On the cover: A spectacular fireworks display during Midnight Mania marked the opening of the men’s and women’s basketball season and launched a full slate of Fall Weekend activities (see pages 15–17). Photo by Jeff Feldmann

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n mid-October the Hartford community was rocked by news that United Technologies Corporation (UTC) had proposed a merger with Honeywell International Inc. For two furious days the Hartford media were filled with stories about what this would mean for the greater Hartford region, especially if the corporate headquarters were to shift from Hartford to another city. As it turned out, that merger never happened because General Electric Company outbid UTC for Honeywell.

That quick news flurry made quite an impact and left reporters and citizens alike with a new realization. If UTC, so long a bedrock of the Hartford community, were to shift its corporate headquarters, what could our community count on for corporate stability in the new century?

In hindsight, this revelation should not have been such a surprise. Indeed, the history of Hartford over the past two decades has been one of corporations merging, going out of business, or moving their headquarters out of town. Indeed, Denis Mullane, honorary regent of the University and former CEO of Connecticut Mutual Insurance Company, told me months ago that when he was heading up Connecticut Mutual (now merged with MassMutual), there were 25 CEOs of major corporations who lived in Hartford County. Today there are four.

This shift in the corporate world has significant repercussions both for our communities and for universities. For the past 120 years or so, corporations have been the bedrocks of their communities, not only economically but also in the leadership of civic endeavors and charitable causes. Nowhere was this more a fixture of civic life than in Hartford, where legends of “the bishops,” the CEOs of Hartford’s major corporations, are part of the fabric of our community history.

These bishops, it is said, would meet at the Hartford Club and decide Hartford’s civic priorities, and then, how they would provide the funding to achieve them. Today, the major cultural, medical, and educational institutions are, in a very real sense, the legacies of the bishops’ leadership and generosity. The Wadsworth Atheneum, The Bushnell, Hartford Hospital, St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Trinity College, and the University of Hartford are among those who benefited from these leaders and their corporations.

Now the corporate landscape is changing. Although corporate leaders still provide valuable leadership for our communities, the bishops are gone. Many of the corporations they represented no longer have their corporate headquarters in Hartford. The Travelers Insurance Company and CIGNA, while still important employers and corporate citizens, no longer are headquartered here. None of the banks that existed in Hartford in 1985 is left today. This year, the Dutch Company, ING Group, agreed to purchase a large segment of Aetna. And this summer alone, Dexter Corporation, Wiremold Corporation, and Hartford Steam Boiler, to name just three prominent area corporations, announced mergers with larger entities.

Hartford is not alone in this corporate, tectonic plate shift. My hometown of Pittsburgh, Pa., once the home of “Big Steel,” now boasts that its leading employer is health care; and household names like Jones and Laughlin Steel and U.S. Steel are long gone. Detroit, Mich., my most recent home before moving to Hartford, is still home to two and a half of the “Big Three” automakers (I give them half-credit for the new Daimler-Chrysler). But the corporate landscape has shifted there, too, and the largest segment of the economy is now the myriad of smaller auto suppliers located there.

This has enormous consequences for universities and other charitable organizations. The University of Hartford has always benefited greatly from the generosity of Hartford’s leading corporations. I am struck by a few immediate examples. I write this on a desk given to the University by the Hartford Insurance Company. I have just returned from addressing the Faculty Senate in a room donated by the Royal Typewriter Company (how quaint does that name seem now?). And I am looking out the window at United Technologies Hall, a gift of that corporation.

While we continue to benefit greatly from corporate generosity—include all of the names mentioned in this article and add others like the Phoenix Home Life Mutual Insurance Company to the list of companies that generously support us—we can no longer assume they will always be in Hartford. Increasingly, we will look to individuals and foundations for support.

But I think there is an even more important consequence for our communities, especially our urban areas that have been so dependent on corporate leadership in civic affairs. I predict that the new bedrocks of our communities will be the large, nonprofit organizations, the hospitals and universities located there. We are not moving. We are, by our very nature, anchored in and devoted to our communities; and as our economy shifts, we are increasingly the stable economic support our communities need. When you add to that the major cultural organizations and churches, you have defined the most stable infrastructure of our communities today.

This new role for hospitals and universities brings with it many serious responsibilities and lessons to be learned. We provide the civic leadership, the crucial volunteer support, and the strong commitment to neighborhoods that are so essential to our communities today. Our greatest resource is our people—our students, faculty, and staff—and we have only begun to mobilize them as forces in community leadership and development.

Unlike corporations, however, we are the beneficiaries of philanthropy, not the generators of it. Communities will need to adjust to that, as will the hospitals and universities themselves. But with strong and creative leadership, the kind provided by the bishops in the past, we can navigate this sea of change and emerge as even stronger communities in the century ahead.

Last month I represented the University at a reception held by Fleet Bank in the elegant public rooms on the 26th floor of its skyscraper downtown. It was a festive occasion honoring those customers of Fleet and its predecessor banks. There were a number of corporations represented, but I was struck by how many of Fleet’s longtime customers were universities and hospitals—it seemed to me that we made up at least half of those longtime customers. As I looked out from that lofty vantage point over Hartford’s wonderful skyline, I thought about how the hospital and university leaders in that room, honored that evening for their stability in the past 25 years, would also provide the key to stability and prosperity in the future.

Walter Harrison
The cover of the *Liberty* magazine (November 1932) reproduced in the [Fall 2000] *Observer* illustrates, oh so subtly, the media bias in a presidential election.

The young lady voter on the cover is presented pictorially, debating a choice between Herbert Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt. It takes only a brief inspection of the two faces (Hoover and Roosevelt) to realize that one face is smiling and the other is dour, almost grim. Any doubt whom the magazine editors influenced their readers to vote for? You will need to inspect the photograph for the correct answer.

As an aside, I recall as a five-year-old boy that Herbert Hoover had a kindly, grandfather-type visage. I was disappointed that my parents voted against him. Yes, I was at the polls with them in Waterbury [Conn.] that day.

Jack Herrle ’64

*AmeriCorps* VISTA has asked that we help locate alumni who have served with its VISTA National Service program. Excerpts from the letter are reprinted below.

I am writing to request your assistance in locating Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) alumni members who served with the National Service program after attending your academic institution. Last spring, Occidental College piloted this initiative by posting a small announcement in their alumni publication….

The president’s office at Occidental agreed to collect the information and send it to us. If more convenient, you may direct them to our office (202) 606-5000, ext. 2365, or <vista35@americorps.org>. If you have any questions, you may contact Michael Wagner, Alumni Associate for *AmeriCorps* VISTA at (202) 606-5000, ext. 316, or me directly at ext. 236 [at the same number].

Matt Dunne
Corporation for National Service
Director, *AmeriCorps* VISTA

I want to compliment David Isgur for his response [Fall 2000 Observer] to Lisa Lyons’s attack on his Bethsaida article for having, in her opinion, one “anti-Semitic” sentence. Mr. Isgur not only elaborated on his sentence but also clarified that he was clearly hustled. However, he saw the humor in the fact that he allowed himself to be hustled. Hopefully, Ms. Lyons sees the humor and is now mollified.

Peter Brock ’65

Jennifer Carlin, daughter of Bruce J. Handwerker ’62, who died of cancer on June 30, 1982, has asked us to provide members of her father’s class with information about him.

My father was a member of the United States Peace Corps shortly after graduating from college. He was in Vietnam and in parts of Africa teaching English and basic survival skills. He met my mother in 1965, and they were wed in 1969 after he finished his Peace Corps and Marine Reserve duties.

My father and mother moved to Los Angeles, where he pursued a career in law enforcement with the Los Angeles Police Department. Although he was not a police officer, he did very important work as a statistician.

He became a father in 1971, when he and my mother adopted my sister, Sharon. I was born two years later in 1973. He was diagnosed with stomach cancer in 1977, and after a valiant fight, he died on June 30, 1982. He was a wonderful father to me and my older sister, Sharon. He would be a grandfather now, and he is very much missed.

My father made an important contribution to the world with his work with the Peace Corps and to his family.

Jennifer L. Carlin
jenncar@microsoft.com

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The Observer welcomes your comments, whether you wish to praise, criticize, analyze, or simply to communicate with fellow alumni or warmly remembered faculty or staff. Our e-mail address: <observer@mail.hartford.edu>. Postal address: Letters to the Editor, The Observer, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117. Letters may be edited for space consideration.
The University’s Museum of American Political Life was the place to be on Election Night, Nov. 7. Several hundred students, faculty, staff, administrators, media representatives and people from the community were on hand to watch the returns and celebrate the opening of the exhibition, “The Will of the People? Presidential Campaigns That Made the Nation.”

Organizers of the exhibition must be credited with unusual prescience; the exhibition could not have been more timely. With the 2000 presidential election ending in a virtual tie, the outcome was still too close to call when The Observer went to press 10 days later.

As in all of the country and much of the world, the astounding events on Election Night and the days that followed were watched closely by those on campus and discussed energetically, not just in classes but in dorm rooms, offices, Gengras, the Commons, The 1877 Club. Many saw the excruciatingly close vote and its aftermath as a crisis and an indication of a great divide in the country. Others viewed the vitality of the national debate as a healthy exercise of democracy. The dramatic, often contentious, unfolding of history became a supreme civics lesson for all, not only for the students who were voting for the first time in a presidential election but for their professors as well.

Intense interest in the campaign was evident throughout the fall, with a level of student attention to the political process that had not been seen on campus in more than two decades.

Four days before the election, Channel 2, the University’s student-run television station, broadcast a live town meeting from the campus television studio. The event, the brainchild of senior Michael Baldyga and junior Ezra Shanken, was organized and run entirely by students. Participating in the forum was an audience of 50 students and a panel that included Connecticut Comptroller Nancy Wyman; Assistant Secretary of the State Tanya Meck; Paul Lewis, news director for WTIC-TV, Channel 61; Guy “Chuck” Colarulli, associate provost and dean of undergraduate studies, who is also associate professor of politics and government; and representatives of the Bush and Gore campaigns.

Among the topics discussed were why 18- to 24-year-olds tend to stay away from the polls, the rising cost of higher education, and violence in schools.

In early October, members of the Government and Law Society joined other students nationwide to give electronic feedback on the presidential and vice-presidential debates.

continued on next page
The Progressive Student Alliance invited Green Party candidate Ralph Nader to campus for a rally in Lincoln Theater on Oct. 4 and, later in the month, Reform Party vice-presidential candidate Ezola Foster spoke to students in Suisman Lounge. The dialogue continued two days after the election as civil rights leader Martin Luther King III discussed the results with several hundred students, faculty, and staff.

Launching the political events on campus in September was a roundtable discussion, sponsored by the University’s annual Deeds Symposium, with four noted political strategists and pollsters discussing presidential campaigning and the impact of the new forms of electronic media. —DS

Rating the Debate
by Terri Raimondi

As millions of Americans tuned into the presidential and vice-presidential debates at home this fall, University of Hartford students tuned in to “Rate the Debate” live, via the Internet.

On Thursday, Oct. 5, and Tuesday, Oct. 17, 20 members of the Government and Law Society joined thousands of other students nationwide to give simultaneous, moment-by-moment feedback on the candidates via the Internet. The Hartford students used the latest in Internet technology on state-of-the-art equipment in the University’s new Computer Learning Center (CLC) to respond positively or negatively while they watched the candidates debate on television.

On Oct. 5, the students rated the vice-presidential debate between Democrat Joseph Lieberman and Republican Dick Cheney. On Tuesday, Oct. 17, students rated the presidential debate between Al Gore and George W. Bush.

Sophomore Andrew Fimka, president of the Government and Law Society, said the group had traveled to Boston for the first presidential debate between Gore and Bush and were eager to participate in “Rate the Debate.”

What the candidates said during the debates mattered less than how their messages were received at CLC. As students gave live reaction to the debate and to some of Campaign 2000’s tough issues, their responses were automatically tallied and reported by Fox News.

“Rate the Debate” is an interactive Web initiative sponsored by Speakout.com and Fox News Channel, which records television viewers’ responses to the candidates’ performances during the debates. The sponsors and Youth Vote 2000, a nonpartisan coalition that urges young people to vote, encouraged students nationwide to log on and rate the debate.

Students logged onto an Internet-based “dial meter” that allowed them to score every second of the debate on a 0-to-100 scale, indicating their level of approval or disapproval. The continuously running graph displayed the results of their input immediately, producing instant online results.

Fimka said that using the Internet gave credibility to the students’ answers and put participants’ responses on equal terms nationwide.

Junior Jeffrey Morris, a politics and government major, described “Rate the Debate” as an interactive learning experience. “We watched the candidates speak and simultaneously voiced our opinion,” said Morris. “The candidates reiterated what they believed in.”

The students generally liked what they heard, although many students were critical of how the candidates responded and felt they did not give direct answers. Many students were interested in
knowing how the candidates would benefit education.

George Brophy, the University’s new director of information technology services (ITS), said “Rate the Debate” was a true example of teamwork across the University. Although the Computer Learning Center was not yet in use, ITS was able to work with other departments, including media technology services and telecom, to make the new center ready for “Rate the Debate.” When fully equipped, CLC will include more than 20 computer seats plus printing and scanning capabilities, and a professional presenter’s station with a ceiling-mounted projector, screen, and television hookup capability.

“The technology performed flawlessly as the students watched and listened to the debate via the television hookup, and rated the debate in real time over the Internet,” said Brophy. “It was both exciting and enjoyable to see our students in action using this technology while participating in the political process.”

Students from such groups as the Government and Law Society and Brothers and Sisters United gathered at the Auerbach Computer Center to watch the debate between the candidates for vice president and then rate the candidates’ comments through an interactive Web initiative, sponsored by Speakout.com.

The “Rate the Debate” event attracted impressive media attention, including WFSB-TV Channel 3, NBC 30, WTIC-TV Channel 61, New England Cable News (NECN), and The Hartford Courant. Channel 61 and NECN set up satellite trucks and broadcast live from the event.

“I was pleased to see how well our students interacted with the media and how well they presented themselves and the University of Hartford,” said Brophy.

Freshman Ugo Mbauwuiki said “Rate the Debate” is a good example of democracy in action. “If we all took time to do something like this, the world would change,” he said.

Professor Nader Returns to Campus

On a swing through his native state, Ralph Nader addressed a cheering crowd at Lincoln Theater on Oct. 4. “There aren’t many presidential candidates who can say that they taught at the University of Hartford,” he said. The Green Party candidate taught Far Eastern politics at the University in the early ’60s.

His campaign rally and press conference at the University took place on the day after he had been turned away from a debate-viewing site at the University of Massachusetts in Boston.

Speaking to an audience of students, faculty, and staff, as well as community and Green Party members, Nader promised to launch a “people’s debate commission” to counter the Commission on Presidential Debates. The Commission, a private, corporate-sponsored organization, had barred from participation all presidential and vice-presidential candidates except those of the Democratic and Republican parties. In Boston, organizers and state police had waited for Nader, who legally held a ticket, and told him he would not be permitted to enter the hall to watch the debate.

Nader urged those in his UofH audience to vote for him, whether or not they expected him to win. A substantial vote for the Green Party, he said, would provide validation for the causes he continues to promote on behalf of “ordinary Americans.” Of the choice between Al Gore and George W. Bush, Nader stated, “There comes a time when the least of the worst is not the best of the political system.”

Continuing his advocacy for decent wages, universal health care, affordable housing, campaign finance reform, and his opposition to excessive military spending and corporate greed, Nader said that both major candidates had forgotten the poor and people of color and overridden the sovereignty of the American people.

Corporate power, including that of multinational corporations, has wrested control from taxpayers, who are the actual
The University’s chief academic officer, on the job for just five months, is approaching her new post with energy, vitality, and an enthusiasm that is contagious. “I was very pleased to have been selected as provost, and I’m even more pleased with the job now than when I accepted the position,” Donna Randall said during her first interview with The Observer.

The new provost has been most impressed with the level of dedication, commitment, and caring of the faculty and staff—a level, she said, that she has not seen anywhere else she has worked. “There are so many people here that go far beyond what is expected of them.”

At her previous institution, the University of Memphis, Randall was interim senior vice provost of academic affairs and a professor of management, and prior to that, she served as dean of its Fogelman College of Business and Economics. Perhaps it is her understanding of the importance of customer service relations that makes her particularly appreciative of the student focus she sees on campus. “Faculty and staff understand that they are here for the students and genuinely want our students to be delighted with their educational experience,” she said.

Randall feels fortunate to have arrived at the University when she did. She enjoys working with President Walter Harrison, who, she said, does so much to strengthen the sense of community on campus and to build ties with the external community. “He has a presence on campus. You frequently see him walking around campus talking with students and attending faculty lectures and performances. On any given day you can find him anywhere from playing softball with the staff to making a presentation before the board of regents.

“I believe that the combination of such a group of committed and capable faculty and staff with a high-energy and visionary leader bodes very well for the future of this University,” she said.

Randall says she is continually surprised and gratified at the amount of teamwork she sees exhibited among faculty and staff. She speculated that some of this could be a result of the difficult financial times that the University experienced during the recession of the early and mid-’90s. Faculty and staff pulled together to meet the challenges of that period, and she believes that this sense of working together to resolve problems still pervades the campus.

Today, the University is experiencing a dramatic recovery, with record undergraduate enrollment, a balanced budget for the third year in a row, and for the first time in many years, an operating reserve. A portion of that reserve will be used to invest in a variety of academic initiatives and to support long-needed physical-plant enhancements, faculty and staff development needs, and technological improvements.

Challenges remain, however, as a legacy of the earlier economic constraints. “As a result of earlier funding levels, we are experiencing ‘academic deferred maintenance’ in several areas,” Randall said. “We have too few faculty for the broad range of programs we currently offer.” That became evident soon after her arrival on campus, when the Connecticut Board of Education granted probationary approval to the Division of Education’s teacher certification programs. The state raised a number of concerns, some of which are administrative in nature; others involve the number of programs and the level of resources allocated to them. The University is aggressively addressing those concerns, and the new provost is confident that state officials will renew accreditation for the programs following the next campus visit in 2001.

Such a situation does make clear, though, Randall said, that the major challenge currently facing the University could be summed up in one word: focus. “We have too many academic programs, considering the size of our institution, the number of faculty and staff we employ, and our operating budget,” she said. “We do offer a wonderful diversity of academic programs, but if we try to do too much, we cannot have the resources needed to invest in select programs to make them distinctive. The strategic planning process currently under way at the University will allow us to develop that focus. Through this process, we will be able to identify our strengths more clearly and target certain areas for growth.”

If focus is the first challenge facing the University, then preparing students to be “technologically literate” is definitely the second, according to Randall. “Many students are coming to us better prepared technologically than many of us are. As educators, it is our responsibility to prepare them for a world pervaded by technology. We need to review the current state of technology at our University and compare where we are with our peer institutions. Through strategic planning efforts, we will be able to identify where we need to strengthen our technological infrastructure, which academic programs and structures should be in place to support goal achievement, and how much we will need to invest in the area of information technology.” She sees a technological window of opportunity that will be open for five to 10 years. At the end of that time, she believes, the University must emerge at full technological capability in order to be a competitive private university among its peers.

Two opening events this fall were remarkably enlightening for her, Randall told The Observer. The first, for new students and their parents, had been arranged to answer questions about tripling in the residence halls. As many universities experienced this fall, a large entering class, combined with an
increased number of returning students who chose to remain on campus, resulted in crowded residence halls. While questions were posed about how various aspects of University life would be handled for these students, the most pressing questions clearly concerned technology. Would all students sharing a room be able to access University servers? Was there enough space for three computers in the tripled rooms?

Similarly, at a new-faculty orientation session, faculty became very interested when the topic of technology was introduced. What classrooms are wired on campus? How can they reserve these rooms? What level of technological support exists for faculty on campus? Whom do they call if they are experiencing difficulty with their computers?

Someone who plans to help in this particular area is Randall’s husband, Paul Hagner. He brings with him to the University of Hartford a National Learning Infrastructure Initiative Fellowship, which allows him to study how universities can encourage faculty to use new teaching technologies. Hagner is currently preparing an institutional readiness report. Over the next six months, he will be meeting with all faculty, as well as many staff and student representatives, to determine how the University currently supports learning technologies and what level of support faculty, staff, and students would like. Once the “where we are” and “where we want to be” questions are answered, Hagner will help develop and implement a plan for the adoption of new teaching and learning technologies for the University.

Randall said her family already feels at home in West Hartford, where her 13-year-old daughter, Kate, is attending Sedgwick Middle School. Kate and her parents are looking forward to their first snowfall. After several years in Tennessee experiencing Southern hospitality, they were somewhat surprised to have found such a warm welcome from their new Northeastern neighbors. “Our move north has been so easy,” Randall said. “People here have been every bit as open, friendly, and welcoming.” -DS

Jeff Bezos, the founder and CEO of Internet giant Amazon.com, enthusiastically accepts a bust of himself made entirely out of LEGO blocks. The bust was presented to Bezos by Peter Eio, president of LEGO Systems, Inc. and vice chair of the University’s board of regents. Bezos kicked off the Rogow Distinguished Visiting Lecturers Program this fall with an entertaining discussion tracing Amazon.com’s history, from its humble beginnings to its current status as one of the world’s leading Internet retailers. The University presented him with an honorary doctorate of commercial science, which, according to Bezos, was his first honorary degree.

South African writer John Michael Coetzee stands beside University Provost Donna Randall as he is presented with an honorary Doctor of Letters degree. Coetzee, the second lecturer in the 2000 Rogow series, delivered an innovative presentation on the humanities in Africa. He read from a prepared fictional text in which the characters explored the topic. Coetzee has won many of the world’s top literary honors for his novels, which are noted for their eloquent protest against political and social conditions in South Africa. He is the first person to win Great Britain’s prestigious Booker Prize twice, most recently for his 1999 novel, Disgrace.

Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Tracy Kidder (right), poses with President Walter Harrison and Helen Rogow, whose gift has made the Distinguished Visiting Lecturers Program possible. Kidder, the third lecturer in the series, discussed his beginnings as a writer and talked about his newest book, Home Town, a portrait of Northampton, Mass. As a writer, Kidder is known for immersing himself in the lives of ordinary people. Time magazine named Home Town the best nonfiction book of 1999, and Kidder has won a wide range of literary honors, including the Pulitzer Prize in general nonfiction and the National Book Award.
A Commitment to Hartford Scholars

by Barbara Steinberger

As the Hartford Scholars program celebrates its 10th anniversary, members of The Associates of the University of Hartford are exploring ways of expanding their already critical role in the project.

The Associates, an organization comprising members of the greater Hartford business community, has supported the University’s scholarship program continuously since its inception in 1964. In 1990 former University President Humphrey Tonkin asked The Associates to commit a portion of its scholarship support to the Hartford Scholars initiative. The Hartford Scholars program enables Hartford public school graduates who meet the University’s admission criteria to attend UofH for half-tuition. The Associates plays a major role in funding the program through events such as the annual auction and the scholarship gala.

The 1999–2000 year marked the 10th anniversary of the Hartford Scholars program. During the program’s first decade, 322 students participated, earning 58 associate’s degrees and 112 bachelor’s degrees. One student went on to earn a master’s degree from the University, and other former Hartford Scholars are working on or have completed master’s degrees at other institutions.

The Associates recently conducted a review of the Hartford Scholars program’s first 10 years. During the review process, The Associates’ executive board met with members of the University’s offices of multicultural affairs, financial aid, admission, and career services, and with outside organizations and individuals, including Hartford School Superintendent Anthony Amato. In addition, The Associates surveyed a group of former Hartford Scholars to gain their perspectives on the benefits of the program and suggestions for improvement.

As the review progressed, members of The Associates discussed ways in which they could have a greater impact on the lives of Hartford Scholars. A small number of Hartford Scholars have participated in The Associates’ annual auction and the scholarship gala over the years, but otherwise, there has been little interaction between The Associates and the Scholars.

Christopher R. Zell, senior vice president of Fleet Bank and chair of The Associates, said that the organization’s role in the Hartford Scholars program must go beyond financial support. “Our ultimate goal is to assist the Hartford Scholars in truly becoming scholars and to further enhance their experience at the University of Hartford,” Zell said.

Students in the program should understand that members of The Associates are providing more than just a scholarship grant; they are providing educational opportunities that could ultimately develop into permanent positions at Associates’ member companies, according to Zell.

The Associates developed a plan of action aimed at expanding the interaction with Hartford Scholars and at better communicating the opportunities available to them.

Associates members have started coming to campus to speak to Hartford Scholars about their companies and their fields and to share their own personal success stories. Members hope that these “awareness sessions” will help students recognize the many career opportunities that exist in the Hartford region, encourage them to stay in the area, and enable them to make connections for future employment. The first of these sessions was held in October, and additional ones are set for January and March.

The Associates will have greater interaction with the Hartford Public Schools, thanks to the efforts of Amato. Associates members and University representatives will visit Hartford high schools to discuss the Hartford Scholars program with faculty members and guidance counselors. In addition, they hope to be able to discuss the program directly with high school students and their families.

A new initiative, the Hartford Scholars Internship program, is designed to recognize the efforts of Hartford Scholars who achieve a grade point average of 2.75 or higher and demonstrate involvement in the community. After a rigorous application process, the program will match a Hartford Scholar who is a junior or senior with a company that is committed to funding the half-tuition portion of that student’s financial aid package. The company will also provide an internship for that student for a minimum of one summer, with permanent employment as the ultimate goal for both the student and the company. The internship program will begin in 2001. LEGO Systems, Inc., is the first sponsor.

“Members of The Associates strongly believe in the partnership between business and higher education, and understand that educated individuals are vital to a sustained and healthy economic environment,” Zell said. “Our businesses need the Hartford Scholars to be successful at the University of Hartford so they can go on to become successful members of the workforce.”
Sophomore Year Brings New Experiences for Hartford Scholar

The Winter 1999 issue of The Observer featured nine students from the Class of 2003, one from each of the University’s nine schools and colleges. To tell the ongoing story of their lives, The Observer will periodically visit each of them during the four years at the University.

For this issue, The Observer caught up with Eulalia Garcia. Eulalia’s story is especially appropriate for this issue since she is one of the students who benefits from the scholarship support provided by The Associates.

Now in her sophomore year at Hillyer College, Eulalia has flourished at the University, both academically and in terms of her experiences outside the classroom.

During her freshman year, Eulalia made a conscious decision not to take on a lot of extracurricular activities so that she could focus on her academic work and adjust to college life. Her strategy paid off. She earned a grade point average of 3.8 during her first semester and 3.6 during the second semester of her freshman year.

Now that she is feeling comfortable with college life, Eulalia is branching out in many new directions. For example, as a Hartford Scholar, she has gotten involved with The Associates, which partially funds the Hartford Scholars program. The program enables students like Eulalia, who graduate from Hartford public schools and meet the University’s admission criteria, to attend UofH for half-tuition.

Last spring, Eulalia was the student speaker at The Associates’ annual gala, telling guests about her experiences as a Hartford Scholar and explaining how the program has benefited her. “I got a standing ovation, and they said that had never happened before. I was so happy,” she said. This fall, she participated in a career workshop sponsored by The Associates.

But The Associates is just one of the organizations with which Eulalia has become involved. During the summer she worked as a Red Cap, providing information and support for incoming freshmen at Orientation. She is active in Naciones Hispanas Unidas, the campus organization for Hispanic students. Eulalia is involved with a sorority and has a work-study job in the Office of Admission. In addition, she works one night a week calling prospective students to answer questions, provide information, and tell them about life as a University of Hartford student.

Eulalia will earn an associate’s degree from Hillyer College in May, after which she plans to transfer into the College of Arts and Sciences as a criminal justice major. This spring, she hopes to work as a legislative intern at the Connecticut State Capitol. Eulalia’s ultimate goal is to become an FBI agent, but she is also thinking about attending law school. She gained invaluable experience working at a Hartford law firm last summer—a job she got by going through the yellow pages, calling local law firms, and being persistent.

Eulalia became interested in criminal justice taking a law course during her junior year at Hartford Public High School. Someday, she would love to be involved in law enforcement right here in her home city. “The city I grew up in has a bad reputation, and I’d like to change that,” she said.

Eulalia will be the first person in her family to graduate from college. She is working to be a positive role model for her two younger sisters, ages 5 and 9. Eulalia lived on campus during her freshman year, but this year she is living at home with her mother and sisters, both to save money and because she misses them. She knows that her sisters look up to her and that her college experience will encourage them to place a high value on education.

Eulalia’s goal for the next two and a half years is simply to get the most she can out of her time at the University of Hartford. “I’m going to try a little bit of everything,” she said. “So far, it’s been a great experience.” -BS
During a visit with students at the University of Hartford in the summer of 1972, Aaron Copland was asked a provocative question: What did he think of the emerging field of electronic music?

If the student hoped to provoke a condemnation of the new and a defense of the traditional from the 71-year-old composer, he must have been disappointed. “I feel fine—when it’s good,” Copland replied.

“The great drawback of electronic music is that if it is not produced live, it must be put on tape, and tape always sounds the same. It is diversity that keeps music alive,” he said. “My general attitude, however, is to keep an open mind and see what comes along.”

So it was with Copland, an American original whose life is being celebrated in “The Copland Century,” a 14-month series of events that represents one of the largest collaborative arts events in Greater Hartford’s history. Through concerts, lectures, dance performances, and films, The Hartt School, the President’s College, and 16 other collaborators are joining The Bushnell in inviting Greater Hartford to get to know a man universally acclaimed as the father of American music.

Many people may feel they are already well acquainted with Copland. His most popular works—Appalachian Spring, A Lincoln Portrait, Billy the Kid, Rodeo—have become icons of American culture, and Fanfare for the Common Man was nearly ubiquitous during this past summer of the Olympics. Today, 10 years after his death, his fame shows no signs of abating.

Yet Copland presents many paradoxes. A gentle and quiet man, he wrote music of enormous power. The gay son of a synagogue president from Brooklyn, he created a uniquely American sound. He spent three years studying the fundamentals of classical music in France before returning to draw inspiration from jazz, Shaker hymns, and cowboy tunes. A success in Hollywood, he never lost the respect of his peers, or forgot what it meant to be poor and unknown. He was, said his biographer, Vivian Perlis, “a simple, plain man in a most complicated way.”

By all accounts, he was that rare combination: an artistic genius with a heart of gold. “He was probably the sweetest man I ever knew in my entire life,” said James Sellars, an associate professor of composition at Hartt, who befriended Copland in 1965. “It was morally impossible for him to do anything that was not an altruistic act.”

In fact, Copland’s final act was to give everything of himself to his profession. He left Rock Hill, his home in Cortlandt, N.Y., to the Copland Heritage Foundation, which today maintains the property as a residence for visiting composers. His fortune he left to a foundation that today provides approximately $1 million a year for new music. “He was unusually generous,” said Robert Carl, chairman of the Composition Department at Hartt and one of the first to be invited to spend a month at the home.

“There’s no other composer’s house in the United States that is really so preserved and used for this purpose,” said Carl, who stayed at Rock Hill in October 1999. “You sleep in his bedroom and work in the studio where he wrote most of the music for the last 30 years of his life. It’s an enormous inspiration to be working at his table and playing the piano in the spot where he would be playing his piano. There’s a real sense of being immersed in the history of the place.”

Carl, who is also co-director of Extension Works, a new music ensemble in Boston, was writing a piano sonata while staying at the house and could feel Copland’s influence. “I never saw a ghost, or anything like that,” he said, “but now and then you couldn’t help but imagine him looking over your shoulder and saying, ‘That’s not the right note.’” It may have been that influence that led Carl to incorporate a piece of 18th-century folk music, “The World Turned Upside-Down,” in the second movement of his piano sonata, much as Copland had borrowed from cowboy songs and Shaker hymns.

A Generous Spirit

Visits with music students, such as those he made to Hartford in the early 1970s, were another measure of Copland’s generous spirit. Although he turned down nearly all of the many teaching positions offered to him (“I didn’t like people telling me what to do when I was younger, and I’m not going to start doing it myself,” he told The New York Times in 1960), Copland enjoyed being around music students, and on several occasions accepted invitations from his friend, the late Arnold Franchetti, then chairman of composition at Hartt, to lecture in Franchetti’s experimental Interactive Studies program. Copland had been awarded an honorary doctorate in 1959 by the University, one of the first half-dozen of the 40 institutions that would so honor him in the ensuing decades.

He said that he did not teach but merely “diagnosed.” Once, when asked what he had told an assembled group of students, he replied, “I taught them about minimalism. By definition, it can’t do too much harm.”

“He was very honest and open to young musicians,” said Perlis, a Yale faculty member and music historian, who helped Copland write his two-volume biography, Copland: 1900 through 1942 and Copland Since 1943. “I would say he was nostalgic for the college he never went to.”

continued on next page
Copland, Perlis said, was also motivated by gratitude for his good fortune. At the end of a typical introduction listing his many achievements, “he would unwind his long legs, stand up, and say, ‘I'm a lucky guy,’” Perlis said during a recent talk at Wilde Auditorium, sponsored by the President's College. “He felt it was a privilege to work in something that he loved, to make a living in music. And he was so happy to be a part of the 20th century, where everything was new and exciting and different.”

In the truest sense, Copland was a man of the 20th century. He saw great significance in his November 14, 1900, birth date, considering himself part of a fresh, new era. Being an innovator was his birthright.

The musical world began opening to him, largely through the success of his ballets and film scores. In fact, he had no permanent home until he was in his 40s and lived in the homes of friends until then. The music he created was uniquely American and uniquely Copland. It has been argued that the Copland sound and the American sound are really one and the same. Tom Schuttenhelm ('99) was a doctoral candidate at Hartt when, during his oral examinations, he was asked to identify several untitled pieces of sheet music. One of them, he knew instantly, was Appalachian Spring.

“When you look at pieces by him, it’s almost unmistakable. You know immediately that it’s Copland,” said Schuttenhelm, who teaches at The Hartford Academy of the Performing Arts and Central Connecticut State College and counts Copland as an influence on his works for piano. “It is quite evident when you see these scores. They’re so brilliantly put together. It really jumps off the page. It’s so alive. It has so much energy in it.”

An Extraordinary Period of Growth

“If you think of the prime of Copland’s life and what was taking place in the arts, he was at the center of a huge development of an American form and the idea of establishing what is American in the arts,” said Malcolm Morrison, dean of Hartt. It was the excitement created by Copland, Martha Graham, Paul Taylor, Tennessee Williams, and other American artists that led Morrison to leave his native England for the United States in the mid-1970s. “It was an extraordinary period of growth that made this country hugely interesting to me,” he said.

The common view is that there were two sides to Copland’s music: the accessible, such as Rodeo, which could be enjoyed by a general audience, and the darker, more forbidding pieces that are less frequently played. These, which Copland referred to as “my orphans, my neglected children,” are no less brilliant. His Piano Sonata, for example, is “one of the greatest works of this century by anyone,” Sellars flatly states. The Copland Century celebration will feature some of these seldom-heard pieces, including a suite from the opera The Tender Land and the ballet Grohg, the first full performance of that work.

Carl, chairman of Hartt’s composition department, finds two aspects of Copland’s life particularly striking: he was one of the first American composers interested in the music of Latin America, putting him “way ahead of the game.” And, as the winner of an Academy Award in 1950 for his score for The Heiress and a Pulitzer Prize for music in 1945 for Appalachian Spring, he was one of a very few “crossover” artists able to achieve such great success in diverse musical fields.

Copland was particularly careful not to repeat himself; The Tender Land, for example, was his only opera. “People always wanted him to write a new Appalachian Spring. But that wasn’t what he was all about,” Perlis says.

The Darkest Chapter

Perhaps the darkest chapter in Copland’s life was his investigation by the committee headed by Senator Joseph McCarthy, the ringleader of the red-baiting congressional circus of the early 1950s. A Lincoln Portrait [1942] was to have been performed at the inauguration of President Dwight D. Eisenhower in January 1953, but the piece was replaced in the program after suspicions were raised over Copland’s political beliefs.

It is a measure of his sunny outlook that the experience did not leave Copland bitter (“Agonizing is not my thing,” he told Perlis), and his place in American culture was secure enough to allow him to ride out the storm. Within the next decade, he would become one of the most

**An Extraordinary Period of Growth**

*It's an enormous inspiration to be working at his table and playing the piano in the spot where he would be playing his piano.*

—Robert Carl
honored cultural figures in the United States, receiving the Gold Medal of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and honorary doctorates from some 40 institutions, among them the University of Hartford.

Today, Copland serves as an inspiration, not only for composers who would seek artistic achievement at the very highest level but also for those who wish to make an honest living at what they love best. “He walked the line between popular acclaim and critical acclaim very well,” said Charles Michael Demuynck ’99, assistant professor at the University of Evansville in Indiana.

“Composers today are very aware of achieving success in their lifetimes. They don’t want to wait until 100 years after they’re dead to be a success,” Perlis said. “Certainly, Copland is a model for having it both ways, having the success and having the art pure.

“Copland’s place historically is secure, very secure,” said Perlis. “His music has continued to be performed and has escalated in popularity—usually only the same few pieces, but most composers would say that’s enough.”

Or, as James Sellars put it, “He has seeped into the culture so deeply that I don’t think we’ll ever be able to squeeze Copland out entirely. “He was a great man.”

Copland Century: Hartford Celebrates the American Composer

The Copland Century represents a unique collaboration of arts groups in the greater Hartford area. As a celebration of Aaron Copland (1900–90), it offers a focus, both nationally and internationally, on the heritage of American music and art over the last 100 years, while reawakening the Copland spirit of cooperation and encouragement in the arts.

Boosey and Hawkes Music Publishers, which is promoting the worldwide Copland 2000 celebration, has declared Hartford’s celebration the most significant single collaboration on the international calendar. A wide array of concerts, lectures, and educational projects is being presented throughout a 14-month period that began in Hartford last March with the performance of Copland’s Appalachian Spring by the Martha Graham Dance Company and the Hartford Symphony at The Bushnell. The focus of the celebration centers on Copland’s own music, as well as the American composers he inspired.

DECEMBER 2000
Tuesday, December 5
Performance 20/20
Stravinsky: Octet
Strauss: Till Eulenspiegels Quintet
Copland: Duo
8 p.m. Lincoln Theater
Admission is free.

Wednesday, December 6
“Chick Austin: The Friends and Enemies of Modern Art”
Gene Gaddis, curator of the newly restored Austin House in Hartford (now a part of the Wadsworth Atheneum) gives a President’s College lecture on the eve of the publication of his new Chick Austin biography.
7:30 p.m. Wilde Auditorium, Harry Jack Gray Center
Admission: $15

Friday, December 8
Hartt Symphony Orchestra
Conducted by Christopher Zimmerman
Diamond: Symphony No. 4
Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 3, with Sae Hee Kim, pianist, winner of the student concerto competition
Beethoven: Symphony No. 4
8 p.m. Lincoln Theater
Admission: $15, $12, $10

FEBRUARY 2001
Friday to Sunday, February 16 to 18
As a featured event of the Copland Symposium, a new version of Copland’s first full-scale orchestral piece, his ballet Grohg, will be fully staged for the first time.
Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.
Sunday at 3 p.m. Lincoln Theater
Admission: $15, $12, $10

MARCH 2001
Wednesday, March 7
“Lennie! Portrait of a Legend”
President’s College lecture by Schuyler Chapin, author of Leonard Bernstein: Notes from a Friend, who will offer personal insight into the life and work of one of America’s greatest musical artists: Leonard Bernstein.
7:30 p.m. Wilde Auditorium, Harry Jack Gray Center
Admission: $15

Thursday, March 15
Hartt Symphony Orchestra
Christopher Zimmerman, conductor
Robert Carl: “Death” for orchestra
Khachaturian: Violin Concerto
Sibelius: Symphony No. 2
8 p.m. Millard Auditorium
Admission: $15, $12, $10

APRIL 2001
Wednesday, April 4
President’s College presentation by Chris Baker, literary director of the Hartford Stage
7:30 p.m. Wilde Auditorium, Harry Jack Gray Center
Admission: $15

Thursday, April 19
“Modern Music: An Interview with John Corigliano”
Robert Carl, chair of composition, The Hartt School, and recipient of the first Aaron Copland Award, will discuss with Corigliano his score for The Red Violin and his views on the direction of American music, in this President’s College event.
7:30 p.m. Wilde Auditorium, Harry Jack Gray Center
Admission: $15

MAY 2001
Wednesday, May 23
“Hartford in the 21st Century”
In this President’s College panel discussion on the future of Hartford arts, UofH President Walter Harrison hosts a select group of Hartford’s primary leaders in the arts to discuss issues of funding, education, programming, and public appreciation. Audience participation will be encouraged, as the direction of Hartford’s artistic development over the last decade and into this century comes under scrutiny.
7:30 p.m. Wilde Auditorium, Harry Jack Gray Center
Admission: $15
Fall Weekend 2000 got off to an explosive start at midnight on Oct. 13 as a spectacular fireworks show culminated the joyous Midnight Mania celebration in the University’s Sports Center. Alumni, students, parents, faculty and staff filled the Chase Family Arena to mark the official start of the men’s and women’s basketball season.

Earlier in the evening students had joined their parents and alumni in Wilde Auditorium to hear the queen of folk and blues, Odetta.

Early the next morning they were off and running with President Walter Harrison and Student Association President Mary Kurtz for the annual Campus 5K Fun Run. Later, ’60s alumni, who were members of the Omega Kappa Delta, Lambda Phi Alpha, and Upsilon Xi fraternities, met for a picnic reunion on campus with brilliant fall foliage as the perfect backdrop. Parents were convening in Konover Campus Center for a presentation by the Office of Student Affairs.

A major highlight of the weekend was comedian Paula Poundstone’s per-
Freshman Michelle Lupoli’s brother, Bobby, enjoys the balloon man’s creations.

HCW alumnae (left to right): Doris Field Armstead ’45, Lillian Hilbert ’45, and Ruth McCorm Griffin ’44 reminisce at the Reunion Brunch for Classes of 1940 to 1950.

Playing in the alumni basketball game were, left to right, back row; Patrick Kenny ’82, Mark Mitchell ’86, Peter Egan ‘76, Doug McCrory ’88, Larry Jenkins ’88, Chris Calling ’82, John Tuozzo ’85, and Terry Preston ‘85; front row; Eric Crawford ’85, Chuck Harding ’75, Wayne Brown ’86, David Thompson ’89, ’91, Paul Spence ’93.

Barbara Castellano, mother of sophomore Michael, visits the sukkah that was constructed on campus for the Sukkot holiday.

Reid MacCluggage ’62 reunion picnic by his wife and son, Scot ’92.
was joined at the fraternity
wife, Linda; daughter, Kate;

Sharon Daley, president of the Parents
Association, presents President Harrison with a
giant check representing the group’s generous
donation to the University.

Bernie Rosen ’61 (left) and Rich Foster ’63 enjoy
the fraternity reunion picnic.

Student Government Association
representatives Mary Kurtz and
Emiah Grace were among the
panelists at the Student Affairs
presentation.

Odetta performs at Wilde
Auditorium.

Freshman Nicole DiNoia and her parents, Sue
and Len, enjoy the reception for parents.
The decade between 1965 and 1975 was nothing if not volatile. The counterculture had begun and flourished. Seismic events like protests over the Vietnam War, the 1968 Democratic Convention, the assassinations of Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr., Kent State, and Woodstock had a big impact on many University of Hartford students. Which led me to wonder...

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...

1969
2000

Joel GOTLER?

by Paul D. Tieger ’73, ’83

Create your dreams; they’ll come true.
In college he had diverse interests—from writing poetry to playing baseball—and kept a low profile. But since leaving UofH in 1969, Joel Gotler has become a force in Hollywood as one of the country’s leading literary agents.

PDT: When were you at UofH, and what was your major?

JG: From 1965 to 1969.…I started out in business, then switched to liberal arts with a concentration in speech and drama.

PDT: When you graduated, what did you think you’d end up doing for work?

JG: I thought I’d be a writer or a poet. I was writing prose and poetry and produced an off-Broadway play called Only the Flowers Smile, Children. OK, it was way off-Broadway: it ran at Trinity College.

PDT: Who were some of the people who had the most influence on you during that time?

JG: Two that come to mind are George Michael Evica and Lee Yosha…. Both were fascinating.

PDT: What kinds of activities were you involved in while at UofH?

JG: Well, I actually spent a lot of time hanging out in the Student Union, listening to the Beatles and working in the Theatre Department. But I also was in TKE [Tau Kappa Epsilon], played baseball, and had a lot of fun working on the sports promotion committee with Gordie McCullough.

PDT: What was your greatest achievement in college?

JG: Learning how to make it through four years on $400. It was a challenge, but I became a dorm counselor, borrowed money, got loans from the University, and a few little scholarships here and there.

PDT: So, it’s been 31 years since you graduated, and now you’re a literary agent. How did that come about?

JG: That’s a long story…. but here’s the Reader’s Digest version. After I graduated, I got a job in the garment industry and wasn’t happy, so I dropped out and traveled around Mexico for about a year. My girlfriend suggested I talk to a guy in radio who said I sounded like I should be an agent. After he told me what that was, I walked across the street to the William Morris Agency [WM] and asked for a job. They didn’t have any openings, so I started my own agency.

Before long, a job opened up at WM, and I worked there for three and a half years, representing, among other people, Mama Cass Elliot, with whom I became good friends. During the writers’ strike in ’74, I moved to Hollywood and lived with Cass (tragically, she died two days later). I wrote a script and sold it to Universal, then Paramount. Next, I went to Universal Studios and was made executive assistant to the head of production.

PDT: That sounds like a pretty big jump.

JG: It was. I was only 28—the youngest top executive at Universal. But I still wasn’t sure what I wanted to do, when I saw a blind ad in Variety for a literary agent. I ended up working for H. N. Swanson, one of the most influential agencies that represented people like Tolkien, Agatha Christie, Elmore Leonard, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Alex Haley. I thought I’d died and gone to heaven! I worked there for four and a half years, and then “Swanie” gave me some money to start my own company, which I ran for 10 years. Then I sold it to a bigger agency and started the Renaissance agency with Irv Swartz. In ’94 Renaissance bought H. N. Swanson, and in ’95 we bought [Irving] “Swifty” Lazar’s agency.

After seven years I sold Renaissance to Michael Ovitz and became CEO of all book publishing and film rights for Ovitz’s Artists Management Group, where I’m involved in lots of things, including movie production, music, TV, seven Internet companies, books, and the extreme sports division.

PDT: Who are some of your clients there?

JG: Well, we’ve got several hundred, including a lot of heavy hitters like Marty Scorcese, Sidney Pollack, Robin Williams, Leonardo DiCaprio, Cameron Diaz,…Michael Crichton, Tom Clancy, and James Ellroy.

PDT: Most people probably think that your life in the entertainment business—life in the “fast lane”—would be very glamorous. Would they be wrong?

continued on page 22
Straight Shooter

Hartford’s new men’s basketball coach proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that honesty is indeed the best policy.

By Jonathan Easterbrook ’87,’90
It is a special day when years of hard work culminate in being named head basketball coach at a Division I college. It is extra special when that job takes you back to family, friends, and fond memories. For Larry Harrison, who grew up in Connecticut, being named the eighth head coach in Hawks’ basketball history last April was a professional and personal dream come true.

“It’s a bit unbelievable,” Harrison says of his return to the state where he earned All-State basketball honors as a senior at Henry Abbott Technical School in Danbury. “Being named a head coach is the culmination of everything I’ve worked for, both as a player and as an assistant coach.”

The return home from a two-decade side trip with stops in Washington, D.C., Cincinnati, and Chicago, has been a big boost to Harrison. Letters of support are arriving regularly from players against whom Harrison competed back in his school days. What was a once-every-year-or-two trip to see Mom has become a 15-minute drive. And what is the dream of every assistant coach has come true. But do not expect a change in title or location to alter the style or beliefs that have helped Harrison gain a reputation as one of America’s top recruiters.

“You must have your own personality and be yourself,” Harrison says. “One of my goals with potential recruits is that they see me as honest, sincere, and caring. I feel that the greatest gift that I can give them is to make sure that when they finish their playing days, they can walk out with choices and opportunities.

I think young people—anyone—can see through someone who is not sincere about what they are saying. I am only going to tell them what I believe in. They may not like or agree with everything I have to say, but I tell them that’s okay, because the final outcome is that I want them to be successful young men.”

Among those believing in Harrison over the past few years have been some of the nation’s top incoming college players. His 1996 recruiting class at the University of Cincinnati was regarded as the best in the nation. Two years later, different setting, same result: DePaul University’s recruiting class was ranked number one in America by the Sporting News.

At Cincinnati, working under Bob Huggins, Harrison recruited and coached future NBA players Nick Van Exel, Corie Blount, Dontonio Wingfield, Danny Fortson, and Kenyon Martin, the number one pick in the 2000 NBA draft. During his eight years with the program, the Bearcats posted a 192-71 record and won six conference championships. Within two years of arriving at DePaul, Harrison and head coach Pat Kennedy turned a program that had recorded only three victories the season prior to their arrival into 18 wins and an NIT bid. Since 1989, Harrison’s teams have earned seven bids to the NCAA Tournament and three invitations to the NIT. It is the Final Four trip in 1992 with Cincinnati that will remain forever in his memory.

“Walking out onto that floor in Minneapolis and seeing 40,000 people there to watch you practice—that was quite a rush,” Harrison says. Scoring 1,000 points in high school was another basketball milestone for Harrison, who expects to add to his list of memorable moments in the years to come.

“I am very happy to be part of a university that has such great support from its president [Walter Harrison, no relation],” Harrison says. “As a coach of any sport, it is great to know that the president of your university is not only an avid sports fan but also an advocate for athletics who feels that sports should be part of the mainstream of the institution.

“There’s no timetable on when we’re going to get it done, but we will get it done,” Harrison says. “The University of Hartford has never been to the NCAA Tournament, and my goal is to get us there. I want to develop this program to the point where major Division I schools see the University of Hartford and say, we don’t want to play them.”

Larry Harrison won’t take it personally. He’ll just see it as a sure sign that the Hawks have progressed to the next level—that his honesty, sincerity, and hard work have helped jumpstart another college basketball program.

This time, as head coach. This time, in his own backyard.
owners of land, water, air, and airwaves, Nader said. “Cheap politicians...are selling our political birthrights for a mess of fund-raising.”

For greater democracy and as a counter-balance to corporate media domination, Nader advocates an alternative, independent media system, or “new news.”

Nader brought his message home to Hartford by citing the “gleaming office buildings side by side with abysmal poverty,” as he reiterated his determination “to abolish child poverty.” He cited the health concerns of Connecticut’s cities, notably a 40 percent level of asthma among the children of Hartford, the highest children’s asthma rate of any municipality in the country. To activists in Connecticut, he recalled the successful opposition to the Patriots’ stadium and urged continued questioning of both Adriaen’s Landing and the Long Wharf Mall project. To young people present, he warned, “If you don’t turn on to politics, politics will turn on you.”

“In pursuit of justice you discover happiness,” Nader told the UofH audience—a reference to his long-held belief in each person’s committing to activism rather than waiting for a leader. In such engagement, he said, is found a “politics of joy and justice.”

In September, panelists at the annual Deeds Symposium kicked off a season of election-related activities on campus with a discussion of “Sound-Bite Politics: Presidential Elections in the Age of Electronic Media.” Shown (left to right) are Richard H. Davis, who served as campaign manager for Sen. John McCain’s 2000 presidential bid; Douglas E. Schoen, a political strategist and President Clinton’s research and strategic consultant in 1996; Kellyanne Fitzpatrick, president and CEO of “the polling company™” and a political analyst for CNN; and Donald A. Baer, a political strategist and adviser to President Clinton.

George Washington (a.k.a. Associate Prof. Harald Sandstrom) presided over one of the re-enactments of the 1787 Constitutional Convention that took place in most of the American Government classes this fall. Students, acting as delegates from each of the states, engaged in vigorous debate, including Stewart Mader (center) who portrayed James Madison, the pre-eminent figure at the Convention. The re-enactments were the inspiration of Christopher Anderson, adjunct faculty member in the department of Politics and Government.
50

1950  
LEO VARASCONI (BARNEY) of New Britain, Conn., celebrated 50 years in the investment business in June 2000. Varasconi, senior vice president with Advest, Inc., was featured recently in a New Britain Herald story detailing his career.

1961  
JOYCE C. ROSEN (HCW) of Mission Viejo, Calif., after a lifetime in the Hartford area, has moved to "a free-standing home, not assisted living," in a Mission Viejo senior community. She writes that "one has to be 55 years or older, an easy requirement for me to meet."

1962  
JOHN BRUNO (HARTT, MEd ’68) of Windsor, Conn., retired from his teaching position as band director at East Granby High School in June 2000 after 38 years with the district.

1965  
ANNAMARIE LAVIERI (HCW) of Kingston, Wash., has retired after 33 years as a teacher and school librarian. She writes that HCW "with its strong liberal arts component and talented faculty, taught me how to think and prepared me well for further education. I recall being lucky enough to study with the truly gifted Oliver Butterworth [and] having modern dance class with Trudy Kashmann right there in the main lounge of Butterworth Hall."

1966  
JOHN T. DILLON (BARNEY) of Greenwich, Conn., has been appointed to the board of directors of International Paper Company. Dillon has been with the Purchase, N.Y.-based company for over 30 years, including three years as chairman and chief executive officer. Last year, President Bill Clinton named Dillon to the Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations.

WILLIAM E. SITTARD (HARTT) of Chicopee, Mass., is an enlisted bandleader with the 94th Army Band, of which he has been a member since 1977. The band, formed in 1947, is composed of 41 soldiers/musicians in six ensembles that perform in public concerts and parades throughout New England, including a July performance at the Manchester (Conn.) Band Shell. Sittard teaches instrumental music in Chicopee.

1968  
ROBERT KOZACZKA (ENHP, MEd ’72, 6th Year, ’77) of Somers, Conn., has accepted the position of superintendent of schools for the East Granby (Conn.) school district. Kozaczka has been principal of Middletown (Conn.) High School since 1991 and was previously assistant principal of Granby High School.

1969  
DAN RILEY (ENHP) of Vista, Calif., had his first play, Spinelli, produced this fall at the Long Beach Playhouse. In an unprecedented choice as a second project, Riley’s pointed satire was selected for full production for the New Works Festival. The play, a world premier, presents Adam and Eve as plaintiffs who accuse God of entrapment in the Garden of Good and Evil. Represented by attorneys Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy, Adam and Eve appear before Judge Barbara Jordan.

MICHAEL F. WIRZ (ENG) of New Freedom, Penn., is vice president of MyParentsCare.org, a nonprofit, nationwide vehicle-monitoring service. The organization is designed to foster responsible driving by teens, reinforce parental authority, and promote better communications between teens and parents. Wirz writes that the program is “currently looking for corporate sponsors to provide grant money to help us gain a presence in every one of the 26,511 high schools in the United States.” For further information, see <www.MyParentsCare.org>.

1970  
GWYNETH WALKER (HARTT, MMus, DMA ’77) of Brantree, Vt., has received Vermont’s Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement. She is the composer of a new CD, Scattering Dark and Light, a set of three song cycles and four arias, released recently with ESTRID EKLOF (HARTT ’71, MMus). Eklof has won a faculty competition for a grant from Central Connecticut State University for this project.

1972  
ROBERT A. ARZT (A&S) of Rockville, Md., was recently appointed senior vice president and chief operating officer of LUTC, Inc., an independent nonprofit and sales skills training organization for life insurance and other financial providers worldwide. Arzt will assume responsibility for customer service, information systems, and association marketing, and will continue to as vice president of education.

DENNIS PILLION (A&S) of Birmingham, Ala., has received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Medical College of Georgia School of Graduate Studies. Dr. Pillion is professor of pharmacology and toxicology at the University of Alabama (UAB) at Birmingham. He is a scientist for the UAB Centers for Cystic Fibrosis Research, Vision Science Research, and Aging, and has received numerous teaching and research awards at UAB, including the 1999 Presidential Teaching Award as the outstanding teacher of the year.

1973  
SANTA IMZARRY HERMAN (HCW) of Bolton, Conn., recently received a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction, specializing in bilingual and bicultural studies. She is a bilingual teacher in the Hartford school system.

1974  
RICHARD M. DIBELLIS (ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., has been appointed principal of the Ruth L. Chaffee School, Newtonton, Conn., beginning with the 2000–01 school year. DiBellis has been principal of the Hopewell School in Glastonbury and, prior to that, vice principal in Simsbury, where he taught for over 16 years.

1975  
ALFRED MADDALENA (ENHP, 6th Year) of Niantic, Conn., was elected supreme counselor, or international president, of the Order of United Commercial Travelers of America at the order’s international convention, held recently in Washington, D.C.
No Time for Restlessness

by Michelle Godin ’00

Nancy Tucker’s boundless energy and ambition have made it difficult to pinpoint just exactly what she does. Maybe the question should be what, if anything, doesn’t Nancy Tucker do? Since graduating from the University in 1976 with a dual major in fine arts and biology, Tucker has forged an eclectic career that defies categorization. She is an accomplished singer-songwriter, acoustic guitarist, comedian, actor, children’s performer, prop designer, and one-woman show.

Tucker has written and performed three children’s shows, a one-woman show for adults, custom comedy shows for corporate banquets, and family shows, as well as performing at instrumental venues for a total of some 150 shows a year. Her shows are a potpourri of original material, including funny songs, serious songs, comedy, character sketches, and musical compositions designed for audiences ages 5 to 90.

Tucker’s own love of music began at age five when she watched her idol, Victor Borge, perform on TV. She knew then that she wanted to be a performer. “[Borge] plays with words the way that I do,” she said. During the 1960s, Tucker taught herself to play the guitar by listening to folk music on the radio.

In her 23-year career in the entertainment industry, Tucker has produced numerous recordings, most recently children’s CDs, instrumental CDs, and children’s songs for CD-ROM. In 1996, she received the award for Outstanding Achievement as a Performing Singer-songwriter by the Connecticut Songwriters Association. In 1980, she was named the association’s Connecticut Songwriter of the Year.

Tucker’s wide range of interests led her to the University of Hartford. The University’s diverse selection of programs and its contract major option allowed her to orchestrate a degree in both art and biology. While on campus, she performed several times at the coffeehouse and took part in outdoor performances. In addition to earning her degree in the fields of art and biology, she was motivated by her friends at The Hartt School to continue her musical performances.

Through the late Elisabeth Swain, who was professor of biology and chair of the department, Tucker got her first job teaching at the University. Swain came to all of Tucker’s shows and was the inspiration for many of her songs and acts.

These days, Tucker is leaning more toward writing than performing. She has just completed writing her second one-woman show and is working on a series of stories and memories in which Swain will make an appearance. The Hartt alum is also writing songs for other people to perform.

Tucker continues to steer her career in new and unusual directions. She is currently working on structural changes to a guitar that she intends to patent. She likes to take things apart, see how they work, and get them to work better, she says. As if this weren’t enough to keep her occupied for several lifetimes, she also has received certification as a veterinary technician and now takes in and cares for needy animals.

One reward of having a range of talents is that Tucker never does any one thing long enough to become restless, according to E. Kyle Minor in a recent feature article on Tucker in The New York Times.

Michelle Godin is a graduate intern in the University’s Office of Communications
Ryerson on the flute and Beck on guitar. They have more than 50 combined years in jazz, according to a story appearing on National Public Radio. They've played in prestigious clubs in America and Europe and have been together since 1996 by playing at the Copacabana in New York, N.Y., with Joe Beck that began in 1996 as assistant controller and has been acting financial officer since November 1999. He reports to David FitzPatrick, the corporation’s chief financial officer. Nord joined UTC in October. DaMonte, a multimedia communications and production company serving clients globally.

1982

NEWTON BUCKNER (BARNEY, MST) of Unionville, Conn., has been elected secretary of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants (CSCPA) for the 2000–01 activity year. Buckner is a principal with the Hartford firm of Whittlesey & Hadley P.C. and has served on a number of the CSCPA’s committees.

KATHLEEN CARTER (BARNEY, MBA) of West Hartford, Conn., has been named assistant principal of Plainville High School. She has had 17 years of business experience with Hartford insurance companies and has been a math teacher in West Hartford.

1980

CHARLES FRAGO (BARNEY) of Cromwell, Conn., has been named to the board of governors of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants (CSCPA) for the 2000–01 activity year. Frago is tax managing director with the Hartford office of KPMG, LLP, and has served the CPA society in a number of positions, including president.

1981

CHRISTOPHER BEGGS (ART) of Bronxville, N.Y., has been appointed national showroom sales manager of Duralee Fabrics of New York, N.Y., an interior design business.

FRANK D’AMBROSIO (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., will star in Barry Manilow’s Copacabana, launched this summer in Pittsburgh and scheduled for a two-week run at the Shubert Performing Arts Center in New Haven, Conn., December 5 through 17. The show is also scheduled to play at The Bushnell in Hartford in May 2001. D’Ambrosio, a frequent performer in the Hartford area, starred on Broadway and toured in The Phantom of the Opera.

1979

MARK I. BRODIE (A&S) of New York, N.Y., has joined BVE Productions, Inc., of New York as partner and director of production. Brodie has been an Emmy Award–winning news and documentary editor at CBS News for 16 years, most notably with “60 Minutes” and “48 Hours.” BVE Productions is a multimedia communications and production company serving clients globally.

DAVID NORD (BARNEY) of Newtown, Conn., was named vice president, controller for United Technologies Corp. (UTC) in October. He reports to David FitzPatrick, the corporation’s chief financial officer. Nord joined UTC in 1996 as assistant controller and has been acting controller since November 1999.

ALI RYERSON (HARTT) of Brookfield, Conn., is continuing the musical partnership with Joe Beck that began in 1996 by playing prestigious clubs in America and Europe and appearing on National Public Radio. According to a New York Times story, the two have more than 50 combined years in jazz. Ryerson on the flute and Beck on guitar.

Looking for the perfect holiday gift for your UofH alum?

Try a UofH Hawk license plate!

A brick for the Alumni Association Brickwalk! Memorialize your name in the walkway between the Computer Center and Gengras Student Union.

Bricks are $50 per brick or two for $75.

Contact the Alumni Office toll-free at 1-888-UH-ALUMS for more details on the bricks and license plates.
The Miracle of the Myrrh

Marci Alborghetti, a 1982 Arts and Sciences graduate of the University and a nationally published writer, is the author of a new book for children, published just in advance of the Christmas season.

The Miracle of the Myrrh extends the story of Simon, the Little Drummer Boy who led the Wise Men to Bethlehem, and creates a new myth about the fate of the gold, frankincense, and myrrh presented to the infant Jesus.

Written in a style suggestive of the oral tradition, the story is illustrated by Hervé Blondon, winner of a gold medal from Society of Illustrators for his work in The New York Times Magazine and illustrator of a number of French and American children's books.

Alborghetti operates her own writing business in Stonington, Conn., and writes for a variety of journals. When she was a child, her family celebrated Christmas from the first week of December through Three Kings Day, and she wondered what had happened to the gifts brought by the Three Kings. The Miracle of the Myrrh, published by Winslow Press, is her creative answer to the question she posed as a child.

JOSEPH ZABOROWSKI (A&S) of Meriden, Conn., is now affiliated with Maier Real Estate as a sales associate specializing in residential listings.

1983 DEBORAH COLAGIURI ANDERSON (HARTT) of Bridgewater, N.J., has been named executive assistant for the New Violin Family Association Inc. The organization promotes the use of the violin octet, created by Carleen Hutchins, consisting of a series of eight instruments of the violin family that are crafted by applying a consistent theory of acoustics for each member. Anderson writes that the violin octet "has provided a balanced family of violin instruments for the first time—a concept that has been desired and attempted for 400 years." Anderson also works as an independent consultant and is youth music director at St. Martin’s Episcopal Church in Bridgewater, where she resides with her husband, Vincent, and three daughters.

1985 ALBAN LALOUM (BARNEY) of Chicago, Ill., has a new position as senior vice president and client executive practice leader for Marsh USA Inc.’s Virginia operations. Laloum has held a similar position for the Marsh Midwest region, based in Chicago, for four years. He was previously with Gras Savoye in Paris, France.

1987 JOSEPH DIAMOND (HARTT) of Liberty, N.Y., has signed an agreement with "Sex and the City" and National Public Radio’s “Morning Edition" for the use of his music. He also has an agreement with License-Music.com under which his debut CD, Not Your Typical New Yorker, will be listed in its catalog. LicenseMusic.com is the leading Web destination for film, TV, advertising, and interactive media professionals looking for a track to fit specific productions and budgets. All 11 songs from the CD, independently released on Diamond’s own Basileus label, will be listed in the catalog.

BRIAN HEALY (HARTT) of New Britain, Conn., has been named systems administration manager of the Case Management Society at its annual meeting in Tampa, Fla. Birmingham has been active in nursing for 40 years, has written eight books and contributed to seven others, and has written numerous articles on health-care issues. He has worked in hospitals as a public health nurse and clinical nurse specialist, and in staff development, discharge planning, and case management.

CHRISTOPHER PERKINS (A&S) of Granby, Conn., edited a sports segment on the University of Connecticut’s Ray Allen, for which WFSB-TV Channel 3, received an award at the New England regional Emmy Awards ceremony in May.

1984 GEORGE HENRIQUES (WARD) of Shrewsbury, Mass., has joined J. A. Webster, Inc., as chief information officer and will be based in Sterling, Mass. <ghenriques@netzero.net>. Webster is an animal health and pharmaceutical wholesaler with offices in seven states.

1987 THIERRY PERREIN (BARNEY) of Cos Cob, Conn., was named by the magazine Institutional Investor to The 2000 All-America Fixed-Income Research Team this past summer. Perrein is vice president, REIT & Lodging Research, Fixed-Income Division, at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette.

1984 MARILYN BARNES (HARTT, MMus) of Santa Fe, N.M., is director of the Zia Singers, a women’s choir, and performs with the Santa Fe Symphony Chorus and New Mexico Pro Coro. Recently, she performed in a cabaret showcase of George Gershwin’s music presented by Theaterwork Studio of Santa Fe.

Alumni Office Contact Information

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Kelly Heaney ’00
Assistant Director of Alumni Relations

Linda Leslie ’99
Alumni Office Coordinator

Local 860-768-4357
Toll-free 1-888-UH-ALUMS
alumni@mail.hartford.edu
chapters@mail.hartford.edu

The Case Management Society at its annual meeting in Tampa, Fla. Birmingham has been active in nursing for 40 years, has written eight books and contributed to seven others, and has written numerous articles on health-care issues. He has worked in hospitals as a public health nurse and clinical nurse specialist, and in staff development, discharge planning, and case management.

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JACQUELINE BIRMINGHAM (ENHP) of Suffield, Conn., was named Distinguished Case Manager of the Year by the Case Management Society at its annual meeting in Tampa, Fla. Birmingham has been active in nursing for 40 years, has written eight books and contributed to seven others, and has written numerous articles on health-care issues. He has worked in hospitals as a public health nurse and clinical nurse specialist, and in staff development, discharge planning, and case management.

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the bank’s information systems department since 1998. SSB, a wholly owned subsidiary of Bancorp Connecticut Inc., provides business, consumer, and money-management services to the greater Southington and Wallingford region.

DAVID MARKS (BARNEY) of South Salem, N.Y., has been promoted to vice president of Albert B. Ashforth Inc., Management Services in Stamford. He will be responsible for overseeing the higher-level operation of a 15-building portfolio in Westchester County.

1988

JIM KLAUCK (BARNEY) of East Greenwich, R.I., writes that he and his wife, Robin, whom he married in 1998, are expecting their first child in January. This past May he accepted the position of regional vice president of sales for NutraMax, a health and beauty care manufacturer based in Gloucester, Mass.

DAVID C. ROBINSON (BARNEY) of Simsbury, Conn., has rejoined Chubb Executive Risk (CBER) as general counsel. During a recent 10-month absence from the company, Robinson was law clerk to U.S. District Judge Stefan R. Underhill, with whom he had previously practiced law at Day Berry & Howard in Hartford. As general counsel, Robinson will advise senior management, oversee underwriting, and support new-product development, marketing communications, and risk management.

PATRICIA ROSOFF (ART, MAEd) of West Hartford, Conn., who is a painter and art critic, created this year’s poster and announcement card for Miracles 2000, a silent auction and art exhibition held during August and September at the 100 Pearl Gallery in Hartford. Rosoff’s card and poster featured a brilliant color abstraction. Proceeds of Miracles 2000, presented by Paesaggio Gallery and St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center, benefit comprehensive breast health services offered by the hospital.

1990

FREDERIC JOUSSETT DROUHIN (BARNEY, MBA ’91) of Beaune, France, visited Hartford while conducting wine tastings in the eastern United States for Maison Drouhin, of which he is general manager. Drouhin has overall responsibility for viticulture, winemaking, commerce, general management, and finance for the company and its subsidiaries. Drouhin was a dinner guest of Charles Canedy, associate professor of marketing, with whom he had studied product innovation and development at the University. Seven Maison Drouhin wines were served. Drouhin and his wife, Claude, have two children, Romane, born in 1998, and Gabriel, born in 1999. Drouhin may be contacted at <driuhin@calva.net>.

1991

JANET M. WEST (BARNEY) of Glastonbury, Conn., has been appointed to serve a three-year term on the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants (CSCPA) board of governors. West is a manager of accounting policy and controls with Aetna U.S. Healthcare in Middletown and has served the CSCPA as a member and chair of a number of committees.

Are you a member of the Class of 1951, 1991, or 1996?
Do you plan to attend Homecoming 2001? Would you like to have complimentary lodging during Homecoming 2001? Call the Alumni Office at 1-888-UH-ALUMS.
Congratulations

Best wishes to our alumni and their spouses on recent nuptials

Elise Matsushima and James A. Foschia ’84
Sylvia Perdiks and David B. Newman ’84
Claire Donovan ’89 and Dan Long
Karen Pellino ’90 and Russell Paquette
Elissa Waldman ’91 and Tony Sison
Sharon Meyers ’92 and Natan Rotmensz
Andrea A. Ridlon ’92 and Stephen M. Jarmie ’92
Elizabeth Weinman ’92 and Steven Melman
Eva Esposito ’93 and Michael Cogan
Michelle Gapas ’93 and Thomas Chesson
Kay Grebinowski and Brendan Higgins ’93
Andrea A. Romano ’93 and Stephen Petrovic
Geri Santini and Brian Wetzel ’93
Jessica Mills and Frank J. Barresi ’96
Melanie Controvillas ’96 and Drew M. Gallup ’97
Kathryn J. Brosnan ’97 and Jason Zvokel
Linda Marie Shorey and Paul W. Paolillo ’00

and to our alumni parents

Shari and Mitchell Sklar ’85 (Isaac Alexander)
Sandra Neuhaus-Cohen and Paul Cohen ’86 (Michelle Alene)
Mimi Spurr ’87 and Joseph Gallagher (Paige Newton)
Laura Arrigo ’89 and Ted Nicholson (Ryan Demetri)
Meg Smiley ’89 and Kurt Schultz (Gordon James)
Patty Subin ’93 and Jim Tait (Bronwyn Rose)
Lisa Isaacscon Erkus ’91 and Craig Erkus (Brooke Maya)
Jody Sherer ’91 and Steven Fortgang ’89 (Evan Zachary)
Lisa Sokolowsk ’91 and Donnie Sokolowski (Camryn Rachel)
Lori Cohen ’92 and Michael Ardai (Alyssa Marie)
Gwen and Jeffrey Crystal ’92 (Hailey Crystal)
Laura Socci ’92 and David Fern (Timothy Philip)
Michelle and Charles Ward ’92 (Marissa Joy)
Rivkah Eidex ’00 (Aharon Tzvi)

1992

GORDON JONES (HART’T) of Bristol, Conn., has been named to the cast of a Southbury production of Hoopy for Hollywood. Jones, a tenor and guitar player, has toured extensively in Europe and performs regularly throughout the New York–New Jersey area.

The Observer wishes to share in the excitement of your life changes and celebrations. We look forward to receiving those important announcements in writing from you after they have happened. We list only weddings and births, not engagements or pregnancies.

WENDY LEMKE (A&S) of Westfield, N.J., was one of five individuals honored at the annual meeting of the Chemical Industry Council of New Jersey. She received this year’s Communications Committee Merit Award for outstanding contributions and service to the organization. Lemke works in public affairs for Infineum, formerly Exxon Chemical Company, a joint venture of ExxonMobil and Shell. Classmates may contact her at <wendyjlemke@yahoo.com>.

LISA LYONS (A&S) of San Francisco, Calif., has accepted a position as assistant director of the Koret/Hebrew Free Loan Teen Fellowship Program. Lyons has been involved with a local Jewish federation and looks forward to working in the nonprofit world. She encourages classmates to email her at <ldlyons@aol.com>.

SHARON MEYERS (HART’T) of Los Angeles, Calif., and her husband, Nate Rotmensz, honeymooned in London and

Amsterdam during May. She writes that she is “pursuing an acting career, and Nate is a writer and producer.”

SIDNEY MURRAY (A&S) of North Dartmouth, Mass., has received his Juris Doctor from Southern New England School of law in North Dartmouth and was recognized for his service as president of the Black Law Students for two years.

VISHNUE “VISH” NARAINE (A&S) of East Hartford, Conn., joined Vin Baker Enterprises last summer, where he is “wearing a lot of hats,” he commented. “Security plays a part, but I also work with sponsors. I plug a lot of holes.” Although knee injuries devastated Vish’s college basketball career at the University, he and Vin became and remain close friends. “Before, the moons weren’t really aligned and now they are,” Naraine said. “I guess you could say I’m a professional hat wearer. First and foremost right now, my obligation is to Vin Baker.” Baker, ’93, four-time NBA All-Star, was a member of the U.S. men’s Olympic basketball team in the Sydney, Australia, games this summer.

LINDA ZAMPINI TOMAIUOLO (ENHP, MS) of Glastonbury, Conn., formerly of Portland, was recognized as the Homes Teacher of the Year 2000 at the annual New Britain, Conn. Board of Education Recognition Night in May. Tomaiuolo is a second-grade teacher in New Britain.

1994

JEANNE IOVIO (ENHP) of Yorktown Heights, N.Y., welcomed a number of University alumni to her wedding in August to

SETH JACOBS ’94. Attending were LAUREN LESSER TUCHMAN ’93 and MICHAEL TUCHMAN ’92, DANA MELTZER ’93, KELLY SZELKA ’93, ERICA MILLER CLARK ’93 and GREG CLARK ’95, LISA BIBEAU ’94, PETER EPSSTEIN ’94, GARY MORSE ’94, GAYLE VERNE BLOCK ’95 and JOSH BLOCK ’95, SUSAN PASTER ’95, ALISHA RAPPAPORT ’95, and KRISTEN SCHNEIDER ’96.

ANDREA RIDLON (A&S) and STEPHEN JARMIE (A&S) of Rumford, R.I., welcomed the following alumni to their June wedding:

LEIGH MEDEIROS ’94, JENNI FERNBERG ’94, and AARON VITONE ’94. Ridlon is intake coordinator at St. Mary’s Home for Children, an outpatient facility for children who are victims of sexual abuse or who are offenders. Jarmie is technical director of Channel 10, NBC News, in Rhode Island.
MARK BENIGNI (BARNEY, MBA) of East Hartford, Conn., who currently serves as CIGNA HealthCare’s southeast geographic market leader, has been named vice president of corporate accounting and planning. Cordani is a certified public accountant and has worked at CIGNA since 1991.

JOSEPH TIMM (BARNEY) of Harwinton, Conn., has been promoted to vice president of sales for Alife USA. Before joining Artificial Life, Inc., Timm was regional manager for I-Mark, an e-commerce technology company.

BRIAN WETZEL (BARNEY) and GERI SANTINI (HARTT) of Las Vegas, Nev., were married in May 2000, in Athens, Greece. Geri is a paranormal psychologist and professional boxer in Las Vegas, and Brian is working for a consulting firm as a certified public accountant.

1996

MARK BENIGNI (ENHP, MEd) of Meriden, Conn., has been appointed principal of Polk School, Watertown, Conn. Benigni previously taught special education resource classes for grades 8 to 12 in Meriden, where he is also a city councilman.

MARIAM ASHLER (HARTT, MMus) of North Palm Beach, Fla., is singing with the Palm Beach Opera and participates in the Opera’s workshop program. Ashley sings regularly with the Westside Baptist Church in Boynton Beach, Fla., where her husband is music director, and in other area churches.

MICHAEL GABIGA (ENG) of San Antonio, Tex., has completed aviation preflight indoctrination (API) and primary naval flight officer (NFO) training. Gabiga is an ensign stationed at Randolph Air Force Base, where, he writes, “I am currently six months away from earning my wings as a panel navigator.”

1998

ASBJORN FINSNES (BARNEY) of New York, N.Y., is director of business development for Maritime Direct, a comprehensive online information site and future e-commerce marketplace for the maritime shipping industry. Before joining Maritime Direct, Finsnes was managing partner of Agences Maritimes Pomme, headquartered in Marseilles, France.

DAVID GOLDBERG (BARNEY) recently of Dallas, Tex., has been accepted into the 2000–01 Japanese Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program, designed to enhance foreign language education in Japan. Goldberg has been assigned to teach English conversation in junior high and select elementary schools in Miyagi Prefecture, Shiogama, a small coastal city on the main island of Honshu. His decision to leave Streetball Partners International was a difficult one because he was scheduled to become an events manager. “However,” he writes, “I have always had a desire to live and work internationally,” and “I feel that this is the ideal time to go.”

CORA ANN MARINO (ENHP, 6th Year Cert.) of Glastonbury, Conn., has been named principal of Griswold Middle School in Rocky Hill, Conn. Marino, a native of Rocky Hill, has been serving as assistant principal.

SHARON REIS (A&S, MA) of Alexandria, Va., was selected as one of the “15 to Watch” by the publication PR News this year.

CRAIG STEVENSON (ENHP) of East Hartford, Conn., has been named manager of economic development services for the Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC), a private, nonprofit corporation. Stevenson, chairman of the East Hartford Economic Development Commission, will be responsible for developing a municipal partnership program and linking local economic development organizations to CERC’s business services.

1999

CHARLES DEMUYNCK (HARTT, DMA) of Toronto, Ont., has recently become visiting assistant professor and director of orchestra activities at the University of Evansville, Ind. In addition, Demuyncck has...
A L U M N I  N E W S

released a CD with pianist Garnet Ungar and the Varna (Bulgaria) Philharmonic Orchestra of Brahms’ Piano Concerto No. 2 and Beethoven’s Symphony No. 8. The CD may be ordered from <charles_demuynck@yahoo.com>.

MARY GAETA (ENHP) of Floral Park, N.Y., recently started a new job at the New England Center for Children, working with children who have intensive special needs. Previously, she was a preschool teacher in Belmont, Mass. Gaeta plans to begin studying for her master’s degree in intensive special needs this fall.

FRANK KNIPPENBERG (BARNEY) of East Sandwich, Mass., has announced the startup of his advertising company, FHK Marketing. The company will offer innovative programs and low unit costs to Cape Cod businesses, with concentration on food and beverage establishments.

KRISTIN KOBLECT (ENHP, MSN) of Vernon, Conn., has joined Windham Community Memorial Hospital as clinical educator, surgical services. In addition to direct patient care, Koblect’s responsibilities include staff orientation, continuing education for current staff, and development of family and patient informational materials on surgical services.

STEPHEN KRASNER (A&S) of Rockville, Md., was accepted into the Peace Corps in September and writes that he will be leaving on Feb. 20, 2001, for 27 months in Ecuador. Among Krasner’s projected activities are improvement of farm management, agricultural marketing, soil and water conservation, and agroforestry. He may be contacted at <sakrasner@aol.com>.

IRENEUSZ LACKI (HARTT) of Port Chester, N.Y., is employed by the business affairs department of Zomba Recording Corporation, where his responsibilities include mechanical licenses and copyright credits.

MARTIN K. STINE (BARNEY, MST) of Enfield, Conn., has been appointed division controller, business unit, for Hyson Products, a division of Associated Spring, Barnes Group, Inc. In this position, Stine will be responsible for all financial activities of the business unit’s U.S. operations. He joined Associated Spring in 1995 as financial analyst and since 1999 has been manager of shared resources.

CHARLES A. TEALE (BARNEY, MPA) has been named chief of the Hartford (Conn.) Fire Department. A native of Hartford, Teale rose through the ranks and recently served as acting chief. According to The Hartford Courant, Teale is a “hometown hero” whom city and community officials know and trust to bring “stability and pride to the department.”

2000

SEAN BURTON (HARTT) of Easton, Conn., is director of choral and orchestral activities at Weston High School in Fairfield County, Conn., where his responsibilities include directing five choirs and the orchestra and teaching music theory classes. He is also music director and conductor of the Concordia Chorale, the resident community choir of the Connecticut Conservatory of the Arts in New Milford, Conn.

RIVKAH EIDEX (A&S, PsyD) of Atlanta, Ga., works in a private practice of psychologists.

STACI LABREQUE (ENHP) of Bristol, Conn., has her first full-time job at Arrow Drug in New Britain as a pharmacy technician.

NICHOLAS OLIVER (A&S) of East Providence, R.I., is employed by the American Heart Association as Rhode Island director of advocacy.

Correction
The Harold C. Schonberg quotation in the Fall 2000 Observer alumni profile, describing Paul Bisaccia ’78 as “the greatest living Chopinist,” was actually referring to Artur Rubinstein. The Observer regrets the error and thanks Paul for being gracious (and honest) enough to let us know!

It’s not too late to order your 2000 Alumni Directory!
1-800-827-4299
NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2001 AWARDS

The Awards Committee of the Alumni Association seeks nominations for the Distinguished Alumnus/a Award and the Distinguished Service Award to be given in 2001.

Distinguished Alumnus/a Award
This award is presented to an alumnus/a who has demonstrated excellence in his or her professional endeavors, as well as in personal and civic involvement. Achievements in these areas, which bring pride to the University, are the primary consideration.

Distinguished Service Award Description
The award for Distinguished Service is presented to an alumnus/a who has provided exemplary service to the University community, usually for an extended period of time. Community service and professional accomplishments are considered. University of Hartford faculty and staff members who are alumni are also eligible.

Name of Nominee:  ____________________________________________

Reason for Nomination: _______________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

Name of Nominator: ____________________________________________

Daytime Phone: _______________________________________________

For additional information, please contact the Alumni Office, toll-free at 1-888-UHALUMS or locally, at 1-860-768-4357.
Sunday, December 3, 2000  
**Fall Commencement**, Lincoln Theater and Konover Campus Center; presentation of an Alumni Association Award; graduate reception  

**Saturday, January 6, 2001**  
**Alumni Council Meeting**  
If you are interested in becoming a member of the Alumni Council, please contact the Alumni Office.  

**Wednesday, January 10, 2001**  

**Sunday, January 14, 2001**  
**Greater New York Chapter alumni event at the UofH women’s basketball game vs. Hofstra University**, Hempstead, N.Y.  

**Saturday, January 20, 2001**  

**Sunday, January 21, 2001**  
Greater Hartford Alumni Chapter and the UofH Sports Center present **Alumni Health and Fitness Day**. Use the Sports Center facilities for the day and see a women’s basketball game vs. Boston University. Registration required.  

**Saturday, January 27, 2001**  
Greater Hartford Alumni Chapter and the UofH Sports Center present **Alumni Health and Fitness Day**. Use the Sports Center facilities for the day and see a men’s basketball game vs. Vermont. Registration required.  

**Friday, February 9, 2001**  
**Greater Philadelphia Alumni Chapter event at the men’s basketball game vs. Drexel**  

**Saturday, February 10, 2001**  
**Greater Philadelphia Alumni Chapter event at the Riverfront Arts Center, Wilmington, Del.; Fabergé Egg Exhibition. Tickets at a special alumni rate.**  

**Sunday, February 11, 2001**  
**Greater New York Alumni Chapter event at the UofH men’s basketball game at Hofstra University**, Hempstead, N.Y.  

**Saturday, February 17, 2001**  
**Greater Boston Alumni Chapter event at the UofH women’s basketball game vs. Northeastern**, Boston, Mass.  

**Saturday, March 10, 2001**  
**Alumni Council Meeting**  
If you are interested in becoming a member of the Alumni Council, please contact the Alumni Office.  

For additional information on any Alumni Association–sponsored events, please contact the Alumni Office toll-free at **1-888-UH-ALUMS**, or locally at **860-768-4357**, or by e-mail at **<chapters@mail.hartford.edu>**.
## Women's Basketball

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Radio</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 21</td>
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<td>@ Sacred Heart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 25</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>@ Fairleigh Dickinson</td>
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<td>Dec. 1</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>@ Delaware*</td>
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<td>America East Tournament</td>
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*America East games
HOME GAMES in CAPS

## Men's Basketball

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**Internet Broadcasts**

From Portland, Maine, to Portland, Oregon
From London, Ontario, to London, England:

Listen to Hawks basketball live around the world
Visit hartfordhawks.com all season long

**Local Radio**

Consult radio column on schedules

AM: Indicates WDRC/Buckley Broadcasting Network
WDRC (1360 AM—Greater Hartford)
WSNG (610 AM—Torrington)
WWCO (1240 AM—Waterbury)
WMMW (1470 AM—Meriden)

FM: Indicates WWUH Radio Network
WWUH (91.3 FM—Greater Hartford)
WDJW (89.7 FM—Somers)
WWEB (89.9 FM—Wallingford)
Hog River, Parents Weekend 2000