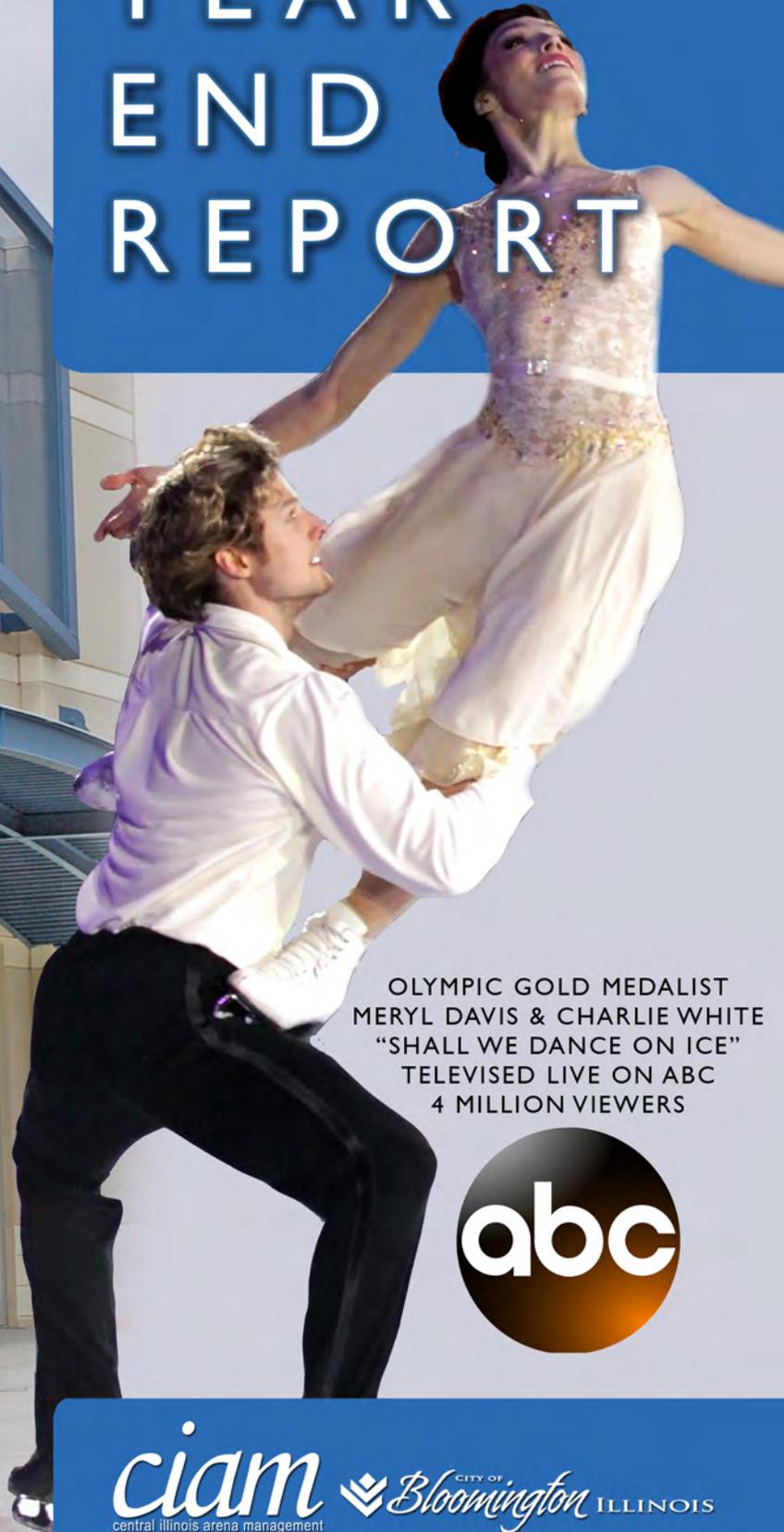




FISCAL YEAR 2015

YEAR END REPORT



OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST
MERYL DAVIS & CHARLIE WHITE
"SHALL WE DANCE ON ICE"
TELEVISED LIVE ON ABC
4 MILLION VIEWERS



ciam
central illinois arena management

CITY OF Bloomington ILLINOIS

MANAGED BY CENTRAL ILLINOIS ARENA MANAGEMENT, INC
B L O O M I N G T O N , I L L I N O I S
WWW.USCELLARCOLISEUM.COM



VICE PRESIDENT, BART ROGERS

As our ninth year of operations concludes, I am privileged to present the year-end report of activities on behalf of Central Illinois Arena Management. Despite the challenges with the economy, the U.S. Cellular Coliseum continues to be a significant contributor in local tourism dollars, while improving the quality of life for our residents. Since the opening of the facility in 2006, it has been estimated the economic dividend back to the community has been over \$127 million dollars. The fiscal year alone brought over \$12.5 million dollars in economic benefit to our region.

The U.S. Cellular Coliseum has successfully booked over 200 events with shows featuring: An Evening with Chris Tomlin, Kenny Rogers Christmas, Chris Young and Lee Brice, Eric Church, Heart with Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, comedian Mike Epps, and Shall We Dance on Ice. In December, a nationally televised "Shall We Dance on Ice" featured Olympic Gold Medalist, Meryl Davis and Charlie White and several Dancing with the Stars performers. Over 4 million viewers watched the show live on ABC network.

We will strive to increase the number of profitable events held at the Coliseum each year while establishing our venue as one of the top entertainment destinations in the Midwest. We truly appreciate the support of Mayor Renner, the City Council, City Manager Hales and members of the city staff – without whom we could not effectively perform our duties.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bart Rogers
Vice President
Central Illinois Arena Management



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As we finish our 9th season of operations at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum, the entire staff of Central Illinois Arena Management is privileged to present the 2015 fiscal year report to the City of Bloomington.

FY 2015 proved to be one of the most challenging years for overall event scheduling of concerts and shows. During several months of the fiscal year, large and mid-size venues experienced a slow concert business nationwide, reducing projected net event revenues and affecting the various facility revenue silos, (premium seating, food and beverage, parking, sponsorship sales, ticket fees).

National and regional concert promoters who traditionally book events at the USCC on an annual basis also faced unique challenges this year. Outdoor summer music festivals doubled across the country last year. Entertainers contracting with many of the outdoor festivals and amphitheaters were restricted for up to one year from performing at many traditional arena markets because of a non-compete performance mileage radius clause in their contract.

"We've had a hat trick of issues to deal with this fiscal year," said Butler. "The closing of the parking garage hurt us. We made arrangements for alternate parking for our suite owners, season ticket holders and other patrons, but the outside parking is just not the same, especially on a cold winter night. We also found that concert promoters were placing lengthy geographic restrictions in their contracts barring many performers from appearing at the Coliseum which caused the touring concert industry to basically go dormant for several months."

Jeffrey Apregan, President of Apregan Entertainment Group, Inc., of Westlake Village, California and with the trade group, *Venue Coalition, Inc, also remarked on the shortage of touring shows.



“The past twelve months has been one of the craziest times to book shows and tours. A slower touring schedule, with lower numbers of music groups hitting the road and the large increase in outdoor music festivals with large radius non-compete clauses attached, made the arena plays almost nonexistent for midsize venues. These cycles come and go in the industry and it was just one of those times where the programming was scarce,” said Apregan. National and regional concert promoters who traditionally book events at the USCC on an annual basis faced unique challenges this year.”

Based on a March 2015 study by the International Assembly of Venue Managers, the study indicated that 64% of venues nationwide who participated showed an overall operating deficit for the year. The average annual deficit per venue was \$650,596. In addition, 88% of venues operating at a deficit received additional funding to operate their facilities from non-operating revenue sources. (dedicated taxes, CVB, bonds). The annual average amount of additional non-operating funds provided to arenas was \$736,577.

With limited show offerings available to contract this year, the “bidding war” among competing venues for shows was extraordinary. In many situations the overall financial outlook didn’t fit the profit goals of larger touring acts therefore requiring them to book elsewhere when a tour schedule is smaller.

The U.S. Cellular Coliseum has the smallest seating capacity, (up to 7,500) among other competing Midwest facilities causing promoters to typically book with larger venues during a difficult touring schedule. (Peoria Civic Center – up to 12,000), Springfield Prairieland Capital and Convention Center – 8,000, State Farm Center, Champaign, IL. - 17,200, BMO Harris Bank Center, Rockford, IL. - 10,000 and the iWireless Center, Moline, IL. - 12,000).



Butler also cited the loss of the annual Bloomington/Normal Homebuilders Trade Show which is considered a marquee event in central Illinois. The show representatives cited a lack of parking near the facility as a main reason not to renew the contract. The Pepsi Ice Center parking deck located adjacent to the U.S. Cellular Coliseum was closed for most of the fiscal year due to structural damages and repairs. The closing of the 265 space parking deck reduced annual revenues and created a negative perception of limited event parking around the Coliseum. It was estimated that over \$125,000 in parking and event revenues were lost in FY 2015. At the time the show had to commit to a location, it was unclear when the parking deck would reopen. The Pepsi Ice Center deck was closed for a year and a half and reopened December, 2014. Butler gave credit to the city staff for reopening the deck so quickly given the complicated issues involved.

"We understood their frustration with the parking deck problem and it has been extremely difficult to replace a show of that magnitude. It was a profitable event for the facility and drove a large number of people to the Coliseum during that week," explained Traci Andrade, Assistant General Manager.

A new 4% city amusement tax imposed in August 2014 on event ticket sales and fees also impacted the Coliseum's year-end bottom line of approximately \$60,000.

However, CIAM has performed their duties faithfully and efficiently, managing the facility. During FY 2010 – FY 2013, (4 years) the Coliseum performed at a net operating profit of over \$145,000. Through FY 2010 to FY 2014, (5 years) the U.S. Cellular Coliseum managed the day to day operations of the facility at a breakeven. CIAM was confident on continuing the trend of profitability in FY 2014, but due to the sudden closure of the Pepsi Ice Center Parking Deck for 18 months due to structural concerns and central Illinois being hit with the worst winter in 50 years, attendance dropped 25% and budget goals were not achieved.



The U.S. Cellular Coliseum still continues to be the largest ticketed attraction in the Bloomington/Normal area and its economic benefit back to the region this year was estimated at over \$12.5 Million. Based on BNCVB annual reports, USCC attendance figures, ticketing reports and studies prepared by the Illinois Bureau of Tourism by the Research Department of the U.S. Travel Association, the estimated economic dividend to our community since 2006 has surpassed \$127 Million.

This year we welcomed a new anchor tenant to the building. The Bloomington Thunder hockey team is now under the ownership of CSH International. The Thunder played their inaugural season in the United States Hockey League this year. Considered the top amateur hockey league in North America, many of these athletes will be playing in the NHL in just a few years. Vice President/General Manager, Kurt Silcott oversees a front office staff of nine employees and runs the day to day operations of the franchise. CSH International currently owns and operates amateur hockey and baseball teams across the United States and has been in the sports industry for over 30 years. Their commitment to the community and to the U.S. Cellular Coliseum both on and off the ice is second to none. We are excited to continue to see the growth and stability of our anchor tenant this upcoming year and to hopefully see our Thunder hoist the Championship Cup in 2016!

We are also proud to continue hosting the Bloomington Flex professional basketball team a new member of the Midwest Professional Basketball League, (MPBL), the Bloomington Edge indoor football team, a current member of the XLEAGUE, and the Illinois State University hockey team. The teams played a total of a combined 57 home games this year.



In December 2014, the U.S. Cellular Coliseum was chosen by Disson Skating to host a special “one time only” nationally televised “Shall We Dance on Ice” show. The program featured Olympic Gold Medalists, “Dancing with the Stars” professional dancers and was broadcast nationally twice on ABC’s Wide World of Sports. Over 4 million viewers enjoyed the unique display of the world’s best figure skaters and dancers held at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum. Because of the success of the show and the tremendous support from the community, Disson Skating announced they will be back for a special ice skating event in December 2015.

As the industry continues to change, we will strive to increase the number of profitable events and continue to work with our anchor tenants, keeping it one of the busiest arenas in the Midwest.

*Venue Coalition is made up of over 60 leading venues across North America actively seeking new events and business opportunities. Their focus is to assist venues in routing and booking tours. The U.S. Cellular Coliseum has been a member of Venue Coalition for the past eight years.

www.venuecoalition.com

Coliseum Fund
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
with
Accrued, Operating and NonOperating Expense
May 2014 - April 2015
UNAUDITED

	<u>May 14 - Apr 15</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Revenues/Operating Expense		
Income		
400000 - Income		
401000 · Box Office Convenience Fees	77,689.03	140,000.00
401500 · Club Memberships	37,252.44	51,300.00
402000 · Concessions Revenue	155,218.23	260,000.00
403000 · Suites	263,699.69	401,718.00
403500 · Ticket Facility Fees	96,445.87	190,000.00
404000 · Sponsorships	583,606.42	580,000.00
404500 · Naming Rights	270,101.25	270,000.00
405000 · Parking Deck	64,543.53	95,900.00
405500 · Box Office/ Rental	11,434.01	25,000.00
406000 · Coliseum Rental	522,980.04	550,000.00
Total 400000 · Income	2,082,970.51	2,563,918.00
410000 - Reimbursed Expenses - Income		
411500 · Football Reimbursement	95.00	0.00
412500 · Hockey Reimbursement	808.00	0.00
Total 410000 · Reimbursed Expenses - Income	903.00	0.00
420000 - Event Income		
421000 · Event Labor	168,069.03	441,500.00
421500 · Event Advertising	85,085.26	147,000.00
422000 · Event Services	37,618.48	200,000.00
422500 · Other Event Costs	46,277.35	63,500.00
423000 · Event Income	72,725.36	199,185.00
424000 · Amusement Tax Collected	55,514.39	0.00
Total 420000 · Event Income	465,289.87	1,051,185.00
430000 - Merchandise Income		
431000 · Merchandise Commission	16,612.25	10,000.00
431500 · Merchandise Taxable Sales	108,145.94	300,000.00
432000 · Sales Tax Collected	8,358.92	23,250.00
Total 430000 · Merchandise Income	133,117.11	333,250.00
440000 - Other Income		
441000 · Gift Certificate Sales	1,103.00	3,000.00
441500 · Interest Income	1,431.67	2,000.00
Total 440000 · Other Income	2,534.67	5,000.00
Revenues	2,684,815.16	3,953,353.00

Coliseum Fund
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
with
Accrued, Operating and NonOperating Expense
May 2014 - April 2015
UNAUDITED

	<u>May 14 - Apr 15</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Operating Expense		
600000 · Payroll Expense		
601000 · Wages		
601100 · Salaried	857,966.83	997,500.00
601150 · Regular	380,047.98	468,000.00
601200 · Overtime	24,001.96	45,000.00
601300 · Commissions	6,407.87	10,000.00
Total 601000 · Wages	1,268,424.44	1,520,500.00
602000 · Employer Taxes		
602100 · FICA expense	91,159.39	116,318.25
602150 · FUTA tax expense	3,015.98	4,830.00
602200 · SUTA tax expense	8,795.90	39,000.00
Total 602000 · Employer Taxes	102,971.27	160,148.25
603000 · Voluntary Deductions		
603150 · Insurance		
603151 · Health Insurance	70,984.47	89,000.00
603152 · Life Insurance	2,178.51	2,500.00
Total 603150 · Insurance	73,162.98	91,500.00
Total 603000 · Voluntary Deductions	73,162.98	91,500.00
605000 · Miscellaneous		
605150 · Uniforms	2,248.53	3,500.00
Total 605000 · Miscellaneous	2,248.53	3,500.00
600000 · Payroll Expense - Other	-31.76	0.00
Total 600000 · Payroll Expense	1,446,775.46	1,775,648.25
610000 · Reimbursable		
611500 · Hockey	-41.95	0.00
613500 · Parking Fund	29,722.96	65,000.00
Total 610000 · Reimbursable	29,681.01	65,000.00
620000 · Other Contractual Services		
621000 · Security	5,620.56	36,000.00
621500 · Cleaning/Janitorial	13,112.00	74,000.00
622000 · Trash Removal	12,931.24	18,000.00
623000 · Credit Card Fees	21,854.81	30,000.00
623500 · Management Fees	103,853.77	154,484.00
624000 · Payroll Service Fees	3,355.47	4,000.00
625000 · Ticket Printing Fees	1,030.00	2,300.00
625500 · Finance Charges	5,013.96	800.00
626500 · Pest Control	2,640.00	3,000.00
627000 · Medical	12,000.00	12,000.00
627500 · Internet/Cable Expense	22,848.41	15,000.00
628500 · Ticketmaster Fees	5,496.82	10,000.00
Total 620000 · Other Contractual Services	209,757.04	359,584.00

Coliseum Fund
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
with
Accrued, Operating and NonOperating Expense
May 2014 - April 2015
UNAUDITED

	<u>May 14 - Apr 15</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
630000 · Commissions		
631000 · Football	0.00	5,000.00
631500 · Hockey	17,933.58	27,500.00
632000 · CIAM	138,213.75	160,000.00
Total 630000 · Commissions	<u>156,147.33</u>	<u>192,500.00</u>
640000 · Promoter Expense		
641000 · Merchandise	98,167.43	173,250.00
641500 · Event Meal Expense	60,206.32	55,410.00
642000 · Production Expense	50,803.28	46,000.00
642500 · Other Promoter Expense	122,105.17	124,410.00
643000 · Promoter Advertising	190,655.01	160,000.00
643500 · Sales Tax Expense	8,236.00	23,250.00
644000 · Amusement Tax	57,097.16	0.00
Total 640000 · Promoter Expense	<u>587,270.37</u>	<u>582,320.00</u>
650000 · Administrative Expenses		
651000 · Worker's Comp Insurance	94,630.64	82,000.00
655000 · Liability/Property Insurance	44,562.20	37,000.00
660000 · Building Maintenance	51,064.57	83,260.00
665000 · Building Furnishings & Supplies	31,629.62	47,000.00
667000 · Extraordinary Expenses	2,797.65	0.00
670000 · Building Alterations	5,711.08	20,000.00
675000 · Training	699.00	5,000.00
680000 · Advertising Expense	31,530.32	30,000.00
681000 · Sponsorship Expense	22,449.18	32,000.00
690000 · Other Supplies	8,390.46	5,000.00
695000 · Janitorial Supplies	11,820.60	24,000.00
700000 · Maintenance & Repairs	11,742.01	50,680.00
705000 · Maint. Service Agreements	20,700.55	36,000.00
710000 · Bank Service Charges	325.00	225.00
715000 · Miscellaneous	642.62	7,000.00
720000 · Automobile	3,962.30	4,100.00
730000 · Equipment Rent	21,071.93	19,200.00
740000 · Printing and Reproduction	3,902.61	5,600.00
745000 · Postage and Delivery	2,478.75	5,020.00
750000 · Dues and Subscriptions	14,988.57	15,000.00
755000 · Telephone and Fax	32,833.74	40,000.00
760000 · Office and Computer Supplies	3,609.36	8,816.00
765000 · Gift Cards	2,501.15	2,600.00
Total 650000 · Administrative Expenses	<u>424,043.91</u>	<u>559,501.00</u>
775000 · Professional Fees		
775100 · Legal Fees	18,571.00	6,000.00
775250 · Miscellaneous	1,700.00	0.00
Total 775000 · Professional Fees	<u>20,271.00</u>	<u>6,000.00</u>

Coliseum Fund
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
with
Accrued, Operating and NonOperating Expense
May 2014 - April 2015
UNAUDITED

	<u>May 14 - Apr 15</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
780000 · Travel & Entertainment		
781500 · Meals	1,356.67	1,600.00
782000 · Travel	16,897.06	9,150.00
782500 · Mileage	129.92	4,250.00
Total 780000 · Travel & Entertainment	<u>18,383.65</u>	<u>15,000.00</u>
785000 · Utilities		
785100 · Electricity	175,781.99	205,000.00
785150 · Gas	73,551.21	70,000.00
785200 · Water	37,472.23	32,000.00
Total 785000 · Utilities	<u>286,805.43</u>	<u>307,000.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>3,179,135.20</u>	<u>3,862,553.25</u>
Net Operating Income	<u>-494,320.04</u>	<u>90,799.75</u>
***Other NonOperating Expense		
Management/Tenant Professional Fees	1,123.51	0.00
Total Non/Operating Expense	<u>1,123.51</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Net Income/(Loss) After NonOperating Expense	<u><u>-495,443.55</u></u>	<u><u>90,799.75</u></u>

***Per Sections 2.4, 3.4, 5.8, 8.1 of the Management Agreement



Capital Project Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2015

1. Replacement of 3 HVAC Compressors

City staff replaced HVAC compressors in two of the units that supply cooling for the seating bowl. (There are a total of six compressors per unit). Two compressors were replaced in RTU-1 and one compressor was replaced in RTU-2. Work was approved by City Council August 25, 2014. Cost of project was \$64,964.06.

The capital project was requested by city staff.

2. RE-PROGRAM HVAC BUILDING AUTOMATION SYSTEM

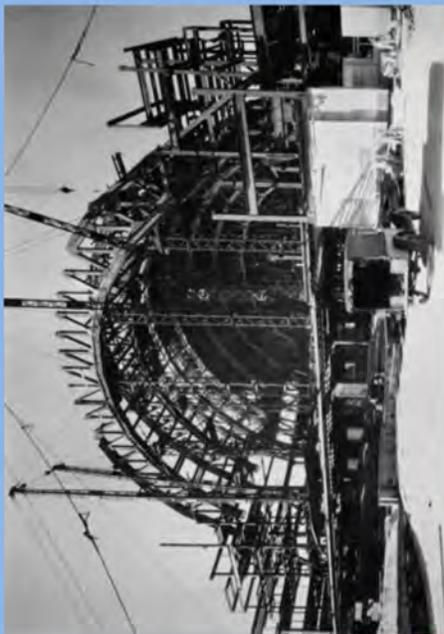
The City of Bloomington hired the services of Applied Controls, Inc. to re-program the HVAC building automation system for the entire HVAC system in the building. The project was approved by City Council October 24, 2014. Cost of project was not to exceed \$15,440 plus \$5,000 in parts. The capital project was requested by city staff.

3. SECURITY CAMERAS

Completed phase 2 of the installation of new security cameras, (7) added on the concourse level. Cost of project was \$7,551.27. Phase 3

Projected in FY 2017

2015 Capital Funding Report



VENUE DATA SOURCE
Know. Now.

IAVM 2015 Capital Funding Report

Research and Production

Project Oversight: Frank Ingoglia, Research Manager

Project Guidance: 2014-2015 IAVM Research Advisory Council:

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IAVM's Mission: To educate, advocate for, and inspire public assembly venue professionals, worldwide.

As with all of our products and initiatives, we welcome any comments so that we can continue to improve these reports to meet your needs. Please contact Frank Ingoglia, 972-538-1001 or via email to frank.ingoglia@iavm.org.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

OPERATING PROFIT VS. OPERATING DEFICIT

- In this survey, **64%** of the venues **operated at a deficit**, 3% broke even and **32% were profitable** in their most recently completed fiscal year.

VENUES WITH OPERATING DEFICITS

- **87%** cover their operating expenses via operating revenues alone.
- **88%** of venues with operating deficits receive additional funding from non-operating revenue sources.
- The average amounts of funding available to those organizations with operating deficits is greater than the average amounts of the shortfall because many organizations provide additional funding in excess of the deficit.
 - **138%** is the average percentage of excess revenue received (additional funding amount divided by deficit amount).
 - **44%** receive funding in **excess of the deficit**, **41%** receive the **exact amount** and **15%** receive **less**.

EXTERNAL FUNDING SOURCES REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OPERATING EXPENSES EXCEEDED REVENUES

- **83%** of all venues in the survey receive non-operating revenue funds from other sources, primarily a **city (35%)** or through **dedicated taxes (22%)**.
- **76%** receive external funding which creates a **budget surplus**, **58%** always, usually or sometimes and **18%** rarely.
 - **60%** **keep it as a general reserve**; **52%** **allocate it to capital projects**; **21%** **allocate it to renovation**.
 - **14%** **give it back**

CONSTRUCTION EXPANSION/FINANCING

- **62%** of all participating venues have undergone major construction or renovation in the past 15 years.
- **40%** financed using **government bonds**, **15%** used **authority bonds**, **27%** utilize **reserve funds**, **14%** rely upon **contributions/donations**.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/EXPENSE/REPAIR/ REPLACEMENT PROGRAMS

- **80%** have a capital improvement program in place.
- **90%** that have one budget for it annually.
- **58%** of those that budget request the funding as part of the normal annual operating budget cycle.

TENANT/VENDOR INVESTMENTS IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

- **26%** have tenants or vendors that invest in the venue's capital improvements.



Ticket Sales Recap

Ticketmaster, the U.S. Cellular Coliseum's exclusive ticket provider, is able to provide analytic data on ticket sales for the events at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum.

Data of ticket sales is able to be tracked when purchased through the internet at ticketmaster.com, outlets such as Walmart locations, and over the phone at 800-745-3000.

Tickets sold at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum box office windows are not included in the data.

A recent analysis on ticket sales for major ticketed events in the time period of December 2013 – April 2015 has provided the following information. This is based on 39 special events, excluding sporting events, and the sales of 74,807 tickets.

- 18% of total ticket sales were made in Bloomington, IL, while 7% were made in Normal, IL.
- 53% of total sales were made in the State of Illinois, outside of McLean County.
- Tickets were purchased in 49 out of 50 states, also including Washington D.C.
- Tickets were also purchased in several providences in Canada.
- Locations with the United States Armed Forces recorded ticket sales for 3 events.

The total data shows that **75%** of all tickets purchased to major ticketed events at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum were purchased outside of Bloomington-Normal and **69%** of all tickets were purchased outside of McLean County.

Cumulative Sales Report - Major Events

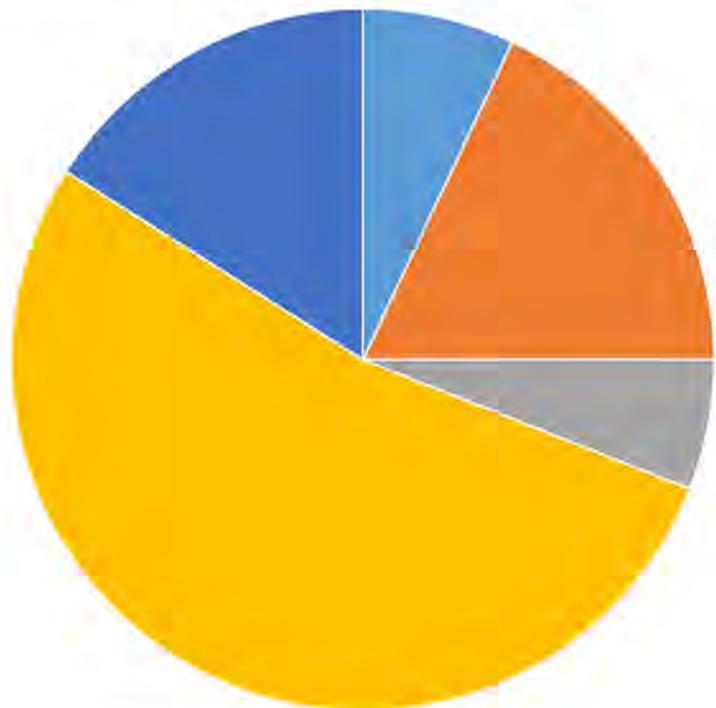
December 2013 - April 2015

Location	Seats
Normal	5486
Bloomington	13485
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	4561
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	39445
Out of State	11769
Out of the Country	61
Total Illinois	74807
Alabama	30
Alaska	17
Arizona	190
Arkansas	33
California	1320
Colorado	226
Connecticut	44
District of Columbia	21
Delaware	43
Florida	499
Georgia	89
Hawaii	16
Idaho	2
Illinois	62977
Indiana	779
Iowa	464
Kansas	61
Kentucky	251
Louisiana	39
Maine	13
Maryland	265
Massachusetts	282
Michigan	279
Minnesota	423
Mississippi	12
Missouri	469
Montana	26
Nebraska	139
Nevada	271
New Hampshire	22
New Jersey	603
New Mexico	56
New York	1183
North Carolina	475
North Dakota	9
Ohio	481
Oklahoma	121
Oregon	28
Pennsylvania	521
Rhode Island	42
South Carolina	38
South Dakota	1
Tennessee	144
Texas	333
Utah	23
Vermont	0
Virginia	449
Washington	461
West Virginia	19
Wisconsin	442
Wyoming	15
Total OOS	74746
Armed Forces - Europe	6
Canada	55
Total OOC	61
Total	74807

Location	% of Total Seats
Normal	7%
Bloomington	18%
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	6%
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	53%
Out of State	16%
Out of the Country	0%
Total	100%

Total Paid Tickets for 39 Events 107493

This is a cumulative report showing ticket sales for all major ticketed special events from December 2013 until April 2015. (excluding sporting events)
 This analysis is **only** a reflection of tickets purchased for this show online via www.ticketmaster.com.
 Box office sales and other outlets are not included in this report.



- Normal
- Bloomington
- McLean County (excluding B/N)
- Outside of McLean County (Illinois)
- Out of State
- Out of Country

Cirque Du Soleil

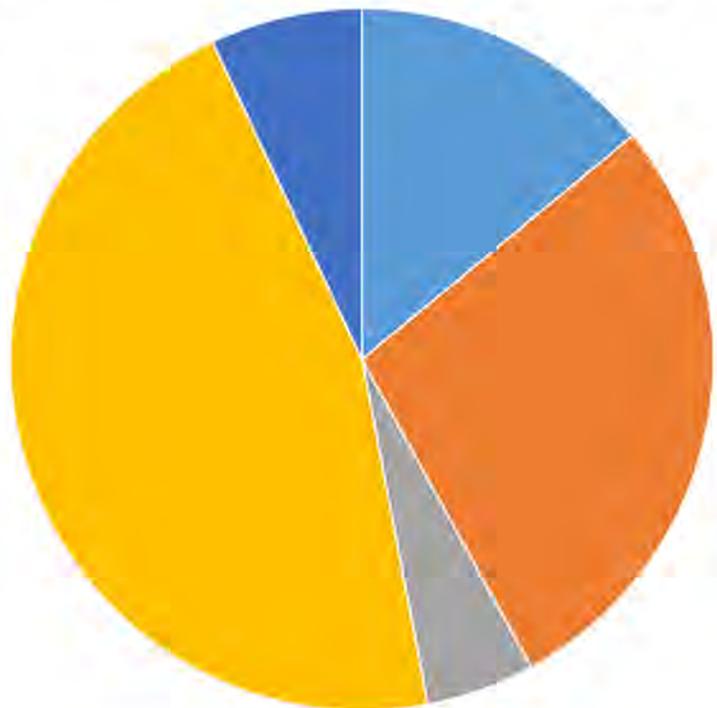
November 13 - 17, 2014

Location	Seats
Normal	560
Bloomington	1129
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	221
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	1901
Out of State	274
Out of the Country	6
Total Illinois	4091
Alabama	0
Alaska	0
Arizona	0
Arkansas	1
California	54
Colorado	0
Connecticut	7
Delaware	0
Florida	11
Georgia	5
Hawaii	0
Idaho	0
Illinois	3811
Indiana	37
Iowa	15
Kansas	0
Kentucky	0
Louisiana	0
Maine	0
Maryland	0
Massachusetts	1
Michigan	34
Minnesota	0
Mississippi	0
Missouri	9
Montana	0
Nebraska	1
Nevada	3
New Hampshire	0
New Jersey	8
New Mexico	7
New York	8
North Carolina	0
North Dakota	0
Ohio	7
Oklahoma	0
Oregon	2
Pennsylvania	2
Rhode Island	0
South Carolina	2
Tennessee	0
Texas	6
Utah	0
Vermont	0
Virginia	2
Washington	37
West Virginia	0
Wisconsin	15
Wyoming	0
Total OOS	4085
Canada	6
Total OOC	6
Total	4091

Location	% of Total Seats
Normal	14%
Bloomington	28%
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	5%
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	46%
Out of State	7%
Out of the Country	0%
Total	100%

Total Paid Tickets for Event	5698
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<p>This analysis is only a reflection of tickets purchased for this show online via www.ticketmaster.com. Box office sales and other outlets are not included in this report.</p>



- Normal
- Bloomington
- McLean County (excluding B/N)
- Outside of McLean County (Illinois)
- Out of State
- Out of Country

Shall We Dance on Ice

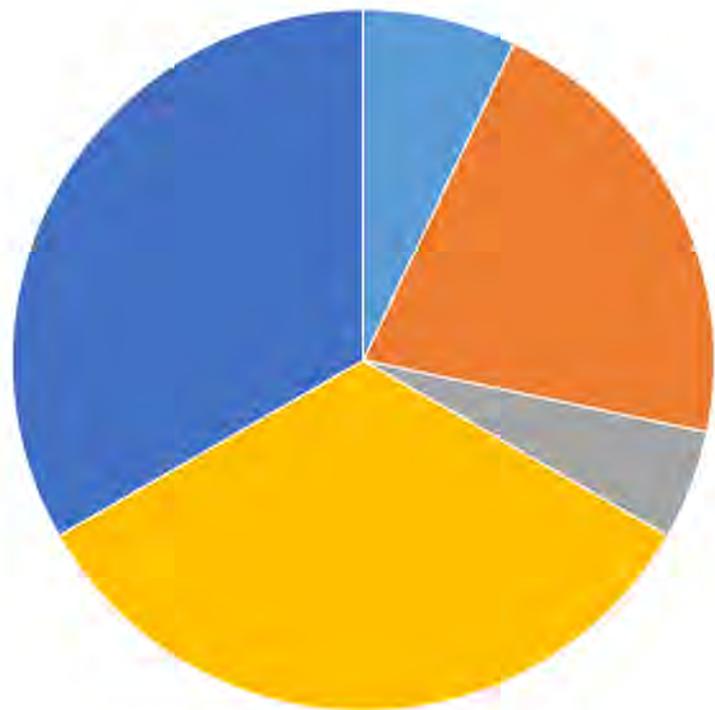
December 16, 2014

Location	Seats
Normal	169
Bloomington	468
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	116
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	750
Out of State	756
Out of the Country	6
Total Illinois	2265
Alabama	0
Alaska	0
Arizona	3
Arkansas	3
California	32
Colorado	6
Connecticut	13
Delaware	0
Florida	22
Georgia	20
Hawaii	0
Idaho	0
Illinois	1502
Indiana	53
Iowa	21
Kansas	2
Kentucky	13
Louisiana	0
Maine	0
Maryland	2
Massachusetts	8
Michigan	39
Minnesota	8
Mississippi	2
Missouri	28
Montana	0
Nebraska	7
Nevada	0
New Hampshire	2
New Jersey	2
New Mexico	2
New York	13
North Carolina	6
North Dakota	0
Ohio	27
Oklahoma	0
Oregon	0
Pennsylvania	9
Rhode Island	0
South Carolina	1
South Dakota	2
Tennessee	8
Texas	12
Utah	0
Vermont	0
Virginia	355
Washington	5
West Virginia	0
Wisconsin	30
Wyoming	0
Total OOS	2258
Canada	6
Total OOC	6
Total	2264

Location	% of Total Seats
Normal	7%
Bloomington	21%
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	5%
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	33%
Out of State	33%
Out of the Country	0%
Total	100%

Total Paid Tickets for Event 2895

This analysis is **only** a reflection of tickets purchased for this show online via www.ticketmaster.com. Box office sales and other outlets are not included in this report.



- Normal
- Bloomington
- McLean County (excluding B/N)
- Outside of McLean County (Illinois)
- Out of State
- Out of Country

Eric Church

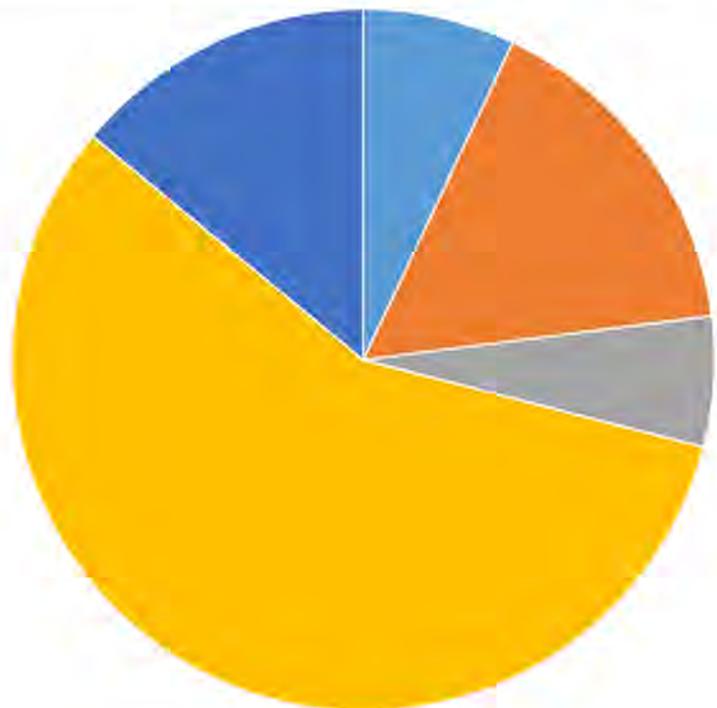
March 17, 2015

Location	Seats
Normal	330
Bloomington	761
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	290
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	2707
Out of State	647
Out of the Country	2
Total Illinois	4737
Alabama	0
Alaska	0
Arizona	0
Arkansas	4
California	70
Colorado	26
Connecticut	3
Delaware	3
Florida	20
Georgia	6
Hawaii	0
Idaho	0
Illinois	4088
Indiana	14
Iowa	22
Kansas	0
Kentucky	0
Louisiana	4
Maine	0
Maryland	10
Massachusetts	0
Michigan	0
Minnesota	10
Mississippi	0
Missouri	50
Montana	0
Nebraska	10
Nevada	0
New Hampshire	0
New Jersey	20
New Mexico	0
New York	24
North Carolina	240
North Dakota	0
Ohio	0
Oklahoma	0
Oregon	6
Pennsylvania	20
Rhode Island	0
South Carolina	0
Tennessee	14
Texas	8
Utah	0
Vermont	0
Virginia	15
Washington	27
West Virginia	0
Wisconsin	21
Wyoming	0
Total OOS	4735
Canada	2
Total OOC	2
Total	4737

Location	% of Total Seats
Normal	7%
Bloomington	16%
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	6%
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	57%
Out of State	14%
Out of the Country	0%
Total	100%

Total Paid Tickets for Event 5159

This analysis is **only** a reflection of tickets purchased for this show online via www.ticketmaster.com. Box office sales and other outlets are not included in this report.



- Normal
- Bloomington
- McLean County (excluding B/N)
- Outside of McLean County (Illinois)
- Out of State
- Out of Country

Heart and Joan Jett and the Blackhearts

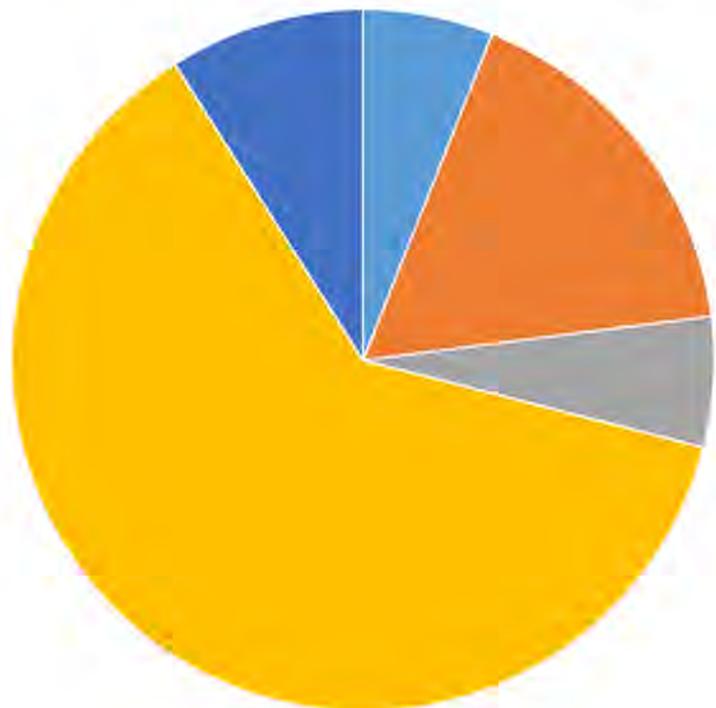
March 20, 2015

Location	Seats
Normal	238
Bloomington	646
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	224
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	2410
Out of State	366
Out of the Country	2
Total Illinois	3886
Alabama	0
Alaska	0
Arizona	5
Arkansas	4
California	68
Colorado	4
Connecticut	2
Delaware	0
Florida	27
Georgia	0
Hawaii	0
Idaho	0
Illinois	1408
Indiana	33
Iowa	4
Kansas	0
Kentucky	49
Louisiana	0
Maine	0
Maryland	0
Massachusetts	0
Michigan	2
Minnesota	4
Mississippi	0
Missouri	28
Montana	0
Nebraska	10
Nevada	5
New Hampshire	0
New Jersey	40
New Mexico	0
New York	2
North Carolina	0
North Dakota	2
Ohio	17
Oklahoma	28
Oregon	0
Pennsylvania	1
Rhode Island	0
South Carolina	0
Tennessee	0
Texas	2
Utah	0
Vermont	0
Virginia	0
Washington	20
West Virginia	0
Wisconsin	9
Wyoming	0
Total OOS	1774
Canada	2
Total OOC	2
Total	1776

Location	% of Total Seats
Normal	6%
Bloomington	17%
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	6%
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	62%
Out of State	9%
Out of the Country	0%
Total	100%

Total Paid Tickets for Event 4776

This analysis is only a reflection of tickets purchased for the show online via www.ticketmaster.com.
Box office sales and other outlets are not included in this report.



- Normal
- Bloomington
- McLean County (excluding B/N)
- Outside of McLean County (Illinois)
- Out of State
- Out of Country

Chris Young and Lee Brice

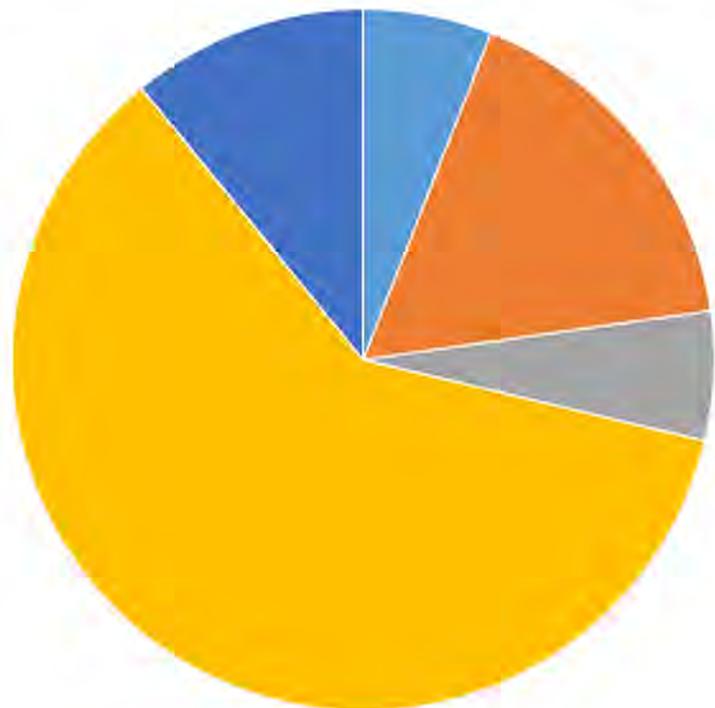
February 20, 2015

Location	Seats
Normal	202
Bloomington	560
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	189
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	2036
Out of State	356
Out of the Country	0
Total Illinois	3343
Alabama	0
Alaska	0
Arizona	4
Arkansas	0
California	78
Colorado	0
Connecticut	0
Delaware	0
Florida	9
Georgia	4
Hawaii	4
Idaho	0
Illinois	2987
Indiana	47
Iowa	19
Kansas	0
Kentucky	56
Louisiana	0
Maine	0
Maryland	2
Massachusetts	0
Michigan	18
Minnesota	3
Mississippi	0
Missouri	24
Montana	0
Nebraska	6
Nevada	10
New Hampshire	0
New Jersey	4
New Mexico	0
New York	18
North Carolina	2
North Dakota	0
Ohio	13
Oklahoma	0
Oregon	0
Pennsylvania	0
Rhode Island	0
South Carolina	0
Tennessee	4
Texas	4
Utah	3
Vermont	0
Virginia	4
Washington	6
West Virginia	3
Wisconsin	11
Wyoming	0
Total OOS	3343
Canada	0
Total OOC	0
Total	3343

Location	% of Total Seats
Normal	6%
Bloomington	17%
McLean County (excluding Bloomington & Normal)	6%
Outside of McLean County in Illinois	61%
Out of State	11%
Out of the Country	0%
Total	100%

Total Paid Tickets for Event	3668
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This analysis is only a reflection of tickets purchased for the show online via www.ticketmaster.com.
Box office sales and other outlets are not included in this report.



- Normal
- Bloomington
- McLean County (excluding B/N)
- Outside of McLean County (Illinois)
- Out of State
- Out of Country



Teams

Bloomington Thunder Hockey



101 S. Madison St.
Bloomington, IL 61701
309-434-2980

30 Home Games
Last Year Record: 29-24-7
Last Year Attendance: 60,864

Website: www.bloomingtonthunder.com
League Website: www.ushl.com

NHL
Future
Stars!!



Bloomington Flex Professional Basketball



10 Home Games
Last Year Record: 16-5
Last Year Attendance: 19,541

Website: www.flexbasketball.com
League Website: www.thempba.com/

12', 13' 14'
PBL CHAMPS!



Bloomington Edge Football



5 Home Games
Last Year Record: 6-3
Last Year Attendance: 7,116

Website: www.bloomingtonedgefootball.com
League Website: www.xleaguefootball.com



Illinois State University Hockey

Website: www.illinoisstatehockey.com
17 Home Games





U.S. Cellular Coliseum Highlights

Hockey – Indoor Football - Basketball

- New ownership and a new league (USHL) for the Bloomington Thunder. The season started a month earlier than previous years, requiring ice to be installed in the venue one month earlier allowing other hockey programs to take advantage of utilizing the ice in the month of September, that haven't been able to in previous years until October (ISU Hockey, Pepsi Ice Center ICE Rentals).
- New ownership and new league (X-league) for The Bloomington Edge Football Team, hosted 5 home games for the season. Their season schedule runs March through May, splitting events in each fiscal year.
- The Bloomington Flex returned for another 10 game home season. They also hosted the Midwest Professional Basketball League post-season tournament.
- Illinois State University Hockey returned for another year, playing 16 of their season's games in our facility. This is the most amount of games that they have played in our facility.

Community Events

- For the 8th year in a row, the venue hosted Downtown Bloomington Association's Thanksgiving Market on the main coliseum floor, allowing local farmers, vendors, and arts to sell products indoors before the Thanksgiving holiday.
- For the 1st year, the venue hosted Downtown Bloomington Association's Indoor Winter Farmer's markets on 5 separate dates on the concourse. This offered a larger space to continue to expand this event and allow patrons an indoor space to shop for fresh produce, meat, cheese and crafts.
- Just Animals hosted two pet wellness clinics. Just Animals is an organization that helps provide healthcare at a discounted price to make sure that pets are getting the care that is needed. Vaccines and basic exams are performed for these animals. This event was hosted on the main concourse.



U.S. Cellular Coliseum Highlights Continued

- IHSA Competitive Cheerleading State Finals returned for the event's ninth year in February 2015. The contract with the IHSA has been extended for another five years.
- IHSA Competitive Dance State Finals returned for the event's third year in January 2015. This makes year three out of a five year contract. Ticket sales increased by over 1600 tickets this year compared to the two previous years. The expectation is that this event will double in sales in the upcoming years.
- IHSA Dual Team Wrestling State Finals returned for another year, the 6th in a row in February 2015. This makes year number four out of a five year contract.
- A 4th time event in the US Cellular Coliseum, put on by the Back to School Alliance, the Back to School Party brought in almost 3000 patrons to receive their school supplies and backpacks donated.
- The State Farm Holiday Classic returned to the facility for the fifth year, hosting a combination of girls and boys basketball games over three days. They will return next year on December 28 – 30, 2015.
- The Christian Congregation of the Jehovah's Witnesses hosted one convention weekend again this year. This is the 9th year in a row that our venue has hosted one of their conventions. As a larger anniversary year, the congregation restructured their convention locations to host larger ones in stadiums. Our venue and market was still able to host a convention weekend due to the strong relationship that we've developed over the years. Attendance was almost 15,000 for the convention weekend.



U.S. Cellular Coliseum Highlights Continued

Concerts and Special Events

- The facility hosted multiple concerts in both the smaller cut down theater set up and full house set up, showcasing the flexibility of the venue for all show types. Highlights include several near sell out performances including Eric Church's Outsiders Tour on March 17, 2015 and Heart and Joan Jett and the Blackhearts on March 20, 2015 in the full house set up and Chris Young and Lee Brice on February 20, 2015 in the half house set up.
- World famous theatrical show producer, Cirque Du Soleil, brought 6 exciting performances of their touring show "Dralion" to the building in a small intimate theater set up. This is the first time this show producer has played our venue with any of their touring shows.
- Shall We Dance on Ice, synergizing ice dancing and ballroom dancing, took place in December 2014. The cast included Olympic gold medalists Meryl Davis and Charlie White, and also professional dancers from ABC's Dancing with the Stars Maks Chmerkovskiy, Sharna Burgess and Louis Van Amstel. Produced by Disson Skating, this large scale and large production event was filmed for ABC and was broadcast in February 2015 with a re-broadcast in March 2015 showcasing our building and community to over 4 million viewers.
- World Championship ICE Racing returned for the 8th consecutive year, allowing local riders and participants to compete around the oval ice track, attracting indoor motor sports enthusiasts indoors.
- Sesame Street Live brought their touring show "Let's Dance" to thrill a younger audience in an intimate setting with the famous characters, Elmo, Cookie Monster and friends.
- Grammy award winning Christian singer and songwriter Chris Tomlin performed a magical night of music in mid-July in front of a capacity crowd.



U.S. Cellular Coliseum Highlights Continued

- An athletic competition called "Clash at the Coliseum" showcasing crossfit-type athletic competition events took place for the first time ever in August. The competition was a success and organizers signed a contract to return for a 3-year deal.
- Holiday entertainment included a Christmas concert with Kenny Rogers showcasing his hits and Christmas music.



Economic Impact



2014-2015 ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

ESTIMATED TOTAL ATTENDANCE - 232 EVENT DAYS	173,382
ESTIMATED DAILY AVERAGE SPENDING FOR MEALS, RETAIL PURCHASES, ENTERTAINMENT, TRAVEL, SUPPLIERS	\$5,201,460
ESTIMATED OVERNIGHT DAILY AVERAGE SPENDING FOR OVERNIGHT EVENTS FOR MEALS, RETAIL PURCHASES, ENTERTAINMENT, TRAVEL, SUPPLIERS	\$5,021,576
U.S. CELLULAR AND BUILDING TENANTS (HOCKEY, FOOTBALL & BASKETBALL) WAGES – FULL TIME + PART TIME	\$1,800,000
CONCESSION PRODUCT COST / PAID IN THE COMMUNITY (ESTIMATE)	\$190,000
PURCHASED LOCALLY SERVICES, REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND SUPPLIES	\$199,800
LOCAL ADVERTISING OF CONCERT AND OTHER EVENTS (ESTIMATE)	\$101,947
PROMOTER HOTEL ROOM USES 13 EVENTS 260 ROOMS X \$125 NIGHT	<u>\$32,500</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATED ECONOMIC IMPACT	\$12,547,283

The estimated contribution to the local economy is based on standard formulas used by the Bloomington-Normal Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Illinois Office of Tourism to measure economic impact from tourism. These formulas measure the total effects of direct/or indirect recirculation of income which was compiled by CIAM finance and marketing department.

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report

May 2014 – April 2015

MAY	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
Bloomington Edge Football Game	Ticketed	5/3	1	1,222
Bloomington Edge Football Game	Ticketed	5/10	1	677
MCYHA Annual Meeting	Meeting	5/18	1	70
Normal Community West High School Graduation	Non - Ticketed	5/24	1	3,100
Normal Community High School Graduation	Non-Ticketed	5/24	1	4,200
Bloomington Edge Football Game	Ticketed	5/31	1	1,011
JUNE	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTEDANCE
Bloomington High School Graduation	Non-Ticketed	6/1	1	3,500
Jehovah's Witnesses Convention	Convention	6/6-6/8	3	13,170
Loomis Brothers' Circus	Ticketed	5/20-5/21	2	4,900
JULY	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
An Evening with Chris Tomlin Concert	Ticketed	7/19	1	2,836
Moveable Feast Bash Private Event	Meeting	7/23	1	500
AUGUST	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
Annual Youth Hockey Registration and Used Equipment Sale	Non-Ticketed	8/9-8/11	3	800

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report May 2014 – April 2015

Back to School Alliance Backpack Giveaway	Non-Ticketed	8/15	1	3000
Core Powers "Clash at the Coliseum" Athletic Competition	Non-Ticketed	8/23	1	400
Pepsi Ice Center Registrar Meeting	Meeting	8/26-8/31	4	435
SEPTEMBER	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
Bloomington Youth Hockey Meeting	Meeting	9/2-9/3	2	40
City of Bloomington Parking Garage Meeting	Meeting	9/9-9/10	2	25
Exelon-"Maintenance Department Off -Site Meeting"	Meeting	9/12	1	35
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	9/12	1	261
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	9/13	1	270
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	9/19	1	273
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Season Ticket Holder Party	Non-Ticketed	9/20	1	75
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Meeting	Meeting	9/20	1	50
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	9/20	1	260
Bloomington Thunder	Ticketed	9/27	1	2,262

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report May 2014 – April 2015

Hockey Game				
Pepsi Ice Center Rentals	Non-Ticketed	9/1-9/30	20	1,885
OCTOBER	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/3	1	159
Illinois State University Alumni Social	Non-Ticketed	10/4	1	20
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/4	1	61
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/4	1	894
Illinois State University Alumni Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/5	1	20
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/5	1	95
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/5	1	922
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/11	1	108
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/17	1	162
Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/18	1	161
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/18	1	1,145

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report May 2014 – April 2015

Illinois State University Redbird Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/30	1	124
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	10/31	1	793
Pepsi Ice Center Ice Rentals	Non-Ticketed	10/1-10/31	23	3,590
NOVEMBER	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
Illinois State University Hockey Game	Ticketed	11/7	1	278
Illinois State University Hockey Game	Ticketed	11/8	1	159
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	11/8	1	1,050
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	11/9	1	847
Cirque Du Soleil Presents: Dralion	Ticketed	11/13-11/16	4	7,141
Illinois State University Hockey Game	Ticketed	11/20	1	273
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	11/21	1	647
Downtown Bloomington Association's Thanksgiving Market	Free Event	11/22	1	1,100
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	11/22	1	1,152
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	11/26	1	546

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report May 2014 – April 2015

Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	11/28	1	742
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	11/29	1	1,036
Pepsi Ice Center Ice Rentals	Ticketed	11/1 – 11/28	11	2,146
DECEMBER	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
Kenny Rogers Christmas & Hits Concert	Ticketed	12/4	1	1,702
Twisted Athletics Cheer and Dance Competition	Ticketed	12/6-12/7	2	4,000
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	12/12	1	1,465
Merlot and a Masterpiece Holiday Painting Event	Ticketed	12/13	1	114
Shall We Dance On Ice Skating and Dancing Televised Event	Ticketed	12/16	1	3,974
Annual Red Cross Holiday Blood Drive	Non-Ticketed	12/17	1	100
Downtown Bloomington Association's Indoor Winter Farmers Market	Free Event	12/20	1	200
Local 699 Union Holiday Party	Meeting	12/20	1	75
State Farm Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament	Ticketed	12/26-12/27-12/29	3	4,100

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report

May 2014 – April 2015

Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	12/31	1	1,438
Pepsi Ice Center Ice Rentals	Non-Ticketed	12/1/12/31	8	1,390
JANUARY	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
I.C.E. World Championship ICE Racing	Ticketed	1/3	1	2,540
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	1/9	1	1,087
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	1/10	1	982
Bloomington Flex Basketball Game	Ticketed	1/11	1	356
Bloomington Flex Basketball Game	Ticketed	1/15	1	248
Illinois State University Hockey Game	Ticketed	1/16	1	208
Downtown Bloomington Association's Indoor Winter Farmers Market	Non-Ticketed	1/17	1	397
Illinois State University Hockey Game	Ticketed	1/17	1	152
Guns N Hoses Hockey Game	Ticketed	1/17	1	801
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	1/17	1	1,595

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report May 2014 – April 2015

Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	1/18	1	1,205
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	1/23	1	1,120
Illinois State University Hockey Game	Ticketed	1/24	1	270
Rick Springfield with special guest The Romantics Concert	Ticketed	1/25	1	2,364
Sesame Street Live "Let's Dance"	Ticketed	1/27	1	1,476
IHSA Competitive Dance State Finals	Ticketed	1/30-1/31	2	6,441
Pepsi Ice Center Ice Rentals	Non-Ticketed	1/1-1/30	13	2,451
FEBRUARY	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
IHSA Competitive Cheer State Finals	Ticketed	2/6-2/7	2	11,789
Bloomington Flex Basketball Game	Ticketed	2/12	1	199
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	2/13	1	1,547
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	2/14	1	1,611
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	2/16	1	464
Chamber of Commerce	Non-	2/18	1	123

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report May 2014 – April 2015

After Hours with the Bloomington Thunder Hockey Team	Ticketed			
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	2/19	1	599
Chris Young and Lee Brice with special guest Brothers Osborne	Ticketed	2/20	1	4,108
Indoor Winter Farmers Market	Free Event	2/21	1	217
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	2/21	1	1,315
Bloomington Flex Basketball Game	Ticketed	2/22	1	624
An Evening with Casting Crowns Concert	Ticketed	2/26	1	2,311
IHSA Competitive Team Wrestling State Finals	Ticketed	2/28	1	2,956
Pepsi Ice Center Ice Rentals	Ticketed	2/1 – 2/28	15	3,080

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report May 2014 – April 2015

MARCH	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	3/1	1	1,056
Just Animals Low Cost Wellness Clinic	Non-Ticketed	3/5	1	75
Bloomington Flex Basketball Game	Ticketed	3/6	1	575
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	3/7	1	1,575
Bloomington Flex Basketball Game	Ticketed	3/12	1	166
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	3/13	1	1,151
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	3/14	1	1,338
Eric Church "The Outsiders Tour" with special guest Drive -By Truckers Concert	Ticketed	3/17	1	6,344
Bloomington Flex Basketball Game	Ticketed	3/19	1	187
Heart with special guest Joan Jett and the Blackhearts Concert	Ticketed	3/20	1	5,342
Indoor Winter Farmers Market	Free Event	3/21	1	294
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	3/21	1	1,032
Bloomington Flex Basketball Game	Ticketed	3/22	1	246

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report May 2014 – April 2015

Bloomington Flex Basketball Game	Ticketed	3/27	1	324
Bloomington Edge Football Game	Ticketed	3/28	1	1,541
Bloomington Flex Basketball Game	Ticketed	3/29	1	264
Pepsi Ice Center Ice Rentals	Non-Ticketed	3/1-3/31	6	1,090
APRIL	TYPE	DATE	DAYS	ATTENDANCE
Bloomington Edge Football Game	Ticketed	4/4	1	815
Just Animals Low Cost Wellness Clinic	Non-Ticketed	4/9	1	45
Midwest Professional Basketball Semi Finals	Ticketed	4/9	1	141
City of Bloomington Luncheon	Non-Ticketed	4/10	1	400
Midwest Professional Basketball Championship Game	Ticketed	4/10	1	92
Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game	Ticketed	4/11	1	1,908
Indoor Winter Farmers Market	Free Event	4/18	1	243
Bloomington Edge Football Game	Ticketed	4/18	1	1,090
Graduation Practice	Private Event	4/23	1	435
City of Bloomington	Non-	4/24	1	347

Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Attendance Report

May 2014 – April 2015

Wellness Fair	Ticketed			
Mike Epps- Real Deal Tour	Ticketed	4/25	1	1,341
Andersen Window Event	Non- Ticketed	4/29	1	103
TOTAL:			232	173,382



HISTORY OF SPECIAL EVENTS –SINCE APRIL 2006

Smuckers Stars on Ice
John Mellencamp
Sheryl Crow
Martina McBride
Pat Benator
REO Speedwagon
Lippizaner Stallions
Sesame Street Live
O.A.R.
Def Leppard and Journey
Dierks Bentley and Miranda Lambert
Kenny Rogers Christmas and Hits
Disney on Ice
Illinois High School Association's Competitive Cheerleading State Finals
Illinois High School Association's Dual Team Wrestling State Finals
John Mayer
Trace Adkins
Firehouse, LA Guns and Warrant
Professional Championship Bull Rider's Tour
Clifford the Big Red Dog
Foreigner and Styx
Jehovah Witnesses Conventions
Ted Nugent
Great China Circus
Don Rickles
Breaking Benjamin and Three Days Grace
Bob Dylan and Elvis Costello
Kidz Bop
Chicago
Third Day and Jars of Clay
World Championship Ice Racing
Kid Rock
AVP Pro Beach Volleyball
Soulja Boy
Hanson
Casting Crowns
The Backyardigans
TNA Wrestling
Reba McEntire
Lady Antebellum
Jason Aldean and Julianne Hough
Backstreet Boys
Alice Cooper
Sammy Hagar



Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus
Alan Jackson
Skating for Life with Sara Evans
The Classic Rock Experience
Avenged Sevenfold, Buckcherry, Shinedown and Saving Abel
Yes
Disney Live
Terry Fator
Vince Gill and Amy Grant Christmas
Jeff Dunham
Three Doors Down, Hoobastank, Seether and Safety Suit
Bill Gaither's Homecoming
Remedy Drive
The Doobie Brothers
Drake Bell
Thomas and Friends
Disney's High School Musical Summer Celebration
The Wiggles Live
Kenny Chesney, Miranda Lambert and the Zac Brown Band
Michael W Smith
Lynyrd Skynyrd
Gary Allan, Jack Ingram and the Eli Young Band
Clash at the Coliseum – MMA Event
Harlem Globetrotters
Brad Paisley, Miranda Lambert and Justin Moore
Rodney Carrington
Brooks and Dunn's Last Rodeo Tour
Jason Aldean
ZZ Top
Toby Keith
Kathy Griffin
The Beach Boys
WWE's Smackdown
What Women Want Now Women's Lifestyle Expo
The Oak Ridge Boys
Drake
The Baby Fold's Festival of Trees
Twisted Athletics Cheer and Dance Competition
State Farm Boys and Girls Basketball Holiday Classic Tournament
Rock and Worship Road Show
Illinois Elementary School Association Chess State Tournament
Bloomington Normal HomeBuilder's Association Home Expo
Music as a Weapon Tour: Disturbed, KoRn, Sevendust
Riverdance
Sugarland



Little Big Town
Blake Shelton w/Jerrod Neimann, Easton Corbin and the Dirt Drifters
Godsmack
Bassnectar
REBA's All the Women I Am Tour w/The Band Perry, Steel Magnolia and Eden's Edge
Styx w/ Eddie Money and Loverboy
The Avett Brothers
Wiz Khalifa
Bill Gaither's Christmas Homecoming Tour
Jeff Foxworthy, Bill Engvall and Larry the Cable Guy
Lady Antebellum's Own the Night Tour w/ Darius Rucker and Thompson Square
Barry Manilow
Eric Church (2 Sold Out Shows)
Willie Nelson
Shinedown and Five Finger Death Punch
WMBD/WYZZ Living Well Women' Expo
Pretty Lights
Mannheim Steamroller Christmas
Luke Bryan with special guests Thompson Square and Florida Georgia Line (2 Sold Out Shows)
Rodney Carrington
World Championship Ice Racing
Carrie Underwood's Blown Away Tour
Third Day "Miracle Tour"
Piccadilly Circus
WWE Live
Black label Society, Device, Hellyeah, NewSted, Death Division
Shinedown, Papa Roach, Skillet, In This Moment, We as Human
Shoji Tabuchi
Monster Energy's Rock Allegiance Tour, Featuring Volbeat, HIM,
All That Remains + Airbourne
Foreigner with Special Guest 38 Special
A Day to Remember with All Time Low & Pierce The Veil, Launches This Fall In North America
BASSNECTAR with special guest Koan Sound and Andreilien (Heyoka)
Avenged Sevenfold with Deftones and Ghost B.C.
RAIN: Tribute to the Beatles
Rascal Flatts with The Band Perry
Sesame Street Live
Rock to the Rescue featuring Styx, REO Speedwagon and Friends
Martina McBride "Joy of Christmas"
World Championship Ice Racing



World Championship Ice Racing
Chicago

The Avett Brothers

Jason Aldean, with special guests Florida Georgia Line, Tyler Farr, and Parmalee (2 Sold Out Shows)

WWE Live: Road to Wrestlemania

Brantley Gilbert with Special Guests Thomas Rhett & Eric Pasley

Theresa Caputo

Chris Tomlin with special guest Brandon Heath

Kenny Rogers Christmas

Shall We Dance on Ice

World Championship ICE Racing

Rick Springfield

Sesame Street Live "Shall We Dance"

Chris Young and Lee Brice

Casting Crowns

Erich Church

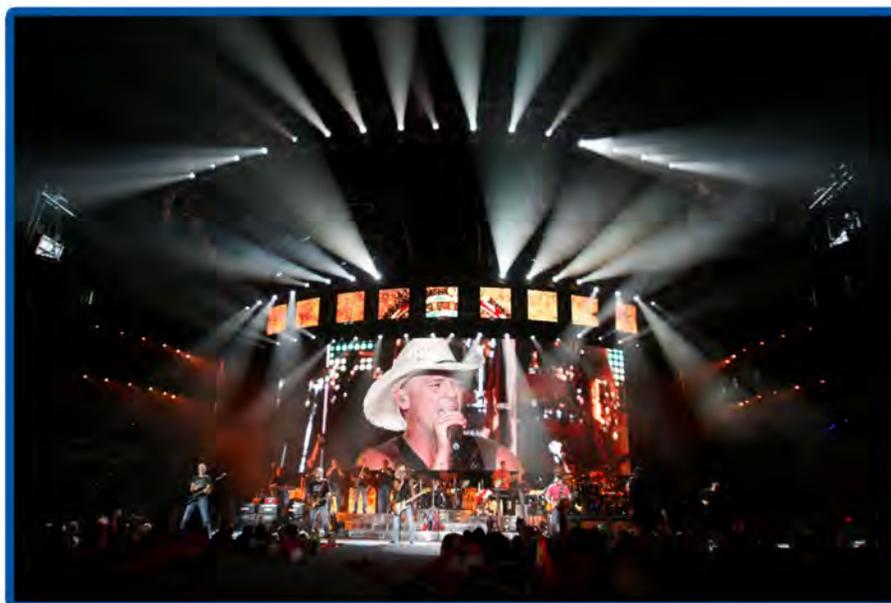
Heart with special guest Joan Jett and the Blackhearts

Mike Epps

Slipknot

Alan Jackson

Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey





Our People and Staff

The U.S. Cellular Coliseum and BMI Concessions employs twenty-three (21) full time staff members (USCC-18 /BMI-3) and over 438 part time staff members.

We feel that strength and success in the “entertainment business” is from longevity and relationship building in ALL ASPECTS of our operation. When it comes to staffing both full-time and part-time, our staff has tenure.

Many members of the staff in place today were at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum when the doors first opened and some have come on since that time. The blend of new and old with the “can do” attitude is what has put the U.S. Cellular Coliseum on the map in just nine (9) short years in the entertainment business.

Our part-time staff is some of the most critical parts of the customer service experience we offer fans coming to an event. From the building operations crew who, set up and tear down the arena for each event, cleaning crew who makes sure the facility is clean, ushers and security who manage the crowd control, box office who sells the tickets, parking attendants who help you park and all other areas small and large, without them the show would not go on!



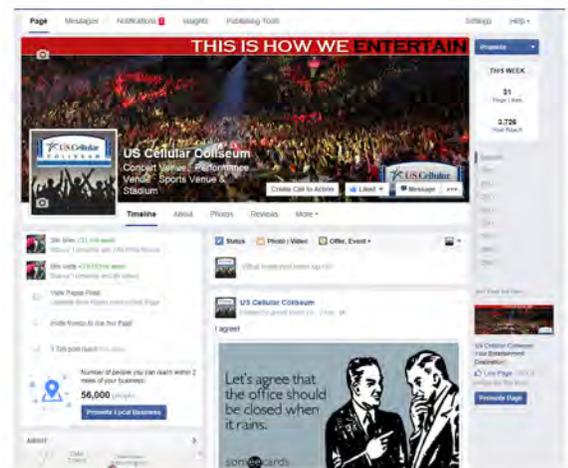
Over \$50,000 annually generated from local non profit groups working concession stands at events.





U.S. Cellular Coliseum Website/Social Media

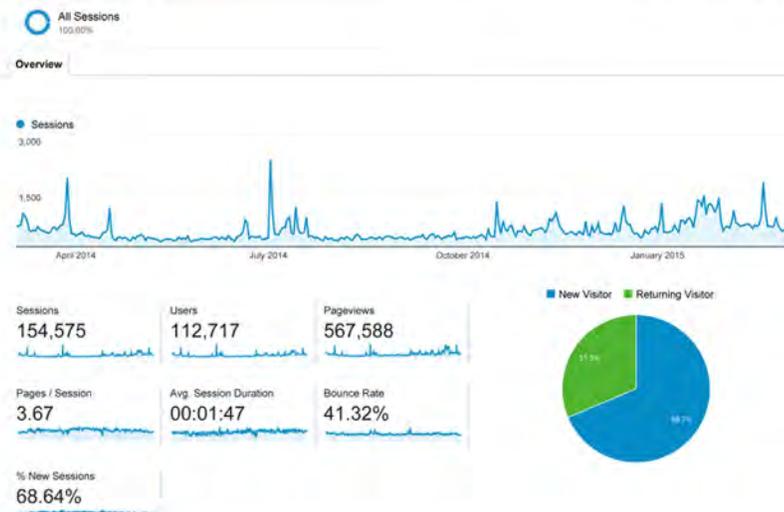
The U.S. Cellular Coliseum website is an essential tool for marketing and informing customers about upcoming events at the venue. In addition, the website includes a list of quality restaurants and hotels in Bloomington/ Normal. This allows customers the opportunity to find all the necessary information in one easy-to-use place. In February, we launched a new website and have 112,717 visitors from March 2014 thru March 2015. The average visitor viewed 3.67 different pages during their visit. This volume of traffic is vital to U.S. Cellular Coliseum marketing. In addition to the website, the U.S. Cellular Coliseum also offers a Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages which provide information about upcoming events.



Facebook = 39,624 Likes

Audience Overview

Mar 4, 2014 - Mar 4, 2015



Twitter = 2,230 Followers



Customer Service Excellence

The CIAM staff strives to offer the best customer service practices at every event to all patrons. It starts when they park their car in the VIP Parking Deck and ends as they are told to have a safe trip home while leaving the facility.

This same approach is also put in force for our promoter partners as well as the entertainers for each show or event we put on. We preach to all our staff the minute the first show truck hits our dock or promoter steps foot in our building, their needs are addressed and taken care of instantly.

This customer service approach assures every guest, client and entertainer will have the BEST EXPERIENCE each time they visit the U.S. Cellular Coliseum. The industry is built on relationships and experiences and positive ones translate into repeat business and new opportunities down the road. We feel this mentality that we instill into our entire staff sets us apart from our competition throughout our marketplace.

Clients and patrons are our MOST VALUABLE asset, PERIOD! We under promise and over deliver for each show and event.

Full time and part time customer service training is performed at least once to sometimes three times per year depending on scheduling.

Surveys are periodically done via the U.S. Cellular Coliseum Marketing staff to assure our client and patron satisfaction with their visit to U.S. Cellular Coliseum. (Results are located on next page)





Customer Service Excellence

After each event, a member or members of Central Illinois Arena Management set up a post event meeting to make sure each client's event and experience was the best it possibly could be. It's a great time to recap the event, go over issues or concerns and hear about the positives. On events that the show or promoter is not local, we send out surveys to better understand their experiences.

Each survey asks about different areas of their event and past results are listed below.

Staff: Facility knowledge, appearance, accommodating and friendliness.

Coliseum Appearance: Outside, entrances, concourse, restrooms, club, suites and parking deck.

Show Services: Equipment, building temperature, room set up and layout as to main plan, equipment accessibility and facility knowledge.

Food & Beverage/Catering: Quality of services and organization of meal, quality of meal and food offered, creativity of meal, back stage/house service, quantity of food offered and pricing.

Physical Amenities: Ribbon boards, video screens, close circuit television, signage, drinking fountains, smoking areas, box office and ticketing, customer service areas and ADA accessibility.

Client and Event Experiences Results:

Staff =95%

Coliseum Appearance=92%

Show Services = 96%

Food and Beverage/Catering=92%

Physical Amenities= 89%

Overall Rating = 92.8%



VenueCoalition

For the past eight years, we have worked closely with the team at the US Cellular Coliseum to identify new business opportunities and to help book concerts and special events at the arena. Throughout this experience, we have been impressed with their entire organization; from management and administration, to marketing, box office operations, event management and production. They genuinely care about every single event, large or small, and their team is committed to helping to ensure the success of every event. We are proud of what we have been able to accomplish together to make Bloomington an important stop on so many artist's tours.

Jeff Apregan

President

Apregan Entertainment Group, Inc. / Venue Coalition, Inc.

4195 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd Suite #255

Westlake Village, CA 91362

PH: (805) 494-0020

FAX: (805) 494-0022

www.apregan.com

www.venuecoalition.com



June 8, 2015

Traci Andracke
Assistant General Manager – Booking
U.S. Cellular Coliseum
101 South Madison
Bloomington, IL 61701

Dear Traci:

The 2014 VisionWorks Shall We Dance on Ice show was a huge success last year and we could not have done it without the support of the staff at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum. Bart Rogers, Traci Andracke and Jenna Fecht did an amazing job of marketing the event to the local, skater and dance communities around the Bloomington, Illinois area. They got these groups excited to come out and see the cast of Olympic, World and National Champion ice dancers and four dancers from the ABC hit show “Dancing with the Stars.” We felt the community’s enthusiasm for this event during the live show and the skaters and dancers fed off the energy in the building that night.

In addition to the buzz in the community, they assisted us in securing a local dance studio and ice rink so we could rehearse for the event while the load-in was taking place inside the U.S. Cellular Coliseum. Without their involvement in this process, we would have been left scrambling to find suitable places for the skaters and dancers to prepare for the show. Plus, Phil Charleston and his event staff did a great job assisting our staff with the load-in, preparation for the show and load-out. A number of things were already in place for us when we walked into the arena which was especially helpful since we were travelling to Bloomington from another show.

We would also like to give credit to Paul Grazer and his catering staff for their excellent service during our stay at the U.S Cellular Coliseum. His staff prepared healthy and delicious meals for cast, staff and crew. Travelling from show to show can be difficult so it is always nice to find an arena with a terrific catering department that works with us to meet our needs and budget.

Overall, our experience at the U.S Cellular Coliseum was excellent and we look forward to coming back in 2015.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Disson", written over a white background.

Steve Disson
President & CEO
Disson Skating, LLC

ETHOS FITNESS EVENTS

603 S CENTER BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701 309.287.4943

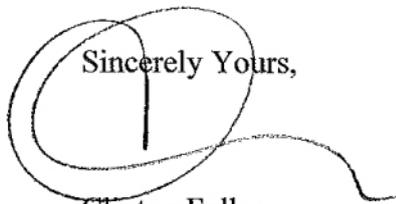
June 5, 2015

Traci Andracke
US Cellular Coliseum
101 S Madison St
Bloomington, IL 61701

Re: Staff/Facility

I would like to take a chance to thank you and your staff at the US Cellular Coliseum. It has been a pleasure working with everyone there over the past few years during the organization and the production of our event. The staff at the Coliseum has been extremely helpful in the orchestrating of our events that we have had at your facility. We look forward to having a long term relationship with the US Cellular Coliseum particularly because of how easy it has been to do business with you. Again thank you and if you ever need anything from us give me a call. Have a great day and great job!

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a vertical line and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke that extends to the right.

Clinton Fuller
President



Feld Entertainment, Inc. is the world's leading producer of live family entertainment experiences that lift the human spirit and create indelible memories, with 30 million people in attendance at its shows each year. Feld Entertainment's productions have appeared in more than 70 countries on six continents and include Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey®, Feld Motor Sports, Disney On IceSM, Disney Live!, and Marvel Universe Live.

Feld Entertainment, Inc. enjoys a close working relationship with the U.S. Cellular Coliseum in Bloomington, IL. As an organization, Feld Entertainment has experienced great success in the Bloomington market, which is attributable in large to the venue's enthusiasm and efforts towards maximizing each show's potential in the local market place.

Feld Entertainment, Inc. is confident in our relationship with the U.S. Cellular Coliseum and we recommend this venue to all touring acts and properties.

-Sue Quinlan
Booking Director, North American Routing & Tours
Feld Entertainment



 Visionworks

**SHALL
WE DANCE
ON ICE**

December 16, 2014

Disson^{LLC}
SKATING

Vera Bradley

 **U.S. Cellular**
COLISEUM

Entertainer



Bella Thorne

TV Hosts



Kristi Yamaguchi



Ryan Bradley

Skaters:



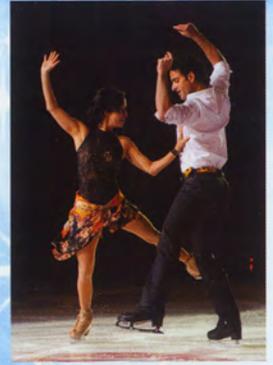
Meryl Davis & Charlie White



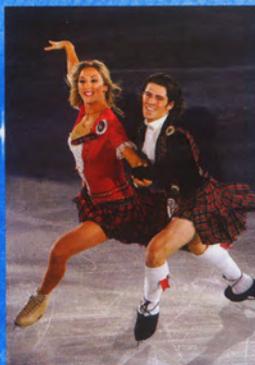
Marina Anissina & Gwendal Peizerat



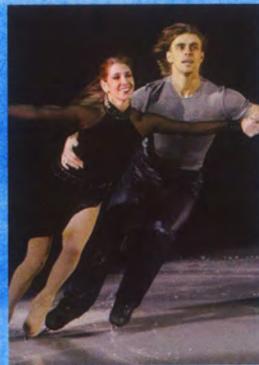
Tanith Belbin & Ben Agosto



Marie-France Dubreuil & Patrice Lauzon



Sinead & John Kerr



Naomi Lang & Peter Tchernyshev



Kim Navarro & Brent Bommentre



Isabella Tobias & Ilya Tkachenko

Credits

Executive Producer..... Disson Skating
President/CEO Stephen Disson
Director of Operations Pete Bockelman
Manager of Events & Sponsorship..... Alyssa Shane
Production Assistants..... Agnes Erskine, Kristen Laudenslager,
Katie Lennox, Caitlin Lindsey, Sam Shane

Co-Artistic Director Edward Villella
Co-Artistic Director & Choreographer Douglas Webster
Choreographer..... Marina Zoueva
Production Manager Todd Randall
Lighting Designer and Programmer Michael W. Hall
Director Louis Malagrino
Lighting..... Christie Lights
Lighting Associates Brad Brown, Todd Ricci, James Varga
Audio Services Eric Fluster
Audio ACES, Bill Reinhardt
Music Editor..... Phil Lee, Cityvox
Costume Director..... Alicia Jackson
Social Media Manager Brittany Evans

Production Services provided by IMG Media
Television Production Manager..... Andrea Bryant
Television Producer..... Tony Lanni
Television Director..... Yvonne Gomez
Associate Television Director Rachael Kissel
Television Associate Producer Candice Spielman
Television Associate Producer Eric Smith

Broadcast Partner ABC Sports

Thank you to the entire staff at the US Cellular Coliseum for their commitment to excellence in producing this spectacular event.

Shall We Dance on Ice airs on ABC on Saturday, February 21, 2015 from 3:00 to 5:00pm CST & Saturday, March 7, 2015 3:00 to 5:00pm CST

Please find more information about the Colgate Skating Series on ABC at dissonskating.com for TV broadcast schedules and other interesting content. In addition, check out the Colgate Skating Series on  & 

Upcoming ABC Skating Series:

Pandora Unforgettable Moments of Love on Ice

Saturday, January 31, 2015..... 3:00 to 5:00pm CST
Saturday, February 14, 2015 3:00 to 5:00pm CST

Progressive Skating & Gymnastics Spectacular

Saturday, February 7, 2015 3:00 to 5:00pm CST
Saturday, February 28, 2015 3:00 to 5:00pm CST

*Subject to change, please check your local listings for updates.

Sponsors

Title Sponsor



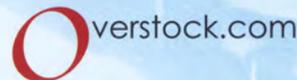
ABC Skating Series Partner

Colgate

Presenting Sponsor



National Support Sponsors



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PANDORA[®]
UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

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International FIGURE SKATING

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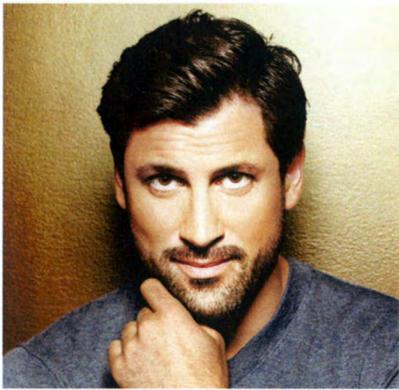
WENTE[®]
VINEYARDS



Visionworks

**SHALL
WE DANCE
ON ICE**

FEATURED DANCERS:



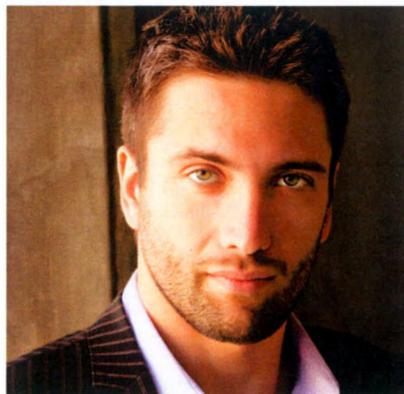
MAKSIM
CHMERKOVSKIY



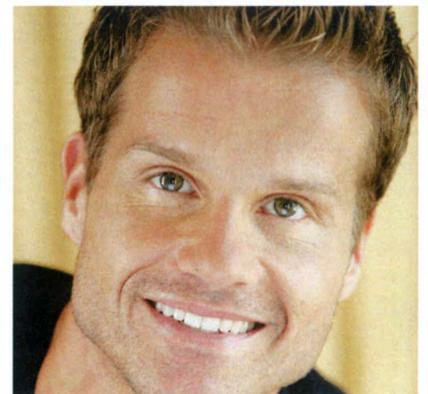
SHARNA
BURGESS



CHELSE
HIGHTOWER



DMITRY
CHAPLIN



LOUIS
VAN AMSTEL



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS MERYL DAVIS & CHARLIE WHITE TO HEADLINE DANCE THEMED SHOW AT THE U.S. CELLULAR COLISEUM, *SHALL WE DANCE ON ICE*, WITH SPECIAL GUEST, MIRROR BALL WINNER MAKSIM CHMERKOVSKIY

Tickets for Shall We Dance on Ice go on sale Friday, July 11

(June 27, 2014) Bloomington, IL. The US Cellular Coliseum and Disson Skating are pleased to announce "Shall We Dance on Ice" coming to Bloomington on Tuesday, December 16, 2014. This event will showcase a journey of dance through the ages with dancing and skating. Music and special effects will create the segments of time and genre of dance, which will be performed by dancers and transition into elegant productions on the ice.

The cast features the most decorated ice dancing team in U.S. figure skating history, 2014 Olympic Champions, two-time World Champions and six-time U.S. Champions Meryl Davis and Charlie White. Following the Olympics, Davis and White competed in the eighteenth season of ABC's *Dancing with the Stars*. Davis was crowned this year's champion with her partner Maksim Chmerkovskiy on May 20, 2014.

The star-studded ice dancing cast, in addition to Davis and White, is scheduled to include:

- 2006 Olympic silver medalists, two-time World silver medalists, five-time U.S. champions and 2010 U.S. Olympic team members Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto.
- 2002 Olympic gold medalists, 1998 Olympic bronze medalists, 2000 World champions and six-time French champions Marina Anissina and Gwendal Peizerat
- Two-time World silver medalists and four-time Canadian champions Marie-France Dubreuil and Patrice Lauzon
- 2009 European Champion bronze medalists, seven-time British champions and 2010 British Olympic team members Sinead and John Kerr.
- Five-time U.S. champions Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev
- Two-time U.S. bronze medalists Kim Navarro and Brent Bommentre
- New team skating for Israel, Isabella Tobias and Ilia Tkachenko

The cast is also scheduled to include the following professional dancers from ABC's *Dancing with the Stars*:

- Ukrainian-born Latin ballroom dance champion, renowned choreographer, successful business owner and instructor Maksim Chmerkovskiy. He was crowned champion with partner Meryl Davis earlier this year.
- Australian ballroom dancer and choreographer Sharna Burgess has won multiple competitions and performed as a lead dancer in a major worldwide tour and on Broadway (in *Burn The Floor*). She was a semi-finalist in the eighteenth season of ABC's *Dancing with the Stars* with partner Charlie White.

Additional professional dancers will be announced later.

This magical night will be hosted by 1992 Olympic gold medalist and *Dancing with the Stars* former champion Kristi Yamaguchi, along with Edward Villella, who was the founder and head of the Miami City Ballet and one of the greatest male American ballet dancers of all time. Villella will also serve as the Artistic Director of the event. The show will be choreographed by Douglas Webster, the Artistic Director of the Ice Theatre of NY, and renowned figure skating coach and choreographer, Marina Zoueva, who has coached her students, which include Davis and White, to a total of four Olympic gold medals and nine World championships.

A special musical guest artist will also be added to the show and announced shortly.

Ticket prices range from \$45 to \$75 (does not include applicable fees and taxes) and will go on-sale on Friday, July 11th at 11:00am. For information about the show, visit www.uscellularcoliseum.com or call the box office at 309-434-2679.

Note: Attached are the photos of Meryl Davis, Charlie White, Maksim Chmerkovskiy and Sharna Burgess that have been approved for media use.

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Disson Skating annually produces nationally televised figure skating spectacles, all featuring celebrity guest artists on ABC. Disson Skating's shows continue to capture large television audiences with every event and Disson Skating has earned the reputation as the leading producers of televised ice skating spectacles in the United States.

CONTACTS:

Traci Andracke
309.434.2668 / traciandracke@uscellularcoliseum.com

Pete Bockelman
703.962.6625 / pbockelman@dissonskatingllc.com



U. S. CELLULAR COLISEUM, 101 S. Madison Street, Bloomington, Ill., 61701
309-434-2843 *Fax: 309-434-2667 * www.uscellularcoliseum.com

For Immediate Release

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ICE RACING RETURNS FOR THE 8TH YEAR
WITH A FIRST EVER TT CHALLENGE RACE
Tickets on-sale on Friday, Sept. 19th at 11am

Bloomington, Ill. (September 10, 2014) – The U.S. Cellular Coliseum is proud to announce the return of the very popular event World Championship Ice Racing on Saturday, January 3 at 7:30pm.

This fast paced event features exciting racing action for the whole family on the US Cellular Coliseum's treacherous oval ice track. The World's top pro ICE Racers, select amateur classes designed to showcase local participation and surprise super special attractions make ***THE GREATEST SPECTACLE ON ICE!***TM the must see event of the winter season.

This event on the World Championship ICE Racing schedule will be the first of the new year. A thrilling one night, winner takes all ice race will crown the National Champion in I.C.E.'s Manufacturer's World Cup Motorcycle Division and the wild Unlimited Outlaw Quads. On this one night only, double WC points will be awarded towards the overall 2015 World Championship to be determined at the end of the season in March.

New for this year, fans will see the first ever ICE TT Challenge Race. The same top Pro riders will be competing on the oval ice track but also turn into the infield, attempt to negotiate an extreme jump, then

back onto the oval to complete each lap! The 8 rider, 8-lap TT final should be spectacular.

Make plans early to guarantee great seats as family priced tickets will go on-sale Friday, September 19th at 11:00am. Tickets for reserved seating are \$22 for Adults and \$11 for Children (ages 2 – 12). General admission tickets are \$20 for Adults and \$10 for children (ages 2 – 12). All ticket prices will increase by \$2 on the day of the show.

Groups of 10 or more can purchase your tickets for at a discounted rate. Interested parties should contact Nikki Hill at 309-434-2921 or email at nikkihill@uscellularcoliseum.com for more information.

Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets, including the U.S. Cellular Coliseum, www.ticketmaster.com, select Walmart locations or charge by phone at 1-800-745-3000.

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U. S. CELLULAR COLISEUM, 101 S. Madison Street, Bloomington, Ill., 61701
309-434-2843 *Fax: 309-434-2667 * www.uscellularcoliseum.com

For Immediate Release

Sesame Street Live "Let's Dance!" is coming to BLOOMINGTON!

Bloomington, Ill. (September 24, 2014) – The U.S. Cellular Coliseum is pleased to announce the return of Sesame Street Live with a brand new show "Let's Dance" on January 27, 2015 at 10:30am and 6:30pm.

Hosted by two live performers, Sesame Street Live "Let's Dance!" offers an up-close, interactive experience that includes dance parties. Elmo uses his imagination to "Do the Robot," Cookie teaches all 'feets' to dance, Abby leads a rhyming game, and Ernie shares the fun of dance with the Sesame Street favorite "Shake Your Head One Time." Favorite friends join the audience on the floor – dancing with fans, not just for them. It's Sesame Street Live like you've never experienced it before!

Get the ultimate fan experience with Sunny Seats!

The Sunny Seats package features premium show seating and a pre-show Meet & Greet with two Sesame Street Live friends, including Elmo!

Sunny Seat orders will include a separate Meet & Greet ticket, which you'll receive with your show tickets. Each adult and child (age 1 and up) in a group must have a Sunny Seat show ticket and Meet & Greet ticket. All Meet & Greets start one hour before show time and last 20

minutes. Latecomers may miss the opportunity. Please meet at the Sunny Seats sign in the main lobby. Don't forget your camera!

Make plans early to guarantee great seats as tickets will go on-sale Friday, October 8th at 10:00am. Tickets are \$19, \$28 (Gold Circle), \$55 (Sunny Seats). Additional fees may apply.

Purchase your group tickets at a discounted rate. Interested parties should contact Nikki Hill at 309-434-2921 or email at nikkihill@uscellularcoliseum.com for more information.

Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets, including the U.S. Cellular Coliseum, www.ticketmaster.com, select Walmart locations or charge by phone at 1-800-745-3000.

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U. S. CELLULAR COLISEUM, 101 S. Madison Street, Bloomington, Ill., 61701
309-434-2843 *Fax: 309-434-2667 * www.uscellularcoliseum.com

For Immediate Release

CHRIS TOMLIN STOPPING AT THE U.S. CELLULAR COLISEUM

Bloomington, Ill. (April 23, 2013) – American contemporary Christian music artist, worship leader, and songwriter Chris Tomlin – will be making a stop at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum on July 19th at 7:00pm

Tickets will go on-sale Friday May 2nd at 10am. Ticket prices are \$32.75, \$22.75, and \$17.00 (additional fees may apply).

Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets, including the U.S. Cellular Coliseum Box Office, www.ticketmaster.com, select Walmart locations, or charge by phone at 1-800-745-3000.

ABOUT CHRIS TOMLIN

Under a vast, October sky, standing on stage before tens of thousands deep in the heart of Africa, Chris Tomlin felt right at home. Even all those miles removed from the familiar, Tomlin detected the steady, burning light that's universal and uniting. He's aware that no matter where in the world, we all seek connection, to know that we're part of a grander narrative, a special story in the exquisite design of creation.

For that reason Tomlin has dedicated his life career to a singular pursuit: to bring people closer to God. Building a career is just fine, he says, but nothing compares to building bridges through music that lead to hope, healing and higher ground.

"I *have to* put out songs that bridge the gap," Tomlin says, putting the emphasis on "have to" as though his musical life depended on it. "I want to write songs that people sing to God. There's nothing wrong with a three-minute pop song, but I want these songs to be special to the church. There's more of a laser focus on that than ever."

Yet Tomlin also embodies something rare in popular music. On his latest disc, *Burning Lights*, he not only hits the mark for deep substance, but also delivers lean, muscular songs that exert a magnetic pop pull. True to its title, *Burning Lights* shines like a sonic supernova, yet never loses its human scope and beating heart in the process.

That's because Tomlin—after ten No. 1 radio singles, a GRAMMY® Award and eight additional nominations, 21 Dove Awards, one platinum album and four gold discs—touches the hearts of listeners like no other. On the one hand, he's achieved global scope that moved TIME magazine to proclaim him "likely the most often sung artist anywhere." It's estimated that more than 40 million men, women and children sing Chris Tomlin songs each week.

But for all those people it's still personal, as Tomlin gives voice and narrative to the most elemental longings any believer can profess. You can hear it on "Awake My Soul," where Tomlin pleads for breath-of-life deliverance: "*Awake, awake, awake my soul/ God resurrect these bones/From death to life, for You alone/ Awake my soul.*"

"This is record number 10 for me, and it's so exciting to feel this great about it," Tomlin says. "We definitely did not hit cruise control. This record developed in a way that no other record has and I feel it's the strongest thing I've ever put together."

Tomlin extends props to three talented producers—Jason Ingram (Brandon Heath, Britt Nicole, Tenth Avenue North, Rebecca St. James, Point of Grace), Dan Muckala (Backstreet Boys, Amy Grant, MercyMe) and Ed Cash (Kari Jobe, Laura Story, Bebo Norman)—along with a wide range of musical guests, including Kari Jobe, Phil Wickham, Lecrae and Christy Nockels.

But to tell the story of *Burning Lights* properly, you have to start near the end. As Tomlin and crew wound down the scheduled album sessions, they had every reason to believe they'd accomplished their mission. Little did they know they'd get sent back to the well not once,

not twice, but three times in pursuit of the best material they could muster.

For Tomlin, it was the artistic equivalent of Naaman's bathing in the Jordan River seven times—a test of patience and persistence that yielded startling results. Each time, he fashioned new tracks that propelled *Burning Lights* to higher melodic and lyrical vistas. And to get there, Tomlin had to empty himself and lean on God like never before as a recording artist.

To hear Tomlin tell it, his albums almost always start with a full complement of finished songs, ready for him and his musicians to execute. “But this time, we met with the record company as we were wrapping up and they said, ‘We don't feel that it's quite finished yet. Maybe there's more.’ And that's a big hit to take when you've already put your heart on your sleeve.”

Then came the majestic triumph of “Awake My Soul,” a song that had been orphaned earlier in the album sessions because it didn't match Tomlin's exacting standards. He tackled it with renewed vigor and then called on his friend Lecrae, who telegraphs a spoken-word interlude from Ezekiel 37 with a preacher's passion. Looking back, Tomlin's still amazed that this once-rejected track now kicks off *Burning Lights*. “That's the result of being pushed by your team—people who are not just yes people—and being asked to give your best.”

But it also crated a dilemma. Tomlin's team loved the song so much, they wondered what might happen if he tried to pull another rabbit out of the musical hat. The singer was flustered; he had a few musical ideas, but nothing fully formed. So he texted Ed Cash, an ally from way back. As providence would have it, Cash had just written a chorus and was about to contact Tomlin to see if he wanted to help him finish the song.

That collaboration became “Whom Shall I Fear (God of Angel Armies),” a dynamic song that celebrates God's constant companionship, set to a soundtrack framed by chiming guitars and a crisp, military-style snare drum.

Relieved, Tomlin delivered the result to his label, and here's what happened: “They asked me, ‘Do you have anything else?’ Now this

was the third time. I thought, 'Who do you guys think you are? I've worked my tail off!'"

But Tomlin bit his tongue, racked his brain and searched his heart. He sent in a demo that updated the hymn "Crown Him With Many Crowns," expecting rejection. "But sure enough they said, 'This is amazing, we have to put this on the record.'"

The recorded version teams Tomlin with Matt Maher, a Christian artist who's Catholic. As the session started, they came to learn an amazing fact: "This song is a back and forth between the Catholic and Protestant churches. Several verses were written in a Protestant way and some were written a Catholic way. One side claimed it as theirs, and so did the other. We sat at the piano and started laughing. We thought, 'How divine is that?'" A special spotlight vocal by Kari Jobe also graces the track.

To be sure, the rest of *Burning Lights* lives up to the thrill of those three tracks, from the spirit of surrender that raises "White Flag" to the tenderness that brings "Shepherd Boy" to life. It's also the song that gives the album its moniker. "David was a shepherd boy right before he was king, out in the field, keeping watch over his flock and singing a song of praise to God: 'I'm just a shepherd boy, singing to a choir of burning light.' That sums up what I feel inside. I want to be that. The people I sing to are the burning light, and I sing to them night after night."

"I love at the end of the day how we got all these left and right turns and tried to follow them," Tomlin says of the path that led to *Burning Lights*. "It was a lesson in humility. It was great to take a step back, listen to what people were saying and go for it. When a song like 'Whom Shall I Fear' comes along at the last minute, it's not only something you could hear on the radio, but at any church. And that means more to me than platinum records, tours and sales."

He adds: "It's not just about good marketing. It's songs that become part of the fabric of the culture. That's God's spirit, God's favor on a song. And to be part of that in some little way is so special. It lasts so much longer than quick fame."

###



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For Immediate Release

AMERICAN ICON PRESENTS A HOLIDAY TREAT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

KENNY ROGERS RETURNS TO THE U.S. CELLULAR COLISEUM WITH HIS CHRISTMAS AND HITS “THROUGH THE YEARS” TOUR ON DECEMBER 4TH

Bloomington, Ill. (October 28, 2014) – The U.S. Cellular Coliseum is proud to announce American Icon Kenny Rogers is returning to the U.S. Cellular Coliseum on Thursday, December 4th at 7:30p.m for his Christmas and Hits “Through the Years” Tour with special guest Linda Davis. Tickets for this event are \$57.50 and \$47.50 and go on-sale Friday, October 31st at 11a.m. For a group discount call Nikki Hill at 309-434-2921 for more information.

Tickets are available at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum box office, by phone at 1-800-745-3000 or online at Ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets. Private luxury suites are available. For more information please contact Julia Cresci at 309-434-2691 or juliacresci@uscellularcoliseum.com.

Kenny Rogers promises a mix of holiday classics such as “O Holy Night” and “White Christmas” with several of his beloved hits, including “Lucille” and “The Gambler.” Though he’s sung those latter tunes night after night for almost four decades, the 76-year-old entertainer promises he’ll never be the kind of artist who abandons his signature songs in favor of road-testing new ones.

"Somebody asked me, 'Do you ever get tired of doing your hits?' and I said, 'No, I don't want to be the guy who walks out of there without them,'" he tells *Rolling Stone Country*. "There is something comforting about knowing that you have something to offer. I am very blessed with that, and I love doing those hits. I try to do very little new music, because the audience has to work really hard when you do a new song. They have to think, 'Do I like the song? Do I agree with what it says?' Whereas if you do a hit, it's like, 'OK, I can relax and enjoy this song.'"

There will be one exception, however — a new holiday tune penned by Jim Brickman, "That Silent Night." Rogers sings on the track, which is featured on Brickman's *On a Winter's Night: The Songs and Spirit of Christmas* album, due for release October 7th. A portion of the album's sales will support research for

Known for instantly identifiable sweetly raspy vocals and an extraordinary ability to vividly inhabit each song he performs, Rogers has sold more than 120 million records worldwide and recorded more than 65 albums during his storied 52 years in show business.

Rogers has received hundreds of awards for his music and charity work, including three Grammys, 11 People's Choice Awards, 18 American Music Awards, eight Academy of Country Music awards and five Country Music Association awards. His latest was being honored with the Willie Nelson Lifetime Achievement Award at the 47th Annual CMA Awards in 2013.

Before he gets into the holiday spirit, Rogers will celebrate his first CMA award nomination in 14 years and his first joint CMA nomination with Dolly Parton since 1986. The longtime pals are up for Musical Event of the Year, for their "You Can't Make Old Friends" duet. The Country Music Awards will air on November 5, 2014.

###

Embargo until Monday, January 19 @ 7AM

Tour Marketing Contact: Kate McMahon // kate@aeg-tmg.com
Tour Marketing Contact: Moshe Prystowsky // moshe@aeg-tmg.com

ERIC CHURCH

**BRINGS "THE OUTSIDERS WORLD TOUR" TO US Cellular Coliseum in
BLOOMINGTON, IL - March 17, 2015**

Tickets <\$72.50/\$48> plus fees on-sale at www.ticketmaster.com

BLOOMINGTON, IL – (Jan. 19, 2015) -- EMI Nashville recording artist Eric Church will bring "The Outsiders World Tour" to US Cellular Coliseum in BLOOMINGTON, IL on March 17, 2015. Tickets go on-sale Friday, January 23 at 10AM at www.ticketmaster.com. Special guest on this show will be Drive-By Truckers.

After closing out 2014 with country music's top-selling album, the Platinum-certified and genre-busting *The Outsiders*, Eric Church storms in to 2015 with four GRAMMY nominations (Best Country Album for *The Outsiders*, Best Country Song and Best Country Solo Performance for "Give Me Back My Hometown" and Best Country Group/Duo Performance for "Raise 'Em Up" with Keith Urban) and a new addition to his widely successful *Outsiders World Tour 2015*.

"Eric Church is our greatest working rock star" proclaimed *Stereogum*, referring to Church as "... a down-home everyman whose conversational vocal delivery surges into something huge when it needs to and who comes off as a perfectly genuine human being even when leading the choreographed rigors of an arena show. And holy shit, he has songs." *The Philadelphia Inquirer* described "how superior the North Carolina artist is, in style and substance, to other big-name pop-country acts packing sports venues these days," while *The Memphis Commercial Appeal* predicted, "at this level, and on the strength of an album as sharp as *The Outsiders*, Church is arguably both the mainstream country artist of the year and the mainstream rock artist of the year and his show made a case for that blend..." *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* announced "...he's a contender for the new Boss of his genre. That genre is country, but this late bloomer from North Carolina is the kind of Southern rocker who will 'Pledge Allegiance to the Hag' (as in Merle Haggard) while also splashing some of Slayer's 'Raining Blood' into the intro to 'I'm Gettin' Stoned.'"

Church's current album, *The Outsiders*, debuted at No. 1 on the *Billboard* Top 200 Albums Chart and the *Billboard* Country Albums Chart earlier this year, featuring his No. 1 hit "Give Me Back My Hometown" and his current single "Talladega." *The Outsiders* is the follow-up to Church's Platinum-certified album *Chief*, (named the 2012 Album of the Year by both CMA and ACM, and GRAMMY-nominated for Best Country Album) which featured five Top 20 singles: "Homeboy" (certified Platinum for sales in excess of one million singles); the Top 10 "Like Jesus Does" and the Top 5 "Creepin'"

(both certified Gold for sales in excess of 500,000 singles each); and two No. 1 hits “Drink in My Hand” (certified Platinum) and “Springsteen” (certified Double Platinum for sales in excess of two million singles). Church’s 2006 debut album, *Sinners Like Me* (2006) and his sophomore album *Carolina* (2009) are both RIAA Gold-certified. *Carolina* had three hit singles: the Top 10 “Hell on the Heart” as well as Top 20 hit “Smoke A Little Smoke” and Top 10 smash “Love Your Love The Most,” which were both certified Gold. *Sinners Like Me* spawned three Top 20 singles: “How ‘Bout You,” “Two Pink Lines,” and “Guys Like Me.”

To learn more about Eric Church, visit www.ericchurch.com and www.facebook.com/ericchurch, or follow [@EricChurch](https://twitter.com/EricChurch) on Twitter. □ □

□ □

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For Immediate Release

An Evening with
CASTING CROWNS

Thursday, February 26, 2015
7:00pm

U.S. Cellular Coliseum
Bloomington, IL

Tickets on Sale Friday, 12/19 at 10am!!
Ticket Price: \$57.00, \$37.00 and \$27.00

Tickets are available at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum box office, by phone at 1-800-745-3000 or online at Ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets.

For a group discount call Nikki Hill at 309-434-2921 for more information.

Private luxury suites are available. For more information please contact Julia Cresci at 309-434-2691 or juliacresci@uscellularcoliseum.com.

“The idea of ‘Thrive’ came out of our student ministry,” Hall said. “I’ve been a youth pastor for almost 22 years and it’s still what I want to be when I grow up. The songs always really start out with what we’re teaching, and for years I’ve been using Psalm 1 in showing them what a believer looks like.”

The passage says, “Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season.”

For Hall, nature seemed to underscore Scripture on a recent family vacation in Gatlinburg, TN, when he looked at the trees near the river. “Their roots are exposed and you can feel them just doing everything they can to get to where the water is,” he says. “When I talk to families about how they are doing, they always say ‘just surviving.’ That is not the life that God designed for us to live. That’s not saying that you’re not going to have problems. None of the New Testament people had it easy. They all had troubles, some even at the expense of their lives. The book of joy, Philippians, was written from prison. Hard times are going to come, but God didn’t put you here just so you could survive through hard times. He put you here to thrive, to dig in and to reach out. This record is an effort to draw a picture of what a believer, a follower of Jesus, would look like if they dug into their roots and understood God and themselves more, and then instead of trying to go be Christian for God, they just let God give them chances to be a Christian.”

Casting Crowns’ has consistently delivered songs that spur listeners to evaluate their relationship with God and with each other. “The basic idea is let God define himself through you and if you’ll do that, you’re going to thrive,” Hall said.

Working again with producer Mark Miller, who signed the band to his label more than a decade ago, **Casting Crowns** has crafted another collection of songs that are entertaining and innovative, yet lyrically substantive. *Thrive* is a rich aural feast that leaves everyone with plenty of food for thought. In writing songs for *Thrive*, Hall enlisted some of his favorite collaborators, among them Matthew West, Matt Maher and Bernie Herms.

It’s been more than 10 years since the members of **Casting Crowns** heard their first single on the radio in July 2003, the same day Hall and his wife Melanie welcomed their daughter Zoe. Since then so much has happened in the lives of each member and along the way God has taught them so much. “He’s opened our eyes to our suspicion that He was way bigger than we thought He was,” Hall says with a smile. “He didn’t need **Casting Crowns** to come along to help His word get out. God is winning. He’s changing the world. It may look at times like things are getting darker and darker, but they are not. Everywhere you go you can see light and light wins.”



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For Immediate Release

TWO OF COUNTRY'S BIGGEST STARS!
CHRIS YOUNG AND LEE BRICE

ONE NIGHT LIVE
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
BROTHERS OSBORNE

Friday, February 20, 2015
7:30pm

U.S. Cellular Coliseum
Bloomington, IL

Tickets on Sale Friday, 12/19 at 12pm!!

Ticket Price: \$45.50, \$39.50 and \$29.50

Tickets are available at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum box office, by phone at 1-800-745-3000 or online at Ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets.

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Julia Cresci at 309-434-2691 or juliacresci@uscellularcoliseum.com.

****The Bloomington Thunder hockey team is working with the USHL and the Youngstown Phantoms to find an acceptable date for the previously schedule February 20, 2015 hockey game. All tickets purchased for the game on February 20, 2015 will be valid for the new date or, accepted at the box office in exchange for any equally priced seat for any 2014/2015 Bloomington Thunder regular season game.****



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For Immediate Release

HEART

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

JOAN JETT AND THE BLACKHEARTS

Friday, March 20, 2015

7:30pm

U.S. Cellular Coliseum

Bloomington, IL

Tickets on Sale Friday, 1/30 at 12pm!!

Ticket Price: \$59.00, \$49.00 and \$39.00

Tickets are available at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum box office, by phone at 1-800-745-3000 or online at Ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets.

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL.

DRALION

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL PRESENTS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN BLOOMINGTON THE SIGNATURE PRODUCTION DRALION

FIVE PERFORMANCES ONLY FROM
NOVEMBER 13 TO NOVEMBER 16, 2014
AT THE US CELLULAR COLISEUM

Bloomington (October 28, 2014) – After 15 years performing around the world, Dralion will make its finale curtain call in January 2015. From November 13th, 2014 to 16th, 2014, Bloomington will experience for the first time the magic of a Cirque du Soleil signature production that has performed in more than 150 cities. Dralion will be presented at the US Cellular Coliseum for five performances only.

Advance discounted tickets for Dralion are available now online exclusively to Cirque Club members through June 27 at 9:59 a.m. Cirque Club membership is free and benefits includes access to advance tickets, special offers and exclusive behind the scenes information. To join, go to www.cirqueclub.com.

Tickets for the general public will be available starting June 27 at 10 a.m. www.cirquedusoleil.com/dralion, www.ticketmaster.com, or by calling 1-800-745-3000.

About the show

Dralion is a Cirque du Soleil classic and an internationally acclaimed production that has entertained more than 11 million people worldwide since its world premiere in Montreal in 1999. In May 2009, *Dralion* embarked on a new journey, performing the same mesmerizing production, but now in arenas around the world, giving more people the opportunity to enjoy a *Cirque du Soleil* show in their own town.

Fusing the 3000 year-old tradition of Chinese acrobatic arts with the multidisciplinary approach of Cirque du Soleil, Dralion (pronounced "Dra-lee-on") draws its inspiration from Eastern philosophy and its never-ending quest for harmony between humans and nature. The show's name is derived from its two emblematic creatures: the dragon, symbolizing the East, and the lion, symbolizing the West.

In Dralion, the four elements that govern the natural order take on a human form. Thus embodied, each element is represented by its own evocative colour: air is blue; water is green; fire is red; earth is ochre. In the world of Dralion, cultures blend, Man and Nature are one, and balance is achieved.

Bloomington Ticket Information:

- Adults: From \$40 to \$145
- Children (12 & under): From \$32 to \$127

Bloomington Show Schedule (November 12, 2014, to November 16, 2014):

MEDIA CONTACT

VIEW TRAILER



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ABOUT CIRQUE

[Cirque du Soleil at a glance](#)

[World Show schedule](#)

[Global Citizenship](#)

[International headquarters](#)

[Casting](#)

[One Drop Foundation](#)

- Wednesday, November 12, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, November 13, 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, November 14, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, November 15, 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, November 16, 1:30 p.m.

--more--

Cirque du Soleil

From a group of 20 street performers at its beginnings in 1984, Cirque du Soleil is now a major Quebec-based organization providing high-quality artistic entertainment. The company has close to 4,000 employees, including 1,300 performing artists from close to 50 different countries.

Cirque du Soleil who celebrates its 30th anniversary this year has brought wonder and delight to close to 150 million spectators in more than 300 cities in over forty countries on six continents.

For more information about Cirque du Soleil, visit www.cirquedusoleil.com.
To find out more about the ONE DROP Foundation, visit www.onedrop.org.

They gotta have Heart: The beats go on for Ann & Nancy



MARCH 19, 2015 7:00 AM • [DAN CRAFT](#)
DCRAFT@PANTAGRAPH.COM

It takes one to know one.

Which is why Ann Wilson, firstborn of the legendary Heart sister act coming to town Friday, can perhaps offer a few pointers.

On the subject of life as Rock & Roll Hall of Famer, that is.

The band's special guests are Joan Jett & The Blackhearts, Heart's girl-fronted

counterparts, due for induction themselves barely a month after the U.S. Cellular Coliseum show.

Ann and Nancy got theirs three springs ago.

"Well, I'd say to her, first, that it's going to be a really ... unusual ... night," offers Ann, the raven-haired Wilson, the Wilson with the killer pipes behind such full-on cries of classic rock lust as "Crazy On You" and "Magic Man."

"And quite possibly surreal," she adds.

(Check out the Wilsons' 2012 autobiography, "Kicking & Dreaming," for several hundred pages of contiguous/continuous proof, culminating in their highly surreal '80s cocaine meltdown, gauged thus: "On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being Keith Richards, we squeaked in there at the peak as a 5: we were half of Keith. OK ... maybe just 3, but that was plenty enough.")

The important thing to remember about life in the Hall of Fame, be it Rock & Roll or otherwise, says Ann: "It's a great honor, a big stamp of approval. You're queen for a day. Afterward, the phone will ring in a different way. And your asking price will go up. Everybody will be bowing and scraping and touching your forelocks.

"But it'll pass. You'll go back to work the next day. Then all that matters is what you do then."

In the three years since, the Wilsons have held true to their credo, keeping the beat of Heart thumping away four decades after the first pulse began.

Perhaps the truly special part of that night in April 2012 was the fact that the Wilson sisters shared a stage with their original Heart band-mates for the first time in 34 years:

founding fathers Roger Fisher (Nancy's ex-lover), Steve Fossen, Michael Derosier and Howard Leese.

Maybe not surreal ... but definitely one for the scrapbooks.

Still: enough with the backward glances, says Ann, whose lifetime battles with her image and related addictions (weight issues, a teen stuttering problem in adolescence, alcohol/drugs, etc.) are fully, occasionally painfully recounted in detail through the pages of "Dreaming & Kicking."

By the way, those pages also are packed with stretches of great joy, fraternity and edification.

"We wanted the book (co-authored with journalist Charles R. Cross) to be about the making of a band," says Ann. "We didn't want it to be a trashy tell-all, just a true rock story," says Ann.

That being the case: "It is rock 'n' roll, and you can't tell that story, and tell it truly if you whitewash it by leaving out the sex, drugs and all of that," she adds.

In the case of the Wilson sisters, separated in age by four years (Ann is 64, Nancy is 60), a key point of the saga, says Ann, is that "we were so squeaky clean as kids, and then suddenly we were dealing with all the pressures of rock stardom."

The native Californians (San Diego) were born into a family, however squeaky clean, that was all-musical, with mom a concert pianist and dad a former leader of the U.S. Marine Corps Band.

Thanks to their father's military career, the Wilsons were constantly re-locating before landing in Seattle in the early '60s, where Ann suffered a bout of mononucleosis and spent her time home from school learning to play an acoustic guitar purchased for her by mom.

Outside her budding musical life, encroaching puberty made life hell. "You know, where girls just naturally either become so self-confident that they're popular or they fall off the cliff of being totally ugly, totally unpopular, everything's wrong with them. And of course I fell off the cliff."

Singing — her true forte, as it turned out — helped, though, especially with the persistent stutter, if not the weight woes. Hence the forays into the Seattle bar scene with Nancy on guitar — her big strength.

Eventually those gifts led both sisters into a pre-existing Seattle band, still evolving and eventually called Heart, with Nancy falling for its guitarist Roger Fisher and Ann for Roger's brother Michael, who became the manager.

It all came together in 1975-6, with the breakout album "Dreamboat Annie," which spun out three defining anthems, two full-out rockers ("Crazy On You," "Magic Man"), one a folk-leaning ballad (the title track).

What followed over the next four decades fully justified the book that came out four years ago but hasn't closed the book on Heart as a working band, still crazy on music.

"All of that stuff that has happened in the last few years (the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, getting a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, etc.) has been positive," says Ann. "But, OK, that was that. I've dealt with it all by just going back to work."

Looking back over their 40-year journey, "I use the analogy of a rocket going to the moon," she begins. "The hardest part is escaping Earth's gravity, and we've done that stage. Now we've circled the moon, and we're starting our journey back."

Yes, every journey, lunar or otherwise, has that return leg, with a final landing at the end, which the Wilsons see coming, but don't let deter them.

"The key is we have to keep making it feel new as songwriters and performers," she adds. "I really do feel that we are both at the top of our game now. And I can promise this is going to be an amazing show ... a night of meaningful, powerful rock 'n' roll."

At a glance

What: Heart and Joan Jett & The Blackhearts

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday

Where: U.S. Cellular Coliseum, 101 S. Madison St., Bloomington

Tickets: \$39 to \$59

Box office: 800-745-3000

Heart rhythms

- **First murmers:** Pre-Heart configurations include The Army (1967-69), White Heart (1969-72), Hocus Pocus (1972-73)
- **Ground zero:** Various factions of the above regroup as Heart in 1973-4, arriving at a "classic era" lineup of guitarist Roger Fisher, drummer Michael Derosier, bassist Steve Fossen, lead singer Ann Wilson and guitarist Nancy Wilson.
- **Dangerous liaisons:** Nancy & Roger become lovers, as do Ann & Roger's brother Michael (the band's road manager).
- **Heart attacks:** Three iconic albums are spun out, one after the other: "Dreamboat Annie" (1976), "Little Queen" (1977), "Dog & Butterfly" (1978)
- **Departures:** The Wilson/Fisher sibling relationships end (1979), signaling the start of many Heart membership permutations over the next 35 years.
- **Second wind:** After declining sales in the early '80s, a major comeback arrives with 1985's "Heart," producing four Top 10 hits, including the band's first No. 1 single, "These Dreams." Two more multi-platinum albums follow: "Bad Animals" (1987) and "Brigade" (1990).

- **Side projects:** Ann and Nancy form acoustic band The Lovemongers (1992-7), Nancy marries filmmaker Cameron Crowe and composes soundtracks for his films ("Jerry Maguire," "Almost Famous," "Vanilla Sky," etc.).
- **Third wind:** With a new lineup backing the Wilsons, 2010's "Red Velvet Car" becomes Heart's first Top 10 album in 20 years, followed by 2011's "Fanatic" which makes the Top 25.
- **Kudos:** Inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, 2012, with the Wilsons, Roger Fisher, Steve Rossen, Michael Derosier and Howard Leese sharing a stage for the first time in 34 years.

Jett streams

Real name: Joan Marie Larkin

Beginnings: Sept. 22, 1958, suburban Philadelphia

Phase One: The same year (1975) that Heart breaks through, JJ co-founds, with Lita Ford, iconic all-female punk-rock band, The Runaways (note: by a strange coincidence, Ford will be in the area the very next night, March 21, at Hat Tricks in Pekin, then back April 3 at Champaign's Fluid Event Center).

Phase Two: After 1979 breakup of The Runaways, JJ records a solo album (1980), then forms a new band, The Blackhearts.

Breakthrough: The band's second album, "I Love Rock 'n' Roll" (1981), explodes with the title hit single, which goes to No 1 for an epic seven weeks in a row, while the album hits No. 2.

Movie Joan: JJ transitions to acting, taking the female lead opposite Michael J. Fox in 1987's "Light of Day"

Kudos: Three years after Heart, JJ & The Blackhearts will be inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame next month (4/18/15).

The 'perfect amount of crazy': Area duo shines in rugged world of ice racing



MARCH 13, 2015 7:00 PM • [BRUCE YENTES](#)
BYENTES@PANTAGRAPH.COM

NORMAL — When weighing the pros and cons of the rough and tumble world of motorcycle racing, Normal's Blake Svensson says one factor weighed heavily in his decision to get involved in the sport.

"I thought I had the perfect amount of crazy in me," he said.

Svensson has capitalized on that attribute and others, recently being crowned Rookie

of the Year in the ICE World Championship Ice Racing Series, following an eighth-place finish in the standings.

A fellow Bloomington-Normal competitor, Shea Knuth, preceded Svensson as the ICE Rookie of the Year in 2013-14 before finishing third in the overall standings this past season.

Both have plans for a concerted effort at the series title next year on the 39-year-old tour that in recent years has included an annual stop at Bloomington's U.S. Cellular Coliseum.

"One of my main goals is to win the ice racing championship," Knuth said. "It looks easy and everybody thinks they can do it, but it's really hard and I like the challenge."

Meanwhile, Svensson's immediate plans include a foray into dirt, flat track motorcycle racing with an eye on someday competing in the sport's biggest event, an annual race each March at Daytona International Speedway.

Svensson, a 21-year old Bloomington High School graduate, says he was smitten with the swagger and bravado of motorcycle racing as a youngster while being treated to an AMA Grand National event at Peoria. As a 6-year-old, he became enamored of the sight of high-powered machines being "laid on the side" by their riders, hurtling at breakneck speeds through flat corners.

"I always thought motorcycle racing was the coolest thing," he said.

Prior to winning this year's ICE rookie accolades, Svensson began his career contesting the physically demanding jumps, hills and corners of regional motocross competition. Hooking up with Knuth, the pair would barnstorm at motocross facilities throughout Central Illinois and beyond during the summer.

Knuth had also recently joined a third Bloomington-Normal racer, Darren Carter, to compete in indoor ice racing events at arenas stretching from Utah to New Jersey during the winter months. Svensson, an independent contractor, decided to also give it a try.

"I get cabin fever from not doing anything in the winter and wanted to get in on it," he said.

Svensson's first experience with ice racing was an eye opener that included a hard lesson in making contact with a fellow competitor.

"It's two completely different things," he said, comparing motocross to the ice. "The ice races are real quick and it's really tight and narrow racing. My first mistake was trying to 'bump pass' a fellow competitor in a turn. I went down real fast, real quick."

While the spills can be memorable for the fans, they can also be painful for the racers. Svensson's only protective gear consists of a helmet, along with shoulder pads, elbow pads and a back brace that's worn under his jersey. He also wears knee pads and a calf-high motocross boot.

For his part, Knuth has been exposed to the rough-around-the-edges aspect of motorcycle racing his entire life. His grandfather is well-known local motorcycle racer Gene Knuth who, at 80, still turns wrenches on the younger Knuth's racing cycles.

With mentoring from his grandfather, Knuth began in motocross, turned to the dirt flat tracks and then began dabbling on the ice.

While planning to seek the 2015-16 ICE title, Knuth is also upping the ante on his AMA program with sponsorship help from Shannon's Five Star Restaurant in Bloomington. He'll be seeking the AMA Supermoto Series title on a tour that gets underway on April 3 in Riverside, Calif.

He also has scheduled a number of flat track events this year, including outings at both Peoria and Springfield.

BRICE

Won't dance, will kick it: Brice boots his career into overdrive



FEBRUARY 19, 2015 7:00 AM • DAN CRAFT
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For Lee Brice, 2014 will go down in his history as the year he didn't dance, but still waltzed to record success.

"I Don't Dance," source of both his success and his anti-footloose sentiments, served as the title of his first No. 1 album in a relatively short career as a performer.

The same-title single followed suit, landing at No. 1 ... the fourth such chart-topper since Brice exploded with "Hard 2 Love" in 2012 and rained down a trio of No. 1's ("Hard 2 Love," "A Woman Like You," "I Drive Your Truck").

When last we encountered him here, three years ago this week at the Castle Theatre, the fuse had been lit, with "A Woman Like You" riding high and "Hard 2 Love" just a month or two away from release and his profound career sea change.

Now, here he comes back: to the U.S. Cellular Coliseum for his first big arena headlining show, sharing headliner duties with good buddy Chris Young, via their "One Night Live" tour, begun in January and continuing through winter's end.

Per the co-headliner billing, the singers are taking turns coming out first, though Brice wasn't 100 percent sure as of this interview who would be arriving ahead of the other in Bloomington.

Perhaps that's because, on this day, Brice is home between dates, tending to a child under the weather, per his other day job as full-time dad (to sons Dakota and Ryker) and husband (to wife Sara Reeveley).

"One of the reasons why we're doing this is that we've both been on this similar ride the last couple years in which we'd gotten to the point where we're now a bit too big for the clubs we'd been playing," says the 35-year-old South Carolina native.

Both men had come along on the Nashville scene concurrently and shared a similar level of success, with the only discernible difference being a slight variance in ages (Young, is, well, a bit younger, by around six years).

Next stop, the arena level, where both had gotten a shared taste, says Brice, as the openers for Brad Paisley's 2013 "Beat This Summer" tour.

"We'd already done a lot of shows together by then," he says, but never quite on that scale.

The crossing of paths had occurred around five years prior to the Paisley tour when Brice caught a Young performance live at an awards show.

"I'd already had a little success, and been in town writing songs, and had had a Top 30 song on the radio," Brice says.

Before his own performance career took off, he'd co-written a little ditty in 2007 (with Billy Montana and Kyle Jacobs) called "More Than a Memory" and recorded by Garth Brooks. In short order, it became the first single in the annals of Billboard's Hot Country Songs to debut at No. 1.

"My first reaction to Chris when I saw him sing for the first time was that I was extremely impressed," says Brice. "And not just by his singing, but by his songwriting."

And who better to have his antennae up for the songwriting part than Brice, who, as he recalls, "had been writing songs since I was a child, and was four or five years into my songwriting career, doing around 200 a year with some of the best in the world."

It didn't always look like his life would head this direction. Not too many years before Brooks took his song to No. 1, Brice had been studying civil engineering and playing football on a scholarship at Clemson University in his native South Carolina (born in Sumter).

An elbow injury on the playing field sidelined that part of his career. But no matter: "My goal was to start, and I met it."

Thus came the motivation to fixate on the music interest that had percolated since childhood, when he learned piano, sang in the church choir, started writing his own songs and, for sure, spent many an hour wanting to be like Garth.

"I was 10 or 11 the first time I was introduced to him," Brice recalls. "The way he wrote and sang was something else."

That introduction was more profound than he ever could have imagined, and was accompanied by a kind of sixth sense that bigger forces might be at play.

"As crazy as it sounds, yeah, I DID feel like I might do that one day," he says, referencing the childhood fantasy of being like Garth.

That day occurred around 15 years later when the phone rang (Brice was in Nashville by then, fully into his professional songwriting phase).

"I picked it up and it was him, and he said, 'Lee, I know you're an artist doing your own thing ... but I was wondering if I could record a song of yours. I'd do the best I can'."

Insert momentary shell-shock here.

It gets better, of course, and we don't mean the hits that Brice has turned out for others of equal stature, including Kenny Chesney, Jason Aldean and Tim McGraw.

In fact, the whole Brice-Brooks saga climaxed just a few weeks ago, says Brice, after the Brice-Young juggernaut (with openers Brothers Osborne) had started rolling through a series of sellouts (as of press-time, Friday's Coliseum was headed that general direction, a venue spokeswoman said).

Though Brice and Brooks had crossed path in the seven or so years since "More Than a Memory," that magic moment of sharing a stage had yet to come.

"Just being a fan who grew up to write a No. 1 song for him was pretty surreal for me. Then when I met him in person after that, he didn't let me down. They say you shouldn't meet your heroes, but that wasn't the case with Garth ... he was the opposite of that."

But the kicker came the night of Jan. 24, when Brice, who'd been 90 minutes away for a casino engagement in Connecticut, decided to make the trek to the TD Garden in Boston to see his hero, who he hadn't seen in concert since 1997.

Which means he'd never seen a live Brooks performance of his own song.

At a backstage meet-and-greet "just to say hello," Brooks threw down the gauntlet: He looks at me and says 'You feel like working tonight?'

Awaking from his dream-come-true later that night, Brice's tweets said it all: "Holy crap ... I just sang with Garth Brooks in Boston" and "Bucket list ... check."

Could it get any better?

Oh, yeah, as Brice recalls of Brooks' own subsequent tweet:

"@leebrice Lee, can't thank you enough for making the late Saturday show so special! Boston loves you and you deserve it! love you, pal, g."

Or: more than a memory ... and then some.

At a glance

What: Chris Young & Lee Brice: One Night Live, with Brothers Osborne

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday

Where: U.S. Cellular Coliseum, 101 S. Madison St., Bloomington

Tickets: \$29.50 to \$45.50

Box office: 800-745-3000

Buddy system

Comparing stats for Chris Young (CY) and Lee Brice (LB)

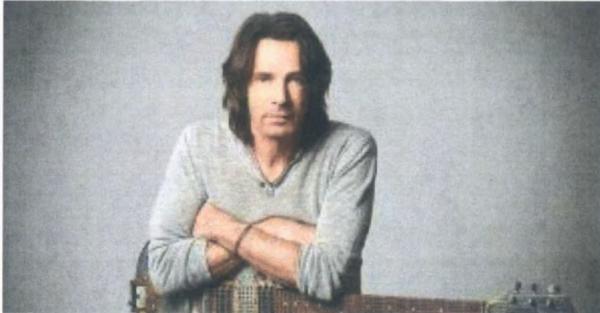
- **Ages:** 29 (CY), 35 (LB)
- **Origins:** Murfreesboro, Tenn. (CY), Sumter, SC. (LB)
- **Early ambitions:** Singing, since high school choir (CY), civil engineering/football (LB)
- **Turning points:** Won USA's "Nashville Star" talent series in 2006 (CY), co-wrote Garth Brooks' No. 1 hit "More Than a Memory" in 2007 (LB)
- **First time charting, album:** "Chris Young," No. 3 in 2006 (CY), "Love Like Crazy," No. 9 in 2010 (LB)
- **First time charting, single:** "Drinkin' Me Lonely," No. 42 in 2006 (CY), "She Ain't Right," No. 29 in 2007 (LB)
- **Total No. 1 singles to date:** 5 (CY), 4 (LB)
- **Total No. 1 albums to date:** 0 (CY), 1 (LB)

Sibling revelry

The Brothers Osborne file

- **First names:** John and T.J.
- **Eldest:** John, by three years (31 to T.J.'s 28)
- **Tallest:** Both are over 6 feet, who's counting after that?
- **Roots:** Rural Maryland
- **Key influences:** "Hank and Merle"
- **Debut:** "Brothers Osborne" EP album (2014), peaking at No. 23
- **Single:** "Rum" (2014), peaking at No. 27.

Hard to hold back: Rick Springfield returns!



JANUARY 22, 2015 8:00 AM • DAN CRAFT
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(Editor's note: Since we did the full-blown "career"-type story for Rick Springfield's November 2012 concert at ISU, we're going with an informal, chatty even, Q&A format updating his activities of the last 24 months, including co-starring with Meryl Streep in a new movie, "Ricki & The Flash," opening this summer.)

GO: Welcome back! You were here just a little over a year ago (Nov. 2012) at Illinois State University. Any word for fans who attended that show vs. what they'll be seeing and hearing 24 months later?

RS: Hey, I remember Normal. I don't remember what I had for breakfast so that's pretty good for me. Unfortunately, I don't remember what set list we played then so I don't know what will be different. However, I am fairly certain we'll do "Jessie's Girl." (Insert chuckle here.)

GO: Let's talk about what's happened since Nov. 2012 ... including your getting a seemingly long overdue Hollywood Walk of Fame star. The obvious question is: Why has it taken 40-odd years?

RS: I know. What's up with that? It's a cool thing because it's old-Hollywood-type stuff. I used to live just up the street from where the star is when I first moved to the states in the '70s. I think I'm by Don Cornelius and Freddie Fender. Great company and I guess I'm the token white boy in the immediate area. (Insert another chuckle here.)

GO: You also published your first fiction work, "Magnificent Vibration," since your last show here. What was the inspiration ... your own quest for spiritual enlightenment, or as a satire on those who might be seeking same?

RS: It is partly a spiritual quest, and partly having fun with certain elements of it. It also deals with my concern for our beautiful planet.

GO: What is your response to your mum's review of "Vibration" (assuming this quote really is her): "Richard is a very naughty boy. Why can't he write a nice story? I don't know why he's so obsessed with his private parts. Rude child. I wish I'd had a daughter instead." Are you obsessed with ... you know?

RS: My mum was a little mortified when I told her what I'd written as her quote for the book. But I'm sure she would think those thoughts if she read it: I advised her not to. What male isn't obsessed with.... you know?

GO: How did the experience on your new movie, "Ricki & the Flash," compare to the one on "Hard to Hold" exactly 30 years before? Is it better to be part of an ensemble rather than having the whole movie on your shoulders?

RS: Well, it really helps to have a decent script for a start, which, let's be honest, "Hard to Hold" did not enjoy the luxury of having. It was a great shoot ("Ricki," that is) with great people at the top of their game involved.

GO: Jonathan Demme has always been a director who's conveyed a keen musical sense ... how would you describe it, and how did he relate to your own musical sensibility?

RS: He was amazing. Definitely had a superb musical sense as well as being a truly great actor's director. He would sometimes come dancing onto the set during the musical numbers. He was so much fun to hang out with and he brought such a unique musical sensibility to the film.

GO: Working with Meryl Streep: Where do you rank it in the pantheon of your musical collaborations over the decades?

RS: It was both a music and an acting collaboration ... and I would put it at the top of that.

GO: Actor, writer, musician: which pursuit has given you the greatest sense of satisfaction and/or accomplishment over the decades? Which do you feel has been least acknowledged?

RS: Writing is the answer to both questions. It's something I can do in a room by myself without the need for approval or judgment and when it's working it's such a high. A lot of people still don't realize I write my own songs. And a lot of folks thought I used a ghost writer for my autobiography (2010's "Late, Late at Night"). It's not a big deal really because it's about personal satisfaction.

GO: Has this past year of varied, rewarding and high-profile activity helped stave off some of the depression you've confronted throughout your life and career?

RS: Sometimes it has and sometimes it's been the cause of an onset. Depression is a wacky thing and can come on at moments when I think: "Seriously? Now???"

GO: So ... inquiring minds want to know: has success spoiled you yet?

RS: Sorry man, your time's up. Get outta here.

At a glance

What: Rick Springfield with The Romantics

When: 7 p.m. Sunday

Where: U.S. Cellular Coliseum, 101 S. Madison St., Bloomington

Tickets: \$25 to \$45

Box office: 800-745-3000

Feet first: Skaters, dancers unite for TV special at Coliseum



DECEMBER 11, 2014 7:00 AM • [DAN CRAFT](#)
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If a film about Olympic skaters and champion dancers swapping partners were made, it might be titled "Maks & Meryl & Charlie & Sharna."

Not to fear, though: the results wouldn't resemble the saucy movie hit of swinging-'60s yore, "Bob & Ted & Carol & Alice," in which the partner-sharing went far beyond ballroom bounds.

Just ask the switch-hitting performers themselves, who are part of the all-star spectacle coming Tuesday night to Bloomington's U.S. Cellular Coliseum: "Shall

We Dance on Ice," being taped as a two-hour ABC special for February and March airings (see accompanying stories for details and the full roster of performers, including Disney Channel star Bella Thorne as special singing guest and ballet legend Edward Villella as a co-host alongside Olympic champ Kristi Yamaguchi).

As the world knows, the ice dancing team of Meryl Davis and Charlie White triumphed at the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics by becoming the first Americans to win the gold medal in that competition.

Within months of their shared victory, the duo was pruned apart and paired off with two veterans of ABC's No. 1-rated show, "Dancing with the Stars."

Davis took up with Maksim (aka Maks) Chermkovskiy, a 14-season competitor on the show who had teamed with the likes of Tia Carrere, Kirstie Alley and Denise Richards.

White, meanwhile, began sharing moves with Sharna Burgess, who joined the "Dancing with the Stars" team in its 13th season and whose past partners there include Illinois Wesleyan University alum Andy Dick.

At season's end in May, Meryl & Max walked away the champs, while Charlie & Sharna were bested several times over and left in fifth place.

Tuesday night, the partner-swapping will continue apace, with Charlie & Meryl together again on ice, followed by Meryl & Maks and Charlie & Sharna doing it again off ice.

In separate interviews with GO!, three of the foursome offered their takes on the pairings and re-pairings.

As the Ukrainian-born Maks recalls, "She (Meryl) called and said, 'listen, we're doing this show, and I'd love it if we could do it again together.' After doing 'Dancing with the Stars' together, I was looking for anything that would get us back together."

And with sound reason: "We had such a great time, and a lot of people said they wanted to see us together again for whatever reason. We'd made such an impact that I said 'I will gladly dance with you again for anything,' be it 'Dancing with the Stars,' a TV special or whatever."

The invitation was also extended to Burgess, all the better to pair her off again with White, who, despite erroneous assumptions over the years, has never been romantically linked with Davis (in fact, he's marrying longtime girlfriend and former ice dancer Tanith Belbin in 2015 -- "the only thing," he says, "that could make next year a better year than this year").

Davis says she views the transition from ice dancing to ballroom — very different styles — as a chance to satisfy passions aroused by their ice dancing experiences.

Passions for dance, that is.

"The combination of dancing on the floor and ice dancing is very, very exciting to Charlie and I," she says.

"It's a different way for us to get a chance to bring our skating skills to the floor and explore different means of creativity," Davis adds.

The partner-swapping just ups the ante, keeping everyone on their toes, literally and otherwise, but without, as she notes, the pressure-cooker intensity of Olympic competition.

Tough competition drives "Dancing with the Stars," true, and, yes, Davis says, "it's in our blood to be competitive, to really throw ourselves into a thing."

But compared to the Olympics, "Oh my gosh, something like this is really just a lot of fun, and we push ourselves, but in a different way."

The "Shall We Dance with the Stars" audience, she says, will get the best of both worlds, and partnerships, notes Davis.

"Charlie and I will do one number together on the ice, and we each get to share a number with Sharna and Maksim."

White agrees that changing partners was good for all involved.

"We have so much respect for all the talent, and that's what makes it so special," he says, a feeling that extends to not only their "Dancing with the Stars" mates, but also the all-star roster that comprises "Shall We Dance on Ice."

"You know everyone is amazing in their own right, and that no one can stand out heads and shoulders above the rest," he says. "As a performer, it's fun to be part of something like that."

And though Maks may have bested an Olympic champ on the ballroom floor just weeks after being draped in the gold medal at Sochi, his main goal was to come through for Davis.

"For the first time in her career, Meryl was competing against Charlie and I just wanted her to shine and to win, even though I love Charlie and he's an awesome kid, a very nice guy."

That desire to help his partner win "gave me all the motivation I needed, and we just clicked ... and all I could think was, 'I have the best partner I could have, with all eyes on me because of her being this new Olympic champion.'"

That thought was a bit unnerving to the man who had competed 14 seasons on "Dancing with the Stars" and never come out on top.

"She just put her hand on my shoulder and said, 'calm down... it's OK.' "

As things turned out, it was more than OK.

"It's a very special partnership, and one that I hope continues," he says.

At a glance

What: Shall We Dance on Ice?

When: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

Where: U.S. Cellular Coliseum, 101 S. Madison St., Bloomington

Tickets: \$45 to \$75

Box office: 800-745-3000



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS MERYL DAVIS & CHARLIE WHITE TO HEADLINE DANCE THEMED SHOW AT THE U.S. CELLULAR COLISEUM, *SHALL WE DANCE ON ICE*, WITH SPECIAL GUEST, MIRROR BALL WINNER MAKSIM CHMERKOVSKIY

Tickets for Shall We Dance on Ice go on sale Friday, July 11

(June 27, 2014) Bloomington, IL. The US Cellular Coliseum and Disson Skating are pleased to announce "Shall We Dance on Ice" coming to Bloomington on Tuesday, December 16, 2014. This event will showcase a journey of dance through the ages with dancing and skating. Music and special effects will create the segments of time and genre of dance, which will be performed by dancers and transition into elegant productions on the ice.

The cast features the most decorated ice dancing team in U.S. figure skating history, 2014 Olympic Champions, two-time World Champions and six-time U.S. Champions Meryl Davis and Charlie White. Following the Olympics, Davis and White competed in the eighteenth season of ABC's *Dancing with the Stars*. Davis was crowned this year's champion with her partner Maksim Chmerkovskiy on May 20, 2014.

The star-studded ice dancing cast, in addition to Davis and White, is scheduled to include:

- 2006 Olympic silver medalists, two-time World silver medalists, five-time U.S. champions and 2010 U.S. Olympic team members Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto.
- 2002 Olympic gold medalists, 1998 Olympic bronze medalists, 2000 World champions and six-time French champions Marina Anissina and Gwendal Peizerat
- Two-time World silver medalists and four-time Canadian champions Marie-France Dubreuil and Patrice Lauzon
- 2009 European Champion bronze medalists, seven-time British champions and 2010 British Olympic team members Sinead and John Kerr.
- Five-time U.S. champions Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev
- Two-time U.S. bronze medalists Kim Navarro and Brent Bommentre
- New team skating for Israel, Isabella Tobias and Ilia Tkachenko

The cast is also scheduled to include the following professional dancers from ABC's *Dancing with the Stars*: