Central Focus
the magazine for alumni & friends of central connecticut state university

Spring 2002

Ccsu Men's Basketball...Alumni in Radio...An alum bikes 3,000 miles...Writer Mary-Ann Tirone Smith '65
A message from the CCSU Alumni Association President

A donor once remarked that he gave not because he thought the charity deserved it, but because it pleased him to do so. In a clever retort, the charity asked why the donor did not double his gift to make certain that he really enjoy himself. We all make choices about where to place our discretionary dollars, and we have different reasons for making these choices. With over 750,000 non-profits in the United States alone, the range of causes and appeals that constantly need our support is immense.

We know that CCSU has an extraordinary alumni base. It is sizable, diverse, worldwide and its members are engaged in all kinds of civic and professional endeavors. We are competitive with peer institutions in many ways, and members demonstrate their affinity for their alma mater by maintaining their connection to the University at many levels. One area in which we lag behind peer institutions is in alumni giving. A special effort is now under way to improve our standing in this regard. Currently, just about 6.6% of alumni participate in giving to the University, which represents about 19% of the total private support secured last year by the CCSU Foundation, the fund raising arm of the University.

Perhaps we have not looked at the University as having characteristics and needs in common with the more notable charities around us. To be sure, any attempt to increase the number of alumni donors ought not to be predicated on the notion that CCSU is any more important or any better than any other organization seeking support.

We all place value on our experiences at CCSU, and we all take pride in its countless historical achievements, and take note of its promise for the future. The simple fact is, these achievements did not take place with state subsidies and tuition payments alone, nor will the future be secure relying solely on these sources.

Please consider demonstrating your support of CCSU by contributing financially. As you make your discretionary dollar choices, thinking of the University will mean so much, to so many, in so many ways. Our alma mater deserves our support, and hopefully, as an aside, it will please you to do so!

Brian Mattiello '88

Visit the ccsu web site at www.ccsu.edu to see the live student center web cam!
On the cover
CCSU Basketball

WFCS Alumni in Radio

CCSU Alumni Spotlight
Drew Loughlin ’93

Author Mary-Ann Tirone Smith ’65

Across America
Brennan Lundberg ’97 rides across the country

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From us to you
Spring is here and it brings another issue of our new alumni magazine, Central Focus. Thank you to all of you who sent in comments and suggestions! We continue to welcome comments as well as stories from you, the Central family. In this issue, we celebrate all those alumni who generously contributed to CCSU with the publication of the Honor Roll of Donors. Enjoy the magazine, and we hope to hear from all of you again soon! Don't forget, our email address is alumnidept@ccsu.edu - The Central Focus Editorial Staff.
Radio Days
spotlight on Ed McCarthy, Bill Pearse and Mike Stacy
by Leslie Porter

Vital Statistics
Name: Ed McCarthy
Class Year: 74
Major: English
Occupation: News anchor, Correspondent, CNN Radio

These three Central alumni, Ed McCarthy, Bill Pearse and Mike Stacy have one thing in common: a passion for radio. Each one became intrigued by the medium of radio at a young age. All of them participated in WFCS, Central's radio station, to some degree. Ed McCarthy read sports on weekends, Bill Pearse was general manager and seemed to have his hand in everything the station produced and Mike Stacy was involved as a senior, but wished he had done more. Each one now has a successful career in radio that saw its beginnings at Central.

Ed McCarthy '75 simply has a passion for radio. He always has. Otherwise, he wouldn't get up at 2 A.M. and commute 45 minutes from his suburban home to Atlanta to be on the radio by 4:30 A.M. As a young boy, he was fascinated by radio, so much so that would peek in the windows of WPOP in New Britain, or try to get onto Arnold Dean's radio show on Constitution Plaza in Hartford. It doesn't hurt that McCarthy speaks with a distinctive baritone voice that seems ideal for the radio. Maybe the voice is the side effect of the passion that McCarthy feels for radio. He's always been drawn to the mystery of the medium that "allows your mind to go into overdrive."

For Bill Pearse '75, it was the anonymity of radio that enthralled him. The idea of the "voice you never see" was what got him interested. "As a radio personality, you can walk into a place and no one knows you, but as a local TV news personality, you just can't do that, and that's fine with me," remarked Pearse. It was important to him to try as many things as possible at the college level, and he credits his success today to the exposure he got to all facets of radio while at WFCS. He formed lasting friendships with people at the station, and he still maintains contact with many of the WFCS alumni who have gone on to careers in radio. He even worked with Ed McCarthy at WFCS and, later, at WPOP. Pearse is now afternoon news anchor at WTIC AM 1080. As a news anchor, he writes and prepares newscasts to read on the air. He explained that he spends his time cutting audio, writing script and reading. At times, he can do as much as eight hours of anchoring in one shift.

Mike Stacy '87 was President of the Psychology Club while he was at Central, and he was a few credits short of a double major in Psychology and Philosophy, all while he was studying to be a Priest. The road to radio may not have been a traditional one for Stacy, but he says that every experience along the way has been valuable to him. Today, Stacy is the Promotions Coordinator and a morning show host at Lite 100.5 WRCH New Britain/Hartford. Radio always interested Stacy, but he was a senior at Central before, in his own words, he had the guts to go to university radio station. He lived at Saint Thomas Seminary while he was going to Central, and he would often peek into the seminary's radio station, WJMJ. However, it would take Stacy a little while to find his way to radio, a medium Stacy refers to as similar to reading a book, "you can use your imagination to think of scenes unfolding."

When he graduated from Central, Stacy wasn't quite sure what he wanted to do, so he worked at a German perfume company based in Orange, CT, not far from his hometown of Milford. At the perfume company, he "did everything" including working on the assembly line, stocking shelves, shipping and even mixing formulas for such names as Gucci. "Every experience helps you in life," Stacy remarked when talking about this first job out of college. Initially, Stacy came to Lite 100.5 strictly as a promotions person, but he slowly "weaseled his way onto the air." He performed so well that he earned himself a position as a host on the morning show. That was ten years ago. Today, he continues to host the morning show, entitled "Mornings with Allan, Mike and Allison." He is also the station's Promotional Director, handling all the events, contests and prizes the show offers.

With a voice that is distinctive and recognizable, McCarthy has covered golf tournaments and other sporting events, "Radio allows your mind to go into overdrive" - Ed McCarthy
including the exciting games six and seven of last year's World Series. He has also done voiceovers for the likes of Larry King Live, Crossfire and Headline News. But McCarthy isn't just a voice; he's a skilled journalist who writes his own news stories in addition to reading them on the air. He mentioned that as a radio anchor, you develop your own style of delivery that lends itself to a particular writing style. "You write to a cadence that suits your delivery," he explained. McCarthy has been working for CNN Radio for the past 15 years, 12 of them as an anchor. Now, he works as a correspondent, but he still anchors occasionally. He also does business reports entitled "Your Money" and the "CNN FN Business Minute." As a correspondent, he is responsible for covering the entire Southeast for the Atlanta bureau of CNN. The bureau has recently expanded so that the Southeast receives the same kind of coverage that LA, New York and Washington receive. CNN Radio is the largest radio network in the US, with 1500 affiliates.

When asked about the main challenges of being a broadcast journalist today, McCarthy responded that it's very important to "stick to your guns as far as being ethical. You can be the first on a story, but you want to be sure you have it right." Pearse had similar thoughts on this subject. "The main challenge is getting the stories, getting them right and getting them on the air as soon as possible," he said. McCarthy remarked that there is so much competition in the industry that people want to get the story out first, creating problems of accuracy. In addition, he said that it's very important to be fair and objective in order to gain the respect of all those around you, especially sources who you might need to draw upon again. As in most industries, much of his job is developing relationships with contacts and sources. He keeps a careful diary of people who are good interviews who can be depended on for the next story, as well as a "load of business cards."

McCarthy noted that students at Central who are interested in pursuing careers in broadcast journalism should know that "it's not a get-rich-quick scheme. There are odd hours, you have to be willing to pay your dues, work overnight shifts, and just keep pluggin' away. You have to be willing to relocate often in order to penetrate larger markets and make a bigger name for yourself." He remarked on what he sees as the advantages of radio broadcasting as a opposed to TV, "there is a certain flexibility to radio, it's easier to get on the story in that there are not a lot of technical issues like cameras and lights. The immediacy of radio is what's interesting, that's what drives you."

Pearse's advice to Central students who are aspiring to careers in radio was very similar to McCarthy's, "if this is what you want to do - you have to be prepared to work tough hours and make a real commitment. You have to write your own ticket. Try to learn as much as you can [in college] and have fun with it. There are things you can do in college radio that you can't do when someone is paying you." To Pearse, being involved with the radio station made college "that much more fun than it was already." Stacy echoed this sentiment, "don't be afraid to walk into the radio station. Sample everything. Wander around and check out different things, investigate all the clubs, and do it early"

Recently, Stacy and others at WRCH created a promotion around the Billy Joel and Elton John concert. They were able to get a baby grand Yamaha piano donated to the station, have it signed by both artists and raffle it off to raise $35,000 for AIDS project Hartford. It is this kind of innovative thinking that Stacy began doing at Central as president of the Psychology Club that has continued to keep him at the forefront of radio and promotions.

Pearse believes that while all of the media available to people today, there is still room for local radio news. "We can provide information to people when they're in their cars, in the office...and it's immediate. We can get a story on right away. There's a place for what we do."

Ed McCarthy continues to work at CNN Radio as a correspondent and business anchor and the full text of his broadcasts can be viewed on the web at cnrradio.com. He has recently submitted a 20 minute program on Bioterrorism for a Murrow award.

In any case, we will be hearing a lot more from these distinguished alumni of Central.
Update: School of Business

Technology and globalization are at the core of all business today. They simply have become the essence of business, "you can't talk about business without it being international...and it's the same with technology," Dr. Daniel Miller, Dean of the School of Business, remarked. CCSU students are required to go far beyond a rudimentary level of technical literacy to graduate from the School of Business today. The School infuses technology into every class it offers, especially in such areas as MIS and Accounting, but even in disciplines that are traditionally thought of as "softer" such as Marketing. "Information gathering is at the heart of all marketing research, and therefore, technology plays a crucial part in marketing courses," explained Dean Miller.

The School of Business offers students a good balance of the practical and theoretical aspects of business. The co-op program allows students to get hands-on work experience in the field of their choice before they even graduate. It is one of the many advantages of a program that emphasizes the practical application of business. The School works hard to produce students who are "generalists" in that they are prepared to do critical thinking, problem solving, work in teams and most importantly, to communicate their ideas effectively. The School is constantly evaluating its programs through different means such as alumni surveys that ask alumni to evaluate their experiences and recommend changes.

Dean Miller noted that people may not know that the CCSU School of Business is the largest school of business in the state of Connecticut if measured by the number of students enrolled. The School is unique in that it offers an IMBA, an International MBA that is more recognized in the streets of Sicily and Germany than in Hartford. "People may not realize the depth and extent of our foreign exchange programs," remarked Dean Miller. The School holds regional NEASC, New England Association of Schools and Colleges, accreditation, the same accreditation held by Harvard and other institutions in the Northeast.

Update: School of Education

Teacher preparation is in Central's blood, so to speak. When the institution was first established in 1849 as a normal school, it had the first teacher education program in the state. Today, with the implementation of the Ed.D. program and the awarding of the PT3 grant, it's on the cutting edge of teacher education. Graduates of Central's programs populate important jobs such as professionals in agencies, schools, hospitals and family services. The School is one of three in the state that is NCATE (National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education) accredited. This means that the school must constantly work to maintain the highest standards, assuring that the quality of education here measures up to the strictest national standards.

The School of Education's programs focus on the real needs of students living in urban areas. Students in each program are prepared to deal with all environments, but the school focuses special attention on the needs of those students in urban settings. This includes culturally responsive teaching and diversity training and initiatives to emphasize diversity including scholarships, creating the Center for Multicultural Research and making sure that there is a general emphasis on diversity across the board.

Dean Ellen Whitford stressed that technology has a real and important role to play in helping students learn - it's a practical thing for future teachers to learn to use as a teaching tool. The Center for Innovation in Teaching and Technology (CITT) is a resource for both faculty and students to support the integration of technology into the classroom. Students at Central have an edge because of the quality field experiences they have while they're here. They are required to be in schools and interacting with students to some degree in every single class they take. In addition, every student who is recommended for certification is required to be a student teacher for one semester.

At the Master's level and beyond, Central focuses on the professional development of educators. The Master's and Ed.D. train people to be leaders in education. Dean Whitford explained that these programs are part of the logical development of the University's mission. In 1849, Central began preparing teachers. 150 years later, Central continues to meet the needs of Connecticut in terms of providing educational leadership.
James Loughlin: The beauty of Economics

The Loughlin family is truly a Central family. Not only is James Loughlin an economics professor here, but both of his sons, Drew and Chris, '88 (double major Biology/Economics) and his wife Virginia, BS '77, MS '81 attended Central. His sons followed his sage advice and were both Economics majors and Summa Cum Laude grads. His son Drew, '93, recently came back to Central to speak to students about his career as a bond trader for J.P. Morgan on Wall Street. To learn about his visit, read the Alumni Spotlight on this page. His son Chris is an Ear, Nose and Throat specialist at a hospital in Virginia. Chris's wife Wendy, is also an '88 grad.

James Loughlin, who came to Central from the Brookings Institution, has been a professor here for almost 35 years. He is a self-described "free market economist," believing that "all boats rise with the tide" in that everyone benefits from growth in the economy, and that anyone with skills and an education will be very productive and eventually profit from that productivity.

Loughlin explained that Central offers a variety of courses that enable majors to pursue different tracks of study in Economics. There is a theoretical track that allows for graduate training or a Ph.D.; there is a business track that allows students to go into the business sector; and there is a government track that offers courses in areas of public finance and cost benefit analysis that allows students to pursue careers in government at all levels.

James Loughlin is one of the founders of Central's Economics program. He introduced several courses into the program that are still in use today. When he arrived here, there was very little emphasis on math, and he felt that it was very important to integrate quantitative and math courses into the curriculum, and he began doing so in 1968. Many of Central's Economics majors continue on to top-notch MBA programs. Economics is so diverse, explained Loughlin, that it prepares you for anything - Law School, Business School, or another career. The beauty of economics, Loughlin remarked, is that it gives you so many options.

Loughlin's interests do not lie purely in economics. He owns four classic cars, a 1965 Chevy, a 1970 Dodge Dart, a 1972 Custom Dodge Dart and a 1973 Custom Dodge Dart.
Each year, alumni in the Florida area gather together for reunions. This year, alumni met in Deerfield Beach and Sarasota on January 26 and 27, 2002, to catch up, reminisce about old times, and enjoy the Florida weather.

Upcoming Alumni Events

**April 26, 2002, School of Technology Spring Golf Outing**
Goodwin Park Golf Course - tee times 9:30 - 11:30 am
For more information, call Nancy Dobreski at (860) 832-1800

**May 1, 2002, Accounting Awards Ceremony 5:30-6:30 PM**
Founders Hall
For details, call (860) 832-3220 or email steward@ccsu.edu

**May 2, 2002, Networking Social 4:30-7:00 PM**
Archstreet Tavern 85 Arch Street, Hartford, CT (860) 246-7610

**May 9, 2002, Hall of Fame Induction Dinner 6:00 PM**
Aqua Turf Club
For details, call CCSU Alumni Office (860) 832-1740

**May 10, 2002, Blue Devil Golf Tournament**
Lyman Orchards Golf Club
For details, contact Steve Villanti (860) 832-3078

**May 11, 2002, Alumni Day Class Gatherings 10:30 AM**
Luncheon 12:00 Noon - All welcome
TCC Class of '42 60th Reunion
TCC Class of '47 55th Reunion
TCC Class of '52, '53, '57 Reunion Planning Committee Meetings

**May 18, 2002, Class of ’51 Fifty first reunion 12 noon**
Memorial Hall

**May 23, 2002, Graduate Commencement 7:30 PM**
Welte Auditorium

**May 25, 2002, Undergraduate Commencement 10:30 AM**
Hartford Civic Center

**June 11, 2002, CCSU Alumni Association Annual Meeting and Elections**

The following individuals are running for the Alumni Board:
Carmen "Cam" Alias, '56, is an incumbent member of the Board of Directors serving on the Finance and Travel committees. Carmen is a retired New Britain Public School System guidance counselor who currently resides in New Britain, where he is active in community affairs.

Tracey Obst Bonvicini is an '89 graduate of the School of Business. She is an incumbent member of the Board of Directors, serving as Chairperson of the Ways and Means Committee. Tracey is married to Fred Bonvicini, '79, and they reside in Torrington, CT, with their three sons.

Ronald "Ron" Perry is a '64 graduate with a major in Criminal Justice. Ron is currently a police officer with the New Haven Police Department. He serves on the Alumni Association Sports Committee and resides in Southington.

Richard "Rich" Sullivan, '75, is a manager for Global Solutions Group, a subsidiary of Tempa-Inland, Inc., Inland Paperboard and Packaging. Rich is currently a member of the Alumni Association Finance Committee. He resides in Newton, NJ, with his wife Shelly and two children.

Patricia "Pat" Keenan Welch '54 is a retired East Hartford High School teacher. Pat is active in the class of 1954 Reunion Planning Committee. She resides in Glastonbury, CT, and is the mother of five children.

Check out the CCSU web site at www.ccsu.edu/alumni for the most up-to-date event information!

Thank you to the Class of 1979 for helping to make the Alumni Scholarship Fund a success!

Corrections

In the article "History Ringing," on page 8 of the Winter 2002 issue of Central Focus, the location of the archeological dig was listed as Salem, Massachusetts. The correct location is Salem, Connecticut. The editorial staff deeply regrets this misprint.
Alumni Awards 2001

In preparation for the celebration of this year's alumni awards ceremony, we would like to take a look back at last year's winners.

2001 award winners with President Judi, from left to right, Ted Orosco '76, Distinguished Alumni Service Award winner; Bob Zufeltoski '59, Alumni Association Athletic Hall of Fame inductee, President Judi '79; Dave Campo '73, Alumni Association Athletic Hall of Fame inductee; Amy Curran BSET '98, MS '00, the Young Alumni Award winner and Jeff Borghesi '73, Kaiser Alumni Service Award winner.

Dave Campo '73, second from right, and his family celebrate his induction into the Athletic Hall of Fame. With him, from left to right, are his father David, his daughter Becca, his wife Kay, and his sons Michael and Tommy.

Brenda Perry's family accepts her posthumous induction into the Athletic Hall of Fame.

Patrick Siron Ortonio BS '76, MS '98, a first grade teacher at Clara T. O'Connell School in Bristol, CT received the Alumni Association/School of Education Outstanding Teacher Award for 2001. She is pictured here with Dr. Judi '79 and Dr. Ellen Whistler, Dean of the School of Education.

Jeff Borghesi '73, left, Kaiser Alumni Service Award Winner, and his family celebrate his award. With him, from left to right are his mother Julia, his daughter Jenny, his wife Susan, his son Mark, his sister Nancy '76, MS '80 and his father Glenn.
Mary-Ann Tirone Smith, 65, author of six critically acclaimed novels and a new thriller, Love Her Madly, knew she wanted to be a writer from the moment she learned to read. Her father, a gifted storyteller, would tell her stories as he tucked her in at night, sparking her interest in weaving fictional tales. "Libraries," she says, "were castles to me." A native of Hartford, Smith earned her B.A. in English literature from Central.

Noted for creating exceptionally vivid characters, Smith believes her writing talents were first honed at Central. One psychology course required her to write a 100-page autobiography as an exercise in self-exploration. Most students were wary, but Smith jumped at the opportunity. She believes this experience helped her create characters because she had to delve so deeply into her own psyche.

Smith often bases her novels on historical events. Masters of Illusion, for example, focuses on the Hartford Circus fire, and Love Her Madly is based on the case of Texas murderer-turned-born-again Christian Karla Faye Tucker. Her deep interest in history, Smith says, took root at Central in a course taught by Dr. William O. Williams, a history professor who, according to Smith, "turned history into stories." Mesmerized by his stories, she was swept away by the historical visions he would create during class lectures.

"Libraries were castles to me" - Mary-Ann Tirone Smith

While other students would frantically take notes, Smith would watch and listen as he would dramatically tell tales unfolding history.

Although historical events may form the basis of many of Smith’s works, she uses them only as a starting point for complex character and plot development. She sculps her characters, molding them into individuals who reveal themselves and their secrets as they develop in her mind. Smith’s first books were very much character driven, making them complex and vivid. And such vibrant characters have attracted the attentions, Smith says, of several big-name actors and producers interested in turning her novels into movies.

Ten days after she graduated from Central, Smith entered the Peace Corps. While on a two year assignment in Cameroon, Smith helped to establish a public library. Today, Smith reports, that library is thriving and has been greatly expanded. These proved fertile times for Smith’s writing. Her experiences in Cameroon have been published in a collection of travel essays by Peace Corps writers entitled Going Up Country, and much of her novel Lament for a Silver-Eyed Woman is based on her Peace Corps years.

Smith thinks of her writing as a vocation. “You can choose to ignore the calling,” she says, “but it never goes away. It’s always there.” She instills that sense of vocation when she works with high school students. She tells her students not to be discouraged if they can’t finish a story, and she informs them that it takes at least two decades of living before one can hope to write a novel. She also tells her students they shouldn’t pressure themselves to create and that writing is a discipline unlike any other. In contrast to composers and painters, there are no child prodigy writers. One evolves into a writer, Smith says, as one ages and gains knowledge and experience.

When Smith returns to CCSU as part of her current book tour, she will get a chance to meet creative writing students at the University. “I’m eager to return to where I was first encouraged to become a writer. I’m excited to see how the campus has changed, especially with the addition of the new Vance Academic Center.” The book tour highlights Smith’s Love Her Madly, which converts a minor character, Poppy Rice, from a previous novel into a protagonist. This will be the beginning, Smith says, of a series of crime novels featuring Rice, described by Kirkus Reviews as a "spunky, tough-talking FBI agent."

I was asleep when my roommate informed me that the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were under attack. My sister called me frantically at my home in Lake Tahoe, California from Connecticut to tell me to turn on the television. That is how the morning of September 11 began for me. I knew that these burning buildings were scorching permanent marks in the memories of all of us. For weeks those images haunted me. Eventually I realized that for my own peace of mind I had to contribute something to the victims of this horrible attack. After brainstorming, I decided that I would make a financial contribution, and thought of the idea to ride my bike across the country for the September 11 Fund.

I owned a mountain bike, but had never ridden more than 30 miles in a day, so I knew that to finish the 3,000-mile trip from San Diego to St. Augustine, Florida, would be a challenge. After swapping my studded tires for some off-road slicks, I set off on October 20 from the Oceanside Municipal Pier in Oceanside, California.

I realized I was in way over my head on the first day. I'd wound my way 50 miles up into the Santa Ana Mountains, the sun was setting, and I was seven miles short of the nearest town! I had underestimated the difficulty of the ride and was desperate for a place to camp. After a mile of riding in total darkness I happened upon a church called the Mission of Santa Elena and decided to see if I could camp there. Suddenly, the church door swung open just as the church bells began to ring. To my surprise, a young boy appeared and assured me that it was alright if I camped there. That first night, my confidence was bruised and my body ached, but my spirits were soaring and I couldn't remember feeling quite so alive in a long time.

A CCSU hockey teammate of mine used to say, "that which does not kill us makes us stronger." I thought about that phrase as I lurched my way across 70 miles of southern California desert in 103-degree heat. The first forty miles across flat terrain seemed easy, but then I "hit the wall." Exhaustion, dehydration, dizziness, shortness of breath, you name it, I had it that day. The next morning I knew that I had survived the mountains and the desert and nothing could stop me from reaching St. Augustine.

My trip took six weeks including a week off, and it was every bit the pilgrimage I had hoped for. I battled rain, extreme temperatures, unrelenting winds, 6,000-foot peaks, crazed drivers and some of the loneliest times I'll ever know. I was chased by wild dogs, burned by the sun and driven mad by flat tires. I slept at churches, under stars, in hostels, cheap motels and homeless shelters. I saw sunsets in the biggest skies I've ever imagined. I ate Arizona burritos, Texas steaks, Louisiana gumbo and Florida gator. I saw wild turkeys, javelina, longhorn steers, dead coyotes, jackrabbits, snakes and armadillos. I crossed the Continental Divide, three time zones and eight states and pushed myself to my physical limits. My journey started as a way to help a great cause and ended as one of the most difficult and rewarding experiences of my life. I wish you all the very best.

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**CCSU Fund Raising**

**Spring Phonathon a Success**

Laure-Lyne Johnson, Phonathon Coordinator, began as a student caller one year ago. In her new full-time co-op position, Laure-Lyne is responsible for the recruiting, interviewing, training and direct supervision of thirty student phonathon callers. She assists callers as they contact alumni to inform them of the exciting things taking place at Central, update their contact information, answer questions and encourage their participation in the annual fund. Part of CCSU's year-round fund raising effort, the phonathon takes place each semester to secure private financial support from alumni. Contributions support such worthy causes as scholarships, the library, cultural enrichment and academic programs, to name a few.

The spring 2002 phonathon continues to be a resounding success due to the generous support of alumni from the classes of 1929 through 2001. More than 1,900 generous alumni contributed over $75,000 through the phonathon effort since the beginning of the fiscal year last July. If you have not made a gift this fiscal year, please join your fellow alumni in supporting CCSU's future generations. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference! For more information on the phonathon or the Annual Fund, contact the development office at (860) 832-1740 or via email at development@ccsu.edu.
They were shoehorned into every corner of Kaiser Hall's Detrick Gym. More than 3,500 fans, the vast majority of them pulling for the victorious Blue Devils, literally screamed themselves hoarse as Central defeated Quinnipiac, 78-71 to claim the Northeast Conference crown and with it, their second trip to the NCAA Tournament in three years. A national TV audience watched and cheered as well as the game was televised by ESPN2 as part of its "Championship Week" coverage.

The highly charged battle drew unprecedented media attention around the state. More than 40 print and broadcast journalists and their camera crews attended the sellout event. The game they watched saw several lead changes and ties and a level of excitement so impressive and intense that several of the state's best read sports columnist felt compelled to write about it the following day.

In the end, sharp shooting CCSU junior guard Damian Battles, the tournament MVP, led the way to victory with a team high 27 points and junior John Alexander hit four key free throws in the final moments to seal the win.

Prior to their NCAA tournament game, the Blue Devils owned the nation's longest winning streak having posted 19 straight victories while building a 27-4 record, the best in CCSU history. Ranked as high as 35th in the Associated Press Poll, the Blue Devils were also the subject of numerous newspaper, radio and TV commentaries. ESPN devoted a segment of its popular "Outside the Lines" program to telling the CCSU story late in the year. A lengthy piece in USA Today featured a photo of Corsley Edwards on its lead sports page and a second picture of Battles, inside.

The Devils also played inspired basketball against heavily favored Pittsburgh in their first-round appearance, earning the praise of CBS announcers Vern Lundquist and Bill Raftery. They undoubtedly gained thousands of new fans and admirers across the country, before falling to the Panthers, 71-54.

Prior to this year, the most wins ever by a Central team was 26, during the 1983-84 season. The team's 21 NEC victories were the most in the history of the league. Edwards was named NEC Player of the Year while Dickenman earned Coach of the Year honors for the second time in three seasons.
Esther E. (Holman) Anderson '57 taught on an elementary level for 42 and a half years at the Mountview School in North Haven, CT. She helped to form the formation and organization of the North Haven Retired Teachers Association, is still attending the meetings and is active with the Scholarship Fund. She has a daughter, Judith Lynn Hasen.

Lucia D. (Dyakiewicz) Turascio '40 is now in assisted living at Crescent Point, New Milford, CT. She continues to serve at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital in the Volunteer Department.

Ruth J. Stauber '41 has moved to Rochester, NY to be close to her niece, who lives in Pittsford, NY.

Eva Beatrice (Norton) Bowden '49, celebrated her 50th anniversary and welcomed her ninth grandson. She is currently serving her second term on the Glouchester County Commission on Aging.

Seymour Madanich '54 retired in 1990 after 32 years as a high school teacher, coach and guidance counselor. He retired to retiring at the elementary school level last year and is still teaching early childhood and kindergarten through 6th grade. For the past ten years, he has represented SUNY Albany on Long Island.

J. Vincent Madden '58 retired from the California Department of Education in June 2001, after 35 years of service in the Department and 49 years in education. He managed staff that conducted assessment, evaluation and research studies in special education and information technology. He served as the state superintendent's executive director on technology planning and worked with federal officials and other state leaders in establishing education information and data protocols. He continues to live in Sacramento with his wife and family.

Dr. Sidney L. DuPont '63, MS '67 is Headmaster of Harbor Day School in Coral Del Mar, California. Harbor Day School is an elementary school enrolling 200 boys and girls in Kindergarten-Grade 8, located overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

Diane (Zabicki) Crainin '64 lives at Wintergreen Resort on the Blue Ridge Mountains near the Appalachian Trail. She enjoys hiking, golf, skiing, dancing and volunteering at nearby schools and a women's shelter.

Michael J. Makarovic '66 recently received the Green Circle Award for Volunteer work for his 10+ year involvement in Marine Environmental Projects by Connecticut State Department of Environmental Protection.

Marshall Smarlovak '66 retired after 35 years as a teacher/administrator/counselor at Woodstock Academy in Woodstock, CT. He is now a counselor emeritus there. Currently, he is a licensed professional counselor with his own private counseling practice in Woodstock, CT, where he resides with his wife, Karen. They have 3 children and 3 grandchildren, also living in Connecticut.

Eugenie (Ottis) Wilkins '66, MS '79 was remarried on August 11, 2001 in Digby, Nova Scotia. She lives in a beautiful fishing village between the Bay of Fundy and St. Mary's Bay that she describes as Heaven on Earth. She is a retired Business Education teacher who taught in Connecticut, New York and Fairbanks, Alaska.

Peter J. Kilduff '67 had his book about the Red Barron, Richthofen - Beyond the Legend of the Red Barron, published in a Polish-language edition. The book is considered by many history reviewers to be the definitive biography of Baron Manfred Von Richthofen, the most successful fighter pilot of World War 1.

Ronald E. Pape '67 is Finance Director of the National Kidney Foundation of Connecticut.

Kenneth E. Sherrick '68 has been named Mathematics Consultant for the Connecticut State Department of Education in Hartford, after 33 years of classroom teaching.

Elinor E. (Polito) LaMothe '69 retired from her job as Consumer Information Representative for the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services in January 2002 after 15 years of service. She plans to travel with her husband and spend time with her three grandsons.

Barbara (Hope) Sansosti '69, MS '74 is a Forensic Textiles Specialist at Whiting Forensics in Middletown, CT. She received this promotion in 1998.

Lynn M. (Klensott) Fabry '71 received her M.L.S. from Simmons College in 1998. She recently accepted the position of Bibliographic Services Librarian at Trinity College in Hartford.


Tom Callinan '73 was designated Connecticut's first "Offical Statue Tbloublemaker" by then-Governor Wadler in 1991. To commemorate the 16th Anniversary of his being so honored, Tom has released his second album of songs about "The Naming State" entitled "Connecticut Grown."

Paul Kowalski '73, a major in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, was recalled to active duty at the Pentagon in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He will return to his civilian position at the State Department in a year.

Osmar Ertug '69 found his way to Central Connecticut State College from Cyprus by way of a Fullbright Scholarship in the fall of 1965 and completed his degree in English in 1969. He returned to the United States two decades later as diplomatic representative from North Cyprus in New York. A chance meeting on a street in New York City with his former professor, Dr. Norton Mezvinsky, Department of History, led him to renew ties with his alma mater. Ertug, pictured with his wife Dilek, is now Under Secretary of State in Lefkosia, North Cyprus.

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Who Would Believe?

Bob Schneevoigt, Director of Student Activities/Leadership Development, and his wife Jane were in Iceland for an adventurous 2001 Thanksgiving Weekend. The Schneevoights were swimming in the famous Blue Lagoon when the unlikely occurred—they came upon two Central alumni! They were Raymond W. Sola, Jr. '86 and Valerie A. Kerin '88.

Two days later, the Schneevoights encountered the Central alumni again at the Langjokull Glacier, where Jane and Ray posed for the photo at left. Bob says, "the glacier is possibly ten miles from the nearest light bulb." So don't be surprised, the next time you're in a far off foreign land, if you come across some hearty fellow CCSU alumni.

Joseph V. Fiore, Jr. '82 has been promoted to Project Manager for S&H at the National Weather Service NDOR test evaluation facility in Sterling, VA. Joe lives in Ashburn, VA with his wife Melanie and their three children, Marisa, 7, Christopher, 5 and Gregory, one and a half.

LeeAnn Van Parys '82 recently received the highest honor her company, National Grand Mutual Insruance Company, can bestow, being inducted into the Circle of Excellence. Circle of Excellence members are nominated by fellow employees and selected by NGM's senior management officials. Van Parys joined NGM in 1989 and is an Agency Development Manager.

Garth Connolly '83 was located by PT BOATS, INC. in July 2000 with their CLEAN SWEEEP AWARD for keeping the history of the PT boats and their crews alive through his books, PT BOATS IN ACTION and VOSPER MTBs IN ACTION. Also, in January and February of 2002, he gave presentations to community service organizations in various locations. His most recent presentation was to The Giving Tree Project.

Gregory J. Donio '86 is on military leave of absence from American Airlines as of February 5, 2001. He is currently Company B 2/42 Engineer BN—readiness NCO full-time in Rockville, CT with the Connecticut Army National Guard.

Joseph C. Balas, P.E., PTCE '88 recently passed a national certification examination, the Professional Traffic Operations Engineer exam. He is currently the only engineer certified in Connecticut as a PTCE. He was recently promoted to Senior Project Manager at Fuss & O'Neill Inc, Consulting Engineers based in Manchester, CT. He is the CCSU School of Technology Industrial Advisory Board, and was awarded the School of Technology Outstanding Alumni Award in 2000.

Timothy Michaels '88 and his wife Bridget are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Hannah Rose Michaels, on May 15, 2000. Timothy is a certified estate planner and investment broker for Mesirow Mutual Financial Group.

Andrea Veneziano '88 received her MS in Taxation from Northeastern University in Boston in December 2001. She works as Director of Finance for Harvard University Graduate School of Arts & Sciences.

Elizabeth J. (Henderson) Jarvis '89 and her husband Brian are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Juliet on July 11, 2000. She joins older brother Ian. Elizabeth has been planning for Travelers Insurance going on 12 years and she is looking for work from other in her MIS Class of '89.

Deborah A. (Ireland) Longley '89 and her husband Mitchell Longley are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Madison Ann on October 10, 2000.

Kate Wadleigh '89, MS '95 is a Counselor for Clinical and Support Options in Groton, MA.

90s

David Anderson, '90, owner of DART Design, has been appointed a member of the Connecticut Art Directors Club Board of Directors for the current fiscal year. DART Design won new awards in the 2001 American Graphic Design Awards Competition for the seventh consecutive year. David and his wife Linda are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Lucien James, on May 31, 2001.

Margaret A. (Polk) Sweeney '90 and her husband David are delighted to announce the birth of their son Liam David Sweeney on July 9, 2001. Margaret works at Virgin Atlantic Airways.

Kimberley E. (White) Booth '91 and her husband Matthew are delighted to announce the birth of their son Matthew, Jr. on October 28, 2000. He joins older sister Cassidy. Kimberley is a Retail Advertising Manager at the Connecticut Post Newspaper.

Lisa M. (Manni) Kirchhals '91 and her husband John are delighted to announce the birth of their son, John Dawson, on January 21, 2002. She is celebrating her 25th anniversary at Zurich Seidler Investments in their Institutional Client Division.

Karen (Chuba)Connell '92 and her husband Michael are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Brennan Joseph, on...
Obituaries

Ann Sinnott Glynn '31 1/9/02
Helena S. Sprague '32 12/10/01
Elizabeth Gibney Ingham '33 12/31/01
Elizabeth Mulvaney '36 12/11/01
John C. Barton '40 2/6/02
Philomena Santostefano Gioielli '40 2/12/02
Helen Elizabeth Peto '40 2/16/02
Levi G. Redfield '41 9/12/01
James E. Mahoney '49 11/26/01
Donald O. "Don" Martin '50 12/20/01
Arlene Quaille '50 3/19/01
Mary Josephine Riordan '51 11/5/01
Annamae Hayes O'Brien '54 1/29/02
Geraldine Banner Lackey '59 11/13/01
Charles Youmans '60 12/11/01
Jane P. McLaughlin '61 12/5/01
Sandra Simpson Rider '61 11/22/01
Frederick A. Wirth '62 11/15/01
Alvin Bernard Wood '62 11/10/02
Ann B. Wheeler '66 1/31/02
Rita Garrett Wasta '65 1/21/02
William G. Dvorak '67 12/3/01
Margaretta O'Neil MS '68 2/23/02
Charlotte McCord Conly '72 1/17/02
George T. White '73 1/10/02
Brenn F. Salmon '76 11/29/01
Linda McGuire Figgibbons '80 12/2/01
Donald A. Fisher '81 11/28/01
Steven Richardon Reid '81 11/18/02
Mary Kay Vaughan Brasillien '84 1/17/02
John S. Harrison '85 2/25/02
Allyn J. Hogan, Jr. '85 12/19/01
Kerri Lynn Metzger '89 11/14/01
Rissete Bouchard Eloweveky '94 1/25/02

In Memoriam

Robert L. Davis, Associate Professor Emerita of Biological Sciences died unexpectedly on January 17, 2002, at the age of 69. Roberta received her A.B. in 1954 and A.M. in 1959 from Clark University where her research included an ecological study of the mussels of Worcester County. She did further graduate work at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston. She specialized in Biological Oceanography and did research at the Narragansett Marine Laboratory and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. In 1965, she was appointed to the faculty of Biological Sciences at Central Connecticut State University, where she taught until her retirement in 1996. She was responsible for the coordination and supervision of student teaching in Biology.

Alvin Bernard Wood MS '62, died on January 11, 2002 at the age of 92. He received an AB in Education from Howard University and an MS in Education from CCSU. He became the first black principal in the city of Hartford in 1965. He was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System, and Vice-Chairman of the Board for ten years. He also chaired and was a member of the State Scholarship Committee, the Executive Committee, the Personnel and Employee Relations Committee and the Budget Committee. In 1990 he was honored by the Board of Trustees with the establishment of the Alvin B. Wood Scholarship Fund for Minority Students.