Mothers of Nations
Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Women
Photography Exhibit
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Trivia Contest Update
In the last issue, we promised to provide the answer to the first question in the University of Hartford Trivia Contest. The question was part of the online reader survey for the spring issue.

The Question: Why was the story of Leo D. Canine’s squelched enrollment in the Class of 1982 picked up by newspapers across the country?

The Answer: Because Leo was a dog, a basset hound to be precise. Registered by students, his application bounced when someone noticed the zip code was missing.

We had several correct responses to the question, including one from Carol Noyes, assistant registrar at the University, and current student Maria J. Qadri ’09.

Congratulations to everyone who knew the answer. We hope you’ll test your University of Hartford knowledge on the next trivia question, which will appear at the end of the reader survey for this issue. You’ll find the survey at www.hartford.edu/observersurvey

If you’re feeling lucky, leave your name with your response. We’ll publish the names of all those who guess correctly in the next issue.
When a colleague asked Walter Harrison, president of the University of Hartford, to name a good restaurant here last month during college basketball’s Final Four weekend, he rattled off six of his favorite places.

Mr. Harrison’s knowledge of Indianapolis reflects the more than 20 days a year he spends at the National Collegiate Athletic Association’s headquarters, thanks to his increasing role in intercollegiate athletics. He first agreed to serve the association four years ago. Now he volunteers on six NCAA committees, leading two of the association’s most influential groups.

Many athletics officials describe his service as extraordinary, but he is not without peer. Over the past few years, more college presidents and chancellors have started to devote increasing hours to college sports. Their involvement is one response to a wave of public concern about athletics programs’ financial accountability, coaches’ ethics, and athletes’ classroom performance and off-field behavior.

During the past year, Mr. Harrison has helped steer the NCAA through choppy waters. As chairman of the association’s Executive Committee, its highest governance body, he helped enact controversial rules limiting colleges’ use of American Indian imagery.

This week the Executive Committee and the NCAA’s Division I Board of Directors, on which Mr. Harrison also serves, will hear appeals from three colleges about whether they may continue to use their American Indian mascots in NCAA tournaments.

The board will also consider legislation prohibiting colleges from accepting students who attend bogus preparatory schools.

In the past two years, Mr. Harrison has volunteered hundreds of hours to help the NCAA tighten academic requirements for athletes. As chairman of the association’s Committee on Academic Performance, he helped establish the first penalties for teams that underperform academically. This week the Board of Directors is expected to establish more-severe punishments for programs that continue to lag behind.

Concern about the escalating costs of intercollegiate athletics led Mr. Harrison to join the Presidential Task Force on the Future of Division I Athletics. The group of about 40 presidents and chancellors, which was established last year by Myles Brand, the NCAA’s president, plans to release a report by early fall with ideas for improving college sports over the next five years.

The panel’s suggestions could lead some universities to reduce their athletics spending, change how they recruit players, and clamp down on how many hours athletes are allowed to compete in their sports.

The Chronicle caught up with Mr. Harrison at the Final Four to discuss what motivates him to play an active role in intercollegiate athletics, and what he sees as the biggest challenges in college sports.

Q. How did you become interested in sports?
A. I grew up in a blue-collar town outside of Pittsburgh. Most people came to work in the steel mills. My father and his father before him ran a men’s clothing store. It was not an intellectual atmosphere at all. But baseball became a very important part of my life. When the weather was right, I’d play baseball in the morning, go home for lunch, play baseball in the afternoon, and come back for dinner, then go play more at night.

For me baseball was an assimilation process. I loved the game, but it became my way of identifying myself as an American and of identifying myself with other boys who I didn’t have much in common with.
**Q. And then you played college baseball?**  
**A.** I went to Trinity College and played a little bit of baseball, but not very much and not very well. But I love the game and have spent a lot of time thinking about it because I couldn't play it that well. You admire things you can't do yourself.

**Q. Is that how you got the idea to write your dissertation on the sport?**  
**A.** I studied literature...and my adviser [at the University of California at Davis], who had just told me he would direct my dissertation on Hamlin Garland, asked me what I had been reading out of class. I told him about a book on baseball folklore. He said, “The world doesn't need another dissertation on Hamlin Garland, but everyone would like to read one on baseball.”

**Q. Describe your first administrative job, at Colorado College, and how it helped you understand college sports.**  
**A.** Among my duties was to be the sports-information director. I think I'm one of the few college or university presidents who has been a SID. It's actually really helped me understand intercollegiate athletics. I have a greater appreciation for the central importance of the coach. It's easy to underestimate the role coaches play until you're actually working with them every day.

**Q. Later, as vice president of university relations at the University of Michigan, you helped investigate allegations that a booster was paying off several men's basketball players. What did you learn from that experience?**  
**A.** We spent months investigating this. But universities don't have subpoena power, and although we got a lot of bank records from the players' families and we were all dedicated to finding out the truth, quite honestly we couldn't find much except a few minor problems.  
As I was leaving Michigan, the U.S. attorney announced he had found more things. He became interested in the booster as an alleged numbers runner, and went after him on racketeering charges. He had subpoena powers and found an awful lot of things that greatly embarrassed the university.

**Q. How can college presidents exert more control over boosters?**  
**A.** That's a really hard question. Whenever the NCAA finds loopholes or places where regulations can be skirted, it has to tighten them up as much as possible. I think college presidents have to set a complete no-tolerance atmosphere. They must make it clear that fans of sports are very important, but there is a very bright line they can't cross.

**Q. What is off limits?**  
**A.** Showing favoritism—giving seats to people because there's money changing hands—is completely out of line.

**Q. What about giving the best seats to major donors?**  
**A.** Seems to me there is a bright line between donors receiving better seats—I’m not sure it’s the best system, but it’s permissible—and money going directly to players or coaches.

**Q. How do you feel about luxury suites?**  
**A.** The biggest threat to college sports is commercialism, and one of the areas I see commercialism encroaching is luxury boxes. I understand that they are revenue producers, but you’re establishing a moneymed elite who gets dramatically improved seats at a university, and I don't think as universities that's a message we ought to be sending. As an American society we ought to be sending a message that we are egalitarian.

**Q. Are commercial interests becoming too strong for athletics programs to resist?**  
**A.** I certainly think there are a lot of building influences, but I don't think they are too strong. They require the strength that
college presidents acting together can have. This is connected to the growth of televised sports. In the 1950s, when there was a single game of the week in college football, there were commercial interests even then—but they have exploded as the opportunities for televising games have.

There are lots of good things that have come from that. I’m a supporter of the CBS contract for men’s college basketball because it allows us to support hundreds of thousands of athletes in lots of other sports. But there is a bright line, and college presidents must say what is acceptable and what isn’t.

**Q. Can you give an example?**
A. Athletes, in my view, should never be put in a position where they appear to be endorsing a product. For me personally, I’m starting to wonder where the line is with coaches endorsing products. I’m not trying to restrict coaches’ ability to make money... But what are the kinds of products a coach should be allowed to endorse, and what is the implication of a coach endorsing a product?

**Q. Congress is investigating stadium costs and excessive coaches’ salaries. Do college sports need government regulation?**
A. I’m a firm believer in self-regulation. I think the NCAA is the exact right body to provide oversight.... But there are three positions one could take. One could be an apologist for it—everything’s fine, nothing needs to be changed. I’m not in that category. The other side says the system is too corrupt to be saved, we need to do away with athletics scholarships entirely and return to having only academic- and need-based scholarships. I’m not in that camp either. I see myself as a reformer of college athletics. I believe there is enough good about college sports that, with the right kind of leadership at the presidential level and at the NCAA, we can save what’s good and do away with what’s not so good.

**Q. Should colleges be raising more money privately for athletics facilities?**
A. Yes, I’d certainly agree with that. Different colleges face different pressures. In our case, I made a decision to raise the money ourselves to pay for our new athletics fields that opened this spring. I wanted to use the university’s bonded indebtedness for projects that serve greater numbers of students—like residence halls, or a science, engineering, and technology complex.

**Q. What are the long-term consequences of taking on bonded debt for athletics programs?**
A. You’ve just obligated your university to 25 or 30 years of paying back the debt service. You’re doing that based on expectations that you will continue to grow revenue. But I’m not sure how much more revenue can increase.

**Q. Why should college presidents continue to play an active role in intercollegiate athletics?**
A. Presidents, more than anyone else, have a holistic view of what a university is about.... Universities are very complex organizations, and college sports get more attention than most of the rest of the university combined, but they are only part and parcel of a much larger community. College presidents are in a position to understand that, and in a position to set tone, set rules, set limits, in a way that other people aren’t.

**Q. Are the stakes higher now, making it more important for college presidents to be involved?**
A. Yes, definitely. Certainly the competitive pressures are greater. One area is in recruiting. The increased pressure to recruit young men in sports like basketball has reached a point where presidents need to get involved in the conversation.

It’s my understanding that young boys in eighth or ninth grade are being brought onto campuses by [summer all-star] coaches under the guise of getting academic counseling from college coaches about the importance of taking math or whatever. There’s some real danger in that because those kids are not mature enough to make decisions about where they should go to college.

It’s not illegal. And there is a need to provide guidance to young kids about the courses they’ll need to be eligible. But it’s hypocritical to say a summer coach and a college coach are the right people to provide that kind of information.

**Q. What are the biggest issues college presidents will be looking at in the next year?**
A. The single thing I’m most interested in is the implementation of academic reform. But through the presidential task force, you will start to see initiatives aimed at both the financial responsibilities college presidents face in controlling athletics costs and how they control outside influences.

**Q. How has your involvement with the NCAA helped you become a better college president?**
A. I certainly understand the context of university athletics a lot better, so it’s helped me try to develop our athletics department. For example, we are negotiating to hire a new men’s basketball coach, and I understand the typical arguments an athletics director is likely to use. I wasn’t quite as susceptible to listening to the argument about what so-and-so is paying their coach.

**Q. What do you enjoy most about college sports?**
A. There’s nothing I know of that’s as exciting as being at the Final Four. My real predilection is for baseball, but to sit in that dome and watch 43,000 people scream their heads off for four teams is an unmatched experience.

I also think college sports really brings people together as a community in a way that very few other things can. We are about to name a new men’s basketball coach and a new graduate-school dean. If this was a perfect world, the new graduate-school dean would get as much publicity as the basketball coach. He certainly will influence more people’s futures. But it’s not a perfect world, and the wonderful thing about sports is that it does galvanize people and give them a common bond.

A photography exhibit at the George J. Sherman and Lottie K. Sherman Museum of Jewish Civilization is part of the 20th-anniversary celebration at the University’s Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies. Titled *Mothers of Nations: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Women*, the exhibit shows parallels in the religious and cultural traditions of the three Abrahamic faiths. It features the photography of Hartford Art School staff and students taken during study-abroad experiences in Israel and Spain.


The exhibit is on view until Oct. 18, 2006. For museum hours and other information, please call 860.768.4963.
It looks like a University of Hartford alumni reunion. The group seated around the table graduated in different years with different degrees—from Barney School of Business, Ward College of Technology, Hartford College for Women, and the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions. Yet they have found their way to the same nonprofit organization headquartered in Bloomfield, Conn. The National Center for Boundless Playgrounds® is a 10-year-old nonprofit that works to provide equal play opportunities for children with and without disabilities. These alumni, who bring a diverse set of skills to the center, take great pride in being associated with an organization they say is trying to make a difference in children’s lives.

The Cast of Characters

As a senior technical services specialist at Boundless Playgrounds, Monique Farias ’03 (Ward) uses her bachelor’s degree in architectural engineering technology in play environment planning, equipment configuration, and site development. Sally Knowles A’93 (HCW), a communications design manager, develops marketing materials and the group’s Web site. Julio Morales ’05 (Barney) draws on his background in business administration as an organizational intern. Baba Aina M’80 (Barney) says he was “coaxed” out of retirement from corporate life to take on the role of chief financial officer. A former teacher, Thad Terzo M’01 (ENHP) applies his keen interpersonal skills to help new clients. And grant writer Roberta Echelson M’84 (Barney) joined the team last spring just as Naomi Cohen M’97 (Barney) was retiring as director of public and private partnerships.

“We complement each other,” says senior communications specialist Glandina Morris ’04 (Barney). “Without Thad’s interpersonal qualities to respond to inquiries, Julio’s ability to multitask and coordinate special projects, Roberta’s research and support strategies, Monique’s design capabilities, Sally’s creative way of presenting the organization, and Baba’s operational skills, we would not be able to achieve our mission.”
A New Perspective on Play

“On a barrier-free Boundless Playground,” notes Terzo, “children don’t have limitations. Traditional playgrounds for children with disabilities make a fundamental mistake in design: typically the able child and the child with a disability are not able to have fun together.”

The design team configures the play equipment based on proven pediatric and child-development principles. Whether it’s a swing or sandbox, a whispering tube or climbing tower, children of all abilities can enjoy the equipment and each other without the need for a parent’s or teacher’s constant assistance.

The Boundless Playgrounds concept began with a single family in 1996, as Amy Jaffe Barzach and her husband, Peter, searched for a way to honor the 9-month-old son they lost to spinal muscular atrophy. Spearheading an army of 1,200 volunteers, the Barzachs created Jonathan’s Dream playground in West Hartford, Conn.

Amy Barzach recalls, “A tiny, two-inch article in Time magazine about the playground built in memory of our son generated hundreds of requests for help from moms, dads, and grandparents across the country who wanted to build their own barrier-free playgrounds. We were sitting in our little corner of the world and didn’t realize the impact of what we had started.”

A year later, with an initial grant of $521,000 from toymaker Hasbro Inc., Barzach joined forces with play-equipment builder Jean Schappet to found Boundless Playgrounds. The organization has since received support from corporations and foundations that include the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the Christopher Reeve Foundation, the Picower Foundation, the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Hasbro’s Playskool®, and CVS/pharmacy. Boundless Playgrounds exist in 21 states as well as Ontario, Canada. This summer marks the completion of the center’s 100th playground.

“The various skills we learned from the University of Hartford motivate us every day to contribute something unique yet equally valuable to this organization,” Morris says. “We work hard to make a difference in this world—a quality instilled in all of us at the University.”

Are they successful? Just look at the face of any child, with no hopes barred, on a Boundless Playground.
Engineering Graduate Wins Top ASME Prize for NASA Project

Michelle Jarzyniecki ’06 spent her final year at the University working on a NASA-funded project called the spacesuit snorkel. That work led to her receiving the top award at the Hartford-area American Society of Mechanical Engineers Senior Paper Night in April. Other schools competing were the University of Connecticut, Trinity College, and Central Connecticut State University.

Jarzyniecki, who worked with Jesse Berube ’06 on the project, helped develop a small breathing device to be used by astronauts preparing for a space walk. The small size of the mask, which provides 100 percent oxygen, allows the astronauts to don their bulky spacesuits while wearing it, thus reducing the time needed to purge their systems of nitrogen prior to a space walk. Ronald Adrezin and Thomas Filburn, associate and assistant professors of mechanical and biomedical engineering in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, served as advisors for the project.

Describing herself as a strong math and science student with a passion for art, Jarzyniecki first attended Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, where she majored in industrial design.

“After a year and a half, I discovered I wasn’t good at being creative on a deadline,” she says about her transfer to Hartford. “My grandfather was an electrical engineer, and I spent a lot of time with him as I was growing up. I think that influenced me a lot.”

Jarzyniecki graduated in May with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering magna cum laude and with University honors. After completing five summer internships at Pratt & Whitney, she accepted a job there in July in air systems design and integration analysis.

And what about her artistic side? “I took up knitting,” she says with a smile.

Michelle Jarzyniecki ’06 holds the prototype of the spacesuit snorkel she helped develop during her senior year on a NASA-funded project. 

Photograph courtesy of Hamilton Sundstrand.
Family members and friends await the Class of 2006.

New Dean of Graduate Studies Marks a University First

Peter Diffley, who had been associate dean of the graduate school at the University of Notre Dame since 1990, joined the University of Hartford on July 1 as the first full-time dean of graduate studies. He says he understands the challenges facing graduate students.

“Some graduate students teach, many take courses at night, and most do research. This presents challenges that full-time undergraduates do not face. It’s my job to help graduate students meet these challenges and to present their point of view within the University.”

The new dean will provide academic, administrative, and fiscal leadership for graduate programs. Working with the collegiate deans, he also will develop and implement policies and procedures to recruit and retain graduate students.

“Graduate students play a central role at the University of Hartford. They catalyze faculty scholarship, serve as role models to undergraduates, and upon graduation, become important members of our community,” says Diffley. “As dean of graduate studies, my job is to be an advocate for these students and for the programs that train them. I can’t wait to get started.”

Diffley received a Ph.D. in zoology from the University of Massachusetts and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Yale Medical School before joining the faculty at Notre Dame in 1984. He is a co-author with Joseph Russo of Paying for Graduate School Without Going Broke (Princeton Review, 2004) and has published extensively on the consequences of experimental infections with human pathogens. Diffley is also an executive committee member and past chair of the Association of Graduate Schools in Catholic Colleges and Universities and of the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools.

First Regents’ Honor Awards for Graduate Students

Eight graduate students from across the University were the first to receive Regents’ Honor Awards for Graduate Students at a reception following the second annual Graduate Research and Creativity Symposium in May. Chairman of the Board of Regents Peter Eio presented the awards. Pictured above (l-r) are award winners Cheryl-Ann Resha and Minna Choi with Chairman Eio, Provost Donna Randall, award winner Ellen Voth, President Walter Harrison, and award winner Lori Bindig. Also winners but not pictured: Apurup Reddy Chevuru, Stephanie DiPaola, Michelle Silva, and Richard Wojtowicz.
The Legacy of Hartford College for Women

WOMEN’S EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP CONTINUE IN NEW FORMS

“This is an exciting time for women’s education at the University of Hartford,” said University President Walter Harrison about progress made in developing two components of Hartford College for Women’s legacy—the Women’s Education and Leadership Fund (WELFund) and the Center for Professional Development.

The Women’s Education and Leadership Fund will provide grants to faculty, staff, and students who propose new initiatives that support women’s education and leadership across the University.

WELFund is headed up by Jennifer Sanborn, who joined the University in late July from Wheaton College in Massachusetts, where she developed innovative women’s programming and partnered with faculty to develop curriculum content emphasizing diversity.

“Jennifer’s experience, energy, and commitment to women’s education and empowerment make her the perfect choice for this position,” said WELFund board chair Lucille Nickerson.

Sanborn earned her bachelor’s degree from Eastern University in Pennsylvania and a master’s degree in higher education from Syracuse University.

“I look forward with great enthusiasm to working with faculty, staff, and students to explore the opportunities for women’s education and leadership initiatives at the University that WELFund will provide,” said Sanborn.

Also part of the HCW legacy, the Center for Professional Development (formerly The Career Counseling Center), led by Director Gail Champlin, is implementing plans to increase its business and enhance its marketing strategies. One of the results of this work was a decision, approved in April by President Harrison, to change its name to the Center for Professional Development. The new name better describes its mission of community outreach through career counseling, continuing education, job training, and support.

“The Center for Professional Development and the WELFund will assure a bright future that will be a fitting legacy to a wonderful institution, Hartford College for Women,” said President Harrison in announcing the initiatives.

Students in Premier Program Receive Downbeat Award

One student and one new alumnus of The Hartt School’s music production and technology program were recognized in the June 2006 issue of Downbeat magazine.

Shane McMahon ’07 and Robert Murray ’06 won the Best Engineered Studio Recording category in the magazine’s prestigious Annual Student Music Awards. They received the award for their recording of a studio performance by Assistant Professor Steve Davis’s Advanced Ensemble from the Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz at Hartt.
U.S. Losing Competitive Edge in Sciences and Engineering

William C. Harris, a 2006 Rogow Distinguished Visiting Lecturer, addressed an audience at Wilde Auditorium in March. He warned the group that the United States must adopt a greater sense of urgency in training the next generation of scientists and engineers.

“America and Connecticut need a new attitude toward their competitive position,” said Harris, the founding director general of Science Foundation Ireland and the founding CEO of Science Foundation Arizona. “We need the same sense of urgency that we had after the Sputnik launch.” Harris was referring to the 1957 launch of the world’s first artificial satellite by the then Soviet Union.

Emphasizing the importance of education, Harris suggested that American colleges and universities need to get more involved with K–12 education. He praised the University for its role in the development of the University High School of Science and Engineering, which opened on the Asylum Avenue campus in 2004.

$600,000 Anonymous Grant to Fund Groundbreaking Master’s Program

The University has received a $600,000 anonymous grant to fund a new master’s degree program in the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions. It is the only such program offered in the state of Connecticut and one of only two available in New England.

The program will train educators to use new technology that allows greater numbers of children to hear and speak more normally. One such device is the cochlear implant, a complex wireless electronic device that is implanted in the skull of profoundly deaf or seriously hard-of-hearing adults and children. With technological advances that allow health care professionals to identify hearing loss from as early as birth, the program focuses on the needs of young children, their teachers, and their families.

The Soundbridge School in Wethersfield, Conn., will be the University’s partner in this innovative program. A regional school of the Hartford-area Capital Region Education Council, Soundbridge provides a variety of educational programs for children with hearing loss and will serve as a learning and laboratory site for our students. The Aural Habilitation and Education of Hearing-Impaired Children program will enroll its first cohort of candidates in the summer 2007 semester.

“This program is a perfect example of bringing together an institution of higher education, a community-based organization, and a private philanthropic organization to meet a need in the community,” says Fred Sweitzer, acting dean of ENHP. “It provides better services to children and makes our students better teachers. It also helps all of our students and faculty understand the needs of a wider range of children.”
Approximately 1,300 members of the Class of 2006, along with several thousand friends and family members, gathered on Gengras lawn under an overcast sky for the University of Hartford’s 49th annual Commencement ceremony on May 21. Adding to the pageantry of the day were new red ceremonial banners bearing the names of the schools and colleges. The banners preceded the degree candidates as they marched into the seating area.

President Walter Harrison asked the graduates to reflect for a moment on their four or more years at the University of Hartford, on what brought them to the campus, and on the major achievements and challenges, both on campus and off, during their undergraduate careers. He remarked on the particular sense of caring for each other that he has witnessed since coming to the University. Harrison asked the graduates to take that sense of community out into the world where, he said, it truly matters.

Connecticut State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier received an honorary Doctor of Laws and joined the festive mood, declaring, “By the authority vested in me by the laws of this great state—and because I don’t see anyone here who can stop me—I hereby declare this day to be University of Hartford Class of 2006 Day of Celebration!”

Elected in 1998 and reelected in 2002, Nappier is the only woman to be elected treasurer in Connecticut history, and she is the first African American woman elected state treasurer in the United States. Nappier has been a catalyst and advocate for financial education in the state, working with the private sector and community-based organizations to expand financial literacy programs.

An honorary Doctor of Science was awarded to Charles H. Thornton, an internationally acclaimed structural engineer. Thornton’s firm has been honored for its disaster response efforts in the aftermath of the 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. He is also a strong advocate of educational outreach and mentoring. In 1995 Thornton
Four faculty awards were presented to Professor Walter Banzhaf, Associate Professor Charles R. Canedy III, Associate Professor Laura Pence, and Professor Warren Goldstein.

Charles H. Thornton received an honorary Doctor of Science, and Connecticut State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier received an honorary Doctor of Laws.

Francis X. Hursey A’73, ’77 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

A new addition to this year’s spring Commencement ceremony was the presentation of the 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award. Scientist, inventor, and entrepreneur Francis X. Hursey A’73, ’77 (pictured above right with President Walter Harrison) received the award from regent Robert H. Feld ’69, M’72, president of the Alumni Association.

Hursey is the discoverer of QuikClot, a hemostatic agent that helps stop massive bleeding from traumatic injury. He is also founder and president of two sister companies. Z-Medica, LLC, is the medical products manufacturer of QuikClot and other lifesaving products. On Site Gas Systems, Inc., designs and builds oxygen and nitrogen equipment used in more than 60 countries.

Both companies have provided lifesaving equipment and solutions to troops on the ground in Afghanistan and Iraq. In the United States, police and fire departments use QuikClot to save lives at the scenes of accidents, fires, and crimes. After Hurricane Katrina, On Site sent portable oxygen-generating systems and cylinder-filling systems, while Z-Medica donated 1,200 units of QuikClot. Employees from On Site drove the products to New Orleans and remained there to distribute them to physicians and first responders.

Hursey received associate’s and bachelor’s degrees from the College of Engineering.

founded the ACE Mentor Program, which provides guidance and training in architecture, construction, and engineering to inner-city high school students in 57 U.S. cities.

“I’m a structural engineer, but I’m more than that—I’m a businessman, I’m an entrepreneur, and I’m a mentor,” Thornton told the graduates. He reminded the audience that the faculty, the students, and he himself had benefited from having mentors, and that students in the inner cities of America “are not getting the kind of guidance they need.”

Associate Professor of Chemistry Laura Pence received the Roy E. Larsen Award for Excellence in Teaching; Professor of History Warren Goldstein was recognized with the James E. and Frances W. Bent Award for Scholarly and/or Artistic Creativity; Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Walter Banzhaf received the Oscar and Shoshana Trachtenberg Award for Service to the University; and Associate Professor of Marketing Charles R. Canedy III was presented with the Donald W. Davis All-University Curriculum Award.

Two seniors were honored for their outstanding achievements.

Lauren Zaccaro, who graduated summa cum laude from the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture with a degree in mechanical engineering, received the Belle K. Ribicoff Prize for academic excellence, leadership, and extracurricular activity. Danielle Miller, a graduate summa cum laude of the College of Arts and Sciences with a major in psychology, was awarded the John G. Lee Medal, which recognizes a Greater Hartford senior who has excelled academically and been deeply involved in community service. The student speaker was Daniel Dabek, a graduate magna cum laude of The Hartt School with a bachelor’s in music.

Hartford Art School graduate magna cum laude Ronald A. Pezzullo II gets a congratulatory kiss from his parents, Nancy and Ron Pezzullo.
Dan Leibovitz learned a number of valuable lessons from his mentor, John Chaney, the legendary Temple University basketball head coach. “John Chaney taught me that you always have to aspire to something greater,” Leibovitz says. “You have to think big and schedule big to become big.”

The former Temple Owls assistant coach replaces Larry Harrison, who resigned as head coach of Hartford’s men’s basketball team in mid-March. This is his first head coaching job.

Leibovitz joined the Temple coaching staff prior to the 1996–97 season, eventually becoming Chaney’s right-hand man and top recruiter. He helped guide the team to 10 straight postseason appearances, five NCAA tournaments, two Elite Eight appearances, four Atlantic Conference regular-season championships, and two conference championships.

“He is a person of great character and substance,” says President Walter Harrison of Leibovitz. “I have full confidence that we will experience success under his leadership.”

With a young team and young coaching staff, Leibovitz acknowledged that there will be challenges along the way but predicts that the Hawks will come out strong this year and build from there.

“We’ll be competitive throughout the season and get to the tournament and make something happen,” says the new coach. “Our goal from day one will be to get to the NCAA Tournament. We’re not building for a year, we’re building for the long term.”

Leibovitz has named John Gallagher as associate coach and Chris Gerlufsen and Elliott Broadnax as assistant coaches. Gallagher and Broadnax come to the Hawks from Lafayette College in Easton, Pa. Gerlufsen was formerly an assistant coach at The Citadel in Charleston, S.C.

Leibovitz, who completed his master’s degree in sports management and leisure studies at Temple in 1998, is a 1996 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. A product of Bryn Mawr, Pa., he was a three-year varsity letterman in basketball at Episcopal Academy under Philadelphia coaching great Dan Dougherty.

On June 30, Leibovitz and his wife, Nancy, welcomed their first child, Kaiya Daisy.
When the University of Hartford hired Bill Poutre in December 2005 as head men’s golf coach, he set a goal of making the Hawks one of the top three teams in New England by the end of the 2006–07 season. A bit ambitious? In fact, with a year to go on that original plan, Poutre’s team seems way ahead of schedule. They captured the 2006 America East Men’s Golf Championship in May, besting Binghamton University and Boston University.

“The University of Hartford has an amazing tradition in golf,” Poutre says. “But the team we had here didn’t know how to win. By winning the America East trophy and having individual medalists, we became a team, and we learned how to win as a team.”

At 32-3, the Hawks had the second-best 2005–06 record in New England. The team also posted a record of 35-6-1 in NCAA Division I play, which was the second-best winning percentage in the district.

“We were truly dominant in New England,” Poutre says. “This was the most competitive schedule this school has ever seen. It will be significantly tougher next year.”

The America East win was the 11th conference title for the Hawks and their fourth in six years. Poutre was named America East Coach of the Year.

Throughout her career at the University of Hartford, golfer Jo-Anna Krupa ’06 earned a reputation as a fierce competitor on the course. But when Krupa plays a round of golf, she’s not just looking to improve her game or best an opponent. She says she’s often imagining how she would shape the terrain for maximum beauty, how she would use natural contours and elements to create a challenging environment for golfers.

This fall, Krupa will be combining her love of golf and her bachelor’s in architectural engineering technology from the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture to earn a master’s degree in golf course architecture at the Edinburgh College of Art in Scotland, the country known as the birthplace of golf. The 18-month program begins in late September.

“I was lucky to be accepted and to be able to attend the college,” Krupa says. “I visited in January and absolutely fell in love with Edinburgh. I knew I wanted to go there.”

While in Edinburgh, Krupa will study with famed American golf architect Paul Albanese, a partner in the firm Albanese & Lutzke of Plymouth, Mich. Krupa and her classmates will also research and play some of the best courses in the United Kingdom.

Krupa credits Terri-Ann Hahn, adjunct professor of architecture, for her success.

“After obtaining her master’s degree, Krupa hopes to work for a prestigious golf course architectural firm and eventually open her own business.”
Freed from classroom responsibilities, three Hartford faculty members pursue their passions

Taming the Tiger in Your Tank

This summer, Andrew Craft, associate professor of chemistry in the College of Art and Sciences, and two undergraduates, Naima Millette ’09 and Gilberto Jimenez ’09, studied the ability of a variety of metals to store and release hydrogen, using laboratory space in the Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology complex.

“Think of the metal like a sponge that sucks up water and holds it in its pores. When you wring out the sponge, you release the water,” explains Craft. “Certain metals have the ability to do that with hydrogen. The trick is to wring out the hydrogen without harming the metal.”

Craft has been conducting research into the use of hydrogen as an alternative to fossil fuel since 1983. That research has led to 35 published articles in professional journals. His work is funded primarily by a grant from the Petroleum Research Fund of the American Chemical Society.

“Hydrogen makes for a potentially attractive alternative to fossil fuels,” notes Craft. “It’s much more energetic than conventional fossil fuels, much more abundant, and it burns cleanly in the environment.”

Then why aren’t we pumping hydrogen into our tanks today? Think back to the Hindenburg disaster of 1937, when a dirigible filled with hydrogen burst into flames. “Hydrogen can be very unstable,” says Craft. “If you just liquefy it and fill your tank with it, heaven help you if you have an accident. You need a safe storage medium.”

Today, with the cost of gas topping $3 a gallon, he’s a pretty popular guy around town…any town.
A Secret Society Still Holds Power in Nigeria

When the holidays roll around this December, don’t expect to find Amanda Carlson sipping eggnog or lighting candles. The College of Arts and Sciences assistant professor will be celebrating in Calabar, the capital of the Cross River State in Nigeria, where she will be attending the fourth International Ekpe Festival. An eye-popping parade of colorful costumes, masks, pantomime, and dance, it is part New Year’s party and part religious celebration.

Carlson, whose trip to Africa is made possible in part by a Greenberg Junior Faculty Research Grant, will be studying members of a secret organization in Nigeria known as the Leopard Society, also called the Ekpe.

“The arts of Cross River State, Nigeria, have spawned from ritual organizations that were the primary governing bodies in pre-Colonial times,” says Carlson. “These traditional organizations like the Ekpe now coexist with branches of the modern local, state, and federal governments in Nigeria. A renaissance of masquerading traditions is taking place in Cross River State, and I believe it is because these masquerades constitute a cultural tradition that continues to wield real power.”

The Leopard Society is a men’s association consisting of centuries-old cultural and religious traditions that include carefully guarded secret rituals and sacred knowledge involving the Leopard Spirit, a figure often depicted in their secret written language.

Carlson, whose doctorate is in art history and African studies, will use her summer to prepare for the trip. With her December visit, the former Fulbright Scholar will cap 15 years of fieldwork on the arts of the Cross River region.

Waging War against the Sea Squirt

It sounds like something out of the 1958 cult film classic, The Blob. An indestructible jellylike creature invades Earth and consumes everything in its path, growing larger and larger. “Nothing Can Stop It!” reads the movie’s tag line.

To be sure, Stephan Bullard, assistant professor of biology at Hillyer College, is not going mano a mano with a creature from another planet. Instead, his nemesis is Didemnum—a type of sea squirt that is blanketing much of the sea floor of Long Island Sound, covering and smothering everything in its path. This summer, Bullard and a student assistant, Jennifer Capece ’08, traveled to Groton, Conn., where they joined several marine biologists from the University of Connecticut’s Avery Point campus and the Smithsonian Institution to research the impact of the slimy sea squirt on the area’s aquaculture.

“One of the major problems facing any ecosystem is invasive species—species that have come to our coast from foreign waters, probably brought in on the hulls or in the ballast of boats,” says Bullard.

Often these creatures are harmless. But not always. Some run rampant and present both an ecological and financial menace to their new environment. Such is the case with Didemnum, whose East Coast populations, according to Bullard, are “massive,” and who are threatening the area’s economy by invading marine aquaculture facilities, where they kill shellfish or render them unmarketable.

Interviewed in mid-June, Bullard said he would be spending a lot of time out on a boat diving in the Sound. What exactly would he be looking for? “We’ll examine the growth rate of the species in different environments and look for a means of controlling the population.”

Stephan Bullard
Assistant Professor of Biology

Amanda Carlson
Assistant Professor of Art History
In conjunction with its 20th anniversary, the Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies announced the creation of a second endowed professorship. The Philip D. Feltman Professorship in Modern Jewish History is named in honor of the longtime chair of the board of visitors at the Greenberg Center.

Director Richard Freund stated, “This new professorship will be an important resource, not only to the Greenberg Center but to many different departments on campus, in the general community, and the region.” He adds that the center will conduct an international search to fill the position as soon as possible.

The Feltman Professorship is the result of a yearlong fundraising effort that culminated on June 4 with a dinner honoring Feltman, chair of the center’s board since 1992. It will provide an expert who will teach about the modern State of Israel, the Holocaust, and American Judaism while serving as an informed spokesperson for the news media and the Jewish and interfaith communities. This second endowed chair joins the Greenberg Professorship in Judaic Studies, which was established by Beverly and Arnold C. Greenberg in 1985. It is currently held by Freund, who is an expert in ancient Jewish history.

Feltman, a successful businessman, has held leadership positions on the boards of many organizations within the Jewish community. A Hartford native, he graduated from Weaver High School in 1938 and the University of Connecticut College of Pharmacy in 1943. He was a founder of Ames Department Stores as well as many other successful businesses.

After a long and distinguished tenure as chair of the Greenberg board of visitors, Feltman stepped down as its chairman at the end of June. His successor is Paula S. Steinberg, former chair of the board and president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford. She has been a member of the Greenberg board for the past decade.

The Hartford Scholars program, which provides half-tuition scholarships at the University for Hartford high school graduates, raised more than $100,000 at its annual fundraising dinner in June.

John H. Motley, former executive director of external affairs for the Hartford Public Schools and former president of the St. Paul Travelers Connecticut Foundation, was the keynote speaker.

Peter Stevens, president of JCJ Architecture, presented Hartford Scholar Elizabeth Rodriguez ’07 with the $1,000 Mayor’s Scholarship Award, which recognizes academic achievement and the role a student plays on campus and in the Greater Hartford community. The award is funded by JCJ Architecture.

In accepting the award, Rodriguez, who is the first in her family to attend college, said, “The Hartford Scholars Program has been a blessing that determined whether or not I furthered my college education. I thank you all.”
“This is a day many of us have thought about and dreamed about for a long, long time,” said President Walter Harrison at the June ceremonial groundbreaking for the Hartford Art School’s new, 15,000-square-foot addition to Taub Hall. Harrison announced that the two-story addition will be known as The Renée Samuels Center, named for the longtime art school supporter and trustee, and University regent. Together, Samuels and her husband Bob Samuels and their family have pledged the lead gift of $1.2 million for the $5 million project.

The center, which is scheduled for completion in 2007, will house the media arts and photography programs and provide expanded space that will allow the painting, drawing, printmaking, and foundation studies programs to continue to excel.

“More space has become critical,” said Renée Samuels at the groundbreaking, “not only for our traditional disciplines but also for the explosion in the digital media arts.”

Describing his delight and excitement about the new project and the transformation that will take place to Taub Hall, HAS Dean Power Boothe said, “It’s going to make a great art school look like a great art school.”

Speakers at the groundbreaking also included Louise McCormick, president of the art school’s board of trustees and a University regent, and Margaret Corie Darby, a University regent and art school trustee who chairs the fundraising campaign for the project. Boothe and other speakers also praised Herman Fonteyne, a University regent and art school trustee who chairs the building committee for the project, and Austin Dunham Barney II, former president of the art school’s board of trustees, for helping to lay the foundation for The Renée Samuels Center.

EDITOR’S NOTE: As we went to press at the end of July, renovations to the south side of Taub Hall were proceeding on schedule. That space will be available for students and faculty for the fall 2006 semester. The concrete footings and foundation walls for the new addition are in progress, and steel framing will begin in August.

University Breaks Ground for The Renée Samuels Center

University Raises More Than $13 Million in Fiscal Year ’06

In July, Vice President for Institutional Advancement Don Rizzo announced the University had raised $13,532,668 as of June 30, 2006, when the fiscal year ended. Contributions came from nearly 8,000 donors including alumni, parents and friends, faculty and staff, corporations and foundations, estates and trusts, and members of the board of regents.

Rizzo said he is very pleased with the upturn in contributions and participation, and encouraged by the excitement shown by many constituent groups within the University community as we start the new academic year.

“Not only have we raised more money than last year,” said Rizzo, “we have increased the awareness of the University of Hartford. This past year, more than half of all our donors were alumni.”

The gifts and pledges raised this past year bring the University’s Campaign of Commitment total to $136.7 million. In addition to raising endowment gifts and general operating funds, the campaign provides the resources needed to construct new facilities both on and off campus. The University currently is raising funds for four such projects: the Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology complex; the Home Field Advantage project (new athletic fields); the Performing Arts Center; and the newest project, The Renée Samuels Center at the Hartford Art School.

“The University is grateful to everyone who contributed in our previous fiscal year,” said Rizzo. “Without your continued support, we would not be able to provide our faculty and students with a quality learning environment. With your help, we can look forward to a very bright future for the University of Hartford.”
Margaret "Peg" Rochford was an avid gardener and friend of the University of Hartford.
Clifford W. Gunn, Sr.

Clifford W. Gunn, Sr., 84, died Feb. 2, 2006. Prior to his retirement, he was an accountant for the University of Hartford for many years. An accomplished jazz musician, he was the founder of the Hartford Jazz Society and a member of the Carpe Diem Club. He was predeceased by his wife, Barbara, and is survived by his son, Clifford W. Gunn, Jr.

Mary M. Merritt

Mary M. Merritt, 85, one of the original founders of The Career Counseling Center (now called the Center for Professional Development), died Jan. 17, 2006. She was involved with the center from its start in 1968 and served as its director from 1976 to 1982. While director, she instituted numerous programs, such as the Partnership Teaching Project, nontraditional job training, and the Displaced Homemaker program that ran for 25 years. Merritt attended Wellesley College and served in the American Red Cross in London, England, and Occupied Germany. She is survived by her husband, Robert, two daughters, and one son.

Abraham J. Mishkind

Abraham J. Mishkind, 90, a faculty member at The Hartt School for 20 years, died Jan. 14, 2006, in Northampton, Mass. An assistant professor of violin and viola at Hartt from 1966 to 1986, Mishkind was also first violinist with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra and assistant concertmaster for many years. He was also a violinist with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Symphony, the Heritage String Quartet at the University of Kentucky, and the Aspen Festival Orchestra. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

Marilyn S. Smith

Marilyn S. Smith, associate professor emerita of philosophy at Hillyer College, died May 9, 2006, in New Haven, Conn. She was a member of the faculty of Hillyer College (formerly the College of Basic Studies) from 1976 to 1997. She also taught Ethics in the Professions and The Art and Thought of Classical Greece in the All-University Curriculum for many years. One of Smith’s lasting contributions to the philosophy department was the introduction of an ethics course that has become both popular and very relevant over time.

Jackie McLean

John Lenwood “Jackie” McLean, 74, died Mar. 31, 2006, at his home in Hartford after a long illness. An internationally known alto saxophonist who was born in Harlem in 1931, McLean played with bebop pianist Bud Powell and Miles Davis while still a teenager and later with jazz legends Art Blakey and Charles Mingus. Early in his career he became a protégé of the great Charlie “Bird” Parker. McLean was greatly influenced by Parker, but developed his own instantly recognizable style and began making his own recordings in 1955.

In 1970 McLean set performing aside and moved from New York City to Hartford, where he was appointed a teaching associate at The Hartt School. That same year, he and his wife, Dollie, founded the Artists Collective, an interdisciplinary arts and cultural center in the city’s North End. The Artists Collective has provided arts education to thousands of Hartford children and grown into a nationally recognized program.

In 1980 McLean founded the Department of African American Music at Hartt and subsequently established jazz studies as a degree program at the University. Many of his students remember a course he taught on African American music history, where he emphasized learning about music in the context of African American social struggles.

In celebration of his 30th anniversary at Hartt, the Department of African American Music was renamed the Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz at a gala in 2000 attended by some of his many protégés, including saxophonists Sue Terry ’82 and Jimmy Greene ’97, and trombonist Steve Davis ’89. In 2001 McLean received a Jazz Masters grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.
PARENTS WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS
We’ve lined up some great events for our parents during Fall Weekend 2006. And, of course, there’s the chance to spend time with your sons and daughters. A detailed schedule with times, dates, and locations went into the mail during the first week in August. If you haven’t received your copy yet, contact us or log onto www.hartford.edu/parents for more information.

GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT
Friday Evening Shabbat Services and Dinner Multicultural Alumni Reception in the Harry Jack Gray Rotunda Music for a Change Benefit Concert

DON’T BE LATE FOR CLASS
A traditional favorite! Attend a University class and find out what your sons and daughters are experiencing.

FEELING HUNGRY?
Picnic luncheon on the GSU Lawn • Empty Bowls Sale. Purchase a ceramic bowl made by a Hartford Art School student, fill it up with hot soup, and know the money collected will be used to support a local community service. • Don't miss the Naciones Hispanas Unidas (NHU) parents luncheon.

GO, HAWKS!
Men's soccer vs. New Hampshire on Saturday • Women's volleyball on Sunday

DINNER AND A CONCERT

JOIN THE SUNDAY BRUNCH BUNCH
Parents Association Brunch Hillel Bagel Brunch

AND MORE!

SEE YOU THERE!

ALUMNI HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS
Make a date to see friends and classmates during this fun-filled weekend. We’re counting on you to get all your classmates back to campus for Homecoming. Need their contact info? Call us at 888.UH.ALUMS, or e-mail alumni@hartford.edu, and we can help.

MARTINIS • MANHATTANS • MONTE CARLO
Try your hand at the poker table or take a spin on the roulette wheel. Gamble with your Alumni Hawk Dollars and cash in your chips for fabulous raffle prizes.

OKTOBERFEST
Bratwurst, sauerkraut, and festive fall brews. Lederhosen optional!

SHOP ‘TIL YOU DROP
Start your holiday shopping early at the Alumni Artisan Marketplace. Talented alumni display their artwork and handcrafted wares.

ALUMNI ANCHOR AWARDS
Two graduates from each school and college will be recognized for their outstanding achievements.

THE PUB IS BACK!
Call your classmates and friends and get together for a frosty beverage. Listen to hits that span the decades, played by a DJ, and make a special request.

AND MORE!
During this past academic year, we have had many wonderful opportunities to meet with the outstanding alumni of the University. In April three buses traveled to New York City for a day of theater, museums, and shopping. We've already had a number of requests for a return trip! Also in April, Ann Sievers, director of the Saint Joseph College art gallery, co-sponsored a reception and art lecture with accomplished watercolorist Richard Yarde.

The Alumni Association and the Student Government Association hosted a graduate and parent reception the evening before Commencement in the Joseloff Gallery. Many thanks to Zina Davis, director, and Lisa Gaumond '98, gallery manager, for their hospitality.

Nicole Bocra '95, Washington, D.C., chapter president, organized a wonderful alumni event at the Science Club. The June 1 event was the first of many for this chapter under her energetic leadership.

Ezat Parnia '78, executive vice president and dean, School of Management, Cambridge College, Mass., hosted an alumni gathering at Cambridge College with special guest Charles R. Canevy III, associate professor of marketing, on June 14. Then it was on to New York City on June 21, where alumni gathered at the Towne Tavern in the West Village.

Many thanks to the alumni, family, friends, and staff who volunteered at the University of Hartford concession tent at the Buick Championship in Cromwell, Conn., on July 1!

If you have ideas for alumni events or benefits that you would like to see offered, please e-mail us at alumni@hartford.edu. I look forward to hearing from you and hope you will join us at Homecoming 2006, Oct. 13–15!

The Alumni Association is pleased to announce the newest members of the alumni board: Michael J. Arem '03; Ethan Cowf '09; Jerry Emlet '87; Stephen Greenstein A'02, '03; Daniel Purushotham '75; John Spadaccini '89; and Michele Swanson '92.

The 2006–07 executive board of the Alumni Association: Paul A. Sittard '85, President; Wayne L. Webster '96, Vice President; Angela Henke '97, M'99, Treasurer; and Robert H. Feld '69, M'72, ex officio.

Be sure to save Oct. 13–15 for Homecoming 2006. You won't want to miss this fun-filled weekend! The Homecoming committee has planned something for everyone, so bring your classmates, friends, and family. Would you like to have a reunion of your class, sports team, Red Caps, or sorority? There's still time to plan, and the Office of Alumni Relations is ready to assist you.

Join the Alumni Association on an overnight excursion to Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 10–11, 2007, to attend the Tutankhamen exhibit at the Franklin Institute—the only exhibition in the Northeast. The trip includes round-trip coach transportation from West Hartford, one-night accommodations at the Hampton Inn Center City, continental breakfast, admission to the exhibit, and dinner at the Hard Rock Café. Cost per person based on double occupancy is $200. Space is limited. Reserve your seat today!

Recent graduates, your alumni ID cards are "in the mail." If you graduated before 2006 and would like to receive your University of Hartford Alumni ID card, please e-mail your request to alumni@hartford.edu or call 888.UH.ALUMS.

We are always adding new-and-improved benefits for University alumni, including a 10 percent discount at the campus bookstore, a Liberty Mutual Insurance Program, GradMed short-term medical coverage—and coming soon, car rental discounts, hotel and theater ticket discounts, and much more!

To register for any of the above events, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 888.UH.ALUMS or chapters@hartford.edu, or register online at www.hartford.edu/alumni.
1964
ANTHONY “JOE” CYMERYS (BARNEY) of Windsor, Conn., is a dedicated volunteer. He gives weekly “haircuts for a hug” at the Immaculate Conception Men’s Shelter in Hartford, in addition to bringing donations of clothing and food to the shelter. President of the Windsor Community Service Counsel, Cymerys organizes blood drives and collects bread and pastries for the local food bank.

1968
JEFFREY M. LEWIS (A&S) of Brattleboro, Vt., is the new executive director for the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation. In addition to serving as minister of the Montague Congregational Church and chair of the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Brattleboro Branch of the Service Corps of Retired Executives, he also teaches Information Technology Strategy and Management at the School for International Training.

1970
BARRY B. ASCH (M, HARTT) of Old Saybrook, Conn., is music director/conductor and co-founder of Cappella Cantorum, which has made concert tours to Europe and Canada. Asch is choir director of the First Congregational Church in Essex, Conn., and a retired music department chair at Valley Regional High School in Deep River, Conn.

STEVEN C. LOWRY (HARTT) of Fort Meade, Md., was promoted to chief of staff of the Defense Information School at Fort George G. Meade. Lowry is the highest-ranking naval officer at the school, serving as the Navy element commander.

GWYNETH WALKER (M, HARTT) of Braintree, Vt., was the author of a work of fiction that was inspired by a work of non-fiction that was inspired by her marriage to Don Brunner, who is deaf. For the past 20 years, the Brunners have communicated through sign language and lipreading.

1972
MICHAEL J. BALCH (A, BARNEY) of Brandon, Vt., after working for 24 years in banking in Connecticut, moved to Vermont in 1998, first serving as town manager in Brandon. He is currently town manager in Pittsford, Vt., and enjoys working with volunteer boards.

RONALD C. LUCHSINGER (M, HARTT) of Enfield, N.H., is artistic director of the Commonwealth Opera of Western Massachusetts. Previously, he served as artistic director of Simsbury (Conn.) Light Opera, general director of the Lyric Opera of Dallas, and director of the New York Opera/Drama Studio.

1973
MICHAEL J. GILLIS (M, BARNEY) of Simsbury, Conn., has joined The Travel Team, Inc., of Buffalo, N.Y., as executive vice president of business development. He is responsible for the planning and implementation of new business development, managing the profitability of agency clients, overseeing new market penetration, developing strategic operational systems, and improving the company’s overall efficiencies.

DAVID T. WENZEL (HAS) of Durham, Conn., exhibited his illustrations in Words Through Pictures: Connecticut Artists Drawing for Children at the Mattatuck Museum Arts and History Center in Waterbury, Conn. Recognized for his work in the graphic novel adaptation of J. R. R. Tolkien’s The Hobbit, Wenzel exhibited work from the latter as well as Little Bear, Wizard’s Tale, and A Hat for Ivan.

1974
ARTHUR “CHUCK” OAKES (BARNEY) of South Windsor, Conn., a published author, photographer, former model, actor, and singer, has turned his passion for the Old West into “Catch the Spirit,” a guided tour exploring the historic mining camps, ghost towns, and railroads of northern California, New Mexico, and Colorado. Oakes is the author of Making Your Home Senior-Friendly.

1976
PETER F. EGAN (A&S) of Rocky Hill, Conn., was Rocky Hill’s representative to Hartford’s annual St. Patrick’s Day parade. Egan was chosen for the honor for his volunteerism in that town.

RICHARD J. HAGAR (HARTT) of Worcester, Mass., was recognized as Orchestra Director of the Year by the American String Teachers Association during the Massachusetts Music Educators’ Association All-State Conference. This is the second time Hagar, who is string instructor at Gibbons Middle School and Westborough (Mass.) High School, has been so recognized.

TIMOTHY P. MULLIGAN (A&S) of Venice, Fla., and his wife, Jean, decided to change careers from working at Aetna and Anthem Blue Cross to start a real estate business in Venice. The Mulligans may be reached at www.mulliganlinks.com.

GEORGE E. NOWAK (HAS) of Plainville, Conn., after graduation from HAS, worked at The Herald (New Britain, Conn.) and The Hartford Courant, during which time he won two United Press International awards, an Associated Press award, and multiple state awards for his artwork. Diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1991, Nowak left the newspaper industry and now tutors students and teaches art at the New Britain Senior Center, the Orchard Retirement Center in Southington, Conn., and the Farmington River School of Art in Plainville.

1977
CAROL F. BRUNNER (A&S) of New Fairfield, Conn., spent five years completing her novella, Isles of View, a work of fiction that was inspired by her marriage to Don Brunner, who is deaf. For the last 20 years, the Brunners have communicated through sign language and lipreading.

MARCIA REID MARSTED (A&S, M’81 A&S) of Canton, Conn., held an exhibition of her photographs from April 21 through May 27 at the EBK Gallery, Bishops Corner, West Hartford, Conn. During the same two months, the Capelli d’Angelli Foundation, founded by Marsted, held an exhibit of work by women artists with cancer at the Helen and Harry Gray Cancer Center at Hartford Hospital.

1978
MELANIE C. SCHEIBENPFLUG (A&S) of Manchester, Conn., and LINDA L. WELLINS M’84 (BARNEY) of East Hartford, Conn., are co-owners of Connecticut Computer Assistants, LLC (CCA), located in New Haven, Conn. CCA provides...
computer consulting services and training on end-user applications. CCA’s goal is to help business owners save money on personnel expenses by helping people do their jobs more efficiently. The company offers University of Hartford alumni a 10 percent discount on services. Find out more at www.consultcca.com.

1979

MARVIN KELLY (BARNEY) of Austin, Texas, was recognized by the American Institute for Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters (CPCU) and the CPCU Society as qualifying for the Continuing Professional Development Program. The program recognizes CPCUs who participate in continuing education activities.

1980

DEAN MCCASKILL (BARNEY) of Ann Arbor, Mich., is the new president and CEO of TURCK, Inc., a leading manufacturer of products designed for factory and process-automation industries, based in Plymouth, Minn. McCaskill is responsible for the North American, Central American, Caribbean, and Australian operations, including extensive research, development, and manufacturing operations in Plymouth and Saltillo, Mexico. He and his family plan to relocate to Minneapolis this summer. He can be reached at dean.mccaskill@turck.com.

1981

ROBERT L. MOIsott (M, BARNEY) of Concord, Calif., was the guest speaker at the World Conference on Disaster Management in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. His topic was “Business Impact Analysis: Lessons Learned.” Moisott holds a Master Business Continuity Professional certification, one of only 78 issued worldwide.

1982

DENISE PAQUETTE POOLE (BARNEY) of Unionville, Conn., celebrated her 15th anniversary in the water utility industry. She is employed as the capital budget and region coordinator at the Unionville Division of the Connecticut Water Company.

EDWARD J. THOMPSON (D, HARTT) of Norwalk, Conn., and the American Chamber Orchestra presented a new orchestral suite, Five in Fairfield, at the First Presbyterian Church in Fairfield, Conn. Thompson’s opus was inspired by five natural locations in Fairfield County—Redding Cliffs, Greenfield Hill, Devil’s Den, Long Island Sound, and the Housatonic River. A member of the acoustic group The Key Ingredients, Thompson is minister of music for the Unitarian Church in Westport, Conn.

1983

JOHN SEBRANIS (HAS) of West Hartford, Conn., teaches an art course to mental health consumers at the Chrysalis Club in Hartford. He is employed at Artworks Gallery in Hartford and has exhibited in Hartford, Boston, and New Haven.

Supreme Caffeine
Former D Complex RA and Barney alumnus thrives in Asia’s gourmet coffee market

How does a self-described “lazy high school bum” end up running a successful specialty coffee business in Southeast Asia with 800 employees and more than 70 retail outlets?

Robert J. Boxwell, Jr. ’80, gives much of the credit to his professors at the University of Hartford. Boxwell, who spent his first two years at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, decided to change from psychology to accounting. His father’s CPA recommended the Barney School.

“Making that change was one of the best things that ever happened to me. I can’t imagine where I’d be if I had finished as a psych major at Southern,” says Boxwell, who founded San Francisco Coffee Co. in the late 1990s in Malaysia.

At Barney, Boxwell found a supportive environment with faculty who encouraged him. But the atmosphere at Barney was also competitive, and he says it prepared him well to go out into the world and succeed.

And succeed he did. A recognized expert in quality and customer service, Boxwell is also the author of Benchmarking for Competitive Advantage (McGraw-Hill, 1994). His professional experience includes 10 years as a managing partner at Churchill and Company, an international management consultancy, and six years as a CPA and senior manager with Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co. He received an MBA from Harvard Business School in 1988.

Why coffee? Boxwell, who wasn’t even a java drinker at the time, says friends in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, pointed out the lack of specialty coffee shops. He did some analysis of the markets there and liked the margins and growth potential. San Francisco Coffee Co. is now the No. 3 gourmet coffee company in Southeast Asia. Boxwell says his goal is to become No. 2 in his region, behind coffee giant Starbucks, which has 12,000 outlets worldwide.

His customers order caffe latte most often, according to Boxwell, who adds that people in Asia are not as concerned as Americans are about calories and caffeine. “Our most popular cold drink is our Extreme Mocha. There’s nothing low-fat or decaf about Extreme Mocha!”

Boxwell currently lives in Osaka, Japan, with his wife and two young sons. He would like to hear from fellow Hartford alumni. Contact him at boxwell@sanfranciscocoffee.com.

PATRICK VACCARIELLO (HARTT) of New Britain, Conn., will be the music director for the Broadway revival of A Chorus Line, scheduled to premiere at New York’s Gerald Schoenfeld Theatre in September 2006. Vaccariello has also served as musical director for The Boy from Oz, starring Hugh Jackman, as well as music supervisor/director for Gypsy with Bernadette Peters, Dance of the Vampires with Michael Crawford, Jesus Christ Superstar, Cabaret with Alan Cumming and Natasha Richardson, and productions worldwide of Victor/Victoria, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and Cats.

JULIUS P. WILLIAMS (M, HARTT) of Ellington, Conn., was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Arts by the University System of New Hampshire, in recognition of his significant artistic achievements, including the performance of his Cantata in Keene, N.H., last October. Williams, a conductor, composer, and professor of composition at Berklee College of Music, is considered one of the major African American conductors and composers in the United States.

Bob Boxwell ’80 (right) with employees Yuichiro Heiki (far left) and Kyoko Watanabe at a Seattle’s Best Coffee outlet in Osaka, Japan. Part of San Francisco Coffee Co.’s growth has been through acquisition. Last year they acquired 45 Seattle’s Best Coffee outlets in Japan, which they will begin converting to San Francisco Coffee outlets later this year. The company also made a small acquisition in Singapore in 2003.

BOB BOXWELL
SHARI B. STERNBERG (ENHP) of Bowie, Md., won The Washington Post’s Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award in April this year. Sternberg has been teaching in Prince George’s County, Md., for 22 years.

1984

PAUL KSZEPEKA (BARNEY) of Wilbraham, Mass., owner of Kszepka Insurance Agency, is celebrating the business’s 50th anniversary. Started by Kszepka’s father, the independent agency represents many companies for all types of insurance, including business, worker’s compensation, bonds, home, auto, life, health, group, and tax-deferred annuities.

JEANINE PARDEY LEVINE (M, HARTT) of Ridgefield, Conn., has joined the staff of Prudential Connecticut Reality in Ridgefield as a sales executive.

BERIT MATHIESEN STRONG (HARTT) of Acton, Mass., was the featured guitar soloist in the Wellesley Symphony Orchestra’s “Spanish Spectacular.” Berit performed Spanish composer Joaquin Rodrigo’s “Concerto de Aranjuez” with the WSO under the music directorship of Max Hobart.

LINDA L. WELLINS (M, BARNEY). See MELANIE C. SCHEIBENPFLUG ’78.

1985

MARK FRYDENBERG (A&S) of Waltham, Mass., gave an April presentation on an innovative course he is teaching at Bentley College to University of Hartford faculty and staff. Frydenberg, who was the Schiro Scholar in 1984, worked in the private technology sector for many years and since 1999 has been on the Bentley College faculty.

1986

DOUGLAS J. REILLY (M, BARNEY) of Hinsdale, N.H., was named assistant vice president in the Small Business Lending Department at TD Banknorth, NA, in West Brattleboro, Vt. He is responsible for underwriting commercial loan requests of up to $250,000 for small-business customers in Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, and Maine.

1987

ROBERT A. LOSINNO (HARTT) of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., performed two concerts with Latin Grammy winner Nestor Torres at the John D. Lehman Theater in Miami. The concerts included the world premieres of three new compositions by Torres, which are included on his new CD, released in April.

1989

DAVID A. BROITMAN (BARNEY) of Chappaqua, N.Y., is founder and president of iINSURE Agency of New York, also known as iINSUREonline, an Internet-based insurance agency specializing in individual/consumer health insurance. The agency has been appointed key and master general agent/broker for Continental General, GoldenRule, Celtic, Humana, Unicare, and Assurant general insurance carriers. Broitman played a key role in establishing “boutique”-type health insurance, available exclusively through his agency.

JAMES T. CARDEN (A’87 HILLYER, BARNEY) of Braintree, Mass., has been promoted to assistant vice president of collections at HarborOne Credit Union. He is responsible for managing the collection department, including all delinquent loans and losses.

1990

SCOTT DIRECTOR ’90 (BARNEY). See ROBIN BERNSTEIN DIRECTOR ’92.

The Sound of Silence
Victoria Cerami ‘81 keeps the noise level down

Victoria Cerami ‘81 was on campus in May to present an honorary degree at Commencement to Charles H. Thornton, a renowned civil engineer. Cerami, no stranger to the University of Hartford, is a member of the University’s board of regents and the board of visitors at the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture.

Cerami has been president of Cerami and Associates, an internationally known acoustical engineering and audiovisual design consulting firm in Manhattan since her father’s death in 1987. She has lent her expertise to a number of University building projects and employs four Hartford alumni: Jessica Pristera ’99; James Perry, Jr. ’96; Justin Lau ’03; and Gregory Clark ’95, who is a new partner in the firm.

“Some of our recruits come from mechanical engineering and some are from the acoustics and music program directed by [Professor] Bob Celmer,” says Cerami, adding, “I think he’s doing a fabulous job.”

Taking over the reins of her father’s company was a bit intimidating at the tender age of 27, Cerami acknowledges. The firm has thrived under her leadership, however, and now has 40 employees in the New York office and four in the Washington, D.C., branch.

“Our business orchestrates the design of various building-service systems to provide noise and vibration control. For example, we work to block out the noise from an air-conditioning system or the rumbling of a nearby subway station. Our clients range from condominiums, schools, hotels, and museums to the Freedom Tower that will be built on the World Trade Center site.”

Describing herself as a tomboy, Cerami says it was easy to see herself as an engineer. When she visited the Hartford campus, Cerami found a warm, nurturing place that quickly won her over. She became one of 10 women in a class of about 100 engineering students.

“I never felt discriminated against. The girls had the highest SAT scores in the class. We could hold our own, and that fostered a relationship of mutual respect. One of my male classmates told me I wasn’t a ‘normal’ girl. I’m pretty sure that was a compliment.”
**Weddings**

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

Adrienne Williamson & Eric S. Oziemlewski ’96
Jennifer L. Healy ’97 & Eric Morrison
Samantha Kaplan & Eric B. Dunham ’98
Elizabeth M. Salvi ’98 & Thomas R. Brown
Kathryn D. Couture & Robert H. Morrow ’99
Lori A. Erickson ’00 & James A. Valis
Denarie M. Kissida ’00 & Shawn S. Garris ’03
Diana Mendoza ’00 & Alex Estrella
Caryn H. Goldstein ’01 & Brian A. Miller ’01
Margaret Case Beach & Kevin Francis Flanagan ’02
Maria Polletta M’03 & Robert Guerrera
Dawna Farley & Nathaniel R. Slarve ’03
Rachel M. Cohen ’04 & Matthew Anderson
Karen M. Spiewak ’04 & Bruce G. Martin

**Births**

And to our alumni parents

Jennifer & Frederic P. Hyatt ’88 (Hogan)
Mary Beth Sullivan Gelsleichter ’92 & James Gelsleichter (Mia Leinani)
Shari Sadders Marks ’92 & Peter Marks (Jake Emmanuel)
Shawna Casey DeMeyer ’94 & Aaron P. DeMeyer (Gregory Edward)
Ellen Kemp & Sean D. Kemp ’94 (Lauren Margaret)
Marnee Morris-Sirolli ’97 & Ron Sirolli (Marc Joseph)
Beth W. Agdish ’98, M’02, & Marc Agdish (David Isaac)
Gina Holland Madore ’00 & David J. Madore ’01 (Eliza Holland)
Tracey & Timothy E. Robinson ’02 (Garrett William)

Above: Debra Kapp ’00 (Barney) and Andrew P. Dorval ’99 (HAS) were married on Sept. 17, 2005.

**GEORGE S. LOPEZ** (HARTT) of Goffstown, N.H., gave a piano performance of the music of Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms, with Mowry Pearson on violin, at the Pine Hill Waldorf School. Lopez received critical acclaim for his interpretation of Bach’s *Goldberg Variations* at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Netherlands, and is now preparing the complete cycle of Beethoven piano concertos for his concert season.

**MICHAEL E. RHODES** (M, BARNEY) of Katonah, N.Y., was promoted to partner in charge of corporate governance at Citrin Cooperman & Company, LLP, an accounting firm in New York City. Previously, Rhodes was engagement manager in the New York office of Parson Consulting.

**1991**

**SHANA ROBILAS BOUSARD** (HARTT) of Anthem, Ariz., has released her debut album, *This One’s On Me*, a vocal CD of standards, jazzy versions of Broadway favorites, blues, and original songs. The CD is produced by Theatre Maxim, LLC, the company founded by Bousard and her husband, and can be ordered at info@theatremaxim.org.

**1992**

**ROBIN BERNSTEIN DIRECTOR** (BARNEY) of Sharon, Mass., was the 2006 recipient of the National Leadership Award from the Sharon-Stoughton chapter of Hadassah, for which Director serves as vice president of membership. She is married to **SCOTT DIRECTOR ’90** (BARNEY) and has two children, Haley, 7, and Mitchell, 5.

**NEIL A. GINSBERG** (HARTT) of Brooklyn, N.Y., was named co-chair of the performing arts department at the Brooklyn Friends School, where he has taught for six years. His choral music, published by Santa Barbara Music and Lorenz/Heritage Publishing, is widely performed, and his composition “Won’t You Join the Dance”

**Send in your news!**

Send your news and your new baby, wedding, and alumni get-together pictures. **Alumni artists**, send in digital photos of your artwork from a recent show.

Photos should be high resolution, less than 2MB each, saved in .jpg format, and e-mailed to chapters@hartford.edu. Larger files can be mailed on CD to Office of Alumni Relations, University of Hartford, 312 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117.
was selected as an Editors’ Choice by J. W. Pepper, the country’s largest music producer. Ginsberg can be reached at ginsberg27@yahoo.com.

ANTHONY M. LEONE (HARTT) of Brooklyn, N.Y., is a recording artist and a member of American Roots Music group, which has successfully recorded with SONY under the Columbia label. Leone’s new CD, with VERVE Music Group, is slated for release this summer.

1993

EDWARD H. MYLES (BARNEY) and his wife, Tamara, and daughter, Isabella, have moved back to the Boston area, where Myles is newly employed as vice president, finance, and CFO of Pressure BioSciences, Inc. (PBI), a publicly traded, early-stage company focused on the development of a novel technology called Pressure Cycling Technology (PCT). PTC uses cycles of hydrostatic pressure between ambient and ultrahigh levels to control biomolecular interactions. PBI currently holds 13 U.S. and four foreign patents covering multiple applications of PCT in the areas of genomic and proteomic sample preparation, pathogen inactivation, the control of enzymes, immunodiagnostics, and protein purification. Myles, at tmyles@pressurebiosciences.com, looks forward to hearing from fellow UH graduates.

EDWARD F. SMITH III (BARNEY) of Yardley, Pa., has been appointed vice president, finance, and CFO at PolyMedix, Inc. PolyMedix develops acute-care products based on biomimetics for drug-resistant bacteria and acute cardiovascular disorders.

STEVE VACCHI (M, HARTT) of Eugene, Ore., was a visiting artist at Community Music School (CMSS) of Springfield, Mass. Sponsored by Westfield Bank, Vacchi instructed and critiqued students in a master class setting. The associate professor of bassoon is a faculty member of the University of Oregon.

FRANK ZHI-GANG ZHAO (M, BARNEY) of Beijing, China, has been appointed co-CFO of Sun New Media Inc., one of China’s first integrated, interactive marketing companies. Zhao previously served as vice president of finance, among other senior finance positions, with several NASDAQ-listed companies.

1994

BRIDGET L. HOBSON (A&S) of San Francisco, Calif., was featured on CNN during Anderson Cooper’s On the Rise segment and in Fortune Small Business Magazine. Hobson introduced her company, Quipi Cards, whose goal is to provide a more imaginative and witty alternative to overly flowery, poetic greeting cards. The interview is accessible on www.cnn.com under “Anderson Cooper 360,” “On the Rise.”

SEAN P. KEMP (A&S) of Concord, N.H., organized the first Juvenile Diabetes Walk in Concord three years ago, and it continues as an annual event today. Kemp has lived with juvenile diabetes since the age of seven. All donations from the walk benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

LAURA E. WALDMAN (ENHP) of West Orange, N.J., has completed her fifth year of teaching sixth grade at Memorial Middle School in Little Ferry, N.J. Old friends can reach Waldman, who recently purchased her first home, at laurawaldman@aol.com.

Jennifer Formica ’93 (HAS), Buttercup Flower Bud Ranunculus (digital inkjet print, 14” x 11”), 2004. Formica exhibited her aesthetic studies of the natural world in She Blinded Me with Science, a two-person show held in 2005 at Gallery 138 in New York City. She exhibited in June/July 2006 in Reframing Nature, a group show at Spencertown Academy Arts Center in Spencertown, N.Y.

1995

JASON SOCRATES BARDI (A&S) of Rocky Hill, Conn., has published The Calculus Wars: Newton, Leibniz, and the Greatest Mathematical Clash of All Time (Pocket Essentials, 2006). The first winner of the University’s Belle K. Ribicoff Prize, Bardi is a science writer/editor at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, of the National Institutes of Health.

THERESA T. JANECZEK (M, BARNEY) of East Hartford, Conn., is an instructor of business in the Center for Business and Technologies Division at Manchester Community College. She is the owner of Solutions Unlimited, a consulting service providing business and marketing strategies for small business, consumers, and nonprofit groups. Janecek has also taught business courses at Orange County Community College and SUNY–Orange in Middletown, N.Y.

THOMAS A. LEONE, JR. (ENHP), of Manchester, Conn., completed his master’s degree in elementary computing. Leone, who has pursued stints as a limo driver and a model for both runway and mannequin, is currently employed in the area of management.

JULIE LEAVITT WOLFE (ENHP, M’98 ENHP) of Park Ridge, N.J., was featured in the August 2006 issue of O: The Oprah Magazine, in an article with a before-and-after look at properly fitting women’s jeans. The photo shoot was an exciting change of pace for this stay-at-home mom.
1996

STEPHEN J. FUSCO (ENHP) of Wolfeboro, N.H., has joined Memorial Hospital in North Conway, N.H., as its director of rehabilitation services.

SUSAN B. RICHMAN (M,ENHP) of Marlborough, Conn., has been appointed vice president of nursing services at Milford (Conn.) Hospital.

1997

LATANYA FARRELL (M,ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., was cast, along with Hartt alumnus JAVIER COLON ’00, in an Off-Broadway production of Songs in the Key of Life, presented at the Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts in Hartford. Songs in the Key of Life takes numbers from Stevie Wonder’s 1976 milestone recording and rearranges them without dialogue to tell the story of an African American family via a six-person, a cappella cast, using only a drumbeat and percussion. Farrell, praised by The News-Times (Danbury, Conn.) in the headline “Teacher shines in spotlight as singer” (April 14, 2006), performs at The Russell and Kenny’s restaurants in Hartford.

MATTHEW B. WEBER (HAS) of Unionville, Conn., was one of 10 local artists who received a grant from the Greater Hartford Arts Council’s New Boston Fund Individual Artist Fellowship.

1998

DAVID M. HAYES (HARTT) of Philadelphia, Pa., who conducts the Philadelphia Singers, is director of orchestral and conducting studies at Manns College of Music. He is also staff conductor of the symphony orchestra of The Curtis Institute of Music.

BRIAN HELLER (HARTT) of Minneapolis, Minn., is the author of the cover article, “Front and Center: A Practical Guide to Mid-side Recording and Processing,” in the March 2006 issue of Electronic Musician. A composer and engineer, Heller teaches in the sound arts program at Minneapolis College and is staff engineer at the Banff Centre.

PETER M. ROVIT (M, HARTT) of New York, N.Y., has been appointed assistant professor of violin at the University of Alabama. He leaves his post in violin at the University of Oklahoma, where he has taught for three years, while performing in Quartet Oklahoma and serving as associate concertmaster of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic. Rovit earned his doctoral degree at SUNY-Stony Brook under Mitchell Stern. During summers he teaches and performs at the Kinhaven Music Festival in Arkansas.

1999

RACHEL A. LUTZKER (A&S) of Bloomfield, Conn., is the on-air traffic reporter for WHCN-FM, as well as reporting the morning and afternoon traffic for WFSB-Channel 3 in Hartford. Lutzker is also the disc jockey on Acoustic After Dark on WHCN.

2000

JAVIER D. COLON (HARTT) of Manchester, Conn., released his second album, Left of Center, an atypical R&B album, with touches of Latin, jazz, and gospel illustrating his creative freedom. Colon, the subject of a March 26 feature story on the front page of The Hartford Courant’s “Life” section, was cast, along with LATANYA FARRELL M’97 (ENHP), in Songs in the Key of Life at the Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts in February. The cast of six a cappella singers performed selections from Stevie Wonder’s celebrated 1976 album.

MARIN IRELAND (HARTT) of New York City was honored for her performance in Cyclone at the 51st Annual Obie Awards, Off-Broadway and Off-Off-Broadway’s highest honor. Cyclone ran at the Off-Broadway theater Studio Dante in March-April 2006. The award ceremony was held May 15 at the Skirball Center for the Performing Arts. Ireland was also the recipient of a 2005 Anchor Award from the Alumni Association.

GINA HOLLAND MADORE (HARTT) and DAVID J. MADORE (HARTT) of Plainsboro, N.J., own and run the Madore Piano and Voice Studio in New Jersey, which welcomes more than 40 students a week. David composes and is a music director in the New York City metropolitan area.

JEFFREY P. MCGARRY (A’98 HILLYER, A&S) of Bronx, N.Y., received his master’s degree in criminal justice at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York. McGarry is a court analyst for the New York State Unified Court System in Brooklyn Criminal Court.

In Memoriam

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Marion Bristol Bridge ’36</td>
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<td>Marjorie L. Johnson ’43</td>
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<td>Rosetta G. Freeman ’45</td>
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<td>Jane M. Metzler-Potz M’86</td>
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<td>Lucy Kurtz Tramont ’89</td>
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<td>Ruth Slesinski Lenihan A’77, ’98</td>
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<td>Dotlyn A. Nichols Powell ’03</td>
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2001

MATTHEW E. ANDREJKOVICS (BARNEY) of New York, N.Y., joined Knox & Co., a Westport-based investment bank for middle-market and cross-border mergers and acquisitions. He works on specific client merger and acquisition assignments and certain restructuring assignments.

JANELLE A. LEONE (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., is a wigmaker/manager for Watson Associates, a wigmaker for the plays Wicked, Jersey Boys, and The Color Purple. She is currently managing wigs for Richard Danielpour's new American opera, Margaret Garner, libretto by Toni Morrison. Leone has managed wigs for Shakespeare in the Park, Jimmy Smits, Kristen Johnston, Sam Waterston, and Rosie Perez.

ELIS A. McGROARY (ENHP) of Montrose, N.Y., co-teaches a fourth-grade class in Suffield, Conn. Profiled in the March 2006 issue of The Suffield Observer (“Strictly Irish”), McGroary, who was born in Ireland, is an Irish step dancer as well as a teacher. She has danced competitively for many years and teaches step dancing to children in the Expanding Horizons enrichment program.

LOUIS R. SPETRINO (A&S) of West Haven, Conn., wrote and directed Your Turn, a film about a ghost who traps two men in a house. Through a series of plot twists, Spetrino intends to keep viewers guessing until the end.

2002

SCOTT A. HILL (M, HARTT). See CARLOS BOLTES '04.

RICHARD A. ORLOSKY (HAS) of Johnstown, N.Y., has been named senior designer for exhibitions and graphic arts at the Bronx Zoo, headquarters of the Wildlife Conservation Society. He works on exhibits and wayfinding systems for all five zoos in the New York metro area, including the Bronx Zoo, Central Park Zoo, and the New York Aquarium, as well as conservation projects in the United States and around the world.

ERIC STEGMAIER (HAS) of Plainville, Conn., is a graduate student in religious studies at Sacred Heart University and an architectural illustrator at the Roman Fort at Yotavta in the Negev Desert in southern Israel.

MAUREEN C. WITKOWSKI (HARTT) of King of Prussia, Pa., is a member of the Senior Technical Group at TrialTech, Inc. Witkowski’s division deals in advanced digital graphics and animation that assist in winning precedent-setting courtroom cases. In February, TrialTech won its biggest case, the Dover trial, involving parents who sued the school district to remove intelligent design from the curriculum.

2003

TAMILA AZADALIEVA (GPD, HARTT; M'04 HARTT) of West Hartford, Conn., a member of the Arensky Trio, recently performed in a concert sponsored by Greater Waterbury Classic Concerts (GWCC) at Post University. A recipient of numerous awards, Azadaliyeva teaches piano in the Community Division of The Hartt School, as well as at Renbrook School, the University of New Haven, and GWCC’s Summer Music Institute and Festival.

JONATHAN P. BABCOCK (D, HARTT) of Brooklyn, N.Y., director of the Gay Gotham Chorus, recently performed at the First Congregational Church in Bloomfield, Conn. The Gay Gotham Chorus is New York City’s only gay men’s choral ensemble dedicated to the performance of classical music. Babcock, a faculty member at the Conservatory of Music at Brooklyn College, is deputy director for undergraduate studies and coordinator of music performance for the conservatory.

HEATHER E. BALL (A&S) of West Islip, N.Y., was named account executive for Melville, N.Y.-based D. Paquin Communications.

DIANE S. FOOKSMAN (A&S) of Columbia, Md., graduated from the University of Alabama/Alabama Shakespeare Festival’s master of fine arts program in theatre management/arts administration. She is employed as the assistant director of education at Onley Theatre Center for the Arts in Olney, Md.

MATTHEW RYAN HOCH (M, HARTT) of Rice Lake, Wis., has accepted a full-time, tenure-track position as assistant professor of voice at Shorter College in Rome, Ga. He was one of 12 young professors selected for participation in the 2006 National Association of Teachers of Singing intern program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Hoch was assistant professor of music at the University of Wisconsin-Barron County and is completing his D.M.A. at the New England Conservatory in Boston.

ANDREW SMITH (D, HARTT) of Westport, Conn., has been appointed music director of the Suzuki Music School of Westport. He is also head of strings and director of chamber music for Valparaiso University, founder and director of the Stanford International Music Festival in the United Kingdom, and violinist with the Castillon Trio.

2004

AMANDA BACKER (A&S) and THOMAS NELSON (A&S) of Colchester, Conn., are official homeowners, having purchased their first condominium, in Colchester. Backer is an assistant account executive at Cronin & Company, one of the top advertising agencies in Connecticut. She oversees the inception, development, and launch of full-service advertising campaigns, including print, radio, TV, online, and outdoor advertising as well as PR, direct mail, and guerilla marketing. Nelson is a videographer and editor at Essex Television Group, working on internal communication videos for Pfizer in Groton, Conn.

CARLOS BOLTES (GPD, HARTT) and SCOTT HILL M’02 (GPD, HARTT) of Bloomfield, Conn., received first-prize honors as The Alturas Duo in the Chamber Music Foundation of New England’s Second International Chamber Music Ensemble Competition. The pair participated in the foundation’s First Prize Winners Concert, held in May at Well Recital Hall in New York’s Carnegie Hall. Charrango/violist and guitarist Hill are both Hartt Community Division faculty members.

JAMES A. FORD (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., was featured in “Fall guy,” an article in the Worcester (Mass.) Telegram & Gazette (April 13). The article tells of Ford’s jump from class clown to stuntman and actor.

WALTER A. GIBSON (HARTT) of Bloomfield, Conn., received an award for outstanding support of the arts in New Britain, Conn., by the New Britain branch of the NAACP, in conjunction with its “Music to Soothe the Mind and Body” concert sponsors. Gibson is the personnel manager and librarian for the New Britain Symphony, and performance librarian and curator of musical instruments for The Hartt School.

AMIEL B. HERSH (ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., has been accepted to the Rabbinical School at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City as a Wexner Foundation Graduate Fellow. He will start classes in September.
2005

GARETT A. MARTOCCELLO (A&S) of New York, N.Y., is an assistant editor for ABC’s Extreme Makeover show.

DANA M. PARKER (ENHP) of Manchester, Conn., is a claims representative for the Social Security Administration.

JONATHAN G. THIES (HAS) of Barrington, R.I., has an interest in political and editorial cartooning and plans to use this skill for the Barrington Times and other newspapers. He had the opportunity to see his screenplay, which he started while still in high school and which he wrote with Jon Land, turned into the film Dirty Deeds. The release was distributed to theaters around the country this past year.

Top row: Christopher (left) and Matthew Weisbrot, sons of Dana ’80 and Stefanie Weisbrot, with their souvenir Howies from the alumni Wolf Pack game; (right) Micah Gorin ’95 and Ezat Parnia M’78, host of the June 14 Boston alumni reception at Cambridge College.

Middle row: (left) Alumni sail the Hudson River, passing the Rondout Lighthouse; (center) Addis Crooks ’02 and Len Oppenheimer ’90 attended the NYC happy hour at the Town Tavern in the West Village; (right) alumni tour the Hyde Park, N.Y., campus of the Culinary Institute of America with a student guide.

Bottom row: (from left) Mike Cicchetti ’04, Scott Bean ’05, and Dan Colon ’03, former and current resident directors in the University’s Department of Residential Life, volunteer at the Buick Championship golf tournament in June. At far right is Michael Dudek, spouse of University staff member Nancy Dudek and father of incoming student John Dudek.

David Hayes ‘86 Named 2006 Hartt Alumnus of the Year

David Hayes, who received a bachelor’s in music history from The Hartt School in 1986, is a conductor with an unusually broad range of repertory, spanning the symphonic, oratorio, and operatic genres.

Currently music director of The Philadelphia Singers, Hayes serves on the conducting staff of The Philadelphia Orchestra, having been appointed during Wolfgang Sawallisch’s tenure as music director. He is also the director of orchestral and conducting studies for the Mannes College of Music in New York City and staff conductor of the Curtis Symphony Orchestra. In addition, Hayes has served as cover conductor for the New York Philharmonic and for Sir Andre Previn on the Curtis Symphony Orchestra’s 1999 European Tour.

A native of the Boston area, Hayes studied conducting with Charles Bruck at the Pierre Monteux School and with Otto-Werner Mueller at Philadelphia’s Curtis Institute of Music. He is a member of the board of directors of Chorus America (the national service organization for the choral arts).
Stella Ogwu-Weekes is an honor student who was born and raised in Nigeria in a family of eight children. She graduated first in her class with an associate’s degree from the University’s Hillyer College this past May. She will continue her studies at the College of Arts and Sciences as a junior this fall with a major in biology. Her goal is to become a pediatrician.

STELLA, WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT NIGERIA?
I miss a lot of things. I miss my friends and my family and a sense of belonging to a people and to a particular place. When I go back home, I feel relaxed and safe. I feel like I belong.

WHAT’S THE MAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOING TO SCHOOL IN NIGERIA AND GOING TO SCHOOL IN THE UNITED STATES?
Interaction between teachers and students is much more formal in Nigeria. You don’t try to get to know teachers in any kind of personal way. You don’t stop by a teacher’s office and chat. Here in the United States, we have counselors, advisors—people you can talk to who can help you with problems that may come up. Teachers here are much more approachable.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD SO FAR?
The faculty and students have been very supportive and encouraging. Plus I’ve had great opportunities, like going with other Hillyer students to New Orleans during spring break to help with the cleanup efforts there.

HOW DID YOU DECIDE YOU WANTED TO BECOME A PEDIATRICIAN?
When I was growing up, I saw so many sick children in Nigeria. Children are the ones who suffer the most because they can’t really express how they’re feeling. Moms and dads try to be strong for their kids, but sometimes they can’t help. That’s when a doctor can step in. Helping the children is my priority.

WILL YOU PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THE UNITED STATES OR IN NIGERIA?
I’d like to go back and forth, but I’m looking forward to spending more time in Nigeria. There are good doctors in Nigeria but not enough of them. Not a lot of people can afford to go to medical school. Also, it’s still my home. I don’t want to neglect the people I left behind. I want to help the people I grew up with, the people who are part of my life and part of my country.
THANK YOU for making our college educations possible.

THANK YOU for allowing our professors to attend conferences worldwide and conduct groundbreaking research.

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THANK YOU to all who have supported this past year’s Annual Fund. Your dollars have already made a difference in our lives.

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Eli Rosenthal was one of 23 string students from The Hartt School Community Division Suzuki program to participate in the 14th Suzuki World Convention in Turin, Italy, in April. More than 3,000 children from all over the world came for a week of classes and concerts. Hartt’s tour group was led by program chair Teri Einfeldt.