On the cover: Francisco Flores ’79, president of El Salvador, is congratulated by University President Walter Harrison at Commencement ceremonies on May 14. For full coverage of the day’s festivities, see pages 17–23.
Elsewhere in The Observer David Isgrur describes vividly the University delegation’s trip to Israel to meet Pope John Paul II, among other things.

On Friday morning, March 24, just before I left my hotel to meet the pope, I received an e-mail message from my friend, Craig Franz. Craig is a Christian Brother and president of St. Mary’s College in California.

Here’s what he wrote:

“Sure. I dedicate my entire life to the Catholic Church. I take demanding vows and live austerely in monasteries. I get up early in the morning for pre-dawn prayers in cold chapels. I do all this, and the Jewish kid from Connecticut is the one picked to go visit the pope in the Holy Land. Where is there justice in the world?”

Brother Craig’s kidding aside, late March was a very moving time for a Jew to be in Israel. Our trip took us there, with representatives from other schools involved in a multi-university consortium to excavate the ruins of Bethsaida, a fishing village on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee. We toured a number of ancient sites associated with Judaism, Christianity, and Islam; we presented the pope with a replica of an ancient key found at Bethsaida; and we spent some time at Bethsaida itself, unveiling a plaque that lists the names of the 17 universities in the consortium.

In a very moving way, our trip to Israel mirrored the pope’s trip, and what we saw echoed his clearly articulated goals of bringing Jews, Christians, and Muslims together in this badly divided area of the world. We not only visited a number of the places the pope visited, we also were doing so at a time when his visit and his vision for a world of forgiveness and peace offer a window of hope for this region and our world.

It is hard to describe the enormous historical and contemporary tensions one feels in this ancient and holy country. Jerusalem itself is the most striking example. The Western Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and the Dome of the Rock—three of the holiest places for Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—are located in an area no larger than the University of Hartford campus. They have coexisted (uneasily, to be sure) for almost two centuries, each in its own right a destination for pilgrims from all over the world. Both our delegation and the pope are now among those pilgrims.

We also visited Yad Vashem, Israel’s Holocaust memorial, the day before the pope visited there and expressed his deep sorrow about the ghastly destruction that the Holocaust brought to six million Jews. No one can visit Yad Vashem without being deeply moved and without understanding why Israel came to exist as a safe haven for Jews, a country they could call their own.

At Bethlehem University, one of the leading Palestinian universities, we saw another story of a dispossessed people. But at Bethlehem University I saw hope for the region—the optimism and the opportunity for its young people to lead their lives productively and in peace. I saw this also in the faces of the Christian youth who had come from all over the world to worship with the pope, and in the faces of Israeli youth who are working hard to keep their country stable and free.

Strangely and movingly, I saw this at Bethsaida, which we visited on the last day of our trip. Richard Freund, director of the University’s Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies, and his Israeli colleague Rami Arav, now a professor at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, have led this archaeological excavation for almost 15 years now. Bethsaida, lost for almost two centuries, was the home of Jesus’ disciples who were fishermen, most notably St. Peter. There is wonderful irony in a Jewish historian and a Jewish archaeologist leading the effort to unearth an ancient town of central importance to Christianity, where Jesus performed many of his miracles. There at Bethsaida we could see homes that the disciples knew and a street they and Jesus walked down.

But Bethsaida is not only historical; it is also the site of contemporary tension. Located on what was until 1967 the border between Israel and Syria, its future is now in the hands of the Israelis and Syrians, who are beginning to talk about a negotiated settlement in the Golan Heights. On the very hour of the very day we visited Bethsaida, President Clinton and President Assad of Syria were meeting in Geneva to try to begin those talks. Now in Israeli-controlled territory, it may or may not stay that way if a peace treaty is negotiated.

This is not an empty question. We saw at Bethsaida clear evidence of the last time it was in Syrian hands—bunkers and gun locations that the Syrians had built right into the ruins, then simply an unexcavated mound. In the hometown of Jesus’ disciples, at a site where Jesus performed miracles, the Syrians had waged war as recently as 33 years ago.

I returned from this trip with hope and not despair in my heart. Amid the ruins and pottery shards of Bethsaida, within the walls of some of the world’s holiest sites, and within the hearts of young people in Israel and throughout the world, I saw a hope for peace.

President Harrison and Regents Chairman Arnold C. Greenberg at the Bethsaida excavation.

Walter Harrison
Excerpts from recent e-mail and letters to The Observer

Melanie Cohen Scheibenpflug ’78 and Linda Gingell Wellins ’84 announce the formation of their new business, Connecticut Computer Assistants LLC, 1 Long Wharf Drive, New Haven, Conn. Connecticut Computer Assistants is a computer training and consulting firm offering services in various PC applications for corporations, small businesses, and individuals.

Although we didn’t know each other at the UofH, our similar career paths overlapped for several years, eventually bringing us together. The time was right for us to go out on our own and start our own company. We credit the UofH for fostering a strong math and computer interest in both of us.

Melanie Cohen Scheibenpflug ’78
Linda Gingell Wellins ’84

Warmest greetings to all the University of Hartford faculty and staff. I miss you all. I was graduated in 1991, and since I came back [to Malaysia], I’m always remembering all the memories. I still remember the lectures of Lewis N. Walker [former dean of engineering]. I miss him very much.

I am urging my sister to study there, but she is afraid. I need some advice from you....I hope you can help me.

Samali Mohamad Sharif
No. 56-1, Jalan 2/23A,
Taman Danau Kota
Off Jalan Genting Klang
Setapak
53300 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
noble00@tm.net.my

I am a former dean of the modern Hillyer College, called the College of Basic Studies when I led it in the 1980s. In my summer travels [last year], we were visiting friends in South Carolina, when they suggested (knowing that I am interested in railroads) that for my wife’s and my wedding anniversary, June 5, we take a ride on the restored railroad at the South Carolina Railroad Museum in Winnsboro, S.C.

Wouldn’t you know that when the train reached the end of its short run, the engine gave out! The conductor noticed my shirt, which had “Windsor, Ct.” written on it, and noted that he was quite familiar with the Springfield-Hartford area. But then, an older man, not in uniform, came up and said that he not only knew the area but was a graduate of the University of Hartford—the original Hillyer College, no less! He mentioned going in the ’40s, when it was related to the YMCA, and graduating in the class of 1955.

When my wife mentioned that I was a past dean of the more modern Hillyer, the talk came fast and furious, after we all had a good laugh at an unbelievable “one in a million” coincidence. His name is Ralph Kingsbury, and he lives in Columbia, S.C.

Arthur H. Auten
Professor of History
Former Hillyer/CBS Dean

Editor’s note: We have been in contact with Ralph E. Kingsbury ’55. He enjoys The Observer and wishes we could find some news from the Hillyer Class of ’42, a “close-knit group,” he says.

The Observer welcomes your comments, whether you wish to praise, criticize, or analyze, or simply to communicate with fellow alumni or warmly remembered faculty or staff. Our e-mail address: observer@mail.hartford.edu. Postal address: Letters to the Editor The Observer University of Hartford 200 Bloomfield Avenue West Hartford, CT 06117 Letters may be edited for space consideration.

Save the Date!
Homecoming and Parents Weekend
October 13, 14, 15, 2000
Watch for the weekend’s schedule in the next issue of The Observer.
New Provost Named

The University has named Donna M. Randall, an administrator at the University of Memphis, as its new provost. Randall, whose appointment was approved May 5 by the University’s board of regents, will assume her new post on July 24.

Currently interim senior vice provost and a professor of management at the University of Memphis, Randall said she is impressed by the “quality of the faculty and the outstanding leadership” at the University of Hartford. She sees “a wealth of opportunities and choices ahead” and looks forward to “helping the University realize its potential in the coming years.”

University President Walter Harrison noted that Randall was clearly the first choice of the search committee. “I think it is fair to say that she took the campus by storm during her visit,” he said. “She will bring a high level of scholarship, commitment, and energy to the position.”

Prior to being named the interim senior vice provost, Randall was dean of the Fogelman College of Business and Economics at the University of Memphis. She has been an active scholar throughout her career, focusing in four areas: business ethics and malfeasance, women in toxic work environments, organizational commitment and work motivation, and international values and ethics. Her research has received recognition at the national Academy of Management Meetings. She has been actively involved in the Memphis community, serving on several boards and working on economic development initiatives.

Randall was selected as the UofH chief academic officer following a national search process that saw four finalists visit the campus in early April. Thirteen candidates had been interviewed by the members of the University’s search committee in mid-February, after the committee had reviewed résumés from more than 50 applicants.

She will succeed Elizabeth S. Ivey, who is retiring after five years as UofH provost and after more than four decades in higher education. Ivey’s numerous accomplishments include leading the development of the University’s Strategic Plan, spearheading an academic administrative reorganization of the University’s nine schools and colleges, and helping the University control costs by implementing a comprehensive program review process.

Randall earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Drake University and both a master’s degree and a Ph.D. in sociology from Washington State University. She also earned a master’s in business administration from Washington State University. She was a National Institute of Mental Health Fellow from 1981 to 1982 at WSU. During the summers of 1978 and 1979, Randall was a research assistant for the National Center on White-Collar Crime, Battelle Law and Justice Center, in Seattle.

Her husband, Paul Hagner, and her daughter, Kate, who will enter seventh grade in the fall, will join Randall in Hartford. Hagner is currently chair of the political science department at the University of Memphis and holds a National Learning Infrastructure Initiative Fellowship dealing with faculty engagement and support in new learning technologies.

Another Harrison on Campus

Larry Harrison has been named the eighth head coach in the history of the University’s men’s basketball program. Harrison, most recently assistant coach at DePaul University, has a reputation as one of the top recruiters in the nation. He was introduced at an April 20 press conference at the University’s Sports Center.

“We are very excited to be adding Larry to our staff,” said Pat Meiser-McKnett, director of athletics. “He has a history of winning at the highest level. I am very pleased with the qualities he will bring to our basketball program.”

Prior to his three-year tenure at DePaul under head coach Pat Kennedy, Harrison served for eight years as an assistant coach at the University of Cincinnati under head coach Bob Huggins. Harrison served his last four years at Cincinnati as the associate head coach and recruiting coordinator.

“I am very grateful to the University of Hartford for giving me the opportunity to begin my head coaching career,” Harrison said. “I am very impressed by the commitment being made by the administration to our basketball program. My goals are to be competitive in America East and to build a program capable of reaching the NCAA Tournament.”

Since 1989, Harrison’s teams have earned seven bids to the NCAAs and three NIT bids. During Harrison’s tenure, Cincinnati advanced to the Final Four once (1992) and the Elite Eight twice (1993, 1996).
On a bright and cloudless morning in May, small groups of educational and political leaders took turns donning hard hats and placing ceremonial gold shovels into a patch of soil on the southeast corner of campus. Fifteen months from now, the site where those shovels glistened in the spring sunshine will have been transformed into a brand-new building, filled with energetic children, with college students preparing for their life’s work, and with educators exhilarated by the opportunity to use innovative approaches to teaching and learning.

The event was the groundbreaking for the University of Hartford Magnet School, a ceremony marked by gratitude for those who laid the groundwork for the project over the course of more than seven years and by tangible excitement over the school’s potential impact on the future of education in Greater Hartford.

“I hope that the sunshine today is only a precursor for the sunshine that is going to fill so many children’s lives at this school,” said University President Walter Harrison. “This magnet school, and the teaching and learning that go on within it, will have a far-reaching effect on Greater Hartford and Connecticut.”

The magnet school is scheduled to open in the fall of 2001 on a site between East Hall (home of the Ward College of Technology) and the Watkinson School. Its students will come from Hartford and five surrounding communities—Avon, Farmington, Simsbury, West Hartford, and Wethersfield. The magnet school will serve 360 children in kindergarten through fifth grade and 36 three- and four-year-olds in an early childhood education center. The school also will offer a wide array of parental and community support services through a wellness/health center and a parenting support center.

The May 4 groundbreaking ceremony marked the beginning of construction on the $21.5-million, 76,000-square-foot facility. The ceremony was attended by dozens of people from the University, the State of Connecticut, the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC), the City of Hartford, and the five other municipalities that are partners in the magnet school. The school is being funded by the state and will be managed by CREC.

In addition to bringing together students from diverse neighborhoods and cultures, the magnet school will implement an innovative approach to teach children. The school’s curriculum will be based on the “theory of multiple intelligences” developed by renowned Harvard University psychologist Howard E. Gardner. The theory recognizes that students learn in many ways other than the traditional, linear-logic approach taken in most classrooms. This diversified view of intelligence will encourage students to learn in the ways that best suit them as individuals, allowing them to display their true talents. Gardner received an honorary degree at this year’s commencement ceremony on May 14 (see page 20).

“This school was created out of a vision of a unique learning community that would reflect the rich and diverse cultures and communities of the greater—- right: Nicole Dean, a University of Hartford student majoring in early childhood education; David Caruso, dean of the University’s College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions; Briana Gracon, a University student majoring in elementary education; State Rep. Demetrios Giannaros (D-Farmington), UofH economics professor; Marcia Yulo, executive director of the Capitol Region Education Council; State Rep. Barnaby Horton (D-Hartford); 7-week-old Carter Wells Horton (whom University President Walter Harrison declared the magnet school’s “first applicant”); and Harrison.
Hartford region, and that would enhance student learning through an innovative curriculum designed to provide mastery of basic skills while also enhancing the full range of students’ diverse abilities and talents,” said David Caruso, dean of the University’s College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions (ENHP).

The magnet school will also provide a “learning laboratory” on the UofH campus for students preparing for careers in education, music education, allied health fields, nursing, school psychology, counseling, educational leadership, and many other professions, Caruso said.

Among those who took part in the groundbreaking ceremony were two ENHP sophomores who will be seniors when the magnet school opens, and who may have an opportunity to do student teaching or internships in the new school.

“This school will provide all kinds of children from a variety of communities with the chance to explore their many intelligences and talents. [It] will also help me and other future educators to recognize the multiple intelligences in students,” said Nicole Dean, an early childhood education major.

The magnet school is just the latest project in the University’s ongoing efforts to serve as a valuable resource to its neighbors, President Harrison said.

“The University of Hartford Magnet School is a concrete representation of the University’s commitment to its communities,” Harrison said. “I hope over the years the school will come to represent the best of regional cooperation, and will become a leader in the education of our young people and in regional planning.”

Connecticut Education Commissioner Theodore S. Sergi described the magnet school as “a great symbol of cross-town cooperation, with the University at its center.” But he warned representatives of the six participating school districts that the school’s success depends on their ability to work together and to ensure that students from each of their communities participate.

“I challenge you to demonstrate to the young people of the region that communities in Greater Hartford can work together,” Sergi said. “No youngster in this state is educated on an island.”

Marcia Yulo, executive director of CREC, said that magnet schools are places of both opportunity and promise: “the opportunity to create schools from scratch and try out new ideas to enhance student learning,” and “the promise of high achievement for all students.”

“It’s a place to dream, it’s a place to try out new ideas, and it’s a place to bring everything together for the benefit of students,” Yulo said.
The Winter 1999 issue of *The Observer* featured nine students from the class of 2003, one from each of the University’s nine schools and colleges. To tell the ongoing story of their lives, *The Observer* will periodically visit with each of them during their four years at the UofH.

In this issue, two of the nine describe their first year as college students. John Garry of Waterbury, Conn., is an elementary education major in the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions, and Erica Geller of Cherry Hill, N.J., is a vocal music education major at The Hartt School. For both students, it has been a good year, with a few glitches.

“The first semester went well,” John said. “I was not as focused the second semester, and during spring break I realized I had a lot of work to do, so I decided to get to it.” He also stopped running with the UofH cross-country team late in the semester to allow more time to study. “I needed to readjust my schedule, but I will run again next year.”

His focus on academics may also have been affected by the doubts about his major that crept into his thoughts at one point. “But I still want to work with kids,” said John. “Education is where I want to be—the question is, what part of it. This year, I worked with kindergarten kids, and they seemed so young. Next year, I will be working as a teacher’s aide in local schools, and I will move up a grade or two. I think I prefer working with older children.”

Because he is from Waterbury, John has had to deal with a question faced by many “local” students—whether to develop an on-campus life. He did that, going home only twice each semester and widening his circle of friends through work-study and basketball.

“I tried to keep busy so I didn’t think about how stressed out I was at times,” said John. “I’ve been getting up early to lift weights, go for a run, and play basketball.” Without a car, he goes off campus when he can, even walking to Bishop’s Corner to get his hair cut.

John will stay busy this summer. He joined the Red Caps, a volunteer student organization that assists with campus visitation and orientation programs. He worked during Orientation Week in May and will do so again during the one leading into the fall semester. This summer, for the third year in a row, he will work as a counselor at a Waterbury day camp run by one of his high school teachers. The camp is for children ages five through 12.

Like John, one of Erica’s semesters was more challenging than the other; in her case, the first semester. “I really had no idea what to expect at first; I was just hoping for the best,” she said. “I was a little homesick and I called my mother a lot, but it was just me being paranoid and silly. I also talked to my older sister, Meryl [a graduate student in physical therapy at Temple University]. We had heart-to-heart talks, and she made me feel like I was normal. She had gone through the same thing.

“I started to come out of my shell in the second semester, and now I feel like I belong here. It takes a while to establish friendships, but I overcame the social challenges and matured as a person. I knew a few people from my hometown here at first, but all my friends now are new.”

Erica’s social activities included joining Hillel, the Jewish student group; the Hartt Choir; and helping to form a singing group of music education majors. She also joined the Music Education Association, and went to its national conference in Washington, D.C., in the spring. When there’s time, she goes to campus parties.

“I have always managed my schedule well and kept my grades up, so I find myself with extra time,” said Erica. “The first semester, I made the President’s List and also began to work out at the Sports Center almost every day.”

She finds her music courses inspiring. “I have learned a lot, and the things I already knew have been strengthened. The courses are great, and every professor knows my name. My goal is still to teach music to young children.”

Summing up her first college year, Erica said, “[I] definitely had my ups and downs, but I feel good now. There were a lot more ups than downs. Everything has turned out just fine.”
Seeing the Scientific Light

The visual imagery of chemistry is now easily accessible to students at the University, thanks to a computer program created by Michael Rooke, assistant professor of chemistry, and his student Stewart Mader, a junior majoring in chemistry, in the College of Arts and Sciences. Called Web-based Spectroscopy Education, the site, <http://chemistry.hartford.edu/spectroscopy>, allows students to view spectroscopy, or the study of light and how it is used in science, as it is applied in the real world. “People take spectroscopy for granted,” said Rooke. “It is used in many ways, such as during MRI examinations and when using microwave ovens.”

Funding for the project came from the NASA Space Grant Consortium. Rooke’s and Mader’s grant proposal was related to the space mission. “Spectroscopy is fundamental to all sciences,” said Rooke. “We noted how it is used in the Hubble Telescope and Global Surveyor programs.”

“The site serves several purposes,” said Mader. “It uses modern techniques to teach chemistry the way it will be taught in the future, going beyond the traditional chalk-and-textbook approach. Students can work on problems visually any time they have access to a computer, and you get instant feedback on an answer.”

The site is divided into five sections: applications, exercises (practice chemistry problems for students), theory (definition and use of light in science), techniques (using five fundamental spectroscopic instruments), and education (how spectroscopy is used at UofH). There is also an instrument guide section containing step-by-step instructions for all instruments in the UofH chemistry labs. “We are still expanding the site, and it now shows some instruments not even owned by our department,” said Rooke.

Rooke likes the site because it helps him organize his information and update it easily and quickly. The students like it, too. “Our upper-level students really liked the program, and the lower-level ones sought it out on their own,” said Rooke. “Due to the interest sparked by this site, some students are considering choosing chemistry as a major here at the University.”

Rooke says interest in the site has come from beyond the University as well. He and Mader presented the project at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society in San Francisco in March, and “a number of schools asked for our address to get this program. We can share this information with other schools, and build on that,” said Rooke.

Spectroscopy on View. Stewart Mader was one of 15 students to make a presentation at the annual Undergraduate Research Colloquium, sponsored by the University Honors Program. The students chosen for the program “are among our best and brightest,” according to Honors Director Lynne Kelly. Here Mader displays the main Web site for his Spectroscopy Education project.

Amanda Boehmer, a fourth-year student at The Hartt School with a double major in clarinet performance and performing arts management and a minor in business, was elected vice president of the national board of the Music and Entertainment Industry Student Association (MEISA) at the organization’s national convention in Chico, Calif., in late March. Amanda serves locally as the president of Hartt’s MEISA chapter, as vice president of the Hartt Student Council, and is a member of Alpha Chi honor society.

MEISA is a united, global organization of students working to foster a higher level of education for music students as they enter the music and entertainment industries. The MEISA national board strives to assist its local chapters all over the country.

Boehmer, who will begin her final year at Hartt next September, earned an associate’s degree in business administration at Massasoit Community College in her hometown of West Bridgewater, Mass. A focused musician with a head for business, she says she has “always craved music and a professional business atmosphere,” making the entertainment industry a perfect match. “Ideally,” she says, “I would like to work as a concert promoter or an artist manager.” She has worked in the Hartt School’s Community Division as manager of the Greater Hartford Youth Wind Ensemble; at Camp Encore Coda, a summer music camp, as an associate music coordinator; and as a liaison between The Hartt School and the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. After she finishes her degree at Hartt, she would like to pursue a master’s degree in music business with a concentration in entertainment law.
Artist and Teacher

Jeremiah Patterson, far right, was joined by his wife, Julie, and fellow Hartford Art School faculty member Fred Wessel, professor of printmaking, at his Master of Fine Arts exhibition, held at the Hartford Art School’s Taub Gallery in March. Patterson recently accepted a position as an assistant professor of foundations at the Art School. Though his principal love is painting, Jeremiah discovered he also loved to teach while helping his father, William Patterson, an alumnus of the Hartford Art School (’65) and professor of printmaking at the University of Massachusetts, and Wessel teach painting workshops in Italy in the summer of 1995. Wessel was a student of the elder Patterson at Syracuse University.

“Teaching filled something inside,” says Jeremiah. “I made the connection that being able to make art and to teach it makes a nice marriage.” While he considers himself a realist as a painter, Jeremiah envisions all of his paintings in the abstract. “When I create a piece, I draw it in my head, find models to fill the space created by the abstract ideas, and then paint them,” said Patterson. “It is a constant process of coming up with a need and then fulfilling it.”

A Room with Many Views

Internationally known sculptor Jene Highstein stands inside his Room with Ten Doors installation at the Joseloff Gallery. The room was a model for a large-scale sculpture that would be three to five times larger. Highstein said the work represents his continued involvement over two decades with a vocabulary of forms that share an affinity with the natural landscape as well as architecture. Highstein’s sculpture has been the subject of more than 100 one-person and group exhibitions throughout the United States and abroad.

Each scene as viewed through the doorways and the open roof of the Jene Highstein installation Room with Ten Doors is different and fluid. The exhibition at the Joseloff Gallery, which ran from April 12 to May 31, was composed of two separate yet related pieces—a wall 35 feet long by 10 feet high and a small passageway leading to the elliptically shaped, stucco-walled room measuring 7 feet tall by 24 feet long. Highstein said the two structures are linked by scale and the transformation of space.
Separating Fact from Fiction
by Dana Ulman ’00

A Pulitzer Prize–winning writer for The Baltimore Sun raised concerns about the effects of new technology on the future of print media in a visit to campus on April 18.

Alice Steinbach, who appeared under the aegis of the Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellows program, visited English Prof. John Roderick's Magazine Journalism class and later that evening delivered a Humanities Center lecture.

In her lecture Steinbach expressed concern about the potentially harmful effects of the Internet on the delivery and shaping of news today. “The problem is that rumor becomes fact, and it never used to,” she said, because online reporters do not do careful fact gathering. She is also concerned about the emergence of 24-hour cable news shows, talk radio, and chat rooms, which are increasingly becoming the major sources of news for many people.

Baruch Sachs, a humanities seminar student, challenged those fears. “You’d have to be a real idiot to believe everything you see in a chat room,” he said.

“You’re saying there are no idiots in this room?” Steinbach countered.

“I don’t agree with her,” Sachs said later. “I don’t think she fully understands what the Internet is about and the opportunities it could afford a lot of people.”

David Long, another humanities seminar student, did agree with many of Steinbach’s points. People need to be more aware, he said, and to think independently and to question what they hear; that will be the key to the future success of Internet and online news outlets.

Steinbach said it is difficult for her to consider the new breed of “presenters” as journalists. We need smart reporters who do not care only about breaking the news; they should care about getting the news. Breaking news is never the story, she said. “What you’re getting is not news; it is speculation.”

The picture Steinbach painted was not entirely bleak. She did hold out hope that new journalists will “step up to the plate” and challenge the way news reporting is done today.

Earlier in the day, addressing students in the Magazine Journalism class, she described the delicate balance that magazine writers need to attain between objectivity and interpretation.

She gave four tips that one should keep in mind when writing for magazines: tell a story, write in scenes, move the action along, and find your own voice.

With eyes lit up and a big smile, Steinbach talked about her Pulitzer Prize–winning feature, “A Boy of Unusual Vision,” about a blind boy and what he needed to overcome to be like any other child.

“Sometimes the best stuff you get in an interview is the stuff [the interviewees] don’t think relates at all to the interview,” she said. She cited James Agee and E. B. White as major influences on her writing, influences who may also be responsible for what she termed one of her faults: a tendency to stray in her writing by injecting little pieces of herself.

Steinbach had no background in journalism when she started to write. An art history major in college, she began writing a monthly newspaper for the Baltimore Museum of Art. Her work at The Baltimore Sun was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing in 1985. Later, she was appointed the 1998–1999 McGraw Professor of Writing at Princeton University. Her first book, Without Reservations: The Travels of an Independent Woman, has just been published by Random House.

Dana Ulman, a communication major, graduated from the College of Arts and Sciences in May with a bachelor of arts degree.

The Brand:NEW and the Established

Academy and Emmy Award–winning playwright Horton Foote, left, received an honorary Doctor of Letters from the University of Hartford in a ceremony at the Hartford Stage Company on March 18. The presentation was part of the Stage Company’s Brand:NEW Festival of new plays and workshops. With Foote is University Life Regent Belle Ribicoff. Foote, a native of southeastern Texas, read from his latest work-in-progress. His eloquent and thought-provoking dramas have touched millions of people through theater, film, and television for more than five decades.
Birthright Israel

Seventeen University of Hartford students participated during the winter break in Birthright Israel. Created by noted philanthropists Charles R. Bronfman and Michael Steinhardt, Birthright Israel was established as a worldwide initiative to fund visits to Israel for Jewish youth. The UofH students were among 40 students from Connecticut out of a total of 4,000 United States participants.

The adventure took the students from Masada to Old Jaffa, the Golan Heights, Jerusalem, and Tel Aviv.

“Masada, the Dead Sea, and the Wailing Wall were the three places that had the most influence on me, in terms of both religion and aesthetics,” says Deborah Levine, a 22-year-old graduate student from Wethersfield, Conn. “On top of Masada, we had to sit there and just listened to the sounds…. It was really peaceful and spiritual. A lot of us didn’t want to end that exercise.”

Moments like these rekindled the students interest in their Jewish heritage and spirituality. David Terdiman, director of Hillel at UofH, noted, “It’s the type of trip you dream of for your students. It was fantastic, phenomenal, exhausting. It was a life-changing, amazing 10 days.”

Peer Education Honor

An AIDS vigil, sponsored by the University’s Network for Peer Educators, received an award for best campus program in New England at the BACCHUS and GAMMA Peer Education Network Regional Conference on Feb. 27 at Worcester College in Massachusetts.

The vigil, held on World AIDS Day last Dec. 1, was a collaborative effort funded in part by the Mosaic Initiative, a special program of the Student Government Association. Groups receive a $500 grant if they collaborate with three or more student organizations on a campus event. In this case, the Network worked with Hillel, the foundation for Jewish campus life; the Women’s Center; and Spectrum, the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender student organization.

With the proceeds from the Mosaic Initiative, the groups bought 432 condom “roses” to distribute in Gengras Student Union. Through AIDS Project Hartford, guest speaker Brian Libert talked about living with the AIDS virus and teaching others about it. University President Walter Harrison spoke about his own experience of losing a friend to AIDS.

The Network’s award is an extra-special triumph because its entry was chosen not just from AIDS programs but from New England programs with a wide range of topics. Said Rosalyn Dischiavo, the Network’s advisor, “It is an award for best program in anything. We won because we involved the most number of students. It was truly a campus event.”

The Network Peer Educators is a group of students from all over campus who focus on the wellness, expression, passion, and life of other students on campus. The group has sponsored other programs, such as Safe Sex Awareness Week, Sexual Assault Awareness Week, Take Back the Night, and the Mocktails Contest held during Alcohol Awareness Week. It has created and distributed “safe-break kits” for spring break as well as information on drunken driving and alcoholism.
Engineering Success

Saturday, April 8, proved to be most successful for two groups of College of Engineering students.

Trisha Marks, Adan Babb, and Ghaith Hammouri, three freshmen Tau Beta Pi (national engineering honor society) members, won a competition that day in Boston in which participants had to design a 100-watt, solar-powered radio transmitter. The competition, sponsored by General Electric, pitted UofH students against 16 other New England Tau Beta Pi chapters, including those from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston University, and Northeastern. “It felt so good to win,” Hammouri said, adding that it was gratifying to beat such schools. Marks, Babb, and Hammouri will share the $500 prize awarded to them by General Electric.

While the freshmen were in Boston, another team of UofH engineering students was vying for a prize on campus. Kevin Connolly and John Koinski, both juniors majoring in mechanical engineering; Tony Waslaski, a junior majoring in electrical engineering; and Amanda Yarlett, a senior majoring in mechanical engineering, were competing in the Regional Student Conference of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, held the same Saturday at the University of Hartford. The team designed and built an automated device that could grab a bottle, flip it over, fill it without spilling, cap it, and then aim it toward its target. The University’s team of four competed against 85 students from all over the Northeast, including teams from the University of Connecticut, Northeastern, University of New Hampshire, Boston University, and University of Vermont. As a result of winning this competition, the UofH engineers qualified to take part in the national competition that will be held next November in Orlando, Fla.

Back to Nature

University students, faculty, and administrators gathered with their counterparts from Hartford’s Annie Fisher Elementary School, Weaver High School, and Watkinson School to celebrate the opening of the Greater Hartford Urban Outdoor Classroom, a series of nature trails that will be an important environmental education resource for the schools. The construction and development of the trails was coordinated by the Eastern CT Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D), with funding arranged by state Rep. Ken Green. The urban outdoor classroom project, which will have more than 50 learning stations to highlight various habitats along the north branch of the Park River, is aimed at bringing together students from public and private schools, from the elementary to the university level, to share this unique environment. Below: John Carson ’65, senior advisor, corporate and community relations at UofH, far left; state Rep. Ken Green (D-Hartford), second from left; Vivien Richardson, principal, Annie Fisher School, second from right; and Sandra Kee Borges, Hartford city manager, far right, were joined by Hartford Mayor Mike Peters, state Rep. Barnaby Horton (D-Hartford), students and friends at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the classroom on April 14.
On Sunday evening, March 19, 2000, David Isgur, assistant executive director of the University’s Office of Communications, flew to Israel with a group of about 65 travelers connected to the Bethsaida Excavations Project, an archaeological site that dates back to the time of Jesus. The group from the University of Hartford, the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and other institutions toured the Holy Land at the time of Pope John Paul II’s historic visit. Delegates from the University included President Walter Harrison, second from right; Arnold C. Greenberg, chairman of the board of regents, right; and Professor Richard Freund, director of the Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies. During an audience with the pope on March 24, the University delegation presented the pontiff with a replica of an iron door key found at the Bethsaida archaeological site. Isgur’s report follows.
Bethsaida, a city by the north shore of the Sea of Galilee, is one of the most important sites in the history of early Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism. It is recognized as the home of many of the major apostles, including Peter, Philip, and Andrew, and as the place where Jesus performed many of the New Testament miracles, such as restoring sight to a blind man, walking on water, and feeding the multitudes. Bethsaida disappeared sometime after A.D. 300, apparently the victim of a major earthquake and catastrophic flood. In 1987, a team of archaeologists, scientists, and biblical scholars, led by Professor Richard Freund, now of the University of Hartford, and Professor Rami Arav of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, began a series of probes and excavations that proved the site was indeed the lost city.

Our group’s introduction to Bethsaida came near the end of our week, on the evening of Friday, March 24, and coincided with Pope John Paul II’s visit to the site…sort of. As part of his history-making tour of the Holy Land, the pontiff was scheduled to fly over Bethsaida in his helicopter, while we stood below and waved up at him. Despite the cold and rain, about 50 of our group stood outside, shivering and wet, and waited excitedly, straining to catch a glimpse of the helicopter in the night sky.

A bank of lights placed near the city gates had been brought in to record the pope’s arrival, and eventually he did fly over. But for me, the most memorable moment had already passed by. While we all waited, it occurred to me that here I was, standing on the stones where the apostles had walked, perhaps even touching the same walls. At that moment, I could truly understand the importance of the excavation and restoration. History and significance emanated from every rock, especially at night, when much of the site was lit only by oil lamps.

Then again, this trip would turn out to be full of special moments. Our little band from the University had begun its grand adventure at Bradley International Airport, where our mounting excitement kept us from even sitting down. From Hartford, we flew to O’Hare Airport in Chicago, where we met our counterparts from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. It was there that Amy Hecht of the Greenberg Center showed us the two replicas of the Key to the Fisherman’s House, heightening our sense that we were on an important mission. From Chicago we flew on to Frankfurt, Germany, and then finally to Tel Aviv.

During our seven days in Israel, we had a pair of extraordinary tour guides: Richard Freund and Rami Arav, two scholars who have dedicated their lives to exploring the history of this land. Our itinerary was designed to cram as many experiences as possible into our week. For example, we awoke on Wednesday, March 22, and began the day with an early bus trip to Yad Vashem, a memorial to the victims of the Shoah. More and more Jews are rejecting the term Holocaust, a theological word for “holy burning,” and adopting Shoah, which means “a total destruction that occurs for no apparent reason.” I found myself in tears twice at Yad Vashem, along with others in our group who were deeply moved.

From Yad Vashem, we traveled to the Bible Lands Museum in Jerusalem. In the museum cafeteria we had our first real hamantashchen, a traditional treat for Purim, a two-day holiday in March celebrating the uncovering of a plot to destroy the Jews of ancient Persia and the punishment of the man responsible. Hamantashchen are tricorned pastries filled with dates, prunes, or apricots, my favorite.

Driving south into the desert, we reached the ruins of Masada by the middle of the afternoon and had a couple of hours to explore. Masada is the site of one of the most poignant stories in Jewish history. The desert outpost of a group of Jewish rebels, Masada had withstood a Roman siege in approximately A.D. 70 for over a year. When the rebels realized that the Roman army was about to storm the outpost, they drew lots. The 10 that were chosen killed the others and then turned their swords on themselves, leaving the Romans with an empty victory.

On the return trip, we stopped on the shore of the Dead Sea, where some of us could not resist the experience of wading in the lake. Because the Dead Sea is so full of salt and other minerals, its buoyancy is greatly enhanced. The Jordan River, which feeds the lake, is being siphoned off by Israelis and Jordanians for irrigation and other purposes. If this practice continues, the Dead Sea may well be dried up in 100 years. By the time we arrived back at our hotel that evening, we were on sensory overload.

From our visit to the Western Wall and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on our first day to our trip into the Golan Heights the following Saturday, our days were filled with special moments. We watched people line up to be baptized in the Jordan River. We touched a Syrian tank that had been left in front of a kibbutz as a reminder of the Six-Day War. We were scolded by priests at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem because our tour guide had taken us in via the exit door. I prayed with a couple of Hasidic Jews at the...
Looking over the ancient Jewish rebel stronghold of Masada from the structure that was once part of King Herod’s palace on top of this desert plateau are from left, Dianne Harrison, Margy Steinberg, Arnold C. Greenberg, Walter Harrison and Patricia Cremins. Greenberg, chairman of the board of regents, said he has been to Israel many times, but this one was special because of the historical and spiritual significance of the papal visit. “Seeing the pope’s sermon on the Mount of Beatitudes, being part of the papal delegation, being close enough to touch him, and having all that happen in Galilee, which is so rich in history and so very near Bethsaida itself,” made this a most memorable trip for Greenberg.

On the evening of Tuesday, March 21, we attended a dance performance at the Shrine of the Book, a museum in Jerusalem dedicated to the Dead Sea Scrolls. The theater-in-the-round performance of “From the Profane to the Sacred: The Judean Desert Community” marked the first time that such a performance had taken place at the museum. This wonderful and exciting evening was presented for us alone.

And we had moments of humor; among them, seeing President Harrison and Chairman Greenberg in togas and laurel wreaths and Professor Freund in a Roman helmet with sword in hand, as they sat down for lunch earlier that same day. Because the Cardo Culinaria restaurant is located above the ruins of an ancient Roman building, its owner decided to replicate the first-century Roman dining experience for his patrons. As a result, each diner is either wrapped in a toga with a wreath on his or her head or dressed as a Roman legionnaire with a red-plumed, golden helmet. At one point, Nancy O’Brien, chair of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Board of Regents, was placed on a fainting couch, fanned with feathers, and given a foot massage with ancient oils. In addition, our waitstaff provided storytelling and dancing.

Rising before dawn on Friday, members of our group who were attending the papal mass at the Mount of Beatitudes were out of the hotel by 4:30 a.m. President Harrison, Chairman Greenberg, and Professor Freund stayed behind in order to leave at 1 p.m. for their private audience with the pope (see “Key to the Kingdom”). That evening, we all met back at the hotel for dinner and to share stories about the events of the day.

On Sunday, March 26, our last day in Israel, we had our first sight of Bethsaida in the daylight. Under bright blue skies, we gathered for the dedication of a new stone sign near the entrance to the Bethsaida archaeological park. Freund, Greenberg, and Harrison proudly unveiled the sign and pointed out the name of the University of Hartford, newly added to the list of 16 colleges and universities involved in the project. Professor Arav then gave the group a tour of the site, describing what has been uncovered so far and talking about plans for the next round of excavations.

Earlier in the day, we had visited a museum on the Nof Ginosaur kibbutz that houses various archaeological discoveries from the area, including a first-century fishing boat sometimes referred to as the “Jesus boat.” In the basement of the museum are the labs where archaeological finds from Bethsaida are reconstructed.

So ended our seven extraordinary days in Israel, a land of intense contradictions. We had traveled from desert to lush and fertile valleys and from cities to nomadic Bedouin encampments. We had experienced the sacred and the irreverent, witnessed both humor and pathos, and encountered history and politics—and it was all part of the heady mix that is Israel.

Members of the group as they prepared to leave for their audience with the pope (left to right): Gary Hochman of Nebraska Educational TV; Nancy O’Brien, chair of the University of Nebraska’s board of regents; Thomas Gouttierre, dean of international studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha; UofH President Walter Harrison; Arnold C. Greenberg, chair of the UofH board of regents; Truman State University President Jack Magruder; Richard Freund, director of the Bethsaida Excavations Project; and Gerald Renner, religion writer for The Hartford Courant. (Not shown but also part of the delegation was Rami Arav, Freund’s partner in the Bethsaida Excavations Project.)
The pinnacle of the entire trip to Israel came when representatives of the Bethsaida Excavations Project presented Pope John Paul II with the “Key to the Kingdom”—a replica of an iron door key that was unearthed at Bethsaida, home of the apostles Peter, Andrew, and Philip. The presentation was part of an audience with the pontiff on Friday, March 24, during his historic visit to Israel.

The replica of what is known as the Key to the Fisherman’s House that was given to the pope was created by Thomas Bradley ’77, associate dean of the Hartford Art School at the University. The original artifact will remain in Israel under the protection of the Israeli Antiquities Commission.

Bradley was happy to have been asked to work on the replica. He was even happier to be working in the studio. “This project allowed me to do the things I love: teaching and getting dirty, the physical work of making,” he said. “Working with metal this way is magic,” he added. “It’s alchemy—liquefying an ingot of metal and then transforming it into a piece of art.”

When Bradley first started working on the replica of the key, he was mostly focused on getting it to look as much like the original as possible and completing the project on time. “By the time I had finished, though, the significance had started to sink in,” he said, adding that it was really his children who helped him realize what he was involved in. “They were studying the pope’s visit to Israel in school as part of current events, and they started asking me all kinds of questions about it,” he said, noting that one of his kids took a partially constructed replica into school for show-and-tell.

Bradley said that when he contemplated the project, he was faced with two major challenges. One was that the original key was made of iron and had roughly 2,000 years to develop its patina, its color. “There was no way I could duplicate that in an iron key,” he said, “so I decided to make a replica in bronze, which can be made to look as if it has that patina. Then I decided to make two replicas, one in bronze and one in iron. That led to the second challenge—working with these two different metals required two different processes.”

Iron has to be worked on when it is hot, heated to more than 1,200 degrees, while bronze requires much cooler temperatures, Bradley said. The technology he used was similar to the way keys were made 2,000 years ago, although he was fortunate enough not to have had to make his own iron.

The original iron key was uncovered in 1995 near the doorway of a fisherman’s house at Bethsaida. It is a simple, Roman-period key to a large wooden door lock. The discovery of the key, encrusted with rust and slightly broken where it would have fit on a key ring, was itself a near-miracle in that it survived the damp and changing climatic conditions in this area of Israel, said Richard Freund, director of the Bethsaida Excavations Project and the University’s Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies.

The Key to the Fisherman’s House, was immediately recognized as a most significant find by Bargil Pixner, one of the major archaeologists for the Roman Catholic Church in Israel. It was Father Pixner who made the arrangements for the audience with the pope during his trip to Israel and who asked about a special presentation of the key.

The Bethsaida Excavations Project, founded in 1987, uncovered one of the last major cities associated with the life of Jesus and early Christianity, the city of Bethsaida. Lost since a major earthquake and catastrophic flood destroyed all signs of the city, the site has been slowly recovered by Freund and their team of excavators.

Freund, an ordained rabbi, said working on the Bethsaida project, which has been followed by people across the globe, has been an overwhelming experience. “Usually, academic work is only important to a small handful of scholars, but our work at Bethsaida has affected so many millions of the faithful worldwide, and that has been extremely rewarding,” he said.

Knowing that he has created a piece of art that will be on display at the Vatican is very special, Bradley said. “Even if it ends up being put in a kitchen drawer, it’s still in the kitchen drawer at the Vatican,” he said with a laugh.

—David Isgur
Being the first graduating class of the new century is not the only thing that distinguishes the Class of 2000. The class will be remembered for starting a new tradition at the University of Hartford, one that organizers hope will get bigger every year.

Under a new program called Senior Signature, members of the Class of 2000 were asked to make gifts to the University of $25 each. Those who contributed had their names engraved on a senior class plaque, which was unveiled on May 9 on the outside wall of the University Commons.

Each year, a new plaque will be added to the wall with the names of graduating seniors who made donations to the University. The plaques will be the focal point of a new Senior Courtyard that will be developed outside the Commons.

The goal of the Senior Signature program is to encourage graduating seniors to go on to become active and involved alumni who support their alma mater. The Class of 2000 plaque features the names of 125 seniors who made gifts to the University, representing 12.5 percent of the graduating class. That is a tenfold increase over 1999, when just 1.2 percent of the senior class made contributions.

Katherine Dziedzic, a graduating student and member of the Senior Class Planning Committee, said she expects the number of participating seniors to increase every year as awareness of the program grows.

“Our class has set the standard, and hopefully each class after us will set new standards and new goals,” Dziedzic said. In addition to Dziedzic, the Senior Class Planning Committee consisted of Clifton Belcher, Shane Ciccarelli (who also served as president of the Student Government Association), Andrea Coletta, Alison Furst, Allison Gavazzi, Stephanie Kaplan, and Kasia Pink.

As the first senior class plaque was unveiled, several dozen graduating students excitedly gathered around it to look for their names and pose for photos. After the unveiling, they celebrated with a barbecue at the home of President Walter Harrison.

“One of my great interests is increasing alumni contributions, and there’s no better place to start than with the graduating class,” Harrison told students at the unveiling. “I hope you’re going to remain active and committed alumni. I hope to see plenty of you in the future.”

Visit <uhconnections.org/seniorsignature> to view more photos from the Class of 2000 Senior Signature events.

President Harrison, center, joins members of the class of 2000 at the unveiling of the Senior Signature plaque at University commons.
It was late Saturday afternoon of Commencement Weekend when a magnificent rainbow appeared on campus, foretelling the splendor of the day that would follow. Jeff Feldmann, grounds supervisor cum campus photographer, captured the auspicious image, as he has so many memorable University moments.

Sunday, May 14, arrived with a brilliant sun and not a cloud in the sky. Graduates and family members began arriving early to enjoy the beautiful weather and a Mother’s Day that would have more than the usual to celebrate. Red carnations abounded (one for each mother), as did eyeglasses shaped in the number 2000.

Eventually some 7,500 would assemble to hear words of wisdom from Federal Appeals Court Judge José Cabranes, Phoenix Chairman and CEO Robert Fiondella, American Girl dolls founder Pleasant Rowland, and renowned Harvard psychologist Howard Gardner. Student Government Association President Shane Ciccarrelli described what he had learned during the “best four years of [his] life.”

The ceremony was a homecoming for El Salvador President Francisco Flores, Hillyer ’79, who said, “The University of Hartford allowed me to inquire, to broaden the scope of my interests. It placed no obstacles [before] my thirst to learn, and it taught me discipline and focus. More than an institution, it became my new home. It became a community where my mind was nurtured and stimulated.”
A Memorable Mother's Day

Commencement 2000 fell on Sunday, May 14, coinciding with Mother's Day. In recognition of the special day, University staff handed out a long-stemmed red carnation to each mother present. Mother's Day was proclaimed a national holiday by President Woodrow Wilson in 1914, thanks to the determination of Anna M. Jarvis. Carnations, the favorite flower of Jarvis's mother, became the official flower of the day. Our photographers captured many moms and their grads celebrating that day.
Commencement 2000
“To be fully prepared for success in this new millennium, we [women] must understand fully the intricacies and the imperative of personal finance and building assets, the importance of investing prudently in our own futures, the power and clout that come with economic self-sufficiency.”

DENISE L. NAPPIER, treasurer, State of Connecticut, speaking at Hartford College for Women

“Civilization is an ongoing and dynamic process that requires the constant positive contribution of its members. It is only when we become a creative center that we are useful to others. Find that cause. Find that center. Resist the temptation to be lost in the placid generality of the group. Stand by your truth.”

FRANCISCO FLORES ’79, president, El Salvador (The full text of President Flores’s speech appears on page 23.)

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"Your job in the future—the job of all of us—is to make sure that the American experiment does not fail, that the American political and economic system remains synonymous with hope and promise for all people. Congratulations and good luck!"

JOSÉ CABRANES, judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

"I don’t pretend to be an expert or have all of the insights other than I’m constantly seeking to learn, and seeking advice on how to live, and how to live life more fully. Probably the one thing I think I’ve done as well as anything is take advice, so I encourage you, as you go forward to open yourselves up and make yourselves vulnerable, to learn from all of those around you."

ROBERT W. FIONDELLA, chairman and chief executive officer, Phoenix Home Life Mutual Insurance Company

"Social Security is a woman’s issue. Women represent 60 percent of all Social Security beneficiaries, and 72 percent of beneficiaries age 85 and older are women. There are 137,000 individuals alive over age 100, and 131,000 of them are women."

BARBARA B. KENNELLY, counselor to the commissioner, Social Security Administration, and former Connecticut congresswoman, speaking at Hartford College for Women

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A Commencement She Will Never Forget

When Monica Barrera logged onto the University of Hartford Web site a few weeks before graduation, she couldn’t believe her eyes.

Barrera had lived in El Salvador until she was five years old, and she goes back regularly for visits. Her father still lives in El Salvador, where he worked on the election campaign of President Francisco Flores.

Now, according to the UofH Web site, Barrera would get an opportunity to see Flores in person—not on one of her visits to El Salvador, but at her graduation in Hartford.

“It was amazing. You barely ever hear anything about El Salvador anyway, and to hear that the president would be coming here … it was just amazing,” Barrera said.

Barrera learned from the Web site that Flores graduated from the University of Hartford’s Hillyer College in 1979 and that she would be the 2000 Commencement speaker. Barrera was about to earn her associate’s degree from the University’s Hartford College for Women (HCW), and she would be one of the 1,326 graduating students at Commencement.

Several days before Commencement, Barrera met University President Walter Harrison at a banquet for resident assistants (RAs). Barrera, who was an RA on the HCW campus, told Harrison that she was from El Salvador and asked if it would be possible for her to meet Flores.

And so, after the Commencement ceremony on May 14, Barrera found herself standing outside Harrison’s office, shaking hands with the president of her homeland. Flores greeted her with a warm smile, and the two spoke for several minutes in a conversation that fluctuated between English and Spanish.

Barrera was delighted when Flores recognized her father’s name. Miguel Barrera is a top manager with El Salvador’s national security agency, the Academia Nacional de Seguridad Pública (ANSP), and he is active in Flores’s political party, which is known by the acronym ARENA. The day after Commencement, Miguel Barrera awoke to find a photo of his daughter, with presidents Harrison and Flores, featured prominently in La Prensa Gráfica, one of El Salvador’s two national newspapers.

Monica Barrera said that her meeting with Flores "made me feel great pride in myself and in my country, and it motivated me to continue my education.” Barrera, who plans to study biological sciences at the University of Connecticut, noted that Flores’s success is a wonderful example of the power of education and hard work.

Even though she has lived in Connecticut since she was five, Barrera said that El Salvador will always hold a special place in her heart, and she will continue going back for regular visits. “The country is just beautiful. It just feels like home,” she said.

At the end of Barrera’s post-Commencement conversation with Flores, he told her, “We’ll be waiting for you in El Salvador.”

“I’ll be back,” she promised.
‘Stand by Your Truth’
Remarks by
Francisco Flores ’79
President of El Salvador

I know the privilege of using this podium entails the responsibility of being relevant to the occasion. But after visiting my old dorm and crossing the bridge over the Hog River, memories have assaulted me with such force that you must allow me to briefly reminisce on that fall 23 years ago, when I first arrived at the University of Hartford.

I came to Hartford in the late ’70s, in September 1977, to be precise. Strikes of gold in the generally green landscape of Connecticut announced an early autumn and with it, a cold winter. Months from that date, the weight of ice and snow would break the roof of the Hartford Civic Center. My parents’ somber faces at the airport in San Salvador concealed deeper fears than those normally associated with a farewell to a 17-year-old.

Those were difficult times for me and my country. After decades of military rule, El Salvador was fast headed to the deepest conflict in its history: a civil war that would last more than a decade, and that, with its blind violence, would affect every single Salvadoran family.

By the fall of 1977, all the signs of a devastating conflict were in place: the restlessness of the entire population, isolated bursts of violence, a total contradiction between what was lived and felt and what was publicly acknowledged.

The message I received, therefore, was not “Get a degree, become a competent individual and come back to your country.” Rather, it sounded more like “Build a life elsewhere, for El Salvador is no longer a possibility.”

I thus began my work at Hartford with a sense of uncertainty, nostalgia, and being uprooted—feelings more suited to an exile than to a foreign student.

As odd as it may sound, I learned to truly love my country here at Hartford. By love I mean commitment, responsibility, and awareness of its possibilities.

It is no mystery that one becomes fully conscious of the precious components of life only after they are threatened.

Of the generation of Salvadorans who left the country in 1977, the majority of them went on to build successful lives abroad through hard work, and they are certainly a source of pride to our country. I, however, could not conceive of the idea of not going back. My personal life experience, my dreams, my creativity, my aspirations were so intertwined with my country as to be literally inseparable.

And so, one day, by the trees behind Mortensen Library, I decided that, come what may, I would go back. This decision had a momentous consequence. It exploded in my mind as the one essential prerequisite to any life project: I desperately needed to become well educated. And here is where my experience and yours, fellow graduates, are identical.

The two fundamental challenges in education are to learn to live and to understand what one lives for. The first is absolutely practical. It requires an understanding of the mechanics of our contemporary world, how it functions, what are the opportunities of our rapidly evolving circumstances. The second, though absolutely abstract, is as important, for only when we understand what we live for, can we develop a sense of meaning and purpose. This is the realm of values, and as such, of universally valid principles.

It is a rich paradox that the only way to develop a sense of direction in our future is by immersing ourselves in the timeless traditions of our past.

The University of Hartford awakened me to both these challenges. It allowed me to inquire, to broaden the scope of my interests. It placed no obstacles in my thirst to learn, and it taught me discipline and focus. More than an institution, it became my new home. It became a community where my mind was nurtured and stimulated.

Over the years, I have become acutely aware of how much I owe this University. I had always hoped for an opportunity to show my gratitude.

Never had I imagined that the occasion would come in an event like this, when the University bestows such an honor upon me. Now that the opportunity has come, I express my commitment to be worthy of this merit and hope my words can carry my deep-seated gratitude.

Dear graduates, as I see you in your gowns and tassels, so full of promise, I would like to share with you what has been my compass in life, in the hope that it might strike a chord in you.

There is a core in each one of us that distinguishes us from all the rest. It is that one characteristic that defines our personality. It is an inherent ability that we possess and recognize as our own. Upon its development depend not only our personal fulfillment but also our capacity to contribute to our society.

Civilization is an ongoing and dynamic process that requires the constant positive contribution of its members. It is only when we become a creative center that we are useful to others. Find that cause. Find that center. Resist the temptation to be lost in the placid generality of the group. Stand by your truth.

I went back to my country in the worst years of the war. I went to live with the campesinos in the rural areas. I found something greater than my past, greater than my roots, greater than my identity. I found my country; I found my happiness. May you, dear graduates, find yours.

Congratulations! Thank you.
The decade between 1965 and 1975 was nothing if not volatile. The counterculture had begun and flourished. Seismic events like protests over the Vietnam War, the 1968 Democratic Convention, the assassinations of Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr., Kent State, and Woodstock had a big impact on many University of Hartford student leaders. Which led me to wonder...

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...

I want to change the body politic. To me, spirituality is the highest form of politics. It’s not about economics—it has to be about the higher good.

by Paul D. Tieger ’73, ’83
Practically everyone on campus knew Gayle Kelley. She was the president of her dorm and Phi Sigma Chi sorority, worked on the school paper, was a representative to student government, and served as both a resident assistant and a resident director. Now a globe-trotting social activist and documentary filmmaker, Kelley uses the leadership skills she honed at UofH with world-changing effect.

PDT: You were at UofH from 1967 through 1972. What did you major in?

GK: I majored in education and also got a master’s degree in educational administration and supervision. After graduating, I taught for seven years in Connecticut…history, government, theater, [and] public speaking, and coached all-girl sports in middle school and high school.

PDT: What happened after that?

GK: They consolidated the school districts, and I decided it was time to follow my dream, which was to become a singer, so I moved to New York City. My whole family thought I was out of my mind, and my friends asked, “What are you doing?!” But I went anyway.

PDT: How did you break into the singing business?

GK: I visited a lot of different clubs, took acting and singing classes, and started showcasing myself. Later on, I met Jimmy Lockett, who became my partner for the next 10 years. We sang jazz, blues, as well as some original material all over the country…Vegas, Atlantic City, nightclubs…performing with big bands, quartets…lots of different venues.

PDT: Why did you stop? It sounds like you were very successful.

GK: We’d gotten some major record deal opportunities, but they all wanted to split us up. At that time, they didn’t think a white woman and black man would sell. So, we didn’t take the offers. Jimmy started to do Broadway [Lockett eventually starred as Old Deuteronomy in Cats], and I wanted to do some grassroots activism, which was always a big part of me. I got involved with a lot of artist friends of mine who were also looking for a way to give back to the community, and we started an organization called Earth Action. For the next 20 years, we were involved in a lot of grassroots activism efforts.

PDT: What, exactly, is Earth Action?

GK: Earth Action is a not-for-profit, very broad-based community service organization. We had a mobile street-feeding unit…feeding the “mole” people who lived in the tunnels under the subways, worked with homebound Holocaust victims, started Earth Action Clubs at schools. We worked with environmental ethics and developed a curriculum for kids called Finding the Hero Within. We helped provide child care for women with children with AIDS, entertained in hospitals. And other projects.

After a few years, we got involved with indigenous people—Native Americans in North America, Zulus, Aboriginals, Maoris, Tibetans. And we became a global organization trying to create bridges between indigenous people and the modern world. Sharing their messages seemed so pertinent and important to our lives.

PDT: But now, most of your time is spent working on A Circle of Women. What is that, and how did it come about?

GK: A Circle of Women was born out of our relationship with Native Americans. We birthed babies, built homes, held food and blanket drives, planted crops, and started to build bridges of trust where there weren’t any. As an American history teacher, I realized that American Indians were not even part of the curriculum, and that bothered me very much. I felt that what was missing from our world was the wisdom of these ancient people. There was an ever-growing spiritual void in our culture—kids killing kids, parents abusing children, the abuse of women worldwide, the degradation of the earth, the isolation that more and more people were feeling, the disconnection between people and nature, and the falling apart of our families.

PDT: It sounds like an organization with a political agenda but a spiritual foundation.

GK: A Circle of Women came out of my study of living with indigenous people. Indigenous people worldwide call this “the time of the woman” and prophesized certain events thousands of years ago. Things have gotten out of balance, and the concerns of the female as the giver of life, the mother, the one concerned with hungry children, peace, abuse, and so forth have not been at the forefront. The woman has to pull her chair up to the table next to the man and let her voice be heard.

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1964
RICHARD BRYSKIEWICZ (WARD) of Tampa, Fla., has been named vice president, capital management consultant, for First Union National Bank, Tampa.

BARBARA CACCAMO-SWENSON (A&S) of Shanks, W. Va., is a full-time West Virginia University student working toward a degree in theater and acting. She retired from teaching in 1994 after over 25 years with the New Britain (Conn.) school district.

1965
DOUGLAS BRASH (BARNEY) of Jupiter, Fla., has been named senior vice president and head of the trust division of Fidelity Federal Savings Bank, a subsidiary of Fidelity Bankshares, Inc. Brash, who has 25 years of banking experience, was formerly president of the trust division of Island National Bank and Trust Company, Palm Beach.

ALICE HUBERT GARDNER (HCW) of Beverly, Mass., continues both her work as a psychotherapist in private practice and her art, for which she has won several awards for watercolor, acrylic, and collage. She writes that her son, Andrew, is a biochemist at New England Biolabs and her daughter, Sarah, teaches music. Gardner and her husband visited Annamarie Lavieri-Gunther ‘65 and her husband last summer at their home in Kingston, Wash.

1966
MELISSA CUNHA BANACH (HCW) of Woodstock, Md., recently was assigned a new responsibility: chief of strategic planning for Montgomery County, Md. She is now responsible for long-range land-use planning and land development. She and her daughter, Alexandra, plan to treat her recently widowed father to a two-week trip to his childhood home, Lisbon, Portugal.

ROBERT J. DAGLIO (BARNEY) of West Granby, Conn., is a member of the CB Richard Ellis team that won the 2000 Pinnacle Award in real estate for largest industrial sale.

MARGARET GIBBS (ENHP, MEd) of Eastham, Mass., was honored in February as part of the City of Ansonia (Conn.) celebration of Black History Month and was cited as one who “served the community with pride and dignity.” Gibbs is secretary to the Ansonia

1958
JOHN P. CONNOR (HILLYER) of Westfield, Mass., spent the fall semester as an exchange teacher at the National University of Ireland, Galway. He is currently attending Westfield State College pursuing a second degree in American history and teaching certification. John reports that students have not changed in 40 years: “girls, parties, and studies in that order.” He retired in 1997 to pursue his teaching goal. He spent his career in grocery sales.

DORLEE CLARK ROHLFING (HCW) of Milwaukee, Wis., is currently working part time at the University of Wisconsin School of Education as a supervisor for intern teachers in the multicultural teacher education program and is writing a novel, “The Front Porch Is Gone.” Rolhfing retired from her position as student services specialist for the Milwaukee public schools in 1996, and her husband, David, retired in December 1999 as executive director of the Milwaukee council on alcoholism and drug abuse.

1961
JUDITH (JUDE) SULLIVAN HERSEY (HCW) of Williston, Vt., writes that she enjoys her new home in Vermont and has become active in the town of Williston and on the board of the Northern Vermont chapter of the American Red Cross.

FLORENCE ROBIN WINNIK (HCW) of Bethesda, Md., is a speech pathologist for the Montgomery County public schools. “I’m enjoying the variety of cultural offerings in the D.C./metropolitan area,” she writes.

1962
MELVIN RAIMAN (HART’), MEd ’67) of Tucker, Ga., has had his new book, Strategic Marketing in the Arts: A Plan for Enrollment Management, published by Pierson Press. Raiman was recently a guest speaker at the National Association of Schools of Music annual convention.

A Journey toward Hope
Margaret Berger Morse’s (A&S) journey had just begun when she graduated from the University of Hartford in 1965. That path has led to her first book, Choices: A Journey of Faith—Torrey’s Miracle (Vantage Press, 1999), in which she chronicles her eight-year-old daughter’s struggle with, and ultimate triumph over, an aggressive strain of cancer rarely found in children.

Morse says that her book “shares the journey her family walked…the faith that brought them through this illness, and the risks they took in choosing an alternative cancer therapy unavailable in the United States.” Today, Torrey, a 21-year survivor, lives a normal, healthy life.

After retiring from teaching in 1987, Morse earned her M.A. from Hartford Seminary in 1991. She was a church administrator and volunteer choir director until 1997, and is now in private practice giving spiritual direction. Dividing her time between Guilford, Conn., and North Ferrisburgh, Vt., she lives with her husband, Whitney, and has a second daughter, Jessica. The author is currently working on her next project, a children’s book series called “The Ape Chronicles.”

Morse’s book Choices is available through Vantage Press, Inc., 516 West 34th Street, New York, NY 10001; or online at <amazon.com>, <barnesandnoble.com>, and <borders.com>. She says that all profits from the sale of Choices are deposited into a “nonprofit bank account to be used for cancer patients who choose alternative therapy and are in financial need of assistance.”
Historic District Commission, a volunteer at the Ansonia Library, and the city’s municipal historian. The first woman to be elected to the Ansonia board of education, she is a founder of the Willis School PTA, secretary to the League of Women Voters, a former incorporator of the Valley United Way and Griffin Hospital, and a former member of the economic development commission.

1968

SUSAN TIPPER LEAVITT (HARTT) of Ashford, Conn., not only teaches elementary music in the Stafford (Conn.) school district but also has founded the Family Academy of Music, where she teaches classes for infants through age 14. Leavitt has an auditioned children’s chorus and a summer camp for ages 8 to 14 that performs a mini-musical, and recently she purchased the Preschool of the Arts in Tolland and Ellington, Conn. She and a partner hope to have a direct, significant impact on early childhood education.

MEREDITH TAKALA (A&S) of Suffield, Conn., has joined the Simsbury (Conn.) office of DeWolfe realtors.

1970

M. KEVIN FAHEY (BARNEY, Med ’73) of Coventry, Conn., was recently honored by the National Association of Campus Activities, New England Region, with the establishment of a regional graduate student award in his name. Former director of the University of Hartford’s Gengras Student Union, Fahey is the senior associate director of campus activities at the University of Connecticut.

LINDA R. GARCEAU (A&S, MPA ’76) of Avon Lake, Ohio, has been named dean of the college of business at East Tennessee State University and will assume her new position on July 1. Garceau is currently interim assistant dean in the College of Business Administration at Cleveland (Ohio) State University, where she has held several positions since 1989 and has been instrumental in building community partnerships and incorporating technology deeply into the curriculum.

JAMES A. STIDFOLE (A&S, MA) of Quaker Hill, Conn., writes that he has been “buried for the past three and a half years” in the restoration of a New London, Conn., landmark, the Hygienic art gallery and apartments for artists. Stidfole is treasurer and often spokesperson for Hygienic Art, Inc., the local preservation group responsible for reopening the derelict 1844 building that had been eyed as the site for a parking lot despite its position on the National Register of Historic Places. On January 21 a celebration marked the building’s reopening as Hygienic Artists Cooperative and Galleries. Stidfole is technical director at the Eugene O’Neill Theater Center in Waterford, Conn., and is its chief grants writer. His wife, Sherry, has taught music in the Waterford schools for nearly 30 years.

DIANA WYTHE TYLER (ART) of Amston, Conn., exhibited her art work during March in the community room of Douglas Library, Colchester. Tyler taught art at RHAM High School for 14 years before establishing Wythe Studios.

1971

RICHARD NABEL (ENHP, MEd) of West Hartford, Conn., was chosen principal of Brookfield High School at the beginning of the present school year. Nabel has had 31 years of experience in education and has served as principal of Hamden High School, Nathan Hale-Ray High School in East Haddam, and Naugatuck High School, where he was principal for 10 years. He holds a law degree from the University of Connecticut and has completed course work for a doctoral degree from Nova University in Florida. His wife, Doris, teaches at Rocky Hill High School.

ROBERT SUMMA (BARNEY, MBA) of Collinsville, Conn., retired from Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, Torrington, Conn., after 41 years. At the time of his retirement he was associate administrator for community relations, a position that required him to be spokesperson for the hospital and responsible for developmental marketing and advertising. Starting as head pharmacist in 1958, Summa was later director of purchasing, then vice president for administrative management. From 1984 to 1989, he was president, then left for a year during a reorganization, and returned as interim president during a search for a permanent president.

1972

THOMAS O. BARNES (BARNEY) of Bristol, Conn., chairman of the board of directors of the Barnes Group, Inc., has been elected vice chair of the board of directors of the Connecticut Business and Industry Association, the largest business organization in Connecticut, with 10,000 member companies. Barnes is a member of the University’s board of regents.

LINDA DEMICHELE CAVANAUGH (BARNEY, MPA) of Farmington, Conn., is economic development coordinator for Farmington’s new Economic Development Office. Cavanaugh had chosen early retirement from federal service.

MARYLOUISE FENNEll (ENHP, MEd) of Pittsburgh, Penn., was designated a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania last year by the Pennsylvania Commission for Women. Fennell is past president of Carlow College, Pittsburgh, the first UofH graduate to be named a college president. She entered the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Connecticut Regional Community, in 1957 and earned a degree from Diocesan Sisters College. Each year since 1948, a group of women has been named to the Distinguished Daughters organization by previously selected members.

RAYMOND FERRARI (A&S) of West Hartford, Conn., is a member of the team from CB Richard Ellis that received the 2000 Pinnacle Award for most unusual/difficult transaction: the bargain sale of the former corporate headquarters of the Heublein Corp. in Farmington.

MARIE (NEE VERGEAU, FORMERLY GROTH) LEMERISE (HCW) of Brooklyn, N.Y., co-founded a marketing research firm, rethink, in January 1999. During its first year of operation, the firm has completed dozens of qualitative studies in product development, branding, and Web site design for Fortune 500 companies and new Internet ventures. Lemerise and her husband, Richard, live in Brooklyn, N.Y., overlooking Prospect Park.

PATRICIA A. MCKINLEY (HCW) of Sheshire, Conn., recently returned from a vacation in St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, facilitated by Lisa K. Durgin, HCW ’78, and encourages alumni who are thinking about a trip there to check out Durgin’s Web site, <www.vacationvistas.com>. McKinley is vice chair of the University’s board of regents.

ANDREA OLMSTED (HARTT) of Boston, Mass., is the author of a comprehensive history of the Julliard School, titled Julliard: A History. The book is described as a thoroughly researched pioneering study and a story with “remarkable twists and turns.” Olmsted is coordinator of the department of music and literature at the Boston Conservatory and a former teacher of music history at Julliard. This is her third book.

1973

ROBERT P. EATON (HARTT, MMus, DMA ’91) recently directed his 60-voice community chorus, the Assabet Valley
Mastersingers, in a Poulenc and Finzi program billed "Reflections." Eaton organized the Mastersingers 22 years ago at a time when few, if any, community choral groups sang serious classical music. "Now everyone does," he says.

ALLYSON McGILL (HCW) of Fairfax, Va., is teaching full time at The Chelsea School, a secondary school for learning-disabled children, and is taking classes toward a license in special education. McGill is also, obviously, a dedicated alumna: in response to a mailing concerning the establishment of an alumnae group in the Washington, D.C., area, she wrote, "My gratitude to HCW is as strong as ever. In fact, the HCW alum who hosted President [Kathleen] McGrory's visit in 1986 has continued to be a friend, and we occasionally manage lunch."

JOHN MCGUIRE (BARNEY, MPA) of Storrs, Conn., has been named vice president of EnergyUSA customer relations and strategic business development. In this position he will be responsible for utility outsourcing, leveraged marketing, executive-level sales, and customer relations for all of the Energy USA operations.

1974

SHELLY PAKMAN (ENHP) of Blue Bell, Penn., has a new position as business development coordinator for ECS, Inc., of Exton, Penn., an XL Capital Company that provides integrated environmental risk management services worldwide.

CAROLYN SCHAEFER-HOWD (HCW) of Coral Gables, Fla., is an instrument-rated pilot, preparing for the FAA commercial license. She writes, "Hartford College provided us the skills necessary to take the runway into the unknown and also, at times, gave sanctuary from confrontation. At Hartford College we were safe to learn and to dream." Her introduction to flying was at a small airport on the western fringe of Miami. She had planned to give her brother a 40th birthday present of flying lessons. Her brother doesn't fly yet, but, she says, "After I finish my instructor's license, he could be my first student."

MATTHEW SCHOENBERG (AtS) of San Diego, Calif., was on last November's Forbes list of 100 top franchisees controlling fast foods and restaurants. Schoenberg's company, Sydran Services, controls 216 Burger King and 35 Chili's units, according to a company, Sydran Services, controls 216 Burger King and 35 Chili's units, according to a research firm survey.

TREvor THORNTON (BARNEY, MPA) of Windsor, Conn., has joined the finance department of the Connecticut State University System Office as executive officer of finance. He will manage all financial account-

ing, financial reporting, budgeting, and purchasing for the System Office. Thornton is a CPA with more than 20 years of experience in financial management. Most recently, he was with United HealthCare in Hartford.

1975

ROY CORDATO (HARTT; MA '80) of Angier, N.C., has won the Leavey Award 2000 for excellence in private enterprise education. Dr. Cordato, a former member of the University of Hartford economics faculty, is the Lundy professor of business philosophy at Campbell University, Buies Creek, N.C. He was among 16 to receive the national award, presented to innovative programs by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Penn.

CARLTON HELMING (BARNEY) of Cheshire, Conn., is serving as chair of the legal committee of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants for the current activity year.

A. RAY PETTY (ENHP, MEd) of Mercedita, P.R., recently delivered the keynote address at a conference celebrating the 35th anniversary of the schools of education in Cuba. Petty is associate professor of education at the Universidad Interamericana of Puerto Rico. The event took place at the Instituto Superior Pedagogico Enrique Jose Varona in Havana.

JANE SHULMAN (ENHP, MEd) of West Hartford, is coordinator of a 12-month grant awarded to the Connecticut Legal Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition. The coalition works to restore benefits such as food stamps that were taken from immigrants who are not citizens. Shulman was coordinator for Connecticut Immigrant Day on April 18, 2000.

BRUCE SIMPSON (BARNEY, MBA) of Rochester, N.Y., has been appointed to the board of directors of Bradley Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Simpson is founder of his own private health-care consulting firm and was previously president of Genpharm, Inc., of Ontario, Canada.

1976

PAMELA DePAOLO (HARTT) of Southington, Conn., awarded music scholarships to local eighth-graders for the fourth consecutive year in 1999. DePaolo was able to boost the amounts of the scholarships because of a fund at the Southington Savings Bank named for her father, an accomplished accordionist, who died last year.

RUTH HERMINA KRAKOWER (ART) has been appointed director of alumni and gift records at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa. She was previously supervisor of medical affairs and graduate medical education at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Her paintings and illustrations combining Native American culture and classical mythology have been exhibited at the University of Pennsylvania and are in private collections in Pennsylvania, Connecticut, California, and Switzerland.

MICHAEL LAJEUNESSE (ENHP, MEd) of North Grosvenordale, Conn., plans to begin a third career—oil painting and photography—and is a freshman at the Rhode Island School of Design. Lajeunesse began as a research chemist and developed the first nonwax floor covering. He then turned to a teaching career and has spent 24 years as a math teacher at Harvard H. Ellis Regional Vocational-Technical School, Norwich, Conn., where he is advisor to the senior class and the ski club, weight-lifting advisor, and cross-country coach. He plans to retire from Ellis in June. Until his recent retirement from the Department of Environmental Protection, Lajeunesse was also a seasonal employee at Mashamoquet Brook State Park in Pomfret for 33 years. He has served as seasonal patrol officer, campground manager, and lifeguard. He also initiated summer projects to improve the public's enjoyment of the park. He has always enjoyed painting and photographing nature, and now, he says, "I hope to begin a career in the art world."

MARY-ELLEN WHINNEM (ENHP, MEd) of Stamford, Conn., has been named managing director of Marsh, Inc., of Stamford.

Interested in Meeting Alumni in Your Area?
The Alumni Association is looking for YOU! Give us 10 minutes a month and enjoy the benefits of meeting alumni in your area. The Alumni Association is looking for volunteers in the following areas: Northern New Jersey; Metro Washington, D.C.; Boston, and New York City. Contact the Alumni Office toll-free at 1-888-UH-ALUMS, or by e-mail at alumni@mail.hartford.edu.
JULIANNA KOVACH ZINGALE (ART) of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, collaborated with Jim McWilliams, visiting Hartford Art School professor from 1972 to 1977, to design the Dial Corporation logo that now appears on Dial soap, Armour Star, and other products. Kovach/McWilliams Design of Cleveland and San Diego provides conceptual design and brand positioning for its corporate clients.

1977

ANNE SENECHAL FAUST (ART, MAEd) of Baton Rouge, La., is the first woman and the first printmaker to be named Master Wildlife Artist by the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau, Wis. Faust is featured in the elaborate March exhibition catalog with an elaborate spread plus a photo essay of the artist at work.

WILLIAM McMANUS (HARTT) of Washington, D.C., writes that he "recently escaped from corporate America after 18 years of financial planning and management to join United Airlines as a customer service representative."

JILL WILCOX STILL (HCW) of Orelan, Penn., is currently in the middle of a three-year term as president of the women's board of Abington Memorial Hospital. The board and auxiliaries raise over $700,000 annually through gift and thrift shops, a fair, and other special events.

TAMAR BEACH WELLS (HARTT) of Harwinton, Conn., oboist with the Borealis Wind Quintet, performed in a January concert for the New Canaan (Conn.) Library's annual concert series.

1978

PAUL BISACCIA (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., concert pianist, performed the music of George Gershwin, Scott Joplin, and others at the fourth concert in the Music at Memorial Concert Series, held March 5 at the Memorial United Methodist Church in Avon, Conn.

PATRICIA CHEYNE (ART) of Portland, Ore., has been granted tenure by the board of trustees of the College of Arts and Sciences at Pacific University, Forest Grove, Oregon. Cheyne has been a professor of art at the university since 1994. She recently published the book Art in the Classroom and was the recipient of a Pacific University faculty development grant.

MELISSA ENGEL (A&S) of East Hampton, Conn., is the first woman to chair the Town Council of East Hampton. She was chosen in December 1999 to serve in 2000. Engel owns and runs Markham Meadows, a local campground built by her family.

FRANCES HAAG (ENHP) of Farmington, Conn., has begun work as Southington senior coordinator for special education. Haag had previously been education coordinator at the Children's Medical Center School in Hartford and has over 20 years' experience in education.

ROBERT HAMMOND (BARNEY, MBA) of Newtown, Conn., is currently corporate controller for TransTechnology Corporation. He was promoted from his position as director of financial analysis and planning for the company, where he has been employed since 1995.

JANET S. MALEY (BARNEY, MS) of Woodbridge, Conn., is serving a one-year term on the board of governors for the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants (CSCPA). Maley is the principal in the Woodbridge firm that bears her name and has served CSCPA in a number of executive positions.

1979

ROSE MILLS BELLO (HARTT) of Silver Springs, Md., is president of Vocal Arts International, Ltd., a group devoted to furthering the vocal arts throughout the world. At the Pushkin Bicentennial Conference, held in Moscow in June 1999, Dr. Bello was a guest lecturer and performing artist.

ROMA PRINDELE (HARTT, MA, DMA '97) of Morehead, Ky., applied for and received a grant from the German government to take 11 students from Morehead State University on a 10-day study tour of southern Germany. The Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, with its headquarters in Bonn, provides support for young academics, interdisciplinary, teaching and a forum for the discussion of contemporary German and other European issues. Prindle is associate professor of music and director of the opera program at Morehead State University. The study tour will visit Munich, Nuremberg, and Frankfurt, where the group will attend operatic and musical performances and visit museums.

DIANNE RECHER (HARTT) of West Hartford, Conn., realtor with Realty Executives Capital Region, was top agent for 1999 in both listings and sales. She has been reelected president of the West Hartford chapter of Business Network International.

THEODORE SHONECK (A&S) of Downingtown, Penn., has been appointed chief executive officer of Quad Systems Corporation, a leading supplier of surface mount technology (SMT) and advanced packaging technology (APT). He will continue to serve as president of Quad, a position he has held since 1998.

1980

BEN LARKEY (ENG) of Caldwell, N.J., commutes to Long Island as the environmental/quality manager for Canon USA. He previously worked as an international composting troubleshooter for BFI in Houston, Texas, and later formed a consulting firm doing brownfield remediation work for Newark, N.J. Larkey would like to hear from classmates and see the campus, and he comments that "The Observer looks better all the time."

1981

JEFFREY BLUMENTHAL (A&S) of Simsbury, Conn., has been appointed vice president, community relations, by Konover Development Corporation. He will be responsible for community land-use and regulatory issues affecting company projects throughout the Northeast.

JAMES M. GARRETTSON (BARNEY) of Monmouth Junction, Ill., has been appointed president of Teleglobe Business Solutions, a company within Teleglobe Inc., a deliverer of global broadband services to the North American corporate market. TBS was recently formed by combining the business services units of Teleglobe Communications Corporation and Telco Communications Group, Inc. Garrettson was recently senior vice president of general business sales for Qwest Communications/LCI International and previously held a number of positions with MCI Telecommunications.

JULIE JANSEN (A&S) of Stamford, Conn., has recently started her own business, Julie Jansen LLC, in Stamford, focused on speaking, writing, and coaching. She is writing a book for baby boomers on finding satisfying work for the next 10 to 30 years. Her Web site is <www.juliejansen.net>.

CLIFFORD JARVIS (A&S) of Windsor Locks, Conn., has a new album titled Universal, released in January under the Prophet Records label. A piano and keyboard player, Jarvis wrote each of the 12 songs on the CD, which he describes as "a blend of tradi-
tional jazz, R&B, a little hip-hop.” He wants to encourage young people to appreciate jazz and hopes to present a program in conjunction with the Hartford Public Library.

KEVIN MILLER (A&S) of Wilbraham, Mass., has been promoted to senior project manager for Fuss & O’Neill Inc. of Manchester, Conn.

MARYJANE PELUSO (HARTT; MMus) of Plantsville, Conn., and Margaret Kelly, pianists, presented a program of light classical music at Bethany Covenant Church, Berlin, Conn., in January. Peluso and Kelly have been presenting duo-concerts for 14 years. They met when both were Hartt students.

1982

KEVIN GRANT (BARNEY, MBA ’86) of Concord, Mass., took part in the autumn Lunch and Learn series offered by the Barney School. Grant manages 13 portfolios for Fidelity Investments.

TINA PODLODOWSKI (WARD) of Seattle, Wash., was featured in a Seattle Times article for her decision to put both Microsoft and the Seattle City Council behind her and stay home with her kids. In 1985 she joined “a class of 20 or 30 people who ran everything” at Microsoft. Seven years later, having been significantly rewarded, she left and formed the Pride Foundation, an organization that supports the rights of gays and lesbians. In 1995 she won a four-year term on the Seattle City Council but last year decided not to seek reelection. Podlodowski has a list of things she would like to do with her life, “and I bet I will try to do all 80 of them,” she said.

ROBERT SCHAICH (BARNEY, MBA) of Glastonbury, Conn., has been appointed vice president and chief information officer of Sierra Health Services. He will oversee all information systems for the company, headquartered in Las Vegas, Nev., and its subsidiaries. Schaich has over 20 years’ experience in managed health care, insurance, and information technology.

PATRICK TANNOCK (BARNEY) of Southampton, Bermuda, has been promoted to senior vice president, professional lines, by ACE Bermuda Insurance, Ltd., a subsidiary of ACE Limited. Tannock has 18 years’ experience in the international insurance industry and has been with ACE since 1993.

SUE TERRY (HARTT) of Brooklyn, N.Y., continues to perform on the alto saxophone. In the recent past she was guest artist with the Fairfield University Jazz Ensemble and last summer performed at the grand finale of Paul Brown’s free Monday Night Jazz Series in Bushnell Park.

1983

JOSEPH BAGINSKI (HARTT) of Plainville, Conn., was the subject of a recent Southington Observer article honoring him for his 20 years of teaching, at the Henry James Memorial School in Simsbury, where he is choral director for the seventh and eighth grades and runs a performing arts theater program. In October, Baginski presented a series of three concerts titled “Anytime at All,” an evening of original songs benefiting local scholarships for Simsbury students.

PENNY BARTON-ZUCHERMAN (BARNEY, MSPA) of Lebanon, Conn., has been appointed assistant professor of accounting at Quinebaug Valley Community-Technical College. Barton-Zucherman is a certified public accountant with extensive experience in the business world.

ASHIN GOODARZI (ENG) of Westport, Conn., has been named director of data warehousing for e-Commerce Solutions LLC of Stamford, Conn. Goodarzi will be responsible for managing the data warehouse and mining data to understand consumer behavior better.

JOHN POWERS (BARNEY) of New York, N.Y., has signed on with Team One Advertising as management director in charge of the Lexus Dealer Association. Powers was recently Young & Rubicam vice president for the Eastern region dealer association of Lincoln-Mercury Division, Ford Motor Company.

1984

BLAIRE ARNOLD (A&S) of Gaylordsville, Conn., has joined the Savings Bank of Danbury as a mortgage originator. Arnold has been mortgage account executive with the Village Bank and Trust Company.

BOBBI BUCKNER (BARNEY, MSOB) of Unionville, Conn., was elected unanimously to serve as the chair of the Farmington Republican Town Committee at a March 1 meeting. Buckner has been active in Republican politics for the past five years and most recently was vice chairman of the town committee. She is currently assistant personnel director at the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles, a position she has held for seven years.

DONNA DOWER (HARTT) of Toronto, Ont., is the first invested cantor in Toronto. After six years as cantor at Temple Emanu-el in Livingston, N.J., she was installed at the Toronto temple last November. “I am fortunate to come to a city that has so much to offer,” she says. “Toronto is a wonderful place in which to be Jewish.”

WILLIAM FARRELL (BARNEY, MBA) of Vienna, Va., has been appointed senior vice president, portfolio and financial technologies, for Fannie Mae, the nation’s largest source of financing for home mortgages. Farrell is responsible for providing architecture and technology solutions to portfolio and financial systems, including application systems.

TONY GIBSON (HARTT, MMus’88) writes that “after a fulfilling, 15-year career as a classical musician,” he has decided to pursue a second passion in the field of counseling psychology. He received a master’s degree in marriage and family therapy in 1996 and began working as a clinician at The Children’s Home of Cromwell (Conn.) in March 1997. The Children’s Home is a residential facility that provides comprehensive therapeutic services to abused, neglected, and psychiatrically challenged children ages 7 to 17. He moved into his current position of assistant director of treatment services in June 1999. He and his wife, Julie, have been married for nine years and have three children—Jonathan, 5; Hannah, 2, and Will, 1.

LYNDA GREEN (ENHP, MS) of Simsbury, Conn., is the new assistant superintendent of East Hartford schools. Green was previously director of curriculum for 10 years in Rocky Hill, Conn.

JUDITH O’BRIEN (HARTT) of Lubbock, Texas, became the executive director of the

Harris Directory

The Alumni Association has contracted with the Harris Publishing Company to produce the year 2000 Alumni Directory. Harris personnel will contact you to verify your address. Please give the representative a few moments of your time. If you would like to reserve your copy of the directory, please let the Harris representative know. The directory is scheduled for release in December 2000. Don’t be left out of the year 2000 directory. Update your record today!
Fairfax (Va.) Symphony Orchestra in February. O’Brien has been executive director of the Lubbock Symphony since 1995 and is a founder of Symphonies of the Southwest, a consortium of 12 Texas orchestras.

LORI PELLETIER (ENG) of Middletown, Conn., is secretary-treasurer and top lobbyist at the Connecticut AFL-CIO, which represents 260,000 union workers in the state. Pelletier was the subject of a Hartford Courant interview in February 2000, in which she described how she was drawn to the union movement and became interested in labor law. She wants to bring more rank-and-file people to the capitol, she said, to bring their stories home to the legislature.

JUDE SCHWENDEWENWIEN (ART) of Glendale, Calif., runs Aesthetic Communications, his own public relations and marketing firm, from a home office. His partner developed a software program called Seismic Plugin for use by geologists, oil companies, and universities. Schwendenwien is responsible for promotion and marketing. He also continues to work on his photography and plans to host an Internet photo exhibition of images from the 1990s during the year 2000.

1985
PETER VERU (BARNEY) of New York, N.Y., premiered music from the self-titled debut album of his band, Feathermerchants, in February at the University’s Wilde Auditorium. Feathermerchants features twin guitar/bouzouki instrumentation and a female vocalist. The music is a world music take on modern rock. Veru is a member of the University’s board of regents.

ERIK WEXLER (HILLYER, A&S, MBA ‘87) of Watertown, Conn., has been named chief operating officer of MidState Medical Center in Meriden, Conn. Wexler was previously vice president of business development and community relations at Waterbury Hospital. While still at Waterbury Hospital last fall, Wexler was named one of the state’s rising business leaders by The New Haven Business Times. The “Forty under 40” listed by the business magazine were selected for their professional success and community involvement. “I will severely miss [my current boss] and the rest of my co-workers at Waterbury Hospital,” Wexler stated. “It is very hard for me to leave here. But an opportunity like this doesn’t come along every day. MidState is a terrific hospital, and being chief operating officer there is an opportunity I am looking forward to.” MidState, which opened in September 1998, is a 106-bed hospital with approximately 1,000 employees.

CONGRATULATIONS
Best wishes to our alumni and their spouses on recent nuptials.

Shelley Pakman ’74 and Dr. Allan Weisberg
Carrie Schoenfeld ’79 and Fiore Guglielmi
Debra LaVoye ’87 and Daniel Shay
Samara Weinstein ’87 and Jeffrey D. Goldstein
Audrey Stein and Scott Kramer ’88
Arlene Tim and James Maloney ’88
Katherine Palazzo ’88 and Michael Mecca
Traci Turski and Andrew Sheintop ’88
Melissa Schantz and Alan Aiken ’89
Ameen Flynn and Bernard J. (BJ) Green ’90
Diane Hastings and William Hastings ’90
Dawn Fabrycki ’91 and Andrea Uccello
Anne-Marie Coen and David Feldman ’91
Cheryl Russo and Joel Kaplan ’91
Rachael Rubin ’91 and Eric Adam Cole
Diahann Sibley ’91 and Michael R. Martin
Lauren Feldman ’92 and Brian M. Gavigan
Janett Mugaburu and Gilbert Richards IV ’92
Kim Paradine ’93 and Ethan Schnepper ’92
Debra Bulwin ’93 and Robert Volz

and to our alumni parents

Kim M. Holmes ’78 and Kerwin J. Mumford ’78 (Matthew)
Cathy Twill ’85 and Jim Pitingolo (Jimmy, Grace, and Louis)
Felice Liebman ’89 and Neil Kaufman (Bradley Allen)

Wendy Goldstein ’93 and Marc Landow ’93
Tovah Martin ’93 and Jimmy Ringland
Kimberly Mineo ’93 and Kirk Manley
Lisa Sebring ’93 and Marcos Carreras ’95
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Alicia McFarland and Frederick Hirning ’95
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Laura James and Robert M. Ryan ’95
Allicia Barnes and Timothy Flaherty ’96
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JOSEPH PESQUALUCCI (ENG) of North Haven, Conn., has been elected vice president of operations for Memry Corporation, a company with locations in Brookfield, Conn.; Menlo Park, Calif.; and Herk-de-Stad, Belgium, that provides fully integrated development and manufacturing services to the medical-device industry. Pesqualucci has been vice president and general manager of the company’s western division.

NATASHA RETHKE (A&S) of Collinsville, Conn., has joined BrainBug LLC as creative director. Rethke is an award-winning creative director who has worked with both national and international design firms, most recently for Moss Warner Communications Inc. and Product Ventures, Ltd.

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JOSEPH DIAMOND (HARTT) of Liberty, N.Y., has been aggressively promoting his own independent CD release, Not Your Typical New Yorker, on his own Bacileus label, literally going store-to-store. Because he does not have a distributor, Diamond plays his Latin jazz CD in the stores, leaves a few discs on consignment, and gives the staff promotional pieces. He has been working toward distribution in other cities. “I sent the CD to radio stations and then worked out consignment deals with local retail stores,” he says. According to one Manhattan retailer, Diamond has done “incredibly well for an independent consignment deal.”

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PATRICK TAYLOR (HARTT) of Litchfield, Conn., is the new director of choirs at Greenwich (Conn.) High School. For the past 10 years, Taylor has held a similar position at Wilton (Conn.) High School, following his first job at Park Ridge (N.J.) High School. In Greenwich, Taylor oversees six choirs and teaches piano. He is a vocalist and plays tuba and drums in addition to piano.

1988
DONNA BROWN (ENHP, MEd) of Wethersfield, Conn., has been named the 1999–2000 Wethersfield teacher of the year. Fellow staff members also selected her as a peer award winner. Praised for her significant contributions by school administrators, Brown was described as “having special talents that promote high standards for all students in Connecticut.”

BRUCE CHUDWICK (BARNEY, MST) of Farmington, Conn., has been named partner in the law firm of Shipman & Goodwin LLP. Chudwick, who has been practicing law for 12 years, is a member of the firm’s business department and chair of the public finance practice group.

COLLEEN MURPHY-HILLARD (A&S) of Simsbury, Conn., teaches an innovative swim program called Parenting through Swimming at The Bridge in West Hartford, Conn. The program not only teaches swimming and safety skills but also promotes better interaction between parents and children. Murphy’s program was described in a Hartford Courant feature in February.

LISA SCHAFFER-HARRIS (HARTT) of Albuquerque, N.M., was the featured soprano soloist with the Voices of Baha during a March tour to Haifa, Israel, and Bratislava, Slovakia. In Slovakia she sang with the Slovak Symphony Orchestra, premiering a new oratorio, Carmel, by Tom Price. Schaffer-Harris’s husband and father-in-law accompanied her and sang in the tenor section of the chorus.

1989
SUSAN DANIS (BARNEY, MBA) of Sarasota, Fla., was chosen executive director of the Sarasota Opera after a nationwide search. Danis was formerly general director of New York’s Lake George Opera Festival and has extensive experience in development, marketing, and public relations.Profiled in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune, she is described as having “a great working knowledge of what it takes to be a good executive director.”

BARBARA MASE (BARNEY, MPA) of New Britain, Conn., is the newly appointed director of the AIDS Ministries Program of Connecticut, a new human services program offered by the Salvation Army.

BRUCE L. OLIVER (BARNEY, MBA) of Enfield, Conn., writes that he is a biographical subject in the 100th anniversary edition of Marquis Who’s Who in America. Oliver is an Internet business developer; his Web site is <www.newventureinc.com>.

SHARON REILLY (HARTT, MMus) of Southington, Conn., has returned to music directorship of the Nutmeg Conservatory of the Arts in Torrington, Conn. One of the planners of the music division a half-dozen years ago, Schmeizl ran the school until her husband’s job took her to another state. Now she has resumed the job of teaching conservatory students and accompanying dancers in the Nutmeg ballet classes.

SCOTT SIMON (BARNEY, MBA) of Windsor, Conn., is senior-level underwriter at United HealthCare. He and his wife, Jill, celebrated their eighth wedding anniversary in April.

GREGG THALLER (HARTT, MMusEd) of Salem, Mass., recently received a doctor of music education degree at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Dr. Thaller is chairperson of the music department at Salem State College, Salem, Mass., as well as its director of bands. As a free lance percussionist, he is currently the timpanist and principal percussionist for the Cape Ann Symphony, the North Shore Philharmonic, and the Melrose Symphony orchestras.

1990
MELISSA GRANDE (A&S, MA) of Stamford, Conn., has been named vice president in addition to her current role as public relations director of Catalyst Marketing Communications, Inc., Stamford. Grande joined the agency in 1997 and is responsible for existing clients and agency promotion.

RICHARD E. JANKURA, JR. (BARNEY), of Cleveland, Ohio, has been named senior director, finance and administration, at Enterprise Development, Inc., where he will provide overall financial and administrative oversight. Jankura has held positions as manager of financial analysis and controller. EDI is a not-for-profit subsidiary of Case Western Reserve University.

1991
MELISSA BORNMAN (Hillyer, A&S) of South Portland, Maine, writes that she graduated from Pace University in January with a master’s degree in elementary education and has moved to Maine to “pursue my career as a teacher.” She also says that her home has “lots of room for visitors, so give me a call and start booking your summer weekends.” Her e-mail address is <melissaborrnmann@hotmail.com>.

1992
JANICE COSTELLO (ENHP) of Enfield, Conn., has been named vice president for patient care services at Masonic Geriatric Healthcare Center, Wallingford, Conn. Costello has spent over 23 years in various areas of patient care administration and nursing. Most recently, she was director of nursing services at Mount Saint Vincent Nursing Home, Holyoke, Mass.

ALBERT L. FELIU (BARNEY, MBA) of Lilburn, Ga., has been promoted to executive support budgeting manager with BellSouth Telecommunications/Network & Carrier Services in Atlanta. Previously, he was senior manager of the wire group.

Oops, We Goofed!
Information on the following graduates was not listed correctly in the March issue of The Observer. Please accept the Alumni Office’s apologies.

Marilyn Rossetti ’98 AA HCW
Duwan Smith, ’97 AA Hillyer, ’99 BA A&S
Lisa Vooys ’95 BS HCW, ’98 MSOB Barney
Also, Sherryll Margiotta ’94 is married to Antonio Margiotta.
Bella Voce Continues Outreach

Bella Voce, a group of African-American operatic singers affiliated with The Hartt School, is continuing to broaden its fan base and expose growing numbers of Greater Hartford residents to the beauty and power of opera.

The vocal group gave its most recent concert on May 21 in Wilde Auditorium on the University campus. The ensemble performed "classical art songs and Negro spirituals," according to Bella Voce member Kenneth Overton, who recently completed a residency with the Connecticut Opera’s outreach and education program, Opera Express.

“We've had a lot of people ask us when we will be performing next. We've developed a very loyal following," Overton said.

Bella Voce is planning upcoming performances that will feature a musical theater cabaret program and a concert of “old Baptist hymns,” Overton said.

In addition to Overton, a baritone who attended Hartt from 1982 to 1995, the other members of Bella Voce are:

**JOLIE ROCKE BROWN**, a soprano, who earned a bachelor’s degree in music in 1989

**GAY CHUN**, a pianist and member of The Hartt School faculty

**MIA DOUGLAS**, a soprano, earned a master’s degree in 1999

**GILLIAN FIELDS**, a soprano, who earned a master of music degree in May

**CORNELIUS JOHNSON**, a tenor, who, like Overton, recently completed a residency with the Connecticut Opera

**GARRICK JORDAN**, a tenor, who earned a graduate professional diploma from Hartt in 1998

For more information about Bella Voce, call Douglas at (860) 827-0317.

years, serving as the municipal banking team leader in Maine and recently as a relationship manager for select accounts in Connecticut.

**AUDREY LAMY** (ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., after teaching special education courses for 11 years, is now coordinating and teaching a new alternative high school program. She writes that the outplaced, restricted program is "challenging at each corner [but] the bends are quite fulfilling."

**BRENT ROBERTSON** (ART) of West Hartford, Conn., has been named senior graphic designer by Innovative Internet Marketing Solutions of Wallingford, Conn.

**CHRISTINE CAPPABIANCA** (BARNEY, MST) of East Lyme, Conn., has joined BrainBug LLC as vice president, technical services. McQuilken has had more than 20 years of technology experience in corporate, commercial software, and Internet start-up environments. In his role as vice president, he will be responsible for building the technical department through addition of individuals and development of new products and services.

**JOHN PAVLOVICH** (BARNEY, MSPA) of West Hartford, Conn., has joined Archives Management Inc. as chief financial officer. Pavlovich will oversee and direct the accounting and financial functions. He was formerly employed by Arthur Anderson in Hartford and specialized in financial consulting and valuation.

**JOHN T. SALEMII, JR.** (BARNEY, MST), has joined Kosovsky, Pratesi & Co. LLC as a member and head of the accounting and tax departments.

**JERRY BELLIZZI** (BARNEY, MST) of Portland, Conn., has received a Juris Doctor degree from Western New England School of Law in Springfield, Mass. Bellizzi is a CPA and is currently an international tax manager at United Technologies Corporation, Hartford.

**PATRICK GILBERT** (BARNEY, MBA) of Portland, Conn., has been promoted to team leader for Fleet Bank’s municipal banking unit in Connecticut. He has been with Fleet for 12
1996

MICHELLE D’AUTEUIL (ART) of Tolland, Conn., has joined the staff of DiBacco & Company, an advertising and design firm, in Avon, Conn. D’Auteuil, designer, will be responsible for communications work, primarily in graphic design and corporate communications materials.

FRANCES HARRIS (ENHP, DEd) of Leesburg, Va., was named the 17th East Hartford (Conn.) Service to Youth Award winner by the East Hartford Child Plan and Youth Advisory Board. During the five years when Harris was principal of Hockanum School, student test scores improved, and the school was opened for community programs, including a unique family resource center. Harris and her new husband have subsequently settled in their native state of Virginia.

1997

JAMES DECESARE (ART) of Hartford, Conn., artist-in-residence at Hartford’s ArtSpace, joined other family members in “The DeCesare Family Art Exhibit,” displayed at ArtSpace during March. DeCesare’s mother,
Character, leadership, spirit

Seven people who exemplify the qualities that the University seeks to develop through its athletics program—outstanding character, leadership, and spirit—were honored at the 10th Annual Alumni Athletics Hall of Fame dinner on April 15. They were:

ROBERT H. FORRESTER ’66, a member of Hartford’s 1962 soccer team, which won the NCAA Atlantic Coast championship. A former UofH development director, Forrester was responsible for securing the gift from Faisal Al-Marzook ’67 to build the University’s athletic fields. A successful businessman who specializes in consulting services to the global nonprofit community, Forrester received the Vincent Brown Coffin Award.

Named after the University’s first president, it is presented to a former student-athlete who has demonstrated excellence in his or her professional career.

REGINA RONAN ’91, four-year star for the Hawks women’s soccer program and letter winner with the basketball program, who led the Hawks to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 1989. Following graduation, she became a world-class marathon runner, qualifying for the Olympic Trials in 1996 and 2000.

AUDREY DAHLSTROM ’94, a star setter for four years with the Hawks volleyball program who earned NAC Player of the Year honors in 1993, the only Hawk ever to earn the honor. She still holds Hartford’s all-time assist record with 6,010. Since graduation, Dahlstrom has been coaching at all levels, including high school, club, and collegiate.

HILDA BRASSILL ’60, ’64, assistant professor emerita of elementary education, who received the A. Peter LoMaglio Award, named for the “father of Hartford athletics.” It is presented annually to an individual who has provided outstanding and dedicated service to the Division of Athletics and its student-athletes.

WOLFWRIED MIELERT ’66, three-year letter winner for the men’s soccer team, starring as a defender, who helped lead the Hawks to the 1962 NCAA Atlantic Coast championship. He is co-CEO of Galaxy Technologies in Bloomfield, Conn.

DAVID CORREALE ’76, four-year star with the baseball team and two-year letter winner in basketball. He earned Baseball All-America honors in 1976, while serving as team captain; he is Hartford’s all-time leader in home runs. Correale is senior vice president of Dentalmatic Technologies and president of Dentalmatic North America.

GEORGE LASNIER ’64, four-year standout for the soccer team who played three years on the tennis team and two years with the basketball squad. Lasnier played semiprofessional soccer in Iran and the United States until the age of 40. He coached youth soccer for several years and remains passionately involved with the sport.
SHARON REIS (A&S, MA) of Alexandria, Va., has been distinguished as one of “15 to Watch: Young Stars of PR” by Phillips PR News, a leading public relations trade newsletter. Reis is a founding partner of Washington-based Garrett Yu Hussein LLC.

1999
JOXEL GARCIA (BARNEY, MBA) of Avon, Conn., who is Connecticut’s commissioner of public health, was recently interviewed by the Hartford Business Journal on a number of issues that affect Connecticut residents and are the responsibility of the commission.

PATRICIA GREY (HARTT, MMus) of Danbury, Conn., joined the staff of Joel Barlow High School, Redding, Conn., as music teacher for the 1999–2000 school year.

PAMELA LLOYD (HARTT, MMus) of Boothbay Harbor, Maine, has joined the Blacksburg branch of the Roanoke (Va.) Music School.

CHRISTINA MORALES (HCW) of Hartford, Conn., is working at Drugs Don’t Work! as an intern.

CLIFFORD RANKIN (BARNEY, MST) of Bristol, Conn., is chair of the state taxation committee for the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants.

2000
JOE BROCATO (A&S) of Laredo, Texas, is sports anchor and reporter for KVTV, Ch. 13, the CBS affiliate in Laredo.

JENNIFER MOAK (ENHP) of West Windsor, N.J., writes that she just got her first job as a conference coordinator for the Lambeville House, a boutique hotel.

RACHEL NOVIN (A&S) of Forest Hills, N.Y., is currently working for D’Arcy Advertising as an associate account manager for Pampers. Novin is planning to attend New York University to pursue a master’s degree.

Continued from page 25

now. And if we don’t find peace in ourselves and the world, if we don’t feed the children, if we don’t have a responsibility to future generations then we’re going to lose this planet and the life we have all enjoyed.

PDT: How does A Circle of Women address these concerns?

GK: A Circle of Women’s mission is to educate and promote [woman] as peacemaker, healer, and visionary, and we will launch this “new conversation” with a documentary film that will premiere in September of 2000. It contrasts [tenets of] Western ideology with [the] thinking [of] indigenous [people] and examines the role of the female in the 21st century.

PDT: This sounds like a very big deal.

GK: I’ve been working on the documentary for nine years. The message is urgent for all of us. We have a responsibility not only to ourselves now but to the life on earth and to future generations. At this time, we have circles of women and men—our message is all-inclusive—in eight cities and seven countries. We are just beginning our outreach and plan to have Circles of Women operating around the world very, very soon. Our Web site is just getting up and running. You’ll be able to find us at <www.acircleofwomen.org>.

PDT: Getting back to UofH, do you see a direct link between what you learned as a student and where you are now?

GK: Absolutely! The reason I went to the University of Hartford was because they gave me a full leadership scholarship. They wanted to develop me as a leader, and they did. Today, I’m still teaching and leading but on a more universal level, through filmmaking. The whole idea of bringing together ancient wisdom and the modern world is to remind people to think about who they are and the quality of their relationships, not only with each other but with the world they live in, the environment, and how they treat their children. A lot of who I’ve become has to do with the experiences I had at the University of Hartford.

Little-known facts about Gayle Kelley

First band: Kelley Green

Played: basketball, softball, volleyball

Advisor to Hollywood environmental organization with: Tom Cruise, Jane Fonda, Ted Danson, Ed Begley, Jr., Kenny Loggins, and Glenn Close

Still sees: Kevin Fahey, Debbie Joyce, Jane Sullivan, and Barbara Cavatasos

Most curious about: Jimmy Diamond, Ben Holden, Ed Peletier, and John Seabury

Web site: www.acircleofwomen.org
A Tradition Revived

SCENES from The Hartt School Alumni Dinner

1) Left to right: John Zei, professor of opera and voice; Watson Morrison, professor of piano; Dean Malcolm Morrison; Tim Stella ’75, Hartt’s Alumnus of the Year; and Jim Jacobs ’59, director of admissions

2) Joyce Zei with Dean Morrison and Joan Glazier ’58

3) Jaclyn Turner ’00, Tim Stella ’75, and Florence Stella ’75

4) Elizabeth Warner-Paranov ’43

5) Sean Burton ’00 and Owen Morgan ’01, president, Hartt Student Council

6) Tim Stella ’75, Alan Francis ’69, ’74, and Margreet Francis ’76

7) Barbara Hacksteen and Dean Morrison

8) Elizabeth Warner-Paranov ’43 and Karen and Howard Sprout ’75
On April 30, The Hartt School held an Alumni Dinner, reviving its tradition of honoring an Alumnus of the Year, as well as recognizing retiring faculty and staff members. Attended by more than 150 alumni and friends, the event, held at the 1877 Club, was a wonderful opportunity to renew acquaintances and celebrate the achievements of people who are dear to the School.

“That is why we are here today,” said Hartt Dean Malcolm Morrison, “to share the links of a common heritage, to explore the bonds of shared experiences and to create the stories to be shared in the future.”

Hartt conferred Alumnus of the Year honors on Tim Stella ’75 for his achievements as conductor, director, and musician. In accepting his award, Stella reflected on the impact the school has had on his career, specifically citing the influences of Jim Jacobs, Watson Morrison, and John Zei.

Stella has an impressive list of musical successes. He has conducted The Phantom of the Opera, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, The Most Happy Fella, Guys and Dolls, Hello, Dolly!, and Legs Diamond. He has been musical director for the national tours of Cats, Evita, and Annie, and was musical supervisor of the Evita world tour, for which he produced the Deutsche Grammophon/Polydor cast album.

As a recording session player and synthesizer specialist, Stella has contributed the keyboard work on albums, soundtracks, and commercials for Harry Belafonte, PBS, Hallmark Hall of Fame, Pepsi, Perrier, and the United States Army. He has served as organist, arranger, and conductor for Christmas and Easter productions at New York City’s Radio City Music Hall. In Connecticut, Stella has been resident music director at Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam and is currently music director at Saint Peter Claver Church in West Hartford.

The tradition of naming an Alumnus of the Year began in 1959 with the honoring of Gilbert Johnson ’48. Past award recipients who attended this year’s dinner included Elizabeth Warner-Paranov ’43; Howard O’Connell ’49, ’57; Edward Diemente ’48; Alexander Lepak ’50; and Peter Harvey ’72, ’79.

Dean Morrison recognized the tireless dedication of three retiring faculty members. James Jacobs ’59 began teaching French horn at Hartt in 1955 and since 1980 has been the director of admissions. Watson Morrison, who also joined Hartt in 1955, inspired many piano students with his musicianship and teaching as professor of piano. John Zei, former chairman of the opera department and artistic director of the Hartt Opera Music Theater from 1973 to 1982, was also an active member of the University’s Faculty Senate for many years.

In addition, Dean Morrison surprised Barbara Haksteen, director of administration, and Joyce Zei, teaching associate in opera, both of whom retire this year, with special presentations. He expressed his deep gratitude to all the retirees for their invaluable contributions of time, talent, and love of music to the students of The Hartt School.

The Hartt School seeks nominations for Alumnus/Alumna of the Year, the award to be presented at the Alumni Dinner on April 29, 2001. If you would like to nominate an alumnus/a of The Hartt School, please complete this form and return it to the Alumni Office, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117, or fax it to (860) 768-4244. You can also e-mail your response to <agallaghe@mail.hartford.edu>. Responses are due by Sept. 15, 2000.

Nominee’s name: ________________________________________________

Your name: ____________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________

Daytime phone number: _________________________________________

Reason for nomination: _________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CALENDAR

Thursday, June 29, 2000
Pre-'57 River Cruise from Haddam, Conn., to Sag Harbor, Long Island. Depart at 9 a.m. and return at 6 p.m. Tickets: $20 per person.

Saturday, July 22, 2000
Boston Alumni Chapter presents a Whale Watch Excursion. Meet at 12 noon at Long Wharf. Advance reservations required. Adults: $20 per person; children under 12: $12 per person.

Monday, July 31, 2000
Vin Baker’s Presidential Golf Invitational, Hartford Golf Club, West Hartford, Conn. Check-in, 10 a.m.; lunch, 11:30 a.m.; tee-off, beginning at 12:15 p.m., scramble format. Post-tournament reception. For more information, contact the Sports Center, (860)-768-5032.

Saturday, August 5, 2000
University of Hartford Day at Six Flags New England. $26 per person includes admission to both parks and lunch.

Monday, August 7, 2000
11th Annual Gordon McCullough Golf Classic at the Glastonbury Hills Golf Club. Proceeds from the tournament benefit the Hartford men’s basketball program. Registration fee: $150. For more information, contact Ellen Crandall at (860) 768-5032.

Tuesday, August 29, 2000
UofH Jeff Bagwell Day at Shea Stadium. Game time, 7:10 p.m. Ticket price: $100 per person; includes special limited seating, food, and beverages.

Save the date!
Homecoming and Parents Weekend
October 13, 14, 15, 2000
Comedian Paula Poundstone,
Watch for the weekend’s schedule in the next issue of The Observer.
Where you a member of SA/SGA or a Red Cap/Orientation leader? Contact the Alumni Office to make sure your name is on the list!
For accommodation information and more details, contact the Alumni Office at 1-888 UH ALUMS.

uhconnections.org
Point and click your way to the newest Web destination for alumni, parents, and friends of the University of Hartford: www.uhconnections.org! Here, you’ll find shortcuts to University news, events, and information, as well as links to programs on campus. You can also update your address, make an e-visit to your school or college, or make a gift to the Annual Fund online. Log on and visit www.uhconnections.org—the place for alumni, parents, and friends of the University of Hartford.

Keep in touch!
Barb Klemmer, Director of Alumni Relations
Linda Leslie, Secretary
1-888-UH ALUMS (toll-free)
860-768-4357
e-mail: alumni@mail.hartford.edu
Web: www.hartford.edu/alumni

All events are subject to date and time changes. For more information, contact the Alumni Office toll-free at 1-888-UH ALUMS; visit our Web site: www.hartford.edu or e-mail us at <alumni@mail.hartford.edu>.
Teacher.
Tourist.
Landlord.
Philanthropist.

“The University of Hartford provided the education I needed to get ahead. I felt I should give something back.”

Lucille G. Killiany ’65

Learn how you, like Lucille, can get something back from your gift.

- Increase your income
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