Donald Washington (Management Information Systems) and Tiffany Allen (Business and Technology) earned bachelor’s degrees. Humane Letters, on Robert President caster is his bachelor of arts in the Board of Governors program.

GSU’s Lincoln Laureate, Dwayne Williams, received his bachelor of arts in the Board of Governors program.

Cousins (from left) Kelvin Williams (Board of Governors), and Ken Williams (Health Administration) shared commencement ceremonies June 5, celebrating completion of their bachelor’s degrees.

President Fagan confers the honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, on Robert A. Pett, Sr. The ABCnews­Grads: 536 earn new status!

Donald Oland, master’s degree in Marriage and Family Counseling, addressed his fellow graduates.

High schools to tighten academic standards

SPRINGFIELD - Higher education leaders applauded the passage of Illinois Senate Bill 575 to strengthen high school graduation requirements, a linchpin of Governor Rod R. Blagojevich’s Higher Standards/Better Schools plan.

The new standards are an important advance in broadening access to college and improving retention and degree-completion, according to James L. Kaplan, Chairman of the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

“Enhanced requirements in English, Math, and Science will improve the readiness of high school graduates for college and for the workforce,” Kaplan said.

In a statement signed by the chief executives of the state’s 12 public university campuses, the presidents and chancellors said: “Better-prepared high school graduates will be more successful college freshmen, and successful college freshmen are far more likely to persist through graduation.” The campus leaders were united in the belief that the legislation will plant seeds in high school for success in college.

The Board of Higher Education has supported tougher graduation requirements since a 2001 study found that nearly two-thirds of graduating seniors go on immediately to post-secondary education, but only about 40 percent of high school graduates had taken a vigorous curriculum designed to prepare them for the academic demands of college.

The move “will help place Illinois in the forefront of education reform,” Chairman Kaplan said, expressing IBHE’s appreciation for efforts “to expand opportunities for success in a changing economy that increasingly demands post-secondary credentials for entry into the workforce.”

Uncle Sam wants you for 3 years:

D.C. agencies help students repay loans

If you’re steeped in educational expenses, and are willing to relocate to Washington D.C. or abroad, there may be good news for you. Many federal agencies are willing to repay their workers’ student loans.

In fact, the number of employees receiving aid has more than quadrupled in a three-year period, according to a report recently released by the Office of Personnel Management of the federal government.

In fiscal 2004, the OPM report said, 28 federal agencies provided 2,945 employees with more than $16.4 million in student loan repayments.

Congress authorized the use of student loan repayments in hopes that the aid would help federal agencies better compete in recruiting college graduates, who often run up substantial debts while studying for bachelor’s and advanced degrees.

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From fiscal 2002 to 2004, the number of agencies offering student loan repayments grew from 16 to 28, the number of employees receiving the benefit increased from 690 to 2,945, and the value of benefits provided jumped from $3.16 million to $16.4 million, according to the OPM report.

The five agencies were the top providers of reimbursements in fiscal 2003, and, for the third consecutive year, the State Department provided more loan repayments – $3.6 million – than any other agency, the report said.

The State Department provided the benefit to 734 employees, as political affairs officers, public diplomacy officers and economists, according to the report.

Lawyers and engineers were frequent beneficiaries of the program across government agencies. GAO also made extensive use of loan repayments, providing them to 189 analysts.

Under the program, agencies can repay as much as $10,000 for an employee in a year, up to a lifetime total of $60,000. In return, the employee must agree to remain with the agency for at least three years.

The departments of State, Defense and Justice, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Government Accountability Office made most of the reimbursements, the report said.

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Reader Responds:

Terri Schiavo’s fate is still disputed

In response to the recent commentary about Terri Schiavo by Dan Barkman (Phoenix, May 9), I would like to offer an alternative perspective:

Now that the media circus is over, perhaps we can assess the meaning of this regrettable family dispute in a more rational light. The magnifying lens of the media brought the case into our living rooms on an hourly basis and gave the impression that the Schiavo situation was unique. In fact, the difficult end-of-life decision faced by Mr. Schiavo happens to thousands of families throughout the country on a daily basis. Thus, contrary to what Barkman maintains, the issue of what constitutes a “persistent vegetative state” is not irrelevant.

Conservative advocates for Terri Schiavo were quick to conjure up visions of a Nazi-like society murdering a helpless, disabled woman. Conservative politicians were quick to leap on the bandwagon to rescue Terri. Imagine George Bush making his theatrical midnight flight to the capital in pajamas to save Terri from--what? Barkman suggests that Terri’s only problem was that she was “unable to swallow on her own.” Let’s look at some of the known facts.

Terri’s cortex had been destroyed nearly 15 years ago. She could not do anything “on her own” and had been effectively dead for 15 years. An unfortunate end-of-life decision was forced upon her husband, Michael, who gave it all he had for the first four years of Terri’s condition. The decision by Michael Schiavo to end Terri’s unfortunate state was one with which a majority of Americans agreed. Washington Post reporter Ellen Goodman pointed out that polls indicated that nearly 80 percent of Americans said “I wouldn’t want to live like that,” in response to the Schiavo situation.

In my opinion, the slide down the “slippery slope” Barkman mentioned began when the conservative politicians tried to play the “right to life” card by implementing a “save Terri Schiavo” bill. Fortunately, their attempt at political grandstanding backfired.

The polls showed that 70 percent of Americans believed congressional intervention, led by Tom Delay and the Republicans, was inappropriate. Of course, Delay may have had ulterior motives, given his potentially incriminating problems down in Texas. The Schiavo case gave him a smokescreen for his legal problems, as well as a convenient way to pande the ultraconservative Christian movement.

Even more dangerous was Tom Delay’s subsequent attacks on the Judiciary. Delay pronounced that the time will come when “activist judges” will have to “answer for their behavior.” So, what does that mean? Terri Schiavo left no written directive for her end of life situation. Florida law makes it clear that the spouse has a right to decide end-of-life issues. The decision to follow Florida law was determined by appellate court Judge George Greer. He is described as a conservative Christian, a republican, and a dog-loving family man.

Because his decision did not concur with their beliefs, ultraconservative members of the executive and legislative branches had no qualms about trying to destroy the separation of powers inherent in our constitution. Their attempts to greatly over-step their constitutional boundaries takes us even further down that “slippery slope.”

As the assault from the Right on the Judiciary continues, let us pray that the constitutional guarantee of the separation of powers instituted by the founding fathers will stand. We can only hope that the more rational elements of our citizenry will become informed and aware of the attacks from the right wing talk show hosts, ultraconservative politicians, and religious extremists who have no respect for the law and no understanding of the separation of powers on which this great country was founded.

Ronald Skertich
GSU Alumni

Ronald Skertich received a master’s degree in Communication Disorders in 1998. He currently works with Deaf and Hard of Hearing junior high school students.

Like the wind around us... spirit cannot be seen but we can see its effects, which are profound.

– Jimmy Carter
Was it all worth it? You're damn right it was!

By John Madden

How many times have you said, "No I can't make it tonight because I have to study for a test," or "I'll have to take a rain check on that get together because I have a paper due." Or words to that effect? How many events have you missed to steadfastly persist in attaining your goal in earning a degree? Was it all worth it? Absolutely!

Having a bachelor’s or a master’s degree will significantly increase your lifetime earnings over just a high school diploma or associates degree. And we’re not talking chump change here!

If you’re among the GSU grads of 2005, you’re ready to show the world what you can do. But where do you go? What sectors are in need of your talents? How do you step into the hidden job market?

The hottest jobs in the Chicago area are in health care, transportation, service, and manufacturing. Within these are many opportunities GSU graduates can explore. In the health care segment, both occupational and physical therapy, nursing, speech therapy and health administration, have seen significant growth. Counseling and addictions treatment are specialties with terrific opportunities.

Crossover careers may be worth considering. IT and criminal justice professionals might also seek job openings in the transportation sector. Computer science, IT, MIS, and physics majors might also look into manufacturing for work.

The largest employment sector by far is service. Almost all GSU majors have a wide variety of options to pursue in this area. Teaching has the greatest number of possibilities.

In addition to careers in primary and secondary education, you can bring your occupation into the classroom. Were you a carpenter, plumber, member of another skilled trade? Teach it! For adults, this is a popular segue into another career path. Teach what you do.

Do you like art or humanities? Teach it! Did you sell anything? Professionally? That’s marketing. On e-bay? That’s Internet skills. Hobbies? Do you skydive or scuba dive? Are you a counselor? Teach it!

There are numerous schools, as well as vocational programs that would be interest­ed in your expertise and experience.

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As Chris Mienicki discovered, there are many reasons to join UPS. But she soon realized that UPS can provide you with something even more valuable: a solid career path. If you have the drive to learn and enhance your skills, you have the potential to move up at UPS. Find out for yourself.

Part-Time Package Handler
Work a consistent schedule 3-1/2 to 5 hours a day, 5 days a week. No weekends or holidays! Not only will you earn great pay of $8.50 per hour, with increases of 50¢ after 90 days and 50¢ after one year, but we offer unsupervised benefits including paid vacations, weekly paychecks, consistent work schedules and excellent benefits (Medical/Elle & 401K). Plus, we make it easy for student employees to receive up to $23,000 toward tuition, books, fees and related college expenses with our Earn and learn® Program.

In other service areas, the range of possibilities is almost endless. The hospitality industry, which includes travel and vacation planning, and the restaurant and beverage industries offer exciting careers and travel to exotic locations. Many of these positions pay well with good career tracks into higher levels of management.

But how do you get to where you want to go? The newspaper want ads? Job fairs? The Internet? Yes, these are good sources, but it’s no secret that the best source for finding opportunities is people. Building a networking system and developing relationships will help you tap into the hidden job market.

If you let everyone, family, friends, and professional contacts know that you are looking for a job in a particular field, the greater your chances will be in getting an interview. Someone may know the boss or a worker in the career that you want to pursue. That should help in getting your foot in the door.

Another excellent area of networking is here at GSU. Your professors, the Alumni Association, and fellow students are valuable assets to your job hunt.

Finally, other powerful resources are recruiters, job fairs, employment agencies, and Human Resource personnel. These professionals have inroads to jobs through their multiple contacts within a wide variety of industries.

So now you’re ready to put your best foot forward and present your education and talents to the world! You’ve worked hard and sacrificed many fun activities in pursuit of your dream.

Was it all worth it? You’re damn right it was!
Salute to Grads' picnic brings ‘family’ and friends together

Vince Gutierrez, Board of Governors graduate, enjoys the day with parents and a friend. Most adults were too cautious for the limbo challenge. But the kids were sure limber!

(From left) Gabrielle Smith, 'mom' Nicole (Board of Governors grad), and Brenda Hums (Elementary Education bachelor's) rendered a Supremes' hit tune.

Vince Gutierrez sounded amazing like 'Sachmo.' Freda Williams (bachelor's, Health Administration), husband, and son pose for a family portrait by caricature artist Bruce Carlevato.
She forges the way in ‘non-traditional’

by Mark Durham

Rushing to and from class, most GSU students and faculty probably don’t pay much attention to the two-story, white frame house on the south side of University Drive, just east of the Metra tracks. It’s more than a mile from the main campus, and the vintage, country farmhouse contrasts sharply with the rest of the university’s architecture.

The building is Wagner House, the former home of the university’s Development Office and the GSU Alumni Association. It’s where Rosemary Hulett-Cohoe, interim associate vice president of Development and Alumni Relations, worked from 1996 until only recently.

Her office was reorganized as the Office of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations, and moved to the third floor D wing of the main building earlier this year.

While few people know about Wagner House, probably even fewer are aware that Hulett is a nationally known expert in the rapidly growing field of non-traditional alumni relations. Hulett has spent her career almost entirely at ‘commuter’ schools where students are older than the fresh-faced teens who compose traditional residential campuses.

“Rosemary was one of the first person to make presentations on working with non-traditional alumni associations at regional and national conferences,” said Perkins. “There was a myth that graduates from (commuter) schools don’t have strong alumni ties. But Rosemary has been successful at doing all the things you’re not supposed to be able to do at commuter institutions.”

Hulett, whose presentations stress that alumni of schools like GSU are more interested in networking, career development, and family-oriented activities than in traditional programming like homecomings and reunions, has played a prominent role in CASE and is currently a member of the organization’s National Alumni Commission. She has served as a member of the CASE national board and was national chair of the CASE Commission for Opportunity and Equity, a group that focused on issues facing minorities and women in development.

Hulett got her start in alumni relations in 1989, shortly after earning a master’s degree in Special Education from Chicago State University, where she also received her bachelor’s degree in 1979.

“I was active in student government and I began volunteering as an alumna after I graduated,” she said. “Eventually, the school offered me a position as its first full-time alumni director.”

In 1991, Hulett was appointed associate director of Alumni Relations at GSU. She held the position briefly, before moving to Atlanta for three years. Upon returning to Chicago, she did a brief stint as associate director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving at Roosevelt University, and returned to GSU as director of Alumni Relations in 1996. She was promoted to her current position last year.

Hulett is responsible for coordinating alumni special events and fundraising activities, including the university’s annual phonathons and direct mail appeals. When the Development Office was reorganized last year, her duties were increased to include organizing alumni clubs and conducting the university’s faculty and staff giving campaigns, along with several other fundraising projects.
Graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences

Master of Arts
Michelle E. Askett
Valar W. Bowman
Vanessa Gately
Campbell
Patrick J. Casey
Cowgill P. Cooper
Priscilla M. Davis
Verletta P. Falcon
Tiffiny K. Garcia
Mona B. Gregerson
Michael F. Harper
Sandy Beth Hobson
Kristy L. Ingram
Cecilia C. Jackson
Chad Y. Jones
Nicole K. Klooster
Jean M. Koehler
Mark A. Lanning
Lynlee C. Ledbetter
Lee A. Marin
Michael E. McDonnell

LaDonna D. Mitchell-Obafemi
Maria M. Moore-Lomas
Christopher Gerald Mott
Shane M. Pearce
Victoria G. Pierce
Todd D. Reed
Mary K. Schetzia
Donna D. Shaw
Brenda J. Stark
Adrienne Y. Stewart
Lola C. Thomas
Wan-jing Wang
Anika S. Watkins
Tammy Williams
Sean J. Word
Tara M. Word

Derek Comejo
Shelita L. Craster
* Stephanie M. Cundari
Kevin M. Drucker
Carleca G. Franches
* William L. Gant
Consuelo E. Isabell
* Jeff M. Grigoletti
** Timothy M. Hendrickson
Curtis R. Hill
Charisse D. Jenkins
Larry O. Julian
** Ann Kladis
Kurt K. Erichsen
Kristy L. Kubida
Deborah S. Lewis
Annette L. Lynn
Richard M. Merberg
Magdalena Jadhiga
Mazaruk
Julian F. McDowell
Jamie M. Moshman
Timika R. Norely
Opeyemi O. Olubajo

Nina M. Quillin
Joseph W. Rood
Theresa J. Rodgers
Mary T. Rodrigues
* Michael J. Siebel
Jeremy B. Song
* Keith A. Sullivan
Ambrose A. Utin
Kelly C. Waldron
* Jennifer M. Wisha
Brian S. Zimmerman

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Michael J. Brown
* Joshua J. Cartman
Matthew J. Daley
Meghan E. Galoley
Justin E. Lane
Tessa A. Math
** Seth A. McPherson
** Michael R. Neelap
Brandon M. Reynolds
Brian S. Sumers
Kimberly Tenem
Bart Wegrzyn

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James J. Foy
Annjanette D. Halton
Deana M. Lippa
Kamathi R. Marambi
Miksha B. Nathan
Farma Selen Phelps
Brad J. Wilhelm
Malin Williams

Brenda K. Boykins-Montgomery
Jeff M. Chevalier
Tracy Lauren Dauber
Carole M. Dempsey
Wilson O. Garcia
David C. Habecker
Pamela Howard
Tapin Jindain
Nasbina Lynn Johnson
Dee Ann Knollenberg
Marshall S. Miles
Cecelia M. Thomas

Veea Kasi
Larisss B. Smith

Bachelor of Arts
* Erica Arians
Alasha S. Bailey
Shawn N. Bonen
Daniel D. Brown

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* Brenda M. Andrist
Troy J. Barden
Tasos J. Berdusis
Juan J. Camacho
Anika R. Collins
Cindy Dunn
Nadine V. French
Dennis C. Gravitt
Kira M. Johnson
Gayle M. Jonkm
Brian P. Jorgensen
Tracy L. Kowalski
Timothy D. Kryspowski

Ayumi Kurikara
Aneta Lipinski
Celsia K. Lundborg
Dominika Marek
Melissa C. Motten
Jeremy M. Muzika
* Cedric M. Norwood
Jennifer L. Olson
Ryan W. Panner
Khaneo Plerntham
Kristen L. Pirelli
Anthony J. Pluss
William M. Reinsma Jr.
Zivile Stankuniene
Carmencita C. Tate
* Clayton J. Thompson
Shannon R. Whalen
Amber M. Wydeveld
Matthew Znuda

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Stephanie A. Bennett
* Hai Chen
Tracey Y. Crudup
Joy E. Deacon
Jamika R. Douglas
Kristin J. Dove
* Deborah C. Farley
Eric R. Johnson
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Nasha Yonna Palm
Catherine M. Redinger
Venus A. Ryan
Karen D. Snow
Linda J. Taylor
* Diane A. Vander Wall
Donald D. Washington

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Yang-Hee Joo

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Cynthia V. Enning
* Gloria A. Mokry
* Lisa Rosanne Oswald
* Oswald E. Rivero
** Rhonda S. Schultz
Freda S. Williams

* Kenneth B. Williams
Tun tenia Williams

Master of Health Science
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John E. De Roin
Meggan T. Fahey
Gregg Fields
Shirley Ann Golladay
Frances A. Gordon
Sarah A. Kreiman
Sarah Marie Mroz
Stacey P. Paolillo
Marios Parra
Marilyn E. Sakosky
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Deirdre Jean Begeska
Bradley A. Houghton
John P. Bortoff
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Yasmina Gomes-Muniz
Christopher Eugene Goolish

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Karen M. Gomez
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** Randy A. Horner
* Brenda L. Huns
** Klerimberly A. Jagodzinski
Taein L. Jenkins
Broadgates, M. Johnson
Yolanda C. Jones
* Tracey L. Kaplan

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Braxton L. Barber
Ya Vonna M. Barnes
Monica Rene Evans
** Keith A. Beckwoldt
Opal J. Boyd-Gomes
Margaret J. Burton
Michael W. Case
James Patrick Casey
Gregory R. Catena
* Mary Beth Cepkauskas
** Patricia A. Chenney
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David L. Clark
* Lynn E. Cousins
Lisa G. D’Amico
Mary L. Dieudonne
Pink T. Dorsey, III

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Talimush
Yolanda Flores
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Jean N. Tang-Velary
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Sandra L. Solava
Rosalind D. Solis
Jitty M. E. Swanson
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Garleon C. Watts
Kelby J. Webster
Paul S. Webster
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* Antoinette C. White
Cynthia D. White
Goldie D. Willburn
Dwayne W. Williams
Kevin Williams
Lauren D. Williams
Michelle Wimbly
Christina A. Winche
Tracey Vorhees
Ronald W. Wrigley
* Lori F. Wunderlich
Tawanta Wynn
Danielle Mondrehe
Young
Jennifer Moore is featured in the University Visual Arts Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special come to pledge dollars in support of the event. Last year GSU's campus cops are looking for your support in the leg of the state-wide charitable event occurs around 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday June 16.

The Degree Expo highlights the college's ten undergradu­ate and seven graduate programs, and student support serv­ices ranging from financial aid to tutoring. RSVP by June 15 at 708.534.4101.

Breakout sessions include Trade Finance, Export Finance, Supply Chain Management, and Freight Forwarding. A lunchtime panel will include experts on exporting from Tek Pak, North American Tool, and International Management Consulting.

Wednesday June 18 Graduate Open House Business & Public Administration
The College of Business and Public Administration will hold a Graduate Programs Open House 9:30 a.m. to noon June 18 in the Café Annex. Registration and breakfast occurs from 9:30 to 10; the program from 10 to 11; and a Q/A session from 11 to noon. RSVP at 708.534.7051, or e­mail BPA-RSVP@govst.edu.

The college offers four graduate degree programs: Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Accounting, Master of Science in Management Information Systems, and Master of Public Administration.

Wednesday June 18 Alumni Association White Sox Day
Join the Alumni Association at U.S. Cellular Field as the White Sox battle the Los Angeles Dodgers at 6 p.m. Saturday June 19. Your ticket includes admission into the park and reserved seating on the lower deck level along the first base line. Fireworks immediately follow the game. Tickets are $40 for current Alumni members. Alumni Relations Office, 708.544.3128.

Wednesday June 22 College of Arts & Sciences Degree Expo
The College of Arts and Sciences hosts a cookout and information session 5 to 7 p.m. June 22 in the Hall of Governors. The event provides an opportunity for interaction between students, faculty and staff from the college. The Degree Expo highlights the college’s ten undergradu­ate and seven graduate programs, and student support services ranging from financial aid to tutoring. RSVP by June 15 at 708.534.4101.

Undergraduate programs include: Art, Biology, Chemistry, Communications, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, English, Integrative Studies, Mathematics, and Social Sciences. Graduate programs include Analytical Chemistry, Art, Communications and Training, Computer Science, English, Environmental Biology, and Political and Justice Studies.

Wednesday June 15 Torch Run for Special Olympics
GSU's campus cops are looking for your support in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Illinois. The GSU leg of the state-wide charitable event occurs around 6 to 8 p.m. June 15 on the east side of campus. Supporters can run, bike, rollerskate, skateboard, or use any other means to show their support for the GSU torch­bearers. The event includes a picnic complete with food, soft drinks, games, and music. And of course, you're welcome to pledge dollars in support of the event. Last year GSU raised more than $4,500. This year's goal is $10,000.

Tuesday June 14 thru June 28 “Dark Light” Master's Photo Exhibit
Black and white photography by Art Master's candidate Jennifer Moore is featured in the University Visual Arts Gallery June 14 through 28. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. A reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday June 16.

Wednesday July 6 thru July 29 Art in the Spirit World of New Guinea
Art and artifacts" from the Lawrence P. Koltz Collection will be on display in the E-Lounge July 7 through July 29. It will be the first time the collection will be displayed in Illinois.

Friday June 24 “The Wizard of Oz”
Kids age 8 to 12 participating in the musical theatre summer workshop will perform The Wizard of Oz at 7 p.m. June 24 at The Center for Performing Arts. Tickets are $10. Call 235.5222

Monday July 4 Independence Day
University closed

Saturday Aug. 27 Ramsey Louis Trio
Legend Ramsey Lewis performs a benefit concert at 8 p.m. Aug. 27 at the Center for Performing Arts. Tickets are $42 to $47. Proceeds go to the Illinois Youth Advocate program.