

# Ryan Pegler

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## EDUCATION

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign:** Gies College of Business

*Expected Graduation: May 2026*

*Bachelor of Science in Finance and Information Systems*

**GPA: 3.66/4.00**

**Bocconi University:** Milan, Italy

*January 2025 – May 2025*

*Exchange Program: Finance, Technology, and Management Courses*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### OpenField

**Chicago, Illinois**

*Founder | CEO*

*June 2025-Present*

- Developed a platform to connect underrepresented collegiate athletes with local businesses for personalized NIL deals
- Built and maintained 150+ strategic relationships with clients, leveraging data insights to drive athlete exposure
- Budgeted, forecasted, and processed payouts for athletes and businesses, ensuring 100% financial accuracy

### Prairie Road Partners

**Chicago, Illinois**

*Investment Analyst Intern*

*May 2024-August 2024*

- Executed deal sourcing and proprietary review for 1,000+ companies, leveraging Excel to identify acquisition targets
- Produced 30+ detailed reports leading to actionable insights and strategic recommendations for healthcare acquisitions
- Conducted in-depth market research across multiple sectors, presenting findings that informed investment decisions

### Illini Blockchain

**Champaign, Illinois**

*Investment Analyst*

*January 2024-Present*

- Analyzed blockchain-based assets and decentralized finance projects, identifying high-growth investment opportunities
- Developed and presented 10+ research reports on emerging technologies, providing insights into their market impacts
- Engaged in a comprehensive bootcamp process focused on DeFi fundamentals and their real-world applications

## LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

### Illinois Sports Consulting Agency

**Champaign, Illinois**

*Consultant*

*January 2024-May 2024*

- Conducted market analysis for a local sports business and proposed strategies which projected 15% sales growth
- Presented actionable data insights to enhance brand visibility and identify cost efficiencies of 5%

### HEDGE: Equities, Options, and Alternatives

**Champaign, Illinois**

*Analyst*

*January 2024-May 2024*

- Analyzed equities and derivatives data to gain practical insights into real-world asset performance
- Engaged in weekly interactive lessons on equity valuation, financial markets, and portfolio optimization

### Investment Portfolio Organization

**Champaign, Illinois**

*Investment Analyst*

*October 2023-December 2023*

- Selected into premier finance organization to participate in weekly lessons involving professional development, accounting, investment strategies, and company valuation methodologies to enhance investment portfolio management skills
- Delivered weekly market updates and a final stock pitch to faculty while managing a 2<sup>nd</sup>-ranked investment portfolio

### Kappa Delta Rho - ETA Chapter

**Champaign, Illinois**

*Treasurer | Social Chair*

*September 2022-May 2024*

- Re-founded chapter by leading networking events and recruiting 32 members in first year on campus
- Managed a \$10,000+ annual budget while organizing and budgeting for 30+ fraternity events

### Special Olympics Illinois

**Villa Park, Illinois**

*Volunteer*

*November 2021-February 2022*

- Coached 20+ participants and officiated games for Special Olympics basketball team, prioritizing their well-being

## PROJECTS

### Fundamental

**Chicago, Illinois**

*Developer*

*August 2025*

- Built a simplified AI-powered investment platform that tailors stock selections based on personalized market sentiment

### Upside

**Champaign, Illinois**

*Developer | Data Analyst*

*April 2024*

- Developed an immersive data-driven model that accurately evaluates draft prospects using machine learning

## SKILLS & INTERESTS

**Key Skills:** Market Research - Data Analysis - Microsoft Suite - Python - SQL - Financial Modeling - Leadership

**Career Interests:** Investment Management - Asset Management - Data Analytics - FinTech - Quantitative Finance

**Other Interests:** Basketball - Football - Soccer - Baseball - Golf - Travel - Movies - Coaching