Construction of New Fields Begins This Spring

Dear Alumni and Friends,

It’s with great excitement that I announce a milestone in the university’s campaign to build state-of-the-art athletics fields. This spring, we will break ground on Phase I of the Home Field Advantage project. We expect to be playing soccer and lacrosse on a new surface this fall. And our baseball and softball teams will play on brand-new fields in the spring of 2006.

I offer a heartfelt thank-you to the alumni and friends who have given so generously. Thanks to you, we are on our way. But there is more to be done. We are a little more than a third of the way to our larger campaign goal of $10 million. Our student-athletes deserve top-notch venues with a home field advantage. Through even greater support, we can reach our goal. Please help us get there.

Walter Harrison
President

HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE PHASE I FACTS

Projects
Renovation of Al-Marzook soccer/lacrosse field (fall 2005)
Relocation and construction of softball field (spring 2006)
Construction of baseball field (spring 2006)

Surfaces
Artificial surface on all fields

Fundraising Goals
Phase I campaign goal: $6.7 million
Funds raised to date: $3.65 million

Future Plans
Phase II: Track surrounding all-purpose field
Overall HFA campaign goal: $10 million

Get Involved
For a project prospectus, call 860.768.5063.
Naming rights are available.
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**The Observer**
March 2005, Volume 31, Number 2

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**The Observer Staff**

Editor in Chief: Trish Charles  
Editor: Diana Simonds  
Art Director: Dana Robinson  
Copy Editor: Beverly Kennedy  
Circulation Manager: Sharon Scorso

Contributing Writers: Trish Charles; Judie Jacobson; Kati Liss ’04; Missy Murphy Pavana ’70, ’73; Terri Raimondi; Beth Rosenberg ’91; Matthew Silver; Diana Simonds; Margaret Withey

Contributing Photographers: Tom Derby; Fred Gaylor; Steve Laschever, Doug Penhall; Steve Slade; Vickers & Beechler
Throughout my career in higher education, I have been involved in one way or another with intercollegiate athletics: as an undergraduate and graduate student, as a faculty member, and as an administrator. I believe strongly that intercollegiate athletics adds a great deal to the flavor and spirit of the college or university experience.

Over the past three years, I have taken my involvement with intercollegiate athletics, as they say in the sports vernacular, “to a whole new level.” In 2002 my colleague presidents in the America East Conference elected me to fill a seat on the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Board of Directors. I accepted this position because I believed we were at a unique point in the history of college sports. University presidents were poised to assert their influence in a positive direction, to return academic integrity to college sports, and to reposition college sports within the context of higher education. We had allowed the entertainment value of intercollegiate sports to distort their original role. Here was an opportunity for reform.

Because of the great progress I believe we have made, I have increased my involvement with the NCAA significantly. Last year I was selected to chair two important committees: the Division I-AA and I-AAA Presidential Advisory Group, the group of presidents from universities that do not sponsor big-time football; and the Committee on Academic Performance, which is charged with overseeing the academic reform of Division I college sports.

In April I will become the chair of the executive committee of the NCAA, the organization’s highest governing body, and the first chair of that group to come from a non-football-playing university.

I have accepted these positions with enthusiasm because I believe that there is a true spirit of reform afoot within the NCAA, that we have already made great progress, and that there is much more to come. I am delighted to be centrally involved with that process, and especially pleased that the University of Hartford has assumed a leadership role.

At this university we have gotten intercollegiate athletics right for a long time. Our student-athletes succeed in their sports and in the classroom. Indeed, athletes’ graduation rates and their cumulative grade point averages outpace the student body as a whole, and have done so throughout my seven years as president. We get it.

Now we are seeing important changes at the NCAA level as well. Last year the NCAA board passed an academic performance program that will reassert the importance of academics. First, we passed regulations that require more core courses and better high school performance from prospective scholarship athletes. Next, we passed stiffer standards for progress-toward-degree requirements once the recruits are in college. Athletes now must show steady and defined progress toward specific degrees. No longer can an athlete major in staying eligible. These two reform measures send a strong message to student-athletes: you must take responsibility for your own academic performance in order to play college sports.

In January the NCAA board took our biggest step yet, passing regulations that will hold institutions responsible for the academic success of their student-athletes. This change sends a parallel message to college and university presidents. Just as we hold athletes responsible, we hold you responsible for their cumulative academic behavior.

Our first step in this direction was to institute a series of contemporary penalties based on a new measurement called the Academic Performance Rate (APR), which assesses term-by-term and year-by-year performance of student-athletes by sport, institution by institution. If teams fall below an APR score of 925, which equates to a projected graduation rate of 50 percent, they will not be able to re-award the scholarships of any athletes who leave school for academic reasons. This restriction will be a simple and powerful tool for reform. If these penalties had been in effect this year, 30 percent of all Division I football teams, 25 percent of all Division I baseball teams, and 20 percent of all Division I men’s basketball teams would have been affected.

These contemporary penalties are meant to act as warnings to teams and universities that they are heading in the wrong direction. With penalties capped at 10 percent of awardable scholarships, they are meant to send a strong warning but allow teams an opportunity...
to change their behavior. If they don't, they will be subject to much harsher historical penalties, which will eventually lead to disqualification from postseason play (NCAA tournaments or bowl games) or suspension from the NCAA itself.

As change always does, these penalties have ignited some controversy. That's important, because to return academics to a central role in intercollegiate athletics, we need to get people's attention. My colleagues and I are serious about this. The time to reform is now.

There is much more to be done. I have recently accepted a spot on a new group, the Presidential Task Force on the Future of Intercollegiate Athletics, which will work with NCAA President Myles Brand to think about how we distinguish college athletics from professional athletics, how we can distinguish college athletics as a distinct form of sports entertainment and at the same time keep them true to the educational missions that lie at the heart of America's great colleges and universities.

I'm very happy to be part of that movement. I believe we are making a difference.

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**LETTERS**

**Impressed with Positive Growth**

I thoroughly enjoy reading *The Observer* when it arrives several times a year. I am impressed with the positive growth at the university and enjoy reading about the many changes occurring on the campus and [about] the Hartford environment in which these changes take place.

I also enjoy reading the Alumni News section and have decided to include some information about my own activities in recent years. I hope you will be able to include this information in your [next] issue of *The Observer*.

Thank you again for the fine publication, which keeps me informed of my alma mater!

Sincerely,

Patricia Yosh'a '75
Exeter, N.H.

*Editor's note: See page 22 for Yosh'a’s news.*

**Aid for Tsunami Victims**

Received on Jan. 6, 2005, from an alumnus living in Thailand.

I am one of the lucky ones who is safe and unharmed. I lived in New York City growing up, and now I live in Thailand. Very different places, and yet strangely similar in what has happened. Just like 9/11, it was a beautiful day. The resort beaches were glorious... In a heartbeat, a killer wave came and swept so many out to sea... even the grandson of the King of Thailand was not spared. An act of Nature? An act of God? I cannot say. I only know that there was no warning.

No chance for so many to escape... I know I am lucky to be alive... My plan is to go down to the south and try to help the victims and the orphaned children— the lost innocent souls who are still in shock from all this. I am only one person and, as I said before, I am one of the lucky ones. But so many were not as fortunate. Help me to help others if you can. Now it is the time to help the survivors survive fully... Think of helping the Red Cross or UNICEF.

Yours sincerely,

James Randolph Bullock '76
Pattaya, Thailand

*Editor’s note: Bullock would like to hear from former classmates. You can e-mail him at balrennet@yahoo.com.*

**And from an Observer Fan in Iran**

I am the editor in chief of *Iranian Road & Structure* magazine. I really enjoyed reading *The Observer* magazine when a Hartford graduate worked for me and received it here. But she has gone to a job in another country, and I can't find any way to subscribe to *The Observer*. I know it is for alumni members, but I would be grateful if you could send this magazine to me.

Best regards,

Pejman Shojaeion, Ph.D.
Tehran, Iran

*Editor’s note: We will add Shojaeion to our international mailing list.*

*The Observer* welcomes your letters and comments. Our e-mail address is observer@hartford.edu., or you can visit www.hartford.edu/observer and click on “Contacts and Links” for an online form. Our mailing address is *The Observer*, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117. Letters may be edited for space considerations.
Computer Science Professor Receives Coveted NSF Grant

Ingrid Russell, professor of computer science in the College of Arts and Sciences, in collaboration with Zdravko Markov of Central Connecticut State University and Todd Neller of Gettysburg College, has received a $99,469 grant from the National Science Foundation’s Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) program. Russell, who is the lead principal investigator on the grant, reports that it was one of only 10 funded this year from the approximately 90 computer science proposals submitted.

The team of three professors is using the grant to fund a machine-learning project that they hope will take the teaching of artificial intelligence (AI) into the 21st century. AI is the science and engineering involved in creating intelligent machines, especially computer programs.

“We are delighted that our project was selected for funding by a highly competitive program at NSF,” says Russell. “We believe that this project will impact the way the traditional AI course is taught at many colleges. The project introduces students to an increasingly important research area in computer science and provides an opportunity for them to apply AI problem-solving techniques to a real-world application.”

Russell is redefining an introductory one-semester AI course using machine learning to tie together diverse topics while developing a suite of adaptable, hands-on laboratory projects. Machine learning concerns developing computer systems or programs that can improve their performance based on previous experiences. It is increasingly used in science, engineering, information systems, and education for applications such as speech recognition, natural language processing, robotics, game playing, and medical data analysis.

Students work on the projects in teams to develop machine learning systems. In one project, Web User Profiling, students develop an intelligent Web browser, one that learns user preferences, to improve the efficiency of Web searches.

“Students use data mining [the process of extracting patterns from the data] and machine learning techniques to analyze samples of user interests or preferences in a given domain, such as movies/music, and create a profile of the user’s interests,” says Russell.

User profiling is used extensively in marketing to find patterns that can predict user purchases. Many retail stores collect data at the checkout scanner that is then used to determine everything from store inventories to what goods are displayed in the same or neighboring store aisles.

The success of this project has gone beyond the University of Hartford classroom. Three students on the Web User Profiling project—Shona Taiwo ’05, Roberto Scata ’07, and Richard Truncali ’07—have had a paper accepted for presentation at the 10th Annual Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges Northeast Conference to be held in April.

Scata, a computer science major, recently received a NASA Undergraduate Fellowship to work with Russell on a research project that will extend the work done on the Web User Profiling project.

Inspire Greatness
Volunteer at Special Olympics Connecticut

The University of Hartford, in conjunction with Weaver High School, Hartford Public Schools, and the Watkinson School, will host 1,200 athletes at the 2005 Eastern Regional Games on Saturday, May 21, 2005.

Join members of the university’s faculty and staff as volunteers in a variety of capacities. Volunteers are needed to help with athletics competitions as well as special events accompanying the games.

To volunteer, call 860.768.4894.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities, call 877.660.6667.
to be generous. “You will find such great
satisfaction in giving of yourself. Trust me,
living generously brings joy to the soul,”
he said.
In fact, generosity has been a significant
part of Greenberg’s life. He is the founder
of the university’s Maurice Greenberg
Center for Judaic Studies and is a mem-
ber and former chairman of the board of
regents. Greenberg, who also received an
honorary Doctor of Laws from the univer-
sity in 1989, is a private investor, business
consultant, and former chairman and chief
executive officer of Coleco Industries, Inc.
In addition to his service to the university,
he is a leader in Hartford’s Jewish commu-
nity and has long been active in supporting
the arts in Greater Hartford.
In 2001 he and his wife, Beverly,
donated $1 million to establish the
Greenberg Junior Faculty Research Grant
program, which provides grants to promis-
ying young faculty members for research and
professional development.
At the ceremony, graduates processed
into Lincoln Theater to receive their
degrees as family and friends watched.
The Fall Commencement ceremony is
designed for students who have completed
the course work for their degrees but are
unable to attend the university’s traditional
Commencement in May.
“Today is bittersweet. I am sad to leave
this great institution, but I am happy to
move on to the next step in my life,” said
Kati Liss, a graduate who received a bache-
lor’s degree in English.

Greenberg Honored at Fall
Commencement

“The world as if it really is per-
fec
table—and with a passion, help
to heal it and make it better. Accept
a responsibility to future generations,” said
businessman and longtime University of
Hartford supporter Arnold C. Greenberg
to graduates at the Fall Commencement
 ceremony on Dec. 5. Greenberg was hon-
ored at the ceremony with the University
Medal for Distinguished Service.
Addressing approximately 120 graduates
in Lincoln Theater, Greenberg encouraged
them to learn to manage change, develop
a system of personal values, and appreciate
humor and irony while enjoying the simple
beauty of life. He also reminded graduates
to listen, not to procrastinate, and to learn
to be generous. “You will find such great

Novelist Depicts
Hasidic Life

Pearl Abraham appeared in Wilde
Auditorium as part of the Cardin
Reading Series during February. A
professor of writing at New York University,
Abraham read passages from her recently
The novel takes its inspiration from a famous
unfinished story, “Tales of the Seven
Beggars,” told by Rabbi Nachman of
Bratslav, a 19th-century Hasidic master,
storyteller, and charismatic whose cult
following persists to this day.
Born into a Hasidic family with Yiddish
as her primary language, Abraham is
known for her painful depictions of this
strict Jewish sect. Hasidic Judaism places
many restrictions on its followers, espe-
cially women. Abraham’s two previous
novels, The Romance Reader and Giving
Up America, have had female protagonists
who struggled with these rigid beliefs and
traditions. Although the author has broken
away from Hasidism, she insists that she is
not out of touch with that world. “I still
live in it to an extent,” she said.
The Seventh Beggar has a complex plot
involving three main characters who push
against the confines of a restrictive religious
upbringing in order to create something. In
the telling of her tale, Abraham experiments
boldly with the novelistic form. The stories
within stories are effective but complicated.
When confronted about the complex struc-
ture, of her book, the author responded, “I
don’t think you need background informa-
tion to understand the story. It’s for every-
one. The communities [depicted in the
novel] are like any other community—but
with restrictions.”
Despite Abraham’s intimate and some-
times shocking portrayal of Hasidic beliefs,
she said she is not judgmental of her former
religion. “My job as a novelist is to show
all sides. I am not critical of that world.
The novel is a depiction rather than an
argument.”
The Cardin Reading Series, established
in 2001, is named for its sponsor, university
alumnus and regent Richard Cardin ’62.
Scene Changes

Over time, neighborhoods in a city are transformed as their population shifts from one ethnic group to another. Pizza parlors become noodle shops, and stores that once sold men’s suits now deal in saris. Sometimes the businesses stay the same, but the owners and clientele change. A photographic exhibition currently on display at the university’s George J. Sherman and Lottie K. Sherman Museum of Jewish Civilization documents such changes along Hartford’s Albany Avenue from the 1800s to the present day. Now and Then: Albany Avenue is the result of a collaboration of the Hartford Art School, the Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies, Upper Albany Main Street, Inc., and the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford.

The exhibition combines new photographs by Hartford Art School students of current merchants, businesses, and religious and cultural institutions with historical photos, videos, and oral histories from the archives of the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford. It illustrates the transition of businesses and institutions on Albany Avenue from a predominantly Jewish neighborhood of immigrants in the 19th and 20th centuries to its current community of African American, West Indian, and Hispanic residents and businesses.

Professor Richard Freund, director of the Maurice Greenberg Center, says the exhibition explores the “unique synergy” of Albany Avenue, which until 1960 was the center of Hartford’s Jewish community, and is now being redeveloped by a new group of immigrants and residents.

During the early 20th century, middle-income Italian, Eastern European, and Jewish families moved into the neighborhood, creating a “streetcar suburb” whose workers commuted to the industrial and financial sectors downtown. Post–World War II urban sprawl and the development of wealthy suburbs nearby dramatically altered the ethnic composition of the Upper Albany area, resulting in today’s mix of ethnic groups.

Marilyn Risi, director of Upper Albany Main Street, Inc., says Now and Then: Albany Avenue complements the Micro Business Incubator program that brings students from the university’s Barney School into the neighborhood to assist Albany Avenue business owners (see page 7).

The exhibition is sponsored by the Greater Hartford Arts Council, The Hartford Courant, the Dr. Morris and Emma Cohen Fund of the Greenberg Center, the Hartford Art School, the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford, and the Upper Albany Main Street Project. The exhibit’s curator is Christine Dalenta ’91, ’94.

Now and Then: Albany Avenue, which is free and open to the public, runs through Aug. 15. The George J. Sherman and Lottie K. Sherman Museum is located in the Mortensen Library in the Harry Jack Gray Center. For information or reservations for docent-led tours for groups of up to 20 people, call 860.768.4963 or e-mail lemcoff@hartford.edu.
A Peach of an Idea

When Cara Ashnault first walked through the door of a hair salon on Hartford’s Homestead Avenue, she wasn’t there for a haircut or highlights. Instead, the senior in the Barney School of Business had come to give Peaches DaCosta, the owner of Beauty Galore, a “treatment” of her own.

The treatment that brought together the young woman from rural New Hampshire and the single mother from the north end of Hartford is an innovative program called the Micro Business Incubator (MBI) at the University of Hartford.

The brainchild of Associate Professor of Marketing Margery Steinberg, MBI pairs Barney students with small-business owners in the commercially struggling Upper Albany neighborhood, just a mile from the main campus. It works in partnership with Upper Albany Main Street, Inc., a community organization that strives to preserve and revitalize the area’s commercial district and help residents develop a stable neighborhood.

Steinberg explains that Rob Golden, an MBA student at Barney and the coordinator of the MBI program, first approached DaCosta about participating in the program.

“Peaches DaCosta was a prime candidate for the MBI program because she’s open to new ideas and willing to invest the time and effort into upgrading her business,” says Steinberg. “Like many Upper Albany business owners, she possesses strong values and a tremendous work ethic in addition to her outstanding skills as a hairdresser.”

While the entrepreneurs are getting help with everything from developing marketing plans and computerized accounting systems to designing their own Web pages, Barney students gain course credits as well as invaluable practical experience.

At DaCosta’s Beauty Galore Salon, the program has succeeded on all counts. When Ashnault first came into her store in October 2003, DaCosta was running Beauty Galore with lots of personal service but no computerized inventory tracking, no easily accessible customer database, no electronics to speak of—unless you count the blow dryers.

With Ashnault’s help, DaCosta and her salon have come a long way in just 18 months. Ashnault is modest about her own role in the transformation.

“I just helped her learn the basics and overcome her fears,” she says of DaCosta. At the same time, the two developed a close friendship. “Even when school is out of session and I don’t get class credit for it, I still stop by and help Peaches out with whatever I can,” she says.

These days, Ashnault and DaCosta are working on a business plan that will help DaCosta obtain loans to improve and expand Beauty Galore. “Peaches has a vision for Beauty Galore,” says Ashnault, “and I am going to help her realize it.”

In a way, Ashnault’s good work is multiplying well beyond the salon, to the community at large. By helping DaCosta enhance efficiency at Beauty Galore, Ashnault has given the single mother a most precious commodity—more time, both for her two young children and for a new project that will help her community. Called the Single Mother’s Association, it is a commitment DaCosta feels deeply and personally.

“As a single mother, I’ve felt lost and alone,” she says. “I don’t want other women to feel that way.”

The Single Mother’s Association is the logical extension of activities that DaCosta has promoted at Beauty Galore, including a pre–Mother’s Day celebration that Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez attended in 2003 and a popular back-to-school “jam” for Upper Albany neighborhood kids. Last year, 400 children were given backpacks filled with school supplies. Now DaCosta wants to pull all these commitments together and add to them, she hopes, with help from a new friend.

“I’m working on Cara,” she says.

As for getting involved with DaCosta’s new endeavor, Ashnault might be interested. It turns out that working in the MBI program has been a learning experience for her in more ways than one.

“I was a bit sheltered from the world before I came to Hartford,” explains Ashnault. “It was a little intimidating initially to be in the Upper Albany MBI project. But working with Peaches has allowed me to meet so many interesting people. I think we will be in touch for a long time.”
An Opinion

Visiting Professor Calls U.S. Media Self-involved and Shortsighted

by Matthew Silver

In early 2005 the Bush administration formally announced that no evidence of a program to develop weapons of mass destruction (WMD) during the last years of Saddam Hussein’s regime had been found. Since no “smoking gun” will ever be found as proof of a real Iraqi effort to develop WMD, the public is entitled to wonder whether the media blew smoke in its face about the causes of the war. Indeed, even more than the Spanish American War—which for over a century has served as a paradigm of jingoistic “yellow journalism” leading to armed military action—Operation Iraqi Freedom demonstrates the problem of media power in war policy formation.

The bug in the system is not that journalists made mistakes about WMD in Iraq but that the public seems so unprepared to impose a coherent set of watchdog standards about media accountability. In the judicial system, one needs evidence beyond any reasonable doubt to convict a man. How is it that the media can point the public toward war, and help put thousands of troops in harm’s way, without having any definite evidence to support its descriptions of a foreign reality? Are there standards of malpractice that can, and ought, to be imposed on newsroom editors and news studio producers?

The New York Times’ admission of May 26, 2004, that its coverage of the WMD controversy in prewar Iraq was flawed is a cultural earthquake whose tremors will be felt and studied for years. With this admission, the closest thing to a newspaper of record in America said that it dropped the ball about the casus belli in Iraq.

As was pointed out widely by Internet bloggers and independent research groups, the same two or three journalists filed many of the articles cited in the Times’ admission. Long before the WMD crisis and 9/11, these journalists were criticized for harboring anti-Arab prejudices. The fact that their names were cited by The New York Times in its mea culpa piece about its coverage of the buildup to Operation Iraqi Freedom appears to reinforce a troubling question.

Do political agendas tip the balance in media discussion of issues like the WMD controversy, in which editors and producers have to make judgment calls on the basis of inconclusive evidence? What do The New York Times’ May 2004 admission, and the prominent role played in these faulty reports by journalists who in the 1990s were accused of anti-Arab bias, mean? Do they validate sweeping judgments made by critics of American media coverage of the Middle East?

Media bias could be one piece of the puzzle, but I’m guessing most readers will agree it can’t be the only reason why reasonable, intelligent editors made the wrong call about WMD in Iraq. For those who would want to prosecute a hypothetical “media malpractice” suit in light of unfolding realities in Iraq, what, besides prejudice, could serve as counts in the indictment? Two broad problems could be identified by the prosecution in this case. Problems of shortsightedness and self-involvement, the indictment counts in this hypothetical media malpractice suit, might be called “media amnesia” and “me-first media.”
The Prosecution’s Case

First, media outlets have an attention span that is invariably shorter than the national interest. And in the Middle East, media amnesia is liable to be extremely costly.

For instance, media outlets seem to have forgotten about the dire concerns they conjured in the mid-1970s about an energy crisis. Because of this memory loss, the upside-down relationship between oil dependency and democratization is never seen for what it is.

Where are the journalists who have sufficient memory and vision to show the American public that its idealistic goals in the Middle East are ill served by its dependence upon oil—oil that is supplied by oppressive, undemocratic regimes in the region? In the 1970s mainstream media outlets called on American consumers to make small but significant sacrifices in their energy habits. Thirty years later, the media largely endorses policies that require American soldiers to sacrifice their lives in the struggle to bring political freedom to the Middle East. Until one sort of sacrifice is incorporated with the other in public discussion, illiberal regimes in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere will be able to exploit America’s oil dependence while ignoring its calls for democratization.

Second, me-first media outlets tend to be obsessed with domestic political processes, even when they are ostensibly reporting on foreign political dynamics and controversies of urgent, acute importance.

One reason why America’s most talented journalists failed to unravel the truth about WMD—and about related did-he-or-didn’t-he-type mysteries that are the lifeblood of investigative reporting—is that they are primarily interested in local, American riddles. They want to know how power operates in Washington. However natural it is for American media to center on American politics, it is undeniable that this domestic focus has left highly intriguing political processes in Iraq—culminating in national elections that are being staged as I write these lines—in a dizzy blur.

America’s premier investigative journalists have been in the game for decades, and their reporting on the Iraqi crisis has produced notably vivid portraits. But by penetrating deeply into corridors of power in Washington while neglecting the struggles of the man on the street in Basra or Najaf to create a new political reality after Saddam Hussein, their work has reinforced a me-first world outlook.

Two recent books on Iraq, Bob Woodward’s Plan of Attack and Seymour Hersh’s Chain of Command, compellingly illustrate this point. Woodward portrays Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld and other war architects as thorough planners whose positions are challenged by dissenters and skeptics in a viable policy process. Hersh, on the other hand, argues that Rumsfeld and a few aides created at the Pentagon special policy formation structures that bypassed regular intelligence and military channels, provided wholly inaccurate information about WMD, and supported possibly unconstitutional interrogation practices at Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib.

Nobody would say that such a divergence of views is illegitimate, but it is worth wondering whether the public interest was best served after the 9/11 attacks by a stuck-in-the-1960s veteran media establishment whose orientation is so deeply rooted in the domestic political process.

The media, in other words, might be guilty of malpractice because it wrongly asked a self-involved question at an inopportune moment. After the 9/11 attacks, the public gave the Bush administration considerable policy-making latitude, and it consistently affirmed its confidence in its leadership. It was not the time for American journalists to be wondering if their own political system could be trusted.

With their focus on domestic politics, the media ignored the complex, foreign issue of staging elections in developing countries, which is quickly becoming the crux of global politics in the 21st century.
Racism is at work in the United States every day, yet the majority of white people are oblivious to it, asserts Associate Professor of Sociology Ashley “Woody” Doane, co-editor of White Out: The Continuing Significance of Racism. White Out is a collection of original essays that examines how white racial identity is constructed and how whiteness contributes to the persistence of racial inequality. A landmark collection, White Out brings together works from across the disciplines of sociology, philosophy, history, and anthropology.

The Observer asked Darryl McMiller, assistant professor of political science at Hillyer College, to talk with Doane, also of Hillyer, about his book.

DM: Professor Doane, first question. Most people believe that because of the achievements of the civil rights movement, racism and discrimination are no longer significant. The title of your edited book, White Out: The Continuing Significance of Racism, would seem to contradict that thinking. What are you and the authors of the articles in the text trying to let readers know about the continuing significance of racism?

WD: Actually, the phrase “The Continuing Significance of Racism” was a deliberate response to the title of a very well known book by William J. Wilson, The Declining Significance of Race. In 1903, African American scholar and activist W. E. B. DuBois referred to the “color line,” the problem of racial domination, which he said would be the problem of the 20th century. I think that the argument we’re trying to make is that it is also the problem of the 21st century. The forms of racism may have changed, but it remains a major problem in American society in the 21st century.

DM: What do you mean by the term white out that’s used in the title?

WD: (Smiles). It’s actually not connected to office products, despite what people may think! It’s drawn from my own background growing up in northern New England. A whiteout is a winter condition during a blizzard when the snow is so heavy, the whiteness is so overpowering, that the horizon line becomes indistinct. Vision becomes distorted, and the only things that one is really aware of are very dark objects. Given that the focus of the book is upon how white racial identity distorts our view of race relations, I thought that this image really captured what we were trying to talk about.
DM: What is “color-blind racism,” which you talk about in the text, and how does it differ from other forms of racism?

WD: Color-blind racism is, in a nutshell, the claim that because of the accomplishments of the civil rights movement, we’ve essentially moved beyond race in American society; that racism, except for isolated hate crimes, no longer exists; and that racial inequality is a thing of the past. It differs from other forms of racism in that it’s rooted in denial. Color-blind racism, I think, is often adopted by very well meaning people who really want to believe that racism doesn’t exist. Unfortunately, denying the persistence of racism creates a new set of problems. Given that inequality does exist—in such areas as wealth, income, and health—it becomes too easy to blame the victim and say that people are poor, people are unemployed, because of their poor morals, their lack of effort, their unwillingness to take advantage of opportunities that exist. The outcome of color-blindness is that it closes off any meaningful discussion of racism and it contributes to the persistence of white privilege and racial inequality.

DM: What do you mean exactly by “white privilege”?

WD: White privilege really works on two levels. I think most people approach it in terms of the individual level, of the advantages, say, of not being profiled by police, not being shadowed in a store, of always being viewed as an individual. But I think it’s more important to view it on a structural level, to look at the advantages whites enjoy in the employment market, in the housing market, and in terms of the intergenerational transmission of wealth. These are the things that really contribute to the reproduction of racial inequality generation after generation after generation.

DM: Of the articles in the book, which one do you think best addresses the points that you’re trying to make?

WD: My own particular favorites are in the third section, which contains a series of articles based on qualitative data gathered from interviews with white Americans. I like the chapter by Heather Johnson and Thomas Shapiro, called “Good Neighborhoods, Good Schools,” in which whites talk about “good” neighborhoods and “good” schools in a way that is linked to race. The interviews illustrate how race shapes individual decisions and how the cumulative effect is to perpetuate residential and school segregation. There’s also a piece by Kristen Myers, called “White Fright,” which looks at some of the behind-the-scenes ways in which whites talk about race.

DM: And why are those pieces in particular your favorites?

WD: I think they’re very straightforward. They counter some of the denial of racism—he denial that whites still take race into account in everyday situations or when making major life decisions. Also, I like my co-editor’s piece at the end of the book, which is on the Latin Americanization of race relations in the United States. Eduardo [Bonilla-Silva] takes, I think, a rather bold look into the future and talks about the ways in which the racial lines in the United States are beginning to become blurred. He argues that, yes, the lines have become blurred, but that’s not necessarily a positive development; it’s one that will be used to maintain racial inequality, not eliminate it.

DM: What has been the response to White Out from scholars who study race in America?

WD: When a book comes out, it takes probably a couple of years to see what the response is going to be, other than getting e-mails from people who say they like it or having someone speak to you individually about what you’ve written. It really takes that long to be cited in journal articles and books because of the production time. I’ve begun to see it cited recently in articles, and I’ve seen it adopted for reading lists and for courses in different places. I’m hoping that this will continue. I think that we’ve brought together a group of people who have some very important things to say about race in the United States. I guess when you put that much effort into a book, you want to see it widely used. I would say that so far, I’m very encouraged.

DM: Finally, I know that you use some of the materials in White Out in your classes. How have students responded?

WD: I think they’ve responded very well. The two pieces I’ve used were the Johnson and Shapiro piece, “Good Neighborhoods, Good Schools,” and Kristen Myers’s piece, “White Fright.” I had the students write reaction papers after reading each article. The material definitely seemed to affect them. I actually spoke to Heather Johnson and told her about some of their responses because they were so striking. Students were shocked at the behavior of whites who were fairly openly using terms like “a good neighborhood” and “good schools” to draw very clear racial lines when planning where they were going to live or where they were going to send their children to school. Myers’s article looks at what happens when the microphone is switched off. Then we see the backstage behavior of whites, where, in many cases, racial expressions became much more overt and much more blatant. I think that was really an eye-opening experience for students and encouraged them to think about situations they’ve encountered in their own lives.

Julie Wyman stands in the lobby of the film entrance to the Museum of Modern Art, laughing and joking with friends and onlookers while a photographer scuttles around her, shooting rapidly and ordering her to pose this way and that. Outside, an arctic blast screams through the canyons of New York City, and the blizzard of 2005 is about to hit the East Coast.

Wyman, a documentary filmmaker and assistant professor of cinema in the College of Arts and Sciences, has braved the alarming forecast to introduce her quirky film, *Buoyant*, to a packed audience. The 27-minute documentary interweaves footage of a group of fat synchronized swimmers called the Padded Lilies with scenes of a begoggled Wyman demonstrating the “Drystroke Swimulator”—a device that allows her to simulate swimming in midair. Also included are explanations of the Greek mathematician Archimedes’ Principle, which calculates the weight of a floating body based on the volume of water it displaces. Fat people, it turns out, are more buoyant than thin ones.

To Wyman, the Padded Lilies challenge ideas of female beauty by making a spectacle of themselves and using fat as a strength. (They are adamant that they be called “fat,” not “overweight.”) She has said that this film, which was her M.F.A. project at the University of California, San Diego, in 2002, suggests “the exuberant possibility of a fat body that literally and culturally rises, like cream, to the top.” Wyman admits she is drawn to subjects whose body image or gender identity doesn’t fit easily into the stereotypes that exist in our culture.

“I’m always interested in people who fall between the categories, who force us to rethink those categories. I notice people who don’t meet our expectations of what is beautiful or what is appropriate. I keep notes on the ones I think have some potential to break through the stereotypes.”

Wyman’s interest in human culture and its taboos is a long-standing one. She graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in anthropology and English from Amherst College in Massachusetts in 1993. While at Amherst, she became involved with a performance art group and began thinking about how to get her message across to a wider audience. Film seemed the logical answer.

“My senior year, I was trying to decide whether I wanted to be an anthropologist or a filmmaker. In a way, I guess I’ve decided to do both.”
It's Not What You Think

It was a collaborator from her performance troupe who got her involved with a project in 1993 that has brought her considerable recognition as a documentary filmmaker. The friend's partner had decided to undergo a sex change, and the couple approached Wyman about documenting the process. "At the time," says Wyman, "there was really nothing like it out there. And I was looking for stories about people who explode our assumptions about gender and the body." Wyman picked up her camera and began filming a project that she would return to frequently over the next six years.

The resulting full-length documentary is A Boy Named Sue. Named after a song Johnny Cash made famous, the film chronicles the transformation of a young woman named Sue into a young man named Theo. Wyman was in graduate school by the time it premiered in 2000 at the San Francisco International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, which partially funded the project along with the Film Arts Foundation in San Francisco. Winner of the Sappho Award for Best Documentary in 2000, A Boy Named Sue has been shown at dozens of film festivals in the United States and abroad and appeared on the Showtime cable network in 2003–04.

Her current work-in-progress, a film about Olympic weightlifter Cheryl Haworth, continues Wyman's focus on themes of female beauty and strength. According to the official Olympics Web site, Haworth's normal 2.5-hour workout involves lifting up to 25 tons—the equivalent of an F-15 fighter jet. Wyman says when she first saw Haworth on television during the 2000 Olympics, she was immediately struck with the then 17-year-old athlete, who won a bronze medal in Sydney.

"I love to watch the Olympics, and I remember thinking how out of the box this was—a big, incredibly strong young woman competing as an Olympic athlete. We usually think of athletes as having svelte, even lean, bodies," Wyman filed Haworth's name away for future use.

In the spring of 2004, Wyman, now on the faculty at Hartford, began to wonder if Haworth would be competing in Athens. An Internet search handed her the name of Haworth's coach, who put her in contact with the athlete. Using a stipend from the university, she flew to Savannah, Ga., that summer to start filming. In August she followed Haworth to the Summer Olympics to document the women's weightlifting competition.

"Like most documentary films, this is being made on a shoestring budget," Wyman says with a laugh. "I used my mother's frequent-flyer miles to pay for my flight and stayed with a friend of a friend of a friend in Athens."

Do It and Teach It

Wyman stepped from behind the camera at the start of the 2003 fall semester to become an assistant professor at the University of Hartford. She joined a relatively young cinema department that was founded in 1996 and previously led by two film scholars, Associate Professors Robert Lang and Michael Walsh, who is the chair. Her office on the third floor of Hillyer Hall, a small,
cell-like space with a single window at one end, reflects her junior status. The dimly lit interior contains bookshelves crammed with videos and books on filmmaking; a desk; a small sofa; and a couple of leggy, light-starved plants.

Joseph Voelker, dean of A&S, says he is very pleased to welcome an innovative filmmaker of Wyman’s standing to Hartford.

“I’m delighted that we can boast of a talent like Julie Wyman on our faculty. Her work has appeared on the Showtime network and at the Museum of Modern Art, and yet here she is in the classroom at the University of Hartford, helping our students become filmmakers in their own right. We are lucky that she shares with her students her ability to see human life from so surprising an angle.”

The cinema department has enjoyed an extraordinary leap in popularity in the past five years, growing from 32 majors in 1999 to around 70 for this academic year. Wyman, who teaches video and film production and screenwriting, says she sees some great strengths in the program already.

“The students here are true film buffs. They’re interested in being able to look at films intelligently. Secondly, I think the fact that we’re a small community works very well. I get to know my students, and it’s very rewarding for me as a professor to see their productions improve.”

As for the future, Wyman hopes to develop a student film festival on campus. She is already holding campus screenings of student work completed in her classes, bringing filmmakers to campus as speakers, and encouraging students to send their work to film festivals across the country. But she sees her role as more than just instructing fledgling filmmakers.

“Whether or not my students become filmmakers later on, it’s important for them to be able to observe the world around them skillfully and thoughtfully. Maybe it’s the anthropologist in me that feels that getting outside the realm of our everyday lives is a good way to expand our notions of what is possible and true.”
When Kathy Behrens ’85, made her debut during the final episode of NBC’s hit show, *The Apprentice*, last season, she was in no danger of hearing the dreaded words “You’re fired!”—made famous by New York real estate mogul and reality television star Donald Trump.

If, somehow, you’ve escaped the considerable hype that surrounds the show and its star, it involves a group of ambitious contenders who are given a series of challenging assignments. Week by week, “The Donald” reviews their efforts, and those who don’t measure up he dismisses with gusto. In the end, only one survives to collect the prize of a job with an annual salary of $250,000.

Behrens, senior vice president for community relations at the National Basketball Association (NBA), was contacted by the show to help set up a final assignment for one of the two remaining contenders. Jennifer M. was handed the job of coordinating the Genworth Charity Basketball Classic to benefit the NBA’s Read to Achieve program, one of several community outreach efforts Behrens oversees. Her opponent, Kelly, organized the Genworth/Trump Polo Cup to raise money for the Alzheimer’s Association.

“I got my 30 seconds of *Apprentice* fame,” says Behrens, 41. “That was the money shot for me on the show—a big handshake with me, Donald, and former Detroit Pistons star Bob Lanier.”

“It was amusing,” she says of her role on the show. “It gave us a chance to promote our literacy program, and we raised some money for it.” The Read to Achieve program has created more than 90 Reading and Learning Centers worldwide that provide reading materials and technology to more than 50 million children each year.

Behrens, a 1985 graduate of the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions, has been with the NBA since 2000 and was promoted to her current position last October. She oversees the global philanthropic efforts of the NBA and the Women’s National Basketball Association. These include literacy and education programs, the support of youth basketball leagues, and programs to develop the game around the world.

“It’s an extraordinary opportunity to be on the front lines and see our players really make a difference. To be able to help facilitate that is very gratifying,” Behrens says of her position. “My favorite part of the job is seeing the impact that our players and the game itself can have all over the world.”

For example, the Basketball without Borders program she oversees takes NBA players to Africa, China, South America, and Europe to teach kids about the game. At the same time, the players interact with these communities to promote issues like education and HIV/AIDS awareness.

But, like Donald Trump, NBA players know their celebrity status sometimes gets them manhandled by the media. Behrens finds this part of her job frustrating.

She cites the mid-November altercation between the Detroit Pistons and the Indiana Pacers as an excellent example of media bias. Although both players and fans were involved, sports commentators and writers tended to focus on player behavior.

“There’s no question that people pay more attention to the mistakes that some of our players make than to the overwhelmingly positive things that they’re involved in,” Behrens says. “For every negative story or every negative incident that happens, I can give you 20 stories of players who have done really good things.”
$250,000 Gift from Alumnus to Support A&S

Although Nicholas F. Galluccio went on to earn two graduate degrees from Columbia University, he never forgot his experiences at the University of Hartford. President Walter Harrison recently described Galluccio, who earned a bachelor's in English in 1972, as “one of the university's most outstanding and visible graduates.” Galluccio has pledged $250,000 to endow a two-year scholarship for students in the humanities and politics and government programs of the College of Arts and Sciences.

“My decision to endow this scholarship was driven by a desire to give something back to the university and to support students intent on high achievement,” says Galluccio, who is also a member of the university’s board of regents.

Galluccio is currently group managing director and equity portfolio manager in the New York office of Trust Company of the West (TCW), which is part of the TCW Group of Companies. TCW and its affiliates have approximately $5 billion in assets under management. He held previous positions within the company as an equity analyst, senior vice president, and manager of a small-capitalization equity fund. Galluccio has been managing director since 1993.

Before joining TCW in 1982, he worked as a securities analyst specializing in the electronics industry at what is now Lehman Brothers, Inc. Galluccio started out as a news reporter at the Springfield Daily News, Springfield, Mass., and a staff writer for Forbes magazine before switching to a career in investments.

Joseph Voelker, dean of Arts and Sciences, in expressing his appreciation for the gift, says the scholarship not only will benefit its recipients but also will motivate their classmates. “Engagement tends to be infectious, and our future Galluccio Scholars will be models for others.”

Galluccio and his wife, Teresa, live in Greenwich, Conn., with their three sons. For his M.A. in English literature (1973) at Columbia, Galluccio wrote his thesis on Shakespeare’s The Winter’s Tale. He also holds an MBA from Columbia’s Graduate School of Business (1978).

$200,000 Starr Foundation Grant Benefits Barney Scholars

Near the close of 2004, the university was advised that it had been awarded a two-year, $200,000 grant from the Starr Foundation of New York, N.Y. The Starr Foundation Scholarship Fund will be used to recruit and retain highly talented students in the Barney School of Business who are pursuing undergraduate degrees in insurance and finance.

Interim Dean of the Barney School of Business James Fairfield-Sonn has announced that the first $100,000 of the grant has been received and will be used this spring to recruit three first-year students for the 2005–06 academic year. These students will receive a $5,000 scholarship for each of four years as long as they maintain a 3.0 grade point average. In the second year of the grant, a second $100,000 will be divided among seven additional Barney scholars.

In addition, the Barney School will select four promising sophomores who are also insurance and finance majors to receive a $5,000 scholarship in both their junior and senior years, provided that they do not change their majors and that they maintain a 3.0 grade point average. The annual Jon O. Newman Lecture on Law and Justice will be an integral part of the Pre-Law Advising Program. Under the new program, seven pre-law advisers from five of the university’s colleges work...
in coordination with students’ academic advisers to help prepare undergraduates for law school and for careers in law.

The first Jon O. Newman Lecture on Law and Justice will be delivered by Yale Law School dean Harold Hongju Koh, on Tuesday, April 19, at 4:30 p.m. in Wilde Auditorium.

Koh, who will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws from the university at the ceremony, will discuss “The Supreme Court and Global Law.” A legal scholar and recognized leader in the protection of human rights, Koh served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor from 1998 to 2001. He is currently dean, and the Gerald C. and Bernice Latrobe Smith Professor of International Law, at Yale Law School.

Tickets for the lecture are available from the box office at 860.768.4228 or 800.274.8587.

Timeout for a Random Act of Kindness

The Home Field Advantage campaign aims to provide student-athletes with facilities and fields appropriate for a Division I athletics program. Competition can have a very positive effect on the character of our student-athletes, as the following story, related by former Vice President of External Relations Larry Gavrich, shows.

Liz Stich probably will have played her last competitive basketball game by the time you read this. The University of Hartford graduating senior may not be the star of the Lady Hawks’ team, but she will forever be the hero of two 10-year-old girls and one fiftysomething dad who witnessed an extraordinary act of kindness.

It happened two years ago at one of the Hawks’ home games. During a timeout, I watched from my seat across the arena as my daughter, Jennie, and her friend, Kathleen, held out their arms in supplication to the cheerleaders, who were tossing Hawks T-shirts into the crowd. Cheerleaders, bless their souls, tend to favor kids when it comes to picking the recipients of T-shirts. With aim befitting a major-league control pitcher, one of them launched a red shirt directly at Kathleen. Just as the eager 10-year-old was about to snatch the shirt, a beefy adult arm reached in to snatch it away. The girls, disappointed, returned to their seats.

I uttered a silent oath about selfish, insensitive adults. But an hour later, at the end of an exciting game, all was forgotten. Jennie and Kathleen waited happily in line for player autographs. As we stood there, Liz Stich emerged from the locker room clutching a T-shirt. She walked right up to Kathleen and said, “I saw that guy take the T-shirt from you. I had this one in my locker, and I want you to have it.” Then she asked a tongue-in-cheek favor of the girls. “Please don’t tell my coach [Jen Rizzotti]. I’m supposed to be paying attention to her during the timeouts.”

Sorry Liz. Now coach and everyone else know what you did. And should.

Give a Gift to Remember

Looking for something different to honor the memory of a beloved family member or a fondly remembered professor? Do you have a graduation, marriage, or birth in your future but can’t come up with an original gift? Randi Ashton-Pritting, director of university libraries, has a suggestion.

“We maintain a wish list of titles that vary in cost from $50 per copy to $1,000 or more. People contact us when they’re looking for a way to commemorate special life events. After they purchase a book, we place a bookplate inside that gives the name of the donor and the name of the person being honored. In addition, the name of the donor appears on the screen whenever someone calls up the title on our computer system.”

Ashton-Pritting explains that there are a number of options for giving to the library. Besides the library’s wish list, a donor may choose to give a particular book that they feel the library should contain, replace a dog-eared copy of a title already in the collection, or allow the library to acquire a book or books of its choice.

“Purchasing a book for the university’s libraries is a twofold gift,” says Ashton-Pritting. “It’s a way to celebrate an individual for years to come while benefiting the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Hartford.”

And size does not matter. “The library welcomes gifts in any amount,” she says.
Harry Sukman was one of those rare people who decided at age 7 what his profession would be and then studied and practiced until his dream came true.

Memorabilia from Sukman’s career have been given to the University of Hartford by his daughter, Susan Sukman McCray. The collection—which features posters, photographs, albums, and scores of some of his work—will be displayed in the former lobby of Millard Auditorium at The Hartt School. Sukman McCray’s generosity has transformed the space into the newly named Harry Sukman Foyer, which will feature Sukman’s beloved ebony Steinway grand piano.

The Harry Sukman Foyer and its collection will be dedicated at a 3 p.m. ceremony on Sunday, April 17, that is open to the public. Musicians from the Hartford Symphony Orchestra will perform as the Harry Sukman Orchestra at a concert following the dedication. The guest conductor will be Vincent Falcone, musical conductor for Frank Sinatra. Sukman arranged Stephen Sondheim’s “Send in the Clowns” for Sinatra, which Falcone will perform along with several Harry Sukman compositions. Hartt students will also perform songs by the composer.

Sukman made his musical debut at age 12 in Chicago, Ill., as a pianist. While in high school, he served as piano accompanist for some of the world’s greatest musicians. He later moved to California, where he made many recordings and had his own television show. He appeared in the Hollywood Bowl and was named piano soloist for the Bowl’s annual Gershwin Memorial Concerts.

A lifelong student of the piano music and techniques of pianist-composer Franz Liszt, Sukman was selected to adapt the background score for the motion picture Song Without End, based on Liszt’s life. He received an Academy Award for this accomplishment in 1960. The following year, he received an Oscar nomination for the film Fanny and in 1966 received his third Academy Award nomination for The Singing Nun. Although Sukman’s name is not a household word, many people are familiar with the music he wrote for more than 200 episodes of such popular television series as Dr. Kildare, Bonanza, and The High Chaparral, as well as the 1972 movie Salem’s Lot, for which he received Emmy Award nominations.

“We are absolutely delighted to have this extraordinary collection of an Oscar award-winning composer and musician,” said University of Hartford President Walter Harrison. “These wonderful materials will inspire generations of student musicians, composers, actors, and singers by providing them with insights into the career and work of a man of great talent.”

Sukman McCray, a corporator of the Hartford Art School, has a great affinity for the University of Hartford. Her husband, Kent, is an alumnus of The Hartt School and currently serves as a university regent. The McCrays are Hollywood producers and principals in Ten-K Productions. They are best known for the television series Bonanza, Little House on the Prairie, and Highway to Heaven.

Sukman McCray feels that the University of Hartford is the appropriate place to house the collection because of The Hartt School and its acclaimed programs in music, dance, and theatre.

“My father would be honored and humbled by this project, and would be pleased to know that his Steinway piano will be in an area where young students are practicing and learning music,” she said.
Atwood Collins II, life regent and one of the University of Hartford’s most significant founders, died Nov. 17 at age 87.

The university would not be where it is today were it not for Collins. He was instrumental in finding and purchasing the site for the present-day campus, in arranging the initial financing, and in drafting the bylaws for the university and other critical legal documents.

Born in Hartford, Collins earned his B.A. and law degrees at Yale University. He entered the foreign service in the post of vice consul for Costa Rica until World War II called him to a tour of duty in the U.S. army. His military career culminated with Army Intelligence in Germany, where he interrogated high-ranking Nazi officials for the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials.

Collins was political and liaison officer for the U.S. delegation to the 1945 Conference on International Organization in San Francisco, Calif., where the charter for the United Nations was signed. He also served on the committee that formed the International Court of Justice.

Following his return to Hartford to resume his practice of law, Collins soon found himself on the board of trustees of Hillyer College. In the early 1950s, Hillyer was packed with World War II veterans eager to study under the GI Bill. Collins persuaded Hillyer President Alan S. Wilson that the college needed a campus. He located 150 acres of farmland on the West Hartford–Hartford line and negotiated the purchase. In 1957, Hillyer joined with the Hartford Art School and the Hartt College of Music to form the University of Hartford.

“Every time I walk across the campus I see the fruits of Atwood’s vision and his skill,” said University President Walter Harrison on Nov. 30 at a memorial service at Hartford’s Asylum Hill Congregational Church.

“In the mid-1950s, when Atwood was among those people creating the university, he could not have foreseen how important all that acreage would be,” Harrison said. “Originally planned as a school for Hartford-area residents, the university has become a largely residential institution, with students from over 40 states and 60 different countries, to make up a university of 7,200 students. When you consider our two magnet schools and the Community Division of The Hartt School, over 10,000 people study at the university each week. That would not have been possible without the land that Atwood made available.”

Collins drafted the legislation that Gov. Abraham Ribicoff signed in 1957 incorporating the three schools as the University of Hartford. He also wrote the bylaws for the new institution.

Throughout his years as a regent and subsequent life regent, his keen interest in the university never waned. In recent years, when Collins and his wife, Rosemary, moved to the Duncaster Retirement Community in Bloomfield, President Harrison visited frequently, consulting the regent on a wide range of matters affecting the university.

“He would always downplay what advice he could offer,” Harrison recalled, “and then offer wonderfully valuable advice.”

To commemorate Collins’s life and his long record of service to the university, Harrison announced that the university has named the central seminar in its undergraduate pre-law program in his honor. The Atwood Collins Seminar will bring distinguished lawyers and jurists to the campus to talk with students about careers in the law. “Generations of current and future students will learn through this program of Atwood’s dedication to both the law and the university,” Harrison said.

Collins is survived by his wife of 42 years, Rosemary Worth Collins; his son, Atwood Collins III of Baltimore and Fishers Island, N.Y.; daughters Rosemary Starr Osborne and Natalie Hirshorn, both of Chestnut Hill, Pa.; and seven grandchildren. Contributions may be made to the university’s Atwood Collins II Memorial Fund.

Christopher N. Horton, professor emeritus of experimental studio at the Hartford Art School, died of leukemia on Jan. 1 at the age of 68.

Horton, who retired in 1999 after 30 years of teaching, was known for his dedication to students. In 1997 he received the university’s Roy E. Larsen Award for Excellence in Teaching.

In nominating him for the Larsen Award, colleagues praised Horton for his innovative courses and his extensive work in planning and organizing the All-University Curriculum and developing both the undergraduate and graduate curricula of the Hartford Art School.

Horton’s wife of 39 years, Sherryl “Sherry” Worthley Horton, is the former director of the university’s Center for Reading and Writing and was an instructor in the Department of Rhetoric, Language, and Culture.

Together, the Hortons founded and directed the Cummington (Mass.) Community of the Arts from 1968 to 1972. Interested in the social and cultural interaction of art and its context, Horton...
Dear Fellow Alumni,

As the newly elected president of the University of Hartford Alumni Association, allow me to introduce myself to all of you—the more than 70,000 alumni of the university.

My name is Bob Feld. During my undergraduate days, I was a member of Theta Chi fraternity, managing editor of The Informer, a member of the Hawks baseball team, and I participated in a number of other university activities. In addition, I have been a member of the Alumni Council for the past four years. That experience has, I believe, prepared me to build upon the great work done by my predecessors in this office. It is my goal to give voice to the thoughts and concerns of all alumni, both across the country and around the world.

Let me say from the outset how impressed I have been with the dedication of the entire university community—deans, professors, staff, and regents alike. Their commitment, along with President Walter Harrison’s, has helped the university make great strides in many areas. There is an enormous transformation occurring at the university these days, and the Alumni Council and I encourage you to feel very proud of our alma mater.

For those of you who have not returned to campus recently, I highly recommend a visit. The K–5 University of Hartford Magnet School is beautiful and has established itself as a great learning center in the Hartford area. The Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology building will be opening for fall 2005. You can check out its progress by clicking “ISET” on the university’s homepage at www.hartford.edu. Watch the 90-second video that shows four months of construction, or click on the live Web cam and find out what’s happening today. You’ll also find a wealth of information on the site about lectures, concerts, exhibits, and other campus activities.

In an effort to open the lines of communication, the Office of Alumni Relations has set up an e-mail address for me, alumprez@hartford.edu, so that you can convey your thoughts and ideas to me quickly and conveniently. I’m looking forward to hearing from each of you!

In closing, I want to convey my belief that we as alumni should support the University of Hartford’s Campaign of Commitment. The campaign seeks to expand the university’s physical plant, support faculty teaching and research endeavors, create new educational opportunities for its students, and continue the university’s commitment to the Hartford community. I encourage all of you to do your part to make our university the best that it can be.

Sincerely,

Bob Feld ’69, ’72 (Barney)
President, Alumni Association
the 77-acre Strawberry Park in Preston, Conn., which has received a five-star Michelin RV rating from Wheeler’s Campground Guide.

1968
ROGER J. LEARDI, JR. (ENG), of New Britain, Conn., after many years in engineering at large corporations, has decided to do something entirely different. He is making ice cream. Leardi and his business, The Creamery, were featured in a New Britain Herald article, “Ice cream maven sets up shop in Plainville.” Leardi invites all alumni to stop by The Creamery at 161 Woodford Avenue in Plainville. ELIZABETH BOUKUS ’70 (ENHP) in her bid for reelection to office, which she handily won.

BETTE HANSON SILVER (HARTT) of Northport, N.Y., fulfilled one of her dreams by singing the national anthem before a New York Mets game at Shea Stadium in September 2004. Silver is a former University of Hartford homecoming queen.

1969
ALLEN JAY ADAMS (BARNEY) of Dresden, Maine, was honored by the Cecilia Club in Augusta at its annual scholarship tea in October. For 19 years Adams has focused on preserving and advancing the history of Old Fort Western, for nine years as curator of collections and education, and since 1995, as director and curator of the historic landmark. Old Fort Western, built in 1754, is located on the Kennebec River.

JAMES S. COHEN (A&S, ’71 ENHP) of Ellington, Conn., has been in practice since 1983 as a vocational rehabilitation expert. His expertise is in Social Security matters, determination of employability, and earning capacity under workers’ compensation, personal injury, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and wrongful termination.

1970
ELIZABETH C. BOUKUS (ENHP) of Plainville, Conn., has been reelected to a fifth term as state representative from the Connecticut House 22nd District.

GEORGE M. KURAITIS (ENG) of Mountain View, Calif., is facilities coordinator for Stanford Linear Accelerator Center in Menlo Park, Calif., a complex funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and managed by Stanford University as a separate physics department.

1971
GORDON M. COBURN (A&S) of Santa Barbara, Calif., appears in William Sloane Coffin Jr.: A Holy Impatience (Yale University Press, 2004), a biography of the magnetic and outspoken Yale University chaplain, written by Warren Goldstein, chair of the history department at the University of Hartford. Inspired by Coffin’s speech at an anti-Vietnam War rally in New Haven, and risking his father’s anger and the government’s reclassification, Coburn turned in his draft card while a student at the university. The experience changed the course of his life, as he chose a “different route, a road dictated by conscience, by a sense of ministry,” writes Goldstein. Coburn is now a licensed marriage and family therapist in Santa Barbara.

JOAN C. CURTISS (HARTT) of Glastonbury, Conn., offers instruction in flute, voice, and piano at the Curtiss Music Studio in East Glastonbury. Curtiss is the founder and music director of the Howlin’ Winds Flute Choir of Maine, a group that commissions new music for the flute. She has performed with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, the Hartford Chamber Orchestra, and the Simsbury Light Opera in Connecticut.

SHARON JONES HUXLEY (A&S, ’76 BARNEY) of Bethany, Conn., president of the faculty senate at Post University (formerly Telko Post) in Waterbury, Conn., addressed incoming students as the keynote speaker for the school’s convocation at the start of the fall semester. Huxley is a professor of accounting at Post.

DIANE M. STUART (ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., first made the decision to enter a triathlon in 1985 at age 50. Now, at 70, she is planning one last trip to Hawaii to enter the famous Ironman competition. Stuart was highlighted in the “Neighbors” section of Hartford Life.

1972
EDWARD E. WRIGHT (HARTT) of Rowayton, Conn., who performs on the classical guitar, was joined for the first time by his older son, Ben, in a concert at the Summer Arts Festival, sponsored by the Rowayton Civic Association. Wright teaches guitar at studios in Rowayton and Greenwich. His CDs include The Mirror Rejoices, Cornerstones, and Christmas on Guitar.

1973
RICHARD L. DOBMEIER, JR. (ENG), of Wethersfield, Conn., is celebrating his 24th year as owner of Christensen’s Frame & Art in Wethersfield, Conn.

JAMES G. MISENTI (ENHP) of Portland, Conn., has been appointed director of the Middlesex adult education program, a regional program administered by the city’s school board in cooperation with other area boards of education. The program serves approximately 7,000 students per year from Rocky Hill and most of Middlesex County.

DENNIS PINETTE (HAS) of Belfast, Maine, recently displayed his marine paintings at Rockland’s Calbeck Gallery. Pinette’s work is in the collections of the Farnsworth and Portland museums; the University of Maine at Machias; and Bates, Bowdoin, and Colby colleges.

1974
DOUGLAS E. WORTHEN (HARTT) of Durham, N.H., piccolo player with the Nashua Symphony Orchestra, has been awarded an individual artist fellowship by the New Hampshire State Council on 2005 Honorees Announced for Athletics Hall of Fame

The 2005 Alumni Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet will be held Saturday, April 30, at The 1877 Club on campus. The 2005 inductees are


Arthur “Al” Curry ’65 Wrestling (1963–65)

Robert J. Foley ’69 Basketball (1965–68)

Kathy Franklin Women’s Volleyball Coach (1986–98)

Nancy Kramarz Rahman ’93 Women’s Soccer (1989–92)

Pat Sheehan ’92 Men’s Golf (1987–91)


A team recognition award will be presented to the 1992 Women’s Soccer Team. The A. Peter LoMaglio Award will go to Peter Veru ’85, and the Pioneer Award to former coach Annette Fortune (1977–84). The Vincent Brown Coffin Award will be presented to David Schupp ’63.

For more information on the event, please contact Associate Athletics Director Jim Keener at 860.768.5063.
Congratulations!
Best wishes to our alumni and their spouses on recent nuptials

Jeanette Stevens Gregory ’64 and Frank R. Tomlinson
Pamela J. Lees ‘84 and James D. Hill
Betsy D. Grossman ‘89 and Steven I. Robinson
Elizabeth G. Hiltz and Kevin R. Thomas ‘89
Jacqueline A. Conroy and Sean M. O’Donnell ‘89, ‘92
Karen Marie Terwilliger and Kevin E. Gaglo ‘93
Amy E. Ekross ‘93 and Brad Quigley
Shawna Casey ‘94 and Aaron P. DeMeyer
Debra J. Frenchman ‘94 and Scott Kissell
Angela L. Cobane ‘95 and Keith M. Varriale
Alicia A. Goodson and Robert H. Monnes ‘95
Kelly S. Seaman ‘96 and Robert J. Cushing ‘97
Jodie Lezak and Joshua S. Glazer ‘98
Alexandra Y. Marino ‘98 and Lee Scott Hadden
Kristine M. Hewitt ‘99 and Jesse N. Arvidson
Sheri Miller and Joseph T. Ranno ‘99
Julia C. Tither ‘99 and George D. Jenkins
Elizabeth A. Annunziata and John Wyskiel ‘99
Shannon M. Salyards and Sean M. Burton ‘00
Leah M. Cercone ‘00 and Apul V. Mosquera ‘99
Estee N. Dezertzov ‘00 and Mark Gurwitz
Carie L. Gilchrist ‘00 and 1st Class Petty Officer Joseph Michael
Laurie Marcello ‘00, ‘03, and Alex N. Buyniski ‘00
Victoria A. Smith ‘00 and David Johnson
Loraine H. Trusch ‘00 and John Lombard
Erin E. Worchester ‘00 and Ronald B. Bausum
Deborah E. Cantor ‘01 and Scott A. Goldstein ‘00
Jessica Mayernick and Jared L. Forcier ‘01
Marlena L. Mal ‘01 and Jeffrey M. Minkos
Larysa C. Panchshyn ‘01 and Jeremy D. Lutin ‘02
Heather Y. Wood ‘01 and Daniel M. Baldassi ‘00
Amy Beth Luntta and Brian A. Worsham ‘01
Lynne L. Zagura ‘01 and Ismael P. Espino ‘00
Amanda E. Abrams ‘02 and Michael R. Staiti
Siobhan K. Lawlor ‘02 and Patrick J. Sullivan
Marissa L. Spinale ‘02, ‘00, and Daniel Katz

And to our alumni parents
Lili and Peter A. Bianchi ‘87 (Quincy Freiman)
Hilary Kaplan and Andrew J. Kaplan ‘89 (Sarah Jill)
Randi Krouk Leopold ‘89, ‘91, and Bryan S. Leopold ‘88, ‘90 (Justin Alexander)
Shahna M. Richman ‘89, ‘91, and Brent Potter (Lia YunDi)
Jodi Cohen Fink ‘90 and Gregory Fink (Gavan Adam)
Kathleen Ledbetter Heinemann ‘91 and Jonathan Heinemann (Jocelyn Annette)
Merjorie Cohen Linefsky ‘91 and Jack Linefsky (Nathaniel Aaron)
Robin Miller Braver ‘92 and Richard Braver (Russell Myles)
Wendy Falck ‘93 and Matthew B. Sarrett ‘95 (Cailey Margaret)
Alice Valle Florez ‘93 and Michael J. Florez ‘95 (Leanna Nicole)
Lauren Feldman Gavigan ‘93 and Brian Gavigan (Michael Samuel)
Tina Costa Maccia ‘93 and Christopher Maccia (Riley Christopher)
Megan Bashford ‘94 and Jay Van Aken (Payton Campbell)
Gail Bell Gordon ‘95 and Todd E. Gordon ‘95 (Lance Benjamin)
Kimberly Ruland ‘95 and Nils Norgren (Christopher Benjamin)
Jennifer Rouillard Mercer ‘96 and Clint Mercer (Jackson Paul)
Kathryn Brosnan Zvokel ‘97 and Jason Zvokel (Karolena Kathryn)
Danielle Levatino MacKenzie ‘98 and Steven MacKenzie (Brady Steven)
Jaime and Douglas C. Robertson ‘98 (Kent)

the Arts. The fellowship, presented this year to six New Hampshire artists chosen from a field of 110 applicants, is awarded annually for artistic excellence and professional commitment as judged by peers in each artist’s field.

1975


JOSEPH C. SERRA (BARNEY) of Middletown, Conn., was reelected as state representative from the Connecticut House 33rd District.

PATRICIA YOSHA (A&S) of Exeter, N.H. (formerly of Bloomfield, Conn.), has been named chair of the New Hampshire Commission on the Status of Women. This state agency has a legislative mandate designed to address issues of discrimination and to enhance opportunities to make positive changes for women in New Hampshire. Yosha was appointed to the commission by former Gov. Jean Shaheen and made chair by former Gov. Craig Benson. She has also served on the Sexual Harassment Task Force, the Legislative Committee, and the Public Relations Committee of the commission.

1976

BARRY D. FRIEDMAN (‘73 WARD; A&S, ENG) of Dahlonega, Ga., was elected to a four-year term on the national executive council of Pi Sigma Alpha, a political science honor society. Friedman is coordinator of the Master of Public Administration program at North Georgia College and State University (NGCSU) and professor of political science in NGCSU’s Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice.

SCOTT J. KALUCKI (BARNEY, ’78 BARNEY) of North Adams, Mass., has been appointed vice president of student affairs at Southern New Hampshire University.

RICHARD E. NEAL (BARNEY) of Springfield, Mass., was reelected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the 2nd Congressional District of Massachusetts.
1977
JAMES E. FRAZIER (HARTT) of Minneapolis, Minn., has a forthcoming biography of the composer and organist Maurice Durufle, to be published by the University of Rochester Press in conjunction with the Eastman School of Music. The work is titled Maurice Durufle: His Life and Times, with a “Commentary on the Requiem.” A resident of Minneapolis since 1984, Frazier was a Fulbright Scholar to France in 1975–76. In 1993 he performed the complete organ works of Maurice Durufle in two coaching sessions in Paris with Durufle’s wife, the late Marie-Madeleine Durufle, also a virtuosic organist. Frazier is director of music and organist at St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church in St. Paul, Minn.

FRANCIS A. FROBEL (BARNEY) of Coventry, Conn., town manager of Coventry for the past 18 years, was profiled in a recent issue of the Coventry Courier.

DAVID L. KATZ (HARTT, ’84, ’89 HARTT) of Danbury, Conn., the founder and artistic director of Hat City Music Theater, has announced an expansion of the board of directors for his company. To the members from Danbury, the board has added members from Redding, Stamford, Brewster, and Roxbury. The mayor of Danbury has asked Katz to head a task force to plan a performing arts center for Greater Danbury and to find a permanent home for his professional music, theater, and opera company. Katz also conducted a cast of five young professional singing actors, a local chorus of Gingerbread Children, and the newly named Candlewood Chamber Symphony in a fully staged English-language production of Hansel and Gretel.

LINANNE D. LEE (HCW) of Essex, Conn., executive director of the Old Saybrook (Conn.) chamber of commerce, was featured in the Essex Main Street News in an article titled “Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce Gets Energy Boost.”

1978
JANET L. ABEL (ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., was named production manager by Mintz & Hoke. She is responsible for managing, buying, and producing all print materials, advertising, specialty products, direct mail, and trade show displays for clients.

THOMAS J. HERLIHY (ENHP) of Westport, Conn., was reelected as state senator from Connecticut’s 8th Senate District.

DAVID W. REYNOLDS (A&S, ’79 BARNEY) of Torrington, Conn., has been named legislative liaison for the Connecticut Catholic Conference. His job is to promote the agenda of the conference, the public-policy arm of the state’s Catholic bishops at the capital. Reynolds’s position entails tracking legislative issues of interest, testifying on and researching bills, and discussing the Catholic Church’s views on public policies with legislators.

JAN C. SHAMES (HARTT) of East Haven, Conn., has been named director of the Branford Chorale. Shames, who is a teacher at the Baldwin Middle School in Guilford, is responsible for directing several choral groups. He has also been invited to direct the Southern Connecticut Middle School Chorus and is a former director of the Shoreline Chorale.

1979
DEBRA HEROUX ADAMCZYK (ENHP, ’87 ENHP) of Somers, Conn., has made the transition from principal of Somers Elementary School to principal of the Dorothy C. Goodwin Elementary School in Mansfield.

ELAINE BAKER D’ANGELO (HARTT) of Plymouth, Mass., who teaches music in the Stoughton Public Schools, is a member of the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra and the Marion Concert Band.

MARVIN KELLY (BARNEY) of Austin, Texas, executive director of the Austin-based Texas Property and Casualty Insurance Guaranty Association, is promoting a program at Huston-Tillotson College in Austin to attract more African American and Hispanic professionals to the insurance industry. The insurance-based curriculum is designed to start the process of remediating the past lack of diversity programs.

CAROL R. WHEELER (ENHP, ’83 ENHP) of Middletown, Conn., was promoted from assistant principal to principal at the East Hampton (Conn.) Middle School.

MARJORY E. WIENKOP (HAS) of Trenton, N.J., recently presented a series of lectures and programs that featured a collection of handmade, Revolutionary War-era dental and surgical tools and authentic medicines. Wienkop, a dental technician and former instructor in metalworking, is one of only a handful of historians in the country specializing in 18th-century dentistry. The series was presented at Craig House in Monmouth Battlefield State Park.

1980
JEFF R. CROTHERS (ENHP) of Winsted, Conn., has been named Counselor of the Year by the Connecticut Community College Counselors Association. Crothers is a career and placement officer at Northwestern Community College in Winsted.

ANNE LILLIS (ENHP) of New Milford, Conn., was honored by New Milford Hospital during Emergency Room Nurses Week. Lillis has worked at New Milford Hospital for 38 years, 25 of which as nursing director in the emergency department.

PAUL R. MAZZACARO (BARNEY) of Windsor, Conn., has been named town manager of Hebron, Conn. Mazzacarro was previously project manager for Wallingford, Conn., and had been city manager in Old Town, Maine.

MARKHAM F. ROLLINS III (BARNEY) of Bedford, N.Y., is co-chairman and CEO of The Rollins Agency, Inc., and head of the

 Corrections
Racquel Brown ‘05 and Alana Hughes ‘05 were photographed attending the August 2004 Hartford Scholars reception at The 1877 Club. The Observer regrets that their names were listed incorrectly in the Fall 2004 issue.

The following names should have appeared as indicated in the university’s 2004 Annual and Campaign Report:
Deborah K. Baker ’03 Arts & Sciences, Provost’s Society
Rhoda and David T. Chase ’48 (Hon. ’98), Benefactors’ Society
Patricia A. Cremins, Century Club
Loren F. Ferguson ’02 Hillyer, ’04 Arts & Sciences, Senior Signatures
Hon. Barbara Hackman Franklin (Hon. ’94) and Wallace Barnes (Hon. ’88), Founders’ Society
Carol and Mark A. Gantner ’73 Barney School of Business, Provost’s Society
Irving Gilston, Regents’ Society
Phyllis S. ’65 and Leonard E. Greenberg, President’s Society
Susan Scherer, Deans’ Society—Faculty and Staff
Dr. Catherine B. and Keith A. Stevenson, Deans’ Society
The Development Office apologizes for the errors that occurred. The University of Hartford is grateful to these donors for their generous support.
Alumni Gather in Connecticut and Florida with President Harrison

Top photo: University regent Nicholas Galluccio ’72 and his wife, Teresa, welcomed more than 50 alumni and friends to a reception at their home in Greenwich, Conn., on Nov. 19. Among those attending were (left to right) Bob Feld ’69, ’72; Chris Donavan ’99; Linda Cavanaugh ’72; Hannah McLennan of the Office of Development; and Jim Cavanaugh ’68, ’80. President Walter Harrison greeted the guests, who were also treated to a performance by the Miami String Quartet, The Hartt School’s quartet-in-residence.

Center photo: More than 50 Florida alumni and their friends joined President Harrison (far right) at a reception hosted by regent Linda Silpe ’65 and her husband, Donald, in Manalapan, Fla., on Jan. 13.

Bottom photo: The Four Seasons Hotel in Miami was the site of a reception hosted by regent Richard J. Cardin ’62. A number of alumni attended, including Steve Macchiarolo ’03 (in white shirt), shown chatting with graduate student regent Ken Kulas ’04 (left) and President Harrison. Accompanying the president at all three receptions was S. Edward Weinswig, professor emeritus of educational foundations.

company’s commercial insurance group. Rollins has responsibility for the company’s 75 largest clients, as well as the training and sales management of the entire commercial lines support staff and sales team.

1981
ALAN F. LAMSON (BARNEY) of Manchester, Conn., was featured in the New England Real Estate Journal. Lamson, who is president of FLB Architecture & Planning, Inc., in East Hartford, Conn., says that his key to success was understanding that “those you meet on your way up, you will undoubtedly meet on your way down.”

ROGER B. MICHELE (BARNEY, ’83 BARNEY) of Bristol, Conn., was reelected to a fifth term as state representative of the Connecticut House’s 77th District.

STEVEN T. MIKUTEL (BARNEY) of Griswold, Conn., was reelected to the Connecticut House of Representatives from the 45th District.

JEAN D. PRIVITERA (BARNEY) of Wethersfield, Conn., has been named principal of Washington Middle School in Meriden, Conn.

CHARLES E. URSO (BARNEY) of South Windsor, Conn., has been named deputy commissioner in the Connecticut Department of Transportation by Gov. M. Jodi Rell. Urso retired from the FBI after 26 years as a special agent.

MICHELLE B. VAUGHAN (HCW) of Wethersfield, Conn., was named Teacher of the Year by the Newington, Conn., school system. A teacher at the John Wallace Middle School, Vaughan was cited as an individual with exceptional ability in reaching all of her students and gaining the confidence of their parents.

1982
VALERIE J. ARCH (BARNEY, ’92 BARNEY) of Shelton, Conn., was promoted to first vice president in commercial services for the commercial banking division of People’s Bank in Bridgeport, Conn.

TODD LYON (HARTT) of New Haven, Conn., is teaching at the Music Theatre of Connecticut’s School of Performing Arts. The school offers programs for children ages 4 through 19 in theatre arts, music theatre, film and television, vocal music, and technical theatre and design.

LAURIE J. MACDONALD (HARTT) of Orange, Mass., recently performed with her entire family, including husband Victor and eight children, ages 4 to 19. The MacDonalıds have performed together for 10 years along the East Coast, usually with an array of 15 to 20 instruments. The recent appearance was in conjunction with the concert series, “A Bouquet of Music,” presented by the Franklin Medical Center healing environment committee. The couple’s children have been homeschooled for the past 12 years.

STEPHEN J. MASON (HARTT) of Edison, N.J., recently appeared with the Westfield (N.J.) Community Band performing “Two Little Chums.” He is a member of the Plainfield Symphony Orchestra, Summit Chorale, and Presbyterian Church in Berkeley Heights. Mason works in manufacturing and is a substitute teacher.

MARK A. VINING (BARNEY) of Columbia, Conn., presented this year’s University of Hartford book award to the highest-ranking student from Windham High School who has been accepted and has committed to attend the university. Vining has sponsored the award locally since its inception in the late 1980s. The award program assists first-year students by helping to offset the cost of textbooks. Vining, a realtor affiliated with Prudential Connecticut Realty, is a 26-year member of the Columbia Volunteer Fire Department and is a Connecticut-certified firefighter and
ALUMNI NEWS

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emergency medical technician. He was recently elected president and CEO of the fire department, which provides the town with round-the-clock ambulance, rescue, and firefighting services.

ALAN S. WILSON (BARNEY) of Suffield, Conn., formerly director of development of The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, has been appointed director of development for Green Chimneys Children’s Services, a 166-acre residential treatment center for emotionally disturbed and learning-disabled children and young adults in Brewster, N.Y.

1983

MICHELLE McCOY-BOUDREAU (HARTT) of Monson, Mass., has been appointed vice principal of the Southwick-Tolland regional school district.

SARAH W. WINTER (HAS) of Bolton, Conn., is currently working in multimedia using acrylics, oil crayon, and paper on canvas. She recently displayed her work at Vanilla Bean in Pomfret, Conn.

1984

SAADI ABASS BABELY (HAS) of Hartford, Conn., is the subject of Expressions Beyond Time: The Art of Saadi Abbas Babely, a book by Michael Delucia. Babely is a graduate of the College of Fine Arts in Baghdad. He has worked as a set designer for an Iraqi television station, has taught art at the University of Baghdad, and is the former general-secretary of Iraqi arts.

LORIANA DeCRESCEンZO (HARTT) of North Kingston, R.I., has been appointed executive director of Opera Providence. She will lead the company in its new strategic plans and oversee the artistic season. DeCrescenzo also will direct OPERAtunity education and outreach programming.

CORNELIUS “NEIL” MOYLAN (BARNEY) of Conway, N.H., has been named career and technical director for the vocational center of Kennett High School in Conway. Moylan’s peers had previously selected him to receive New Hampshire’s Administrator of the Year award for excellence in education, career and technical.

SERENALDA R. PLEASANT (ENHP) of East Hartford, Conn., has been appointed a teacher of Spanish at East Catholic High School in Manchester, Conn.

ANTHONY J. RONCAIOLI (BARNEY) of Suffield, Conn., has joined Windsor Federal Savings as vice president and business development officer.

1985

LINDA VINCENT BIGGS (HARTT) of Branford, Conn., has completed her master’s degree program in music education at Central Connecticut State University. Her research topic was “The Effect of Music on Preschool Children with Regard to Recent Brain Research.” A music teacher in the North Branford school system for the past 10 years, Biggs has served as vice president and president of the New Haven chapter of the Connecticut State Music Teachers Association.


WILLIAM J. MURPHY (A&S) of West Warwick, R.I., was reelected to the Rhode Island State House of Representatives.

1986

LOUEDA A. BLEILER (HARTT) of Odessa, N.Y., has joined the alternative Central New York Charter School for Math and Science as a vocal music teacher. She is the organist at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Catharine, N.Y., and has served as the director of music for the Odessa Baptist Church.

CRAIG A. GOLDEN (BARNEY) of Winchester, Va., was the subject of an article in the Winchester Star titled “Illness Won’t Keep Player off the Court—Kidney Recipient Excels in Transplant Olympic Games.” Golden, who received a kidney transplant 20 years ago, joined Team Virginia two years ago to compete in the National Kidney Foundation-sponsored Transplant Games. Golden’s team won the bronze medal and in the 2004 Transplant Games, held in Minnesota in July, brought home a gold medal.

BARBARA LUSSIER (HAS) of Putnam, Conn., teaches classes in plein-air painting at the Lyme Art Association, where she paints in the tradition of the Hudson River School and the Lyme Art Colony painters.

KENNETH S. MASON (HAS) of Simsbury, Conn., was appointed to a newly established position, director of marketing, for the Westminster School in Simsbury.

DARIUS MEHRI (HILLYER) of Jersey City, N.J., has written Notes From Under the Hood, a book that combines his experiences as an engineer with those of his journeys to Japan. After receiving his B.S. degree from the University of Rochester, Mehri traveled to Japan under an internship program. He came back to the University of Wisconsin for a master’s degree in mechanical engineering and then returned to Japan to work for Toyota. While in Japan, he kept a journal, out of which his book took shape. Publication is scheduled for fall 2005.

ELLARI M. MIRABEL (HARTT) of Delray Beach, Fla., is the cantor for the High Holy Days at Havurah Shalom in Boynton Beach, Fla. Classmates may reach Mirabel at emirabel@aol.com.

WAYNE B. STRAUSS (BARNEY) of New York, N.Y., has retired as president and CIO of Creative Intelligence, Inc., an artificial-intelligence software company specializing in spoken language and human emotions. Strauss’s 35-year career in information technology has taken him to Texas, Oklahoma, Connecticut, Arizona, California, and finally back to New York, where it all started. He and his wife, Patti, who met as competitors in ballroom dancing, have two daughters and three grandchildren.

1987

ROBERT P. BEECKMAN (BARNEY) of Woodstock, Conn., was recently promoted to commercial loan officer at the Putnam Savings Bank.

HENRY CHURCH (HARTT) of Watertown, Conn., performed classical guitar pieces in a concert to benefit the Women’s Center of Greater Danbury. Church performs with the Watertown Symphony and is an active guitar and piano teacher in Litchfield County.
On a trip to Africa, Behrens and a group of NBA executives, players, and scouts met with Nelson Mandela (right). Connecticut. Elton Brand, of the Los Angeles Clippers, opened a reading/learning center in his hometown of Peekskill, N.Y., this past summer, and all-star David Robinson, of the San Antonio Spurs, founded a charter school in his team’s city.

WNBA players also give of their time to help others, such as the millions of dollars the players and teams have raised in support of breast cancer research and education. Behrens says there’s not enough attention given to their efforts as players and as role models for young girls.

About her days at the University of Hartford, Behrens says she has fond memories. “The two people who had the most impact on my Hartford experience were Dr. Ed Weinswig and Coach Roger Wickman—they were incredibly supportive, never let me get away with anything, and encouraged me at all times,” she says.

A special education major, Behrens played basketball and tennis, and was president of the Student Government Association. She says it was not just what she learned in the classroom, but outside of it, that helped prepare her for her future career.

“Through athletics and the student association, I had a chance to broaden my circle of friends; expand my relationships with teachers, administrators, and coaches; and challenge myself in different ways,” she said.

Following graduation, Behrens worked at the United Way of New York City as a fundraiser and went on to serve eight years in the administration of former New York Gov. Mario Cuomo. In 1995 she was named executive director of New York Cares, a nonprofit organization that mobilizes volunteers to help the city’s neediest residents, and worked there until joining the NBA.

Behrens currently lives in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., with her husband, Gerry O’Reilly, and says she still makes it back to campus once or twice a year to cheer on the Hawks. She’s involved in the university’s Home Field Advantage athletics campaign, a $10 million fundraising campaign to support construction of new athletic facilities on campus.

“I think it’s something that all alumni who participated in athletics, even intramurals, should do,” she says. “Everyone knows that our facilities need to be upgraded, and I hope people will support the campaign to do that.”

Behrens says she’s grateful for the $25,000 from the basketball fundraiser and the visibility that appearing on The Apprentice brought to the NBA. But she has no plans to leave her day job.

Oh, by the way, Kelly got the job with Trump.

TREACA C. COLLIER (A&S) of Exeter, N.H., has been named coordinator for recruitment of students of color and faculty advisor to transitions at Phillips Exeter Academy.

MARIE A. HARRINGTON (HAS) of Killington, Vt., exhibited her work at the historic Fisk Farm on Isle la Motte, Vt. Harrington’s watercolors reflect her love of nature, from mountain vistas and quiet, muted tones of forests to vibrant floral arrangements. She exhibits widely throughout New England.

STEPHANIE GELOSA MURRIN (A&S) of Readington, N.J., is executive vice president and chief creative officer of DVC Worldwide, a $125 million integrated marketing communications agency with offices throughout this country and England.

1988
TERRENCE E. LIVINGSTON (BARTNE) of Cranston, R.I., has been elected to the city council of Cranston.
DOUGLAS McCORERY (BARNEY, ’95 BARNEY) of Hartford, Conn., an assistant principal at Weaver High School in Hartford, was elected as a Connecticut state representative from the House 7th District.

MARTIN E. MOSHIER (BARNEY) of Gansevoort, N.Y., has been named managing director of Strategic Investment Advisors Inc. of Utica, N.Y. Moshier was formerly senior vice president in the investment banking and asset management groups of Key Corporation, Albany, N.Y.

JOHN M. TITUS (A&S) of Pittsburgh, Pa., recently graduated from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary with a master’s degree in divinity. Titus is a candidate to become a minister of word and sacrament under care of the Pittsburgh Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA). Titus served as chair of the peace and justice fellowship while attending seminary and as an advisory delegate to the general assembly of PCUSA in 2003.

JILL ARBETTER-KARNI (HART) of Zurich, Switzerland, recently moved from Berlin, Germany, where her artists management company and string orchestra, the Mendelssohn Players, are based. Karni is a substitute violinist with the Zurich Opera, and her husband, Gilad Karni, has been named solo violinist with the Tonhalle Orchestra in Zurich.

ALISON N. DEYETTE (A&S) of Scotch Plains, N.J., is the host of Fine Living Network’s Best for Less. She is a contributing style expert for the Today Show’s weekend edition and style reporter for TBS’s Movie and a Makeover. She is also co-founder of www.stylebakery.com, an online fashion and shopping magazine.

DONNA M. FRUSTERE (HAS) of Avon, Conn., has a new posi-
tion as director of enrichment activities for the classical magnet school in Hartford. Frustere is a founding and exhibiting member of The Printmakers Network of Southern New England and exhibited recently at The Brickbottom Gallery in Sommersville, Mass. She will exhibit this year at the Mercy Gallery at the Loomis Chaffee School in Windsor, Conn.

RANDALL A. SHOOP (BARNEY) of Rocky Hill, Conn., has been promoted to vice president and treasurer of Northeast Utilities.

GIOVANNI L. ZAUNER (BARNEY) of Bollengo, Italy, writes that after graduation he was employed at Becton, Dickinson, and Company, first as a sales representative in Italy and later in other positions at the company. Today, Zauner is general manager of a high-tech medical company, Sorin LifeWatch, in Italy. He reports that his University of Hartford education gave him a competitive advantage in his profession, and he hopes that his children will follow in his footsteps at the University of Hartford.

1990

MICHAEL T. EMMETT (ENHP) of East Hampton, Conn., has been named principal of West Middle School, Hartford.

ANNE GANEM DeMICHAEL (HARTT) of Torrington, Conn., was recently featured in a Hartford Courant article. While watching the GMAC Futures golf classic at Blue Fox Run Golf Course in Avon, she was spotted by Courant columnist Owen Canfield, who recognized her from her singing of “The Star-Spangled Banner” at UH basketball games and Hartford Whalers games. DeMichael teaches chorus and music at Fisher Middle School in Terryville, Conn., and sings at venues throughout the state.

JOSE F. SILVERIO (ENG) of Danbury, Conn., joined IBM as a logical designer for an advanced I/O processor project in 1990. In 1996 he joined an advanced I/O connectivity hardware verification team and in the same year received an IBM team award for his work on the S/390 G3 fast internal bus design. He is currently a senior engineer and received an IBM Invention achievement award for his work on the STI switch chip for the z990 eServer. He has also received IBM outstanding technical achievement awards for his design verification work on the STI-to-PCI bridge chip for the S/390 G4 (1999), Multiprise 3000 (2000), and z900 eServer (2001) projects.

1991

LISA HOUSE DiBACCO (A&S) of Avon, Conn., co-owner of Williams and House, a strategic marketing firm, has worked pro bono for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization for the past three years.

PERI D. BRIDGER (BARNEY) of Marietta, Ga., has been named senior vice president and chief human resources officer for Sodexo. On DiversityInc’s list of the Top 50 Companies for diversity, Sodexo was number 18.

MICHAEL J. DAGLIO (ENHP) of Mount Kisco, N.Y., has been appointed cardiovascular service line executive at Danbury (Conn.) Hospital. Daglio will provide administrative leadership and support for the development of programs addressing heart disease. His focus is on implementing the certificate of need recently granted to Danbury Hospital by the Connecticut Office of Health Care Access. This certification enables the hospital to establish a program in western Connecticut for angioplasty and open-heart surgery.

MICHAEL W. DEBIAK (ENG) of Jackson, N.J., has been pursuing photography as a career since graduation. Debiak has a Web site, www.briteyeschrome.com, and he has established himself as a fine-art photographer with local galleries in New Jersey. He currently has permanent displays in two antique and fine-art galleries. He has begun selling his work at juried art shows throughout the New York area. Debiak has also been promoted to associate principle of DMJM+HARRIS, part of a consortium of companies known as AECOM, which is one of the largest architecture/engineering firms in the United States.

SUSAN J. DWYER (HAS) of East Greenwich, R.I., has been written up in the Block Island Times. The article, “A Wall Is Her Canvas,” portrays Dwyer as an artist specializing in murals. Her work enlivens the walls of venues in Texas, Florida, and Vermont, but her summer home has always been Block Island. Dwyer’s latest contribution to Block Island’s “walls of fame” is a mural featured in the dining room of Payne’s Harbor View Inn. You can check out her Web site at www.paintedcolonial.com.

KATHLEEN LEDBETTER HEINEMANN (A&S) of Whitehouse Station, N.J., appears on Discovery Health Channel’s Make Room for Baby. The reality TV series involves making over a room in the prospective parents’ home as the baby’s nursery and filming the birth. Heinemann would like to know if anyone saw JARROD MOSES ’91 (BARNEY) on The Apprentice.

SUSAN M. MACHUGA (BARNEY) of Tolland, Conn., was appointed to serve as chair of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants Educators Committee for the organization’s 2004–05 activity year.

1992

FALILOU DIOKHANE (BARNEY) of Dakar, Senegal, is employed at Colgate Palmolive in Senegal as a supply chain manager.

LISA A. NEWTON (ENHP, ’94 ENHP) of East Haddam, Conn., has been named director of education at the William W. Backus Hospital in Norwich, Conn., a position that includes overseeing in-house education of nurses and community education events.

THEODORE F. ROGERS (A&S) of Bristol, Conn., recently passed

the National Registry exams to become a certified paramedic. Rogers completed a year of study, including more than 500 hours in the clinical setting. He responds to calls with Windsor Ambulance in Windsor, Conn., and is a CPR instructor for the American Red Cross in Farmington, Conn. Rogers also freelances in television as a graphic operator.

1993

KRISTA A. BILLARD (HAS) of Amston, Conn., has joined the Carson Company/GMACRealty in Marlborough, Conn.

ELLEN B. BULLINGER (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., performed back-to-back nights with the Ocean City Pops Orchestra at the Ocean City Music Pier. Bullinger performs in many New York City hotspots with The Smooth Spot Jazz Trio, which has also performed in Switzerland and at the Greenbrier Resort in West Virginia. She appeared in the comedy Lend Me a Tenor at the Women’s Project Theater in New York.

ANNE M. MARCHETTI (BARNEY) of Shelton, Conn., has been appointed practice leader, governance and risk management, in the Chicago, Ill., office of Parson Consulting, a leading financial management consulting firm, and national practice leader for Parson’s Sarbanes-Oxley compliance initiatives. Marchetti has more than 15 years of finance and accounting experience in private industry and public accounting.

1994

PETER T. CHURCH (A&S, ’96 A&S) of West Simsbury, Conn., has joined IPD in the position of director, human resources, for the product management and distribution client groups of IPD at The Hartford Financial Services Group.

SHAWNA CASEY DeMEYER (A&S) of Monterey, Calif., is a speech instructor at Hartnell College in Salinas, Calif.
43rd Annual Alumni Awards Ceremony

A nationally recognized expert in human sexuality was honored at the university’s 43rd Annual Alumni Awards ceremony on Feb. 5, along with the founding director of the Museum of American Political Life. In addition, the university presented a posthumous degree to the family of the late Barbara Klemmer, who served as director of alumni relations until her death last June.

Dr. Barbara Bartlik ’77 was presented with the Distinguished Alumna Award. Bartlik earned a B.S. from the university in both biology and chemistry, summa cum laude, and went on to become a widely recognized authority on women’s health issues.

While pursuing an M.D. at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, Bartlik became interested in studying human sexuality. She is an assistant professor of psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College and an assistant attending psychiatrist at New York Presbyterian Hospital, where she teaches in the departments of psychiatry and obstetrics and gynecology. She is also a consultant at the Iris Cantor Women’s Health Center.

Professor Emeritus Edmund Sullivan, founding director and curator of the university’s Museum of American Political Life, received a Special Recognition Award. Sullivan, a former elementary and secondary school teacher and administrator, joined the university in 1968 to teach in what is now the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions. He also served as executor and archivist for the prestigious J. Doyle DeWitt collection, which was willed to the university in 1972 by the former president and chairman of Travelers Insurance Companies. Sullivan helped establish the Museum of American Political Life to display that collection, and he became its founding director and curator in 1985. The collection, now housed in the archives of Mortensen Library, is considered one of the most comprehensive and distinguished of its kind.

The awards ceremony included a poignant tribute to the late Barbara Klemmer, director of alumni relations from 1996 until her death in June 2004, at the age of 39. Klemmer was known for her deep dedication to the university and her warm and vivacious personality. At the time of her death, Klemmer was close to completing a Master of Science in Organizational Behavior, which was awarded posthumously at the ceremony. It was presented to her husband, Craig Nelson ’04, and her parents, Irene and John Klemmer of Easton, Pa.
CHRISTINE L. DONOVAN (BARNEY) of Warner, N.H., was promoted to senior vice president of operations at the Charter Trust Company in Concord, N.H.

TINA B. FELDMAN (A&S, ’97 A&S) of Warwick, R.I., is employed by Tuition Management Systems in Newport, R.I. She enjoys helping families determine how to finance the costs of college and private school. She reports that the skills she learned from University of Hartford faculty—Carol Alaisi, Jack Banks, Harvey Jassem, and all the other “great teachers”—have helped her immensely.

GRETCHEK NELSON (ENHP) of Granby, Conn., has been hired as a special education teacher for the Farmington Valley Transitional Academy (FVTA). The FVTA is a collaborative program between the University of Hartford’s Center for Community Service and the Simsbury and Farmington public schools. It is designed to aid students aged 18 to 21 who have developmental disabilities by placing them in age-appropriate environments, such as the university. The program enables the students to enhance skills in functional academics, vocational skills, and community involvement. At the university, FVTA students participate in internships throughout campus. In the past, work sites have included Mortensen Library, Facilities, the Copy Shoppe, The 1877 Club, Admission, and Alumni House.

JOY PRESTON (ENHP) of Avon, Conn., was appointed hospice director at the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) of Central Connecticut. The VNA and Hospice of Central Connecticut provide physical, psychological, social, and spiritual care to patients and families that face life-limiting illnesses. VNA programs include skilled and specialty nursing, rehabilitation services, and public health and wellness.

JAMES V. RIO (BARNEY) of Plainville, Conn., has been named chief of police for the town of Farmington, Conn. In addition to his duties as executive officer for the Farmington police department, Rio serves as commander of the North Central Municipal Emergency Services Team. He is an active member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, and the FBI National Academy Associates.

BRENT D. ROBERTSON (HAS) of North Granby, Conn., started BR Graphic Design in 1994 and, after five years of substantial growth, rebranded the firm as Trimerous. Today, it has grown to an eight-person print, Web, and interactive design company with a national presence.

CANDICE DORAN SMITH (HARTT) of Wolfsboro, N.H., has been named operations director of the Wolfsboro Academy of Music, which offers private instrumental instruction for piano, woodwinds, strings, and voice.

1995

TERESA D. EICKEL (HARTT, ’97 HARTT) of North Chelmsford, Mass., performed the title role in Puccini’s Madame Butterfly at the Mobile Opera in Alabama.

JOAN M. LANDRY (HARTT) of Portland, Ore., made her National Symphony Orchestra conducting debut this past summer at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre in Washington, D.C.

TRAVIS C. PLOEGER (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., is the current musical director and pianist for Chicago City Limits, New York’s longest-running comedy review. The show is performed at the New York Improv on West 53rd Street.

KHADIJAH KHALOD RASHID-SHAIFIQ (BARNEY) of Hazara, Pakistan, is a prep (kindergarten) teacher for the Pakistan International Public Schools, located in HariPur.

DANIEL L. SOLOMON (A&S) of Deerfield Beach, Fla., has started his own business, the Physique Management Group. The company, which was profiled in the Palm Beach Post, provides promotional support for many of the industry’s top athletes and promoters. Solomon is a former bodybuilder.

1996

SEAN P. BOYLE (BARNEY) of Rocky Hill, Conn., is senior product manager for LENOX’s knife-and-blade business. Boyle’s responsibilities include management, product development, distribution, and marketing.

NEAL R. FITZPATRICK (HARTT) of Hamden, Conn., presented a classical guitar concert at the Archbishop O’Brien Library at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, Conn. The recipient of several awards and an active soloist and chamber musician, Fitzpatrick is a member of the Audubon Ensemble, a New Haven–based, contemporary classical music group. He maintains a private studio, where he teaches classical and jazz guitar, and is on the faculty of the Audubon Summer Arts Program.

1997

MARGORIE R. VALENTIN (BARNEY) of Lebanon, Conn., was promoted to associate dean of continuing education and community service at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich, Conn.

1998

JOSEPH CACERES (’95 HILLIER, BARNEY) of New York, N.Y., is a senior sales executive for Computer Associates. He is in charge of eTrust enterprise security solutions for Fortune 500 companies in New York City.

DUSTIN C. GLASS (A&S) of Burlington, Vt., is the contact center supervisor at the Vermont Teddy Bear Company in Shelburne, Vt. He also writes music reviews for Gliedmagaizne.com.

GRACE BARTON HARVEY (HARTT) of Danbury, Conn., hosted auditions for the Karma Dance Project, the official dance company of the Graceful Planet Moving Arts Center and Spa in Sandy Hook, Conn.

JOHNATHAN L. IVERSON (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., now in his sixth year as ringmaster for Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, recently appeared in the Arena at Harbor Yard in Bridgeport, Conn. Iverson welcomes children and adults to the three-ring circus, with the traditional gala parade of acrobats, clowns, dancers, and a host of animals.

CHRISTOPHER A. SPEAKMAN (HAS) of Carver, Mass., is a graphic designer with Verve Creative, Inc., which provides graphic design, advertising, and marketing solutions for publication, print, and Web.

1999

BENJAMIN BILELLO, JR. (HARTT), of Rocky Hill, Conn., who has received acclaim as a powerfully dynamic drummer, performed in a jazz series at the VFW Hall in East Hartford, Conn. Bilello has played with jazz greats Quetzal, Branford Marsalis, Eddie Henderson, and the group Viva Quetzal.

JULIA TITHER JUNKINS (HAS) of Ypsilanti, Mich., obtained her graphic design/digital design degree from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh. She is a freelance graphic designer and illustrator and is in the process of developing her own company, Design 9.

FRANK H. KNIPPENBERG (BARNEY) of Quincy, Mass., has been promoted to Massachusetts field marketing manager for Red Bull North America. He can be reached at frank.knippenberg@us.redbull.com.

KYLE M. MORHARDT (BARNEY) of Ambler, Pa., was promoted to vice president of Risk Management Services by the PMA Insurance Group. In his new role, he is responsible for leading the underwriting operations, with a focus on the needs of large employers.

FERNANDO RAUCCI (HARTT) of Princeton, N.J., is the musical director of the Princeton Youth
In Memoriam

Esther Meyers Berns ’40
Raymond S. Johnson ’49, ’54
July 23, 2004
Ruby Iacobucci Mattingly ’50
September 10, 2004
Walter M. Ferris ’51
August 26, 2004
Lawrence J. Szesniak ’51, ’54
August 25, 2004
Robert A. Stuart ’53
October 11, 2004
Lillian Halper Greene ’54
August 7, 2004
Emilio Piccioli ’54
October 22, 2004
Chester S. Gromala ’55
July 30, 2004
Moses Paupian ’56
October 15, 2004
Burton L. Ross ’57
July 6, 2004
Jack L. Weinberg ’58, ’60
September 25, 2004
Florence D. MacNish ’61
July 1, 2004
Hazel Lumm Towsend ’61
October 19, 2003
Allan W. Booth ’63
June 21, 2004
Caroline V. Morosini ’63
October 1, 2004
Russell W. Elliott ’64
October 24, 2004
Dennis W. Balsewitz ’66
August 18, 2004
David P. Faberg ’66
July 3, 2004
Augustine C. Killiany ’66
September 22, 2004
Theodore L. Chamberlin, Jr. ’67
July 19, 2004
Mary Gundalff Devine ’68
July 3, 2004
Richard D. Hines ’68
August 15, 2004
Mildred Beardslee Schlappi ’68
September 7, 2004
Arthur C. Thompson ’68
August 20, 2004
Thomas M. Dodd ’69
July 31, 2004
Thomas L. Calo ’71
August 6, 2004
William D. Tassies ’71
July 2, 2004
Paul G. Thibodeau ’71
August 18, 2004
Michael J. LaRosa ’72
August 28, 2004
Helen M. Sullivan ’72
July 16, 2004
Frederick L. Anthony ’76
August 30, 2004
Modesto D. Rey ’76
September 2, 2004
Anthony W. Chevaire ’77
June 22, 2004
Bruce D. Wundt ’77, ’81
July 6, 2004
Maryrose J. O’Sullivan ’79
September 26, 2004
Nancy Becker Geraghty ’80
September 30, 2004
C. Barry Lundin ’83
August 8, 2004
Scott M. Feldman ’89
May 25, 2004
Leslie M. Geetter ’98
September 11, 2004

Orchestra and assistant conductor for the American Symphony Orchestra in New York City. He also acts as a facilitator for Conversazione e Caffe, a program initiated by Mercer County (N.J.) CIAO (Community of Italian American Organizations). The Borders bookstore at Nassau Park shopping center, where Raucci is facilitator, is one of two locations in New Jersey where Conversazione e Caffe—Conversation and Coffee—gathers once a month to practice speaking Italian.

2000

ROBERT T. FIELD (BARNEY) of Baldwin, N.Y., is an account executive for the Brooklyn Cyclones, a Class A, short-season affiliate of the New York Mets, based at Coney Island’s KeySpan Park. A baseball player while at the university, Field is a volunteer coach for the Long Island Mudcats, a Farmingdale-based, youth baseball team for high school juniors and seniors. He says the fact that he’s managed to stay in baseball his entire life, even though it didn’t work out for him as a player, makes him very proud.

PAUL R. MONTAGUE (ENHP) of Bandera, Texas, was awarded the degree of doctor of optometry during the 88th Commencement of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in Elkins Park.

VINOD PALAL (ENG) of Orangeburg, N.Y., is the new information technology director at Playgirl.com, supervising a staff of 20.

ROBERT I. SHAPIRO (A&S) of Ridgefield, N.J., made a career decision after graduation and formed his own rock band, venturing into the uncharted world of new wave and alternative rock. After four years in the business, he has gained a following in the New York City music scene, playing at such underground clubs as CBGB on the Bowery and the Mercury Lounge in the East Village. He was first-place winner in Billboard magazine’s 12th annual international songwriting contest, in the alternative rock category, for “Rosetta Stone.” Shapiro performs under the name Rob Ingersoll. His band is called No Lindsay.

NICHOLAS A. SMITH (BARNEY) of Wenonah, N.J., has earned his Fellowship in the Society of Actuaries (FSA). With CIGNA Corporation for the past five years, Smith currently works for CIGNA Group Insurance in Philadelphia, Pa. He resides in New Jersey with his wife, JEANETTE HAUG SMITH ’01 (A&S), and daughter, Olivia Grace.

2001

JUSTIN T. FOLEY (HARTT) of Weatogue, Conn., is drummer for the Westfield, Mass.—based band, Killswitch Engage, termed “extreme metal” by music critics. The group has produced three records and two videos and has two movie soundtrack credits. With multiple MTV2 appearances, Killswitch has been reviewed in Rolling Stone and the United Kingdom’s Metal Hammer magazines.

LARYSA PANCHYSHYN LUTIN (ENHP) of Kerhonkson, N.Y., received the degree of doctor of chiropractic from New York Chiropractic College, Seneca Falls, N.Y. Her practice, Aligned Family Chiropractic, is in New Paltz, N.Y.

LUMIE L. SPANN, JR. (HARTT), of Bloomfield, Conn., a saxophonist, played in a jazz series at the VFW Hall in East Hartford, Conn. Spann has collaborated with Hartt faculty member Nat Reeves, ERIC McPHERSON ’95 (HARTT), and JIMMY GREENE ’97 (HARTT).

2002

MIGUEL A. CAMPINHO (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., performed in the All That & Jazz series at South Church, New Britain, Conn. He placed third in the Connecticut State Music Teachers Association’s Young Artist Piano Competition.

MICHAEL J. CHUDECKI (BARNEY) of Avon, Conn., a member of Farmington Woods Country Club in Farmington, Conn., made his first hole-in-one on the fourth hole during a club tournament in October. Two weeks later, he made another hole-in-one on the eighth hole during the Turkey Shoot tournament. Chudecki writes, “Not having to putt—priceless.”

TRACEY L. HEALY (ENHP) of Greenwich, Conn., has joined the staff of the Open Door Family Medical Centers as a pediatric nurse practitioner in the Port Chester, N.Y., office. The mission of the Open Door Family Medical Centers is to provide quality health care and human services at affordable prices to the community, particularly the economically disadvantaged.
ALUMNI NEWS

ELISHEVA HELLER (HARTT) of Jerusalem, Israel, has made aliyah, the Hebrew term for Jewish immigration to Israel.

MATTHEW R. MARGOLIS (WARD) of Beverly, Mass., is founder and editor of Blogs for Bush, an online resource (www.blogsforbush.com) that united bloggers—the self-publishing diarists/commentators of Weblogs—who supported the president’s reelection. Margolis received press credentials for the Republican National Convention and was mentioned on C-SPAN by Ken Mehlman, Bush-Cheney campaign manager.

CHERYL L. TYLER (ENHP) of Portland, Conn., was named the 2004 recipient of the School of Nursing Endowment Fund for Excellence Scholarship at the University of Connecticut School of Nursing. The award is given to a student who demonstrates academic success and potential for future academic and professional accomplishments, with priority given to graduate students.

2003

BONNIE D. AMAN (ENHP) of South Windsor, Conn., is the newest addition to the guidance staff at Cheshire High School, in Cheshire, Conn.

BENJAMIN C. GOLDENNovICK (HARTT) of Lexington, Mass., performs in three separate jazz/funk projects as well as other ensembles. He plays mostly woodwinds and appeared at The Jackie McLean Jazz Institute series in East Hartford, Conn.

GRETCHEN FOSTER MOSCA (ENHP) of Goshen, Conn., was named principal of Housatonic Valley Regional High School by the Connecticut Region 1 Board of Education.

JESSICA L. ROSINSKI (HARTT) of Allston, Mass., interviewed John Wion, professor of flute at Hartt, for the National Flute Association’s fall edition of the Flutist Quarterly. Rosinski is pursuing her master of music in flute at the New England Conservatory and is teaching at the Winchester Community Music School.

ROBERT SCARLATOS (HARTT) of Ellington, Conn., was named soloist at Immanuel Congregational Church in Hartford, Conn.

2004

NICOLE M. AUGUSTO (BARNEY) of Agawam, Mass., has received the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants merit award in recognition of his standing among top-ranking graduating seniors majoring in accounting at 13 Connecticut colleges and universities.

GLEN D. BLOMSTROM (A&S) of New Britain, Conn., has matriculated into the University of Connecticut’s School of Medicine, class of 2009. Glen works as an emergency medical technician for American Medical Response and volunteers as associate director at the West End Community Center in Hartford. He plays the clarinet in Hartt’s Capitol Winds ensemble and sings baritone in the Farmington Valley Chorale.

JEREMY J. BRIMHALL (HARTT) of Sweet Grass, Mont., auditioned for and won a position in the Orquesta Sinfonica del Estado de Mexico in Toluca, Mexico. As assistant principal flute, Brimhall will tour France and China with the orchestra in the spring.

LISANN D. CAMPBELL (BARNEY) of West Haven, Conn., was honored by Yankee Magazine Community Partners. Campbell worked as a marketing development intern and became secretary at Lojeri Productions in 2002. She was named to the board of directors to assist with the company’s internship program.

STEPHEN J. CLINK (HARTT) of Pittsburgh, Pa., was named music director at the Nutmeg Conservatory for the Arts in Torrington, Conn. In addition to overseeing Nutmeg’s 300-student music division, Clink is charged with starting a new fiddle class and jazz improvisation initiatives, including a piano instruction program with Connecticut Junior Republic, a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping troubled youths, located in Litchfield, Conn.

ANNE R. GIDDINGS (ENHP) of Cheshire, Conn., has been appointed assistant superintendent of schools in Ansonia, Conn.

MICHELLE M. GRAVELINE (ENHP) of Southfield, Conn., completed her doctoral program in educational leadership at the university. Graveline teaches mathematics at Hall High School in West Hartford, Conn.

MELANIE B. GUERIN (HARTT) of Sutton, Mass., directed the musical Cabaret at the Warner Theater, Worcester Academy, Worcester, Mass. When not involved in summer theater, Guerom is employed as a music teacher in the East Hartford public school system.

ALISON M. KAMENETSKY (‘02 HILLYER, ENHP) of Parsippany, N.J., is a second-grade teacher at the Whitney E. Houston Academy of Creative and Performing Arts in East Orange, N.J.

HOLTA LONDO (A&S) of Hartford, Conn., received a citation and a Hartford medal of success from Mayor Eddie A. Perez. Londo was cited for being a role model by pursuing higher education, completing her degree, and remaining in Hartford to work.

ALLYSON M. MCDONALD (HAS) of Hingham, Mass., has joined the graphic design department of Tiffanie Williams & Company in Quincy, Mass. The company is a full-service, integrated marketing communications firm with specializations in public relations, advertising, event planning, and Web design.

GLANDINA MORRIS (BARNEY) of Middletown, Conn., has joined the National Center for Boundless Playgrounds as a communications associate.

SHAWN M. MURPHY (A&S) of Maplewood, N.J., was hired as an account coordinator by the MWW Group, a public-relations firm in East Rutherford, N.J.

EBONY T. WRIGHT (‘02 HILLYER, ENHP) of Brooklyn, N.Y., was featured in the ninth annual Lift Every Voice and Sing gospel festival and fair in Hartford, Conn. Wright, who lost her mother in the 9/11 tragedy, was featured in the 9/11 memorial.

CONTACT US!
Office of Alumni Relations

Aaron Masthay
Assistant Director of Alumni Relations

Missy Pavan
Alumni Office Coordinator

Local 860.768.4357
Toll-free 1.888.UHALUMS
alumni@hartford.edu
chapters@hartford.edu
Christopher H. Horton

frequently was invited to lecture, serve as visiting artist, take part in panel discussions, and publish in a variety of forums. In 1990 he received a grant from the University of Rhode Island to create a 30-by-5-foot mural consisting of topological maps showing the effect of rising temperatures on coastal sea levels.

Horton’s art—a diverse collection of abstract and realist drawing, painting, and sculpture—has been exhibited throughout New England and beyond. His sculpture titled *Calculus* is located in the courtyard of the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington.

A graduate of Amherst College, Horton received a master’s degree in painting from Wesleyan University and did postgraduate study at the Tyler School of Art in Rome. He served in the U.S. Army in Korea and had previously taught in Suffield, Conn., schools and at Wesleyan University before joining the University of Hartford faculty in 1968.

In addition to his wife, Horton is survived by son Joshua and daughter-in-law Alison of Hyde Park, N.Y.; son Tobiah of Syracuse, N.Y.; brother Timothy, sister-in-law Margaret, and niece Elizabeth of Martinsville, N.J.; nephew Brendan and family of Silver Spring, Md.; and Worthington family members.

A public celebration of Horton’s life and work will be held at the Hartford Art School on June 26, 2005. Donations may be made to the Chris Horton Scholarship Fund, Hartford Art School, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Ave., West Hartford CT 06117.

**Carl F. Alsing,** former dean of engineering at the university, died on Dec. 21, 2004, at the age of 98.

Holder of 19 patents, Alsing organized the university’s first electrical engineering department. He was named a professor in 1964 and administrator of the engineering department in 1970. He became the College of Engineering’s second dean in 1971. Upon retirement, he was named professor emeritus of electrical engineering.

Before joining the university, Alsing had worked for 25 years as a research engineer for Westinghouse Corporation in East Springfield, Mass., and taught at American International College and Wilbraham-Monson Academy.

Active in civic and education affairs, Alsing was a founding member of the Telescope Makers Club, now the Stars Club, of Springfield, Mass. He participated in grinding the mirror now mounted on the telescope at the Springfield Science Museum planetarium. He was a mentor and tutor for math and science students and was a member of the Somers Library board.

He built and operated his own ham radio, talking from his basement station to people all over the world. He was an avid traveler and photographer and often presented slide shows of his travels and his nature photography to community groups.

Alsing earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He is survived by his wife, Mary Elizabeth Alsing, of Somers, Conn.; his children, Nancy Stewart of Santa Maria, Calif.; Marjorie Trimble and her husband, James, of Wilbraham, Mass.; and Carl J. Alsing and his wife, Lenore, of Santa Cruz, Calif.; and stepdaughter Susan Simon and her husband, Richard, of Locust Valley, N.Y.; 15 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Jan. 8, 2005, at the Somers Congregational United Church of Christ. Donations in Alsing’s memory may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association, Connecticut Chapter, 96 Oak St., Hartford, CT 06106.

**Millard H. Pryor, Jr.; Peter J. Harvey ’72, ’80** News arrived just as *The Observer* was going to press of the deaths of regent Millard H. Pryor, Jr., on March 1, and Hartt alumnus and former HCW faculty member Peter J. Harvey ’72, ’80, on March 6.

Their obituaries will appear in the next issue of *The Observer.*
Wow! Big things are happening at the University of Hartford.

In less than three years, we will near completion on three remarkable projects—an Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology complex, a Performing Arts Center, and state-of-the-art athletics fields for our Division I teams.

And our students aren’t the only ones who will benefit big. So too will the people and economy of Greater Hartford.

To learn more about how to support these projects, contact us at 860.768.4519 or online at www.hartford.edu/supporting.
Now through Aug. 15
Now and Then: Albany Avenue
A photographic celebration of the transformation of Hartford’s Albany Avenue
George J. Sherman and Lottie K. Sherman
Museum of Jewish Civilization
Admission is free. For more information, including museum hours, or to schedule a docent-led tour, contact Diana Lemcoff at 860.768.4963.

Tuesday, April 12
The Hartt School presents Hartt Wind Ensemble and Symphony Band conducted by Glen Adsit
8 p.m., Lincoln Theater
Works by Grainger, Maslanka, Wagner, Tull, Daugherty, and Gillingham
Admission: $15, $12, $10

Friday, April 15
Hartt Celebrates
Annual black-tie fundraising gala, featuring student and faculty performances and silent and live auctions
Autonina Great Hall, The Bushnell
For more information, contact Lori Cartwright at 860.768.4862.

MUSIC for a CHANGE presents
James Keelaghan
7:30 p.m., Wilde Auditorium
Tickets: $16
www.hartford.edu/mfac/

Saturday, April 16
Community Day 2005
A day of fun and discovery for individuals and families throughout Greater Hartford. Free performances, sports clinics, carnival games, moonwalks, tours, exhibits, and more.
10 a.m.–4 p.m. For more information, contact Jonathan Easterbrook at easterbro@hartford.edu.

Sunday, April 17
Harry Sukman Foyer Dedication and Concert
Featuring Hartt School singers and members of the Hartford Symphony performing as the Harry Sukman Orchestra, under the direction of Vincent Falcone
3 p.m., Dedication
4 p.m., Concert
Millard Auditorium
Admission is free, but tickets are required. Call the university box office at 860.768.4228.

Tuesday, April 19
Jon O. Newman Lecture on Law and Justice
Yale Law School Dean Harold Hongju Koh will speak on “The Supreme Court and Global Law” and receive an honorary Doctor of Laws.
4:30 p.m., Wilde Auditorium
Admission is free.
For tickets, call the box office, 860.768.4228 or 1.800.274.8587.
Made possible through the generosity of the Honorable Jon O. Newman in support of the Pre-law Advising program.

Friday, April 22–Sunday, April 24
Romeo and Juliet, presented by The Hartt School Dance Division
8 p.m., Friday and Saturday
3 p.m., Sunday
Lincoln Theater
Admission: $15, $12, $10

Wednesday, April 27
Hartt Choruses present “Spring Sing and Fling”
Hartt Camerata, Concert Choir, Chamber Choir, and Chorale perform a program of madrigals, motets, classical standards, and spirituals.
8 p.m., Lincoln Theater
Admission: $15, $12, $10

Thursday, April 28—Saturday, April 30
Molière’s Scapin, presented by The Hartt School Theatre Division and directed by Alan Rust
8 p.m., Millard Auditorium
Admission: $15, $12, $10

Friday, April 29
The Hartt School presents Performance 20/20, the honors chamber music program.
8 p.m., Berman Auditorium
Admission is free.

MUSIC for a CHANGE presents
Kenny White
7:30 p.m., Wilde Auditorium
Tickets: $15
www.hartford.edu/mfac/

Friday, May 6
MUSIC for a CHANGE presents Ellis Paul
7:30 p.m., Wilde Auditorium
Tickets: $15. www.hartford.edu/mfac/

Friday, May 13
MUSIC for a CHANGE presents Eddie From Ohio
7:30 p.m., Millard Auditorium
Tickets: $18. www.hartford.edu/mfac/

Sunday, May 15
Commencement
10 a.m., front lawn of Gengras Student Union
www.hartford.edu/newsevents/commence5.asp

Saturday, May 21
Special Olympics Regional Games
For more information, contact Fred Jenoure at 860.768.4894 or jenoure@hartford.

For a full calendar of events, visit www.hartford.edu/newsevents/calendar/.