



I am The **ROCK**

Thom Cobb

JOB: Associate professor of dance, focusing on dance education. Over the years, I have served as artistic director of SRU Dance Theatre and SRU Tour Group and choreographed and performed dances in the department of dance. I have choreographed musicals, operas and dramatic plays for the departments of music and theatre as well.

JOINED SRU: 1978.

BACKGROUND: I grew up in Colfax, Ill., population 850. This little town provided me with a great education and opportunities to do sports, plays and musicals, play in the band and sing in the chorus. I knew from an early age I would teach but didn't discover this wonderful thing called 'dance' until attending Illinois State University, where I received my bachelor's degree in music and my master's degree in dance.

INTERESTS: I love to travel, especially with my wife, Christine. I love to spend time with my aunt and uncle back in Illinois. I am also a die-hard NASCAR fan since my nephew is a mechanic and jack man for the #17 Crown Royal Ford driven by Matt Kenseth.

PERSON I WOULD MOST LIKE TO HAVE DINNER WITH: The late Bob Fosse and Gwen Verdon – they were 'all that jazz.'

WHY I WORK AT THE ROCK: I came here with the idea of teaching four or five years and then moving on. However, I fell in love with the people, the place and saw the future for personal growth and a future for dance at SRU. The atmosphere and mutual respect among my colleagues is so deeply appreciated. Our students are the best.

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