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The Wow Factor

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Now, that's a truly inspiring account.

Photos by Derek Dudek, Jared Leeds, and Jerry Siegel. Text By Karen Feldscher.

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It was my alma mater, back in Ohio. I knew what they wanted.

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For me, however, that night was different. Because I suddenly remembered what I'd been hearing at work about Northeastern—about the large and small victories that have been won with Leadership Campaign donations.

• Full story

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By Karen Feldscher

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You've gotten those calls, too—from Northeastern. You've heard the buoyant voice on the other end of the line talking about the progress the university has made, thanking you for your past gift, asking if you can give again. And you've thought, Should I say I have something burning in the oven?

For me, however, that night was different. Because I suddenly remembered what I'd been hearing at work about Northeastern—about the large and small victories that have been won with Leadership Campaign donations.

About the young woman who got a full-tuition scholarship, for instance, which led to a computer-science degree. Today, she's working on her PhD, hoping one day to create the kind of technology that people don't just use because they have to, but because they love to.

The couple who, to memorialize their son, established a fund that brings literary lights to campus.

The alum who helped a student get an education, a co-op job, and a career.

And the jump-start funding that created a new school that teaches students how to launch and manage cutting-edge companies.

The stories I'd been hearing had touched some emotion in me. And so, to the well-meaning voice on the line, I said, "Sure, I'll give."

Northeastern has hundreds of compelling examples of how contributions to the recently completed Leadership Campaign are helping the university's students, scholars, and schools surge forward. Almost all began with a phone call and a request.

Since 1998, the campaign has raised more than $203 million from more than 63,900 alumni, friends, corporations, and foundations. Some contributions were substantial gifts that have already led to big changes on campus. The Behrakis Health Sciences

Center owes its existence to an $8 million commitment from George D. Behrakis, P'57, H'98, and his wife, Margo. Shillman Hall, a classroom building, was named following a $3 million gift from Robert Shillman, E'68, H'00, and his wife, Mao.

There have been other large donations as well—from George Kostas, E'43, and his wife, Angelina, which helped fund the Kostas Nanoscale Technology and Manufacturing Research Center. From Irving Levine, E'57, and his wife, Lenore, which named the Levine Marketplace, a restaurant-style dining area in Stetson East. From Francis Gicca, E'59, and his wife, Joan, which named the atrium in the new College of Computer and Information Science building. And from Morton Ruderman, E'59, and his wife, Marcia, which greatly enhanced the Jewish studies program.

But thousands of small gifts made a difference, too. In fact, the university surpassed its $200 million goal on the shoulders of a large variety of gifts.

"This was a real university-wide collective effort," says senior vice president for institutional advancement Robert Cunningham, "with more gifts at all levels helping us reach the goal."

The combined force of all these contributions, the very large to the very small, creates a lasting impact on Northeastern, Cunningham adds. "Whether it's been through the annual fund or other types of giving opportunities," he says, "the campaign gave alumni a chance to engage with Northeastern in a very meaningful way. It has really helped create connections among alumni, students, and faculty."

According to Cunningham, it's clear alumni care deeply about providing for student support and financial aid.

President Freeland agrees. "The single most compelling reason that motivates many donors," he says, "is a desire to make sure that the next generation has the opportunity to attend Northeastern in the same way that our successful graduates have."

Ronald Rossetti, BA'66, the Leadership Campaign chair and one of several trustees to make a $1 million donation to help kick off the fundraising effort, echoes Cunningham and Freeland. "We are keeping our promise to our students to provide the best educational experience possible," he says.

In the wake of the campaign, promises made can be promises kept. And individual contributions, including those that by themselves might not pack a lot of punch, provide building blocks for a dynamic big picture, one that can change people's lives.

Call it the wow factor.

A star is born

Had Andrea Grimes, CS'05, followed her first passion, she would have been a music major. She likes to play the piano and sing, and her father is a pastor of music at a California church.

Instead, she followed her mother's advice to study something more practical. "I took a programming class in high school," Grimes remembers, "and I thought, 'This is fun.' And my parents had friends who worked at IBM and Intel, and I got to shadow them when I was in high school." A career in the digital world, she says, "seemed like a cool thing to do." She decided to become a software engineer.

As a senior in high school, Grimes was accepted at Princeton. But Northeastern wanted the high-achiever, too, and was able to offer her a variety of scholarship funds, including, ultimately, a Presidential Scholarship. Through the Leadership Campaign, alumni and friends created about $44.5 million in scholarship funds.

In the end, Grimes chose Northeastern. It wasn't just the scholarship money that sealed the deal; it was also the people at the College of Computer and Information Science. "They seemed really excited about having me come," says Grimes.

Plus, she says, "I really liked the idea of co-op. And they told me I could start on research right away."

It took her a few years to find an aspect of computer science she was really passionate about. Finally, she did: how to make computers, and technology in general, easier for people to work with.

Today, Grimes is a student in the Georgia Institute of Technology's PhD program in human-centered computing. Ultimately, she may want to work in an industry research lab, where the focus reaches beyond making a product to analyzing how potential users would interact with that product.

"I'm not really interested in developing the next gadget that people will use in the next couple of months and then get sick of," she says. "I would like to help improve people's lives."

Actually, she already has. At Northeastern, working with associate professor Robert Futrelle, Grimes helped create software that pinpoints language patterns in biology text, to give biologists a better tool for searching databases. Later, she helped assistant professor Peter Tarasewich study privacy issues related to mobile devices.

As everyone predicted, Grimes was an academic star on Huntington Avenue. She had the highest GPA in her class three years running, co-authored several research papers, and attended international conferences. Her senior year, she was named the outstanding woman undergraduate in the nation by the Computing Research Association. The male winner was from MIT; runners-up included students from Carnegie Mellon, Brown, Columbia, Berkeley, and Harvard.

Grimes also taught an introductory computer-technology skills class to low-income adults in Dorchester. She says she realized "most computer software is not developed with these types of people in mind. A lot of the things I taught them were very counterintuitive." As a result, she found herself gravitating toward the human side of computing—"thinking from the user's perspective," she says.

The Georgia Tech doctoral program offers her the perfect interdisciplinary mix. In addition to human-

computer interaction, she's studying sociology, anthropology, cognitive science, and the philosophy of technology. "We're learning more about how people work, how people work together, and how technology can better fit within society," she says.

For example, Grimes is exploring how technology can help African Americans improve their dietary habits. Traditional forms of nutritional support,

such as brochures, don't always work well in the African American community, she notes, because they may trigger feelings of cultural isolation.

But technology-based options, such as video games, video soap operas, or interactive television, could use culturally specific approaches to tout the benefits of cutting down on fatty foods or eating whole grains.

"People don't realize all the capabilities of computer science," says Grimes. "We can do so much more than just write things for people's Palm Pilots."

Lasting legacy for a lost son

In the days just after September 11, as English professor Stuart Peterfreund read the names of the passengers on the hijacked planes, he realized one name was naggingly familiar: Peter Hanson.

Then he remembered that Hanson, AS'91, had taken several of his classes.

Hanson was onboard United Airlines Flight 175, the second plane to crash into the World Trade Center. The thirty-two-year-old vice president of sales for TimeTrade—a Waltham, Massachusetts, company that specialized in web-based scheduling services—was traveling with his wife, Sue, a Boston University medical student, and their three-year-old daughter, Christine.

Peterfreund, shaken by his realization, had a bad dream that night. When he woke, he decided to put shape to his grief by writing a poem. Later, he sent it to Peter's parents, Lee and Eunice Hanson.

"It was a beautiful poem," says Lee, BA'55. "Like many messages you get from people after you lose someone you love, it offered a different side of Peter's character,

[this one] from the viewpoint of an instructor. It went into the kinds of books Peter read, the kind of thoughts he had. It was very striking and very beautiful."

Moved by Peterfreund's effort, the Hansons decided to create two endowments for the College of Arts and Sciences in Peter's name. One boosted the monetary prize for an annual undergraduate writing contest. The other funds an annual presentation on campus by a noted writer; the first visitor was poet Rosanna Warren, daughter of late literary lion Robert Penn Warren.

Hanson says he and his wife believe giving money to educational causes is the perfect way to remember Peter, Sue, and Christine. "A fundraiser once told me that nothing is permanent," he explains. "You can set up a memorial, and maybe someday it won't be there.

"But if you give money for something at a university, then you know a lot of students are going to learn from that. And that can influence the way they do things for the rest of their lives."

Two peas in a pod

Like many connections, theirs is one that is rooted in commonality.

Peter Ogren, E'69, and Marissa Sordillo, E'04, both majored in civil engineering. They're both from the North Shore. Each of their co-op stints was spent at Hayes Engineering, in Wakefield, Massachusetts, and they both went on to full-time jobs at the firm.

There are a few differences, of course. Ogren has worked at Hayes several decades longer than Sordillo. "I'm still on my co-op job," he says, laughing. And he started with the firm back when its founder and president, George Hayes, LI'50, now deceased, employed only a handful of people. Today, it's more than forty people strong.

One more thing: Sordillo is an engineer at Hayes. Ogren is the company's owner and current president.

Ogren met Sordillo her freshman year when he decided to help fund the Legacy Scholarship program, which offers worthy students $5,000 a year for tuition over their entire college careers. She was one of the students so honored.

"Most of our practicing engineers here at Hayes are graduates of Northeastern," Ogren says, "so we thought it would be a good thing to support."

After a lunch held to introduce the Legacy Scholars to their sponsors, Ogren invited Sordillo out to Hayes for a tour. Next thing she knew, he was offering her a co-op job, then another, and another.

"Obviously, over time Marissa became a valuable

employee," says Ogren. "Then we asked if she'd like to come full time."

The answer: A resounding yes.

"When I started [as a co-op] at Hayes, I had no experience in engineering," Sordillo says. "But I started working on real projects right away. I learned everything I know at Northeastern and Hayes."

Ogren, a Northeastern overseer, points out that Sordillo has already worked on some fairly complex site designs, including a thirty-seven-unit condo project in North Andover. "The client was very complimentary of her abilities," he says proudly.

Efforts like the Legacy Scholarship program are important, Ogren believes, because they encourage students with sterling academic backgrounds to choose Northeastern over less-expensive state colleges. Indeed, Sordillo says she had originally considered some less-pricey options herself.

But "the scholarship really made a difference," Sordillo says. "Northeastern was my first choice."

Start them up

Middler Jason Evanish wants to have his own business someday.

And, even though his major is electrical engineering, he's confident he's going to have the entrepreneurial know-how he needs. That's because he's minoring in technological entrepreneurship at a new school made possible by a university trustee's gift.

The School for Technological Entrepreneurship helps students learn how to turn good business ideas into viable high-tech products or services. This kind of multidisciplinary effort is tailor-made for Northeastern, which has a long history as a launching pad for entrepreneurs.

Trustee Jean Tempel, a venture capitalist at First Light Capital, thought the school was such a good idea that she infused it with $1.5 million of her own money.

In a way, the year-old school is itself a start-up. Paul Zavracky, LA'71, MS'75, returned to campus in September to serve as the school's first dean. A former Northeastern electrical engineering professor, Zavracky had left his faculty post in 1998 to run his own company.

Other schools, such as the University of Pennsylvania and Lehigh University, offer students with entrepreneurial inclinations dual degrees in business and engineering. But Northeastern has created the first freestanding school that will eventually grant both degrees and certificates in technological

entrepreneurship. "This school is one of a kind," says Zavracky.

Along with the minor, the School for Technological Entrepreneurship will soon offer a graduate certificate and a master's degree. It won't draw just business and engineering students; it will also attract students from the health sciences and the liberal arts who are interested in creating and marketing new tools, gadgets, or services.

In fact, Zavracky says, Northeastern decided to create a stand-alone entity for the study of technological entrepreneurship because the field doesn't fit neatly into the standard engineering or business curriculum.

"Starting technological companies is typically done by technologists," he says, "and really requires a huge amount of understanding of the technologies involved. Nothing in the business school can help you there.

"On the other hand," Zavracky continues, "technology companies are businesses, and there's a lot that needs to be understood about running a business. And the engineering school can't help a lot with that."

Classes in the new school are taught by faculty from engineering and business as well as arts and sciences, health sciences, and computer and information sciences. Soon, Zavracky hopes to hire new professors, create endowed chairs, and bring in experienced technological entrepreneurs to speak to students.

For now, Evanish and his classmates are soaking up the interdisciplinary approach to outlining a vision and making it fly. He's convinced of the practicality of what he's been learning: balance sheets, market research, business plans.

"The minor is giving me the tools to wrap around my ideas," he says.

Actually, this is an appropriate metaphor for the entire Leadership Campaign and all ongoing Northeastern fundraising efforts, like the annual-giving program. Reaching across boundaries and around barriers, they help people find what they need to build their dreams and soar.

Remember that the next time you get one of those early-evening phone calls.

Karen Feldscher is a senior writer.

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Where Did All the Women Coaches Go?

In the thirty-four years since Title IX was passed, women coaches have become increasingly rare on college campuses. Now experts are looking at ways to reverse the disappearing act. Quickly.

By Liz Matson

Illustration by Laurie Luczak
Photography by Jorg Meyer

Thunk. Thunk. Thunk. The sound of bouncing basketballs resonates against the walls of Solomon Court as the sun rises on a cold November morning. Most Northeastern students are sound asleep at 6:30. The women's basketball team is starting a preseason practice.

Coach Willette White was here even earlier, preparing. Now she stands alone on the sidelines, watching two assistant coaches run drills at either end of the court. The players seem a bit sluggish—who can blame them at this hour? But White isn't happy. She blows her whistle and walks to center court.

"There's no sense of urgency!" she booms. "You're just going through the motions. Pick up the pace!"

That's all it takes. The girls wake up and spring into action. White calls out words of encouragement: "Good running!" "Good job, babe!" Moving gracefully into the middle of a drill, she uses her body to show the players what they're doing wrong and how they need to fix it.

The coach and her team smile and joke as they try to shape themselves into winners two weeks out from the season opener. Several players stand a couple of inches taller than White. But there's no question who towers on this court.

White—along with Cheryl Murtagh of field hockey, and Laura Schuler, BPH'94, of women's ice hockey—is part of a troika at Northeastern, the university's three women head coaches. More coaching opportunities exist in college sports for both women and men than in all professional sports combined.

Yet despite Title IX, despite the major strides American women continue to make toward social, economic, and workplace equality, college coaching is, more and more, a man's game. At National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) schools, women head coaches occupy the dwindling minority.

Northeastern's own athletics roster speaks to the imbalance: Alongside White, Murtagh, and Schuler work twelve men head coaches.

At universities across the country, the statistics are getting people's attention, and gender inequality in college coaching is becoming a hot-button topic. What, observers are asking, can be done to lessen the gap?

And why does it matter?

From 90 to 44 percent

Many people are surprised to learn that, three decades after Title IX, women coaches are losing ground to their male counterparts. It turns out Title IX is itself part of the problem.

This seems paradoxical. Title IX is the comprehensive federal law that requires U.S. schools to maintain policies that don't discriminate against students or employees on the basis of gender. Its passage in 1972 was meant to open the floodgates for women's participation in school athletics.

But consider the statistics assembled by the 2005 Coaching and Gender Equity (CAGE) project, a research effort sponsored jointly by the NCAA, the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators (NACWAA), and Pennsylvania State University's Commission for Women and Athletics. In 1972, 90 percent of women's college teams were coached by women, most of them unpaid volunteers. Today, women coach only 44 percent of women's college teams (and 2 percent of men's teams).

Racial imbalances cloud the locker-room picture even further. Although about 20 percent of women athletes are nonwhite, fewer than 10 percent of women coaches are nonwhite.

To determine the reasons behind the numbers, the CAGE project conducted focus groups with student-athletes, coaches, and athletics administrators. Participants were asked such questions as "Are women entering but not staying in the field?" and "Are there barriers to the movement and promotion of women?"

One factor, the investigation revealed, is a lack of work/family balance. Women coaches often find themselves shouldering what the project's final report calls "extreme workloads" involving game travel and demanding practice and game schedules that conflict with family responsibilities. Coaches and administrators described "jobs that never end." Players said their coaches led "lives that are crazy."

Then there's Title IX, which, according to Robert Drago, a Penn State labor studies and women's studies professor, and one of the CAGE principal investigators, is attracting more men coaches to college sports. When Title IX increased funding and support for women's programs, and more coaching jobs became paid positions, more men got interested in coaching women.

Researchers also uncovered evidence of gender and racial bias on the part of some hiring administrators and some fans, Drago says, which was not unanticipated.

Yet another source of discrimination caught the researchers off-guard. "The most surprising finding of this study," says Drago, "is that most of the women we talked to preferred male coaches.

"It was shocking," he says. "These same women would never think of picking a college course on the basis of the gender of the professor. But when it comes to athletics, all of a sudden gender is very important.

"So the attitude you would have faced forty years ago, 'women can't be athletes,' you now get in 'women can't be coaches,'" Drago says. "What that told us, and what we related to the NCAA and NACWAA, is that we really need girls in the elementary- and secondary-school range having women coaches as role models."

Even so, the idea that women should be coached only by women is a loaded proposition, one not taken lightly by those who work in or study the field. A hiring decision based solely on gender would violate equal employment opportunity laws, which prohibit discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

"When an institution is committed to affirmative action and diversity, you would hope that, at the end of the day, the people who are staffing those departments reflect the diversity you are striving to achieve," says Dave O'Brien, Northeastern's athletics director. "Having said that, on any particular search, you are always looking to identify the best potential candidate, and, in fact, the law requires you to do that. Title IX requires you to do that."

For now, as women's participation in college sports expands and the pool of prospective women coaches grows, the competition between men and women for coaching jobs is fierce. To rise to their positions, White, Murtagh, and Schuler had to prove they were the cream of the crop.

Indeed, they have a great deal in common. They all had strong female role models who influenced their desire to be a coach. They express unconditional support and admiration for their players, yet they can be tough and demanding with them when necessary.

They all want to win.

Poise under pressure

Willette White, born and raised in Washington State, was an All-American basketball player at the University of Idaho.

During her senior year, she started thinking about coaching as a career. Her head coach and mentor, Tara VanDerveer, now head coach at Stanford, had just left for a job at Ohio State. After White graduated from Idaho in 1982, she followed VanDerveer to Columbus, working under her on a graduate assistantship for two years while earning a master's in athletic administration.

At the time, White says, there were graduate assistantships at schools all over the country that allowed athletes to be trained as coaches as they worked on graduate degrees.

"Now it is a little bit different," she says. "There are very limited graduate assistant positions. Those positions are full-time positions, so getting someone right out of college is less likely than before. I was very, very lucky."

Lucky, yes, but worthy, too—White's coaching resume is an impressive romp through Division 1 women's basketball. After a one-season stint at Iowa State, White bounced back to her home state to work as an assistant coach at the University of Washington. In eight seasons, the team amassed a 181-59 record, three conference titles, and seven NCAA tournament trips. In 1993, she became the associate head coach for the UCLA Bruins, where she focused on recruiting.

In 2000, after eighteen years of coaching, White was named Northeastern's head coach. She took the reins of a young, inexperienced squad that had just lost its all-time leading scorer, Tesha Tinsley, AS'99, to graduation. The team's previous head coach, Joy Malchodi, had moved over to an administrative position following an internal investigation into her conduct as a coach.

"Willette inherited a very difficult situation," says O'Brien. "Through her professionalism, her own personal decorum, she's been able to gain the respect of the administration, the student-athletes, the fans, and she's going about rebuilding the program."

White clearly relishes the challenges she faces on the job.

"The most rewarding part is being a part of helping kids grow," she says. "And, hopefully, preparing them for what their next step in life is going to be. And, obviously, preparing them for the win. That goes without saying."

If players express an interest in coaching, White works with them on the requisite skills, teaching them how to review tapes, for instance, or prepare a scouting report. She encourages them to get involved with the Georgia-based Women's Basketball Coach Association

(WBCA), which has a "So You Want to Be a Coach" program. Last year, Joi Jefferson, CJ'05, who worked as a student assistant under White, went through the WBCA program. Jefferson recently took an assistant coaching position at Le Moyne College, in Syracuse.

White is a firm believer in the benefits of women coaching women.

"I definitely think it's really important," she says. "I know I have an opportunity to be a role model, and I take that role very seriously. I'm not going to say every team should be coached by a woman. But to give women opportunities to coach women's teams is awfully important."

A tradition of winning

In a quiet suburb north of Boston, Cheryl Murtagh rises early, too—at 4:30 a.m.—to start her day as head coach of the most successful team in Northeastern athletics history, field hockey.

Murtagh spends the quiet morning hours planning practices and prepping for games before heading in to her Cabot Center office. She knows this routine well—she's been at Northeastern twenty-two years, four as an assistant coach and eighteen as head coach. After baseball's Neil McPhee, she has the second-longest tenure among Northeastern's current head coaches.

"If you were to sit down and try to create from scratch the ideal coach," O'Brien says, "Cheryl Murtagh would be the result of that effort."

Growing up in Peabody, Massachusetts, Murtagh preferred basketball to field hockey, though she excelled at both sports at Bishop Fenwick High School. When her basketball coach, Cecelia DeMarco, took a coaching position at the University of New Hampshire, Murtagh decided to enroll there. Once again, she did well in both sports, but she started to think about a career in coaching—in field hockey.

"I started to love the sport," she says, "and in my senior year I saw you could be a full-time field hockey coach. My junior/senior years were really when those positions started to open up. Not a lot of people knew the game. If you knew the game, you could get into a good position."

After she graduated in 1981, Murtagh spent a few years as an assistant coach at Tufts and Bentley before coming to Northeastern. She credits Jeanne Rowlands, NU's former women's athletics director (a position that no longer exists), for supporting field hockey by creating a full-time coaching position and securing funding for athletic scholarships.

A couple of decades later, Murtagh's career record of 274-118-10 speaks for itself. Her team is a nationally ranked elite squad that's garnered ten titles and four runner-up finishes in fifteen conference tournaments. She has coached some of the country's top players, including thirty-two All-Americans.

Last season, the team faced new bumps when Northeastern became the latest addition to the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA). For field hockey, this means competing against Old Dominion, a nine-time NCAA champion, as well as tournament regulars James Madison and Delaware. The Huskies finished their first CAA season with a solid 16-6 record.

Murtagh is clear on what coaching's rewards are. "For me, it's the day-to-day atmosphere, when you see kids really making a commitment to the sport, to the school, to the practice," she says. "Just seeing the kids develop as really good field hockey players. And, to me, that carries over to everything else they do."

Two of Murtagh's recent grads work as assistant coaches: Maureen Connelly, AS'04, at Northwestern, and Leigh Shea, BA'05, at UMass-Lowell. As an undergraduate, Connelly went with Murtagh to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association annual convention, a handy entree, she says.

"I told Cheryl I wanted to coach, and she was great about introducing me to a lot of people there," says Connelly, whose new boss is Northwestern head coach Kelly McCollum, formerly a Murtagh assistant.

Connelly appreciates Title IX's role in her athletic career and women's sports in general. "Keeping women in athletics is vitally important to our society," she says. "I know what I got from my playing experience. There were tough days and a lot of hard work, and I would do it all over again in a heartbeat. I hope I can be a piece of building that sentiment for the girls on teams I coach."

Murtagh believes coaching opportunities are out there for eager youngsters like Connelly. "There are a lot of jobs for good young women," she says. "There are a lot of men assistant coaches coming in, but if there is an opportunity to hire a female in field hockey, that's really what you want to do. In this country, more females play this sport than males."

The veteran coach says she tries "not to be too biased" on the gender issue and calls her own male assistant coaches "great." And yet, she says, "I do feel if you have a choice and you have a strong woman candidate, it's very important for the players to have role models."

"Deep! Deep!"

On a crisp October evening, Laura Schuler's Huskies are about to face off against the Boston University Terriers in Matthews Arena. After a warm-up skate, the players relax in a small locker room tucked into a

basement corner. Loud hip-hop pulsates from the room, but when Schuler walks in, the music is quickly turned down.

"Girls, BU is a rough team," Schuler begins. In a measured tone, she lays out what her team can expect from the opposition and what she expects from her team. Then she pulls out a game-day quote and reads: "Some people dream of success, while others wake up and work hard at it."

She rallies the squad with a "Let's go, girls!" and the players gather into a bulky mass of pads and ponytails and shout, "One, two, three, Huskies!"

As the National Anthem plays, Schuler watches her team calmly from the box. The minute the buzzer sounds, whoosh, the girls are off, and the coach's laid-back demeanor goes out the door.

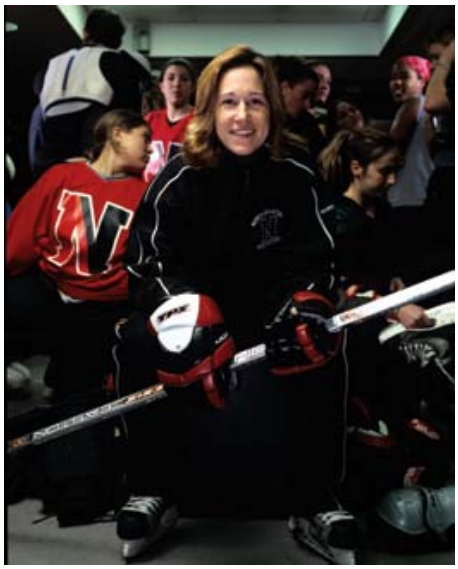
Schuler's focus on the game is immediate and intense. She is loudly vocal, yelling "On it! On it! Deep! Deep! Shot! Shot!" Everything is repeated. "Help her! Help her!" She puts one leg up on the dasher and leans forward, hands clenched, as she calls out commands. She leans so far forward, she looks close to leaping out and joining the game.

It's no surprise Schuler wants to be out there. She's familiar with this rink. The cardiovascular health and exercise major played for Northeastern from 1989 to 1993, serving as team captain her senior year. Her record of 64 goals, 57 assists, and 121 points stands as one of Northeastern's all-time best.

Playing under coach Don McCloud, Schuler knew she'd love to be a coach herself someday. "I remember just thinking on the ice that's the job I wanted," she says. "I also knew it wasn't really a possibility, because it wasn't a full-time job [then], but, wow, what a dream-come-true kind of job."

The Ontario native's life on the ice began at age three, and she made her way through the Canadian youth hockey system. After graduating from Northeastern, she returned to Canada to play for its national team, winning three World Championships and a silver medal at the 1998 Winter Olympics, in Nagano, Japan. While training full-time as an athlete, she also took graduate classes at the University of Toronto and coached competitive youth teams.

In 2001, Schuler came back to Massachusetts to establish a women's hockey team at UMassâ€“Boston. In three years, she had made it into a varsity program. By then, Northeastern was looking for a head coach to rebuild its women's hockey program and restore the competitive standing it had had during Schuler's playing days. O'Brien had Schuler in mind.



"She was one of our best former players," he says. "An Olympian. She had contacts at the international level. And being from Canada is a nice recruiting advantage as well." All the pieces were there, he says. "We hired her, and we've been thrilled ever since. She's got us heading back in the right direction."

Now in her second season as a Northeastern coach, Schuler says, "The rewarding part is seeing when my kids are successful. When they buy into something and it works for them. I always tell my kids that hockey is like poetry on ice. It's so beautiful when everything works and you believe."

Schuler's mentor was Shannon Miller, former Canadian national team coach, now head coach at the University of Minnesotaâ€"Duluth. "I wanted to be her," Schuler says. "I always looked up to her. She was just so inspirational. When I was a player, she made me find energy I never knew I had—that extra energy to be the best you can be."

Another mentor is Northeastern men's hockey coach Greg Cronin. "If I have a quick question, his door is always open for me to come in and chitchat with him. That's what I did last year with [former men's coach Bruce] Crowder as well. I feel privileged to have had two guys who've been in the NHL to ask questions of," says Schuler.

Unlike women's basketball and field hockey, two established NCAA programs, women's ice hockey is still setting down roots. Owing to a scarcity of girls' programs, earlier generations of players—even many current players—played on boys' teams at some point in their athletic careers. But the women's sport is growing quickly. Today, there are thirty-three Division 1 teams, up from nineteen in the 2002-2003 season—a 74 percent increase.

Schuler knows she's at the forefront of women coaching collegiate ice hockey. "There are only seven women head coaches in Division 1 hockey," she says. "I feel very privileged to be a part of that."

Step one: "Separate but equal"

Yet, even as they land plum spots, all women coaches

are aware of how covetously men are eyeing the women's teams' head-coaching jobs. And how often they get them.

It's a bit of a postâ€"Title IX Catch-22. Women athletes today are half as likely to have women coaches as they were before 1972—despite the fact that there are now ten times more women athletes.

To reverse the decline in women coaches, the 2005 CAGE report suggests that schools follow two guiding principles. One is the concept of "integration," a long-term goal of creating "a situation where student-athletes, regardless of gender, are equally likely to have a woman or man as their coach." Researchers point to the relatively gender-blind attitudes in the legal and medical fields as a model for athletics.

And for the short term, the CAGE report recommends a "separate but equal" approach, where women typically coach women's teams, and men typically coach men's teams.

Though Title IX permits the gender segregation of athletic teams, this allowance currently does not apply to coaches and administrators. So the CAGE researchers are recommending a significant change here: allowing gender-based hiring decisions to correct the present imbalance and set up more women as role models, which would attract even greater numbers of young women to coaching.

"Women should be able to move into positions of leadership, and they need to have role models to do that," Drago says.

Like White and Murtagh, Schuler believes it's important for women to be coached by women. "There should be way more women coaches coaching our game," she says. "You're putting these women in positions of authority and power. And it's good for young women to be able to look up to these women and say, 'I can one day be in that kind of position,' and know they can do the job."

Back in the locker room after the Huskies fall to the Terriers 4-2 on that October night, the players look dejected and tired. Mistakes were made, and Schuler isn't pleased. She is direct in her comments about what went wrong and what needs to happen at the next practice.

But Schuler has sat where her team is sitting now, so she ends her postgame speech on a positive note. "Other than that, we played well, we hustled," she says. "Back to the drawing board."

She goes around the room and shakes each player's hand.

"See you tomorrow, girls."

Liz Matson is an assistant professor in the School of Journalism.

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Feature Story

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Body and Soul
The education of a jazz singer

By David McKay Wilson

Carla Cook
Photography by Rayon Richards

Onstage at the Allen Room, a sparkling new amphitheater in New York's Lincoln Center, jazz diva Carla Cook, AS'85, sings about the delights of finding love and the despondency that descends on those who lose it.

On this rainy autumn Saturday night, her set unfolds as a Cook's tour of the Great American Songbook. She swings with a Duke Ellington standard. Croons a sweet melody with a samba beat. Then launches into a fast-talking number written by Eddie Jefferson, the jazz icon she listened to often as a teen.

Dressed in a flowing salmon-colored pantsuit and silver high heels, she moves effortlessly around the stage, long silver earrings dangling below a mass of braids. After a while, she pulls up a stool alongside pianist Eric Reed.

"I'm old enough to sit down and sing," quips Cook, forty-three, to the sold-out house of about five hundred. "You know, last year they were calling me young and dynamic. This year, they're calling me a veteran."

Tonight's show is the last of a three-night stand that showcased Cook and two other jazz vocalists, in a venue that opened last year as a home for the Jazz at Lincoln Center program. A massive glass wall behind the bandstand frames a dramatic view of Central Park and the silent parade of headlights gliding down 59th Street. Patrons have paid up to $130 to be here.

It's the latest triumph in Cook's late-blooming career, which has already produced a Grammy nomination and three critically acclaimed CDs. Her catalog is eclectic. She sings her own compositions, with titles like "A Lover's Lullaby," "Can This Be Love?" and "Simply Natural." She sings jazz standards, spirituals, even covers of pop hits by acts like Simon and Garfunkel and Neil Young.

Twenty-one years after graduating from Northeastern, Cook has emerged as one of jazz's leading ladies, with

a growing following from downtown New York to Moscow.

"Carla is one of the most versatile vocalists and interpreters of song around," says Reed, who performs and records often with trumpeter Wynton Marsalis. "She knows exactly what she wants to do, and executes ideas with razor-sharp precision.

"She's a bad, bad, bad, bad girl."

If you dream of paradise, I hope to be there.
And if those dreams are not so nice, darling,
don't despair.

— "A Lover's Lullaby"

In music-scene vernacular, of course, "bad" is good. Quite good. Cook's Allen Room set highlighted all the raw material behind her artistic success: a strong, clear voice; an engaging stage presence; and the ability to improvise vocally in a way that makes listeners smile.

Mere talent, however, isn't enough in the jazz world, as the homegrown American genre struggles to find an audience large enough to support all its rising stars.

Cook has thrived by juggling several projects at once and leaning on a strong network of supportive musicians, including jazz violinist Regina Carter, a high school chum from Detroit who remains one of Cook's closest friends. Carter played on Cook's first album. Two years ago, they played a double bill at New York's Town Hall. This year, Cook sat in on recording sessions for Carter's upcoming CD of songs from the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s.

"We had pretty much decided in high school we would not only play jazz, but would take the world by storm," says Cook. "We both came to Boston confident we could do it."

Cook could, and she has, as a quick look at last year's itinerary reveals. She led her own quintet at gigs in an array of New York clubs; they also performed in Germany. She narrated a video on the history of jazz that Jazz at Lincoln Center produced for high school students. She narrated a live Jazz for Young People program that Savion Glover developed, which melded tap with the music of Thelonious Monk. She sang with the Cyrus Chestnut Trio at Manhattan's Jazz Standard and the Terrell Stafford Quintet at the Kennedy Center Jazz Club, in Washington, D.C.

In May, she played Moscow with a quartet led by tenor saxophonist Igor Butman, one of Russia's biggest jazz stars. In June, she performed with Butman's big band at the first-ever jazz festival in Astana, Kazakhstan.

"Russians really know and love their jazz," says Cook. "It's what the music used to be here. I often have to explain to younger people that Duke Ellington and Frank Sinatra were like what Michael Jackson and Usher are today. They were big. They were the pop stars of their day. And the reason jazz has lasted so long is it's good music and it speaks for itself."

This includes the music of Eddie Jefferson, a singer who in the 1950s and 1960s popularized a style called "vocalese," in which lyrics are written or improvised to take the place of an instrumental in a well-known song. The lyrics Jefferson wrote were often tributes to other jazz musicians. He was murdered outside a Detroit nightclub in 1979, the night before Cook was scheduled

to hear him sing there.

Cook, who adored Jefferson's music as a teen, includes vocalese in her repertoire today. In fact, during her rehearsals with Eric Reed for the Lincoln Center show, she learned he'd also been influenced by Jefferson's work. They plan to put together a show devoted to his songs later this year.

"Eric is the only other musician I've met who shares the same enthusiasm for Eddie Jefferson," Cook says. "My biggest challenge now is to find material I can do as a female. Eddie's songs are very male, and it's not like just having to change one word. I need to research to find some Eddie out there I don't have yet."

Believe it or not, I was the last to know.
Right out of nowhere, I let my feelings grow.

— "Can This Be Love?"

Finding the right songs is just part of the one-woman business Cook runs from the brownstone apartment she owns in Brooklyn's Fort Greene section. In addition to performances, and rehearsals, and studio sessions, music careers are built on scores of administrative tasks and artistic decisions.

Cook is single, has no kids, and says she'd have a dog if she didn't travel so much. There's a perennial garden in her backyard and a charcoal grill for summer barbecues. She composes tunes at the upright piano in her living room. Down the street is the Lafayette Presbyterian Church, which she calls her spiritual home.

If music takes Cook to the far corners of the world, it also connects her to her community. In October, she sang at a wine-tasting event that raised money for her church. A month before, she hosted an evening of music at a Brooklyn club that collected $5,000 for Habitat for Humanity's Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in New Orleans.

"I'm very glad I got to play in New Orleans before the flood," says Cook, who has volunteered to work on local Habitat for Humanity construction sites. "I was devastated by the government's slow response. So, instead of feeling helpless and angry, I put out the word for musicians to come, and they came."

Her brownstone in a block of five-story buildings is a marked contrast from the single-family home she grew up in on Sturtevant Street in the center of Detroit. Her father, Freddie, worked as a U.S. Food and Drug Administration supply clerk and moonlighted at his own barbershop. Her mother, Ernestine, a high-school guidance counselor and devoted church lady, brought the family to worship each Sunday at St. John's Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

At home with two brothers and a sister, Cook sang and danced to Motown records, trying out her own versions of hits by Stevie Wonder or the Queen of Soul, Detroit's own Aretha Franklin. But, like Franklin, Cook formed her earliest connection to music through the church. At five, she became a member of St. John's Angelic Choir, donning a long robe to sing hymns, spirituals, and anthems praising a benevolent God.

By junior high, still singing on Sundays, Cook decided to learn an instrument. After trying the violin, she moved over to the upright bass and found a fit.

"Even to this day, I rely on the bass," she says. "I like the sound, and I like the bass because it is the base, the foundation of everything. When I write music, I tend to think of the bass line and work from the bottom up."

Cook's older brother introduced her to jazz, and let her play his Eddie Jefferson, Sarah Vaughan, and Ella Fitzgerald albums. She'd listen to local radio station WJZZ, which played the jazz gamut, from Eubie Blake's stride piano to Weather Report's electric fusion. It was a time when jazz was thriving in the Motor City. As Cook got older, she'd occasionally win her parents' permission to attend a performance at a local concert hall or club.

At Cass Technical High School, Cook played bass in the orchestra, and on Saturday afternoons she'd study voice and piano at the Detroit Community Music School. Fellow Cass student Regina Carter played violin in the orchestra and also took classes at the music school. The two girls became fast friends, singing madrigals in the high school choir, performing classical orchestral works, and studying music theory.

Each soon learned the joys of letting their classical training flower in jazz improvisation. For Cook, that meant scat-singing, using nonsense words or syllables to create the equivalent of an instrumental solo. Like other jazz improvisations, scatting doesn't reproduce the melodic line. It plays with melody and rhythm to create something new, and always different, in collaboration with other musicians.

"That's the whole nature of this music. The unexpected," says Cook. "That's what drew me to jazz. You are using your voice as an instrument, putting your musical ideas into sounds.

"There's a lot of unspoken communication with the other musicians," she says. "I sing a phrase, the musician plays another, and you go back and forth. It's great fun. But if you don't know the chord changes, it's very dangerous, and can end up a disaster."

While experimenting with jazz in high school, both Cook and Carter envisioned a life on the bandstand.But they had a major problem to overcome: Neither of their mothers approved.

"Our mothers didn't want the jazz thing," Cook says. "They said we needed jobs and pensions. But we knew we wanted it. We wanted to do jazz."

Despite her mother's reservations, Cook stayed focused on her dream, a single-mindedness she's glad in retospect she had. "I knew what I wanted to do, and I went for it," she says. "I highly recommend it for everybody."

Scent of the morning, birth of the blues.
Feeling a new dawn, finding your muse.

— "Simply Natural"

At Carter's urging, Cook decided to go to college in Boston. Carter was accepted at the New England Conservatory. Cook enrolled a block away at Northeastern. They remained close, with Carter often stopping by Cook's penthouse dorm room on the seventh floor of the Huntington Avenue Y.

Cook majored in speech communication, to develop her writing skills for a job in broadcasting orpublishing. It was a critical step in her music plans—she saw being able to support herself during her twenties as a bridge to a full-time singing career.

For three of her co-ops, Cook worked in Northeastern's Office of Community Affairs, helping to write and edit the CommUniversity Review, a publication reporting on events and organizations in the neighborhoods aroundcampus. Just before graduation, she landed a job editing newsletters for the Contractors Association of Boston, a trade group whose major project at the time was the construction of the MBTA's new Orange Line along Northeastern's southeastern border.

"I knew I was going to sing, but I also thought I'd like to write," says Cook. "Northeastern was a good choicefor me. I was from Detroit, and I knew getting a job after graduation was going to be an issue. Northeastern has that wonderful reputation of seeing that their graduates are employed."

Still, even as Cook focused on her studies, intent on earning the degree that would be her ticket to a financially secure adulthood, the bandstand was calling. Te Boston jazz scene was eager to welcome a singer as well-trained as she.

So Cook lived a kind of double life on Huntington Avenue, meeting and jamming with scores of aspiring musicians from the New England Conservatory and the Berklee School of Music. Her first gig came in 1981 at Jack's, in Central Square. Soon she was singing atclubs throughout Boston and Cambridge.

Accompanying her often was Cyrus Chestnut, an enigmatic young pianist studying at Berklee, who has since risen to the top of the jazz world. (He plays on each of Cook's three CDs; in November she sang with his trio for three nights at the Bistro in St. Louis.) Chestnut praises Cook's "melodic" approach, and callsher voice "natural and true."

After Cook graduated, however, five years passed before she felt she was ready for New York. She remained in Boston, letting her talent mature outside Manhattan's glare, singing at night and working nine to five for the contractors association. In 1988, she returned to Northeastern for two years, serving as anadministrative assistant for her former speech communication professors.

Occasionally, she'd visit friends in New York and dip into its vibrant music scene. One night, she even managed to take the stage at the famed Blue Note club for a three a.m. jam session.

By February 1990, it was time. Cook made the bigmove to Gotham. "Most of my musical friends had already left Boston and made a splash," she says. "New York was inevitable for me. This is the heart of jazz."

She was quickly hired as an understudy for Over Forty,

an off-Broadway musical about women of a certain age. For six months, Cook earned a steady incomewhile perfecting the dialogue and songs she'd have to perform if the show's star ever got sick (she never did).

When the show closed, Cook faced the crushing financial realities of being an aspiring jazz artist. She needed to pay the rent while she made herself known.

First, she sold textbooks at a Barnes & Noble. Then she taught social studies at Satellite West Middle School, in Brooklyn. The curriculum covered twentieth-century U.S. history, so, along with lessons on the Depression and World War II, Cook devoted a week of classes to the rise of bebop and how trumpeter Miles Davis's music reflected American life in the 1950s and 1960s.Finally, in 195, she realized her music careerwouldn't progress unless she pursued it full-time. "I was teaching by day and singing by night, and I felt it was killing something inside of me," she says.

"So I simply said I was going to make this work. It was scary, but I knew I had to try.

Can this be love that I feel for you?
Maybe somedreams really do come true.

— "Can This Be Love?"

For two years, Cook taught music and performed in Switzerland and Germany, where, unlike in the United States, jazz is truly popular music. When she returned to New York, she'd been energized by her time away.

She sang with the Lionel Hampton Big Band. She appeared frequently with George Gee and His Make-Believe Orchestra at the Mohonk Mountain House, in upstate New York, and on Sundays at Irving Plaza, in Manhattan. At many of these shows, modern-day Lindy Hoppers from the New York Swing Dance Society would recreate 1930s dances. Cook often took to the dance floor herself during instrumentals, swinging witha crowd of regulars that included Frankie Manning, one of Harlem's original Lindy Hoppers.

Singing with a big band, Cook says, still gives her a thrill. "You can't beat that wall of sound all around you. And you get to be part of it."

Cook's return from Europe also kicked off her recording career. In 1998, she signed with MAXJAZZ, anindependent label just getting off the ground. That year, Cook coproduced her first CD, It's All About Love.

It was a stunning debut. The album earned a Grammy nomination for best jazz vocal. It also earned an Association of Independent Music Indie Award for best jazz vocal. The acclaim put Carla Cook on the map.Her second CD, Dem Bones, was released in 2001, a mix of original compositions, Eddie Jefferson's "Oh, Gee," and a take on the pop standard "Ode to Billie Joe." No less an authority than Down Beat magazine praised the sophomore effort, calling Cook "a unique and inimitable voice."

A year later came her third CD, Simply Natural. Cookwrote the title track one afternoon not long after moving to Brooklyn as she dug in the backyard to plant her perennials. The song celebrates all of God's creation—July rain, flowers that bloom, a baby's soft skin, people at prayer.

"I was ecstatic to finally have a garden of my own,"Cook says. "I wrote the lyrics, sat down at the piano, and the melody came to me. I brought the blueprint to the recording studio, and the musicians took it from there."

As yet, no date's been set to record her fourth album, though she already has songs in mind. Currently, she's focused on getting the Eddie Jefferson project off theground and on the live performances she has scheduled in New York and Europe.

She's also determined to do what she can to keep America's classical music alive, well into the twenty-first century.

"The future lies in educating really, really young kids about jazz," Cook says. "You play jazz to six-year-oldsand watch them dance. The little bitty ones are going to save us. They are so enthusiastic.

"You haven't heard singing until you've heard a seven-year-old sing 'Happy Talk' from South Pacific. To me, that's the sound of joy."

David McKay Wilson, LA'78, is a senior writer at the Journal News, in White Plains, New York. Lyrics quoted in the story were written by Carla Cook and are reprinted by permission of Cookin' Music.

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Dance to the music
Dancers, singers, musicians, poets, and a storyteller shared the stage at a Blackman Auditorium program called "The Souls of Black Folk," which explored the artistic riches of the Harlem Renaissance. The February event was part of Northeastern's Black History Month celebration. Photo by Craig Bailey

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Questions and Answers

Director of information security and identity services
Glenn Hill

Northeastern's information-age sentinel, Glenn Hill is charged with keeping all the data pouring into, going out of, or residing somewhere within the university safe and secure. Here, he discusses his penchant for dumpster diving, some simple practices that could help you guard your home computer, and the overall outlook for information security.

Glenn Hill
Photo by Craig Bailey

Q. What's the single biggest information-security problem at Northeastern?
A. Awareness. The challenge is to create and maintain awareness in helping to protect information.

Q. Give an example of sensitive information that can be easily mishandled.
A. The Social Security number. It is a very valuable piece of information often sought by identity thieves. We have a vast array of technical means to protect that number, but the hard reality is that it's in wide use throughout the university.

Q. What about paper records at home? Does everyone need a document shredder these days?
A. If you don't shred, your trash contains a treasure trove of information: your Social Security number, credit card numbers, the companies with which you do business, where you take vacations, when you're not at home, details about your children—where they go to school, how old they are, what their activities are. Any of this information can be misused by someone with dishonest motives.

Q. Just how widespread is this problem?
A. People go through trash outside people's homes everyday. If I were a bad guy and wanted to hurt you, the easiest way would be to go through your trash can.

At Northeastern, we routinely check public trash receptacles for sensitive information. It's called dumpster diving. We use the same techniques the bad guys use, to see what's out there. Interestingly, when I approach a dumpster—and I'm always dressed in my business attire—no one has ever asked me, "Why are you sticking your hand in there?"

Q. How has Northeastern handled the problem of spam?
A. At this time last year, over 50 percent of the daily worldwide e-mail was spam. That's a big number. So last year we implemented a program called "Spam 10-Plus"—I invented the algorithm, and worked with others in Information Services to implement it—which was designed to slash almost in half the amount of spam that arrives at the university, without inspecting its content or interfering with the flow of legitimate messages.

Q. Did it work?

A. Flawlessly. Our e-mail volume dropped 40 percent the day we turned it on. Spam complaints are down dramatically. And since most spam contains malicious code, such as viruses or worms, by deflecting spam we also avoid these attacks.

Q. What are the best ways to protect home computers?
A. It's important to have virus software, spyware protection, and a firewall on your computer. Since many sites that appeal to kids offer malicious software for download or contain viruses, you might want to save financial data only on a computer that's not used by children. Also, if there's a media report about some new virus or worm threat, take those warnings seriously. And have your computer do a virus update for a little added security.

Q. How do bad guys steal information from home computers?
A. There are people all over the world who are scanning the Internet, all day and all night, to find computers that may not be properly protected. It's called a port scan. If your computer has what's known as an "open file share," and there's no password protection on that file share, it could very well be viewed by someone you don't know.

Q. What about online-shopping sites that ask for personal information?
A. First of all, read a website's privacy policy. It should spell out how an institution is committed to assuring your privacy. Then, consider its public reputation. For instance, Amazon has a very public, valuable image that is universally recognized. They'd have a lot to lose if they didn't protect personal information. For less-known companies, look more deeply into their reputation and practices before you use them.

Q. What does the future of information security look like?
A. Statistics from the FBI indicate that in 2004 large organizations saw a decrease in the number of security incidents. Organizations and individuals are increasingly understanding why security is important, and what they can do to protect themselves. There's never 100 percent information security. We know there will always be risks. But those risks continue to be manageable.

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Peace in the Classroom

Teaching youngsters to be friends, not foes.

By Karen Feldscher

Ashley Cole
Photo by Tracy Powell

Soon after the new year began, sophomore criminal-justice major Ashley Cote went back to grade school. She says it's the perfect place for her right now.

Cote is on co-op at the Maurice J. Tobin School, a K-8 school in Roxbury, working with a nationwide program known as Peace Games, which encourages children to be peacemakers and engaged community members.

Her full-time participation in Peace Games is made possible by the Stride Rite Community Scholars Program, a cooperative venture between Northeastern and several local community agencies that puts students in Boston-area community-service co-ops.

In addition to its work at the Tobin, the Peace Games organization runs programs at several other Boston elementary schools, as well as at schools in Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York.

Along with Marco Cenafils, the Tobin's Peace Games coordinator, Cote helps kids become more caring and conscientious people. An age-appropriate curriculum emphasizes collaborative games; discussions of such topics as communication, conflict resolution, and cultural differences; and community-service projects.

According to the Peace Games website, at, eighteen months of training at one partner school reduced verbal altercations between students by 41 percent, and disruptive incidents in the classroom, lunchroom, or playground went down by 59 percent. Episodes of abuse directed at teachers ceased entirely. The program works, proponents believe, because it connects with kids at an early age.

"In kindergarten, kids learn things like 'I am special,'" Cote explains. "In later years, they learn how to express their feelings, and about friendship. Then they get into community-service projects. Over time, students realize there are problems in the community that they can fix."

One typical activity for young children is called the Hula-Hoop relay. The rules are simple: Kids stand in a circle, hold hands, and pass a Hula-Hoop all the way around the circle as fast as possible without letting go of each other's hands. The goal, of course, is teamwork.

Cote says she wanted to work for Peace Games because, after graduation, she'd like to get into public policymaking and spur more such programs into existence. "I figured the best way to get started is to work with a program like this," she says. "And I always

knew I wanted to work with juveniles."

For his part, Cenafils says having Northeastern students work for the program—at no cost to the local schools—is a huge plus. "The benefits that go to the children are unbelievable. The relationship between them and the Northeastern students is like an older sister or brother relationship. They become a symbol, somebody these kids can look up to."

Also, he says, "the kids see that college students want to make the community a better place. And it makes them think about doing that—and about going to college, too."

Karen Feldscher is a senior writer. "In the Hub" is a new department that will regularly cover community-service initiatives.

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Alumni Passages

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Illustration by Peter Selgin

I Heart New York

A Boston boy makes his choice.

By Herbert Hadad

I walked my girlfriend to South Station. She had just earned her nursing degree, and was joining the service to please her Army officer dad. Her departure wasn't particularly sad for either of us. We felt the relationship had run its course. I stood on the platform waving as the train pulled out.

But when I made my way back up Summer Street and across the Common toward the Joy Court garret where she and I had spent so much time together, something awful happened. I began to feel as though every internal organ had been yanked out of my body and only my skin and bones were walking up Beacon Hill.

I suddenly realized my days in Boston, a city I knew and loved, were numbered.

It wasn't just my girlfriend's leaving. At the age of twenty-eight, I'd felt for some time I belonged elsewhere. As good as Boston had been to me, another city was exerting a mysterious gravitational pull. My birthplace, New York City.

When I was four, my family moved to Massachusetts from Washington Heights, in upper Manhattan. I grew up in Dorchester and Roxbury at midcentury, a place and time rich with characters and events.

I earned a degree at Northeastern after five years of instruction. I spent twelve months as a semiprofessional prizefighter. I worked for four years as a Boston Globe copy boy, four more as a Globe reporter. I had parents and siblings, a handful of friends, and a regular watering hole at Beacon and Mass. Ave. called the Zebra Lounge.

And I was lonely.

New York seemed like The Big Time, the home where I ought to be.

Several months later, I stood in the Greenwich Village real estate office of Selena Godot. When the receptionist asked me what I wanted, naturally I said, "I'm waiting for Godot." Too bad she'd heard that one too many times to laugh.

Selena soon found me a ground-floor studio in a little brick house behind an apartment building on Sullivan Street. I quickly made a little patch of hard-packed ground my own by planting a row of daffodils.

Yet when you move, I found, you take your cares with

you. In the beginning, New York was not the exciting miracle I'd dreamt about in Boston. There were days when I spoke only to tourists: "MacDougal Street? Go down two blocks, and take a left." I had entered the wilderness, as the Bible and the Quran say we must, in order to find our way.

Intuitively, New York still made sense to me. It was the Big Apple, the Center of the Universe. I planned to write my way to fame, friends, and riches.

At first, the only story I sold was to the Boston Globe, my old employer, about a tense New York girding itself in anticipation of some race riots that never came.

I signed on as a reporter with a weekly paper called the Gasoline Retailer, which covered the service station industry. As time went on, though, I couldn't stand the thought of writing about tires and batteries anymore and answered a blind classified ad I saw in the New York Times. Because I was young and impudent, I said in my cover letter that I wanted to get out of my current job because my boss resembled a fish.

Unfortunately, it turned out the organization that had placed the want ad was none other than the Gasoline Retailer. Worse, my letter with the piscatorial insult was read by Mr. Fish himself. Remarkably, he overlooked the reference and even gave me a raise to keep me in his net.

Little by little, I was getting comfortable in Gotham. Ascending subway stairs, I no longer needed to locate the Empire State Building on the skyline to know which way was uptown and which downtown. I learned the Greenwich Village byways, had a favorite tavern where they played Dixieland on Monday evenings, and saw a girlfriend or two.

A big public relations agency hired me, a job that gave me a new social life and the opportunity to travel to cities I otherwise would never have seen.

I made frequent trips to Boston, which filled me with nostalgia and melancholy. I still wasn't entirely sure whether moving had been the right decision. I loved Boston's manageability; you could go anywhere easily, and never get lost. The Public Garden always looked so inviting. Storrow Drive by the Charles was far more beautiful than FDR Drive on the East River. Filene's Basement at Washington and Summer was ten times more fun than Macy's in Herald Square. The pizza on Hanover Street was as good as, maybe better than, the pizza in the Village.

Through the PR agency, I went to work with the people behind the scenes at Sesame Street. Everyone there was super-talented and fun, and they embraced me as one of their own. The camaraderie was so strong we even vacationed together, in Woodstock, New York, and in Maine.

Eventually, I became a speechwriter for the show's founder. When she and I traveled to Boston for an appearance, we stayed at the Ritz-Carlton. Looking out the window at the Public Garden, I realized I was seeing it for the first time with the eyes of a tourist. Not only was I a New Yorker, I felt like a New Yorker on the cutting edge.

Those glittering days were exciting, but maturity, marriage, and fatherhood prompted a retreat to the

suburbs, and I began recording the pleasures of this new kind of life in essays. The New York Times published many of them. They also asked me to be a reporter. It was fun to pick up the phone and say, "This is Herb Hadad of the New York Times," which I did for ten years, writing more than three hundred pieces for them.

Today, my day job is in the press bureau of one of the U.S. Department of Justice's New York offices, and I still freelance the occasional piece for the Times.

My three children were born in New York. Though they are very fond of Boston, they lead vivid professional and social lives as Manhattan residents. They show no signs of craving a new environment, or not feeling at home in their hometown.

Their grandparents, on the other hand, always felt divided loyalties. After we settled in Dorchester, my parents continued to live in two worlds, or, at least, two cities. When we moved from New York, there was my sister and me. My dad called me his "Latin from Manhattan." But he also wanted "a proper Bostonian," he told my mother, and so our brother, Alvin, was born.

On Sunday, my parents would send me to the drugstore at Morton and Blue Hill to fetch the New York Daily News. I'd curl up with Dad while he read the paper and laughed at the Katzenjammer Kids in the comics. "Nutsy-wutsy," he would say, transported back to New York for an hour.

Thinking about it now, I don't believe I ever decided to prefer New York over Boston, anymore than I decided which women to fall in love with. Sure, my parents introduced me to the wonders of being in New York when I was small, but that doesn't explain why I was so drawn to living there myself.

I have almost no memories from my first four years in New York, save one cab ride and the gift of a large toy hook-and-ladder fire truck. Boston was where I was formed. Yet New York was what I craved. This seemed to happen several steps beyond the realm of conscious choice.

Many attachments are formed this way. Consider the most inexplicable passion of them all: baseball. On special occasions, my children take me to the Bronx when the Yankees play the Red Sox. I jump up and punch the air and howl when the Yankees hit a home run. After the game, we all repair to a tavern, where Dad springs for drinks and snacks.

Strangely, the home team has won every game I've seen at Yankee Stadium. Later, though, on the train ride home alone or in the middle of the night, I realize I feel pangs of sympathy and affection for the visitors.

New York has become my true love. But no one ever really forgets his first love.

Herbert Hadad, a Northeastern graduate and award-winning writer, says that when he strikes it rich he's buying apartments facing Central Park and the Boston Common.

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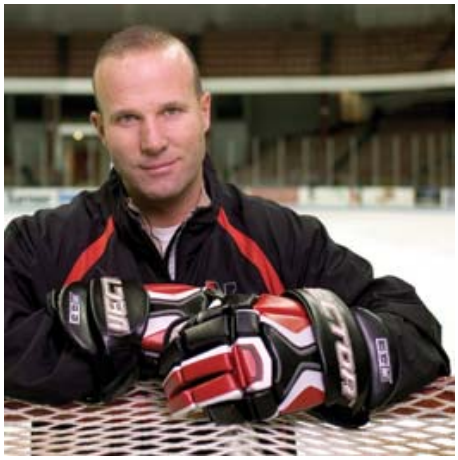
No Holiday on Ice

Greg Cronin takes stock of a disappointing first season.

By Paul Perillo



Greg Cronin
Photos by Tracy Powell

Talk to Greg Cronin for sixty seconds. That's all it takes to understand just how intense the new men's hockey coach is.

There's not a lot of subtlety to Cronin's approach. He clearly loves Northeastern; his dad, Don, Ed'59, and uncle Gerry, Ed'62, were both letter-winning Husky icers. And he's passionate about the game he's spent most of his life playing and coaching, including seven years as a coach in the NHL's New York Islanders organization.

So it had to be maddening for Cronin to stand behind the bench and watch his Northeastern squad win just three of its first thirty games.

Win one came eight games into the season, on November 11, with a 2-0 decision over UMass-Amherst. Win two didn't show up until February 10 with a 6-4 nod over UMass-Lowell. Win three, a 2-1 victory over Providence, was earned on February 16. With four games left before the Hockey East quarterfinals, the team's record stood at 3-21-6.

Most observers had anticipated Northeastern would struggle this season after losing a host of standouts to graduation, including Jason Guerriero, AS'05, and Keni Gibson, AS'05. But the Huskies have also gone without All-Hockey East performer Mike Morris, who is sitting out the season while dealing with post-concussion syndrome, the result of a car accident last summer. And juniors Yale Lewis and Ray Ortiz missed a number of games owing to injuries.

As a result, the Huskies have played ten freshmen regularly. In a highly competitive league like Hockey East, this alone can be a recipe for disaster.

If you take an optimist's view, Northeastern has, in fact, been more competitive than the results column might indicate. For example, five of the Huskies' first thirteen losses were either by one goal or by two with an empty-netter. Add in the four ties, and you realize that half of those games could have gone either way.

But what frustrates Cronin is that some of the team's troubles have been self-inflicted. By the middle of February, the Huskies had spent a lot of time in the penalty box—four minutes per game more than their opponents. Not surprisingly, the opponents had scored nineteen more power-play goals than NU. You don't have to be Bobby Orr to figure out where the problem lies.

"Anybody who watches us play and sees the scores knows we're in every game," says Cronin, who earlier in his career coached at the University of Maine and Colorado College. "It's not like we're getting demolished. We just sabotage ourselves with foolish penalties." As a result, he says, his constant admonition to his team is "Stay out of the penalty box, and play even-strength hockey."

Despite their mistakes, the Huskies have played with heart throughout the season and show promise for the future. The freshman class—led by Joe Vitale, Ryan Ginand, and Matti Uusivirta up front, and Louis Liotti and Denis Chisholm on defense—is talented and deep.

Vitale's soft hands, great ice vision, and excellent skating make him a star in waiting; he's been the center for Cronin's top line since the season began. Ginand has a goal-scorer's mentality, reliably leading the club in goals throughout the season. Espoo, Finland, native Uusivirta shows a knack for being where the puck is.

One pleasant surprise offensively has been the success of sophomore Jimmy Russo, who, after twenty-seven games played, led the team with 17 points. Though Russo showed flashes of virtuosity as a freshman, he's improved markedly after getting consistent time with the top lines.

At the other end of the ice, the defense corps has performed admirably, given its youth. Four of the six blueliners have frequently been freshmen: Liotti and Chisholm, joined by classmates Andrew Linard and Jacques Perreault.

Junior Steve Birnstill and senior captain Chuck Tomes are often the lone upperclassmen in front of a pair of inexperienced goaltenders, junior Adam Geragosian and rookie Doug Jewer. Though goaltending hasn't been a problem, it hasn't been a particular strength, either. Neither netminder has made an especially impressive move toward becoming the top man.

"There's plenty of hockey still left for us to play," Cronin said just after the winter break. "But we're going to have to stay out of the box and play smarter. Hopefully, we can do that and pick up some wins down the stretch."

Unfortunately, as the home stretch narrowed, those wins on the ice proved mighty slippery.

CAA Sunshine Ups the Heat for McPhee Nine

The move to the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) brought a higher level of competition to many of Northeastern's varsity rosters. Especially baseball. Geography makes life a little tougher for coach Neil McPhee's boys.

That's because many CAA teams are based south of the Mason-Dixon line, where the weather offers an edge not available to teams that suffer through New England's harsh early springs. But McPhee, BB'68, feels good about his club's prospects this season, which begins on March 3 with the annual exhibition against the Red Sox in Fort Myers, Florida.

And McPhee should know. Having coached for more than thirty years, twenty at NU, the skipper notched his five-hundredth career game with a win over Harvard last spring. "We have some unknowns," he says, "but strength up the middle is the key to any good baseball team, and we certainly have that."

Topping the team's list of assets are seniors Chris Emanuele and Arman Sidhu. Last year, Emanuele, a center fielder, hit .340 with 11 homers and 40 RBI, and racked up a team-high 17 stolen bases and 50 runs scored. Shortstop Sidhu last year led the America East in fielding percentage and chipped offensively, hitting .307 with a homer and 26 RBI.

Senior catcher Matt Morizio continues the theme of strength through the middle, hitting .309 last year with 3 homers and 25 RBI. The 6-foot-3, 215-pound backstop has a strong right arm. He gunned down nineteen of thirty-seven (.661) would-be base stealers last season.

He also made five appearances on the mound. This year, McPhee plans to take further advantage of Morizio's might by using him as a closer out of the bullpen. "We're hoping Matt can close," McPhee says, "and he definitely has the stuff to do it. He throws ninety to ninety-one with a pretty good curve. We actually think it's something that could be in Matt's future beyond college."

Despite the uncertainty about the mound at the end of the game, McPhee feels he has a solid starting rotation to work with. Junior Adam Ottavino, sophomore Kris Drabrowiecki, and junior Dave Pellegrine won eight,

six, and five games, respectively, last year. This spring, they could get some added muscle from Dan Zehr and Jeff Thomson, a pair of red-shirt freshman hurlers trying to come back from major injuries.

McPhee is also looking for pitching contributions from red-shirt freshmen Tyler Thornton and Trevor Smith. He'll need the depth in the new conference, where schedules call for three nine-inning games, rather than a nine-inning game plus a seven-inning doubleheader.

Not surprisingly, three southern teams-the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, Virginia Commonwealth University, and George Mason University—are considered front-runners for the CAA title.

But the future looks bright for the Huskies. To ease the transition into the sunnier, more competitive conference, the team is kicking off a fund drive that commemorates McPhee's milestone five-hundredth victory.

They can certainly use the resources. "We think the move to the CAA will draw more interest to us in terms of recruits," the coach says. "BC in the ACC and we in the CAA are the two programs that have separated themselves in New England. We expect to be competitive right away."

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Must Love Dogs
A writer on the canines he's rescued—and how they saved him right back.

By Magdalena Hernandez

The Dogs Who Found Me, by Ken Foster (The Lyons Press; Guilford, Connecticut; 2006; 240 pages; $12.95)

Ken Foster, GB'89, has had friends snarl at him, bite him, and defecate in his car. He's not running with psychotics or sociopaths. The pals in question are dogs. And Foster is so forgiving of their outre behavior he could be canonized.

Or, rather, "caninized." In fact, Foster would no doubt view being made an honorary dog the highest mark of distinction. Not that he's alone. Man's best friend commonly commands a passionate response.

The Dogs Who Found Me is a life story with a twist. It's more meditation on the dogs the author has known than standard memoir. However, via the prism of Foster's animal relationships, we learn much about him. Pets are "like tattoos," he explains, leaving "their own indelible marks."

Foster isn't a standard-issue dog lover. He likes to rescue pups in need, locating homes for them or at least getting them out of harm's way. He finds dogs "tied under park benches. Stuck in drainage grates. Running door to door in the neighborhood with half an eye out," he writes. On vacations, he stops to scoop up lost dogs from roadsides.

Three pooches become a permanent part of his life. Brando is a pit-bull mix Foster adopts from a pet store run by the Brooklyn Animal Resource Coalition, a no-kill animal shelter.

His next adoptee, a rottweiler mix named Zephyr, seems to choose him, not the other way around. A foster dog from a local Humane Society, Zephyr makes a beeline for the author at a Florida book signing.

Sula, another pit bull, shows up on a neighbor's porch in such rough condition Foster believes she's been used in dogfights. He adopts her after seeing her through grueling rounds of surgery on her injured eye and worming.

Foster is self-aware enough to plumb his motives for saving dogs. "One of the reasons we rescue things," he writes, "is to feel a sense of control that we may not really have in our own lives. If we can save something, maybe then we can do anything. Or maybe saving that one thing really is all we can do, but we will have done it, absolutely."

Illustration by Ken Orvidas

He is particularly partial to pit bulls, an oft-maligned breed. They're not the ticking time bombs many city dwellers imagine, he reports, but extremely affectionate animals, vicious only in the hands of abusive owners.

For his part, Foster feels so much affection for his dogs that it occasionally borders on the romantic. He owns up to the anthropomorphism, describing dog-dog and human-dog crushes and jealousies in language that might have been lifted from a romance novel. After recovering Sula, who liked to run off for midnight rambles around the neighborhood, he writes, "I would ask her over and over on the way home: Why are you trying to break my heart?"

But his is an understandable fondness. Foster's dogs shepherd him through several traumatic episodes, including living through September 11, 2001, as a resident of Manhattan. The day spurs him into a kind of heroism. "It was sometime after that that I began finding dogs and wanting to rescue them," he writes. "But each time I do, I find myself having that same puzzling epiphany, wondering if I'm doing it for them or whether, in rescuing them, I'm actually doing something for myself."

A more personal misfortune strikes while Foster is living in New Orleans. He's constantly exhausted, capable of sleeping forty-eight hours straight, dizzy, and short of breath. He doesn't seek medical help until his dogs start to rouse him from denial. Zephyr begins sitting on his chest in the mornings. Sula leaps at him, as if trying to indicate something amiss.

He finally consults doctors who diagnose cardiac failure severe enough to require a pacemaker. By the time Foster tells this story, we know enough about him to find the news ironic. After all, a person who's rescued so many animals could have very little wrong with his heart.

Yet Foster's honest about how saving dogs provides both an altruistic outlet and the illusion of control. Following the deaths of two friends, he writes, "I was grateful for the problem of Biloxi, yet another distraction, a crisis to which I controlled the conclusion. I couldn't save [friends] Amanda or Lucy, but I could make sure Biloxi found a home."

In the book's last chapter, Foster recounts his thinking as he evacuated New Orleans steps ahead of Hurricane Katrina. He's not worried about his own safety—he leaves because he realizes that, in a worst-case scenario, "I could wade to higher ground, but I'd never be able to get my dogs out." In hindsight, he realizes his concern for his dogs' well-being may have saved his life.

The Dogs Who Found Me occasionally reads like a handbook for would-be dog rescuers. An appendix includes a checklist entitled "What to Do When You Find a Dog" and a description of various rescue organizations. The chapter "How to Read a Dog" outlines important cues to canine behavior. "How to Let Go" talks temporary guardians through the inevitable separation.

Elsewhere, the author explains what heartworm is and how to cure it. How to grab a dog without getting bitten. What practical jokers pit bulls are (who knew?).

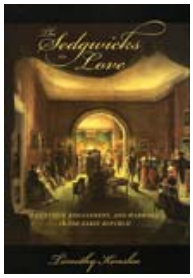
Foster, who has also written a short-story collection, The Kind I'm Likely to Get, and edited an anthology called Dog Culture: Writers on the Character of Canines, always manages to avoid sounding like a know-it-all or a scold. He's a low-key teacher, so accustomed to being around dogs that it's easy to view him as their translator or spokesperson.

The book's conversational, straightforward prose is one of its strengths. And Foster's powers of observation and eye for meaningful detail elevate what he has to say above the level of the average memoir.

You come to realize that, for Foster, dogs represent what he believes matters most in life: connection. As he notes, "The value of a dog's companionship has increased in the age of the Internet. Dogs continue to bring us into a real space, even as our other connections fade into the world of forwarded messages masquerading as communication."

In the end, Foster's book is as much about being human as it is about saving dogs. His four-legged friends teach him to show compassion, humor, grace, and responsibility, characteristics in scarce supply lately. We could use more lessons from dogs and the honorary dogs who love them.

Magdalena Hernandez, MBA'02, is a senior editor.



The Sedgwicks in Love, by Timothy Kenslea; Northeastern University Press; 2006

Jane Austen wasn't being completely sardonic when she observed that a single man with a good fortune must be in want of a wife. For many centuries, marriage was chiefly about amassing and protecting wealth.

But eventually—especially during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries—this notion began to shift to a more modern sensibility, which affirmed romantic love as the basis for matrimony. And long-held ideas about courtship, engagement, and marital happiness were suddenly in flux as well.

The nonfiction volume The Sedgwicks in Love takes a look at evolving lives and loves in the young American republic by examining two generations of an influential New England family.

Pamela Dwight and Theodore Sedgwick were married in Berkshire County, in western Massachusetts, in 1774. Theodore became a Federalist party leader in the U.S. Congress and a prominent state judge. Six of the couple's seven surviving offspring also married (daughter Catharine Maria Sedgwick, a successful

novelist, the sole holdout).

Many in the clan were veritable Abelards and Heloises, unusually prolific writers of letters, diaries, memoirs, and journals. Author Timothy Kenslea quotes generously from their papers to craft a lively portrait of a complicated family falling into and out of love.

Issues around parental roles in matchmaking, domestic abuse, mental illness, and the shaky financial situations many widows found themselves facing crop up in the Sedgwick narrative.

An epilogue examines why Catharine, who had many suitors, chose to remain unmarried and devote herself to the creative possibilities of a single life. Jane Austen would approve.

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Denton Crocker, LA'42, of Saratoga Springs, New York, writes, "At the invitation of the Veterans History Project (VHP) of the Library of Congress (LOC), my wife and I spoke and signed books on September 24 at the LOC pavilion at the 2005 National Book Festival on the National Mall, in Washington, D.C. Each of us had given the VHP a copy of a memoir. Mine recounts my service in a malaria-survey detachment in World War II; hers is a biography of our older son, who was killed in Vietnam. The LOC, in conjunction with the National Geographic Society, has published two books that include our stories: Voices of War contains excerpts from mine; Forever a Soldier has a chapter devoted to my wife's book. The VHP has placed our memoirs online. Mine is available at http://www.loc.gov/vets, and my wife's can be found at http://www.loc.gov/vets/stories/foreverasoldier."

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Everett Willis, E'56, of Auburn, California, writes, "Is there going to be a fiftieth reunion in the spring? I'll be seventy-five on May 26 and am feeling hearty."

Herbert Hadad, LA'59, of Pleasantville, New York, is a press officer for the U.S. Department of Justice and a regular contributor to Northeastern University Alumni Magazine via the "Alumni Passages" column. He gave two readings last fall in suburban New York. As part of Tarrytown's Spirit of Andalusia festival, which celebrated diversity and cultural understanding, he read stories about his Middle East heritage. He also appeared with two local poets at the Hudson Valley Writers' Center, in Sleepy Hollow, where he read from his forthcoming book, Home Fires. His e-mail address is herbert.hadad@usdoj.gov.

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William J. LaPointe, BA'64, of Hollis, New Hampshire, is a member of the board of directors at CoVi Technologies, a producer of video-surveillance systems. LaPointe was the president of Andover Controls, a building automation and security company, for twenty-five years.

Gerard W. Gawalt, LA'65, of Springfield, Virginia, is the author of My Dear President: Letters Between Presidents and Their Wives (New York: Black Dog/Leventhal, 2005). The correspondence of thirty-six presidential couples is featured in the volume. Gawalt also wrote First Daughters, a compilation of letters between U.S. presidents and their daughters.

George Winlock, BA'66, of Everett, Massachusetts, has retired from UniFirst Corporation, a uniform rental and services company, where he prepared federal and state corporation income-tax returns. In addition, he does financial work as a volunteer for the nonprofit Mystic Valley Elderly Services.

James R. Fitzgerald Jr., LA'68, MBA'70, of Sudbury, Massachusetts, is the head of the new life sciences and technology practice at Accounting Management Solutions, in Westborough, which provides outsourced accounting, financial management, and recruiting services. Fitzgerald was previously a senior vice president and chief financial officer at the biotechnology company Nephros Therapeutics, in Rhode Island.

James Jeffrey, LA'69, of Saugus, Massachusetts, has been appointed the State Department's senior adviser on Iraq by U.S. secretary of state Condoleezza Rice. He reports directly to Rice. An ROTC cadet commander at Northeastern and a paratrooper and member of the U.S. Army Rangers in Vietnam, he joined the U.S. diplomatic corps in 1976. From June 2004 to March 2005, Jeffrey was the deputy chief of mission in Baghdad, and was the charge d'affaires to Iraq from March to June 2005.

Sandra Waddock, LA'69, of West Newton, Massachusetts, received a 2005 Faculty Pioneer Award for External Impact from Beyond Grey Pinstripes, an organization devoted to ensuring that business education and practice integrate social and environmental issues. Waddock was honored for her groundbreaking work in social investing and corporate citizenship. She is a professor of management at Boston College's Wallace E. Carroll School of Management.

David J. Weaver, E'69, of Morrison, Colorado, won the Colorado/Wyoming Transportation Professional of the Year award from the Institute of Transportation Engineers, which recognized his efforts during 2004. Weaver is an engineering supervisor for Denver's

Traffic Engineering Services. He notes he's an avid snowboarder and competes in mountain-bike races. He came in third recently in the Winter Park Mountain Bike series.

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Peter Berenson, BA'70, of Newton, Massachusetts, chairs the board of trustees at the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology, in Boston. He is president of CPAsset Management, an investment-advisory company, and is also a partner at Forman, Itzkowitz, Berenson & LaGreca, a business-consulting company. He and his wife, Marsha, have a daughter, Marissa.

Kenneth Leger, PAH'70, of Arlington, Washington, writes, "After thirty-four years in retail pharmacy, I have retired. All five children have finished college. I'm now working with Sun City Missions as the director of training. Sun City Missions places young people to work as missionaries all over the world. Last year, we sent over twelve hundred to the field."

Bill Cadogan, E'71, of Naples, Florida, is a member of the board of directors at Ecora, a security-software specialist. Cadogan is the chief executive officer and chairman of the board at Mahi Networks, a telecommunications company, and a senior managing director at Vesbridge Partners, a venture capital firm.

Allan C. Klepper, MBA'71, of Barrington, Rhode Island, is the interim town administrator in Sutton, Massachusetts. Previously, he was town manager in Uxbridge, town coordinator in Hopedale, and executive secretary in Rehoboth.

Steven L. Barbato, E'72, of San Ramon, California, is the vice president of manufacturing and logistics at Health Hero Network, a health-monitoring company. He's the former vice president of operations at medical technology company BD Biosciences.

Phyllis J. Broker, LA'72, L'76, of Somerville, Massachusetts, is the first justice of the Woburn District Court. She had been an associate justice in Woburn since 1999. Broker chairs the District Court Criminal Proceedings Committee.

Jim Casill, E'72, and Patricia (La Rosee) Casill, Ed'73, have moved to Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Jim works at Armstrong World Industries, a manufacturer of floors, ceilings, and cabinets, and Patricia is a master tax adviser at H&R Block.

Steven Summer, BA'72, of Charleston, West Virginia, is a member of the board of directors for the Center for Organ Recovery and Education, a federal agency located in Pittsburgh. He has been the president and chief executive officer of Charleston's West Virginia Hospital Association since 1999.

John J. Bowen, LA'73, of Boston, was named the president of the Animal Rescue League of Boston on December 1, 2005. Previously, he served as vice president for development and external affairs at the

Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Barbara (Indeck) Cowen, Ed'73, of Worcester, Massachusetts, is the marketing manager for the Training Associates, a provider of IT trainers and consultants, in Westborough.

Edward G. Galante, E'73, of Dallas, retired in January from Exxon Mobil as a senior vice president after thirty-four years with the company.

Barry F. Lowenkron, LA'73, works in Washington, D.C., as the U.S. assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights, and labor. Previously, he was the State Department's deputy director of policy planning.

Ronald J. Temko, BA'73, of San Diego, is a partner and chief executive officer of Windsor Capital Mortgage Corporation, a mortgage brokerage. His daughter, Perri, is a sophomore at Northeastern.

Martin P. Kress, MPA'74, of Solon, Ohio, is the new executive director of the National Space Science and Technology Center, in Huntsville, Alabama. Formerly, he was vice president and relationship manager of the NASA/Space Group in the National Security Division of Battelle Science and Technology International, in Columbus, Ohio. Prior to joining Battelle, Kress spent more than twenty years in senior-management and staff positions with NASA and the U.S. Senate.

Sue Major, LA'74, MBA'78, of Rancho Santa Fe, California, along with Stacey Davenport, has launched DavenportMajor Executive Search, in San Diego. The company specializes in the placement of senior-level life sciences and technology executives.

John L. Pucci, BA'74, of Barrington, Rhode Island, is a member of the board of directors and treasurer for the Providence Ronald McDonald House. He is the head of emerging business practice for the accounting firm Sansiveri, Kimball & McNamee.

Kenneth Ribeiro, E'74, ME'76, of North Reading, Massachusetts, is the director of research and development for explosives-detection equipment at Implant Sciences Corporation, which manufactures products for national security, medicine, and industry.

Greg Tutunjian, AS'74, of Newton, Massachusetts, is a project manager with Ruckus Network, a digital-entertainment service provider for college students.

Howard R. Appel, BA'75, of Lake Mary, Florida, is the employment coordinator at Wharton-Smith, a construction group. An active member of Toastmasters International, Appel was previously the interim director of ProNet Central Florida, an organization that helps unemployed professionals. Married to Marla for twenty-eight years, he has two children and a grandson.

Anna (Hilton) Gabel, N'75, of Leavenworth, Kansas, writes, "After graduation, I married, and began a nursing career at Ohio State University Hospitals. We moved to Leavenworth, Kansas, and raised two sons while I obtained a bachelor's degree in nursing from Saint Mary College and a master's in nursing education from the University of Kansas. I'm currently the director of education at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. My husband, Christopher, is a military historian at Fort Leavenworth."

Margaret (Peggy) Hannon-Rizza, BB'75, of Billerica, Massachusetts, was inducted into the Burlington (Massachusetts) High School Athletic Hall of Fame on October 6, 2005. A 1971 graduate of Burlington High, she earned four varsity letters in softball and two each in field hockey and basketball, and co-captained the field hockey and softball teams.

Kevin Quinlan, PA'75, of Marblehead, Massachusetts, writes, "I wanted to let NU and my friends know that, after a nice twelve-year run at Boston Biomedica, we sold the company." Quinlan is now the chief financial officer at Anika Therapeutics, a manufacturer of products to heal cartilage and soft tissue. He and his wife have two sons.

Dale Zelony Rhoads, BA'75, of Westborough, Massachusetts, is a senior compliance consultant with Wolf & Company, a certified public accounting and business consulting firm in Boston.

Joseph Trudel, UC'75, of Tucson, reports that he's published Of Seasons Known (available at), a Cold War thriller that opens with President John F. Kennedy speaking at the Berlin Wall and ends with the wall's collapse in 1989.

Kevin Weeks, CJ'75, formerly of Dearborn, Michigan, is now the head of the Los Angeles Office of Field Operations for U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He had been the head of the agency's Detroit office. Weeks has worked at U.S. Customs for thirty-one years, beginning his career in 1975 as an import specialist in Buffalo, New York.

Frederic Lee Klein, E'76, of Glastonbury, Connecticut, is a member of the Hartford law firm Pullman & Comley. Previously, he worked in the legal department at Northeast Utilities for twenty years, after holding jobs with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and a Washington, D.C., law firm.

Kevin Rhone, MBA'76, of Dedham, Massachusetts, is the senior vice president and general manager of the workforce-management business unit at Workscape, a company based in Marlborough that provides outsourced benefits and human resources programs. He was previously the president and chief executive officer at SmartTime Software, in Framingham.

Thomas Bartel, UC'78, of Scottsdale, Arizona, received a master's in theology from Fuller Theological Seminary, in Pasadena, California, in June 2005. Bartel is currently employed as a network administrator for Caremark, one of the largest pharmaceutical-benefits management companies in the United States, in their Scottsdale office.

David C. Lewis, BA'78, and Mary A. Kenney were married on August 27, 2005, in Tortola, British Virgin Islands. They live in Scituate, Massachusetts. Lewis is a sales manager with Pratt-Read Corporation. His wife, an Emmanuel College graduate, is a registered nurse and certified diabetic educator at Harbor Medical, in Weymouth.

Mark M. Little, ME'78, of Niskayuna, New York, is the director of GE Global Research, the research organization of General Electric. He has been with the company for twenty-seven years, most recently as vice president of its power-generation business, in Schenectady.

Michael Higgins, CJ'79, of Montclair, Virginia, is the chief security officer for LexisNexis Group, a provider of legal, business, government, and tax information.

Charles J. McCarthy, UC'79, of Dunstable, Massachusetts, is a member of the board of trustees at Fitchburg State College. He is the chief information officer for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation, and has held administrative positions with Nexus Communications, Multilink, VideoServer, and Protean Instrument Corporation.

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Mary M. Cullinan, MBA'81, of Slingerlands, New York, is the manager of financial planning and analysis at Albany Molecular Research, a drug company. She was with General Electric for more than twenty years, most recently as a senior financial analyst in the silicone products division.

Dick Holcomb, MBA'81, of Houston, is the senior vice president of sales and operations at eLinear, a computer-security and communications-services company. He previously worked for Micro System Enterprises.

Jim McGowan, BA'81, of Wakefield, Massachusetts, is a partner in the Boston office of Novogradac and Company, a national certified public-accounting and consulting company.

Kevin Sanders, MJ'81, of Marlborough, Massachusetts, is the president and chief executive officer of the Better Business Bureau serving eastern Massachusetts, Maine, and Vermont.

Charlene A. Friedman, L'82, of Menlo Park, California, is vice president, general counsel, and secretary at VNUS Medical Technologies, a medical-devices company. Previously, she served in the same capacities at R2 Technology.

Michael Mandracchia, MS'82, of Jackson, New Jersey, on January 1 began a three-year term on the board of directors for the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers (ACHMM). In September 2005, he received his fifth consecutive Champion of Excellence award at ACHMM's annual national conference. Mandracchia is a hazardous-site mitigation specialist for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Eileen Harrington Giddings, UC'83, UC'85, of Billerica, Massachusetts, writes, "I went to night school in Burlington. I am married, and work as an accountant at a private school for children with disabilities, the Cotting School, in Lexington. I have two daughters."

Thomas MacHenry, UC'83, of Wakefield, Massachusetts, writes of his family's three-generation connection to Northeastern. His late father, Albert MacHenry, UC'75, UC'77, lived his entire life in Stoneham. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, and was a member of the Stoneham Police Department for many years. Al and his wife, Shirley, raised four sons. He returned to college to study criminal justice and graduated with honors. He was a former athlete at Stoneham High School, and maintained an interest in NU hockey and football until his death in 2002. Thomas has been a member of the Wakefield Police Department for nearly thirty years and holds the rank of sergeant. "Having married in 1977

and become a father two years later, I found Northeastern the perfect fit for me," he writes. "I credit Northeastern and its professors with giving me the opportunity, direction, encouragement, and confidence." Thomas went on to graduate from the New England School of Law, in Boston. "Northeastern gave me the foundation and the opportunity to further my police career," he explains. "In addition, NU encouraged and incited me to consider other academic pursuits, such as law school, and to seek challenges in other careers, such as practicing law, as well as teaching criminal justice courses part-time at a local college." Thomas adds that, like his father, he is a former athlete and a fan of Husky hockey, football, and baseball. Thomas's son, Michael, CS'04, completes the triple-generation tie to Northeastern. Michael currently lives in Somerville.

Jim Madden, AS'83, of Cumming, Georgia, is the vice president of the carrier services division of Five9, a company that provides telemarketing and call-center services. He was previously vice president of service providers at Nuance Communications.

Paul Frazier, UC'84, of Braintree, Massachusetts, is the city's police chief. He and his wife have two daughters. Frazier is in his second year of a three-year term as president of the Massachusetts Police Chiefs Association. He has been involved in fundraising events for the Jimmy Fund, and he participated in the 2005 Pan-Mass Challenge bicycle trek.

Elisa Oksner Shostak, BA'84, of Seattle, writes, "It's been a few years since I've submitted a class note. Here's a quick update: I started my own management consulting business, Compass Rose Strategic Consulting, four years ago. The website URL is www.compassrosellc.com. Last year was a good year, and I was proud to contribute a percentage of my revenue to a local arts organization as my way of giving back to the community. I've also started a blog, at www.compassrosestrategic.com, documenting the cooking and gardening projects that take up most of my spare time. Walt and I celebrated our twelfth wedding anniversary in February. I miss Boston very much, except in the summer and winter months."

Steve Weisse, BA'84, of Schenectady, New York, writes, "After graduation, I began working for General Electric, as a member of their financial management program. I spent ten years working in various corporate positions for GE. I left the company in 1996 to get my master's in teaching English from Union College in Schenectady. I spent the next six years working for the Schenectady City School District. Most recently, I have become a crew member onboard the ship Half Moon, which is a full-scale replica of the exploration ship sailed by Henry Hudson for the Dutch East India Company in 1609. Every year, we take the ship for three weeklong voyages with a dozen New Yorkâ€“area middle school students. You can read about these trips on the website www.halfmoon.mus.ny.us/livinghistory.htm. As a Half Moon crew member, I also appeared in the History Channel documentary "Conquest of America," filmed in late 2004. I'm the president of the Tri-City Cricket club here in Schenectady. Our club has introduced this great sport to the local school system through districtwide training of the physical education staff. In addition, I play the trumpet professionally in upstate New York, and am in a brass quintet that performs regularly at various local venues."

Lisa Burns, CJ'85, MJ'86, of Old Saybrook, Connecticut,

has earned a master's degree in special education and is a therapeutic special educator. "Although I no longer work in the field of criminal justice, my background has helped me tremendously in my present job," she writes.

Nancy (Brown) Conner, AS'85, of Ithaca, New York, published two books in 2005: Twenty Questions to Ask Before Selling Your Home (which she coauthored with Steve Holzer), and eBay: The Missing Manual. Her e-mail address is nancy@lightlink.com.

Gwendolyn Huntoon, ME'85, lives in Pittsburgh with her husband, Amro El-Jaroudi, and children Rasha and Nadim. Huntoon is the director of networking for the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center and the interim director of operations for National LambdaRail, an initiative by research universities and private technology companies to provide a national-scale infrastructure for research and experimentation in computer-networking technologies and applications.

Walter Eykel, CS'86, of Norton, Massachusetts, teaches computer organization and assembly language at Wheaton College. Previously, he taught C and C++ at Northeastern's Dedham campus. He also works at Invensys. "Our three kids are all getting big and doing well with their activities," he writes. "I am particularly interested in hearing from my old roommates. I was back on campus for the Alumni Ball in October 2005." His e-mail address is weykel@yahoo.com.

Paul Lessard, BHD'86, of Phoenix, has been hired by the Red Sox as their head athletic trainer. Formerly the head athletic trainer for the Arizona Diamondbacks, he'd worked with that team for eight years. Lessard has also worked for Boston University, Holy Cross College, the Atlanta Falcons, and the New York Yankees.

Paul Altmeyer, AS'87, of Norfolk, Massachusetts, is the vice president in charge of Southwest recruiting for the search firm Analog Group, headquartered in Walpole. He was previously the regional sales manager at NESN. "I made the change from media sales into technical recruiting as a lifestyle/career change," he writes. "My biggest challenge is learning about traits and trends in the electronic hardware and firmware industry." He can be contacted by e-mail at paul@analoggroup.com.

Ann Carriere, AS'87, of Wakefield, Massachusetts, reports, "I work as a freelance writer and editor. Most recently, I have been helping special-needs students develop their note-taking skills. I recently accepted a position at the circulation department of a local newspaper."

Fran (Nicholson) Hodgkins, AS'87, of Sparks, Maryland, recounts several changes she and her family have undergone. In October 2004, Fran, husband Winston, and daughter Roslyn celebrated the birth of Theresa Ann. In fall 2005, two of Hodgkins's books were published—If You Were My Baby: A Wildlife Lullaby and The Cat of Strawberry Hill. In October 2005, the family moved to Maryland, where Hodgkins is the executive editor for humanities at Words and Numbers, an editorial services company in Baltimore.

John Panagopoulos, MA'87, of Malden, Massachusetts, earned a law degree from Suffolk University in May 2005. He holds an MBA from the University of Massachusettsâ€"Boston.

Anne Collins, L'88, of Arlington, Massachusetts, was appointed the state's registrar of motor vehicles by Governor Mitt Romney on November 28, 2005. Both her parents are Northeastern graduates: Bill, E'56, and Louise, LA'56. The elder Collinses live in Brewster.

Paul Metzger, E'88, and Donna O'Bryant, UC'96, of Nashua, New Hampshire, were married on August 6, 2005. Metzger is a system engineer at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, in Lexington, Massachusetts. O'Bryant is a health-care management specialist at Health Dialog, a medical-services company in Manchester, New Hampshire. They share a love of community theater and are working on a production of Cats with the Actorsingers group in Nashua.

Sal Lupoli, BA'89, of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, is the cofounder (along with brother Nick Jr.) of Sal's Just Pizza, which in November opened its twenty-fifth restaurant, in Nashua, New Hampshire.

Christine (DeSimone) Meckley, AS'89, MEd'91, and her husband, Tom, celebrated the birth of their second child, Sawyer James, on September 19, 2005. Riley is his older sister. The family lives in Port Jefferson, New York. "I would like to say hello to my old roommates Susie, Debbie, and Lori, and especially to my friends from the swim team," writes Meckley. E-mail her at christinemeckley@yahoo.com.

Amy Westerman, CJ'89, of Amissville, Virginia, is a technical analyst at Datatel, a telecommunications company. She's also a nationally licensed massage therapist. After graduating from Northeastern, she played rugby on the U.S. Women's National Team, competing in two World Cup; she's fourth on the list of top point scorers. Since retiring from rugby, she has completed two marathons: New York in 2003 and New Mexico in 2004.

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Imad Atalla, CS'90, MS'93, of Boston, is the founder and publisher of Publio, a new quarterly magazine that aims to celebrate America's transforming cultural identity. The magazine features social criticism, humor, fiction, film, and art.

Scott D. Carpenter, MBA'90, of Shelburne, Vermont, is a member of the board of trustees at Champlain College. Carpenter is the president of KeyBank, serves on the executive committees of the Vermont Bankers Association and the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce, and is a member of the boards for ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, the Vermont Bar Association, and Fresh Tracks Capital. He is also a member of the Vermont Business Roundtable and coaches soccer and cross-country skiing. Carpenter enjoys biking, running, and maple-sugaring. He and his wife, Lisa, have three children.

Brian G. Connor, ME'90, of Newfields, New Hampshire, is the vice president of product development at OmniSonics Medical Technologies, a medical-devices company in Wilmington, Massachusetts. Darryl Elliott, BHD'90, of Milton, Massachusetts, is a partner in Bay State Physical Therapy and works in the company's Weymouth office. He specializes in orthopedic injuries.

Christopher R. Lanni, CJ'90, of Maynard, Massachusetts, is the residential security consultant for Barkan Management, a residential management services company in Boston. He is also director of security and resident services at Harbor Towers, on the Boston waterfront. In addition, he has gained the designation of certified protection professional. "On the personal front, our 1860s farmhouse in Maynard is actively under renovation," he writes. "And on October 16, 2005, Rebecca and I were married during a small ceremony in Acton. We spent our honeymoon in the Florida Keys being chased by Hurricane Wilma."

Richard J. Lofgren Jr., E'90, lives in Boynton Beach, Florida, with his wife, Debbie, and daughter Sloane Judith. He owns a real estate office and a mortgage office in Fort Lauderdale, and he and his wife run a home-based business with Lexxus International.

Aimee Rigney, AS'91, of Troy, New York, writes, "I'm married with two sons and am living in upstate New York. Would love to hear from old classmates at aimeerig@hotmail.com."

Thomas M. Armas, CJ'92, of Fairfield, Connecticut, is a U.S. Marine Corps captain who works as a Secret Service agent. He was in New York City on September 11, 2001. His actions on that day earned him the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the highest noncombat award for heroism.

John A. Bennett, ME'92, of Lakeville, Massachusetts,

leads indirect sales in New England at Constellation NewEnergy, a subsidiary of Constellation Energy of Connecticut.

Kathryn Mahoney, MS'92, of Groton, Massachusetts, is the author of Cracked at Birth: One Madcap Mom's Thoughts on Motherhood, Marriage, and Burnt Meatloaf. The book's website is at www.crackedatbirth.com.

Michael O'Brien, BA'92, and Tamara Prebble were married on April 30, 2005, in Osterville, Massachusetts. They live in West Roxbury.

Eric Smith, BA'92, and Kerry Austin-Smith, BA'93, celebrated the birth of twin daughters, Hannah and Amanda, in December 2004. Zachery is the twins' older brother. The family lives in Arlington, Massachusetts.

Jocelyn (Valente) Wackrow, AS'92, and her husband, Jonathan, welcomed the birth of their son, Hunter Joseph, on April 15, 2005, at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City. They live in Linden, New Jersey.

Christine McEnroy, AS'93, is the owner/broker of McEnroy Realty Services in Naples, Florida, where she lives. The company serves the Naples and Fort Lauderdale areas. Her e-mail address is christinemcenroy@comcast.net.

Andrew Schimenti, CJ'93, of Washington, D.C., writes, "I am still in the U.S. Navy. Currently a lieutenant assigned to the Chief of Naval Operations Intelligence Plot and also a White House Social Aide in Washington, D.C., I am temporarily being deployed to Afghanistan for six months (starting November 2005). During my last tour to the region, in 2003â€"2004, it was great hearing from some of you, so don't hesitate to drop me a line." His e-mail address is amsace@aol.com.

John Urdi, AS'93, of Denver, has been named director of marketing for Colorado Ski Country, which works with the state's twenty-five ski resorts to promote skiing and riding in Colorado. Urdi and his wife, Nora, are awaiting the birth of a son in March. He'll join Bryn, their eighteen-month-old daughter. Urdi can be emailed at john@coloradoski.com.

Robert Weissman, L'93, and his wife, Ariana Calderon, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Rebecca Abigail, on October 17, 2005. Jeremy is their older child. The family lives in White Plains, New York.

Timothy Chace, AS'94, GB'96, of Warwick, Rhode Island, is an assistant principal at North Kingstown High School. For six years, he was the director of student services and counseling at the West Warwick public schools. "I jumped at the opportunity to take over an ASCA National Model guidance department at North Kingstown and work at one of the best, highest-achieving schools in New England," he writes.

Jennifer (Braffitt) Khavari, AS'94, and her husband, Aram, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Mia Langley, on August 2, 2005. "We now live in Bangor, Maine," writes Khavari. "My husband is a financial adviser for UBS. I traded in my medical sales career to be a stay-at-home mom. The idea of getting back on the road and being away from home was torture. I am on the board of trustees at our local YMCA and also at the Maine Center for the Arts in Orono, so I am staying

busy. If there are other NU grads in the Bangor/Orono area, feel free to write." Her e-mail address is jenniferkhavari@yahoo.com.

Nancy (Laitinen) McPartlin, AS'94, and her husband, Sean, celebrated the birth of Mary Elizabeth on July 14, 2005. They live in Rockland, Massachusetts. McPartlin can be reached by e-mail at nmcpartlin@aol.com.

Carlotta (McCarthy) Patten, CJ'94, of Gloucester, Massachusetts, is a commercial litigation attorney with Metaxas, Norman & Pidgeon, in Beverly. Patten is a 1998 graduate of Suffolk University Law School. She and her husband, Michael, have a son, Jack. She says she'd like to hear from former classmates by e-mail at cmpatten@mnplaw.com.

Kieran L. Ramsey, CJ'94, and Heather (Graves) Ramsey, BA'95, have moved from Seattle to Alexandria, Virginia. Kieran was promoted and transferred to FBI Headquarters. Heather has earned a master's degree in mental health counseling. She is a program director at a nonprofit organization and plans to start a counseling practice. "After long stints in Laredo, Texas, and Seattle, we're glad to be back on the East Coast and look forward to seeing a lot more of family and friends," writes Kieran.

Joanne (DiGregorio) Smith, AS'94, of Norwell, Massachusetts, and her husband, Edward, celebrated the birth of their second son, Darrey Owen, on June 23, 2005, at South Shore Hospital, in Weymouth. Camden Thomas, their older son, was born on February 4, 2004.

Nishith Acharya, AS'95, of Wayland, Massachusetts, writes, "I am now running one of the largest philanthropic foundations in Massachusetts, the Desh and Jaishree Foundation, and we are doing work in education, health, and international development in New England and India. I am married to Sheetal Acharya, a senior consultant with Deloitte & Touche."

Alan Ark, E'95, ME'97, of Portland, Oregon, writes, "We've been here since May 2004. Sara is working for Standard Insurance, while I'm working at Unicru, a pre-employment assessment company. Caitlyn is enjoying the horseback-riding lessons after her kindergarten classes, while AJ loves the fact that the zoo is only ten minutes away. If you find yourself in the area, please let us know." His e-mail address is commodore_64@yahoo.com.

Christine Brophy, AS'95, of Lindenhurst, New York, has left her assistant editor position at Family Circle magazine and is now an associate editor at a trade publication in New York City, where she reports on fashion accessories. Her e-mail address is christinebrophy@gmail.com.

Kelly Jones, BA'95, of Manhattan, is the director of marketing resources and communications for the asset management firm Loring Ward Group.

Amy (Howard) McAvoy, AS'95, of Hampton Falls, New Hampshire, celebrated the birth of Mikayla Rhian in November 2004. Her older child is Conor Ryan.

Andrew Pike, BA'95, of Oegstgeest, the Netherlands, is a senior consultant with Deloitte & Touche's corporate finance group in Amsterdam. He writes of a late-fall ski trip: "I have been living in the Netherlands for just

over three years. After years of waiting, I finally skied the Swiss Alps in November 2005. The flight to Geneva was short, followed by a rather long but scenic train ride to Zermatt, a mountain village at the foot of the Matterhorn and my ultimate destination. The slopes, while limited, were phenomenal, making for a nice, relaxing two days in the sun. Nightlife was laid-back because the official ski season was not yet underway."

Pam (Danielson) Scanlon, BHD'95, and John Scanlon, CJ'95, welcomed the birth of twin sons, John and Michael, in October 2005. Their older child is Joe. The family lives in Hereford, Arizona. John is a border patrol officer.

Michael J. Shuckerow Jr., CJ'95, of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, is a chief compliance officer and senior vice president at global benefits provider CitiStreet, in North Quincy. Shuckerow was previously at UBS as deputy chief administrative officer and first vice president. He and his wife, Nicole, moved to Shrewsbury from the metro New York area. He can be e-mailed at mshuckerow@citistreetonline.com.

Kenneth Augen, BA'96, of Braintree, Massachusetts, recently became a mortgage consultant at HomeVest Mortgage Corporation, in Needham. Friends may contact him at ken@homevestmortgage.com.

Jennifer Edwards, BPH'96, GB'97, and Brandon Harnois, BA'96, MBA'00, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Avelyn Jade, on August 12, 2005. They live in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. Their website is at www.geocities.com/jenupt97.

Mark Lembo, BB'96, and Danielle (Cheverie) Lembo, BB'98, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Emily Rose, on May 19, 2005. They live in Marshfield, Massachusetts. Mark is a physical therapist at his own practice, Orthopedic Rehab Associates. Danielle says she's enjoying raising Emily full-time at home. Joe Sawicki, MBA'96, of Portland, Oregon, is vice president and general manager of the design-to-silicon division of Mentor Graphics.

Shelley Adriance, GB'97, and Natalie Basil were married on July 29, 2005, in Tyringham, Massachusetts, and now live in Providence, Rhode Island. Adriance is the coordinator of student activities and leadership programs at Brown University.

Kimberly (McGahan) Killelea, BA'97, of Lakeville, Massachusetts, is the president of the Lakeville Area Mothers Club. Her one-year term started at the beginning of January. In addition, she writes, "I passed my PMP exam on May 13, 2005, and I am now senior project manager with my project management professional designation."

Kaichiro Yoshikawa, MJ'97, and his wife, Hiroe, celebrated the birth of their son, Kanichiro, on April 23, 2005, in Osaka, Japan. They live in Izumishi.

Clara (Holt) Keegan, AS'98, and Mark Keegan, E'98, celebrated the birth of Timothy Michael on July 15, 2005, in Worcester, Massachusetts. The family lives in Littleton. Clara completed her family medicine residency at UMass Medical Center in June and is entering private practice in Dracut. Mark is a biomedical engineer working in Cambridge.

John F. Vacha, PA'98, of Boston, has been appointed

the chief financial officer at Neothermia, a tissue-excision systems company based in Natick, Massachusetts.

Jonas N. Altidor, AS'99, of Medford, Massachusetts, is the author of a book entitled School Vouchers and Parents in Cleveland, Milwaukee, and Los Angeles, which discusses the role the Constitutional mandate of separation of church and state plays in the matter of school vouchers.

Michael D. Estlick, E'99, ME'02, married Julie A. Kaster on October 1, 2005, in Lexington, Massachusetts. Brian Carrier, E'99, was the best man. The couple lives in Woburn. Estlick is a senior design engineer at the semiconductor company AMD, in Boxborough.

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Danyl Collings, AS'00, of Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, is a sales associate with Marquis GMAC Real Estate, in Brighton. "After five years in the public relations arena, I decided to better utilize my communication skills assisting buyers and sellers in the real-estate transaction process," he writes. His website is www.danylcollings.com.

Bobby Joe Hill, AS'00, of Leicester, Massachusetts, responded to last year's hurricane emergencies by traveling to Houston to aid Katrina's and Rita's victims. An emergency medical technician, he completed a class with a Red Cross group from Worcester prior to leaving for Texas. Hill has a background in volunteering. He earned an Eagle Scout badge in Leicester more than a decade ago and, since his graduation from Northeastern, has taught English to children at a mountain school in Japan, worked in an AmeriCorps program in Colombia, and is teaching students in short-term placements at the Boston School of English.

Jeffrey Ladino, CS'00, and his wife, Colleen, celebrated the birth of their first child, Brian, on November 7, 2005. The family lives in Quincy, Massachusetts.

Andrew O'Brien, MPA'00, of West Roxbury, Massachusetts, is the deputy chancellor of external relations at the University of Massachusettsâ€"Boston. Formerly state director in the office of U.S. Senator John F. Kerry, O'Brien now heads government relations, economic development, marketing, and master-planning efforts at UMassâ€"Boston.

Mike Reinold, BHS'00, formerly of Birmingham, Alabama, is the new assistant athletic trainer for the Boston Red Sox. Holding a doctorate in physical therapy from the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions, Reinold has been the director of rehabilitation and clinical education at the American Sports Medicine Institute in Birmingham for the past two years.

Donald MacDonald, MBA'01, of Dover, Massachusetts, is the vice president of sales executive service at IDC, a Framingham-based market research firm. Prior to joining IDC in 2004, he worked at Xerox, IBM, and EMC.

Venessa Manzano, BB'01, of Randolph, Massachusetts, is the new executive director of Filipino American Human Services in Jamaica, New York.

Joseph P. Corrigan, L'02, of Shirley, Massachusetts, is a member of the real estate department of the Boston law firm Barron & Stadfeld.

Gretchen (Kaplinger) Duford, BA'02, and husband Tom

are proud to announce the birth of their son, Benjamin Thomas, on November 12, 2005, in Boston. The baby weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces. The family lives in Raynham, Massachusetts.

Shana (Brunye) Hoch, MBA'02, married Casey Hoch in August 2005. They live in Hudson, New Hampshire. She is an advertising manager at the Nashua Telegraph. Elaine Lippman, L'02, of Silver Spring, Maryland, is an associate at the law firm Spiegal & McDiarmid, in Washington, D.C. She practices energy and environmental law, and litigation. Formerly, Lippman was with Hangley, Aronchik, Segal & Pudlin, in Philadelphia.

Danielle Portal, AS'02, of Concord, New Hampshire, writes, "After graduating, I got my master's degree in social work at Boston College while working as a substance-abuse counselor and a social-work consultant in a legal-services office. I've just started law school in New Hampshire."

Heather Berg, AS'03, and David Harvey are engaged to be married on July 29 in Stow, Massachusetts. They live in Miramar, Florida. Berg is working toward a specialist degree in school psychology at Barry University in Miami and is a full-time teacher of autistic children at a school in North Miami. Harvey works at Hamilton Sundstrand, an aerospace-products company in Miramar.

Karen Bonaduce, AS'03, of Lumberton, New Jersey, and Kevin Scott are engaged. Bonaduce is a proposal coordinator for BAE Systems, a defense and aerospace systems developer. Scott is a U.S. Air Force captain in charge of the network control center at McGuire Air Force Base.

Debra L. Feldman, L'03, of Boca Raton, Florida, is an associate attorney in the corporate department of Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, in Fort Lauderdale.

Jenna Lavery, AS'03, of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, earned a master's degree in mental-health counseling from Boston College and works at a community mental-health agency. This news was reported by Katie Femino, AS'03, who adds, "Congrats, Jenna, on all your accomplishments."

Michael McLain, CS'03, and Andrea Kolber, E'04, of Tonawanda, New York, were married on July 16, 2005. They both attend the State University of New York in Buffalo. He is studying law, and she is working toward a master's degree in mechanical engineering.

Jenny Wallner, L'03, of San Francisco, is a member of the health-care group at the Ropes & Gray office in San Francisco.

Linda Weseley, AS'03, writes, "I am now living in sunny San Diego. It is weird to think that over two years have passed since graduation."

Brian P. Rice, L'04, of Stamford, Connecticut, is an associate in the law firm Shipman & Goodwin.

Monica Vantoch, L'04, of Santa Cruz, California, has opened her own law practice. She concentrates on family law, collaborative law, and mediation. Vantoch previously worked at the Walnut Avenue Women's Center. She specializes in child custody, and domestic violence and abuse. Her website is at

www.mediate.com/vantoch.

Claire Walker, MPA'04, of Cleveland, is the senior manager of government affairs at the Greater Cleveland Partnership, a metropolitan chamber of commerce.

Donna Decker, PHD'05, of Ashburnham, Massachusetts, is a professor of English and director of the Women in Leadership Certificate Program at Franklin Pierce College, in Rindge, New Hampshire. Her dissertation, titled "Vexatiously Ever After: Marriage in the New Woman Novel," examines how nineteenth-century feminist novels treat the issue of marriage.

Nina Nocciolino, AS'05, of Philadelphia, wrote an op-ed piece published by the Boston Globe in October 2005 that described her postgraduation move to a new city and a subsequent weekend trip to Boston, just to get her college-town bearings back ("I smiled as the T driver announced, 'Next stop, Nahhtheastern,' on my way in from the airport").

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1920s

Henry I. Morton, E'27, E'41, October 13, 2005

Howard F. H. Allen, E'29, May 16, 2005

Forrest J. Evans, E'29, November 6, 2005

1930s

Graydon F. Lockwood, E'32, October 10, 2005

Arnold W. Williams, BA'35, September 13, 2005

Olive P. Moses, BB'36, July 13, 2005

Charles J. Desimone, E'37, October 10, 2005

Bertram F. Goodwin, E'37, November 11, 2005

William C. Paul, E'37, September 22, 2005

Samuel Brody, P'39, April 18, 2005

Deane S. Clark, B'39, September 15, 2005

Ernest C. Swanson, B'39, September 4, 2005

Anne Roorbach Wallace, BB'39, April 23, 2005

1940s

Frederick H. Walter, L'41, August 19, 2005

James M. McCracken, BA'42, July 12, 2005

Lyman L. Andrews, E'43, June 15, 2005

Harrison L. Bennett, BA'43, September 8, 2005

Colin F. Cameron, LA'43, September 22, 2005

David P. Mohr, BB'43, April 1, 2005

Eugene F. Smith, LA'43, April 27, 2005

Erwin Allen, E'47, June 10, 2005

Daniel F. Friel, LC'47, UC'61, June 11, 2005

Charlotte Steiff, LA'47, March 7, 2005

Jane W. Swallow, BB'48, November 5, 2005

Stanislaus Zbozen, LA'48, July 23, 2005

Eunice Runge, LA'49, July 24, 2005

1950s

William A. Flynn, LC'50, B'53, MBA'58, June 1, 2005

Constance H. Baranow, B'51, January 6, 2005

George J. Crowdes, E'51, August 5, 2005

Robert S. Glassman, LC'51, UC'77, April 14, 2005

George R. Hambrecht, LA'51, June 19, 2005

Clyde J. Horne, Ed'51, June 5, 2005

John R. Mahoney, BA'51, MBA'54, August 11, 2004

Silvio Permatteo, P'51, November 8, 2004

Robert W. Biggio, LA'53, October 24, 2005

Augustino J. Dipinto, BA'53, October 2, 2004

John F. Guinan, LA'53, August 20, 2005

Alfred N. Judd, E'53, April 18, 2005

Joan Andre Balerna, LA'54, May 4, 2005

Robert William Canon, E'54, July 6, 2005

Charles T. Caputo, LA'54, October 15, 2005

Robert A. Hatcher, BA'54, August 21, 2005

Harry Shershow, P'54, April 5, 2005

Anna C. Trocki, P'54, June 14, 2005

Leo Tyrrell, BA'54, ME'59, September 30, 2005

Francis D. Doherty, B'55, January 29, 2005

Frederick M. Viles, MA'55, July 10, 2005

Gerard P. O'Neill, B'57, October 21, 2005

Robert W. Hall, E'58, October 15, 2005

William A. Westlund, B'58, April 27, 2005

John E. McManus, BA'59, January 15, 2005

William C. Nemitz, MBA'59, November 13, 2005

Leo G. Palmer, LC'59, B'60, November 2, 2005

1960s

Herbert C. Miller, BA'60, November 5, 2004

George W. Moncrief, E'60, August 5, 2005

Francis J. Dooley, MBA'61, September 20, 2005

Robert H. Emberley, E'61, August 19, 2005

Charles L. Hoffman, BA'61, August 8, 2005

James A. Paisley, BA'61, September 14, 2004

George H. Sullivan, UC'61, August 27, 2005

Alrich P. Kong, LC'62, UC'66, January 30, 2005

Peter P. Mullaly, E'62, April 15, 2005

Kenneth F. Sears, UC'62, November 3, 2004

Lawrence V. Dacey, BA'63, October 7, 2005

E. Bruce Gallagher, BA'63, June 23, 2005

Lewis H. Johnson, LA'63, ME'73, March 17, 2005

Michael T. O'Connor, MBA'63, February 16, 2005

Elaine Small Dodson, BB'64, May 25, 2005

M. Carlton Storms, MEd'64, September 21, 2005

Raymond E. De Matteo, UC'65, September 9, 2004

Charles J. Glattly, BA'65, June 3, 2005

Alvan R. Hyman, E'65, May 16, 2005

Richard G. James, UC'65, December 16, 2004

Dominic S. Zappia, UC'65, UC'74, June 25, 2005

John A. Holland, BA'66, November 11, 2005

C. Clark Truesdell, PA'66, April 21, 2005

Frank C. Whitney, MBA'66, April 6, 2005

Ruth E. Cormier, MEd'67, September 12, 2005

James K. Black, LC'68, UC'74, July 17, 2005

Robert L. Chandler, E'68, December 27, 2004

Barbara J. Cottone, LA'68, June 25, 2005

Robert G. Lepage, MBA'69, June 9, 2005

Robert A. Maguire, LC'69, UC'76, November 1, 2005

Eric W. Porter, BA'69, MBA'71, November 5, 2005

1970s

George E. Berteletti, UC'70, UC'73, October 8, 2005

James B. Crawford, MEd'70, August 7, 2005

James J. Daly, MEd'71, September 7, 2005

John F. Larson, LC'71, October 2, 2005

Peter G. Matson, MS'71, September 17, 2005

Fletcher Eaton, ME'72, April 2, 2005

Daniel S. Layon, LC'72, LC'77, December 10, 200

John A. Niven, Ed'72, MA'94, December 5, 2005

Gregory C. Brodin, E'73, July 15, 2005

John J. Fuller, UC'73, November 2, 2004

James A. Pelley, MEd'73, September 2, 2005

Patricia D. Callahan, N'74, August 11, 2005

William J. Colleary, UC'74, UC'76, November 15, 2005

Jeffrey D. Mervine, LA'74, July 15, 2005

Joseph R. Roy, LC'74, November 8, 2004

Paul C. Lau, LA'76, August 1, 2005

Elissa P. Selig, Ed'77, August 28, 2005

Judith E. Depp, MBA'78, April 26, 2005

Louis M. Dinitto, BB'78, April 5, 2005

Michael F. Flood, CJ'78, August 27, 2005

John J. Hare, PAH'78, May 30, 2005

1980s

Bernadette D. Hixson, MP'80, September 1, 2005

Brian H. Smith, UC'80, July 6, 2005

John G. Mannion, BA'82, December 22, 2004

Deidre A. Flaherty, PAH'83, August 12, 2004

Robert A. Salvati, LC'86, June 18, 2005

Lisa A. Crose, CS'88, June 25, 2005

1990s

John V. Bianco, L'91, November 17, 2005

Steven B. Malesky, AS'91, August 25, 2005

Nikki Tavano Hutavano, BB'94, April 4, 200

Laurie A. Zupan, AS'94, September 29, 2005

Brian Coombs, UC'95, August 21, 2005

Oscar R. George, L'96, October 25, 2005

Jennifer Crowley, MBA'99, October 3, 2005

2000s

Ralph J. Jolin, E'00, October 1, 2005

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First-Person

Brian Rogers Caputo, BA'59

Photo courtesy Brian Rogers Caputo

There were mountains of sludge. When I left Louisiana in mid-October, the total cubic yards of sludge in the New Orleans area was approaching seven million.

And the sludge wasn't just mud. It included all kinds of debris: jagged pieces of metal, sodden clothes, garbage, chunks of asphalt and dry wall. Not to mention toxic chemicals.

I've worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) since it was established in 1979. For the past eleven years, I've been a disaster assistance employee in FEMA's Region I, which is headquartered in Boston. When calamity strikes in the United States, I could get the call to go.

About two weeks after Hurricane Katrina battered the Gulf Coast, I was asked to report to the FEMA Joint Field Office (JFO) that opened in Baton Rouge.

That city had doubled in population. Thousands of evacuees were living in shelters, hotels, motels, cabins, trailers, college dorms, and private homes. Many were sleeping fifteen or more to a room in the larger hotels and motels.

The only lodging for emergency responders like me was at either the JFO warehouse or a tent city. At the suggestion of a FEMA associate, I was able to get a room at a bed-and-breakfast an hour away from the JFO.

In the beginning, our standard workweek was twelve hours a day, seven days a week. I was assigned to the JFO's planning section to help the federal and volunteer agencies generate accurate and timely reports. This information gave a daily picture of the progress being made in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and pointed the way to necessary decisions and actions.

I also helped establish one of the first Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), in the city of Covington, which is located opposite New Orleans on the other side of Lake Pontchartrain. A DRC is a temporary facility where representatives of federal agencies, local and state governments, and voluntary relief organizations gather under one roof to help those in need. By the time I left Louisiana, thirty-five DRCs had opened, and that number would climb as sections of New Orleans and southwest Louisiana became safe and operational.

To get to New Orleans from Baton Rouge, you head south down Route 10. When I made the trip, I was struck not only by the obvious damage caused by the hurricanes but also by the sea of blue roofs. These were the houses that had roof damage. As a temporary fix, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had applied blue

plastic sheeting to prevent additional damage from rain.

Traveling in New Orleans at the time was highly restricted, especially in the decimated wards and parishes. You needed authorization to be there, and medical and safety concerns were uppermost in everyone's mind.

Outside New Orleans, you'd see furniture and personal belongings littering the northbound side of the highway. When people were given permission to return to their homes or businesses for a few hours, they'd try to bring out as many of their possessions as they could. You'd see cars and trucks so loaded down they looked as though they had driven out of the pages of The Grapes of Wrath. Clearly, not all of what they carried stayed firmly secured.

I became friendly with two families I met at the bed-and-breakfast. Both had escaped from the New Orleans flooding and were waiting until it was safe (and legal) to return. When they were finally authorized to go back, one family found both their business and home obliterated; there was empty space where the structures had been. Two small hotels owned by the other family were salvageable, but only if major repairs were made.

These couples were middle-aged people who had worked hard all their lives to build what they had. Now everything, or almost everything, had been wiped away in a matter of hours.

I think about all the other people who will return to the devastated areas. What will they do when they find everything caked with mold and sludge or completely destroyed, their businesses, schools, and community no longer what they used to be?

The good work going on all around me definitely helped brighten my time in Louisiana. People came from around the nation to help with the relief effort—temporary FEMA employees, military personnel, and many volunteers. Young people, in particular, brought enormous energy to the work. Students from many universities came—including, I'm proud to note, a number from Northeastern. The people of Louisiana seemed to genuinely appreciate the dedication and work of the thousands of FEMA, military, and volunteer responders.

As the weeks passed, I was especially pleased when FEMA started hiring local Louisianans to handle the relief and rebuilding efforts. Thousands of local residents applied for employment with the agency.

Before I left, I trained one of them to take my place.

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Entertaining the Bush Leagues

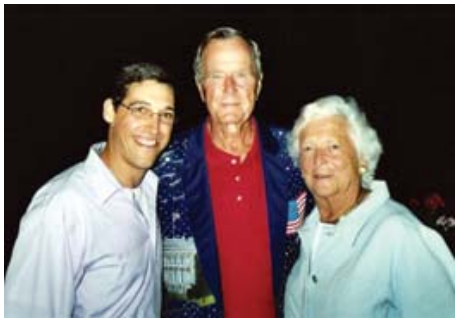

Photo courtesy Brian Harrington

It's not difficult to picture Brian Harrington, AS'98, charming a former U.S. president backstage at Maine's Arundel Barn Playhouse last summer. The young actor's banter brims with one-liners and anecdotes.

The Ramsey, New Jersey, native was costarring in Sugar, a musical version of the film classic Some Like It Hot. Playing a musician who goes incognito after witnessing a shooting, Harrington performed in drag for most of the show. "I have new respect for women in heels," he quips.

At intermission, two Secret Service agents came backstage to say that Kennebunkport denizens George and Barbara Bush were in the audience and wanted to greet the cast. "So here I am in two-inch pumps with rouge, earrings, wearing a raspberry dress," Harrington explains. "And I say, 'Hello, Mr. President.' He says, 'You know, you're very talented—and pretty.' And Barbara says, 'Oh, young man, I have to tell you—you have exceptional calves.'"

Later, the former POTUS, a strong supporter of the arts, enjoyed Harrington in another summer-stock offering, the Tony-winning farce Lend Me a Tenor. Afterward, he invited the cast to his Kennebunkport compound, treating them to a day of swimming and speedboat riding. That evening, the guests performed for the Bushes in their living room, where the entertainment wrapped up with a group sing-along.

It was a show-stopping experience, but Harrington had already paid some theatrical dues to earn it. Since graduating from Northeastern, he's worked three summers at Disney?ÄìMGM Studios. He's also hit the dinner-theater circuits in Florida, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee.

In October, Harrington moved to New York City. The new address makes getting to Broadway easier. But it's going to be a heck of a commute to entertain old friends in Kennebunkport.

— Katy Kramer, MA'00

Photo courtesy James McDaniel

Starfish Trooper

James McDaniel, AS'89, found his degree in modern languages came in handy recently, at a weeklong immersion course in Haitian Creole.

Necessity was the mother of education for this Springfield, Virginia, resident. Over the past seven years, McDaniel has been the coordinator of Operation Starfish, a nonprofit organization that aids the poor in Haiti. So far, he's made eight visits to the struggling Caribbean country.

McDaniel used to be the White House liaison at the National Park Service, responsible for the maintenance and repair of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue and its gardens. He oversaw 110 employees, sixty volunteers, and a $10 million budget. Then, in 1999, he took a trip to Haiti with members of his local parish. "I saw things that tore my heart out," he says. "But I also saw the potential for making a difference. I began thinking that some part of my life had to be dedicated to the less fortunate."

Following that trip, his church's pastor founded the Starfish project, and McDaniel retired from his government job to assume the role of rallying and organizing the support of more than two hundred U.S. schools and churches. Operation Starfish stresses that small donations add up to a big difference, particularly in developing nations. "In the last three years, we've been able to build five hundred houses in one village," says McDaniel.

He thrives on doing the unexpected. McDaniel dropped out of Northeastern just before his scheduled 1969 graduation to take a job at Grand Canyon National Park with the National Park Service, which led to his White House liaison position. Twenty years later, he came back to NU for his sheepskin. Now, in addition to his Starfish post, he also consults for an organization called Food for the Poor.

Ever teeter at the brink of a risky venture, unsure of what to do? "It's okay to make a major change and take a leap into the unknown," McDaniel advises. "It doesn't have to be Haiti. It could be just down the street. Things have a way of working out."

— Katy Kramer, MA'00

Debra Taylor Blair
Photo courtesy Debra Taylor Blair

In Search of Promised Lands

Debra Taylor-Blair, AS'87, nearly missed commencement. "The morning of my graduation, I had to get up at four o'clock to do my deliveries at twenty different locations," she says. Her precious cargo? A fifteen-page monthly published by her own start-up company, the Listing Information Network (LINK), a service for realtors.

"I'd had co-ops as an administrative assistant at various real-estate offices," explains Taylor-Blair. "Sundays, I'd see brokers circle ads in red, then try to figure out the addresses of the advertised properties. I realized brokers only made money when they were listing and selling property, not when they were tracking down information."

The economics major recognized an opportunity. Trekking around Boston, she sold her idea for a new listing service to real estate offices. She promised the first report in two months. As it turned out, the due date was her graduation day.

Today, LINK sends a daily report of real estate listings and sold properties to seven hundred real-estate companies, brokers, appraisers, banks, and developers. But schlepping hard copy around is a thing of the past. "It's all computerized," says Taylor-Blair, "and we write our own software."

LINK's president and founder divides her time between a house on Martha's Vineyard and an apartment in Boston. Taylor-Blair, her husband—who's the Edgartown harbormaster—and two small children gravitate to the water. In fact, Taylor-Blair recently swam the long stretch from Martha's Vineyard to Nantucket.

She's thoughtful about her career's currents, too. "I want people to know how valuable co-op is," she says. Without it, "I would have never gotten the idea to go out on my own. I got to work with people at higher levels and realized how alike we were. Co-op gave me the confidence to start my own business."

— Katy Kramer, MA'00

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I Scream, NU Screams: 1973

These students aren't scarfing a leisurely meal al fresco. They're locked in a stone-cold battle of wills . . . or appetites, at any rate.

At Northeastern's third annual Spring Olympics, famished fun-seekers gathered on the Quad for an ice cream-eating contest. Whalen Chin, E'73, ME'79, polished off a quart of vanilla to place second.

Other events included an underwater relay race, logrolling, apple dunking, and a tug-of-war. Sponsored by Husky Key, the official school-spirit group, the wacky activities helpedstudents combat pre-exam tension.

Yet waning interest plagued many campus-wide organizations during the Vietnam era. In fact, according to an October 13, 1972, *Northeastern News* editorial, Northeastern was seen by many as ?Äúa hotbed of apathy." More specialized groups—such as Vietnam Veterans against the War and the Music Therapy Club—were the current flavors of the month on campus.

Such shifts in interest were only natural in an age of student revolution. And a suitably rocky road to a new awareness of the outside world.

— Magdalena Hernandez, MBA'02

Photo from University Libraries Archives and Special Collections Department