

# STATE

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150 YEARS  
INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
SESQUICENTENNIAL ERA  
2015-2020

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BLUE

*Celebrating our sesquicentennial*



## WHAT DOES STATE STAND FOR?

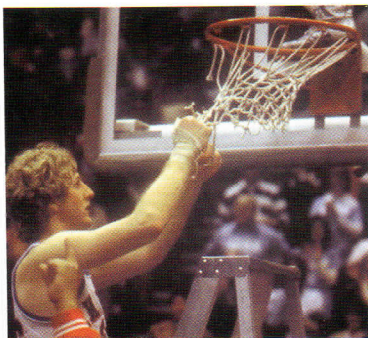
*Indiana State's story is best told through its graduates and faculty. Here are a dozen people who exemplify the university's key qualities.*

### BASKETBALL

WITH a promising future as one of the NBA's greatest players, Larry Bird did what many considered unthinkable. He turned aside NBA riches to complete his senior year at Indiana State University, a choice very few athletes had made. But Bird promised his grandmother he'd earn and receive a college degree. He led the Sycamores to a 33-1 record in his senior year.

After graduating from Indiana State in 1979, Bird became the indisputable leader of the great Boston Celtics. Bird went on to be named "The Living Legend" by Sports Illustrated — the only person in NBA history to receive the Most Valuable Player award, the Coach of the Year award and the Executive of the Year award. Bird is now President of Basketball Operations for the Indiana Pacers.

Determination and drive became Bird's trademark even as a youngster when he would practice free throws for two hours every day before school began. Graduating in 1974 from Indiana's Springs Valley High School, Bird was the school's leading scorer, despite suffering a broken ankle during his sophomore year. True to form, instead of sitting idle during his recovery, Bird practiced shooting every day.



### OPPORTUNITY

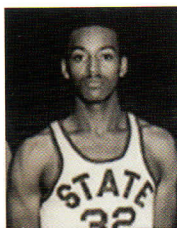
WHEN Clarence Walker came from East Chicago to Indiana State in the 1940s, he had no idea the place he would earn in history. A talented basketball player, Walker became an integral part of the Sycamore team. However, when the talented team received a bid to the NAIA tournament in Kansas City, Walker was not allowed to go because he was African-American.

Sycamore coach John Wooden opted to stay home. "He still was a member of my team, and I wouldn't take the team without him," Wooden said at the time.

The next season, the Sycamores were again invited to the tournament — without Walker. Coach Wooden again refused the invitation. ISU President Ralph Tiley lobbied the case before the NAIA, persuading them to change their policy.

Walker goes down in history as the first African-American to play in a collegiate tournament on March 9, 1948, at Kansas City Municipal Auditorium. He and his team created an opportunity that opened the door for many others to follow. Some regard the event as the most important achievement in Wooden's long unparalleled career.

After graduating from Indiana State in 1950, Walker went on to have a highly successful career as a teacher, high school administrator and tennis coach in Gary and East Chicago, where he and his wife lived with their children. He died in 1989.



### LEADERSHIP

EARNING four degrees from Indiana State, Jan Eglon, '65, '66, '80, '83, has worked as an engineer scientist, as a psychologist and is the founder and executive vice president/chief scientist for Digonex Technologies Inc. in Indianapolis.



"One of my friends said to me many years ago, 'You can't get someone to follow you if you are walking toward them.' This also

describes the importance of followership," Eglon said. "I think the leader first of all has to have the education, skill set, experience and 20/20 vision of their environment to have the ability to see and understand opportunities, to be focused on the objective, to be able to function and maintain their goal-directed behavior through adversity as well as good times, to be able to relate to others in a meaningful manner and to embody perseverance."

Eglon holds several patents, has written and recorded music, is a published author, frequent guest speaker at digital media events, guest lecturer at Indiana State and other higher education institutions and is currently a member of the Advisory Board for the College of Technology and the Presidential Advisory Board. In 2011, Eglon received the Distinguished Alumni Award.

"ISU fills up your tool bag with the instruments, experiences, relationships, knowledge, all the essentials one requires to begin their life journey," Eglon said.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

**F**ROM making cards for hospice patients and planting seedlings for future beauty to unloading recyclables and raking leaves, Indiana State students and faculty have been making a positive impact in the community through Donaghy Day.

Named after Fred Donaghy, a 1912 graduate of the Normal School and a professor of life sciences, Donaghy Day began in 1976 as a way to celebrate the season and provide community service. Donaghy Day is held twice a year, in the spring and fall.

"It's an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to give back to the community," said Jessica Starr, program coordinator for Indiana State's Center for Community Engagement. "Fall Donaghy Day is the largest service event the Center of Community Engagement coordinates. In 2015, nearly 1,800 students provided service all over the Wabash Valley — from Terre Haute to Brazil to Clinton and to Marshall, Ill."

In fact, Indiana State University ranks No. 1 nationally for community service, according to the Washington Monthly 2013, 2014 and 2015 College Guide.



## RESEARCH

**G**ROWING up in a small town in Iowa and as the son of a college professor and an elementary school teacher, Eric Glendening always knew he wanted to teach. But he was also fascinated with research.

Luckily for Glendening and for Indiana State, the two made an ideal partnership. "I came to ISU in 1995 after graduate school and two postdoctoral appointments," he said. "I enjoyed research but appreciated teaching even more. ISU offered an ideal balance of teaching and research with a focus on undergraduates."

As professor and chair of the chemistry and physics department, Glendening is instrumental in giving undergraduates research opportunities through the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE). The program is now celebrating its 10th summer with a goal of introducing students to the world of research and preparing them for graduate studies.

"We started with 18 students, only in chemistry, in 2006. The program has now grown to 53 students across the nature sciences and math," Glendening said. "More than 250 students have participated in the SURE program."

Under the program, students work with faculty mentors for 10 weeks and give weekly presentations on their progress. Each student receives a scholarship to support his or her work during the summer.

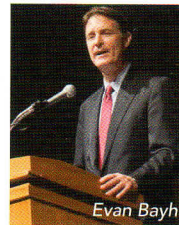


## INDIANA

**T**HE Bayh name has become synonymous with education and public service in Indiana. Four generations of the Bayh family have had a significant impact on the state and the nation, beginning with patriarch Birch Bayh Sr.

Born in 1893 in Quincy, Ind., Birch Bayh Sr. graduated from Indiana State in 1917, a second-generation alumnus where, as a student, he originated the Blue and White Day activities. Bayh went on to become the school's first athletic director and was a physical education professor for five years.

Serving as U.S. senator, 1963-1981, Birch Bayh Jr. is the only non-founding father to author two amendments to the U.S. Constitution. He also authored the Title IX of the Higher Education Act of 1972 and was an early champion of ensuring women had the same educational opportunities as men.



In his two terms as governor of Indiana, Evan Bayh instituted the 21st Century Scholars program to guarantee every Indiana student has an opportunity to receive a college education.

The family's deep and enduring commitment to the professional practice of education and to students is a testament to why the Bayh College of Education, dedicated in 2009, carries the family's name.

# THE **big** QUESTION



## HARD WORK

**B**ORN in China and moving to Taiwan in 1952, Paul Lo, MBA '70, grew up to become an internationally recognized banker and financier.

"Work should be progressive from 'work hard' to 'work smart' to 'work result' and then 'work for a wonderful life,'" he said.

It was at Indiana State, Lo said, where he developed his work ethic that brought such success. When he was attending business school, Lo also worked full time from midnight to 8 a.m. as a reception staffer at the popular Terre Haute Hotel.

After graduating, Lo held various positions with Citibank for 18 years in United States and Taipei. With the opening of Taiwan's banking system to private banks in 1992, Lo formed Bank SinoPac by raising \$400 million in capital. It has since grown to total assets of \$50 billion and 9,000 staff with branches and a host of financial affiliates throughout Taiwan, Hong Kong, Mainland China, Vietnam, Macau and California.

In 1999, Business Week Asian edition cited him as one of its "50 Stars of Asia." In 2008, Lo became Dr. Paul Lo when he was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree and the Presidential Medal for International Service from Indiana State.

## INVESTMENT

**A**N outstanding cross-country and track star at North Central High School in Indianapolis, Cheryl Bridges Flanagan Treworgy was determined to attend college. Her athletic prowess helped her achieve that goal when she became the first American woman to receive an athletic scholarship to a public university.

The funding was actually a "talented student scholarship," the brainchild of Eleanor Forsythe St. John, head of the Indiana State physical education department.

"I wouldn't be doing what I am today if not for sports and for ISU," Treworgy said. "That scholarship was a very good investment. In my case, all the jobs I have had have always been sports related."

A member of the Indiana State University Athletics Hall of Fame, Treworgy graduated in 1969 with a degree in physical education. She worked as an instructor at the University of New Mexico and Hamline University, then was named the women's athletic director at Oklahoma State University in 1976. She later held a similar post as well as coached track at Michigan State.

Treworgy now works as a professional athletics photographer. Go to [www.prettysporty.com](http://www.prettysporty.com) to see her work.

"I feel like a historian at times capturing moments for these young athletes," she said. "I also feel happy that I am giving back something to the sport that gave me so much."

## DIVERSITY

**A**S a pilot, Willa Brown Chappell soared to great heights and became an inspiration for others to achieve lofty goals. A 1927 Indiana State graduate, Chappell was passionate about aviation, but such an ambition seemed out of her reach in the 1930s.

"Becoming an aviator was extraordinarily difficult for a woman, let alone an African-American woman," said Ann Short Chirhart, professor of history at Indiana State.

Undeterred, Chappell took lessons from Lt. Cornelius Coffey, an African-American aviator who established a black aviation school in Chicago. In 1938, Brown became the first African-American woman to receive a pilot's license.

Brown and Coffey married in 1939, and the couple made Chicago a center for training black pilots, both men and women.



Brown also helped organize the National Airmen's Association of America in 1939, an organization that fought for black aviation cadets in the U.S. military.

"Later, her Chicago aviation school was selected as a training school for black men who were chosen to become the Tuskegee Airmen," Chirhart said.

Brown continued her activism when she became the first black woman to run for Congress in 1946, 1948 and 1950, although she never won.

She married the Rev. J.H. Chappell in 1955. She died in 1992.



## TEACHERS

**R**ODDRAN Grimes, '82, has touched many lives as a special education teacher and is now preparing future educators. It was at Indiana State, Grimes says, that she discovered her love of teaching.

"When I attended ISU for my undergraduate degree, I didn't know I was — at the core of my being — a teacher," she said. "I completed a bachelor's degree in an area unrelated to education. However, through my life's journey, I realized I wanted to enter the teaching profession."

Grimes was working at Hopewell Middle School in Atlanta when she decided to earn her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from Indiana State.

"Although I lived in a different state, I wanted to receive my doctoral degree from ISU, because I knew that I would receive an excellent research-based, quality education based on core teaching principles," Grimes said.



Now an assistant professor in special education at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho, "I love being a teacher, and my profession gives my life purpose. I strive to create a classroom environment in which every student is uplifted and encouraged to reach their full potential.

"Oh, if I could only turn back time, I would tell my undergraduate self to attend ISU's education program for my bachelor's degree," she said.

## INNOVATION

**F**ROM the basement of his family home, Bob McDavid created the first lateral knee brace designed to prevent injury or re-injury to the vulnerable human joint. The year was 1967.

Today, the multi-million dollar industry that grew from those humble roots is going stronger than ever. Based in Woodridge, Ill., with subsidiaries in Japan and Europe, McDavid Inc. designs and markets sports medicine, sports protection and performance apparel for active people and athletes.

It all began when McDavid was drawing diagrams of knees on a chalkboard for a class on kinesiology. "And one day, the light came on, and I said, 'Why don't we just put a bridge over the knee?'" he said.



For his innovation, McDavid crafted a two-piece guard, hinged by a brake-shoe rivet, to be worn on the outside of the leg, fitting alongside the body's natural hinge of the knee. McDavid traveled to trade shows and schools to market his creation.

Teaching at Indiana State from 1967 to 1992, McDavid is known for other innovations as well, including promoting jogging for fitness in his 1960s classes, long before it became popular.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

**W**HEN Pam Blesch flew back from a missionary trip as a teenager and saw the Statue of Liberty, she burst into tears.

"I was just so appreciative to have been born in this country," she said. "We are blessed in America to have so many resources that people in other countries cannot even fathom."

Ever since she can remember, Blesch wanted to be a nurse and help others.

She graduated from Indiana State in 1976 with a nursing degree, a member of the first four-year nursing class to graduate. "I'm so glad I stayed at home. ISU was on the cutting edge with a four-year school. In 1976, that was big time."

She is now an associate professor at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith and an adjunct faculty member in the Masters of Nursing program at Oklahoma Wesleyan University.

Blesch also travels the world to share her public health skills in other countries, participating in more than 30 mission trips. Her efforts were honored in the book "Giving Through Teaching: How Nurse Educators are Changing the World."

"It is all about public health. I believe we need to step outside our comfort zone and go



to places that do not have the resources we do," she said. "As an individual, we need to have compassion for those who don't have what we do." ❖