

## Jones leaving UIS to coach soccer at Millikin

By **MARCIA MARTINEZ** ([marcia.martinez@sj-r.com](mailto:marcia.martinez@sj-r.com))  
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Chad Jones left the Millikin University men's soccer program for the University of Illinois Springfield, and one year later he's headed back to Decatur.

Millikin introduced Jones, a Decatur native, as its new head men's soccer coach Tuesday. The 1994 Millikin graduate was an assistant for the NCAA Division III Big Blue in 2009 and from 2000 to 2001.

"It was an opportunity for me and my family," said Jones, who commuted from Decatur to Springfield. "It was a job that I didn't go out and seek. I had them contact me and it was just a good situation. I was an assistant there before. It was just a good fit for me being from there. It was an opportunity I couldn't pass up."

### Impaired vision

Jones coached the Stars to a 1-13-1 overall record and 1-11-1 Great Lakes Valley Conference mark in his only season at UIS.

"I was real happy here (at UIS)," Jones said. "It's just a situation that came up and wasn't planned.

"The thing is I started a vision here and I'm disappointed I didn't get to finish it. Things happen for a reason. We all had a vision. It's a little frustrating for me and the boys that we didn't get to accomplish that together."

His predecessor at Millikin, Mark Stollsteimer, also came from an NCAA Division II program, Davis & Elkins College in West Virginia.

Stollsteimer compiled a 10-24-3 record in two seasons at Millikin.

### Moving forward

Jones' final day at UIS is Tuesday.

UIS begins the process of hiring his replacement today, according to UIS assistant director of athletics Scott Reed.

"We'll meet to get the process rolling," he said. "We've had preliminary talks with the administration of the university."

During his playing days, Jones was a four-year letterwinner and captain at Millikin. He went on to coach at Decatur MacArthur High School. He was also an assistant at Illinois Wesleyan University and Eastern Illinois University.

Jones is a former executive director of the Springfield Area Soccer Association from 2007-08.

He assumed his first head coaching position when he joined the staff at UIS in February 2010.

Marcia Martinez can be reached at 788-1547.

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