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During the evening of Feb. 28, many alumni and current students gathered at the Hilton Garden Inn in Windsor, Conn., to honor the contributions BSU has made to the university and surrounding communities. Among the attendees were, from left to right, Samantha Thompson-Foster ’06, Todd Allen ’04, Camille McQueen ’06, Sherika Roach ’08, Corey Barnes ’04, Ayeshah Stuart ’07, and David Oxley ’05.

Current Brothers and Sisters United members who helped celebrate BSU’s 40th Reunion included, top: left to right, Calyca Marshall ’08, Regina Anderson ’07, Tiffany Glendenning ’08, and Leah St. Lawrence ’06; and bottom, left to right, Tiana Turner ’07 and Marisa Ross ’07.
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The Observer Staff

Editor-in-Chief: Trish Charles  Editor: Diana Simonds
Art Director: Keith Campagna  Graphic Designer: Jason Ulm
Copy Editor: Beverly Kennedy  Circulation Manager: Sharon Scorso

Contributing writers: Trish Charles; Jonathan Easterbrook ’87, ’90; Woody Exley; David Agger; Judie Jacobson; Kati Liss ’04; Flannery O’Brien ’04; Missy Murphy Pavana ’70, ’73; Jessica Pizano ’98; Barbara Steinberger; Margaret Withey

Contributing photographers: Steve Bamberg; Christine Dalenta ’91, ’94; Amy Etra; Jeff Feldmann; Steve Laschever; Lanny Nagler; Doug Penhall; Steve Slade

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www.hartford.edu/observer

The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official University of Hartford policy.
Hope for the Future
Rooted in the Past

I grew up in a store on Upper Albany Avenue. OK. It wasn’t on Albany Avenue. It wasn’t even in Hartford. The store I grew up in was Harrison’s Men’s and Boy’s Wear on Fifth Avenue in Tarentum, Pa. It was owned by my father and uncle, and by their father before them.

I worked in Harrison’s from age 8—when I made boxes in the attic—until I was 18 and left to become a student at Trinity College in 1964.

So when I returned to Hartford 34 years later to become president of the University of Hartford, Upper Albany looked very familiar to me. It looked like Tarentum’s Fifth Avenue, a street lined with small businesses working hard to become successful.

I knew from my own experience how hard small-business owners work to succeed. I quite clearly remember my father working six days a week in the store and then spending Sunday afternoons at the dining room table in our home, working on the books. I remember my mother working in the small office in the rear of the store, my sister stocking the shoe section, and me selling shorts, shirts, and underwear up front. I remember how tired I felt after working for 11 and a half hours on a Saturday before Christmas, and I especially remember how much my feet hurt after standing all day.

And I remember the incredible thrill my father felt in putting his stamp on his own business, and the satisfaction he felt in serving his customers.

So, when I looked at Upper Albany Avenue for the first time on that June day in 1998, I saw my own past and a wonderful potential for Hartford’s future. I saw a street in north Hartford that, with some prudent investment, could become a wonderful counterpart to thriving Hartford business sections on Franklin Avenue, Park Street, and Farmington Avenue.

A few weeks later, I visited The Artists Collective at its former location on Clark Street. I was amazed by the creative energy and talent I found there, and was astonished when Dollie McLean told me they were soon to move to a new building on Upper Albany designed by Tai Soo Kim.

University President Walter Harrison (right) was among the community leaders who spoke at a May 20 forum on “The Future of Albany Avenue” at The Artists Collective in Hartford, sponsored by The Hartford Courant editorial board. Other members of the panel included Dollie McLean (left), executive director of The Artists Collective, and Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez (center). The panelists agreed that there is a sense of positive momentum but felt that officials must develop a cohesive vision for the neighborhood and address such issues as crime, education, and parking in order for the avenue to thrive.

On the way back to the university, I stopped by to see the building, then under construction. I immediately realized that if the university could somehow become involved in this neighborhood of ours, The Artists Collective and the university could become gateways to a new vibrant Hartford location.

Several months later, Judge Robert Killian, my neighbor and a university regent, suggested that I look at the former Thomas Cadillac dealership at the corner of Albany Avenue and Westbourne Parkway as a site for an expansion of the university’s Hartt School. Within a few months, we began the discussions that concluded with our purchasing the site.
Since that summer day six years ago when I first saw Albany Avenue, I have learned a lot about it, about its merchants and their dreams, about the creative energy and talent of The Artists Collective, about the neighborhood’s schools and churches, about the boundless human potential that resides there. All this has been the underpinning of the university’s strategy of engagement with its neighbors.

Our strategy has three prongs. First, we have purchased the Thomas Cadillac site and are now raising the money and finishing the designs for a performing arts center that will house the theatre, dance, and voice divisions of The Hartt School. Under the leadership of architects Tyler Smith and Michael Howard and the construction expertise of Downes Construction and Capital Restoration (the latter firm located on Albany), we are very close to beginning the project.

Second, under the leadership of Professor Margery Steinberg of the Barney School of Business and many of her colleagues and students, we have partnered with the Upper Albany merchants to provide them with services and expertise in areas ranging from marketing to finance to accounting—support and expertise my father would have loved to have had—to help make them more successful.

Third, we have partnered with the Hartford public schools to improve our support of the schools in the neighborhood—from Annie Fisher School to Fox Middle School. Our students and faculty work every day through our national award-winning program, Educational Main Street, to provide tutoring and mentoring to students in these schools. And on May 5, the Connecticut legislature provided bonding authority for $34 million to support construction of a new University High School of Science and Engineering, to be built just west of Annie Fisher School on the east edge of our campus in the Blue Hills Neighborhood, just on the edge of Upper Albany. This school will provide a wonderful counterpoint to our already spectacularly successful elementary magnet school, which also serves the students and families of our neighborhoods.

All of this is a major investment by the university in the future of our neighborhood, in the future of our community. Hundreds of people and millions of dollars are involved. The energy is palpable. The future is bright.

The university is deeply committed to Albany Avenue. We hope to be a major force in its future. But my hopes for that future are deeply rooted in my past.

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I truly enjoyed reading the article on the golf accomplishments of Jerry Kelly, Tim Petrovic, and Pat Sheehan [Winter 2004, The Observer]. It is amazing that a university that decided in the mid-1980s to move its athletics program from the lesser profile of NCAA Division II to the higher visibility of NCAA Division I has witnessed the increased exposure of the good name of the University of Hartford on major television networks, cable and satellite television, national newspapers, and major trade publications due to the success of its golf program.

Though the article did not mention the reclassification to NCAA Division I, one of the driving forces behind this initiative was former director of athletics, Mr. Gordon McCullough. Often referred to as the father of Hartford Hawk athletics, Gordon and then Vice President Robert A. Chernak spearheaded the move to place the then-young University of Hartford as a strong local, regional, and national institution. Today the University of Hartford reaps the benefit of their shared vision.

I served as Coach McCullough’s assistant for many years and can share that Gordon would have taken great pride in the accomplishments of the university today and those of Jerry, Tim, and Pat. He was instrumental in their recruitment to the university and their development as student-athletes. Gordon’s Irish eyes are smiling knowing that his boys are doing well and contributing back to their alma mater and the institution that he loved.

Sincerely,

Michael Gargano ’78
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Campus Life
University of Massachusetts Amherst

I just read the latest issue of The Observer [Winter 2004] and found the article on file sharing [“With A Little Help From Our Friends”] by Marcy Gottebrarn ’03 very interesting. One thing that surprised me is that the article didn’t quote Bill Stafford [Hartt ’90], Bill is the VP of copyrights at BMG and is one of the people at the forefront of this issue in the music industry. It seems to me that Bill is a great asset to the university and would have been a perfect person to be interviewed for this piece.

Ireneusz K. Lacki ’99

The Observer welcomes your letters and comments. Our e-mail address: observer@hartford.edu; postal address: The Observer, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117. Letters may be edited for space considerations.
Nearly 18,000 visitors came to see American Originals: Treasures from the National Archives during its three-and-a-half-month run at the Museum of American Political Life, making the exhibit an unqualified success for the university and the Greater Hartford community.

“American Originals has been the most popular exhibition in the university’s history. It has also been one of our most important, underscoring the university’s role in educating the broader public,” said President Walter Harrison.

“Every one of the nearly 18,000 visitors to the exhibition came away with a newfound understanding of the history of the American democracy. That is American Originals’ most lasting legacy,” Harrison added.

Visitors came to see American Originals and its companion exhibit, Connecticut Originals, right up to closing time at 5 p.m. on Commencement Day, May 16. More than 100 school groups representing close to 4,000 students viewed the exhibits. In addition, many children visited the exhibits with their families. “It was particularly gratifying to see so many parents with their children, some only five or six years old,” said Vice President of External Relations Larry Gavrich, who was instrumental in bringing American Originals to the university.

Faculty played a major role in American Originals, by giving gallery talks and lectures, writing newspaper op-ed columns and articles for The Observer, and sharing their expertise in countless ways, said Senior Director of Communications Marcy Cain, who served as the university’s project leader for the exhibition. In particular, Warren Goldstein, associate professor and chair of the history department; Jilda Aliotta, associate professor and chair of politics and government; and Leslie Lindenauer, assistant professor of history, were key to American Originals’ success, she said. “The involvement and leadership of faculty were phenomenal,” Cain said, adding that the dedicated volunteer docents who guided school children and other visitors through the exhibition also contributed greatly to the exhibition’s success. Several docents were university staff members.

While nearly 2,000 miles and more than 2,000 years of history separate ancient Bethsaida and 20th-century Dresden, an exhibition now on display at the university brings the two cities together in an exposition of reclamation and Jewish survival.

_A Tale of Two Cities: Bethsaida and Dresden_ is on view through Dec. 20 at the university’s new $1.5 million George J. Sherman and Lottie K. Sherman Museum of Jewish Civilization. Curator for the exhibition is Christine Dalenta ’91, ’94.

“A Tale of Two Cities is intended to tell the stories of Israel and the Diaspora—Bethsaida, a city in ancient Israel, and the city of Dresden in the midst of the European Diaspora,” said Richard Freund, director of the university’s Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies and the Sherman Museum. “Bethsaida, represented by the archaeological portion of the exhibit, tells us about a city linked to King David, Jesus and the Apostles, and Rabbinic Judaism in Babylonia and Israel that was cut short by catastrophic geological forces nearly 2,000 years ago; the famous key to the Fisherman’s (Saint Peter’s) House; and rare Roman coins, including one depicting Alexander the Great.

_Sources of Memory_ the Dresden part of the exhibition, features 16 large panels that illustrate the many aspects of Jewish life in Dresden before and during World War II—ranging from music and culture to sports—and the families who lived there. School photos, letters, and other memorabilia, such as a grandmother’s passport to the United States, are on display.

The exhibition is part of the William Singer Pre-Holocaust and Holocaust Era European Jewish History Collection made possible by Bruce Singer, his son. The collection will feature changing exhibitions from this period. _Sources of Memory_, which has been on display only in Dresden, Germany, before coming to the university, has been facilitated and also partially sponsored by the Federal Republic of Germany Consul General in Boston.

An opening conference on May 13 for _Sources of Memory_ featured remarks by Gunter Wehrmann, deputy consul general of Germany; Lilli Ulbrich of Dresden, an originator of the exhibition; and Peter K. Breit, professor emeritus of politics and government at the University of Hartford. Breit, whose family is featured in the exhibition, left Dresden as a child in 1939.

After completing its only stop in the United States at the university, the exhibition will travel to Yad Vashem, Israel’s Holocaust memorial park and museum.

Located in the former Senior Common Room of the university’s Mortensen Library, the Sherman Museum was made possible in large part by a generous donation from William Sherman to stand as a testament to the lives of his parents. The two immigrated, individually, to Hartford from Russia and Eastern Europe when both were very young children and both were active in Hartford area politics and local Jewish organizations. For museum hours or additional information, visit www.hartford.edu/greenberg or call 860.768.4963.
Mr. President, We Hardly Knew Ye

Who knew that Lyndon B. Johnson had a button by his bed that allowed him to control the Muzak being piped throughout the house and cow pastures on his ranch? Or that he owned an amphibious vehicle? Political analyst and presidential historian Michael Beschloss addressed these and other interesting topics in Lincoln Theater in March as part of the Rogow Distinguished Visiting Lecturers Program.

Dubbed by Newsweek as “the nation’s leading presidential historian,” Beschloss brought history alive for a capacity audience with his scrutiny of the personal lives of, and common misconceptions surrounding, some of the nation’s past presidents. The author of eight books, Beschloss is a regular commentator on PBS’s “The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer.” He also maintains a full schedule of appearances on documentaries like The Kennedys and the American Experience series, also on PBS.

During his lecture, Beschloss spoke of the importance of national treasures and of using hindsight to look at political figures and judge the potential of current presidential candidates. These topics have significance today, he said. Recent presidents, out of fear of being damaged by disclosures at a later date, have followed their legal advisers’ counsel to stop accumulating the personal records that make up part of the material in presidential libraries.

Such a change in traditional practice is unfortunate for historians, said Beschloss. The lack of records and tapes from a presidential term creates a bleak outlook for scholars and possible biographers of former presidents. Because of the absence of this type of material in the future, Beschloss foresees a lack of historical exhibits like American Originals: Treasures from the National Archives. This traveling exhibition of some of the most important documents in U.S. history was in residence from February to mid-May at the university’s Museum of American Political Life. The exhibit in Hartford was made possible by United Technologies.

As for current presidential candidates, Beschloss suggested ways to evaluate their potential. By looking at the past, he feels, we are able to inform ourselves about the future of politics. Above all, he advocates the importance of risking popularity for the good of the nation. This “willingness to do what’s right,” regardless of the consequences, is exemplified, according to Beschloss, by John F. Kennedy’s strong support of civil rights in the face of sometimes violent opposition.

Could he also be referring to President George W. Bush’s handling of the war in Iraq? asked someone in the audience. “I have no opinion of presidents who are alive,” Beschloss said with a smile.

Don’t Shoot the Messenger

Paul Gigot, Pulitzer Prize-winning political columnist and editorial page editor of the Wall Street Journal, gave his talk on the 2004 presidential election to a packed Lincoln Theater in March.

Prior to his lecture, the university presented Gigot with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. Gigot’s talk was presented by the Ruth B. and Charles W. Deeds Symposium.

Opening with a joke to illustrate the modesty, or lack thereof, of the journalism profession, Gigot alternated between insightful commentary and lighthearted humor that poked fun at Democrats and Republicans alike.

The 2004 presidential election, Gigot said, is stimulating much-needed debate on the role of American power in a post-9/11 world.

He assessed the strengths and weaknesses of President George Bush and Democratic challenger John Kerry. Bush is considered a strong leader whether you are with him or not, Gigot said, but noted that job growth will be Bush’s biggest vulnerability.

Kerry will be dogged by his perceived “flip-flopping” on issues, Gigot said. Kerry is “presidential” enough to have a chance to beat President Bush, according to Gigot, but he added that there are more Democrats who are passionate about beating President Bush than there are Republicans who are passionate about re-electing him.

Gigot ended his talk by predicting that President Bush will be re-elected by a margin of 52 percent to 48 percent.

“If I’m wrong,” he said, holding his hands up to the audience in mock-defense, “please don’t hold it against my...
Celebrating Special Olympians

More than 1,000 athletes, along with hundreds of coaches, family members, and friends, came to the university campus to compete in the Special Olympics Connecticut Eastern Regional Games. For those taking part in the opening ceremonies in the Chase Family Arena or watching any of the competitions, Saturday, May 22, truly was a special day.

The day was made especially memorable by the participation of Sargent Shriver, chairman emeritus of Special Olympics, who officially declared the games open and later attended the competitions. On the previous evening, the university presented Shriver with an honorary degree in recognition of his lifelong work as a humanitarian and statesman.

Wherever he went, Shriver stopped to give the athletes hugs and to encourage them. He posed for pictures with athletes and their families, who all thanked him for his efforts on behalf of the Special Olympics movement.

Aquatics, tennis, and soccer competitions were held at the university. Track and field, wheelchair races, and adaptive sports competitions were held at the adjacent Weaver High School in Hartford.

In addition to Shriver, the opening ceremonies featured remarks by former Connecticut Governor Lowell Weicker, Jr., whose son took part in the aquatics competition, as well as University President Walter Harrison and Weaver High School Principal Paul Stringer ’75.

Stringer noted that the Games had a special meaning for him because he is a university alumnus and a former special education teacher. Tom Monahan of NBC 30 was the master of ceremonies for the event.

Dozens of university employees worked as volunteers at the Games, as did hundreds of other Greater Hartford residents.

These Games marked the first time that Special Olympics Connecticut had a partner in putting on a regional competition. It was also the first event for the newly constituted Eastern Region, which is a merger of the North Central Region and the former East Region.

The new Eastern Region is composed of more than 80 towns. Teams from Norwich to Enfield and from Middletown to Manchester took part in the Opening Ceremonies. Five members from each of the teams paraded into the arena. A symbolic Olympic torch was lighted, and four athletes took part in a ceremonial torch run, each accompanied by a member of a local law enforcement agency.

Geri Shaw, director of the Special Olympics Connecticut Eastern Region, called the Games "a tremendous success." Both Shaw and Irwin Nussbaum, associate vice president for student life and university coordinator of the Games, said they were excited about the potential for the 2005 Games returning to the university.
Creativity and Research in the Limelight


These are but a few of the more than 20 student presentations made at the University of Hartford 2004 Undergraduate Research and Creativity Colloquium held in April. The event was sponsored by the university’s Honors Program and campus chapters of Alpha Chi and Alpha Lambda Delta national honor societies, with the continued support of University President Walter Harrison and his wife, Dianne.

Some 60 students, representing all of the university’s schools and colleges, gave presentations at the forum, which is held each spring to enable students to present outstanding scholarly and creative work to their peers, faculty, administrators, and other guests. The two projects shown above give some idea of the wide-ranging scope of the colloquium and the amount of planning and preparation that preceded the presentations.

Go West, Young

While many college students dream of traveling cross-country with just a knapsack and the wind at their backs, Dan Dabek ’06 is doing just that—and all for a good cause. This summer, he is one of 90 bicyclists who will hop on their Cannondale R400 bikes in New Haven, Conn., and travel westward, raising money and helping to build houses along the way on the Habitat for Humanity Bicycle Challenge.

Volunteers are the backbone of Habitat for Humanity International (HFH), a nonprofit, nondenominational Christian organization founded in 1976 that helps low-income families build homes. Since then, volunteers for HFH have raised money and helped build more than 50,000 houses in the United States and another 100,000+ in communities around the world.

Dabek, a music composition major at The Hartt School, comes from a family of Habitat volunteers. His father, sister, and mother have all been involved in various Habitat projects.

The ride for Habitat for Humanity will not be easy. The three groups of 30 volunteers have chosen one of three possible trails. Starting from New Haven, they will finish either at Seattle, Wash.; San

AD TEAM TRIUMPHS

On April 24, just one week after making a presentation at the Undergraduate Colloquium, a team of undergraduates from the university seized first place in District I of the American Advertising Federation’s (AAF) National Student Advertising Competition (NSAC) in Boston. Triumphing over such strong competitors as Boston College, Quinnipiac University, and Emerson College, the Hartford team now advances to the final phase of the competition during the AAF’s National Conference in Dallas, Texas, this month.

The client for this year’s NSAC is VISIT FLORIDA, a state-affiliated destination marketing organization charged with marketing tourism to Florida. The students’ campaign includes media, advertising, and marketing communication recommendations and features the advertising tagline, “No matter how you like it, you’ll Love it here.”

The advertising team is made up of students from the School of Communication, the Barney School of Business, Hartford Art School, and the Interactive Information Technology program. This year’s team includes Amanda Backer ’04, Joshua Blumstein ’04, Kelly Byrne ’05, Leigh Couture ’05, Amanda Marcoccio ’04, Tom Nelson ’05, Jamie Riter ’05, Shira Tizer ’04, Diana Tripodi ’05, Keith Vallone ’04, Stefanie Wells ’05, and Kelly Williamson ’04.

Randy Jacobs, associate professor in the School of Communication, is the team’s advisor. He is assisted by communication graduate student Michelle Bosau.
Francisco, Calif.; or Portland, Ore. Dabek chose the latter for good reason. This is the first year the “Oregon Trail” route has been active, and Dabek realizes the importance of bringing Habitat to new places. “One of the main purposes of this ride is that we’re going through these towns and telling [people] about Habitat—that’s probably one of the major reasons I’m doing it.”

The volunteers ride between 30 and 120 miles a day and do little more than eat, sleep, build, and ride. While Dabek does admit that the ride over the Rocky Mountains will be tough, he says he thinks that the hardest part, so far, has been the fund-raising.

Each cyclist has to raise $4,000 for the trip. As of this writing, Dabek has a little less than $1,000 left to reach his goal. He has received numerous donations from both his hometown of Stratford, Conn., and businesses in towns surrounding the University of Hartford. Cannondale Bicycle Corp., a Connecticut-based company, has donated all the bikes for the riders. Last year’s group of 60 cyclists raised $175,000 for HFH of Greater New Haven, according to the Habitat Web site.

Although he’ll be spending a lot of time on his bike this summer, Dabek will not be neglecting his music. “I have found that I get to this level, after cycling for a while, and then a continuous musical piece begins to form in my head,” he says. He plans on keeping a musical journal during the trip to jot down his road compositions. ■

**Rubber Ducks and Moonwalks on Campus**

The sun shone brightly on the University of Hartford campus one Saturday in April, as hundreds of rubber ducks raced down the Hog River, prospective broadcasters tried out their skills in a real TV studio, and children bounced, made music, and listened to stories. These events, along with many others, declared the arrival of the second annual Community Day. An estimated 1,000 people came to campus for a day of fun, entertainment, and discovery.

Many of those who attended were first-time visitors to the University of Hartford. The mission of Community Day is to increase public awareness of the many wonderful programs, activities, and resources that the university offers to the Greater Hartford community.

Gengras Lawn was transformed into a giant playground for the new Family Fun Day component of the event. Children of all ages bouched around on inflatable moonwalks and slides and took rides in a brightly colored train. In and around Gengras Student Union, they played carnival games, made arts and crafts projects, and tried their hands at various musical instruments at the “instrument petting zoo,” run by students from The Hartt School.

University Players theater group and Hartt School students performed, and there was a softball doubleheader and a youth soccer clinic. Engineering students displayed their floatable concrete canoe.

Howie the Hawk made the rounds on campus, and a giant yellow duck greeted children and promoted the university’s First Annual Duck Marathon. Participants, who paid $5 per duck to enter the race, crowded along the banks to watch the outcome as hundreds of rubber ducks floated down the Hog River in a colorful race benefitting the Hawks’ Athletics Board.

Organizers for the Community Day were Jonathan Easterbrook, ’87, ’90, director of advertising and marketing at the university, and Nicole Denkus ’04, a May graduate of the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions.

“The University of Hartford has always stayed remarkably true to its mission of being a valued resource to the Greater Hartford community,” said Easterbrook. “We are a private university, but we have a distinctly public purpose.” ■
John Nordyke, assistant professor of visual communication design at the Hartford Art School (HAS), is a man who talks with his hands. The tall, slender, former Midwesterner dressed in a khaki-colored shirt and wire-rimmed glasses uses his large, expressive hands to explain the production process for minting a coin—in this case, a nickel. It’s a process that the 37-year-old designer has just recently observed at the U.S. Mint after being selected as a master designer in its new Artistic Infusion program.

Nordyke, along with 23 other artists chosen from across the nation, has submitted original designs for two new 2005 nickels, part of the Mint’s “Westward Journey Nickel Series™.” The new coin designs follow on the heels of the Mint’s very popular state quarter series. They commemorate the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition (1804-06) to find the fabled Northwest Passage to the Pacific Ocean and the Louisiana Purchase (1803). This series represents the first change in the nickel’s design since 1938, when the U.S. Treasury scrapped the so-called buffalo nickel for the current design featuring Thomas Jefferson on the “heads” side and Monticello on the reverse.

Nordyke is not the first HAS artist to be affiliated with the commemorative nickel series. The first nickel in the series was designed by Norman E. Nemeth ’69, who joined the U.S. Mint as a sculptor/engraver in 2001. Issued in March 2004, it shows the 1801 Jefferson Peace Medal that was given as a token of good will by Lewis and Clark to Native American tribes they met along the trail. It also bears the inscriptions “Louisiana Purchase,” the date “1803,” and the initials of its creator. The second, due to be released in the fall, will feature the keelboat Lewis and Clark piloted up the Missouri River. The spring 2005 nickel will depict the cooperation and support given by Native Americans to the expedition. The fall 2005 coin will celebrate the culmination of the expedition’s progress. The winning designs will be announced sometime this summer.

“It is rather remarkable that works of art from Hartford Art School designers will eventually pass through everyone’s hands. We are honored to have Norman E. Nemeth and now, John Nordyke, designing coins for the U.S. Mint,” says HAS Dean Power Boothe.

While cruising the Web over the Christmas holidays, Nordyke discovered the Mint’s “Call for Artists.” The deadline for submitting designs, Jan. 9, was very close. “I left my wife and two daughters with my family in Indiana and hurried back to Connecticut to prepare the application,” he says. “It was a grueling four days.”

He was among 306 artists to apply. From that pool, 24 were chosen by a panel of judges from the Mint and the National Endowment for the Arts. Eighteen of the finalists are master designers who are professional artists, and six are associate designers who are undergraduate and graduate students. Among them are illustrators, graphic designers, painters, and sculptors.

 Asked what made him become a graphic designer in the first place, Nordyke grins and replies. “Probably album covers. I loved going to a record store and rummaging through the bins to look at the different album designs.”

Assistant Professor
John Nordyke
He also begged his dad to bring home the old wallpaper sample books from his store. Nordyke says he would spend hours sitting on the floor, flipping through the pages. And it turns out this isn’t the first time he’s shown an interest in coins.

“My dad trained me to look at coins. When I was a little kid growing up [in Wolcott, Ind.], he would bring home change and point out the buffalo nickels and wheat pennies. I have three-ring binders with sheets of coins, some of them 200 years old.”

A phone call on Feb. 9 told Nordyke he had made the cut. Ten days later, he was in Philadelphia for a two-day orientation session at the U.S. Mint. There he met the other artists in the group, and they toured the facilities and were introduced to the pitfalls of coin design. “Coins and stamps present real design challenges because they incorporate a lot of type and images in a very small space,” he explains.

In the engraving room, Nordyke encountered a large, elderly pantograph, an instrument used during production of the coins to copy images to scale. Mint employees will carve 8-inch plaster versions of the winning designs in bas-relief that are then used to create dies for stamping the metal coins. With enthusiasm, Nordyke describes watching the presses spew out coins “like giant slot machines.”

Back home in Connecticut, Nordyke had a month to research and create his designs. After investing his entire spring break on the project, he says his competitiveness began to percolate to the surface. “When I was at the orientation session, there was a real sense of camaraderie. I thought it would be great for any of us to have our designs selected. But after spending all that time working on my ideas, I was definitely thinking, ‘I hope they pick mine.’”

Each master designer receives a $1,000 honorarium per coin for designs submitted, and the associate designers receive $500. If one of his designs is selected, Nordyke will receive another $1,000. “It’s strictly an honorarium. Obviously none of us is doing this for financial reasons.”

Nordyke says he learned a lot from the process because it was a totally different challenge for him. “The artwork had to be submitted as a finished drawing. Not something I do every day.” During orientation at the Mint, the designers had been advised, for production reasons, to consider designs that were centered on the coin surface. Using the example of Play-Doh in a toy press, Nordyke describes how the center of an image that’s being stamped can be reproduced with more detail than the edges. Despite this precaution, he chose to present some asymmetrical ideas. He says he thought a successful asymmetrical design would be a fresh idea and might give him an edge over the other artists. “I tried pushing it,” he adds with a smile.

“I know it sounds clichéd,” he says, “but I am very honored to participate in the Artistic Fusion program. Working on the coin designs has given me a real sense of patriotism.” And the best part if one of his designs wins?

“Most of my design work is totally ephemeral. Years from now, there won’t be anything left. But this is going to be permanent. One of the people at the Mint said to us, ‘Your work will be collected centuries from now.’ That’s really important to me.”

Nordyke, who just finished his fourth year at HAS, sees the advantages the school affords both students and faculty. “I went to Purdue [University], and it was too big. I felt lost at that school, and I think I would have been much better served by a smaller school. At HAS, the classes are small and I have a chance to get to know my students. We’re on a first-name basis, and I like that.”

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Going to the Head of the Class

by Judie Jacobson

Recently, The Observer sat down with three teachers—one, a veteran of the classroom; one, in the early stages of her career; and one, still a student teacher. Yet, despite their differences in age, experience, and background, all three share an unwavering enthusiasm for the classroom, a staunch belief that they are destined to teach, and a degree in education from the University of Hartford. Two are already great teachers. The third is poised to fulfill that promise.

Keeping the Dream Alive

Nora Brown ‘74, ’77, ’89 had barely unpacked her bags in Hartford when she started making a difference.

The year was 1969 and Brown was a new immigrant, living in Hartford and studying part time toward a degree in education at the University of Hartford. Already equipped with a certificate in education from a non-degree teacher’s college in her native Jamaica, Brown spent the rest of her time working in early childhood education within the Hartford school system. Her goal: to help build preschool education in Hartford.

“There was a Head Start program in Hartford at the time,” recalls Brown, “but there was nothing for parents who were poor but didn’t qualify for Head Start because they were a little bit above the poverty guideline.” Brown, together with a group of teachers, parents, and community workers, set out to change that situation.

“We had an idea that we wanted a preschool program for Hartford children. I had studied under [Associate Professor and Chair of the Education Division] Regina Miller at the university,” she says, “and we brought her into our program to coach us in writing what became the first preschool curriculum in Hartford. I also worked closely with Dr. Weinswig [now Professor Emeritus S. Edward Weinswig], who was my advisor.” From this grass-roots consortium of concerned professionals and community members arose Hartford’s first school readiness program. Today, similar programs exist in almost every public school in Hartford.

Eventually, Nora Brown earned not only her bachelor’s degree, but also her Master of Education and her Sixth-Year Certificate in administration and supervision from the University of Hartford. After teaching in the early childhood program at the Batchelder School for several years, she took a position at the Dr. James Naylor School, also in Hartford, where she has been a teacher for the past 24 years. During the course of her career, Brown has taught various grades. But, regardless of the classroom or grade level, her love for teaching has remained constant.

“I’ve wanted to be a teacher as far back as I can remember,” says Brown, who comes from a family of educators. “I’ve never done anything else in my life—and I’ve never wanted to.”

In light of her dedication, it is no wonder that Brown was among five education professionals recently honored by Hartford Public Schools Superintendent Robert Henry with the first Dream Keepers Award. Presented at the third annual Black History Month Awards program, the prestigious award recognizes educators who have worked to keep the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., alive within the classrooms of Hartford.

Brown lives in Manchester, Conn., with her husband, Dermoth, who is a member of the University of Hartford Associates. The Associates is a group of business owners and members of corporations who support the university and raise funds for its scholarship programs. The Browns have two daughters, one of whom has followed in the family footsteps and is also making “an outstanding contribution to the children of Hartford,” says her proud mother.

Brown’s contributions to education extend beyond Hartford. She is one of two educators from Connecticut who serve on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), the body that certifies teachers nationally.

As enthusiastic about teaching today as she was when she entered the field 34 years ago, Brown has words of advice for a younger generation entering the profession. “Teaching is a wonderful, fulfilling profession, and anyone who enters it must stay focused and stay the course. To be able to lead children to learning is so rewarding. It’s a tremendous feeling!”

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Nora Brown ’74, ’77, ’89 in her classroom at the Dr. James Naylor School in Hartford
Kate Dougherty ’01, ’03 learned many valuable lessons about teaching in the courses she took during her years as an education major at the University of Hartford. Then she became a teacher and found out that two of the most important skills she would need when she took her place at the head of the classroom couldn’t be taught at all. They would have to be within her already—innate attributes ready to be called into play at a moment’s notice. She had to have patience and flexibility.

“It is more than a challenge to work in an inner-city middle school,” says Dougherty, who earned a bachelor’s degree in Education/English in 2001 and a Master of Education in Educational Technology in 2003.

Having completed her first year in the classroom as a 7th and 8th grade English and Language Arts teacher at Thomas J. Quirk Middle School in Hartford, Dougherty reflects back on her initial time as a full-fledged teacher. “This is not a job I can walk away from at 2:40 or 5:40 or whenever my day ends,” she says.

“My students deal with a lot—poverty, lack of parental support. Mom and dad sometimes work three jobs and can never make a parent conference. But my students crave consistency more than anything. They look forward to seeing me each day. It’s the routine we’ve established that keeps us all focused.”

Inspired to become a teacher by a close family friend who teaches in her native New York, Dougherty believes that despite the challenges, “it’s important for me to be here. Since the first day of school, I knew this is what I was meant to do. I have the discipline, structure, imagination, and humor to be a teacher.” And though she claims to be still working on acquiring those all-important skills called “patience” and “flexibility,” it would seem that she has an abundance of both.

“No matter with which student population you are working, you must remember that despite a tough outer shell, kids are innately kids. They all want praise and attention,” says Dougherty.

And so she offers this advice for those considering a career in the inner-city classroom: “Forget about thinking outside the box. Think outside your world. Think beyond the classrooms you grew up in—and don’t forget to try and think like a kid.”
Learning from the Experts

When it came to selecting a college, the University of Hartford seemed like the perfect choice for Tracey Bahia '04. It was far enough away and close enough to home for the Beverly, Mass., native. And, the word on the street was that Hartford had superior business and education programs. Bahia was still undecided about which career track to pursue.

“I really didn’t know too much about the University of Hartford, but I had heard that it was good,” says Bahia, who chose business as her major but switched to education in her sophomore year when she found business “too cut and dried.” It was, for Bahia, an inspired decision.

“I absolutely adore kids, and I thought education would be a good fit,” she says. “From the start, it was perfect.”

Bahia credits the enthusiastic faculty, and especially her advisor, Regina Miller, with giving her the tools to become an excellent teacher. She describes Miller as “an incredible mentor and an inspiration.” Bahia had the opportunity to hone those skills as a student teacher at the University of Hartford Magnet School, the kindergarten through fifth grade public school on the university’s campus. In addition to stints as a student teacher, Bahia has worked at the school in the extended day program since her sophomore year.

“I really love the magnet school—it’s an amazing facility for education students to utilize. The observation rooms and the advanced technology make it a great learning environment.” As do the school’s teachers.

“I sat back and watched Patty Cassella teach,” says Bahia of her student teaching experience in Cassella’s kindergarten class. “She is amazing with the children. Even the smallest thing that she does teaches them something. I wanted to be a teacher before, but she has made me know for sure that this is what I want to do.”

Although Bahia graduated in May, she must complete one more term of student teaching in the fall. After that, she plans to return to her hometown, where she will seek a teaching position in early childhood education.

New Magnet High School Draws Students to Campus

A new public high school opens on the University of Hartford campus this fall with a challenging curriculum emphasizing science, mathematics, engineering, and technology. The University High School of Science and Engineering will utilize an early college model that will support the partnership with the University of Hartford.

The new high school will open with 100 freshmen in temporary quarters at the university’s Asylum Avenue campus. The permanent home, to be located on Mark Twain Drive Extension on the east side of campus, is expected to be ready in the fall of 2006. The high school received a construction grant of $34 million during the recently concluded session of the Connecticut General Assembly.

Ultimately, the school will serve 400 students, all chosen by lottery. Seventy percent will be from Hartford, and 30 percent from surrounding suburban communities.

The new high school has been planned by a partnership that includes the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC), the Hartford Public Schools and the University of Hartford. The partnership was awarded a $400,000 planning grant from the Early College High School Initiative, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation of New York and administered by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation.
Ever wonder why you had to spend all those hours in the lab, tired eyes squinting at equipment while you scribbled down your notes?

The experience of working with laboratory equipment is vital in helping students master technical concepts in science and engineering. Besides reinforcing what has been taught in the classroom, lab time also gives students valuable career skills.

But what happens when student demand for laboratory stations outpaces the supply—or when the labs are not accessible after hours?

Enter the Automated Laboratory Test Environment (ALTE), the brainchild of Tom Eppes, assistant professor and chair of the Department of Electronic and Computer Engineering Technology in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture (CETA), and CETA Assistant Dean Peter Schuyler. With programming support from then-undergraduate student Darin Gilchrist ’04, the two faculty members developed ALTE as an innovation in the burgeoning field of “distance education,” or learning via the Internet.

Why a Virtual Lab?

“We were responding to a noticeable absence of online laboratory experiences for students,” Eppes says. “In the past six years, several universities have developed systems for distance experimentation, but most of them relate to a single course. We wanted a system that could be used for multiple experiments across many programs and disciplines.”

Guided by Eppes and Schuyler, Gilchrist developed software and built a Web site for ALTE in an undergraduate research project before receiving his degree in electronic engineering technology in January.

Simply stated, ALTE allows students to run experiments remotely via the Internet. But it actually will do much more. The system allows faculty to manage a library of online experiments, and it will act as a server to store and run experiments.

“Laboratory experimentation is central to the curriculum and mission of our college,” Eppes says. “Hands-on experience with industry-standard testing protocols in the laboratory is a benchmark of our programs. As our enrollment has grown, however, students have found it more difficult to schedule lab time—especially during evening hours when working students prefer to take classes.”

ALTE will allow students to conduct experiments over the Internet 24 hours a day, seven days a week, from their dormitory rooms, homes, or offices. Part-time students working in local business and industry will have access to course experiments without traveling to campus.

To date, ALTE has received approximately $16,500 in funding from a variety of sources. Agilent Technologies and National Instruments, leaders in the instrumentation field, have provided equipment, software, and other support. University-sponsored Coffin grants in 2003 and 2004 have also financed some of the hardware. These one-year grants, named after the university’s first chancellor, Vincent B. Coffin, support full-time faculty scholarly activities.

Plans call for pilot testing ALTE this fall in two courses taught by Eppes and Schuyler. “We plan to offer at least two experiments in each of the courses,” Schuyler says. “We will conduct these labs in the distance lab format. The only difference from normal labs will be that the students will ‘touch’ the equipment via the Internet.”

Initially, students performing the experiments will come from CETA’s electronic, computer, mechanical, and audio engineering technology programs as well as The Hartt School’s music production technology program.

How Does It All Work?

In a typical on-site laboratory experiment set up to study the behavior of electronic circuits and their components—such as resistors, capacitors, and inductors—a student would apply an electronic signal to a circuit and measure the signal at various points along it. The student would then compare the measured values with theoretical values obtained through mathematical analysis. The final step would be interpreting the results to explain the differences. Using the ALTE system, students will perform the same tasks, access the same equipment, and obtain
the same results. They’ll just do it without setting foot in the lab.

Although students will use ALTE initially to study mechanical and electronic engineering principles, eventually the platform could be extended to other academic disciplines.

Says Schuyler, “ALTE will allow a higher level of synergy and more sharing of the resources that historically have been segregated into individual programs. We foresee the creation of courses spanning several disciplines in CETA, with ALTE facilitating the development of more interdisciplinary programs and curricula.

“New courses could access a particular laboratory such as the wind tunnel or environmental lab for an experiment or two,” he says. “In the past, this would be difficult to schedule. But by accessing the labs through ALTE during evenings or weekends, we would open up whole new avenues.”

ALTE is one of several programs that will support the objectives of the Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology (ISET) complex now under construction. ISET and ALTE will help move the university into a position of regional prominence and national recognition in the areas of science, engineering, and technology.

“ISET will allow the university to organize and allocate its resources in terms of disciplines, rather than by college,” Schuyler says. “When the complex is completed in 2006, it will provide a rich environment in which our science, engineering, and technology programs can grow and complement one another. It is our hope that ALTE will support and encourage this synergy.”

Why Stop There?

Eppes also expects ALTE to spawn new opportunities for community outreach. “We could create a library of experiments for use by K-12 educators,” he says. “Students interested in science and engineering could access the library of experiments through the Internet. In theory, we will open our doors to them.”

ALTE also could expand opportunities for cooperation with local industry. Eppes and Schuyler foresee providing greater service to local companies by offering similar laboratory experiences remotely. Local industries could gain access to the system in cooperation with CETA’s Engineering Applications Center.

In the pilot tests starting in September, Eppes and Schuyler will survey students to gather feedback on the distance laboratories and use the results to plan future courses. Over time, CETA is expected to offer more distance labs through additional courses and programs via the ALTE program.

“We’re optimistic about the future of this project,” Schuyler says. “We’re grateful for the university’s support in providing seed money via the Coffin grants. We’re seeking additional funding from a variety of government and private sources, and we’re looking forward to forging new relationships with individuals, the community, and industry as we expand the program.”
Taking a Back Seat to No One

Hillyer’s Expanded Honors Program Inspires Students and Faculty

by Judie Jacobson

The leftovers of a February snowstorm were still on the ground one evening in early March when students began arriving at the home of Hillyer Dean David Goldenberg ’73, ’76 on the university’s Asylum Avenue campus. They scarcely seemed to notice. The chill in the air was no match for the buoyant, sun-drenched mood inside—one that seemed perfectly matched to the Hawaiian leis and bright party store palm trees and parrots that dressed up the comfortable home.

Had Dean Goldenberg gone Hawaiian? Sort of. In fact, Hillyer’s popular leader was hosting a reunion for a group of sophomores who had recently returned from the college’s Winterterm trip abroad. Students enrolled in The Arts and Culture of Polynesia, an Honors course designed by Melinda Miceli, assistant professor of sociology, and Anthony Rauche, associate professor of ethnomusicology, participated in a 16-day Honors program expedition to the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Students earned their seats on the plane with hard work and a cumulative 3.0 or better grade point average, achievements that qualified them for Hillyer’s Honors program.

The ground-breaking Honors program—there are only a handful of such programs at two-year colleges across the country—is already making waves with a series of impressive, off-the-beaten-path courses that entice students to make the grade and encourage professors to be innovative.

Goldenberg’s goal was to make Hillyer College “so integral to the university that people see it as an equal partner.” To do that, he enlisted the aid of senior faculty, including economics Associate Professor Jane Horvath, director of Hillyer’s Honors program. Working with faculty, Horvath put together the nuts and bolts of the new, expanded Honors program.

“My goal for the Honors program,” says Horvath, “is to help build a community for those students in Hillyer who are prepared to do honors-level work and to build a culture of excellence within the college while providing opportunity for students interested in the challenge that is honors. It is my hope that these students will go on to participate in honors when they leave Hillyer College.”

What Goldenberg, Horvath, and the Hillyer faculty built is an Honors program that includes a fall seminar in the social and natural sciences for sophomores, a spring seminar in the humanities for freshmen, and a winter course abroad—so far, England (2003), Hawaii (2004), and Greece (upcoming in 2005). The Honors program’s distinctive, one-of-a-kind courses have proven to be a motivational tool for the faculty, too.
Pulitzer Prize Winners

“I had been toying for a long time with the idea for a class in which students would read all the novels nominated that year for the Pulitzer Prize and then play judge in selecting the winning author,” says Michele Troy, assistant professor of English, in explaining the genesis of her Honors course, The Pulitzer Prize in Contemporary America.

Troy, who is in her third year at Hillyer, jumped at the chance to implement a version of her original idea when faculty were asked to submit proposals for Honors-level seminars. Given the go ahead by Horvath and Goldenberg, she devised a spring course highlighted by lectures from two distinguished Pulitzer Prize winners and one Pulitzer nominee. The class heard from Walter Robinson, who led a team of reporters in an investigation of sexual abuse by priests that earned the Boston Globe a 2003 Pulitzer for Public Service; Joel Pett of the Lexington Herald-Leader, who won in 2000 for editorial cartooning and served as a member of the nominating jury in 2002; and, The Hartford Courant’s Brad Clift, who in 2003 was nominated for his feature photography series, Heroin Town, that provoked a clean-up in Willimantic. Some members of the class also attended a Hartford Stage performance of Topdog/Underdog by Suzan-Lori Parks, who became the first African-American woman to win a Pulitzer for drama in 2002.

“I’m really impressed by the students,” says Troy of her class. “They came to class after each lecture with questions and opinions.” The talks, she notes, “engendered exactly the kind of critical and creative thinking that we want to see our students doing.”

Learning from the River

And when students get fired up, so do their teachers. “It was a wonderfully creative and energizing experience for me because I had a class full of bright, motivated people who were eager to learn,” says Renwick Griswold ’73, assistant professor of sociology, of his fall seminar, Natural and Social Science Perspectives of the Connecticut River. The course examined the relationship between mankind and the environment by focusing on the Connecticut River. Griswold’s students were inspired by the class. Scott Sans ’06 created a documentary in support of maintaining the Rocky Hill Ferry, which the state of Connecticut was considering shutting down. He presented his film at the university’s Undergraduate Research and Creativity Colloquium in April. Alex Kingsbury, also a Hillyer sophomore, describes what he learned on his Web site. “You’d be surprised how much there is going on in the Connecticut River. We learned to read the river…how it was formed…how it helped form our country … the art it inspired. We’ve experienced firsthand the serenity and peacefulness that just drifting along with the river can inspire.”

What makes the Honors program so successful? Give credit where credit is due, says Goldenberg. “Our outstanding faculty decides how to build on the experiences of students and offer them something unique. They believe in our mission to find the untapped potential in our students and bring it out. That’s what makes it easy to be dean—creative people doing creative things and making a difference in the lives of students.”

Do students fully appreciate the richness of their experience? Maybe not today, says Goldenberg, “but we know they will look back and see the impact this program has made on their lives.”

Looking Back and Giving Back

It is precisely that “look back” that inspired one Hillyer alum to help students take advantage of all that the Honors program has to offer by providing each student who wishes to take the Winterterm course abroad with a scholarship to help defray the cost of the trip.

“My experience at Hillyer was spectacular,” says Jay Shaw, a 1974 Hillyer grad who is now managing director of Resource Holdings, Ltd., a New York-based company that he founded. Describing himself as a “mediocre [high school] student at best” who enrolled at Hillyer (then called the College of Basic Studies) only after he was rejected by every other college he applied to, Shaw says, “It was at Hillyer that I learned the joy of knowledge and thinking. Hillyer gave me the support, confidence, and base from which I could build my life. I am very happy to do what I can to enrich the educational and life experiences of the students at Hillyer.”

Shaw, who went on to complete his undergraduate studies at Colgate University and subsequently earned an MBA from New York University’s Stern School of Business, specifically chose to support the program’s Winterterm course abroad because of his own experiences studying in London and Yugoslavia.

“Many, possibly most, people have limited ability to experience and explore other cultures,” he notes. “College is the right time and way to do that. It is, in my view, one of the best ways to really observe another culture, rather than simply seeing it as you pass through on vacation.”

Dean David Goldenberg ’73, ’76 (left) with Jay Shaw ’74 and his wife, Deb, at a reception hosted by Hillyer College this past spring at the university’s American Originals exhibit.
Threatening clouds held back their downpours to accommodate the university’s 47th annual Commencement ceremony on the morning of May 16. With balloons, flowers, bursts of applause, and shouts of congratulation, thousands of parents, grandparents, friends, and other well-wishers celebrated the graduating Class of 2004. Howie the Hawk brought smiles to the faces of young and old as he greeted attendees and posed for photographs.

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On a more serious note, the approximately 1,200 graduates and their guests listened to U.S. Rep. John B. Larson (D-Conn.), who told the class that “a world full of paradox and challenge” needs their new ideas. Larson was presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws at the main ceremony.

“Congratulations graduates, the world awaits you, and what a world it is,” Larson said. “The world before you is a paradox of great promise and great hope on one hand and threats and challenges on the other. While the world is shrinking because of technology, it is also becoming more violent. We are fighting a war on terrorism in which the first victim could be our own Constitution. We produce the most advanced medicine in the world, and 44 million people [in this country] have no health insurance,” he added.

“These challenges and threats are problems that all democratic societies face. Some say that terrorism is our nation’s greatest threat. But I submit that the greatest threat to our freedom and our nation is an environment where the outspoken will be deemed unpatriotic—where an atmosphere of fear will suppress the forthright from speaking their minds and registering their votes—where the press won’t ask the hard questions of those in authority and where scientists’ work is censored,” Larson said.

“Your nation needs you,” Larson told the graduates. “It needs your thoughtful deliberation, and most importantly, it needs your voice.”

Also receiving honorary degrees were Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Edward Albee; acclaimed architect Robert A. M. Stern; poet and short-story writer Tess Gallagher; world-renowned classical guitarist Oscar Ghiglia; and outgoing Saint Joseph College President Winifred E. Coleman.

Four faculty members were honored at the ceremony for exceptional accomplishments in teaching, scholarship, service, and contributions to the All-University Curriculum. J. Holden Camp, associate professor of history and chair of the Department of Humanities at Hillyer College, received the Roy E. Larsen Award for Excellence in Teaching. Bharat R. Kolluri, professor of economics and chair of the Department of Economics, Finance, and Insurance in the Barney School of Business, was the recipient of the James E. and Frances W. Bent Award for Scholarly and/or Artistic Creativity.

Leo T. Smith, associate professor of mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, was recognized with the Oscar and Shoshana Trachtenberg Award for Service to the University. Paul G. Bugl, associate professor of mathematics in the College of Arts and Sciences, received the Donald W. Davis All-University Curriculum Award. Bugl has been teaching the Epidemics and AIDS course in the All-University Curriculum (AUC) for the past six years.

The recipient of the 2004 Belle K. Ribicoff Prize was Jacqlyn M. Tumolo, a psychology major in the College of Arts and Sciences. The Ribicoff Prize is awarded each year to a graduating student who has taken on leadership roles and been active in many extracurricular activities while maintaining an excellent academic record. Cassi B. Polk, a philosophy major in the College of Arts and Sciences, received the John G. Lee Medal. The Lee Medal recognizes a graduating student who has excelled academically at the university while being deeply involved in community service.

The 2004 John G. Martin Scholar is Nicole L. Saad, a chemistry/biology major in the College of Arts and Sciences. The Martin scholarship provides tuition, room and board, supplies,
Our Own Tinker to Evers to Chance
Three Alumni Team Up to Support the Home Field Advantage

In a move reminiscent of the famous double-play combinations of Cubs infielders Joe Tinker, Johnny Evers, and Frank Chance, University of Hartford alumni Robert Forrester ’66, Faisal Al-Marzook ’67, and John Carson ’65 have pulled off a remarkable feat of teamwork. Known for their close ties to the Hartford soccer program, the three have come together to make a gift of $450,000 to make renovations to the Yousuf Al-Marzook Fields as part of the university’s Home Field Advantage campaign. The campaign also supports construction of an on-campus baseball field, a new softball field, and an all-purpose track and field—all facilities that are critical to the success of the University’s Division I athletics program.

When completed, these new facilities will serve university student-athletes, students, faculty and staff, and the Greater Hartford community. The total cost of planning and constructing is expected to be $10 million. Phase I of the project earmarks $5.1 million for the renovation of Al-Marzook Fields and the construction of new baseball and softball diamonds. Phase II will fund the all-purpose track and field.

With the addition of the Forrester/Al-Marzook/Carson gift, the campaign is now about one-third of the way toward its goal. “It’s very gratifying to know that our alumni want to take a leadership role in making the Home Field Advantage project a reality,” says Pat Meiser-McKnott, the university’s director of athletics. “In Bob, Faisal, and John, we have three people who have given in so many ways. We appreciate the commitment they have made to the project as well as the impact they have on a day-to-day basis.”

Forrester, who is chairman and CEO of Payne, Forrester & Associates LLC, has pledged $300,000 to the campaign. In 2000 Forrester received the Vincent Brown Coffin Award, presented annually to a former student-athlete who has excelled in his or her professional career. As co-chair of the Home Field Advantage campaign (with Gary LaRocque ’75, vice president of baseball operations for the New York Mets), Forrester has challenged the members of the campaign committee to work together to raise one-quarter of the $10 million goal. “Provide your advice, your contacts, your involvement, and, when the time is right, your dollars.”

Al-Marzook, of Al-Marzook United Commercial Co. in Kuwait, has pledged $125,000 to the campaign. A life regent of the university, Al-Marzook previously donated the funds that made the Yousuf Al-Marzook Fields possible. Dedicated in the fall of 1977, the fields are home to the university’s soccer, softball, and lacrosse teams. At the time of the dedication of the fields, the donation was the largest single alumni contribution ever received by the university. The complex was dedicated to the memory of Al-Marzook’s father.

Carson, a former commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Economic Development and currently the university’s senior advisor for corporate and community relations, has pledged $25,000 to the campaign. A recipient of the 2002 A. Peter LoMaglio Award for service to athletics in 2002, Carson has supported the athletics department in a number of ways. He served as chairman of the department’s initial NCAA certification process in 1998 and the interim NCAA certification process in 2002, and is also a member of the department’s two oversight boards—the Athletics Council and the Hawks Athletics Board. Carson formerly served as the university’s interim vice president for finance and administration following six years serving as a member of the Board of Regents.

Forrester, Al-Marzook, and Carson now join the “Circle of Commitment,” which recognizes those who have donated $25,000 or more to the Home Field Advantage campaign. Other members of the circle are Tom and Suzy Reich, Jerry Orefice ’66, Jerry Kelly ’89, Bill Clew ’52, Denis Mullane, The Coca-Cola Company, and Kaman Corporation.

For more information about the Home Field Advantage campaign, contact James Keener, associate director of athletics, at 860.768.5063 or jkeener@hartford.edu.
The Road from Hartt to Hollywood—and Back Again

When university regent and alumnus Kent McCray ’51 appeared as a guest lecturer for the Hartt School’s theatre students in March, little did they know that the California-based film and television producer played a role in today’s theatre program.

A native of Hartford, McCray says he may well have been the first theatre student at Hartt when he attended the university more than 50 years ago. During his student years at Hartt, McCray was the sole pupil of the renowned Elemer Nagy, the late costume and stage designer who brought international fame to the school until his death in 1971.

McCray, a television industry pioneer, counts Nagy as a major influence in his illustrious 45-year career. Soon after leaving Hartt in 1951, McCray joined NBC, working on such shows as the “Colgate Comedy Hour,” “The Red Skelton Show,” “Lux Video Theater,” the “Ralph Edwards Show,” and “This Is Your Life.” In the later 1950s, he was an associate producer with Bob Hope, accompanying the legendary comedian on many of his overseas USO trips to entertain the troops.

In the early 1960s, McCray teamed up with Michael Landon to produce “Bonanza” and later, “Little House on the Prairie” and “Highway to Heaven.” The two became close friends and each served as best man at the other’s wedding. McCray still becomes visibly emotional when he talks of Landon’s untimely death in 1991. After Landon’s death, McCray and his partner and wife, Susan, a noted casting director, produced a two-hour tribute to Landon, “Memories with Laughter and Love.” Two “Bonanza” sequels followed in 1993 and 1994.

In recent years, his alma mater has become a major focus for Kent and Susan McCray. They dub their Malibu, Calif., home “University of Hartford West,” because of all the alumni, faculty, administrators, and regents who come to visit. The McCrays, in turn, drive across the country at least three times a year for regents meetings and other occasions at the university. Both McCrays have become involved on campus. During their March visit, the McCrays addressed the theatre students and Susan was honored at the University of Hartford Magnet School for, among other things, her efforts in raising money to fill the school library’s book shelves.

Another sign of Kent McCray’s commitment to the university is the $100,000 campaign leadership gift he made to the University of Hartford Performing Arts Center, the Hartt School facility to be constructed on the 7.2-acre site of the former Thomas Cadillac distributorship at the corner of Albany Avenue and Westbourne Parkway in Hartford.

“This is yet another example of the extraordinary generosity of our very good friends Kent and Susan McCray,” said Hartt Dean Malcolm Morrison. “They are very involved in our school and understand our needs. We are all extremely grateful.”

Magnet School Celebrates ‘Susan McCray Day’

On March 24, the University of Hartford Magnet School gave a warm thank you to one of its most enthusiastic supporters by celebrating “Susan McCray Day.”

In what turned out to be a complete surprise for McCray, students and teachers gathered in the Magnet School’s Agora Room to express appreciation for her tremendous devotion to the school.

When Principal Cheryl Kloczko told the youngsters that it was Susan McCray who had a major hand in filling the school library shelves with volumes of books, the students responded with an enthusiastic burst of applause. Last May, McCray, a corporator of the Hartford Art School, and her husband, Kent McCray, a university alumnus and regent, organized “The Magic of Reading, An Evening of Fantasy and Illusion.” The event drew some 400 people who contributed nearly $43,000 to the school’s Library Fund.

Most recently, Susan McCray purchased one of the brightly painted cows that had been on display at the West Hartford Cow Parade and donated it to the Magnet School. The cow was officially named “Madame MooCray” for the March 24 celebration. It is on permanent display in the Magnet School lobby.

Susan and Kent McCray are shown with University of Hartford Magnet School students and “Madame MooCray” during “Susan McCray Day.”
Generous Kohn-Joseloff Gift Benefits Gallery

The Kohn-Joseloff Foundation has made a $500,000 gift to the Joseloff Gallery at the university’s Hartford Art School. The gift will allow the gallery, one of the most distinguished university galleries of its size in the country, to strengthen and expand its schedule of exhibitions and programs.

In announcing the gift, University President Walter Harrison praised the Kohn and Joseloff families for their commitment to the Hartford Art School and its students. “The Kohn and Joseloff families have made possible a gallery of the highest quality. The Joseloff Gallery is a tremendous resource for our students and an asset for the entire community.”

The gift underscores the Kohn and Joseloff families’ long-standing support of the Hartford Art School, which dates to the 1940s when Lillian Joseloff joined the Hartford Art School’s board of trustees. In the 1960s, Taub Hall, the art school’s main building, was named after Joseloff’s daughter, Carol Joseloff Taub.

Joan Joseloff Kohn, an honorary trustee of the Hartford Art School, made the announcement of the gift on behalf of the foundation. “My family and I believe the Hartford Art School and the University of Hartford are wonderful resources for the Greater Hartford community. We are especially pleased to support the Joseloff Gallery. Its fine exhibitions and programs have helped to enrich so many lives,” Kohn said.

The Joseloff Gallery has established a reputation throughout the region for the high caliber of its exhibitions and the outstanding artists it attracts. The gallery, which also hosts student and faculty exhibitions, is an important educational resource for undergraduate and graduate students at the Hartford Art School, which last year celebrated its 125th anniversary. The Joseloff Gallery supports one of the art school’s educational priorities of incorporating a wide range of artistic expression into its offerings while reinforcing the importance of the visual arts in society.

Power Boothe, dean of the Hartford Art School, said, “This generous gift is a wonderful affirmation of the vital role the Joseloff Gallery plays in the lives of our students and faculty, the university community, and the Great Hartford arts community. We are deeply grateful to the Kohn-Joseloff Foundation for this remarkable gift.”

Aetna Foundation Supports Performing Arts Center

The Aetna Foundation has made a $100,000 gift to the University of Hartford Performing Arts Center. The center, to be constructed in Hartford at the corner of Albany Avenue and Westbourne Parkway, will provide needed additional space for The Hartt School and will serve as an important resource for the community.

The $25 million project is at the site of the former Thomas Cadillac distributorship and will convert three buildings designed in 1929 by pioneering industrial architect Albert Kahn into a vibrant new facility for performing arts education. The center will include new performance and rehearsal spaces, classrooms, dance studios, a performance library, and space for community meetings and functions.

In announcing the gift, Aetna Foundation President Marilda Gandara cited the important role the Performing Arts Center will play in the community. “The Aetna Foundation is proud to join with the University of Hartford in this project,” Gandara said. “The new center not only will expand the resources offered by The Hartt School, it will also bring performing arts education more fully into North Hartford. The Aetna Foundation is committed to supporting projects that strengthen our communities, and we believe the University of Hartford is taking an important step to broaden the educational reach of The Hartt School.”

University of Hartford President Walter Harrison said, “The Aetna Foundation has an outstanding record of stepping forward in support of projects that hold particular importance for our community. The Performing Arts Center is one of those projects, and it is my hope that their gift will prompt others to offer their own support.”

Parting Gifts

President Walter Harrison hosted a reception at Russell House on May 12 for the 130 graduating seniors who made $25 gifts to the university through the Senior Signature program. Begun in 2000, the program encourages graduating seniors to make gifts of $25 each to the university’s Annual Fund. Those who contribute have their names engraved on a senior class plaque hung on the outside wall of the University Commons.
Book News

The following review of the recently published biography of William Sloane Coffin, Jr. by Warren Goldstein, chair of the university’s history department, appeared in the May 9 edition of The New York Times Book Review. It is reprinted with permission from The Times.

To Afflict the Comfortable

By Richard Lingeman

WILLIAM SLOANE COFFIN JR.
A Holy Impatience
By Warren Goldstein.

In his prime, Warren Goldstein writes, the Rev. William Sloane Coffin Jr. was “physically imposing, athletic, and trim…a tough guy who could drink hard and face anyone down.” He was fiercely competitive, used profanity, had extramarital affairs, engaged in political action, courted celebrity. Superficially, then, a bit like Sinclair Lewis’s fictional evangelist Elmer Gantry. But Elmer Gantry was corrupt, a rank hypocrite, and William Sloane Coffin was and is far from that. As Goldstein, the chairman of the history department at the University of Hartford, demonstrates in his able and exhaustively researched biography, William Sloane Coffin Jr., Coffin was a passionate advocate for social justice. He tested in the political arena a faith based on the “neo-orthodox Christianity” of Reinhold Niebuhr combined with the Gandhian social gospel of Martin Luther King, Jr.

In his heyday in the 1960s and 70s, Coffin’s prominence rivaled that of the abolitionist divines. Next to King, Goldstein writes, he has been “the most significant liberal religious voice in the United States for the past 40 years.” Yet this religious rebel bore an impeccable pedigree. His paternal grandmother belonged to the W. & J. Sloane furniture company family. The Coffins, who had amassed wealth in their own right, were pillars of the Presbyterian Church and staunch sons of Yale. His mother, Catherine, was an unconventional young woman who left Kansas City to live in prewar Greenwich Village. She and her husband, Will, instilled in their second son a mix of noblesse oblige and Progressive-era idealism.

William, Jr. was born in 1924 to cosseted comfort. But his father died suddenly in 1933, with most of his wealth tied up in depressed New York real estate. Catherine moved to Carmel, Calif., where she made a new life. She was “a driving presence” in Bill’s life, Goldstein says, the very picture of a fiercely controlling WASP lioness. Uncle Henry paid for Bill’s education at Deerfield and Yale, so aside from a youthful interlude in Paris as a piano prodigy, he stayed planted on the Establishment track. Drafted in 1943, he loved soldiering. After officers’ candidate school, he shipped out to France, where he joined a Russian language program in military intelligence. He was assigned to a unit that forcibly repatriated Soviet prisoners, consigned by a vengeful Stalin to execution or Siberia. He later had pangs of conscience; the experience made him a hard-line anti-Communist.

While overseas he enjoyed his first real love affair, with a Russian emigre in Paris. It ended abruptly. Probably Coffin knew that the girl would never gain Catherine’s approval. His emotional closeness to his mother, Goldstein theorizes, crippled his ability to love. But Catherine did imbue him with the self-confidence of a mother’s favorite. Add the sense of entitlement of his social class, and you have the makings of a supremely confident man who always claimed center stage.

When Coffin came home, his career choice came down to entering the ministry or enlisting in the Central Intelligence Agency (during the Korean War, he did a cloak-and-dagger stint with the C.I.A. and loved it). He had sought answers in religion after the war, and the tipping point came when he heard Niebuhr speak. The great theologian’s teachings mingled tough-minded realism with a tragic sense of life and the sinfulness of humanity. Union Theological Seminary’s ministry among the poor pointed him toward Social Gospel Christianity, though his calling would be to afflict the comfortable in academe rather than comforting the afflicted in East Harlem. After divinity school and stints at Andover and Williams College, he was appointed chaplain of Yale, “the only job I really wanted.” From his campus bully pulpit, he exhorted the quiescent 1950s students to be part of the passion and action of their times.

The Freedom Rides of the early 60s stirred Coffin’s conscience. He heeded King’s call to lend Establishment legitimacy to the cause and got himself arrested in Montgomery, Ala. King and the Rev.
Ralph Abernathy taught him the necessity of nonviolently confronting the white power structure to leverage change. As he later said, peace is “never the absence of tension but the presence of justice.”

In 1965, as Lyndon Johnson marched the nation deeper into the Big Muddy, Coffin decided this was an arrogant, prideful war and helped organize Clergy Concerned About Vietnam. He became a vocal figure in the draft resistance movement and urged civil disobedience. He and four other antiwar activists (including Dr. Benjamin Spock) challenged various provisions of the Selective Service Act. They were tried in 1968, and Coffin, who wanted to fill the prisons with resisters, was found guilty. But his lawyer won him a new trial, and the government dropped the case.

Goldstein covers Coffin’s movement career thoroughly but does not really evoke the color and dissonant emotions of those tumultuous times. He calls Coffin, not pejoratively, a “religious celebrity,” who used publicity to advance the cause. He also traces in painful detail how Coffin’s private relationships suffered as his celebrity grew. His two marriages ended in bitter divorces. Coffin, Goldstein dryly concludes, was “emotionally sustained by his public roles—not his role as a husband, partner or father.”

By 1974, Coffin, burned out, his second marriage on the rocks, left Yale for Vermont to write his autobiography. There he met his third wife, a down-to-earth woman who admired his work and learned to live with the fallible private man. He re-entered the limelight in 1977, when he was called to the very visible pulpit of Riverside Church in New York City. He led his flock into the red-hot center of the antinuclear movement and further stirred up the sanctified by preaching a sermon for full acceptance of homosexuals. His conservative parishioners, many of them black, were in a state of open rebellion, but Coffin calmed the troubled waters. In July 1987 he became president of SANE/Freeze, moving on after three years to a busy retirement. Now nearing 80, he is slowed by two strokes.

Warren Goldstein has achieved the difficult task of depicting fairly a life storm-tossed by religious and political controversy. I wish he had assessed more fully the ambiguities of Coffin’s religiously inspired activism. I could have done with fewer summaries of what I had already been told. But all credit to him for keeping a steady, illuminating light trained on the man, his private pain and courageous public career. Reading this book makes me ask, where is Coffin’s like today?

Richard Lingeman, the author of biographies of Theodore Dreiser and Sinclair Lewis, is a senior editor at The Nation.


WOMEN WHO WALK WITH THE SKY

Dawn Renee Levesque
Polar Bear & Company

By Margaret Withey

In her children’s book, Women Who Walk With The Sky, Dawn Renee Levesque (HAS ’82) tells eight tales inspired by Native American myths from numerous tribes. The mother of a young son, Levesque began researching myths and writing legends to help explain to her child the connections between all living things. Her stories feature a strong female central character, an emphasis on the beauty of nature, and elements of the celestial world. In these tales, the forces of the heavens are often out of balance because people have overreached or angered the spirits.

Levesque’s heroines learn to be careful in dealing with nature, or else, pay the price. In the magical world where these stories take place, the sun, moon, wind, and water all have personalities. The first story in the collection, “Moon Woman,” is based on a South Seas legend about the Woman in the Moon (rather than the more familiar Man in the Moon). Rona, a young woman, criticizes the moon for slipping behind a cloud and causing her to fall in the darkness. In response, the angry moon grabs Rona and her water bucket, and she disappears, never to return. According to the story, whenever it rains, it is because Rona has tipped her water bucket.

Drought and a scorched earth are the consequences in one story when a foolish granddaughter replaces her weary grandmother in the task of carrying the sun on her back from east to west. A young girl in “Blowing Away the Wind” apologizes to the Wind Spirit, who has been angered by the people of her village, and convinces it to return and blow more gently.

Some of the myths explain the origins of the earth’s gifts. “Sky Fills the Heart” tells the source of the color azure blue. The Bear constellation appears in the sky when the maiden Lolotea chases a bear cub up a tree in “Chasing Little Bear.” In “Star and Lily,” a star comes to earth and leaves behind as a reminder the beautiful water lily. In “The Mist Maiden,” the title character brings from her island in the sky corn kernels to plant and sewing skills for the village artisans. Cooling rains break a terrible drought and bring relief to villagers when the Wind Spirit blows cotton bolls into the sky to form rain clouds in “The Cloud Gatherers.”

Women Who Walk With The Sky is illustrated by Ramona du Houx, who is part Native American. Dawn Levesque, who received a B.F.A. in photography from the Hartford Art School, has had exhibits of her work shown in London as well as in the United States. Her travel and fashion photography have appeared in national and international magazines and newspapers. She currently lives in Ohio with her family.

For ordering information, visit www.polarbearandco.com.
JOHN W. ADDLEY, 84, much beloved dean of students at the university for many years before he was named corporate secretary and director of conferences, died Nov. 21, 2003, in Sarasota, Fla. He joined the university in 1957, only six months after its founding, and served for 25 years. After his retirement in 1982, the Addleys had lived for many years in St. Croix before moving to Florida in 1999.

Survivors include his wife, Gloria Dayhoff Addley ’73, daughters Darla A. Brown ’79, Dawn E. Addley ’79, and Robin G. Addley, and three grandsons. Memorial donations may be made to the University of Hartford, West Hartford, CT 06117.

GEORGETTE AUERBACH KOOPMAN, a dedicated and generous supporter of the university, died on April 5 at the age of 87. She was a life regent and a longtime trustee of the Hartford Art School (HAS), establishing programs that have enriched the school immeasurably.

A member of the Hartford Art School Board of Trustees since 1966, Koopman served as board president twice. She was awarded the HAS Medal for her decades of extraordinary service to the school.

She also was a recipient of the University Medal for Distinguished Service, an honor that she received in October 1979. Nearly 25 years later, she was still serving the university with distinction.

“The loss of Georgette is a great sorrow to all of us,” said HAS Dean Power Boothe. “Georgette cared deeply for students. With every generous gift, and especially with her presence, she always wanted to be sure that our art students were able to develop their talents and realize their dreams. The world has lost someone who is simply irreplaceable.” Through her generous gifts to the Hartford Art School, Koopman established the Richard Koopman Distinguished Chair in the Visual Arts in 1989 and the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Visiting Artists Lecture Series in 2002.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Georgette Koopman Scholarship Fund at the Hartford Art School.

JOHN KRISTOPIK, 76, former director of human resources at the university, died peacefully at his home in Waynesboro, Va., on Dec. 3, 2003, following a long struggle with cancer. After holding several positions in the human resources field, primarily with United Technologies and General Dynamics, he left industry to work in academe to have more freedom to write. He published several nonfiction tracts in the management field and wrote novels, including The Last Factory, published in 2002. He had studied voice and music theory at The Hartt School and sang in church choirs all his life.

ANDREA H. MASSA ’50, ’56, ’66, honorary and life regent of the university, died Feb. 13 after a short illness. A distinguished alumnus long active in the Alumni Association, Massa held associate’s, bachelor’s, and master’s degrees from the Barney School of Business. A former executive vice president and president of the Alumni Council, Massa received the Distinguished Service Award from the Alumni Association in 1987.

A practicing CPA in the Hartford area for over 40 years, he established his own practice in 1959 and later was a partner for 26 years in the accounting firm of Massa and Hinsley, East Hartford, predecessor to Massa & Company, LLC.

The university’s baseball team celebrated the life of teammate Kyle Valentine on May 6 by planting a tree in his memory in front of the Sports Center. Speakers included President Walter Harrison, Head Baseball Coach Harvey Shapiro, members of the baseball team, and Kyle’s father, Ken Valentine.

Kyle, 21, a senior in the Barney School of Business and a pitcher on the baseball team, died of an apparent brain aneurysm on March 18 while traveling with the team in Baltimore, Md.

“This tree, like your spirit, will be part of Hartford baseball forever,” Shapiro said. The tree will bear a plaque honoring Kyle’s memory.

“He was a competitor and a great friend,” said Nate Verberrian, who was Kyle’s roommate on road trips. “Every time I step on the diamond, I’m going to think of him.”

“When you see this tree, think of Kyle. And live life the way he did, without any cares and a smile on his face,” said Jarrett Stawarz, who organized the remembrance event with teammate Jeff Swedberg.

Ken Valentine thanked Kyle’s teammates and the university for all the support they had given him and his family. “He learned a lot from you guys,” he told the team, talking about his son’s growth from a shy freshman to an outgoing, confident senior. “This is a school that cared about Kyle as a student and as an individual.”

The university has offered a posthumous degree to Kyle’s parents, and a scholarship fund has been established in his memory. Donations may be sent to the Kyle P. Valentine Baseball Scholarship Fund at the University of Hartford, Office of Development,
1955
JUSTINE LAPORTE (A&S) of Southern Pines, N.C., represented the University of Hartford this spring at the presidential inauguration of Jerry McClain Wallace at Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C.

1960
JAMES W. VOIGHT (BARNEY) of Mamaroneck, N.Y., the singer and songwriter known as Chip Taylor, is recognized for his hits "Wild Thing" and "Angel in the Morning," as well as for other songs for artists like Janis Joplin, Dusty Springfield, and Frank Sinatra. Voight is now collaborating with Hispanic fiddler Carrie Rodriguez. Their most recent CD is The Trouble with Humans.

1962
ELLIOTT J. DUNN (BARNEY) of Windsor, Conn., has been asked to serve on the planning committee of the Connecticut Veterans Day Parade by the deputy adjutant general of the Connecticut Army National Guard. The parade will be held on Nov. 7, 2004.

1965
PETER POSKAS (HAS) of Washington, Conn., exhibited his work this spring at the Spanierman Gallery, LLC, in New York City. The exhibition, Peter Poskas: A Sense of Place, featured works of the contemporary landscape painter. Poskas paints realist views of the rural dairy farms and landscapes of Litchfield County, Conn., and portrays the fishing cottages and jagged coastlines of Monhegan Island, Maine.

1966
JANET GIGUERE LARAIA (ENHP, ’63 BARNEY) of Ellington, Conn., has taught third grade at Orchard Hill School in South Windsor for the last 39 years. She has organized a schoolwide book-collection drive for Hartford schools and applied for a service-learning grant from South Windsor Community Resource to take her class to a Hartford school for “buddy reading,” a tutoring program in which more able students assist less able ones. Laraia plays golf in her spare time and is an avid Hartford Hawks fan.

1969
RICHARD H. BOOTH (Barney, ’77 Barney) of Essex, Conn., was featured in the Money & Business section of The Hartford Courant in an article headlined “A New Maestro in Metro Hartford.” Booth is the new chairman of the MetroHartford Alliance, an organization with 34 member towns, devoted to the region’s economic development.

1970
KENNETH J. GWOZDZ (A&S, ’76 ENHP) of Glastonbury, Conn., director of East Hartford High School’s Student Assistance Center for more than 30 years, was profiled in the East Hartford Gazette after starting a new job. He is now community relations director of Maffe Financial Group, based in East Hartford with offices in Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and California. Jay Maffe, who founded the financial planning company that specializes in pensions and business markets, is one of Gwozdz’s former students at East Hartford High. Maffe plans to start a nonprofit foundation that Gwozdz will help direct.

1960-2004

MOURNING OUR LOSS
by Diana Simonds, editor of The Observer

Just as The Observer was going to press, we learned of the death of our colleague and friend, Barbara Klemmer. She died unexpectedly at her home on June 10. She would have turned 40 on June 28.

During her eight years as director of alumni relations, Barb’s vivacious spirit, inexhaustible enthusiasm, and warm smile made her an inspiring ambassador for the university. Her “energy and positive nature should serve as a source of strength to us all as we deal with her tragic and untimely death,” said Larry Gavrich, vice president of external relations.

Barb’s most visible legacy on campus is the September 11 Memorial Bulb Garden. Under her guidance and inspiration members of the Alumni Association and student volunteers planted the garden on the north side of campus as a living tribute to the six University of Hartford alumni who lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Now, sadly and ironically, it also becomes a living tribute to Barbara Klemmer herself, one of her colleagues noted.

Barbara leaves her husband, Craig Nelson, who graduated summa cum laude from the university’s College of Arts and Sciences in May with a B.A. in communication; her parents, Irene and John Klemmer of Easton, Pa., and a brother John Klemmer, and his family.

Donations in memory of Barb can be made to either the Barbara Klemmer Fund at the University of Hartford or to another fund that Craig has established at People’s Bank.

Continued on page 30
The Hartford School honored Haig Shahverdian '71 as Alumnus of the Year on April 25 at its first Alumni Day. The event included a reception and concert featuring the Hartford Wind Ensemble conducted by Glen Adsit. Roger Murtha '60, a member of the ensemble, performed a trumpet solo, “Evensong,” composed by Stephen Gryc, professor of composition and theory. Over 50 Hartford alumni, faculty, staff, and friends attended the event.

Shahverdian is supervisor of the Fine and Performing Arts Department for West Hartford Public Schools. After receiving his Bachelor of Music Education from Hartt, Shahverdian continued his education with a master's degree from Wesleyan University and post-graduate training at the University of Hartford. He began teaching in West Hartford in 1971, first at Sedgewick Junior High School, then Conard High School and King Philip Middle School. He became director of bands at Hall High School in 1989. Shahverdian's ensembles have received national recognition, performing at the White House and with such jazz greats as Wynton Marsalis.

A partnership that Shahverdian developed among the West Hartford Public Schools, The Hartford School, and a core group of community leaders resulted in the establishment of a nonprofit organization known as Gifts of Music, pairing low-income students with teachers from Hartt's Community Division for weekly instrumental lessons. In addition to initiating numerous music and theatre programs within the schools, Shahverdian founded the West Hartford Summer Arts Festival, for which he still serves as production supervisor.

Haig Shahverdian '71 with Jennifer Allen '00 and Kristopher Allen '98 at Hartt's first Alumni Day.
Today,” for the Sun-Sentinel newspaper in Fort Lauderdale. He is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America.

1976

JOHN H. JUDD (BARNEY) of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., has been named vice president, sales, for ePortaro, Inc., a leading provider of electronic portfolio software to higher education in the United States, Europe, and Australia. Judd is also a director for Information Methodologies, Inc., a Virginia-based provider of a wide range of technology services to colleges and universities.

1977

WILLIAM D. GILLANDERS (BARNEY) of Newington, Conn., has retired from the National Guard after a career that spanned nearly 40 years. In honor of his years of service, he received a proclamation from the town of Wethersfield, Conn., as well as a certificate from the state and a letter from President George W. Bush.

MARCUS G. ORGANSCHI (A&S) of Litchfield, Conn., was unanimously elected president of the Litchfield Land Trust. The trust is a nonprofit organization that is steward of more than 2,000 acres of open space.

1978

PAUL P. BISACCIA (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., and his new CD, An American in Paris, were featured in an article in The Hartford Courant. The CD includes pianist Bisaccia’s arrangement of the seminal Gershwin work, along with others by Scott Joplin and Leonard Bernstein.

1979

FREDERIC S. BELOIN (A&S, ’80 BARNEY) of Marietta, Ga., represented the University of Hartford at the inauguration of James W. Wagner at Emory University in Atlanta this spring. Beloin is a partner in the law firm of Beloin and Associates in Atlanta.

REGINA S. DYTON (A&S) of Windsor, Conn., was a featured speaker at West Hartford’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration. Dyton’s message promoted dignity, understanding, respect, reconciliation, and unification for African Americans.

1980

FRANK J. GAGLIARDI (BARNEY) of Plainville, Conn., was featured in The Hartford Courant’s Northeast Magazine. The article was about Gagliardi’s collection of pop-up books and his fascination with the book-design mechanics called paper engineering.

1981

FREDERICK J. ANGELEONE (Barney) of Waterbury, Conn., has been appointed Waterbury’s internal auditor.

1982

EUGENE CANTERA (HARTT) of Carrollton, Texas, is a partner at the Dallas School of Music, Inc., and part of the team that designed and just launched www.musicked.com. The Web site, which has been three years in production, features music education support, products, and services for students, teachers, musicians, and other enthusiasts worldwide.

SUSAN TERRY (HARTT) of Brooklyn, N.Y., performed in Home for the Holidays for the Kiwanis Club of Wilton, Conn. She has appeared as a jazz soloist with the National Symphony, the Brooklyn Philharmonic, the Florida Pops, and the New York Pops conducted by Skitch Henderson.

MARK VERSELII (A&S) of Wallingford, Conn., was a featured performer at First Night Hartford. He is an impressionist, comedian, and singer.

1983

EILEEN MIGA CARPINELLA (BARNEY) of Hamden, Conn., has been appointed executive director of Young Audiences of Connecticut (YAC), a nonprofit, arts-in-education organization.

GEORGE S. (A&S) and PAMELA SUNDERLIN PETRO (A&S) of Windsor, Conn., have celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary. George is a wedding and commercial photographer in addition to teaching photography at Capital Community College in Hartford. Pamela is a customer service specialist for Fleet Bank in Windsor.

1984

LORIANA DECRESCEENZO (HARTT) of North Kingston, R.I., is education director of Opera Providence. She was the featured performer at the Chaminade Music Club’s presentation of A Sunday Musical.

JAMES A. FOSCHIA (HARTT) of Altadena, Calif., won a 2004 Grammy Award for best small-ensemble performance for the recording of Carlos Chavez’s Suite for Double Quartet.

GARY CORNELIUS WHITE (HARTT) of Tampa, Fla., performed the role of Mingo in Opera Carolina’s production of Porgy and Bess at the Sevans Center in Winston-Salem, N.C. White is a member of the vocal staff at the Marcia P. Hoffman School for the Performing Arts at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater, Fla.

1985

TIMOTHY H. COPPAGE (BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., has been appointed vice president of housing development for the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority. He oversees the administration and management of single-family mortgage lending and multifamily rental-housing development.

MICHAEL P. SPECIALE (BARNEY) of Middletown, Conn., was featured in an Airport News article, “Who’s Who: Meet The New England Air Museum’s Mike Speciale.” He is executive director of the museum.

1987

MARIE “MAURIE” A. HARRINGTON (HAS) of Killington, Vt., a watercolorist, has added a new dimension to her work, now covering entire walls with murals in the colorful style previously seen in her paintings, postcards, and book illustrations. Currently, she is working on two
murals at the Pico (Vt.) Health Club.

KIM IZZARELLI (BARNEY) of Briarcliff Manor, N.Y., writes that she is a stay-at-home mom with two children, ages 4 and 6. She keeps active by volunteering as treasurer of Briarcliff Nursery School and the PTA. She enjoys running, writing, and vacationing on Cape Cod, Mass.

1988
TODD J. SUKOL (A&S) of Silver Spring, Md., is president of Sukol Communications, a Bethesda-based marketing and public relations firm. Sukol Communications was well represented in the 2003 National Mature Media Awards, organized by the Mature Market Resource Center of Libertyville, Ill., and sponsored by the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, the Association of Marketing and Sales Executives in Senior Housing, the National Association for Senior Health, and the American Custom Publishing Corporation. The firm, whose clients include both nonprofit and corporate organizations serving seniors, received four awards for excellence in strategic planning, Web-site design, advertising, and collateral materials.

1989
DANIEL J. DEBARBA, JR. (BARNEY), of Orange, Conn., has been appointed director of budget and financial planning at Yale–New Haven Health System.

GREG J. FLORIO (BARNEY) of Newington, Conn., was promoted from assistant superintendent of management services to superintendent of schools in Cheshire, Conn. He has taken a nontraditional route to his job. According to Florio, having had no teaching experience, he must listen to others and trust their expertise. This method forces him to apply a more collaborative approach to his job. Florio was the guest speaker at a meeting held by the League of Women Voters of Cheshire.

ERIN WALSH MURRAY (ENHP) of Unionville, Conn., has been appointed principal of Henry James Middle School in Simsbury, Conn.

PHILIPPE PICHON (BARNEY) of Paris, France, received the Chevalier de l’Ordre des Palmes Academiques by decree of the prime minister of France. The honorary title was conferred on Pichon for devotion and accomplishment in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and research.

1990
JOHN K. HAMPTON (A&S) of Tarryville, Conn., was elected to the Simsbury Board of Selectmen. Hampton is a staff member in the Office of the Speaker of the House, Moira K. Lyons, Connecticut General Assembly.

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GREG J. FLORIO (BARNEY) of Newington, Conn., was promot- ed from assistant superintendent of management services to su- perintendent of schools in Cheshire, Conn. He has taken a nontradi- tional route to his job. According to Florio, having had no teaching experience, he must listen to others and trust their expertise. This method forces him to apply a more coll- laborative approach to his job. Florio was the guest speaker at a meeting held by the League of Women Voters of Cheshire.

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Athletics Honors Nine

Six former student-athletes were inducted into the Alumni Athletics Hall of Fame during ceremonies April 17 at The 1877 Club on campus, and three others were given special recognition. Shown with (far left) Pat Meiser-McKnett, director of athletics, and (far right) President Walter Harrison are (left to right) Robert T. Jachym, soccer, 1992–96; Scott G. LaRock, baseball, 1991–1994; Richard J. Cardin ’62, recipient of the Vincent Brown Coffin Award; Mary-Jane Besselink Bravakis, basketball, 1989–93; Larry H. Griffiths, basketball, 1987–91; Robert A. Guyon ’69, recipient of the Pioneer Award; Patricia A. McKinley ’72, recipient of the A. Peter LoMaglio Award; Joseph H. Morley, baseball and football, 1967–71; and Anthony C. Harrington, wrestling and football, 1973–77.

1991
K. DAVID KIDWELL (HARTT)
Wellesley College and Lehigh assistant professor of music at both Princeton. He previously served as College of Rider University in music at Westminster Choir in 175 performances annually, school in the country. In addition only nonsectarian boys’ choir American Boychoir School, is the group, established in 1937 as the www.americanboychoir.org. The Albemarle label, available at of its own Ceremony of Carols ral activities at Wellesley.

1992
Tiffany J. Cook (A&S) of Mystic, Conn., is the owner of The Ruff House, a neighborhood dog bakery in the Factory Square building in downtown Mystic. Cook worked in the human resources department of ESPN for seven years before venturing into the dog bakery business.

Vincent Metallo (Hartt) of Princeton, N.J., is music director of the American Boychoir, which has released a CD of Britten’s A Ceremony of Carols on its own Albermarle label, available at www.americanboychoir.org. The group, established in 1937 as the American Boychoir School, is the only nonsectarian boys’ choir school in the country. In addition to leading the widely traveled choir of grades five through eight in 175 performances annually, Metallo is an assistant professor of music at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton. He previously served as assistant professor of music at both Wellesley College and Lehigh University and was director of choral activities at Wellesley.

Jennifer Rosen Reidy (A&S) of South Boston, Mass., is an attorney with a Boston law firm. She would love to hear from her classmates and may be reached at kerandjkr.home@veri-zon.net.

1993
JAMIE P. COYLE (HAS) of Salem, Mass., has launched his own company, Saighead, Incorporated, a firm that specializes in appraising, consulting, brokering, and design services for the fine and decorative arts. He welcomes all inquiries at jcoyle@saighead.com or visits to the company Web site at www.saighead.com.

Thomas Horn (Barney) of West Simsbury, Conn., is assistant dean for career development at Quinnipiac University’s School of Business. Responsible for the new career development program, he is building relationships with the business community to create internship and employment opportunities for students.

Jeanine Buckley Jameson (A&S) of Kaneohe, Hawaii, is a Ph.D. candidate in education at the University of Hawaii’s Manoa campus in Oahu. She is a professor of English and writing at Hawaii Pacific University and is in the process of publishing her graduate thesis, “Reading Hamlet: Psychoanalytic and Otherwise,” with Shakespeare Magazine.


Christopher A. Storch (Eng) of Pelham, N.H., is co-editor of the newly released Halls for Music Performance: Another Two Decades of Experience, 1982–2002, with Ian Hoffman ’95 (Eng) and Timothy Foulkes. The book, published by the Acoustical Society of America, is a technical compendium of 142 concert halls from around the world.

1994
Kelley C. Doyle (Barney) of Brighton, Mass., has been named account manager in First Cardinal Corporation’s Braintree, Mass., office. He is responsible for the accounting and reporting for four Massachusetts self-insured groups.

Brian J. Mccartin (Hartt) of Flint, Mich., professor of applied mathematics at Kettering University in Flint, received the 2004 award for distinguished college or university teaching of mathematics from the Michigan section of the Mathematical Association of America.

Linda Perry Misko (Enhp, ’98 Enhp) of Daytona, Fla., is currently employed at the Ormond Memorial Hospital in Ormond Beach, Fla.

Matthew T. Murrello (Engh, ’95 Engh) of Hackettstown, N.J., professor of applied mathematics at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, an acoustical engineering firm, has been named to the board of visitors of U of H’s College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture.

Jennifer Edwards Scala (A&S) of Amston, Conn., is charity coordinator and assistant media manager for Bob’s Discount Furniture. She and her husband, Donald Scala ’96 (Eng), have a son, Dylan.

1995
Nicole Aguilar Bocra (Barney) of Arlington, Va., has joined a plaintiffs law firm in Washington, D.C., as in-house

Continued on page 34

Alumni E-mail Newsletter
Sign up now to receive information on alumni events and campus activities. E-mail chapters@ hartford.edu with your e-mail address to begin receiving the newsletter.

Congratulations!
Best wishes to our alumni and their spouses on recent nuptials

Judith Paige Bygote ’81 and Gregory John Derr
Virginia A. Andreoli ’88 and Nicholas E. Muscarella
Leslie Anne Durkin and Peter Anthony Stankevich ’89, ’95
Jennifer Rosen ’92 and Kevin Reedy
Melissa Gonzalez ’93 and Rene Moreno
Krista L. Nicholas ’95 and Michael Ray
Michele Vogel and Jonathan D. Simon ’96
Jodi Ellyn Blair and Gerald Joseph Walsh ’96
Christin Carr Lawson ’97 and Andrew Gardner Phillips
Marnen Morris ’97 and Ronald Sirilli, Jr.
Michelle J. Monaco and Mark W. Pepler ’97
Claudine D. Pouetre ’97 and Christopher W. Wightman
Susan M. Opito ’98 and Ken Peck
Rebecca Ruth Rosow ’98 and Daniel Timothy Fagan
Elaine M. Sers ’98 and Anthony Michael Baran ’97
Emma Louise Sparrow ’98 and David William Kinahan
Meredith Becky Fellows ’99 and Robert Cohen
Dawn H. Edy and Craig D. Freeman ’99
Michelle Czarap and Darrell A. Leifert ’99
Kelly E. Moses ’99 and Richard Axtell, Jr.
Michelle L. Zuckerman ’99 and Evan L. Krop ’97
Elissa Meredith Bibb ’00 and Christopher Ralph Loranz ’99
Amy Lynn Jastrzemski and Peter Briel IV ’00
Kara B. McDade and Michael J. Domaingue ’00, ’01
Melissa Nicole Garofalo ’00 and Joshua S. Deutch ’00
Meredith L. Honan ’00 and Peter M. D’Agostino ’00
Angela Jean Malcuria and Scott Matthew Urbano ’00

Erin Katherine O’Brien and Robert Bernard Choquette ’01
Kylie Lee Smith and Hans E. Eckert ’01

University of Hartford Observer/Summer 2004 33
Classes of 1999, 1979, and 1954
It’s reunion time!
To learn more about your reunion, contact the Alumni Office at 1.888.UHALUMS or by e-mail: alumni@hartford.edu

Alumni from page 33

investigator. Her job entails locating people, identifying and speaking to former employees, and analyzing securities and mutual funds.

IAN B. HOFFMAN (ENG) of Naperville, Ill., is co-editor, with Christopher A. Storch ’93 (ENG) and Timothy Foukles, of the newly released Halls for Music Performance: Another Two Decades of Experience, 1982–2002. Published by the Acoustical Society of America, the book is a technical compendium of 142 concert halls from around the world.

MARY F. LAWRENCE (A&S) of Windsor, Conn., was the teaching chef in a four-week cooking course offered by Windsor Continuing Education. Lawrence is the owner of Well on Wheels, a Windsor-based business that offers vegetarian meals prepared in one’s home.

KRISTA NICHOLAS ROY (A&S) of Norwalk, Conn., has obtained a certificate in accounting and a career studies certificate in business information technology from Northern Virginia Community College. In spite of severe juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, Roy writes her UH degree very highly.

ALISSA DORI FERRY (BARNEY, ’98 BARNEY) of Hartford, Conn., has been promoted to human resources manager at the University of Hartford.

ROBIN J. LEAL (HCW) of Webster, Mass., has been named town administrator of Webster.

KEITH A. COHEN (A&S) of Bensalem, Pa., is associate producer of a documentary, The Making of “Invasion of the Freedom Snatchers.” The movie’s Web site (www.freedom snatchers.com) bills it as a documentary about “independent filmmaking, evil space alien CEOs in the White House, and the search for the soul of America.”

JASON C. ASHLEY (HARTT) of Tuscaloosa, Ala., recently toured Taiwan with the Atlanta Pops orchestra. He will complete his second season as artistic director of the French Woods Festival of the Performing Arts in the Catskills Mountains of New York State. Ashley holds a position with Atlanta Broadway and is an active sub for the internationally known Alabama Symphony.

JOSEPH EUNKWAN CHOI (HARTT) of Scottsdale, Ariz., debuted in February as a guest conductor with the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra.

BRIAN L. HELLER (HARTT) of Minneapolis, Minn., completed a composition for flute and electronics, commissioned and performed by Hartt alumna Alicia DiDonato ’98 at the St. Botolph Club in Boston, Mass. Heller will serve as summer staff audio engineer at the Banff Centre for the Arts in Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada. He also was selected to appear as part of a panel on music computer-lab design at the Association for Technology in Music Instruction conference in Miami, Fla.

ANDREA S. LIACOS (Hartt) of Astoria, N.Y., made her cabaret debut in a one-woman show, The Life of the Party, accompanied by Robert Felstein, at Don’t Tell Mama in New York City.

A. JOSUA LOWY (BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., was the subject of an article in the “Love Story” section of The Hartford Courant. “A First Kiss in Seventh Grade, A Wedding Many Years Later” described the junior-high romance of Josh and his wife, Jody, how they saw each other many years later at a class reunion and eventually married.

ELLEN R. RICHARDS (ENHP) of Woodbury, Conn., founded the Physical Therapy Conference in Miami, Fla.

MATTTHW I. THISTLE (BARNEY) of New York, N.Y., left his position as a vice president at Bank of America to start a new venture, Convergence Capital Group, along with other former bank employees. Thistle and his colleagues trade crude oil and natural gas derivatives on the floor of the New York Mercantile Exchange. They are looking to expand into other commodity markets later this year.

CHERYL PARKS CHASE (HCW, ’95 HCW) of Suffield, Conn., is the outreach coordinator at Chaffield, a senior living community in West Hartford, Conn.

AMY GERICE DANKOWSKI (HARTT) of Valley View, Ohio, has been appointed editor of the Music Library Association’s Web site. She is a technology and information literacy initiative librarian at Cuyahoga Community College in Cleveland.

ANDREW A. GRUNES (A&S) of

Congratulations! from page 33

Amy Hanolian ’01 and Richard Fontana, Jr.
Lynn Marie Lefever ’01 and Gregg Harry Ashworth
Kimberly L. Wright ’01 and Troy P. Ballanger
Erin Nichelle Berglund ’03 and Anthony John Hallock, Jr.
Janet Sonya Nelson ’03 and Ryan-Allen McKinney ’03

and to our alumni parents

Daphne and Douglas V. Risch ’86, ’88 (Carin Soraya)
Jaime Levine Garfield ’89, ’91, and Jason Garfield (Sarah Rose)
Cari-Anne Szable Goodwin ’89, ’91, and David Goodwin (Emily Jade)
Karen Pollino Paquette ’90, ’92, and Russell Paquette (Ryan Gerard)
Robin S. Feldman ’91, ’92, and Derek Odell (Samantha Kate)
Michelle Solney Moss ’92 and Harold Moss (Rachel Modellina)
Alison Feldman Schuckman ’92 and Michael Schuckman (Benjamin Joseph)
Rachel Hoover Reddin ’94 and Brian Reddin (Noah Walker)
Jennifer and Kevin M. Sablich ’94 (Caroline Alexis)
Suzanne L. Frain ’98 and Jason S. Frain ’97 (Giselle Pearl)
Jaime and Douglas C. Robertson ’98 (Kant Douglas)
Bridgette Stranko Smith and Adam G. Smith ’99 (Matthew Nicholas)

The Observer wishes to share in the excitement of your life changes and celebrations. We look forward to receiving those important announcements in writing from you after they have happened. E-mail us at alumni@hartford.edu.

Contact the Alumni Office at 1.888.UHALUMS or by e-mail: alumni@hartford.edu.
New York, N.Y., has returned from a trip to Antarctica, which culminated his quest to set foot on every continent in the world.

ERYN A. IVNIK (A&S) of Charleston, Ill., is assistant women’s basketball coach at Eastern Illinois University. She was the Hawks’ Most Valuable Player her senior year at UH, finishing among the all-time scoring and rebounding leaders.

JAN C. KALINSKI (ENG, ’97 ENG) of New Britain, Conn., has been promoted to senior electrical engineer at BVH Integrated Services, Inc., in Bloomfield, Conn.

ECKART PREU (HARTT) of Erfurt, Germany, has been named conductor of the Spokane Symphony in Washington. He is also one of two resident conductors of the American Symphony Orchestra in New York City.

NATHAN SCALZONE (HARTT) of Brooklyn, N.Y., was commissioned to write the anthem of Brooklyn, N.Y., was community.

Erfurt, Germany, has been named conductor at Holy Family Church in Enfield, Conn., where he is church organist. He has received prizes in several competitions, including Hartt’s Paranov and van Rooy competitions and the Lleida competition in Spain.

2000

STEPHANIE D. DOWNING (A&S) of West Warwick, R.I., is funeral director at Shalom Memorial Chapel in Cranston.


2001

BARRY E. DAVIS (Hartt) of Richmond, Va., is currently working in California. He has joined the band Something for Rockets, (www.somethingforrockets.com), founded by Rami Perlman, son of noted violinist Itzhak Perlman.

MARK D. SALSBURY (BARNEY) of Bristol, Conn., is president-elect of the Connecticut Medical Group Management Association. Salsbury is the practice manager of Pediatric Cardiology Associates in Hartford.

LOUIS R. SPETINO (A&S) of Stratford, Conn., had a private premiere of his film Ringolivio at the Entertainment Cinemas multiplex in Stratford. The film was shot in Stratford during the summer of 2002 and involved eight young male friends who have spent every summer playing a variation on hide-and-seek known as ringolivio.

MARK ST. PIERRE (BARNEY) of Wethersfield, Conn., was named a vice president in the Hartford Commercial division of People’s Bank.

2002

LYNDA GEORGE (ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., was appointed an assistant professor in the teacher education department at Central Connecticut State University.

NANCY PEEL GLADWELL (HAS) of Old Lyme, Conn., recently exhibited her work at the Lyme Art Association in Old Lyme. Titled

Continued on page 36

In Memoriam

Leonard P. Yanchinsky ’45
May 29, 2004

Alan B. Rice ’50
January 29, 2004

George Marcus ’51
December 27, 2003

Vincent D. Mercadante ’51
December 26, 2003

Raymond F. Ablemski ’52, ’54
March 9, 2004

Ellen O’Flaherty Reche ’52
February 4, 2004

John P. Barnicle ’54
January 3, 2004

Edward S. Jason ’54
December 27, 2003

Justin "Sam" Light ’54
January 17, 2004

Louis M. Butler ’55, ’60
March 3, 2004

Robert F. Reynolds ’55
January 27, 2004

Andrea H. Massa ’56, ’50, ’66
February 13, 2004

Abbie Bodfish Dunn ’58
February 8, 2004

Veronica Desorcie Emerson ’60
March 9, 2004

Chester P. Nyerick ’60
March 4, 2004

Ferdinand T. Serafini ’61
February 25, 2004

Bruce B. Brown ’62
December 1, 2003

Royal E. Cowles ’62
November 30, 2003

Robert E. Devokaitis ’63
December 23, 2003

William Bradley Sarr, Jr., ’63
January 18, 2004

Linn C. Beebe III ’64
December 31, 2003

Paul P. Parisi ’64, ’69
January 2, 2004

Margaret Yates Bruce ’66
November 21, 2003

Ellen McGrath Kovel ’66
January 20, 2004

Raquel Flores-Jenkins ’67
March 6, 2004

Michael W. Abramek ’69
January 2, 2004

Greg Berube ’69
January 17, 2004

Everett W. Heintz ’69
January 3, 2004

Robert J. Karlson ’72
December 25, 2003

Mary Murphy Mozilowskas ’72
December 11, 2003

Dorothy Hacker Herman ’73
March 8, 2004

Lynn Pinkes ’74
January 13, 2004

Charles L. Post, Jr., ’74
November 24, 2003

Walter A. Rose ’75
October 21, 2003

Faith Armstead Christiansen ’76
January 4, 2004

Nancy P. Kelly ’76
February 1, 2004

Hugherlee Prince Milner ’76
February 21, 2004

Bernard G. Stein ’76
December 9, 2003

Mary Hayes Copetta ’78
March 9, 2004

Arthur E. Helm ’79
February 15, 2004

Charlyn Sweig Adler ’80
February 28, 2004

Ada "Tina" Barrett Brewster ’80
March 15, 2004

Andrea Marie Methot ’85
December 2, 2003

Christopher M. Clem ’02
January 7, 2004

Richard A. Newfield, University of Hartford faculty and Hartt trustee
March 7, 2004

Denise Restout, Hartt faculty
March 9, 2004
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Thank you!

Source: June 2004 Observer
Amusement rides, lots of food, and concerts, including one by the Black Eyed Peas, all added to the fun of Spring Fling ’04. The annual celebration, sponsored by the university’s Program Council before spring finals begin, is one of the most anticipated events on campus.