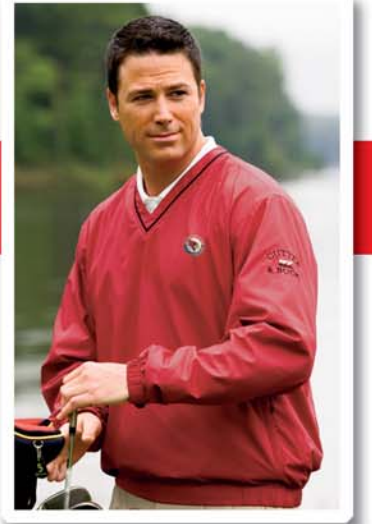
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# Senior Banquet



*Top far left:* Janiah Downing (football) addresses his peers and their parents. *Above left:* WMBD-TV Sports Director and Illinois State alum Kurt Pegler served as the emcee for the event. *Above:* Jackie Williams (softball) reflected on her time as an ISU student-athlete. *Top right:* The Battle Bird was on hand to help send the seniors off. *Right:* President Al Bowman soaked in the messages delivered by Janiah Downing and Jackie Williams. *Left:* Assistant Athletics Director for Academics and Life Skills Jane Fulton thanked the SAAC leaders for their commitment and dedication. *Middle left:* Featured speaker Ron deVries asked the Redbird seniors to seek to do justice, to show mercy and to walk humbly among those they are with.

# ISU Athletics Remembers a Coaching Legend

When Illinois State and Illinois Wesleyan faced off in the fourth-annual Horenberger-Bass Classic on May 3 at Redbird Field, the game had a different feel as ISU remembered former head coach Duffy Bass, who passed away on March 14, at the age of 81.

In a pre-game ceremony, Illinois State Director of Athletics Dr. Sheahon Zenger and Illinois State head coach Jim Brownlee, who played and coached under Bass, presented his son, Jim, along with his daughters, Linda and Laurie, with a framed jersey to commemorate the event.

Brownlee spoke fondly of his former head coach prior to the game.

"This is a very special night for me and the rest of the Illinois State baseball family," said Brownlee. "This will be the first time this game will be played without Coach Bass around. He was a mentor for me, both personally and professionally, and has done so much for me in my career. I played for him on his first team in 1963 and went on to coach for him on the 1969 national championship team. Coach was also responsible for getting me into the profession as an assistant with him in 1976 and also as a coach in the CICL."

Bass first arrived on the Illinois State campus in 1946 as an undergraduate student and member of the Redbird baseball team. Bass was a catcher on the team from 1946-1950. After graduating from ISU in 1950, Bass was a teacher and coach at University High School on the Illinois State campus until 1962, when he took time off to complete work on his doctorate from Louisiana State. Bass earned both his bachelors and masters degrees from Illinois State.

Bass received his doctorate in education in 1964, the same spring that he completed his first season at the helm of the Redbird baseball



*B.H. "Duffy" Bass  
1926-2007*

*Director of Athletics Dr. Sheahon Zenger (left) and head baseball coach Jim Brownlee (right) present Jim Bass (center) with a framed Duffy Bass jersey.*

program. By Bass' third season at ISU, the Redbirds had risen to prominence in the NCAA College Division (now Division II) with a 28-4 record and a 1966 championship of the Interstate Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and making the first of five straight trips to postseason play.

Bass' teams advanced to the NCAA College Division Playoffs from 1966-1970, highlighted by the 1969 team that finished its 33-5 season at the top of college division baseball, earning Bass the NCAA College Division Coach of the Year award. In 1976, the 'Birds were selected to play in its first NCAA Division I Baseball Tournament, as Bass was named the Illinois Coach of the Year for his efforts.

Bass also was active in summer baseball in the Bloomington-Normal area, as he founded the Twin City Stars of the Central Illinois Collegiate League in 1982 and served as the team's general manager.

Born January 11, 1926 in Toluca, Ill., Bass was a World War II veteran as a member of the United States Navy. He is also a member of the Illinois Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame and served as president and NCAA Liaison to the Central Illinois Collegiate League.



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## McCluskey-Titus Leaves Board

On May 9, 2007, Phyllis McCluskey-Titus' five-year run on The Redbird Club Board came to an end.

"Phyllis has been great to work with over the last couple of years," said Aaron Leetch, associate athletics director for development. "Her dedication and commitment to the TRC, Illinois State athletics and our student-athletes will be missed from a leadership role on the board."



*Phyllis McCluskey-Titus*

McCluskey-Titus joined the TRC Board prior to the 2002-03 academic year.

# Redbirds Flock to NFL

Having Illinois State football players selected in the NFL Draft is almost becoming as predictable as the sun coming up in the morning. For only the second time in the history of ISU football, the Redbirds had a player chosen in the NFL Draft for the third straight year.

Wide receiver Laurent Robinson joined Boomer Grigsby (Kansas City) and Brent Hawkins (Jacksonville), when he was selected in the third round by the Atlanta Falcons with the 75th pick overall. Robinson became the highest Illinois State draftee since Clarence Collins, also a wide receiver, was the 62nd pick overall in the 1984 draft.

Robinson won't be the only Redbird rookie in the league next season, as the reigning Gateway Football Conference Defensive Player of the Year, Cameron Siskowic, signed a free agent contract with the Cincinnati Bengals.

In addition, Jake Weber, who played in the 2007 Hula Bowl with Robinson, also received mini-camp invites from the Miami Dolphins and Kansas City Chiefs in May.

With Aveion Cason playing in Detroit, it is realistic that Illinois State could have six players in the NFL when the league kicks off on Sept. 6.



*Laurent Robinson eyes a pass during the Atlanta Falcons' mini-camp in May.*

# Compliance Corner

## *Violations: Secondary or Major?*



*Cindy Harris*

NCAA legislation requires an institution to investigate all suspected or alleged violations of NCAA rules. If the institution determines that a violation has occurred, the next step is to determine whether it is a secondary violation or a major violation. A secondary violation is a violation of NCAA rules that is isolated or inadvertent in nature, provides only a minimal recruiting, competitive or other advantage and does not include any significant inducement or extra benefit. All violations other than secondary violations are considered to be major violations, specifically those that provide an extensive recruiting or competitive advantage.

Secondary violations are divided into two levels: Level I and Level II. Level I violations, as determined by the NCAA enforcement staff, include any intentional violations, any similar violations that have occurred in the same sport during the same year, and violations that are not isolated. In addition, Level I violations include those that affect the eligibility of a prospective student-athlete or an enrolled student-athlete. Level I violations must be reported directly to the NCAA, while Level II violations are reported to our conference office.

Once an institution determines that a secondary violation has occurred, a penalty must be imposed. Penalties should affect the area in which the violation occurred. For example, a recruiting violation should result in a recruiting penalty. Penalties should be designed to affect the individual(s) responsible for the violation and/or the sport program. Finally, penalties should be imposed over and above just eliminating the advantage that was gained. For example, a coach who telephones a prospect on more than one occasion during the same one-week period is in violation of NCAA legislation governing phone calls. The institution would be required to preclude the coach from telephoning the PSA for a period of two weeks, or twice the number of weeks as the number of impermissible calls that occurred. This is commonly referred to as the "2-for-1" reduction.

On average, the Compliance Office reports between six and 10 NCAA secondary violations a year. This is a reasonable number given all the requirements, the paperwork, coaches, other staff members, and processes involved. Most often these secondary violations are due to simple oversight. We work hard to educate everyone involved to be diligent, thorough, and to "ask before they act" if they are uncertain about something.

*Contact Cindy Harris at 309/438-2677 if you have further questions.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO ASK BEFORE YOU ACT!**

# Raffle Winners Announced

The announcement of the winners of this year's annual Redbird Raffle took place between games of an ISU softball doubleheader at the Redbird Softball Complex on April 28.

This year, \$32,265 dollars were raised from ticket sales, with all the money being distributed directly to the sport programs. The Redbird softball team once again won the team sales award with more than \$15,000 dollars raised in raffle tickets.

Assistant to the Director Larry Morlan was pleased with the turnout this year and was happy for all the winners.

"We usually announce the winners of the raffle at the spring football game, but with the new turf being installed in Hancock Stadium, we were forced to make other plans for the announcement this year," said Morlan. "The money raised was similar to what we have done in previous years, despite the change in venue. It will do a lot of good for Redbird Athletics and we had some lucky people walk away with great prizes."

Jim Roepke of Saint Louis, Mo., was the third-place winner and received a free weekend stay at the Doubletree Hotel after buying his ticket from the soccer program. Gene Shrader of Morton, Ill., purchased his ticket from a member of the football team and ended up winning the second-place prize, a round trip airfare to anywhere AirTran Airways travels.

The first-place winner was Cyndi Jackson of Lincoln, Ill., who received an all-expenses paid vacation from Suzi Davis Travel after purchasing her ticket from a Redbird softball player.

# Second Annual Cinco de Redbirds Scores Big

Illinois State women's athletics teams, coaches, administrators and supporters gathered for the second annual Cinco de Redbirds event at Redbird Arena. The event was held on April 30th and more than 140 women attended the annual fundraising event for Illinois State women's athletics teams.

The event each year has a Mexican theme and is held around the fifth of May, or Cinco de Mayo. Women in attendance are treated to food, beverages, an auction and prizes for participating in the event.

Proceeds from the event go to a pre-established women's athletics team and this year's recipient was the tennis team. Over \$8,800 dollars were raised for the team, which will assist head coach Chris Hoover as part of the team's operating budget.

Marta Eynatten, the event organizer and member of The Redbird Club, hopes the event will continue to grow each year.

"This is a fairly new event for the department and we are still trying to make it one of the more fun events each spring," said Eynatten. "The purpose of the event is to not only raise money for our women's athletic programs, but also to get new Redbird fans involved with the department.

"All of the women who came to the event want to support our programs at ISU and really want them to succeed. Some are already members of The Redbird Club, while others are prominent women from the community who really care about supporting and mentoring successful young women, like our student-athletes."



*Above: Some female Redbird student-athletes were on hand to help make the event special. Left: Cinco de Redbirds brought prominent women from the Bloomington-Normal community together to support Redbird Athletics.*



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