

## **I-Street's list of 100 most influential people**

**Publication:** Chicago Sun-Times

**Date:** December 29, 2000

**Section:** FINANCIAL

**Edition:** LATE SPORTS FINAL

**Page:** 54

**Word Count:** 2262

I-Street's list of the 100 most influential appears on newsstands Jan. 3. Here's an advance look:

**Philip Airey:** CEO of Ourhouse.com. Brought national recognition to Chicago, establishing one of the first bricks-and-clicks models in partnership with Ace Hardware and leading venture capital firms.

**David Baker:** Vice president, external affairs, Illinois Institute of Technology. Established city's first incubator and expanded inroads between academic and private sectors.

**Keith Bank:** Managing director, KB Partners. Leader in Chicago VC community for investing in early-stage companies.

**Dean Becker:** CEO, eWireless Inc. Developed a new wireless-advertising medium and secured millions in venture capital.

**Leslie Beller:** Executive director, i.c. stars. Helped bridge the digital divide as leader of one of Chicago's most visible not-for-profits.

**Bob Bernard:** CEO, marchFirst. Took Whitmann-Hart to the brink after acquiring USWebs/CKS; the new marchFirst faced extinction until receiving \$150 million cash infusion in December.

**Nancy Bernstein:** President and co-founder, and **Karen Kovach,** co-founder, eCreativeSearch.com. Bucked the trend and based their company in Chicago even though local VCs wouldn't fund her. Raised VC money from New York.

**Robert Blackwell:** Founder and CEO, Blackwell Consulting Services Inc. The nation's largest minority-owned consulting firm, Blackwell was active in the community and offered resources to help others succeed.

**Michael Blair:** CEO, Cyborg Systems. Avid angel investor, technology pusher, and president of Chicago Software Association for most of the year.

**Philip Bligh:** Founder and CEO, Inforte. Thought leader; took firm through one of few successful Chicago IPOs in 2000 and has become a favorite among industry stock analysts.

Andrew Bluhm: CEO, Ecapital Ventures. Investor in Chicago start-ups and local tech booster; active on knowledge circuit.

Matthew Brown: Partner in law firm of Katten Muchin Zavis. Co-head of technology practice; i.c. stars board member; prominent player in Chicago IPOs.

Ellen Carnahan: Managing director, William Blair & Co. Leading role in divine interVentures' IPO and the William Blair New World Ventures early-stage fund.

Jerry Carrington: Founder and managing director, Inroads Capital. VC and angel mentor; invested in minority-owned deals.

Roger Crockett: Business writer, Business Week. Inflamed and galvanized community by writing the "Chicago Blues" article.

Matthew Dalton: Co-founder, BeanNet Internet cafes. Brought Internet access to underserved Chicago communities.

Linda Darragh: Director of Women's Business Development Center. Started venture-leads programs for women; prime mover bringing Springboard venture funding competition event to Chicago in 2001.

Richard Daley: Mayor, City of Chicago. Set tech agenda for Chicago and put political muscle behind it.

George Deeb: CEO, iExplore.com. Entrepreneur took B2C model and made it successful by attracting investors and a major partnership with National Geographic.

Jimm DiSpensa: Former assistant commissioner of planning for technology. Led city's building owners to make buildings wired; attracted broadband suppliers to city.

Paul Doyle: Founder and CEO, ProofSpace. Highly visible entrepreneur; founded ProofSpace and organized Founder's Dinner and ORBIS.

Michael Ferro: CEO, ClickCommerce. Led company through a highly successful 2000 IPO. Active and visible in community; member of board of the Executives' Club of Chicago.

Andrew "Flip" Filipowski: Founder and CEO, divine interVentures Inc. Icon of Chicago's new economy successes and failures in 2000. Invested more than \$330 million in Chicago start-ups.

Daniel Foreman: Managing director, ABN AMRO Equity Fund. Visible VC who led high-profile early-stage deals and investments such as Telenisus.

Rick Fumo: Managing Director, Parson Group. Brought 28 years experience from Arthur Andersen to emerge as high-profile advocate for bridging the new economy with the old.

Bill Furlong: Founder, B2B Works. Became national leader in online ad networks; high profile within the tech community.

Katherine Gehl: Mayor's special assistant for technology. Tech czarina and face and spokesperson for e-government initiatives.

Pantelis (Pete) Georgiadis: CEO and founder, eBlast Ventures. Leads start-up accelerator, became an active angel investor.

Robert Gerometta: Executive VP, GBUCS, LLC. Behind-the-scenes member of Chicago's new economy intelligentsia. Played a role in the Chicago Brain Trust and dealmaking club, KnockNow.

Scott Glickson: Partner, Gordon & Glickson. High on knowledge circuit and sought-after dealmaker in the early-stage market.

Steve Golden: CEO, CoolSavings .com. Drew national attention by successfully defending patents in the uncharted Internet space. Built company on cutting edge of direct marketing model.  
Tandy Green: Director and founder, Chicago chapter of Women in Technology International (WITI). Helped build the networking group into thriving forum for women in science and technology.

David Greising: Business columnist, Chicago Tribune. Columns sharply criticizing the new economy created controversy and newfound camaraderie among area's new economy.

Chip Hardt: COO, @McKinsey. Added fuel to firm's new e-consultancy by establishing the Prairiefire business plan competition. Encouraged new economy entrepreneurs in Midwest.  
Leslie Hindman: Founder, eappraisals.com. Secured major venture funding for a consumer-focused company that was a coup for women-owned firms.

Warren Holtsberg: Managing director, One Motorola Ventures. Led Motorola to the new economy with investments in Centerpost, Radiowave and Perceptual Robotics.

David Jacobson: Partner in law firm of Sonnenschein, Nath, and Rosenthal. Organizer of Chicago's enormously popular First Tuesday virtual networking event.

Alex Jarett: Founder, Internet Executives Club, a thriving new economy networking organization.

Greg Jones: Chairman, President, and CEO, UBid Inc. Took nation's second-largest auction site and sold it to CMGI. Worked to re-introduce the company on the national radar screen.

Steven Kaplan: Neubauer Family Professor of Entrepreneurship and Finance, University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. Active mentor in the academic, public and private sectors.

JoAnne Kauffmann: Founder, BeautyJungle. Presided over e-beauty firm that was one of Chicago's biggest flameouts but gained national kudos for customer service.

Kaarina Koskenalusta: CEO, Executives' Club of Chicago. Introduced new economy programs and e-business seminars to old economy stalwarts.

Tim Krauskopf: Consultant. Served as a divine Entrepreneur-in-Residence, became CEO of divine's Parlano, only to resign seven months later. The serial entrepreneur offered insight and counsel to new economy mavens.

Michael Krauss: Partner, Diamond Technology Partners. Played mentoring role in the community and was active on the knowledge circuit.

Tom LaPorte: Webmaster, WBBM Radio. Groundbreaking addition of new technology news to mainstream media. Launched WBBM "Tech Desk" program covering Chicago's new economy.

Steven Lazarus: Managing director, Arch Venture Partners. Working to create new metric for new economy funding as chair of the research committee, National Venture Capital Association.

Bill Lederer: Chairman, CEO, CIO, Minotaur Capital. Serial entrepreneur and investor; funded local startups, including BlueMeteor. Supporter of tech events, including Illinois Tech Showcase.

Dan Limbach: Echo3. King of schmooze and owner of Schmoozemonster.com. Heads local Association of Multimedia Communicators and Chicago cell of Fast Company magazine.

**Steve Lundin: Associate, ad agency and communications firm Slack Barshinger and Partners. Initiated Big Frontier network event as an alternative to First Tuesday.**

Shaye Mandle: Executive director, Illinois Coalition. The quotable critic and promoter of Chicago's complex new economy.

Bret Maxwell: Managing director, First Analysis Venture Capital. Leader and supporter of Chicago community ventures including Go2Call.

Ronald May: Creator, the May Report, an online newsletter. Controversial gossip monger who sprung the leak in divine interVenture's zaibatsu.

Matt McCall: Managing partner, DFJ Portage Venture Partners. Center of attention when firm attracted partnership with California VC Goliath Draper Fisher Jurvetson.

Phil McGuigan: Partner, Gordon & Glickson: Articulate and passionate new economy lawyer and dealmaker in 2000.

Steven Mendes: Principal, Paradigm Real Estate. Mover behind SoGo (South of Grand, North of Ogden) work-and-live real estate development.

James McNulty: President and CEO, Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Led a spirited battle to bring the Merc into the new economy.

Stephen Meade: CEO and founder, GBUCS LLC. Part of Chicago's "brain trust" and a founder of dealmaking club KnockNow.

Michael Mensik: Partner, Baker & McKenzie. Introduced e-business practice to a prominent old economy law firm.

George Middlemas: Managing director, Apex Venture Partners. Closed new fund that led four investments in Chicago start-ups.

Dan Miller: Business editor, Chicago Sun-Times. Bolstered Sun-Times' new economy coverage by partnering with four prominent local tech content providers.

Steve Miller: Managing director, Origin Ventures. Organized Prairie Angels network to fund start-up companies in the Midwest.

Thomas Muscarello: Director, Technology Development Center, DePaul University. Expanded an innovative entrepreneurship program, influencing a new generation of tech pioneers.

David Munaretto: Associate, Xpedior. Founded Chicago chapter of Association of Internet Professionals (AIP), building the chapter into thriving networking organization.

Andrew Oleszczuk: President, Tribune Ventures. Shifted Tribune's venture investment strategy to include seed capital for Chicago startups, including iExplore, eppraisals, Legacy.com and Dynamic Trade.

David Ormesher: Founder and CEO, closerlook. Charismatic leader of orange-clad minions. Thwarted in effort to roll up Buzz msp, Westbound Consulting and Web Design Group into his firm.

Louise O'Sullivan: Founder and president, PrimeAdvantage.com. Builder of one of few successful B2B exchanges by adopting paradigm developed in off-line world.

Terry Pahl: CEO of Incent. The former angel investor and CEO of AON Enterprises shocked the old economy when she left her post to join a start-up.

Pat Pollard: Co-founder and managing director, BlueStar Ventures. Opened significant fund investing in area startups, including Curious Networks.

Andrew Parkinson: Co-Founder, Peapod. Heads one of Chicago's best-known dot-coms through challenges in business model, financing and management.

Chaka Patterson: CEO, Juritas.com. Shattered the glass ceiling for minorities by starting a successful minority-owned company.

John Patterson: President and CEO, Business Logic. Led successful financial software company that attracted millions in venture capital this year from stalwarts such as Goldman Sachs.

Richard Posner: Presiding Judge, Seventh U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Put Chicago's legal expertise on national stage as arbiter in Microsoft antitrust case.

J.B. Pritzker: Managing director, William Blair New World Ventures. Established a leading venture fund in Chicago and invested in start-ups.

Gerald Putnam: Founder and CEO, Archipelago. National newsmaker attracted attention with combo of old economy investors and idea for innovative electronic communication network.

Goran Rajsic: Founder and CEO, cyberPIXIE. Partnered with national leader S3 Inc. to develop new markets for handheld wireless devices.

Lynn Refer: CEO, LookingGlass Networks Inc. Raised \$200 million in a first round of financing, the largest single investment in Illinois' history.

Gordon Reichard: President, CEO and director, Telenisus. Raised more than \$50 million; made key acquisitions and built firm into leading security-focused e-business.

Candy Renwall: Executive director, Chicago Software Association. Led revitalization and redirection of CSA into the new economy.

Art Roldan: President and CEO, Novarra. Angel investor and entrepreneur built a wireless-enabling company with major venture funding.

George Ryan: Governor, state of Illinois. Established state's high-tech initiatives, including \$1.9 billion technology development fund.

Liz Ryan: Co-founder and vice president, UCentric Systems. Established ChicWit, an online/offline networking organization for women in technology that morphed into WorldWit.

Jim Schultz: Managing director, Open Prairie Ventures. Drove commercialization from university R&D and invested in area start-ups.

Terry Savage: Financial columnist, Chicago Sun-Times. Focused writing on new economy issues, raising public awareness of the city's winners and players.

Mohan Sawhney: Professor, J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University. E-commerce patriot; involved in investing, teaching, funding, advising, and manipulating startups across landscape.

Lois Scott: CEO, Edventions. Worked to raise millions of dollars for her educational services company; role model for women entrepreneurs.

Rick Shamburg: Special technology adviser to Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs. Led the controversial field trip to Silicon Valley last summer, an initiative supported by the city, state, and local universities.

Rob Schultz: CEO, DigitalWork.com. Rode the highs and lows of the year; lost bid for an IPO but got slew in private placements.

Parry Singh: co-Founder and CEO, EthnicGrocer.com. Gained national prominence and venture funding for firm's B2C specialty-foods model and reorganized late in the year in response to market pressure.

Michael Soenen: CEO, FTD.com. Made mistakes and learned lessons on how to build profitable dot-com; openly shared knowledge and insight.

Juergen Stark: Chairman and CEO, Centerpost. Partnered with old economy firms such as Motorola and United Airlines to launch an integrated wireless messaging system.

Tim Stojka: Co-founder and former CEO, Commerx. Rode the wave of Internet hype, raised \$50 million for online exchange. Firm failed IPO bid and reinvented model while facing an uncertain future.

Randy Storch: Co-founder and CEO, OpenPort Technology. Veteran entrepreneur raised and burned \$28 million to lead one of the most spectacular new economy failures.

Mark Tebbe: Chairman and founder, Lante Corp. Poster boy for devaluation of early-year

Internet riches: personal net worth fell to around \$45 million from \$1.5 billion at the height of hype. Avid angel investor and mentor with local start-ups.

Tom Thornton: Partner, divine interVentures Inc. Big dealmaker at city's largest incubator. Made lots of deals early in the year and cleaned them up later in the year.

David Tolmie: Former CEO, Yesmail.com. Made millions during Internet tech bubble, having sold his company to CMGI before the devaluation. Resigned in December.

Howard Tulman: CEO, Xceed. Flamboyant and outspoken figure; likes to educate entrepreneurs. Tulman sold Tunes.com to eMusic before the bubble burst and took on turnaround of Xceed.

David Weinstein: Chair and former CEO, BlueMeteor. Despite having a tough time jumping from the public to private sector, raised millions for BlueMeteor and set stage for company transition to a new business model.

Al Wasserberger: CEO, Spirian Technologies. Reinvented company as ASP while attracting new venture investments and national network of high-net-worth contacts to help other Chicago startups.

David Wang. Executive VP of strategy and technology operations, First Genetic Trust. Former Motorola R&D-meister led genomic security company on the cutting edge of biotech.

Philip Airey, CEO of Ourhouse.com, established an early bricks-and-clicks model with Ace Hardware. David Baker, vice president of external affairs at IIT, established the city's first incubator. Ellen Carnahan, managing director at William Blair & Co., had a leading role in divine interVentures' IPO. Bob Bernard, CEO of marchFirst, saw his company face extinction until a \$150 million cash infusion. Robert Blackwell, founder and CEO of Blackwell Consulting Services Inc., has been active in the community and has helped others succeed. See related story page 54.

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