By Elaine Graybill

Kevin Eggan ’92, who is carrying out groundbreaking scientific work at the Harvard Stem Cell Institute, said he has “a grave responsibility” to communicate to the public what his laboratory is doing. Educating non-scientists is just as important as what goes on in the petri dish, he said, because misconceptions about stem cell research could end it through loss of funding and other “extrinsically imposed” limitations. Eggan spends about half his time talking with reporters from major national media outlets, legislators, and other policymakers. In fall 2006 he gave sworn testimony to the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations.

Eggan received a great deal of media attention in September 2006 when the MacArthur Foundation awarded him a half-million-dollar “genius grant”—one of 25 it gave last year to acknowledge people who are doing creative and significant work in their fields.

The greatest significance of the MacArthur grant is “the political and social statement it sends,” Eggan said, “that a mainstream agent for change supports this type of research, that these aren’t fringe technologies, and that responsible and careful people are in favor of it.” Other scientific entities that have named Eggan among the best and brightest in the past few years include the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Technology Review, Scientific American, and Popular Science. Eggan’s most unlikely honor came when People magazine named him “sexiest genius in the country” on November 27, 2006.

While the scientific community hails Eggan’s victories in the fight to find a cure for neurodegenerative diseases and other serious medical conditions, including diabetes, there are many who condemn on religious, political, or ideological grounds the work he and his fellow scientists are doing.

The crux of this type of research is that embryonic stem cells have the unique ability to grow into any kind of cell in the body. The method for the research has been to remove the nucleus, which contains the DNA, from a donated human egg and replace it with the nucleus of an adult cell from a patient with the disease that is being studied. After several days there is a tiny embryo that has been cloned, because it contains the DNA of only one individual.

continued on page 3
President’s letter

By Matt Hartman ’82

Prior to agreeing to serve as president-elect of the alumni board last year (and as president this year), I admit I had let my connection with U-High weaken. But since my first board meeting in January 2006 I have had a few surprises. U-High grads are everywhere and doing great things.

My first surprise came as I was recruiting alums to help out with the 2006 Homecoming social. I was working my way through a list of 1995 grads, hoping they would feel a generous afterglow following their 2005 reunion. I phoned the home of Kristi Bertolet, and was informed she is in Burundi as a relief worker. “Wow,” I thought, “what a rare and selfless thing to do.” I continued down the list, expecting to find folks with more common, local jobs—folks just sitting around waiting to volunteer to work the social. Next call? Kyrgyzstan. Peace Corps. So I retreated to the tried-and-true list of former volunteers.

My next surprise came in a short article in the Pantagraph. The article stated that John Zimmerman ’84 was promoted to the rank of commander in the U.S. Navy, and had taken command of the USS Jefferson City, a nuclear submarine of the Los Angeles class. He looked dignified and confident in the picture with the article; it gave my U-High pride a boost that someone from our school has excelled at serving our nation. Thanks, John. You can read a short bio of John at www.ussjeffersoncity.net.

Another surprise, again from the Pantagraph: Kevin Eggen ’92 was awarded a $500,000 fellowship from the MacArthur Foundation for his research on stem cells at the Harvard Stem Cell Institute. Folks, that’s MacArthur—as in the MacArthur genius grants. And Harvard—as in Harvard. Kevin’s cup runneth over. Check it out in this newsletter’s feature article.

Then on homecoming Friday, I was surprised yet again, this time by the talent of artist Tom Kendall ’67, whose latest creation now adorns the wall next to the library, across from the main office. It’s the U-High seal in bronze, surrounded by Tom’s porcelain artwork. Tom, I found out, is a successful artist whose works are available in galleries in 23 states and Washington, D.C. A collection of his work is part of the Carnegie Collection of Decorative Art at the Smithsonian Institute.

I picked all of this up just by paying attention over the course of one summer. These surprises are not the result of unusual activity among U-High grads, but instead my lack of attention. But I am waking up and reconnecting. I suggest you reconnect, too. You perhaps are aware of other remarkable achievements by our grads. If so, use the form found in this newsletter to nominate someone for one of the Alumni Association awards. Or reconnect by volunteering to work with the Alumni Association. Any way you chose to reconnect, you’re in for a surprise.

A quick postscript: On October 26 I went with my sister, Robbi Hartman Muir ’74, to see the Heartland Jazz Orchestra at the Coffeehouse in uptown Normal. The band’s guest sax soloist that evening was someone named Adam Larson, and he can flat wail. Then I found out he is only a junior in high school, and he’s already played at the House of Blues in Chicago. As I said, he is a junior in high school...ah, but which high school? U-High. Surprise, surprise.

Support our troops

Thank you to all of our University High School alumni who are bravely serving in our armed services during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.
The embryo is destroyed and the embryonic stem cells are studied to provide insight into the causes and cures of the disease of the donor of the nucleus. Eggan made a major breakthrough in 2005 by creating human stem cells by using an adult skin cell rather than an egg.

Eggan believes educating the public about stem cell research will create more support for it and in practical terms allow it to continue. “Opponents of stem cell research and supporters of restrictions on it are many of the same people who oppose abortion,” he said. “Those opponents would like to simplify stem cell research by promoting the misconception that it is abortion. That also is true for somatic cell nuclear transplantation [also known as therapeutic cloning]. There is so much misinformation that needs to be battled. Surveys have shown that people are more supportive of stem cell research when they understand the issue better.”

One result of the controversy around stem cell research is that in 2001 President George W. Bush sharply curtailed federal funding of the research, which makes private funding from the Stowers and MacArthur sponsors the lifeblood of Eggan’s work.

Eggan understands well the human benefits that will accompany cures for the illnesses he is studying after losing his grandmother to Parkinson’s disease last year. “My family has been touched personally by that,” he said. Eggan’s parents, Larry and Chris Eggan, live in Normal.

When asks what motivates him, Eggan named a list of things that drive him: exploration, discovery, figuring something out, understanding things for the first time, and understanding how things work. Also, there is his love of the laboratory. He recalls the moment as a University of Illinois undergraduate microbiology major when he discovered he could feed his hunger for those experiences in the laboratory. “The first time I got into a lab in college I couldn’t believe people got paid to do this.” He said “one of the most fun things is to pose a question and do an experiment that tests it and come up with an answer. The way the scientific method is taught in schools makes it seem not so exciting.” Eggan earned his Ph.D. in biological sciences at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Eggan said his years at U-High were a landmark period that helped to prepare him for his career. “Going there allowed me to reinvent myself in a new and exciting way,” Eggan said. “The experience made me unafraid of trying new things and it was the first time I was able to try being a leader.” His leadership took the form of being captain of the cross-country and track teams. During his time as captain, the cross-country team went to the state meet for the first time, and a couple of years later they won the state championship.

“U-High is a very unusual and special type of high school—in size, curriculum, and approach,” he said. “I was fortunate to be selected and to be able to go to U-High.”

Eggan’s overarching motivation these days is to be an agent for social change. He said working at the juncture of science and society as he does creates responsibility in both worlds. “It is a privilege, not a right, to be in the lab,” Eggan said, “and we earn the privilege by being responsive to the society around us.”

**Gift of art is a labor of love: New U-High seal dedicated on homecoming day**

*By Gail Lamb, director of development*

Artist Tom Kendall ’67 received his Bachelor of Science in art from Illinois State in 1971, followed by his Master of Science in ceramics from Illinois State in 1973. A renowned artist, Kendall creates unique sculptures and vessels using wood, metal, and porcelain that are then decorated in leaf patterns.

When Kendall was asked in 2004 to create a piece of his ceramic work as a gift to be displayed at U-High he responded quickly with a “yes.” Kendall’s mother and four siblings had moved to Normal in 1965, after his mother had been widowed. This was just in time for him to complete his junior and senior years at U-High. The experience was positively different than the schools he had attended before, and provided the background for his future educational development and success as a unique artist. As his idea for the art piece began to come together, his sister Meredith Kendall Lovelass ’70 and her husband Tom Lovelass ’69 offered to contribute a bronze replica of the U-High seal which would serve as the center of the porcelain ceramic art.

When Kendall finished this work in the spring of 2006, he wrote that “making the piece was an enjoyable experience because it allowed me to recall my youth and the time I spent in high school.

Meredith and I were talking a while back and I remarked that our coming to Normal was a turning point for our family and one which had a positive influence in our lives. The quality of education at U-High and Illinois State was first-rate and the friendliness of the community had a transforming effect on us all. I hope this seal will make a small improvement in the atmosphere of the school and bring a feeling of pride to the students who notice it, for I myself am proud to have been a student at University High School.”

This new gift of the University High School seal was presented at a dedication ceremony hosted by Illinois State University President Al Bowman at U-High’s homecoming on September 22, 2006. Kendall is now a resident of Plainwell, Michigan, and is the owner and sole operator of his studio, The Oak Leaf Pottery, which is found online at www.mei.net/~oakleafpottery.
2007 Pioneer Golf Outing
Saturday, June 9, 2007
Illinois State University Golf Course

Tee times
9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Awards
4–5 p.m.

Awards will be given for first-, second-, and third-place teams. Action prize on each hole.

Fee
$300 per team. Includes official tournament bag of goodies, lunch at the turn, green fees, and cart. $75 for individuals, who will then be assigned to a team. $50 for individual U-High students and U-High students in college.

All entries must be received at U-High by Monday, June 5. All fees must accompany the entry form, found at www.uhighilstu.edu. Tee times will be assigned by June 7. Please call the U-High Activities Office at (309) 438-7373 after June 8 to confirm your time.

Reunion planner

Class of 1987
20-year reunion
September 28 and 29, 2007
Contact Chuck Sullivan at sullivan91@insightbb.com

Class of 1982
25-year reunion
Contact Roger Bayston or Kurt Wolter at uhighb82@gmail.com

Class of 1972
35-year reunion
Contact Dave Mizer at (309) 454-1618 or mizspoon@aol.com

Class of 1957
50-year reunion
Contact Charles Spier at debo79@frontiernet.net

Future homecoming dates
September 28, 2007
October 3, 2008
October 9, 2009
October 8, 2010

Is this your milestone year?
Contact the UHSAA for aid in organizing and planning your class reunion. Now is the time to get the ball rolling to reconnect classmates for a rewarding gathering.

Sesquicentennial celebration

Robert Dean, superintendent, laboratory schools

Illinois State University began to celebrate its 150th birthday in February 2007. Since the history of the laboratory schools dates back to the beginning of the University, the schools will also be celebrating this noteworthy milestone. The University will be hosting many special events throughout the year to celebrate its rich history (a listing is available at IllinoisState.edu/home/anniversary). The laboratory schools are also planning some special birthday events to celebrate their unique history.

The primary purpose of the laboratory schools is reflected in the founding mission of Illinois State University, which is preparing teachers. When Illinois State Normal University was first established in 1857, President Charles Hovey and other leaders at the University established the laboratory schools to give practical classroom experience to students preparing to be teachers. Hovey was also the first principal of the schools. On November 2, 1857, the model school opened in Major’s Hall in downtown Bloomington with Mary Brooks as its first teacher. The class of seven students paid 50 cents a week in tuition. The laboratory schools have been engaged in teacher education since the very beginning of the institution.

For many years, I have been asked to present a brief history of the laboratory schools during our annual homecoming events. I would like to share this colorful history with the readers of the Pioneer in timeline form, but first, a cautionary note is in order. This is my best attempt to interpret historical data related to the laboratory schools at Illinois State University. Historical sources (as limited as they are with regard to the laboratory schools) were not always consistent in their presentation of a particular event. Nonetheless, you will see that the laboratory schools have a very long and rich history that should fill Pioneer hearts with pride. If you have any information about unique events or people that should be included in the history of the laboratory schools, please send them to me at rldean@IllinoisState.edu. Collectively, we can make it our goal to record more of the history so that it is available for future readers. Thank you!

1857
President Charles Hovey and other leaders at the University established the laboratory schools to give practical classroom experience to students preparing to be teachers. Hovey was also the first principal of the schools. Initially, the maintenance of the model school involved no support from the State of Illinois; thus, it was tuition driven ($25 per year for the high school and $15 per year in the grammar grades). The model school’s first location was Major’s Hall in downtown Bloomington.

1861
The laboratory schools occupied six rooms on the first floor of Old Main. President Edwards began his duties in 1862 (15 years in office). He had already started two other teacher colleges—one in Salem, Massachusetts, and the other in St. Louis, Missouri. He and noted educator Horace Mann were good friends.

1865
The first high school class graduated.

1868
The first village school opened, thereby drawing students and revenue from the model school.

1873
In 1873, 71.4 percent of public-supported teacher colleges had laboratory schools.

1874
The University grew to the point at which President Edwards could no longer supervise 50–60 pupil teachers while also teaching. The supervision duties included private interviews (critiques) with each pupil teacher. Thus, he selected Thomas Metcalf to supervise teacher college students. Professor Metcalf was widely known and it was said that his appointment ‘dignified...
1895
Governor Altgeld ordered the closing of the high school; he believed the school was serving the community rather than the cause of teacher training. The University also faced space shortages and financial challenges.

1909
The high school reopened.

1909
The green and gold colors were chosen at an all-school assembly; that same year the name was changed to University High School.

1911
Class Night occurred for the first time.

1912
Passing the “lamp of knowledge” became a tradition.

1913
The Thomas Metcalf Training School Building (presently known as Moulton Hall) was completed.

1918
Students from Illinois Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Children’s School (ISSCS) attended University High School from 1918 until it closed in 1979.

1929
The U-High crest, with its shield, cog wheel, and lamp of knowledge, was adopted in a school-wide vote.

1932
The first issue of the Clarionette rolled off the press.

1945
The Pioneer mascot was officially adopted. Irving Tick ’46 won the contest to name the Green and Gold when his entry, “Pioneers,” was selected.

1947
Clarise Parker Jefferson ’47 wrote the words for the U-High alma mater:

Proudly hail our Alma Mater.
To her e’er be true.
Sing her praise in mighty chorus,
laud and glory too.
Cheer the team. Support its standards.
Back the Pioneers.
Gladly say that you’re from U-High.
Uphold her through the years.

1951
Fairchild Hall was built to prepare teachers to serve children whose disabilities in some way limited the education they received in the local schools.

1957
When the current Metcalf building opened, the Thomas Metcalf Building on the Quad was changed to the University High School building. U-High’s first home, Old Main, was torn down during the summer of 1958.

1965
University High School, located on the corner of Gregory and Main streets, opened. John Wroan ’45 was the general contractor.

1972
A report by the Board of Higher Education led to the closure of all laboratory schools in Illinois except at Illinois State and the University of Illinois.

1977
James Horner, Illinois State vice president and provost, announced the laboratory schools would be closed due to lack of funding. Political forces intervened and the schools continued to operate.

1980
Senator Maitland and Ben Hubbard led the effort to secure funding from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) rather than the Illinois Board of Higher Education. In exchange, the schools began to operate more like other K–12 school systems as they were required to comply with selective ISBE rules and regulations.

Old Clarions available for purchase

There are a limited number of Clarions available for $10 each. Please contact Barb Lichty Blunk ’53, UHSAA alumni relations coordinator, at (309) 438-2828 or blblunk@IllinoisState.edu.

If you discover any old yearbooks that you would like to donate for distribution, please contact Blunk. Several yearbooks have been retrieved from yard sales and auctions. Help preserve a part of U-High history.

Almost complete collections of past editions of the Clarion are archived at the University High School Library and the McLean County Historical Society.
2006 Alumni Award winners

2006 Distinguished Alum

Carlton E. Gamer ’46
At the age of eight, Carlton Gamer began to study piano and composition with Tanja and Hubert Kessler. As the class valedictorian at U-High, Gamer went on to acquire a bachelor’s degree in music from Northwestern University and a master’s degree in music at Boston University.

In 1954, Gamer joined the music faculty at Colorado College. During his tenure at Colorado, he served as accompanist for Hanya Holm in her summer dance workshops for two years. He also enjoyed various fellowships and teaching positions, including being an Asia Society Fellow at the University of California and in Kyoto, Japan, from 1962 to 1963; a Senior Fellow of the Council of Humanities at Princeton University in 1976; and a MacDowell Colony Fellow in 1976. He taught at Princeton University in 1974, 1976, and 1981; at the Salzburg Seminar in American Studies in 1979; and at the University of Michigan in 1982. Retirement from Colorado in 1994 provided time to study composition with eminent composer Roger Sessions and to join the Princeton Seminars in Advanced Musical Studies.

Gamer’s music has been featured in concerts and recitals throughout the United States, including such prestigious venues as New York’s Carnegie Recital Hall, the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Among its presenters have been the International Society of Contemporary Music, the Society of Composers, the Current and Modern Consort, and the College Music Society.

Gamer’s works have been heard at the San Diego International Computer Music Conference, the WNYC Festival of American Music, the Grand Teton Music Festival, the Southwestern Composers Conference, the Colorado Contemporary Music Festival, and the Colorado College Summer Music Festival. Internationally known, his music has been widely performed abroad as well, including in Sydney, Guadalajara, Oxford, Salzburg, Rome, and Warsaw.

As a music theorist, Carlton has been published widely, including articles in the Encyclopedia Britannica, the Journal of Music Theory, the Musical Quarterly, and Perspectives of New Music. He co-authored “Microtones and Projective Planes,” which was published in Music and Mathematics with mathematician Robin Wilson in 2003.

His biographical record has been included in the 2006 edition of Who’s Who in America. Recordings of his works have been issued on Capstone, Crystal, and MMC labels. Arkhe, performed by the Warsaw National Philharmonic, is currently available on MMC.

Gamer’s musical talents and successes have brought him international recognition. For his outstanding talents, successes, and contributions to his profession, he joins the select group of University High School Distinguished Alumni. Congratulations, Carlton Gamer!

2006 Pioneer Hall of Fame

Arthur J. Bonds ’60
Arthur Bonds earned a Bachelor of Science in French from Illinois State University in 1965. He spent two summers doing French graduate work; one at the University of Hawaii, Hilo, and the other at Université Catholique de l’Ouest, Angers, France. In 1984 he earned a Master of Education from the National College of Education. Bonds taught French at Kankakee Eastridge and Wheaton North high schools. He considers teaching his life calling; his goal has always been “to prepare people not just to earn a living but live a life, for it is truly the mind that makes the body rich.” While at Wheaton North, he was far from content with teaching from the standard materials. He authored Language Study in Our High Schools, a booklet for parents; co-authored Avril À Paris, French Enrollment Up, and À Québec Au Québec to aid French teachers; and authored a third-level independent student grammar packet.

During his tenure as a French teacher, Bonds’ accomplishments included the following:

• Founder and past sponsor of L’Académie Française (French Honor Society) at Wheaton North
• Co-founder and past sponsor of “Le Cercle Française” (French Club) at Wheaton North
• Chairman of foreign languages, ESL, bilingual department at Wheaton North
• Member, Wheaton North High School Multi-Cultural Committee
• Chairman, Community Unit School District #200 Foreign Language Topic Committee (seven years)
• Member, Community Unit School District #200 High School Curriculum Council
• Member, Illinois Foreign Language Teachers Association
• Member, Illinois Council of Teachers of French
• Member, American Association of Teachers of French
• Elected member, Executive Council of AATF for Chicago and Northern Illinois
• Supervisor of student teachers from Illinois State University, Western Illinois University, Wheaton College, and North Central College

Additionally, Bonds has been extremely involved in Christian education and administration within the Baptist church. He has held many positions within the church locally and has been asked to make presentations on the state, national, and
John “Mac” Holzer ’61
After graduating from U-High, Mac Holzer studied on a four-year Littman Scholarship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, where he participated in MIT’s cooperative program with RCA’s David Sarnoff Research Laboratories in Princeton, New Jersey. He was elected to engineering, electrical engineering, and science honoraries and received a Bachelor of Science in engineering in 1965. Holzer was also a Pillsbury Fellow at the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. He was elected to the business honorary and garnered a Master of Business Education in 1967.

In 1963, Holzer met Vanessa Pitangui Lucena, U-High’s first American Field Service (AFS) foreign exchange student, while in Normal on Christmas break. After three years of correspondence, a long-distance romance developed. Holzer traveled to Vanessa’s native Brazil in 1966 and the pair became engaged. They wed in Boston the following year and began a 38-year odyssey, which included four countries and Holzer’s eventual fluency in Spanish and Portuguese.

Holzer began a career in technology innovation which encompassed computer hardware, software, the Internet, and energy. His work assignments have taken him around the globe, including stops in Bogotá and Cartagena, Colombia; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Aruba, Netherlands Antilles; and Boston, New York, Miami, and Houston.

In 1967, Holzer joined the Digital Equipment Corporation (later acquired by Hewlett Packard) that developed the first mini-computer, predecessor to the personal computer. Predicated on the requirements of General Motors, he and four other engineers invented and patented the world’s first Programmable Logic Controller (PLC), which has become a staple of industrial automation worldwide, generating tens of billions of dollars in sales for the likes of licensees GE and Honeywell. Holzer became the PLC’s first product line manager; he directed the development of software to simulate and control industrial processes, and rolled out the product to the auto industry.

Holzer later joined Exxon and, during the 1970s and 1980s, negotiated crude oil off take agreements with the Colombian and Venezuelan governments, optimized refinery operations in Colombia and Aruba, orchestrated a major refinery investment program with Exxon Research and Engineering, and developed pricing strategies in the international coal market for the world’s largest mine, Colombia’s El Cerrejón.

In the 1990s, Holzer joined Exxon USA to develop a state-of-the-art relational database capable of managing the company’s hundreds of millions of dollars of property tax payments to thousands of municipalities nationwide. The strategy was to partner with a software company and create a general-purpose product for sale to other large companies. The approach freed Exxon of millions of dollars of software development and maintenance costs. In just two years, Holzer and a small Houston company, Burr Wolff, developed generic property tax software based on input from tax professionals at Exxon, Sears, and AT&T. Since its 1998 debut, the software has dominated the Fortune 500 market, and Burr Wolff has grown exponentially.

After retiring from Exxon in 1998, Holzer joined Burr Wolff as vice president and founded its property tax outsourcing division. He developed cutting-edge computer applications to permit Burr Wolff to file property tax returns and make tax payments for large companies such as Bank of America, Sears, Ryder, and others. Holzer also created “WebView,” providing clients with around-the-clock access to property tax records and reports over the Internet. He recruited programmers, clerical staff, and supervisors to handle the burgeoning growth of what became the largest property tax outsourcing operation in America.
2001, Holzer has spent time researching the current peaking of the world’s conventional oil production and future alternative energy resources. He has also become involved with the MIT Energy Research Council.

Among all of these major successes, Holzer lists his most satisfying success as his founding of an English-language preschool in Aruba.

Holzer resides in Houston. Vanessa passed away in 2006. His two sons, Jason and Erich, are graduates of Stanford University and Dartmouth College, respectively. They also live in Texas.

Congratulations to Mac Holzer on his 2006 induction into the University High School Pioneer Hall of Fame!

Michael D. Wiant ’67

Upon graduation from U-High, Mike Wiant majored in social sciences at Illinois State University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science in 1971. In 1977, he earned a Master of Science in sociology-anthropology from Illinois State University and a Master of Arts in anthropology from Northwestern University. Ten years later, he earned a Doctor of Philosophy in anthropology from Northwestern.

As an undergraduate at Illinois State, Wiant became interested in archaeology—particularly the history of Native American cultures in Illinois. Following graduation, he spent three years doing archaeological fieldwork along the lower reach of the Illinois River Valley before returning to Illinois State in 1974 and Northwestern in 1975 to complete graduate work. While in graduate school, he continued fieldwork and in 1976 became the field director of the nationally known Koster site excavation.

Wiant’s career began with the Center for American Archaeology (associated with Northwestern University) as principal investigator of the Napoleon Hollow site excavation in 1979. In 1982, he joined the staff of the Illinois State Museum and was promoted to associate curator in 1983, head of the anthropology section in 1987, and curator of anthropology in 1991.

During his tenure at the museum, Wiant directed the contract archaeology program. He also headed the team that created the Illinois Inventory of Archaeological Sites, a geographic information system-based file program. He has been awarded grants from the Institute of Museum Services, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the United States Geological Survey. He has also been awarded two from Save America’s Treasures—the most recent of which totals $325,000—to preserve an extraordinary collection of Native American artifacts.

In 1990, Wiant became a lecturer at Illinois State and in 1994 an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Sociology-Anthropology where he continues to teach a course on museums. In 2003, he accepted the position of interim director of Dickson Mounds Museum, a branch of the Illinois State Museum, which is dedicated to the history of Native American cultures in the Illinois River Valley. In 2004 he was appointed museum director.

Throughout his career, Wiant has published more than 50 articles in scientific and popular journals and has written more than 50 technical reports. He has presented numerous scientific papers at professional meetings and hundreds of public lectures on Illinois archaeology. In 1991, he started a public lecture series on archaeology at the Illinois State Museum and annual fieldtrips to archaeological sites in the Midwest; both programs continue today.

In addition, Wiant has been president of the Illinois Archaeological Survey twice and has served as a member of several national committees on the curation of archaeological collections. He is a member of the Illinois Humanities Council Road Scholars. He received the E. Burton Mercier Service Award from Illinois State in 1999 and the Professional Archaeologist Service Award from the Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology in 2006.

Mike has a stepdaughter, Elizabeth Eckert Barney.

Congratulations to Mike Wiant on his 2006 induction into the University High School Pioneer Hall of Fame!

Susan “Su” Eckert Dessa ’75

Su Eckert Dessa’s education at the laboratory schools left her feeling a strong connection to both Metcalf and U-High. The Pioneer spirit ran deep in the blood of the Eckert household. Her father, Albert, began a dedicated 30-year career teaching math at U-High in 1955; his school pride and enthusiasm were passed on to each of his six children. During the ’60s and ’70s, there was always an Eckert attending U-High.

Her mother, Nancy, served as PTA president and participated as one of the groundbreakers for the current U-High building, which was completed in 1964.

Eckert Dessa has memories of the “old U-High” (now Moulton Hall); the construction, completion, and daily life in the “new U-High”; and Stroud Auditorium. “Stroud was state of the art, and such a grand showplace for many years…Forty years later, Stroud now patiently waits for generous contributors to help restore it back to its former magnificence and grandeur,” Eckert Dessa said.

Following several out-of-state moves, Eckert Dessa, Jeff (her husband of 29 years), and their daughters returned to Bloomington-Normal in 1995. She quickly became actively involved with U-High, serving many years on the Alumni Awards Committee and as president of the U-High Alumni Board. She explained, “I wanted to give something back to the school that had given me so much. My love for U-High continues and I have been proud to serve and hope to do so in the future.” Eckert Dessa has also helped out at homecoming and in the library.

“My life’s greatest joy is watching my two bright daughters become such wonderful young women. They are fellow proud Pioneers: Grace ’97 and Kate ’07.”

Due to Su Eckert Dessa’s “give back” spirit and actions, she is being presented with the Alumni Service Award. She serves as a model for other Pioneers!
2006 Friends of U-High

Paul J. Baker
Distinguished Professor Emeritus Paul Baker studied sociology during his higher education. He received his Bachelor of Science from Baldwin-Wallace College in 1960, his Master of Education from Kent State University in 1961, his Doctor of Philosophy from Duke University in 1967, and was a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Chicago in 1971. Baker joined the Illinois State University faculty in 1965 and spent his first 20 years teaching in the Department of Sociology-Anthropology.

Baker spent the following 20 years in the Educational Administration and Foundations Department at Illinois State. This came at a time when the organization of schools and the study of school reform had been mandated, but without the tools given to make the needed improvements. His career has since been dedicated to learning how to help school leaders take advantage of opportunities in order to make schools better for their students.

Baker is nationally known through his many publications and presentations. He has worked with others to secure in excess of $500,000 in grant money for the University to pursue education reform study. Baker also received teaching excellence awards from the University and his department.

Although Baker retired in 2001, he has had a hard time backing away from these same issues that have continued to be unresolved. He has worked with 10 doctoral students as they have completed their dissertations. He likes to teach one class a semester, recently “Organizational Development of Schools.” Over the last three years, as a means of assistance to the College of Education and the school, Baker has also donated his time and expertise serving as a “friendly critic” to the U-High principal and the leaders of the U-High

Keystone Council on a variety of issues related to shared governance. This has allowed Baker to spend countless hours in the U-High building walking with faculty and administration, reviewing policies, and learning the history of the school. He has come to develop a deep understanding of the climate and philosophy of the building—what makes U-High the unique place it is.

In recognition of his selfless efforts, Paul Baker is truly a Friend of U-High!

2006 Posthumous Alumni Recognition

Ralph E. Meatyard ’43
Ralph Eugene “Gene” Meatyard attended Williams College during the 1943–1944 school year, enrolling at Illinois Wesleyan in 1950. Between Williams and Wesleyan, Meatyard served in the U.S. Navy, got married, and had three children. His growing family moved to Lexington, Kentucky, where he became an optometrist. When his youngest child was born, Meatyard borrowed a camera to take baby pictures. From that moment forward, he was hooked on photography.

Meatyard’s grasp of photography was mostly self-taught. What he wanted to show in his photos was much different from the natural grandeur featured in photographer Ansel Adams’ work. Meatyard first wanted a “billboard element” to catch your eye—to make you stop and look more closely at the photo. His use of square black-and-white film, rubber masks, and movement sometimes makes it difficult for the observer to understand his message.

Meatyard’s photos raise many questions about identity, anonymity, and particularity. They can seem terrifying or exhilarating to the observers. Many of his pictures involved his wife and his children wearing strange clothing and masks. Still an optometrist by day, Meatyard did all of his photography work on the weekends.

Meatyard’s name is discussed in high circles of photography alongside such famed photographers as Ansel Adams and Walker

U-High Alumni Association Awards nomination form

Distinguished Alum: A graduate who has made exceptional achievement and significant contributions to his or her profession, community, state, or nation

Pioneer Hall of Fame: A graduate who has made significant accomplishments within his or her career, civic duties, cultural involvement, or charitable organizations

Alumni Service: A graduate who has made significant contributions to the school or to the U-High Alumni Association

Friends of U-High: Non-graduates who have made significant contributions to University High School

NOMINEE’S NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

U-HIGH GRADUATION YEAR TELEPHONE

FACSIMILE E-MAIL

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF WHY THIS ALUM/FRIEND IS BEING NOMINATED

PERSON MAKING THIS NOMINATION TELEPHONE E-MAIL

All nominees will be contacted to fill out a more detailed form to aid the awards committee in the selection process. All nominations with completed forms are retained and reevaluated from year to year. If you would like to update your file, please send new information to the address below.

Return to University High School, University High School Alumni Association, Awards Chairperson, Campus Box 7100, Normal, IL 61790-7100
Evans. Although his style was very different from theirs, its impact on society was similar. Meatyard's work has been on display at the Museum of Modern Art, the George Eastman House (Rochester, New York), and the Smithsonian Institution. Ralph Eugene Meatyard: The Family Album of Lucybelle Crater and Other Figurative Photographs, by James Rhem, is considered by many to be the best collection of Meatyard's work.

Meatyard died of cancer in 1972.

Adlai E. Stevenson

In February 1900, Adlai E. Stevenson was born into the very prominent Stevenson family of Bloomington-Normal, the son of Lewis Stevenson, Illinois Secretary of State, and Helen Davis Stevenson. His grandfather, Adlai E. Stevenson I, was vice president of the United States during Grover Cleveland's presidency. His maternal great-grandfather was Jesse Fell, founder of Illinois State University. Fell is also credited with founding much of Normal, which was once considered North Bloomington.

After leaving University High School, Stevenson attended Choate, a preparatory school in Wallingford, Connecticut. He went on to receive his undergraduate degree from Princeton University in 1922.

Convinced by his father to attend, Stevenson enrolled in the Harvard Law School where he lasted only two years. After dropping out, he returned to Bloomington-Normal where he wrote for the family newspaper, the Daily Pantagraph. This suited Stevenson well; he had been the business manager and editor-in-chief at Choate's school newspaper and was managing editor of the Daily Princetonian at Princeton.

While living in Bloomington-Normal, Stevenson had the opportunity to spend an afternoon with Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes while attending a friend's wedding in Washington, D.C. Justice Holmes inspired Stevenson to take up law again. In 1926 he graduated from Northwestern University's School of Law. Upon graduation, he accepted a position with the Cutting, Moore & Sidley Law Firm in Chicago.

In 1945, Stevenson went to work at the State Department where he helped organize the United Nations. He served as an advisor to its first American delegation. In 1948, he resigned from the delegation staff and returned to Illinois, where he ran and won the state's gubernatorial seat.

In 1952, Stevenson became the Democratic Party's choice to run for president of the United States against Republican Dwight Eisenhower. Stevenson earned a reputation as an “intellectual.” He endeared himself to many Americans, but at the same time alienated himself from many others. Subsequently he lost the election.

By 1956, Stevenson became the only clear choice by Democratic leaders to again run for the presidency. He campaigned vigorously, calling for a change in America and based his agenda on the anticipation of the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. The American people, however, saw no need for change and re-elected Eisenhower.

Despite his two losses for the bid of presidency, Stevenson was still very popular among the American people. However, this did not influence his decision to run a third time. He declined to run and instead accepted the appointment of United States Ambassador to the United Nations from President John F. Kennedy. Stevenson held this position until his sudden death in London on July 14, 1965. Memorial services were held for the popular statesman in Washington, D.C., Springfield, and Bloomington. He is interred in the family plot at Evergreen Cemetery in Bloomington.

Fundraising campaign moves into its final year

By Gail Lamb, director of development

The campaign to raise funds for the laboratory schools is continuing, as we celebrate our successes to date and look forward to many more in the future. As of January 31, 2007, campaign contributions (deferred, outright, and gifts-in-kind) for the laboratory schools have reached $961,941. The areas identified by the campaign case statement have included the following:

- Laboratory school classroom technology enhancement
- Modernization of science laboratories at U-High
- Renovation of U-High library
- Renovation of Stroud Auditorium at Metcalf
- Athletic facilities expansion at U-High
- Small auditoriums at U-High

The year 2007 will mark the final year of our first fundraising campaign. We are deeply grateful to all of our donors and we are most appreciative of the work done by our ambassadors.

Local ambassadors

Steve Adams ’64
Dr. Buford (Duffy) and Helen Bass
Barbara ’53 and Robert Blunk
Jeannie Breitweiser ’68
Randy Butts ’74
Joan and Dr. Jack Capodice Jr.
Kellie and Mike Clapper
Dr. Frank Chiodo
Robert ’41 and Myra ’45 Fleming
Marilyn Freedlund ’45

Alison Geyer
Yvonne Hougham ’46
Meredith ’70 and Tom ’69 Lovelass
Lois Morrow
Audrey Naffziger ’45
Eric Ruud ’71
Lynda Schaab-Rush ’66
Irving ’46 and Jobie ’47 Tick
David Wilson
John ’45 and Jeanne Wroan

Out-of-state ambassadors

Dr. Robert Belsche ’66, St Louis, Missouri
David L. Brown ’65, Des Moines, Iowa
Dr. Charles W. Dunn Sr. ’58, Virginia Beach, Virginia
Steven Lovelass ’65, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Dr. Ed Powell ’55, Prescott, Arizona
Dr. Jack Williams ’54, Seneca, South Carolina

• Renovation of Stroud Auditorium at U-High
• Renovation of Hayden Auditorium at Metcalf
• Athletic facilities expansion at U-High
• Small auditoriums at U-High
Bjarne Ullsvik ’56 joins Legacy Society

We are so thankful to our newest member of the Legacy Society, Bjarne Ullsvik ’56, who gave an outright cash gift of $10,000 for the Stroud Auditorium renovation. When asked to give a statement regarding his decision, Bjarne sent the following:

“My decision to become a member of the Legacy Society for U-High was very easily made. First, there were the coincidences of my 50th graduation celebration, the renovation of the auditorium dedicated to the wonderful teacher Ruth Stroud, and the donor leadership of Ed Powell ’55. The time was right.

“It’s about our roots. U-High and Normal provided us with safety, clear standards, good facilities, memorable peers, and admirable role models all over campus. I suggest that we could not have been given better nor more lasting fundamentals for life. There is no question about where I am ‘from’ and that is Normal and U-High. If you concur, I hope that you will join those of us who have felt the satisfaction of expressing ourselves with a check.”

Bjarne—thank you!

Charter members of the Legacy Society for the Illinois State University Laboratory Schools as of November 30, 2006:

Anonymous

Barbara and Robert Blunk

David L. Brown

Kellie and Michael Clapper

George and Anna Farnsworth Jr.

Ruth Freyberger

Thomas R. and Mary Hanson

IBM International Foundation

William and Joan Legge Family

Thomas and Meredith Lovelass

Dallas and Janice Mathile

John and Betty McKnight

Metcalf School PTO

John and Robbi Hartman Muir

Ted Nicholson

Joel Oberman

Edward M. Powell

Sakura-Kai

James and Joan Sears Sloneker

State Farm Companies Foundation

Neil and Joan Styczynski

Ruth Stroud

Kent and Sue Taulbee

Mildred G. Templeton

Teresa (Lucie) and Lyle Thompson


Bjarne R. Ullsvik

John Williams

(Names in bold have become members since the last issue of The Pioneer)

The Legacy Society for the Illinois State University Laboratory Schools provides recognition and appreciation for those persons who have 1) established a planned gift in support of the laboratory schools, University High School, and/or Thomas Metcalf School, or 2) reached a level of $10,000 or more in cumulative giving in support of the laboratory schools, University High School, and/or Thomas Metcalf School. Membership is lifetime.

We are extremely grateful for the generosity and commitment of our Legacy Society members. Charter membership is reserved for the first 100 members to make such a commitment, and each charter member will receive a specially designed Legacy Society pin, along with recognition on Legacy Society plaques displayed at Metcalf and U-High. For more information contact Gail Lamb, director of development, at (309) 438-2903 or galamb@IllinoisState.edu.

Gladly say you’re from U-High.
Uphold her through the years!

NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

U-HIGH GRADUATION YEAR

TELEPHONE

FACSIMILE

E-MAIL

Yes, I want to give! $1,000____ $500____ $300____ $100____ Amount of your choice____

Please designate my gift to

U-High Stroud Auditorium

U-High athletics facilities

U-High small auditoriums

Lab school classroom technology

Metcalf Zimmerman Library renovation

Metcalf Applied Technology Center

Metcalf Hayden Auditorium

Other____

As an expression of my commitment to U-High, I would like to donate at the following level:

○ Gold (gifts of $1,000 or more)

○ Green (gifts of $500 to $999)

○ Pioneer (gifts of $300 to $499)

○ Supporting (gifts of $100 to $299)

○ Contributing (gifts up to $100)

Please make checks payable to Illinois State University and mail to

University High School
Campus Box 7100
Normal, IL 61790-7100

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Homecoming 2006

Reunion, reunion, reunion! That was the key word at the annual Pioneer Homecoming this year. Five classes—1946, 1956, 1976, 1991, and 1996—kicked off their reunion gatherings on Friday night at Horton Field House. Many other classes were also represented. Current students and parents mingled with alumni as everyone enjoyed a tailgate cookout of brats, hot dogs, and Avanti’s Gondolas.

At the long-established all-school assembly earlier Friday, UHSAA award recipients inspired and entertained current students. They took their final bow Friday night at the football game’s half-time when they joined the 50th-anniversary homecoming court and joined in with the annual car caravan around the field at Hancock Stadium.

Don’t miss the next opportunity to reconnect with old friends; mark your calendars for Homecoming 2007, September 28!

Class of 1956

50th-anniversary memory books

Memory books are still available for $10. Cost includes book and postage. For more information, contact Dorothy Anderson Stewart at (309) 663-1157 or 2903 Pheasant Run, Bloomington, IL 61704.
Locate an old friend through the U-High Web site

Access the e-mail address list in the alumni section of the U-High Web site. Go to www.uhigh.ilstu.edu and click on the alumni section. Within the alumni pages is a section to look up a classmate’s e-mail address. Leave your e-mail address with us by using the built-in instant messenger. Maybe someone’s looking to contact you!
Alumni through the decades

Jack Kerr ’52 and his wife, Virginia, report that their entire family was together in September 2006 to celebrate their 50 years of marriage. They will continue to enjoy time with family and traveling throughout the states and abroad!

On June 10, 2006, Sheila Povall Kimmy ’54 and her husband Ray celebrated their 50th anniversary.


Kent Simmons ’57 divides his time between homes in Florida and Richland Center, Wisconsin, so he can be closer to his favorite NFL team, the Green Bay Packers. Simmons was head of the Kissimmee branch of the Central Florida Packer Backers.

Ted McKee ’58 owns and runs Daytona Supply in Daytona Beach, Florida. He is married with two children and four grandchildren. In his spare time, he enjoys traveling the country in a motorhome, photographing children. In his spare time, he enjoys travel through the country and woodworking.

Mary Merchant Schnelle ’60 of Metropolis and her husband, Steven, celebrated their first wedding anniversary in August.

Steve Adams ’64 assumed the position of vice president for Student Affairs at Illinois State University. Adams has worked at the University for 30 years in various administrative positions and serves as the announcer for men’s football and basketball games.

Roger Freelund Jr. ’64 sends a hello to all classmates. He and his wife, Joy, continue to spend time with their children and nine grandchildren as well as travel from their home in St. Charles to Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, and Palm Coast, Florida.

Ruth Ann Miller ’68 is a business development officer with Heartland Bank and Trust Company.

Laura Vierguntz Simms ’68 sends regards to her classmates and teachers. She lives in Boca Raton, Florida, and is a National Board Certified Teacher in sixth and seventh grades at Don Estridge High Tech Middle School.

Jefferson Hulet ’69 sends greetings from Riverside, New Jersey, where he is the rector of St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church and vicar of Christ Church.

James Ivey ’73 spent fall 2006 on sabbatical from the State University of New York–Fredonia and will be studying and directing at Emilio-Reggae.

Denise Grupp-Verban ’76 was honored last fall by the Ohio Association of Two Year Colleges by receiving the 2006 Adjunct Teacher of the Year Award.

Melody McCoy ’77 is a staff attorney at the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) where she handles tribal trust fund cases as well as Indian education law.

K. Sara Myers ’79 received a Bachelor of Arts at Oberlin College and a Doctor of Philosophy at Stanford University. She is an associate professor of classics at the University of Virginia and has two sons, ages 4 and 11.

In August 2006, Naval Academy graduate John Zimmerman ’84 took command of the submarine USS Jefferson City, a fast-attack sub based out of San Diego, California.

John Busher ’85, a senior public affairs advisor for Holland & Knigh LLP, was recently named president of the Illinois State Society (Washington, D.C.). From Iraq, Terrance Deul ’89 reports that he is assigned to the military police battalion as an assistant operations officer with responsibility for coordinating task-force Iraqi police transition teams.

Lisa Natzke Emm ’94 has co-established an obstetrics and gynecology practice in Bloomington.

Brian Moshier ’96 recently received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, Midwestern University, Downers Grove.

Shelley Oliver ’97 graduated in May 2006 from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

Alissa VanDenBossche ’99 gave birth to a boy, Benton Anthony, at 1:22 a.m. on January 1, 2007. He was the first baby born in 2007 in the Bloomington-Normal area.

Kim Mathile Wallgren ’99 and her husband, Jake, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Averie Michelle, in July.

Ryan Singer ’01 completed basic training at the air force facility in San Antonio, Texas, and computer training at Kemper Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi. He assumed his duties as a computer security apprentice in North Dakota.

Caroline Pryor ’02 reports that she graduated from Bethel College in Mishawaka, Indiana, with a degree in elementary education. She is now in Des Moines, Iowa, working as a children’s ministry associate at Valley Church.

T.J. Turner ’03 has received the 2006–2007 John Culver Woody Scholarship provided by the Actuarial Foundation. He works as an actuary intern at COUNTRY Insurance & Financial Services.

Jeremy Foster ’04 made his Illinois State Redbird football game debut this fall with a fan-packed Hancock Stadium crowd of 17,000 during the homecoming game against Southern Illinois.

Anne Stein ’06 has been named a Presidential Scholar at Bradley University.

Memorials

Wilfred Oesch ’32
Robert Feek ’33
Betty Arbogast Hammerlund ’40
Shirley King James ’42
Raymond Firebaugh ’43
Marilyn Arnold Guinnce ’43
Alberta Bratcher Rees ’45
John Harvey ’46
Thomas Meade ’47
Donna Wotzen Simzore ’51
Joseph Metcalf ’52
Glenn Wilkins ’64
Elizabeth Newbold ’73
Clayton Ayers ’76

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In the fall of 2006, U-High implemented a **laptop program**, equipping four classrooms with laptop technology. Fifteen faculty associates were trained to utilize the technology for more engaging instruction. Three hundred seventy-two U-High students have at least one laptop classroom, and the results of a recent student survey indicate that students are extremely satisfied with the laptop technology as a learning tool.

The following **facility improvements** were made during the summer: painted railings in the stairwells; new tile in parts of the stairwell outside the main office and in the hall leading to the tennis courts; new heating and air-conditioning units on the third floor; new carpet in rooms 201, 218, and 223; new blinds installed in several classrooms; new furniture and laptops in computer rooms 201, 216, 232, and 314.

A very talented and energetic group of **new faculty** was hired for the new school year: Kim Baxter, Sarah Carrozza, and Katie Orrego (Spanish); Andy Davis (social science); Steve Evans (science); Mark Adams (English); Dusty Burk (business); Anita Beaman (library media specialist).

English teacher **Mark Adams** submitted an article that will be published in *The Speech and Theatre Association of Missouri Journal*.

Attendance assistant **Linda Witte** was selected for a Those Who Excel award for her outstanding service to U-High; she was honored at a banquet on October 6.

**Boys’ soccer** won the sectional championship; **girls’ volleyball** won conference and regional championships; **girls’ swimming** won the sectional championship; and the **girls’ and boys’ golf** teams were state champions for the second year in a row.

**Boys’ cross-country** won second place and **girls’ cross-country** won third place at the Corn Belt Conference Cross-Country Meet.

Senior **Catherine Butts** qualified for girls’ state tennis, finishing in the top 32. She was selected to the Illinois High School All-State Tennis Team and was named honorable mention in the singles category.

**U-High juniors** averaged 25.1 on the 2005–2006 ACT test, 4.2 points above the state average. This was the highest composite score at U-High since 2002. In addition, junior **Weikang Sun** finished first in state for his performance in the American Mathematics Contest.

Seniors **Hilary Baboukis** and **Danielle Fox** were named National Merit Scholarship semifinalists based on their outstanding scores on the PSAT exam.


The **U-High band** won the Grand Champion Band Award as the highest-scoring band in parade and field scores combined, regardless of class, at Mt. Zion.

**Sophomore Chris Hoerdemann** was featured in the *Pantagraph* for publishing his first book, *Pipeline RnD*.

Online efforts by students and staff have received national notice in *Education Week*. The article “To Tailor Schedules, Students Log-in to Online Classes” featured comments from social studies teacher **Jim Kinsella** and senior **Jessica Byerly**.

**Sophomore Alexander Zaitzeff** was nominated for first speaker honors at the Illinois Congressional Debate Association Invitational. Junior **Angie Ostaszewski** and sophomore debate team member **Gerrit Hatcher** made it to the quarter-final round, and seniors **Dan Kaufman** and **Tony Melchiorri** made it to the semi-finals at the Homewood-Flossmoor Viking Classic.

The **Library Club** provided the right spirit during the holiday season by organizing a book drive to benefit schools impacted by Hurricane Katrina.
What’s new with you?

NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

U-HIGH GRADUATION YEAR TELEPHONE

FACSIMILE E-MAIL

Please share news about yourself or a classmate below so we can include it in the next issue of *The Pioneer*. Photos are always welcome, and every attempt will be made to return them.

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________