We are making our final preparations for opening the new academic year at Central, and we’re looking forward to a very active and exciting year for the campus community as well as for the wider central Connecticut region.

Our incoming first-year class appears to be one of our most able groups ever. On average, their high school ranking is up 2 percentile points over last year’s, making it the highest level on record. It’s good to know that, according to the Princeton Review in its latest edition of *The Best Northeastern Colleges*, these students will find that CCSU offers a “host” of strong academic programs, including “solid study abroad options” and “ample undergraduate research opportunities.” The Review also reports there is “a very welcoming atmosphere” and our small class sizes “make it easier to have one-to-one communications” with professors. All of these are conditions that support student success, and we’ve worked hard to develop them.

In addition to our new academic programs in journalism, nursing, and civil engineering, students can become involved in our growing community engagement programs. As you may remember, the University formally adopted community engagement as one of its core elements of distinctiveness. During the coming year, I expect new opportunities to emerge for students and faculty to interact with the community beyond campus for the benefit of both the community and the students’ learning.

In addition to our usual rich schedule of lectures, conferences, and performances, the University will also be holding a major event in April commemorating Connecticut’s involvement in the Civil War, as noted in Professor Warshauer’s article in this issue. With new Athletics Director Paul Schlickmann at the helm of the Blue Devils, we are also looking forward to exciting games and strong seasons as our teams compete for the Northeast Conference Commissioner’s Cup.

I hope you will join us for these events, and I especially hope you will return to your alma mater as we celebrate Homecoming, October 8-9. I look forward to welcoming you back.

Jack Miller

President

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters from our readers on topics in the *focus* or on other matters concerning your University. Letters may be edited for space and clarity. Anonymous letters will not be published. We encourage letters of 300 words or fewer.

Write: Central *focus*, Central Connecticut State University, 1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT, 06050.
Or email: Centralfocus@CCSU.edu.

Advertising

To help defray the costs of publication, we invite Central alumni and friends to advertise in our issues. The *focus* has a circulation of more than 50,000 and an estimated readership of 80,000. Please send inquiries to: ads@CCSU.edu.

The University has launched a new campaign for annual giving. Its theme, “CCSUCCESS: Success Begins With CCSU,” epitomizes what takes place at Central, thanks to the efforts and generosity of alumni and friends of the University.

Annual giving supports a wide range of the University’s most important needs, including academic scholarships, the library and academic programs and research. Your generosity ensures that the University remains a place where students succeed and where learning thrives. Donations may be made online at www.ccsu.edu/giving.
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Editor's Note: CCSU Professor of History and Central alum Matthew Wirsbauer ’90 has generously allowed the Central focus to present an excerpt of his forthcoming book, Connecticut in the American Civil War: Slavery, Sacrifice, and Survival, to be published by Wesleyan University Press in 2011. What follows is a condensed version of his introduction to that book.

On July 29, 1860, Milo A. Holcomb of Granby, Connecticut wrote to Republican presidential nominee Abraham Lincoln: “I am not hostile to your election though You are represented to be an abolitionist and in sentiment I am a pro Slavery man. I would if I could have my way, authorize Slavery in New England and the importation of African servants.”

Holcomb went on, discussing Lincoln’s famous “House Divided Speech” in which he had stated that the nation could not continue half slave and half free. Clearly tired of the battle over slavery, Holcomb opined, “the agitating question of slavery as it Exists in these U. S. has distracted the counsels of this nation long enough, you are reported to have said that the country could not remain a united people one half Bound the other free, that all must be alike and I agree with your reported sentiment.”

Holcomb’s conclusion about the future of slavery, however, was not in accord with Lincoln’s. Yet he was not opposed to allowing Lincoln to give abolition a shot: “I am willing You should try the experiment, I do not believe you can effect emancipation. If you can I have no objection. I only want all sections to be alike. I want the Experiment tried abolish Slavery if you can. If you find you cannot as I am sure you will do, then let us have the other as it will then be the last expedient.”

A Problem for Connecticut
Milo Holcomb’s letter presents a problem for Connecticut. We, after all, were the “good guys” in the Civil War. Along with the rest of the North, Connecticut staunchly opposed slavery and rallied to halt not only the spread of the peculiar institution West but also the Southern rebellion that shook the Union to its very core. When considering Connecticut’s connection to slavery and the Civil War, many immediately think of the Amistad case, the Underground Railroad, John Brown, and Harriet Beecher Stowe. These are certainly important and well-known events and people who, reveal the best in enlightened, antislavery thought. We conclude that Connecticut had always been generously disposed towards abolition, with its yearning for black freedom and civic equality. The result of such forward looking racial attitudes resulted in the state’s massive commitment to crushing the Southern rebellion.

The reality, however, is far from the constructed memory that flowed forth in the many years and decades after the Civil War. The simple truth is that in the “land of steady habits,” one of the steadiest was a virulent racism. While New England was generally viewed as the national center of abolitionist thought, Connecticut stood apart. The famed abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison, outraged by the Prudence Crandall affair, in which her school for black girls was attacked and ultimately closed by the town and state, desirously referred to Connecticut as the “Georgia of New England.” More than one historian has noted that, among her sister states, Connecticut was “the most inhospitable” to abolition. It is not that abolition failed to find a foothold. Rather, it was simply not nearly as widespread as many today believe. Moreover, whatever the number of Connecticut abolitionists, there were many more who actively opposed the advocates of anti-slavery and black equality.

The outbreak of the Civil War did little to change Connecticut’s racial sensibilities. The war did not usher in any widespread acceptance of blacks. Few of the state’s 55,000 men who marched to war did so with the goal of black freedom, and though many in the state came around to supporting Lincoln’s 1863 Emancipation Proclamation they did so primarily as a war measure that confiscated the South’s main labor force. The supporters of emancipation never fully embraced abolition and its belief in racial equality. The attitudes of both soldiers and those at home revealed that there existed a very clear difference between the two ideas.

Racism was so deeply entrenched that even as the war came to an end and emancipation was enshrined within the protection of the Constitution through the Thirteenth Amendment, Connecticut was still unable to shed its steady animosity to black rights. In 1865 the General Assembly passed an amendment to the state constitution removing the word “white” in describing who could vote and authorized a general referendum among the state’s residents to decide the matter. Voters readily demolished the amendment at the polls, revealing the unwillingness of Connecticut to accept any blacks as true members of the state or nation.

Nearly half of Connecticut’s population was steadfastly opposed to fighting the South. The state descended into chaos at the outbreak of the conflict, splitting into warring Republican and Democratic factions that sometimes faced off violently. Throughout the war the two parties maintained an intense opposition that put in jeopardy the state’s commitment to the Union. The most momentous outgrowth of this division was the 1863 gubernatorial election, which placed sitting Republican Governor William Buckingham against former Democratic governor and Mexican War hero Thomas Seymour. Had Buckingham lost this pivotal election, his fate might very well have been that of the state in its backing for the Lincoln administration and the Union.

The divisions between Republicans and Democrats in Connecticut reflected the larger complexities that separated the North from the South. These differences were at the heart of why the war should or should not be fought, as well as the complicated arguments over governmental power versus states’ rights, the sanctity of the Union, and the place of slavery within America. For Thomas Seymour and many of his Democratic brethren, secession, the right of a state to leave the nation, was entirely legal, and it was the agitation by abolitionists that was the great problem that precipitated war. They insisted that the North must recognize its constitutional obligation to protect slavery. Even those Connecticut residents who disagreed with secession and supported the war effort, readily agreed with some of Seymour’s points. They were, after all, not fighting on behalf of black freedom. They were not abolitionists.

For supporters of the war, the sanctity of the Union surpassed all other considerations, including slavery. This is the reason that so many marched forward under flowing banners to sacrifice their lives in such large numbers, to suffer the loss of limbs, the destruction of their families, and the misery that resulted for those at home. These men and those who supported
Connecticut Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War

Work is underway for an ambitious Connecticut commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War — a project launched at CCSU by a planning committee headed by Professor Warshauer. In addition to the publication of Warshauer’s book, an academic conference is being organized, and teachers statewide have been invited to develop school curricula on the Civil War. Other events planned for the three-day commemoration (April 15-17, 2011) include a Civil War reenactors encampment at Stanley Quarter Park in New Britain, staged battle skirmishes, and exhibits from historical organizations and museums. Yale University History Professor David Blight will deliver the keynote address at a conference inaugurating the commemoration on April 15 at CCSU. The commemoration is a collaboration of more than 40 organizational partners, including the Hartford Courant and many historical societies and museums. The Travelers is generously supporting the commemorative activities. More details at: www.ccsu.edu/civilwar.

The “Enduring Challenge” of Race

These Civil War monuments also offer an additional reality and legacy of the war. One that brings us back to the issue of race and the war’s causes. Of the more than 130 monuments spread throughout the state, only two include an image related to slavery or emancipation. As much as those of the Civil War generation did not embrace abolition and march to battle in defense of black rights, they, in the war’s aftermath, did not choose to remember the war in terms of those goals. Rather, they focused on service, sacrifice, and their own need to survive the war’s end. Once again, black rights and their role in the great rebellion were pushed to the side. It took almost 150 years before a tribute was erected in Connecticut specifically to black involvement in the war. In the fall of 2008, New Haven dedicated a monument to the 29th black regiment. It is a stark reminder that the Civil War remains alive in our memories, and that race is unalterably interwoven within that memory.

This book has been written, and the Commemoration at CCSU has been designed, to address the complexities involved in understanding the Civil War. From its causes, to the internal clashes over fighting, the experiences of soldiers and those at home, to the central role that slavery and race played, Connecticut’s involvement in the war remains complex, and the conflict’s legacy long lasting. With the widespread belief that abolition and equality were the central motives of the Civil War, the more complicated Connecticut story needs to be understood so that we can, in historian David Blight’s words, better understand race and emancipation as the war’s “most enduring challenge.”
One morning last March, 15 CCSU students met with Paul Fleming, the mayor of Derry, Ireland. The meeting was a highlight of the students’ spring break trip to the North of Ireland as part of two courses abroad, Professor John O’Connor’s Sociology 478 and Professor Louise Williams’s History 498.

Mayor Fleming asked the students about the Blue Devils and President Miller and presented CCSU with the official seal of the city. But the meeting had a subtext that ran far deeper than the casual banter and the obligatory presentation. Indeed, the students knew that they had the rarest of education opportunities. They were eyewitnesses to history in the making.

Just minutes before the meeting, they had been told that in 1972 Fleming was an Irish Republican Army (IRA) volunteer who had been convicted of bombing the building that they were visiting. His action was intended as a protest against the Protestant-controlled city council that discriminated against Catholics, excluding them from city politics. Why a welcoming person like Fleming would engage in such a violent act, and how he was able to cross over from being a terrorist to being a politician was something the students would explore throughout the remainder of their trip.

The Derry mayor’s story illustrates that Northern Ireland has moved away from its troubled past of religious and economic discrimination, and political and sectarian conflict. Yet, the peace that exists today remains fragile.

A Troubled History

In visiting the North of Ireland, CCSU students knew that they would be visiting two different countries, with two different currencies, road signs, and governments, on a single island. Their host, Tony Johnston, welcomed them to his Irish Studies Centre at Inch House in County Donegal, Republic of Ireland. Field trips, such as the one to Derry, took place in the province of Northern Ireland, the United Kingdom.

On their first day students began to understand why some Irish might join an organization opposing British interference in Ireland. The group stopped to see intricately carved tenth-century Celtic crosses at Monasterboise. These demonstrated that Ireland was a different nation than Britain, with a distinct history and culture.

Once Britain became a Protestant country and the Irish remained Roman Catholic, British political, economic and strategic control of Ireland was important. One of the earliest ways the British maintained control was by “planting” the North East of Ireland with loyal Protestants from England and Scotland. As the Protestants grew in number and wealth, and consolidated their power in Ireland, the Catholic majority resisted. This resistance culminated in a war of independence which led to the island being partitioned. With partition, the loyal Protestants in the Northern six counties became the majority, remaining part of the United Kingdom, while the southern 26 counties, with a majority of Catholics, became the Irish Republic.

With their own parliament, the Protestants of Northern Ireland proceeded to create a Protestant state for a Protestant people, discriminating against Catholics in jobs, education, and housing. The Central students could see the physical reminders of this power disparity in Derry. The city center, with its attractive historic architecture, churches, and shops, was restricted to Protestants. It towers over the Catholic Bogside district at the bottom of the hill, built on the worst land, with rows upon rows of tiny houses. Students
also learned from the accounts of various speakers that even today Catholics and Protestants live largely in segregated neighborhoods and attend segregated schools.

Little changed until the 1960s when the Civil Rights Movement in the United States inspired a similar movement in Ireland. With the government refusing to offer any concessions, Catholic resistance escalated, leading to the formation of the modern IRA. Thus began what was known as “The Troubles.”

The Troubles and After
Evidence of The Troubles is everywhere in Derry today. Walking in the Bogside, the students saw murals depicting scenes of young children killed by government forces, civilians facing British tanks, soldiers in riot gear hammering down doors in search of IRA suspects.

Students were given a tour of the site where, during a peaceful 1972 Civil Rights march, British army paratroopers shot live ammunition into the crowd and killed 14 people. The event became known as “Bloody Sunday” and “The Bogside Massacre.” Community activist Jon McCourt took students to the courtyard where he and others were trapped as British paratroopers came around the corner and began to fire. McCourt described the look in the eyes of a paratrooper who, after shooting a wounded man at point blank range, shrugged and walked away. When asked if the initial British account was true — that the soldiers were defending themselves against the IRA — Jon said no; the victims were innocent civilians, the IRA was not involved. He knew this because he was a member of the IRA at the time. After Bloody Sunday, a guerilla war ensued, during which more than 3,500 people lost their lives.

By 1990, no one believed that peace was possible in Northern Ireland. Yet, thanks to war weariness in both the Protestant and Catholic communities, the IRA agreed to a cease fire in 1994. And in 1998 the Northern Ireland political parties and the Irish and British governments signed the Good Friday Agreement. The peace deal ensured equality of treatment to both communities in Northern Ireland. Increased unemployment and poverty, especially among the young, may fuel new violence.

The CCSU students will be watching and waiting to see what happens. They have witnessed the pain and the loss that both communities have experienced in Northern Ireland, but they have also seen the promise and potential of peace. Their new understanding will be put to good use in both their future careers and in their private lives.

Study abroad programs at CCSU provide exceptional learning opportunities for our students. Anyone interested in contributing to a scholarship fund for the Ireland Study Abroad program should send a check payable to the CCSU Foundation/Ireland Course, PO Box 612, New Britain CT 06050. Gifts can also be made online at www.ccsu.edu/giving. Donors should check the box marked “Other” and specify “Ireland course” in the space provided.
Public drug policy and criminal justice policy have become increasingly intertwined over the past 30 years, but limited consideration has been given to the long-term implications of this interplay. Yet the combination of recent budget crises facing states and a shift in enforcement on the federal level has prompted policy makers to reexamine existing drug legislation in an effort to reverse the trend of ever-increasing criminal justice enforcement expenditures.

The Institute for Municipal & Regional Policy (IMRP) at CCSU created the Drug Policy Project in 2009 as a response to the increased interest in revisiting existing drug policy. The project explores the use of evidence-based drug policies within our state and nationally in an effort to serve as a resource to policy makers. In collaboration with faculty from the Yale School of Medicine, St. Francis Hospital, and CCSU, as well as outside policy experts, the IMRP has promoted discussion and understanding of current and potential drug policy through publications and community conversations.

In recent months, a number of US states, as well as the federal government, have lessened penalties for minor drug offenses. These new approaches include decriminalization of small amounts of marijuana, resulting in citations in lieu of an arrest and a formal charge, as well as legalization of medicinal marijuana (typically, for certain medical ailments per physician recommendation).

The federal crackdown on drug use and sales began in earnest in the early 1980s. Penalties for drug-related offenses stiffened considerably and many new drug laws were passed. Sentence lengths also increased for existing drug offenses, resulting in inevitable spikes in prison populations nationwide. There has been a 13-fold increase in those confined for drug law violations over the past 25 years, and much of that growth can be explained by drug policy.

Being “tough on crime” is expensive. Annually, it costs an estimated $44,165 to house an inmate in Connecticut’s prisons. However, this number can stretch to over $100,000 annually depending on the facility’s respective security level. To put this in perspective, as of last March there were 18,309 inmates in Connecticut’s prisons and jails, with nearly three times that many on probation or parole.

Incarceration represents only a fraction of criminal justice expenditures annually, though. In fact, judicial costs (i.e., court hearings, appointed council, prosecutions, clerical and administrative) contribute considerably to the millions of dollars appropriated to the Department of Correction (DOC). Combined, the current annual appropriations for DOC and the Judicial Branch are approximately $1.2 billion. On the municipal level, annual police expenditures for drug arrests in Hartford alone are approximately $22 million.

**The National Debate**

Today, a total of 13 states have moved toward decriminalizing small amounts of marijuana, legalizing marijuana for medicinal purposes or both. Primarily, decriminalization refers to lessening penalties for marijuana possession, typically reducing the
charge to an infraction. In some states, a physician’s recommendation allows individuals with approved medical ailments to legally consume marijuana.

Increased marijuana usage and modifications to existing laws fuel the national debate. While lessening penalties for possession could generate substantial cost-savings, this benefit is often contrasted against the perceived harms of marijuana use. The misguided belief that marijuana is a “gateway” drug, inevitably leading to harsher drug use, is one of the most frequent oppositional arguments. Opponents also contend that such a law would appear lenient, sending the message that marijuana use is acceptable, particularly concerning youth. It’s also argued that decriminalization may encourage new users and lead to increased use by current users.

While proponents agree that decriminalization may produce a slight increase in users and increase frequency for those already using marijuana, this group maintains those arguments are irrelevant compared to how existing drug policies continue to drain criminal justice resources and devastate lives. From the medical perspective, proponents argue marijuana is less harmful than tobacco and alcohol, which can be purchased and consumed legally. For chronically ill patients, marijuana can temporarily alleviate symptoms such as lack of appetite, nausea, and glaucoma. Legalization would significantly improve the quality of life for many sick people. Although proponents agree that marijuana can be harmful to some, they argue that potential benefits for those who suffer medically outweigh possible harms.

Despite robust conversations, strong advocacy groups, budget concerns, evidence-based research and consistent effort by the legislature, Connecticut has yet to amend its drug policy. Over the last three years, Connecticut policy makers have introduced a number of bills in an effort to lift penalties for both medicinal use and possession of small amounts of marijuana. For example, SB 349 introduced during the 2009 legislative session proposed to decriminalize the possession of less than half an ounce of marijuana by individuals 18 years or older. Similar to measures in other states, the passage of this bill would have reduced marijuana possession to an infraction, carrying a $250 fine as opposed to an arrest and possible jail time. During the same year, HB 6156 and HB 5175 both proposed the medical use of marijuana without prosecution. Although both bills passed, they were later vetoed by Governor M. Jodi Rell. Another attempt to decriminalize occurred in the 2010 legislative session through SB 476, but later died in the Judiciary Committee.

To step beyond the easy arguments often advanced by advocates and detractors of reform legislation introduced in Connecticut, the IMRP continues to sponsor research efforts and community discussions regarding drug policy. As Dr. Susan Pease, Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences notes, “After 40 years of increasing incarceration rates and failed drug policy, it is time to reexamine the laws, policies, and treatments that address substance abuse.”
The New BA in Journalism: Bridging Practical Training and Academic Scholarship

by Geri Radacsi

Award-winning radio journalist, editor, talk-show host, news director and educator John Dankosky has been selected for 2010-2011 as the first person to hold the Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism and Mass Communication. His arrival, signaling the debut of the University’s BA in Journalism program, adds “a new dimension to our journalism program and the university,” says Provost Carl Lovitt.

“We are doing some of the more innovative things that journalism programs are moving toward,” says Dr. Vivian Martin, director of the new program. “We are encouraging students to try to integrate into their studies computer science and entrepreneurship/business courses; allowing them to do some customizing to help them specialize in subject areas if they desire. We are aligning ourselves with CCSU’s mission in International Education, and that will be reflected in speakers, course offerings, and other activities.”

It is reflected, indeed, in the selection of Dankosky as the first occupant of the Vance Chair, endowment of which “puts us in the company of a select group of journalism programs,” says Martin. With 20-plus years as a broadcast journalist, Dankosky served as an editor of National Public Radio in Pittsburgh, Boston, and Washington, DC. He has been news director at WNPR-Connecticut Public Radio in Hartford since 2004. He hosts the popular Where We Live on NPR.

At CCSU he will organize community outreach and teach a new course, “Story in Sound,” designed to equip students for multimedia reporting. According to Dankosky, contemporary journalism requires a different set of skills in an age when newspapers and TV stations have reduced staff but continue to expand their Internet offerings. And while the new degree program will be grounded in the traditional reportorial skills of journalism, it will emphasize the “different” skills to which Dankosky refers.

Building on a Solid Foundation

The new journalism degree builds on the successful minor in journalism housed in the English Department for the past 24 years. Associate Professor Anthony Cannella, who played a pivotal role in the creation and coordination of the minor, served on the committee that created the new major. And he will continue to actively participate in its implementation.

“The minor has served our students well, and students may still minor in journalism,” Cannella said. “But as the field gets more complex and more competitive, a solid major in journalism is a most useful and exciting choice.”

Preparation for Today’s Career Challenges

Undergirding the program’s innovation will remain a strong and continued commitment to emphasize what Martin terms “the kind of public affairs/watchdog role that is at the core of journalism.” She stresses, “The mission of the BA in Journalism is to prepare students for positions...
in journalism and related information fields. In doing this, we also serve the broader CCSU community with courses that help other students become aware of journalism’s role in society and the importance of the First Amendment for all citizens in a democratic society.”

Graduates of the program will be prepared not only in the skills of information-gathering, reporting and writing, and editing — as well as public affairs — but also will be schooled in the use of new technologies. Digital media are an integral part of the curriculum.

To ensure that the program conforms to best practices in the field it has been designed in accordance with standards established by the national Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC). Students choose one of two tracks, print or broadcast, with all receiving instruction in multimedia reporting. Students can elect courses, such as video production and other related courses, through the Communication Department.

**Strengths: Customized, Interdisciplinary, Close Advising**

Students will also find the program to be remarkably flexible and interdisciplinary. “We will be doing close advising,” says Martin, “so that if, for example, a student wants to be a science or business writer, we can discuss how to bring into the major appropriate related credits or look into doing an internship in the subject area.”

Undergraduate Jessica English is enthusiastic about the new degree program. “I feel confident in my decision in changing my major in my junior year to journalism,” she says. In March, English studied abroad in London with her journalism class and gained “valuable knowledge on British news reporting that I can take with me in my own professional life.”

Placing the program in a broader context, Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences Susan Pease addresses the concern that newspapers — those tangible, foldable, black-and-white disseminators of information — are fading. “The manner of getting news may change, but our students will learn how to do cutting-edge journalism using web and electronic techniques. Whether people get news from cable, the Internet, or a cell phone, we will still need well-trained journalists to report the news with skill and integrity to help preserve the future of democracy.”

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**What CCSU Journalism Alums Say**

**Tracie Mauriello ’93 English/journalism**, has for the past five years done investigative work covering the legislature in Pennsylvania for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. She thanks Cannella for teaching her “the nuts-and-bolts of reporting” and arranging an internship for her at The Hartford Courant as an entry into her career in journalism. She sees CCSU’s new BA in journalism as “a solid program for the dynamic media environment.” She relates, “Tools of the trade used to consist of a pen, a notebook, a telephone and a good pair of shoes. Today I carry with me a laptop, a camera, a video camera, a digital recorder, a smart phone and a wireless card, too. I’ve provided coverage by webcasts, podcasts, audiocasts, blogs, tweets and Facebook posts. While these platforms provide new — and often interactive — ways to deliver the news, the principles are still the same. Accuracy and clarity are at the core.”

One major challenge that Rob Polansky ’04, Communication/journalism and once editor-in-chief of The Recorder, faces as a producer at WFSB-TV, Rocky Hill-Hartford, is being able to “assimilate information quickly and write it into a coherent script mid-broadcast. Pain and simple: people who know how to write and write quickly survive.” He recalls, “The most fun and memorable experience I had in the journalism program was Professor Martin’s Web Journalism class. In it, I had the opportunity to create my own blog and a home page. The course allowed me to utilize the skills I learned in journalism I and II and apply them on the ever-growing Internet.”

Justin Kloczko ’09 journalism major as a special studies student, who works at the Middletown Press/West Hartford News, declares, “A BA in journalism is essential today, because that is what media companies are looking for. Skills in writing, video editing, photography and the web is what a journalist today should be able to do. You have to be ready to multi-task, and I think CCSU’s program teaches students how to do that.”

Christine Stuart ’99 English/journalism, is editor and co-founder of CTNewsjunkie.com, a blog/website devoted to covering state government and politics. Also a stringer for The New York Times’ Connecticut Happenings section, she says, “My advice to any new journalists would be learn how to take pictures, video, audio, and write. That’s how you make yourself invaluable to the 21st-century newsroom.”
When “March Madness,” the NCAA’s national Division I basketball tournament, besets the country, it seems like everyone in America is crazy for college sports. But for Troy Arthur ’93, having a passion for college athletics — and for the future endeavors of college athletes — is a year-round occupation. Arthur, a former football captain at Central, is the NCAA’s director of academic and membership affairs, based in Indianapolis. In a career of more than 10 years with the NCAA, the nonprofit organization through which colleges and universities govern their athletics programs, Arthur has had the opportunity to delve into many areas and issues, ranging from regulatory policy to championships and diversity programs.

Currently one of his primary responsibilities is overseeing the athletic certification process for the NCAA’s more than 340 Division I member schools — a process similar to the accreditation that most educational institutions go through for other disciplines. The idea, says Arthur, is to help schools examine their own athletic objectives while meeting the requirements of NCAA membership.

“The challenging part about it is we have a vast number of colleges and universities throughout the country that are very diverse in their missions and purposes, as well as in the people they serve,” he says.

Typically schools seek recertification every 10 years, which means that 40 to 50 institutions may be going through the process in a given year. It is work that Arthur loves. “The thing that is really rewarding for me is having an opportunity to shape national policy to assist student-athletes in their pursuit of degrees, as well as the ultimate goal of graduation,” he says. “The other piece of it is we’re really trying to help student-athletes have a wonderful intercollegiate athletic experience while they’re on campus. I had a great experience while I was at Central, and I know how much a great intercollegiate athletic experience can mean to an individual — not only with regard to development, but also in how student-athletes view life as they pursue their own aspirations and careers in the future.”

THE IMPORTANCE OF LIFELONG LEARNING

Originally from Boston, Arthur was recruited to play football at Central and started all four years. An outside linebacker who had his share of sacks and interceptions — and who was quick and adept at shedding blocks — Arthur chose a sociology major, with a minor in criminal justice. “My experience at Central was very, very rewarding academically, athletically, and also socially,” he notes. “I think it helped develop me not only as a person but also as a professional.” He credits his professors with instilling in him a true love of learning. He says, “They took time and took an interest in what I wanted to do, and helped to mentor and guide me. They really got me to value education and the importance of lifelong learning.”

With athletics, too, personal connections were key: “I was really fortunate to have tremendous coaches, staff, trainers, and administrators when I was at Central because, like my professors, they took an interest in me as an individual.” Arthur points out that as dedicated as those mentors were about creating terrific athletic experiences, “Graduation was paramount in everybody’s mind.”

It was at Central that Arthur, who had always enjoyed history, developed a passion for public policy. While still an undergraduate, he secured a summer internship in Washington, DC, working for the National Black Caucus of State Legislators. It was 1992, and with presidential campaigns reaching a crescendo before the fall elections, it was an interesting, exhilarating time to be on Capitol Hill.

JOINING THE NCAA

After graduation, Arthur earned a master’s degree in public policy from Trinity College in 1995 and began working for The Governor’s Partnership: Drugs Don’t Work, a Hartford-based nonprofit initiative focused on preventing violence and drug and alcohol abuse among high school and college students. In conjunction with school administrators and athletic directors, Arthur helped develop programming directed specifically toward student-athletes. The work combined his love of college athletics with his keen interest in policy — and pointed him in a direction for the future. Some of the athletic directors he met through the program saw what Arthur had to offer and suggested that he might be particularly well suited for a job with the NCAA.

Never in his wildest dreams did the native New Englander imagine he might move to Kansas, but in 1996 Arthur accepted his first job with the NCAA and stayed for 10 years, during which time he and his wife, former Central classmate Debbie Crouch ’93, started a family. They now have three daughters under the age of 10.

Arthur did a two-year stint with Learfield Sports and Communications, where he became a general manager, but he returned to the NCAA in 2008, first as director of diversity and inclusion and then in his current position. Like the football captain he used to be, who worked hard because he “wanted to do what I could to help make the team better,” Arthur is still the kind of team player who is likely to start a conversation about his work by describing the team of talented people he works with — and forget to mention that he is their leader.

And as for March Madness, this NCAA insider has a very personal perspective, having done a number of youth clinics with many of the head coaches from the Men’s Final Four teams, and forging some wonderful friendships along the way. Yes, he acknowledges, “The Final Four is a great place to showcase the best of what it means to be a student-athlete and the pinnacle of an intercollegiate athletics experience.” But for Arthur personally it is also “a great chance to see colleagues that I have had the pleasure to work with for a very long time.”
Paula Chapla ’78
Leader in Technology
by Geri Radacsi

Paula Chapla ’78 hadn’t intended to study technology. In fact, she enrolled at CCSU as a political science major, but a casual incident changed her mind. She remembers the day: “I got involved helping the School of Technology move into its new space at Copernicus and I met industrial arts teachers. They talked about electrical systems, cars, refrigerators. Now that was interesting. I’d always liked hands-on stuff and understanding how things worked. Those professors didn’t think my questions were insignificant, even though I was female, so I decided technology education was for me.” She became one of four women in Central’s technology education program during the 1970s.

Last year, Chapla undertook another “moving experience.” This time it was for her employer of almost 30 years — Stratford-based Sikorsky Aircraft, one of the world’s leading designers and manufacturers of military and commercial helicopters.

At Central she had moved boxes. At Sikorsky, as operations/transformation manager, she led operations moving the Major Structures division from Stratford to Bridgeport. She coordinated all aspects of the relocation with several support departments to ensure quality and readiness — all the while using Lean principles and Achieving Competitive Excellence tools to create the most efficient use of space and to improve productivity.

“Did you ever see a goat on top of a beach ball?” quips Chapla. “That was me working to balance everything. At UTC we’re familiar with handling projects of this size to improve business operations. What made this so successful was having great support teams — from Facilities to our experts on the shop floor. I couldn’t have done it without their help.”

Chapla has always shouldered prodigious amounts of work. After graduating from Central, she says, “My life was ruled by minutes from 1980 to 1981.” She worked 90 hours a week, teaching wood shop at Shelton High School during the day and also earning an hourly wage operating milling machines on Sikorsky’s second shift.

When she began working full time at Sikorsky in 1980, she assumed increasing responsibility and rose through the supervisory ranks. She became manager of Major Components for the company’s Black Hawk helicopter model and was responsible for production of cabins for the UH60M and HH60M (Medivac) models. “Picture the New Orleans disaster of Hurricane Katrina,” she states with pride. “Our Black Hawks and Medivacs played pivotal roles in rescuing people and providing supplies.”

An “Awesome” Honor

Chapla still has strong ties to her alma mater, currently serving on the Alumni Association Board of Directors and as a member of the Finance Committee. One of her goals is to increase the level of alumni support and participation at CCSU.

“Alumni support is so important,” she says, “and donations, whatever the amount given during these tough economic times, contribute to learning, knowledge, and understanding for future generations.” She says she felt honored by the unanticipated recognition of being named CCSU Alumna of the Year by the School of Engineering and Technology in 2009. “That was awesome and such a honor,” she declares.

In spring 2009 Chapla was invited to speak at the first Girls and Technology Expo held by the School of Engineering and Technology in collaboration with the Connecticut Women’s Education and Legal Fund. She spoke to middle school girls from central Connecticut about the importance of women’s roles in technology. She told the girls, “Hopefully, there will be more people who look like us in this environment in the future. If women get into science and technology early in life, their achievements can have a significant impact on the world we live in.” Chapla credits Central with giving her a useful education, and the opportunities to learn from “high caliber, dedicated teachers” and participate in campus activities (she was on the student Board of Governors) that prepared her for a non-traditional career path.

“I look back and I remember how Wells St. used to run right through the middle of the campus,” she reflects. “People at CCSU had the vision to transform the campus into a beautiful environment while keeping focused on education and mindful of the constraints of running a large state institution. Reducing costs while maintaining quality is the same kind of challenge we face at UTC. I can appreciate the growth of the University and how it continues to plan for a bright future.”
“Every night when I go to bed, I know that I’m part of saving lives all over the world,” says Phil Kurze ’72. As vice president for Chester-based Whelen Engineering’s mass notification products division Kurze oversees production, marketing and sales of voice and siren tone speaker systems used to alert people of emergencies and potential danger. Kurze has circled the world selling his company’s products. He helped provide Denmark with a 1,400-speaker national warning system; counseled top-level government officials in Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia on ways to alert the public about tsunamis; and provided written testimony to Congress on mass notification methods. He has also helped to supply the US military with devices that, among other things, warn of potential security breaches at overseas military bases.

But while Kurze travels all over America for trade shows and client meetings, often as not his travel destinations are NASCAR-affiliated racetracks. That’s because Kurze is also Whelen Engineering’s vice president for motorsports. Whelen sponsors three NASCAR series, including NASCAR’s original modified series. Kurze represents his company at NASCAR functions and enjoys presenting awards at the end of races. Passionate about auto racing since childhood, he says, “I went to my very first race at Waterford Speed Bowl in 1954 when I was five years old, and I haven’t been the same since."

**A PERFECT FIT**

Kurze decided to pursue a partnership with NASCAR because there were so many marketing advantages. NASCAR is the most popular sport in the United States, a large percentage of Whelen’s customers are NASCAR fans, and the fans are very supportive of the sponsors. Whelen now provides the officially licensed warning lights for NASCAR’s racetracks, pace cars, and emergency vehicles. “We’re able to incorporate the product that we make and sell into the sport that we love,” says Kurze. “It’s a perfect fit.”

The NASCAR connection, in turn, led to another venture for the energetic Kurze. He is the president of the board of directors of the non-profit Bo-Dyn Bobsled Project (see “Night Train Strikes Olympic Gold!”). The project was created in 1992 by veteran NASCAR driver Geoff Bodine, who wanted to revitalize the US bobsled team by providing American-made sleds that capitalize on NASCAR technology and engineering acumen. Kurze notes that at the 2009 World Championships, the American team won a number of medals using Bo-Dyn sleds — including gold in the four-man race. The medals were welcomed by a team that hadn’t won gold in 50 years, but equally satisfying to Kurze is the fact that now the Europeans are acknowledging the superior design of the American-made sleds. Kurze himself has been down the bobsled run three times at Lake Placid and also at Park City, an 80-mile-per-hour experience that he refers to as “the longest minute of my life.”

**SHARING WITH CCSU**

His professional life might sound exhausting, but the indefatigable Kurze has made a career out of having multiple careers. When he graduated from Central in 1972 with a degree in English and secondary education, Kurze was unable to find a teaching position in a saturated job market, so he began training to become a police officer. He served 10 years as a part-time officer in Deep River, rising to the rank of sergeant while also managing a business forms company.

“I’ve always been a multi-tasker,” he says. “I’ve never been satisfied doing just one thing.” In fact, Kurze’s second and third jobs have included town selectman and deputy fire marshal in Deep River. He also worked as a private investigator and served for 20 years as the police commissioner.
in Colchester, where he successfully developed a department of full-time police officers supervised by resident State Troopers.

Kurze, who joined Whelen Engineering in 1993, has always been grateful for his CCSU education, particularly the communication skills he gained. An avid sports fan, he enjoys following the Blue Devils, especially the men’s basketball team. But his relationship with his alma mater took an even more meaningful turn when his daughter, Katharine, enrolled to pursue a teaching degree.

She graduated with honors in 2007. Since then, Kurze has continued to forge fruitful connections with the University, including supporting the athletic program. He and wife Jo Ann, an elementary teacher, have season tickets behind Coach Howie Dickenman’s bench. Additionally, Kurze has worked with the School of Engineering & Technology to create a paid engineering internship — which comes with a scholarship — at Whelen. A member of the CCSU Foundation board of directors, he serves on the Industrial Technology and Management Advisory Board, which helps to keep the curriculum anchored in real-world needs and applications.

Most satisfying of all, Kurze found a way to share his expertise in public safety with his University. It was during his daughter’s senior year that the Virginia Tech massacre occurred, and that got Kurze thinking. “Text messages don’t work for students who have cell phones turned off for class. Emails don’t work for players at football practice. And what about campus visitors?”

He set about planning a loudspeaker warning system to serve the CCSU campus. It took about a year and a half of sound surveys, planning, installing, and intense collaborating with everyone from Facilities Management and the Board of Trustees, to President Miller and the University Police Department. Notes Kurze proudly, “Everybody came together as a family.”

The system was completed in summer 2009, and Kurze was extremely gratified to bring his life’s work to bear on public safety at CCSU. “This is something that I am dedicating my life to,” he says. “I wanted a part of me to be a part of the campus, and to give back to the University for what it has done for me.”

Night Train Strikes Olympic Gold!
Thanks to Phil Kurze ’72 and Whelen Engineering
by Janice Palmer

In pelting rain and snow, Phil Kurze ’72 stood alongside the bobsled track as the jet-black Night Train barreled over the finish line to win Olympic gold. Though he developed a full-blown case of pneumonia at the Vancouver Olympics, it was a historic moment he had to experience.

“To see our men’s team win Olympic gold for the first time since 1948 and to know that in some small way I’d had something to do with that, was extraordinary,” says Kurze. The Bo-Dyn Bobsled Project won gold in the four-man bobsled and bronze in the sled used by the women’s team.

“In a split second, everything from the past 15 years came together; then suddenly, it was all over,” he recalls. “I didn’t want it to end, but I couldn’t wait for it to be over, so our team would have its gold.”

The pursuit for Olympic gold began in 1992 when NASCAR veteran Geoff Bodine introduced NASCAR technology into bobsled design. Bodine reached out to race car chassis builder Bob Cuneo of Chassis Dynamics in Connecticut, and the Bo-Dyn Bobsled Project was born. A couple years into the project, Bodine approached Kurze and Whelen Engineering for help.

As Bo-Dyn’s president, Kurze led the efforts to secure financial backing and established the bobsled project as an official non-profit organization, which made Bo-Dyn an attractive investment to a number of corporate sponsors. Whelen became the biggest one.

“I’m especially proud that John Olson, Whelen’s president and CEO, felt a synergy with Bodine’s ‘Made in America’ goal and was inspired to give the bobsled project a $100,000 check,” says Kurze. “It came with a stipulation that $50,000 of it goes directly to the building of a sled that would outclass every other team in the world.”

Basking in the glory isn’t enough for Kurze or the Bo-Dyn team. They hope to find a way to make a less costly version of the Night Train and to bring bobsledding to the Paralympics—the international competition for people with disabilities.
Sometimes all one really needs is a mentor. Yvette Perez-Ghannam ’94, ’06, currently a bacteriologist for the Greenwich Health Department, received the guidance and support she needed at CCSU. Having been helped, she now tries to help others.

As part of her job, Ghannam examines everything from bacteria in water samples to cholesterol in a patient’s blood. When she came to the United States from Puerto Rico she could barely speak English and had little money. She worked in an entry-level position at the Henry Southern Laboratory in Bloomfield where she discovered her talent for microbiology. A co-worker, Senior Bacteriologist Hannah Sachs, “put me on the right track,” she says, pointing her to an undergraduate program at Central.

Ghannam appreciated the importance of an education, but she says that “I needed influence” to help her along. Studying at Central, she was guided and encouraged by Professor of Teacher Education Justus Beach, Professors of Biomolecular Sciences Katherine Martin-Troy and James Mulrooney, and Ruthe Boyea, then the Director of the Women’s Center. According to Ghannam they helped her to turn her passion into a career.

PAYING IT FORWARD
Possessing both a BA in biology and an MA in biomolecular sciences, Ghannam says those degrees serve as the “right tools” for her future and help her compete in the world. She also wants to “pay it forward,” so she now gives back to her community of New Britain by volunteering with the New Britain Police Department and with youth advocacy programs in the once drug ridden Allen Street neighborhood. She wants young people to understand the value of what she has learned: education is a way to a better and more satisfying life.

It took Ghannam 10 years to earn a bachelor’s degree in biology from CCSU while working and taking classes at the same time. She later earned a master’s degree in biomolecular sciences from CCSU and a master’s in pharmacy with a concentration in forensic science from the University of Florida. Ghannam is currently pursuing a PhD in public health with a concentration in epidemiology, and hopes to put her learning to use both by teaching classes online and advising local and national governments on bioterrorism and public safety.
I’ve always liked history, especially learning about other individuals,” says Darren Wright, a senior anthropology major. Wright came to Central with an enthusiasm for uncovering the details of past events and people who lived in an earlier time, and he has actively crafted a solid foundation in both anthropology and archaeology through his work in the classroom and the field.

Wright obtained an internship last summer with the United States Department of Agriculture’s national office in Washington, DC, through the Cultural Resources Diversity Internship Program.

Perry adds, has given him “the opportunity to see first-hand the importance of a multicultural, inclusive perspective in archaeology and to demonstrate his knowledge and ability in that realm.”

“I didn’t know what I was getting into,” Wright says, reflecting on his internship. He quickly found out that “this was an internship in which I could apply the skills I had learned at CCSU to the real world. My education has been outstanding because it enabled me to pursue my goals.” Wright not only developed an extensive knowledge of environmental laws and regulations, he was also able to hone business skills, such as effectively communicating with others. As a volunteer park manager at the National Mall he further enhanced those skills, helping individuals to navigate the park and providing tours and interpretation of the area.

Wright’s first taste of archaeology came early, when his father, also interested in the subject, taught an archaeology class to his Boy Scout troop. Facilitated by Connecticut state archaeologist and CCSU alumnus Nick Bellantoni ’76, Wright visited his first excavation site at Manchester’s Cheney Homestead in 2000.

Eight years later, in the summer of 2008, Wright enrolled in an archaeology field school class, led by Perry, in which students were instructed in survey and excavation techniques as well as laboratory skills and analysis. “We learned to read the environment culturally,” says Wright. “The facts and features of artifacts can tell you a lot about the people who lived there.” Perry says Wright was “an essential part” of the class, adding, “He distinguished himself with his competence and ability. Darren proved to be an excellent surveyor, and, with his knowledge of coin collecting, he was able to identify one of the most intriguing finds made by the class: a counterfeit halfpenny from the late 1700s.”

Black Sal’s Cave and Negro Hill
Perry further notes that “the field school site, a long-abandoned African-American community in New Hartford, was the catalyst for Darren’s hypothesis about multicultural outsider communities in his hometown of Bolton.” That hypothesis would become the subject of Wright’s undergraduate thesis, which focused on Bolton’s “Negro Hill.” Wright says, “I wanted to see why it was called this, not just to provide an answer for myself but for the town, as well.”

Wright uncovered the history of a woman named Sally Erin whom he believes may have lived in the hill’s “Black Sal’s Cave” in the 1830s. Absent a husband or male companion and, thus, likely without income, Erin may have fled to the woods. Wright found a piece of whiteware pottery by the cave that could date back to 1830, but he notes that more research is needed before a solid conclusion can be reached.

“This capstone project highlighted Darren’s thorough, methodical research,” says Perry, “which utilized resources ranging from the local town hall to the Library of Congress.” Wright notes that he may continue work on the site for his MA thesis by contacting descendants of Erin and looking further into the area’s history.

Wright is continuing his endeavors in archaeology through employment with the Department of Agriculture’s local branch in Windsor, CT. For this job, obtained through connections from his internship, he is again working with Section 106. He notes that he has learned much in regards to environmental procedure, wetland preservation, and the Endangered Species Act. He takes pride in the office’s proactive efforts in distributing money, issued through the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, to rural communities. Wright further offers volunteer services to the Manchester Historical Society, where he passes on his knowledge by providing tours to third-graders, and teaching about the town’s history. While Wright is crafting his own productive future in archaeology, he takes care to ensure the success of tomorrow’s generation as well.
Lauren Salvia
Blending Athletics, Travel, and Business

In her final year of high school, Lauren Salvia was named both Athlete of the Year and Business Student of the Year. Now, as a third-year right fullback for the Blue Devil women’s soccer team, Salvia is setting her sights on combining her love of travel with her passion for athletics and business marketing.

As a senior at Lindenhurst Senior High School in Long Island, Salvia was actively engaged in a scholarship program called The Recruit, modeled after NBC’s television show The Apprentice, in which students compete at various tasks for college scholarship funds. Salvia credits this competition, as well as Nick Lombardo, advisor and founder of The Recruit, with sparking her interest in marketing. “She’s every adjective you’d want to hear,” says Lombardo, who has observed Salvia in both business and classroom settings, working with her in a college-credit sports marketing class her senior year at Lindenhurst. “She’s a hard worker and a true leader, and she has an eye for detail. She takes the initiative to be well organized and stays motivated.”

Salvia was a second place finalist in The Recruit, and Lombardo attributes this success to her ability to lead and work with others. “In a setting such as this, you do not always have the most energetic students, but Lauren was able to get her peers motivated and working as a team,” he says.

ELEMENTS OF SUCCESS
“Anywhere you go in business, you’ll have to be part of a team,” says Salvia, an international business major with a concentration in marketing. “Being able to cooperate and work with others is vital, as is bringing your element to the team.”

Her “element,” she says, is persistence. “I won’t accept mediocrity in grades or athletics, in the classroom, or on the field,” she says. “I’ll keep practicing something until I get it right.”

Salvia’s dedication has earned her the position of treasurer for the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) and led to her induction into both the National Scholars Honors Society and Delta Mu Delta, an international business honors society.

“I really want to work. I’m ready to have responsibility,” says Salvia, who hopes to land a job in sports marketing after graduating a semester early. “To have athletics and marketing come together would be better than anything I could imagine.”

Thanks to both her own adventurous nature and the opportunities presented by athletics, Salvia is an experienced traveler. The summer before her sophomore year, the soccer team spent eight days in Ireland. Next to winning the Northeast Conference Championships the following year, Salvia thinks that the trip “was my best college experience so far.” The team won all three international games and, afterwards, attended a party thrown by Coach Mick D’Arcy.

“We were truly in the culture. I didn’t feel like a tourist at all,” she recalls. “I was originally a marketing major, but, after Ireland, I changed to international business. The trip made me realize what was out there.”

Previously Salvia participated in soccer excursions to Holland, Belgium, and Germany as part of the Olympic Development Program, and last summer she traveled to Italy thanks to a cousin’s late graduation present. “It was so real. I got to see things you only see in movies, places you only read about in books,” she notes. Salvia, who had taken Italian language courses, says that this allowed for further immersion in the culture. A vivid memory of the trip involves one of Salvia’s passions: “The day before we got there, Barcelona had won the championship premier game. We walked out of the hotel on our first day and were swarmed by people celebrating in the streets. The Barcelona team had been staying at a hotel a few blocks away. They were in the crowd, holding up the trophy. It was really exciting.”

Athletics has offered Salvia numerous opportunities to travel abroad, and her academics have allowed her love of business and marketing to flourish. “Soccer has taught me that nothing is impossible, and to always stick with what you enjoy doing,” she says.

While Salvia is impatient to start a career in international business, she recalls great times at Central. “College has gone by way too fast,” she says. “I wish I could just freeze it. I’ve had such great experiences here.”
After a tremendous fall season with two Northeast Conference Championships and a season league title, the CCSU Blue Devils followed it up in the spring with another NEC title and two programs setting records for wins in a season. The spring season also saw the introduction of new Athletic Director Paul Schlickmann.

As Schlickmann noted during his introduction to the campus, “Central has an impressive history of success, and there is a palpable sense of pride about athletics throughout the campus community. I am excited to work with President Miller in achieving his vision for Blue Devil Athletics to be the premier program in the Northeast Conference.”

Following the success of football, women’s soccer, and men’s cross-country in the fall, the spring teams proved they were ready to play at that level, too.

The baseball team clinched its fourth Northeast Conference Championship since 2002. The conference title marked only one of the awards the team would accumulate. A slew of individual awards were given out for the stellar seasons of both Pat Epps and Sean Allaire. Allaire earned All American Honors and was named the NEC Player of the Year. Epps won the NEC Tournament MVP. Both Allaire and Epps played vital roles in Central’s high-powered offense that enabled them to overcome double-digit leads twice in the season. Epps even broke CCSU’s longstanding home run record by hitting 18 for the season.

“The certainly, one of the highlights of my first month was the performance of our baseball team,” said Schlickmann, referring to the Blue Devils’ appearance in the first round of the NCAA Regional in Norwich, CT. “We all finished the weekend filled with pride about how Coach Hickey’s team competed and how they conducted themselves in their games against Florida State and UConn. It was a fitting conclusion to a very successful year that left us all excited about what lies ahead for all of our teams in the 2010-2011 seasons.”

The softball team had 19 wins, its most since joining the NEC in 1998. That couldn’t have come at a better time for first-year coach Jeff Franquet. “I am so proud of what this team has accomplished this year. Anytime you go through a transition period it is difficult, but this team persevered and we had a terrific year. The four seniors – Sara Budrick, Tiffany Erickson, Katherine Knowles, and Jaclyn Logan – have started a new tradition of excellence for CCSU softball. We couldn’t ask for a better ending to our season.” The Blue Devils also earned a number of individual awards that promise even better years for the future. Both Kelsey Barlow and Macy Stefanaski were awarded Rookie of the Week honors, and Rebecca Mussatti was named to the All-NEC first team.

Women’s lacrosse also achieved its best record, with its win total the highest ever. Several players earned impressive honors. Four-time Rookie of the Week Betsy Vendel was named the NEC Rookie of the year. In addition to Vendel, Mackenzie Ryan was selected to the NEC All-Rookie Team along with Knowles. With all but Budrick back for next year, the Blue Devils are in prime position to keep improving their record and have a shot at the NEC title.

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Following the success of football, women’s soccer, and men’s cross-country in the fall, the spring teams proved they were ready to play at that level, too.

The men’s track team took home third place in the NEC Outdoor Championship, the best finish in Central’s history. With such promising young student-athletes as Aaron Radden, who was named both Most Valuable Performer and Outstanding Rookie for the Northeast Conference Indoor Championship, men’s track looks to be in prime position to be right back in the title hunt next year. Former CCSU track star and 2009 NEC Cross-Country Coach of the Year Eric Blake was also named the women’s track and cross-country coach.

With a new AD and young talent on improving teams, the Blue Devils are poised to make a strong run at the Northeast Conference Commissioner’s Cup, a goal set by President Miller and embraced by all the Blue Devil teams.
“We’re undergoing a metaphormosis; it’s quite an exciting time,” declares Dr. Francisco Donis. “The Center for Caribbean and Latin American Studies has a new name — the Latin American, Latino and Caribbean Center (LALCC).” The Center is still housed on the main floor of the Elihu Burritt Library, and Donis, the director of the Center and a professor of psychology, is eager to keep an open door policy. “In the Center, we welcome everyone who is interested in the culture of the Latin American and Caribbean regions. Our resources include book and video collections, conference space, and several PCs for student use.”

Associate Director of the LALCC Carlos Liard-Muriente, an associate professor of economics at CCSU, extends an invitation: “A stop by the Center will demonstrate the diversity of the student population visiting the Center and how comfortable they feel. We strive to provide a welcoming space for all students — or, as we say in Spanish: Mi casa es su casa!” For more information about the LALCC, see www.ccsu.edu/LALCC.

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS RESPOND TO STATE’S WORKFORCE NEEDS

“What’s exciting about our new nursing degree program is that we’re in step with the most current research that calls for a more highly educated nursing workforce,” says Professor of Nursing Linda Wagner, who serves as chair of the department. She refers to a new Carnegie Foundation Report (January 2010) voicing strong support of high quality baccalaureate degree programs that transform how nurses are prepared for contemporary practice and leadership roles. “In addition to being a primary caregiver, today’s nurse must be educated as a leader who is able to delegate, work on a team, and advocate for the patient,” explains Wagner.

The new BSN program was approved by the Connecticut Department of Higher Education and the Connecticut Department of Public Health in June 2008 to supplement and enhance CCSU’s existing RN-to-BSN program, which was established more than two decades ago and is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The new program is fully accredited by CCNE until 2016.

Students in the program, now all sophomores, have embarked on a rigorous four-year curriculum which prepares them, as nurse generalists, to sit for the National Licensing Exam for Registered Nurses upon graduation from CCSU. For more information: www.ccsu.edu/nursing.

In June 2009, the Connecticut Board of Governors for Higher Education licensed CCSU to begin its first civil engineering program and students were admitted in fall 2009.

The new civil engineering program will provide a solid foundation for graduates to enter a variety of specialized fields. Graduates will be prepared in advanced mathematics, in science, and at least one additional area of science and will know the fundamental engineering sciences common to most engineering disciplines (statics, dynamics, fluid mechanics, thermodynamics, and mechanics of materials) and a solid undergraduate foundation in general civil engineering principles.

The civil engineering curriculum was established to meet the accreditation requirements of the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, Inc. CCSU will apply for accreditation when the first students graduate from civil engineering. Upon ABET approval, accreditation will include the first graduating class. For more information: www.ccsu.edu/civilengineering.

SUSTAINABILITY

The University’s efforts to create a sustainable campus were acknowledged on Earth Day, when it was selected as an “exemplary Green institution” by Princeton Review in its guide book, 286 Green Colleges. The Review credits CCSU with being the “only school in Connecticut to meet all of its deadlines for the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment,” and President Jack Miller is applauded for naming sustainability as “one of the top four priorities of the university.”

Earth Day also marked the completion of the replacement of campus lamp-lights with energy conserving LED lights. The change will result in a savings of nearly $200 thousand per year and over 240 thousand kilowatt hours annually.
Mary Lou Sullivan '98
Raisin' Cain: The Wild and Raucoius Story of Johnny Winter
Backbeat Books
May 2010
“Raisin' Cain is the authorized and definitive biography of Johnny Winter, the Texas albino guitar player and vocalist who made his mark on the music industry in 1969 by signing a history-making $600,000 record deal with Columbia Records and selling out concerts at Madison Square Garden and the Royal Albert Hall.

Julia Carlson-Fargo '97
All For the Love of Marie
CreateSpace
August 2009
Julia Carlson-Fargo’s book, published under her maiden name (Julia Carlson), is a nonfiction book about her daughter, who is disabled. “(Marie’s) life has brought her family to appreciate the joy and happiness she contributes each day to the world,” writes Amazon. “Marie is a fighter and teaches her family and friends to never give up. She never does.”

Mary-Ann Tirone Smith '65
Girls of a Tender Age: A Memoir
Free Press
January 2007
“Dirty Water: A Red Sox Mystery
Hall of Fame Press
October 2008
“The recovery of repressed memories of the 1953 murder by a serial killer of an 11-year-old friend and neighbor in a blue-collar enclave in Hartford, Conn., triggered Smith’s absorbing memoir,” writes Publishers Weekly of Girls of a Tender Age. With her son Jere Smith, the author wrote Dirty Water, in which members of the 2007 Boston Red Sox, especially David “Big Papi” Ortiz are incorporated into a mystery plot “with the adeptness of a successful double steal.”

Ferial Masry and Susan Chenard '80
Running for All the Right Reasons: A Saudi-born Woman’s Pursuit of Democracy
Syracuse University Press
November 2008
“In 2004, Ferial Masry, born in Mecca, became the first Saudi American to run for political office in U.S. history,” writes Amazon. “Running for All the Right Reasons chronicles (her) remarkable life (from) her decision to emigrate to the United States to her career as an educator and her bold entry into the world of politics. (It) is the stuff of legends.”

Peter Kilduff '67
Herman Göring Fighter Ace: The World War I Career of Germany’s Most Infamous Airman
Grub Street Publishing
June 2010
“Over the last 70 years, in countless books and essays, Hermann Göring has been defined by his crimes and excess during the Third Reich and the Second World War,” wrote Amazon of Peter Kilduff’s new book. “But his activities as a young career military officer in World War I have invariably been glossed over – until now.” Kilduff, an acclaimed American historian and the author of 13 aviation books, has written “the first in-depth look at Göring’s role as a military flyer and air combat leader (during) The Great War, and how those experiences shaped the personality that came to the world’s attention in 1939.”

Marian (Gourlie) Keen '57
Lexi and Hippocrates Find Trouble at the Olympics
Trafford Publishing
September 2009
“Follow Lexi’s ‘meowmoirs’ and experience history through the eyes of a cat,” writes Amazon, of Marian Keen’s latest children’s book narrated by Alexander Catt II, aka Lexi). “In this story, you will grasp the ideals of the original Olympic Games and understand today’s commitment to their meanings. Lexi is a spunky cat with a nose like a bloodhound’s. You will admire the courage and self-control of this clever puss, yet forgive his towering ego and tendency to take credit for historical inventions.”

Alexandrina (Sandy) Bain
The Four Moments after Death: When Moments Fade and Pass Forever
Xlibris
June 2009
Joseph Geraci’s book is a true story about mourning a loved one who has passed away. It is a poignant sharing of emotions written in the hope of helping those who are struggling with their own confrontation with death and the continuation of life.

Diane McCarthy '92
Arlington’s Dream
Outskirts Press
October 2008
“Arlington’s Dream is a humanistic children’s book concerning the homeless population,” says Amazon. The beautifully illustrated book was written with the intention of opening up elementary classroom discussions about homeless people and how they became homeless. Arlington’s Dream won a Merrit Award from the Colorado Independent Publishing Company for the year 2008.

New section:
Central alumni – please let us know about books you have written that have been published recently:
alumnibooks@ccsu.edu
2010 Alumni Association Awards Ceremony and Athletics Hall of Fame Induction. (L-r): Joseph DiCosimo ‘70 (Hall of Fame), Kate Mullen ‘78 (Hall of Fame), Janine Rutkowski MS ‘99 (on behalf of Brent Rutkowski, Hall of Fame, posthumously), Charles Jones, Jr. ’69, MS ’72 (Hall of Fame), Jack J. Burriesci ’97 (Young Alumni Award), Martin Kelly ’87 (on behalf of Mike Ryan ’85 [Kaiser Alumni Service Award]), Norman Hausmann ’54 (Distinguished Alumni Service Award).

Teachers College of Connecticut Class of 1955 celebrate 55th Reunion.

Current CCSU student Ryan Combs and Dave Prendergast ’68 as “Making Connections,” an alumni/student leader networking event.

Sean Walsh, Assistant Professor, Physical Education & Human Performance (left) joins Carol Ammon ’73 (far right) in recognizing (l-r) Maria Corallo ’11 and Sarab Lupo ’10 as Frances E. Libbena Scholarship recipients.

Paula Chapla ’78 (r) and her guest Peg Garbien enjoy a “Day of Beauty” at the spring Lord & Taylor event.

Dean of the School of Engineering & Technology Zdzislaw Krement presents Robert Mercier ’88 with the School’s 2010 Outstanding Alumnus Award.
In any stock market climate, proper asset allocation matters. In a down market, you could argue that it matters more than anything else. Did you have a well-diversified portfolio during the fall of 2008? That was a time when the importance of having a bond allocation and proper equity diversification really hit home. Nearly all investors were hit hard, but some were hit harder than others. What percentage of your portfolio was held in Treasuries (or cash) at that time?

Wise asset allocation may help you as the market recovers. Yes, even diversified portfolios lost money at the end of 2008 and the start of 2009. Yet with rebalancing, these same portfolios may be poised to take advantage of a rebounding market.

You might say there are two schools of thought when it comes to diversification and asset allocation — hands off, and hands on.

Modern Portfolio Theory. In 1952, Harry Markowitz published a brief, provocative paper that was the start of Modern Portfolio Theory (MPT), which still has many advocates today. MPT asserts that for every portfolio, there exists an “efficient frontier” — an ideal asset allocation among diversified asset classes that should efficiently balance maximum return and minimum risk.

MPT has its fans – but also its critics. In the last 20 years or so, many investment advisors and money managers have practiced a buy-and-hold style of portfolio management using the diversification principles of MPT. But as the markets dropped in 2008-09, critics pointed out the danger of buying and holding — you can “hold” positions too long. In the crisis, some investment advisors took more of a hands-on approach to portfolio management. Others had always done so.

How long is the long run? If history is any guide (and it may not be), the longer your investment horizon, the more sense buy-and-hold can make — at least when it comes to stocks. The critics counter that argument with the fact that the S&P 500 traded at the same level in mid-2009 as it did in summer 1997.

Stretch or contract different windows of time and you can reach all kinds of conclusions.

The bottom line. The buy-and-hold adherents and critics certainly agree on one thing: diversification is hugely important. If your assets are allocated across 10 or 12 “baskets” instead of one or two, for example, you are theoretically less affected by the whims of the financial markets.

One Possible Solution—Dollar Cost Averaging In a Down Market

The central idea: buy low and sell high. It’s the oldest stock market adage, and in the wake of the recent selloff, dollar cost averaging may give you a method to capture lower prices today and come out ahead tomorrow.

How it works. Dollar cost averaging is a long-term investment strategy. It means investing in small increments. Through scheduled investments of as little as $50 or $100 per month, you buy investment shares over time, as opposed to pouring a big lump sum into the market. The method is often recommended to younger investors with longer time horizons and investors who don’t yet have great wealth. Such a plan involves continuous investment in securities regardless of fluctuation in price levels of such securities. Investors should consider their ability to continue purchasing through periods of low price levels. Such a plan does not assure a profit and does not protect against loss in declining markets.

Why it is worthwhile in a bear market. First of all, when the market drops, the investor practicing dollar cost averaging isn’t hurt as much as the lump sum investor because the lump sum investor holds many more shares of the declining stock.

Second, a stock market downturn produces a kind of “clearance sale” environment. Picture Wall Street as a department store, with signs everywhere announcing 20 percent or 30 percent off. You have a chance to buy into some companies “on sale”. As a consequence of dollar cost averaging, you can now buy in at a lower price — and buy more shares for your money.

So what happens when the market recovers? As the market rebounds, you can pat yourself on the back. You were able to buy big at the bottom of the market, and as the market rises, you will have a lower cost basis and you can enjoy the associated gains. All the while, you continue contributing to a winning stock. (Of course, the fact is that a lump sum investor may profit even more from a market rebound, as he or she may hold comparatively more shares than you.)

Perhaps most importantly, you stay invested. Dollar cost averaging gives you a regular, passive investment strategy as opposed to market timing. In a volatile market, the active investor can quickly become a frustrated casualty of his or her impulses — and foolishly “abandon ship.” You might call this a tortoise-and-the-hare analogy. The active investor sprinting all over the place for spectacular gains is the hare; you, through dollar cost averaging, emulate the tortoise. It may not be the “sexiest” way to invest, but in a down market it is a long-term approach well worth considering.

Learn more. We have witnessed a huge downturn in stocks. The question is: how are you positioning yourself to take advantage of the markets when things rebound? This is a good time to meet with a financial consultant - to review or rebalance your portfolio, to look past the headlines of the moment and toward your long-term objectives. If you’re not currently practicing dollar cost averaging, you may want to talk about the concept with your advisor.

Robert A. Laraia ’85, CIC, RFC, is a founding partner of NorthStar Wealth Partners, LLC in West Hartford, CT. He has worked in the financial services industry since 1985 and has been a member of the prestigious Million Dollar Round Table since 1990. He is the author of many articles in local and national financial newspapers and magazines.

NorthStar co-founder Brandon Marinelli and associate Mark Stack joined with Bob in a year-long sponsorship of CCSU Blue Devil athletics.
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**September 25**  
Legacy Breakfast as part of Family Day  
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
Memorial Hall - Connecticut Room

**October 8**  
12 noon: Golf Outing:  
shotgun/scramble start,  
Stanley Golf Course,  
$65.00 per person  
7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.  
Reunions: Semesters,  
Student Center,  
$10.00 per person, includes  
music, food, drawings. Were  
you a member of a club, fraternity  
or sorority, an athlete, or live in  
the residence halls? Call your  
friends from those groups and  
plan to get together to reminisce  
about the good old days. Food and  
soft beverages will be supplied.  
Want help contacting your CCSU  
friends? Try our facebook page  
or call the alumni office  
(860) 832-1740,  
email alumnidept@ccsu.edu.

**October 9**  
All events in Kaiser Parking  
Lot under the Tent  
10:00 a.m. - 12 noon:  
**Bloody Mary Brunch**, $10.00  
per person, children under 5  
free, children 5-12 $5.00.  
School of Education &  
Professional Studies Gathering  
at Brunch. Activities for families  
in the lot.  
12 noon - **CCSU Blue Devils**  
v.s. **Duquesne**. Game tickets  
available at Brunch. Half-time:  
recognition of Class of 1954.  
3:00 p.m. or immediately  
following the game: **After Party**  
featuring cash bar, band,  
munchies and drawings  
Register for Event:  
www.ccsu.edu/homecoming2010

**October 24**  
2nd Annual Ray Crothers  
Memorial 5K Run  
10:00 am CCSU Campus  
For more information:  
www.ccsu.edu/Crothers2010

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**CLASS NOTES**

**50**  
Larry Greene and Jean  
(Salmonsen) Green are celebrating  
their 60th wedding anniversary this  
year. Now retired, they live in  
Seattle, WA.

**56**  
Ray Rondini, a member of the  
unbeaten 1945 New Britain High  
School football state champs, was  
inducted into the New Britain  
Sports Hall of Fame on April 22.

**57**  
Marian (Gourlie) Keen’s latest  
book, **Lexi and Hippocrates Find  
Trouble at the Olympics**, is a  
children’s historical fiction. Keen’s  
narrator is Alexander Catt II (aka  
Lexi), whose “meowmors” recount  
his adventures with famous people.  
In this “tail,” Lexi meets  
Hippocrates and travels with him  
to watch their mutual friend Theo  
compete in the Olympic Games  
around 400 B.C. Marian currently  
resides in North Vancouver, British  
Columbia. Her published works  
include: **Static Discharge** (poem),  
**Kitty Letters for Kids** (more Catt  
stories), and numerous health  
articles found at  

**59**  
Richard M. Glendening successfully  
auditioned for the San  
Francisco Symphony Chorus 09-10,  
and participated in the recently  
released CD of Mahler’s Eighth  
Symphony directed by Michael  
 Tilson Thomas. Richard resides in  
Palo Alto, CA. Leon H.Veretto  
retired in June, 2010 from Northwest  
Middle School, Regional School  
District 7, in Winsted, CT after 51  
years as a technology education  
teacher, coach, and athletic director.

**62**  
Frank J. Frangione, a New Britain  
High School track star, was inducted  
into the New Britain Sports Hall  
of Fame on April 22.

**64**  
Lawrence M. Connors was honors  
d as the 2010 recipient of the  
annual Harwinton Outstanding  
Citizen Award at a banquet on  
Friday, April 30, at the Torrington  
Elks Club. Connors taught English  
and American and World History at  
Lewis S. Mills High School before  
joining The Torrington Company,  
from which he retired in 2003.

**65**  
Mary-Ann Tirone Smith was  
awarded the Diana Bennett  
Research Fellowship at the Black  
Mountain Institute based at the  
University of Nevada - Las Vegas,  
where she plans to spend the  
2010/11 academic year researching  
and completing her tenth  
book, a fictional memoir of the  
commencement of the Civil War.

**67**  
Beverley (Parizo) Pelletier MS ’76  
retired from Newington’s Martin  
Kellogg Middle School in 2002  
after completing 35 years of teaching.  
She has worked at CCSU in  
The Office of Field Experience as a  
supervisor of student teachers  
since spring 2004.

**68**  
William M. Leahy MS ’76 is chief  
operating officer of the Institute for  
Sustainable Energy at Eastern  
Connecticut State University.

**69**  
[photo] Ellen Garber (Rosow)  
Stokoe MS ’79, principal of West  
Hartford’s Morley Elementary  
School, was honored with  
Connecticut’s National  
Distinguished Principal  
Award. The award is sponsored  
by the National Association of  
Elementary School Principals and  
the U.S. Department of Education  
and requires an extensive application.
Thomas W. Thorndike, principal of Cornerstone Financial Group LLC in Woodbury and Milford, has joined the Connecticut branch of AXA Advisors LLC. Cornerstone is part of AXA Advisors’ Paramount Planning Group. Fred Williams retired in June, 2009 from Northwestern Regional High School, in Winsted, after 35 years as a teacher, coach, and athletic director. He continues in the role of Northwestern’s athletic director for the immediate future.

Mark K. Aronowitz is director, accounts payable division, for the Office of the State Comptroller. Nancy (Carlone) Briere MS ’79, 6th Yr ’84, K-12 mathematics coordinator for East Hampton Public Schools, was appointed assistant principal of East Hampton Middle School. In May William C. Kruysman celebrated 31 years with the Tega Cay (SC) Volunteer Fire Department, 20 of them as chief. He plans to spend more time with his family, and will be doing more international traveling for his day job in chemical engineering, but will remain involved with the department, heading up vehicle maintenance. Louis J. Lombardi is director of the University of Connecticut’s actuarial science program in the mathematics department at the Storrs campus.

Paul H. Higginson, an ordained deacon in the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut, is chaplain at The White Mountain School in Bethlehem, NH. Denise V. Talbot is a gerontologist and community liaison at Weatherby & Associates, PC in Bloomfield.

Vincent D. Fort, a former Morehouse College professor, has served seven terms and 14 years as the state senator for District 39 in Atlanta, GA. Michael J. Nachajski is a design consultant for Ethan Allen Global and resides in Phoenix, AZ.

Joan M. Schumacher is a social worker at Metropolitan Hospital in New York City. Paul R. Thompson is the owner of Thompson Appraisal Services, Inc. in Hernando Beach, FL. Bess (Valmis) Laliberte is an instructional assistant at Folsom Cordova Unified School District in Folsom, CA. She was married for 25 years to Glenn Laliberte who passed away in 2005.

State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services Commissioner Brenda (Lorenz) Sisco was appointed Acting Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the budget office for the executive branch, in May 2010. James J. Veronesi is a senior consultant for The Hartford Financial Services Group in Hartford.

ESPN named Steve Addazio MS ’85, University of Florida Gators offensive coordinator and offensive line coach, the 2010 national recruiter of the year. Addazio made national news in December when he stepped in as interim head coach to lead the Gators to victory in the Sugar Bowl. Craig Chapman is vice president and general manager of CBM-Empire, manufacturer’s representatives serving original equipment manufacturers and distributors of electronic technology equipment in metro New York and New Jersey. Flemming Moses is a realtor for Prudential Americana Group in Las Vegas, NV. Ellyn M. Nardone was recently promoted to director of client services for Medical Web Technologies, LLC in Scituate, MA, which offers innovative, web-based medical information solutions that address inefficient work process in healthcare.

Paul J. Ambrogio is a professional liability claim analyst for Chubb & Son in Simsbur, Joseph G. V. Maciara, a reference librarian in the Boston Public Library’s social sciences department, was honored by the trustees for 25 years of dedicated service. Maciara is an active Polish genealogist and a founding member of the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut. He has published several genealogical volumes and articles and is a frequent contributor to the Society’s newsletter, Pathways and Passages. Julia (Boyer) O’Leary is deputy director of juvenile probation services for the State of Connecticut. Colleen A. Richard was promoted to full professor at Tunxis Community College in Farmington, where she has served as human service program coordinator for the past 12 years. Catherine A. Strileckis Wolfe is supervisor of clinical services at the Hartford branch of Utopia Home Care, Inc.

Rocco J. Ferraro is chief financial officer at Ward Leonard Electric Company in Thomaston. Registered Investment Officer Steven M. Levin, CPA is a partner at Kaufman, Osit & Vasquez, PC in Farmington. Dean C. Pagani and his wife, Kate, have moved to the Washington, DC area where Dean opened a consulting firm, Pagani Public Affairs. Clifford H. Snow III MS ’94 is the new director of football operations at the University of Kentucky. Snow held the same job at East Carolina for the previous five seasons. Previously he was special assistant to the head coach at South Carolina.

Michael A. Caron BS ’92, director of public affairs for Pfizer, Inc. Research and Development, and former assistant Republican leader in the Connecticut State House of Representatives, was appointed to the board of trustees of the Connecticut State University System by Gov. M. Jodi Rell. Spire Corporation, a global solar company located in Bedford, MA, has hired Jeffrey G. Chasse as corporate controller. Chasse previously served as director of global accounting and North America controller of Virtusa Corporation, and was director of financial planning and analysis at Moduslink Incorporated. Bradford S. Farley is senior sales representative for EvanstonBest, contract furniture resources, in New York City. Lisa Gay (Bartell) Owens is a professor of management information systems at Keiser College in Daytona, FL. Judith E. Pollack, CPA is a partner, and the quality control principal, of Kaufman, Osit & Vasquez, PC in Farmington.
85 James M. Bowes is comptroller and chief financial officer for the town of Wallingford. Robert Brancato is a call center director at 3PL World Wide in Milford. Attorney Michael J. Daly heads his own firm, Law Office of Michael J. Daly, LLC, in Farmington. Lisa M. Fiduccia has joined The Port Group, a research-based consulting firm headquartered in Bloomfield, as senior design specialist. Evan G. Kramer has started D.R.E.A.M. (Diabetes Research & Education Advocates of Michigan), a non-profit organization whose mission is to fund research projects and educational programs with the objective of discovering a cure for diabetes, and to benefit those with diabetes and other childhood diseases. Camillo E. Lupiani is chair of the career and technical education department for Fulton County Schools in Sandy Springs, GA. William S. Thomas is director of operations for Athena Health Care Systems in Southyton.

86 Gregory A. Blewitt is the special education transportation coordinator for New Canaan Public Schools. [photo] Donald M. Casey, Jr., assistant director at the Lakewood-Trumbull YMCA's Camp Tepee program in Monroe for 30 years, was presented with the Staff Excellence Award at the Central Connecticut Coast YMCA's 150th anniversary family picnic. Lisa (Manzolillo) Cox is a project manager for technology management services at Aetna, Inc. Howard M. Herman '91 is quality assurance manager at Projects, Inc. in Glastonbury. Michael J. Munshaw is head of the print shop at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC. He also creates comic book artwork for M Square Studios, and recently completed the inks and the grayscaling of a 48-page graphic novel, The Offspring, for Visionary Comics. A limited edition, printed for the 2009 Baltimore Comic Convention, sold out. Dawn K. Sessa is practice administrator of Fairfield County Allergy, Asthma & Immunology Associates, PC in Norwalk.

87 Glen D. Bianchi is the New England branch manager and senior project manager for EnSafe, Inc. in Newington. Married to Barbara (Flinchbaugh) Bianchi ’87, with whom he has two sons, Bianchi had an 18-year career at United Technologies Corporation in the environmental, health and safety field, and left to open EnSafe's Connecticut office in 2008. Kevin D. Farkas is vice president of finance and US controller of Active International, a corporate trading company headquartered in Pearl River, New York. Sandra (Mayer) Fish lives in Goshen, IN, and is operations unit manager for The Travelers claim department. LeeAnne (Hillstrand) Klimyck has joined Federal Realty Investment Trust in the company's Somerville, MA office, bringing 20+ years of leasing experience to the task of leasing Federal Realty's New England portfolio. CCSU Assistant Athletics Director Stephen Villanti MS ’87, MBA '07 has been awarded the 2010 Boys' and Girls' Basketball Special Service Award by the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC). The honor acknowledges Villanti's efforts to make Central's athletic facilities available to CIAC for numerous state championship contests. He was also credited for his marketing, and the consequential growth, of the Precision Youth Football Camps program, in which over 20,000 athletes have participated since its inception 18 years ago.

88 William C. Collins, interim superintendent of Newington schools from September 1, 2009, was named to the permanent position in March 2010. Collins began his education career in 1985 as a teacher at Newington High School and held various jobs in other districts before returning in 2004 to become principal of the high school. Michael T. Cotnoir is director of operations at OptumHealth Financial (United HealthCare) in Hartford. Carmine M. Iannace is director of technical operations, the senior technology decision maker for a 245,000 member health care organization, Boston Medical Center Healthnet Plan.

89 Carol A. Barno is chief financial officer at Central Connecticut Senior Health Services in Southington. Previously she was senior health care consultant at Arthur Andersen and audit staff at Ernst & Young. Brigid M. Hennessey has been named a partner in the law firm of Donovan & O'Connor, LLP, working out of the North Adams, MA office as a family law practitioner. Mary Ellen Kuzma (MS), a first-grade teacher at Bethlehem (CT) Elementary School, was honored as the 2009 Region 14 Teacher of the Year. Eileen (Keezer) Monck is an associate professor and coordinator at the Perry Center for Emerging Technologies in the biotechnology department at Santa Fe College in Alachua, FL. Webster Bank, the main subsidiary of Webster Financial Corporation, has named Christopher M. Rowe senior vice president, continuous improvement unit leader. Rowe has been with Webster since 1998 and served with Fleet Bank prior to that. Jan A. Sokolowski is general superintendent for Bovis Lend Lease.

90 Peter P. Bartlewski III, a baseball star at St. Thomas Aquinis High School in New Britain and at CCSU, was inducted into the New Britain Sports Hall of Fame on April 22. David A. Bonney is a client advocate for National Legacy Group in Wilton. John F. Petrizzo has been appointed a financial reporting specialist at Quinnipiac University in Hamden. Richard C. Rioux is sales manager at EMC Corporation in Franklin, MA. [photo] Kristen (Lemley) Roberts was promoted to vice president of public relations and community investment for the Western New England Region of Comcast. Roberts has been with Comcast since 2002.

91 Stephen J. Brennan was promoted to lieutenant in the Wilton Police Department. Brennan, who has been with the Wilton Police Department since 1995, was promoted to detective in 2003 and to sergeant in 2005. Daniel A. McKinstry is the supply planning manager for Schering Plough Consumer Products in Memphis. Daniel D. Mootz is principal analyst and business account manager in global IT for EchoStar Corporation, a company focused on creating hardware and service solutions for cable, telco, IPTV and satellite TV companies worldwide. Daniel is based in the Foster City, CA office. Wilmer Speer, Jr. is a financial analyst for Glacier Water Services in Vista, CA. Barbara (Kuntz) Trinks (MS) has been appointed the new director of pupil and staff support services for Coventry Public Schools.
Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington. After instructing tennis students at Nick Bollettieri’s Academy for the past 16 years, Jeff Russell has opened his own facility, United Tennis Academy, with partner Gabriel Trifu in Bradenton, FL where Jeff and his wife, Jennifer Embry, and their two daughters reside. Norman J. Schaefer is executive director of new product development at Gerber Scientific in South Windsor. Michelle (Tuccitto) Sullo is a reporter for the *New Haven Register*, and has been the Naugatuck Valley Bureau Chief since 2006. Matthew J. Tierinni, CPA is a partner with Montovani, Murray, Nemphos & Tierinni LLC in Manchester.

93 Gregg M. Angellito serves as regional director for Delaware Investments, a member of Macquarie Group, in Philadelphia. PA. Lisa M. Bartolotta is an independent Avon representative in Portland. Kenneth C. Chen is senior measurement engineer for Corning, Inc. in Taichung, Taiwan. Jason J. Dudek is global alliance manager at Schneider Electric, global specialist in energy management with operations in more than 100 countries. Jason lives in Seattle, WA. Lisa Lynn (Caggiano) Gaiske, physical education teacher at Bristol’s Greene-Hills and Southside Schools, was selected as Teacher of the Year. Dawn Lafferty Hochsprung is the new principal of Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown. Hochsprung, who lives in Woodbury, has served in many roles in Regional School District #14 and the Danbury Public School System. Jeffrey A. Provost, assistant principal of East Lyme High School, has been named the 2010 Connecticut Association of Schools Assistant Principal of the Year. Provost is in his seventh year as assistant principal of East Lyme High. Clinton C. Tebbetts is a realtor with Weichert Realtors in Orange.

94 Amy (Doyle) Coan MS ’04, science teacher at East Catholic High School in Manchester, was honored with the American Chemical Society Connecticut Valley Section Teacher of the Year Award for 2009 on April 24. Curtis P. Collette is litigation support operations project manager for MetLife in Long Island City, NY. Lynn (Jankowski) Graf has been promoted to sales manager of the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office in Avon. Linda (Razza) Houghtaling is a wedding planner and owner of Details Wedding & Party Planning in Ellington. Nelson O. Mingachos, head girls soccer coach at Immaculate High School in Danbury, was honored as the 2010 Doc McNerney Coach of the Year by the Connecticut Sports Writer’s Alliance. David P. Pignone is athletic director and head football coach at Stoneham (MA) High School in Stoneham. Master Sergeant Robert T. White is an air transportation craftsman with the United States Air Force Reserve serving with the Armed Forces Middle East out of Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee, MA.

95 Michael B. Gessford (MS), physical education teacher specializing in adventure-education for older students and hands-on learning experiences at the Gengras Center, a private, special-education facility on the campus of Saint Joseph College in West Hartford, has co-published, with Justin McGlamery, Focus Your Locus: Activities That Focus the Power of Individuals and Groups. Carol E. Hutchins, a nursing unit secretary at the Maine Medical Center has been appointed to the Parks Commission of the City of Portland, ME. Laurel (Sisson) Kelly, communications officer for Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, was elected treasurer for 2010 of the Public Relations Society of America, Connecticut Valley Chapter. Lawrence L. Liseo has opened Connecticut’s first full line Bico Australia-Urban Underworld store in Meriden. Keith P. Makarowski is the co-owner of Theodores’ Booze, Blues & BBQ, as well as Smith’s Billiards and JT’s Sports Pub, all in Springfield, MA. [photo] Jason D. Newman, CPA, a member of the Farmington firm of Kostin, Ruffkess & Company, LLC was elected to the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants’ board of directors for the 2010-2011 activity year.

96 Claire (English) Giammate works as a production programmer for Data-Mail, Inc. in Newington. Theresa M. Mainul, Esq. is a lieutenant in the United States Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps stationed in Annapolis, MD. 1st Sgt. David B. Moorehead, Jr., a member of the 250th Engineer Company of the Connecticut National Guard, is deployed to Iraq for bridge construction and deconstruction. Moorehead has been a member of the National Guard for nearly 20 years. In civilian life, he still works for the Army as a member of its Construction Facilities Management Force. Julian J. Newman is associate creative director of Publicis USA, a marketing and advertising global communications company in New York City.

97 Susie Da Silva MS ’00, Ed.D. ’05 is the new principal at King’s Highway Elementary School in Westport. William J. Langheim, Jr., who played basketball at Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC), Springfield, IL, was inducted into the LLCC Athletic Hall of Fame on February 6. Sgt. Langheim is a trooper with the Illinois State Police. Jeffrey K. Toler is a regional marketing manager with Dick’s Sporting Goods in Millbury, MA.

98 David M. Gusitsch is chair of physical education and health at Staples High School in Westport.

99 Jennifer L. Burgdorfer is a business manager at Bridgewater Chocolate in Brookfield. Laura Charron-Wheatley is director of sales at Hampton Inn & Suites in Mystic. Jeremiah Nelson MS ’01 is director of graduate student services at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Chirag B. Thaker is president of Russell & Dawson LLC, an architecture and engineering company located in East Hartford. New Britain Police Lt. James P. Wardwell is serving a one-year term as the president of the International High Technology Crime Investigation Association. The association, which includes law enforcement and private sector investigators, encourages the exchange of ideas and investigative techniques using advanced technologies including digital forensics.

00 Erdinc Akpinar is marketing manager for Turksat International Satellite Operator in Ankara, Turkey. Joseph F. Cefaratti, Jr. has accepted the position of football head coach for the new cooperative program shared by East Hampton and Vinal Tech in Middletown where Cefaratti teaches health and physical education. [photo] Alex Cortes serves as senior manager, internal communications, at ESPN. He has been part of the ESPN Corporate Communications Department since June 2000. G. Duncan Harris (MS) is dean of student affairs at Manchester Community College. Urania Peliti serves as an election administrator in the Office of the Registrar of Voters for the City of Hartford.

01 Trent “T.J.” Barber (MS) has been chosen as the new director of student activities at Manchester Community College. He most recently served as associate director of campus life at Trinity College in Hartford. Kristine Cuddy, a detective in the special investigations unit with the New Haven Police Department, is also an accomplished amateur photographer who recently had the opportunity to mount an exhibit of her work at Café Romeo in the city’s East Rock neighborhood. Liberation Programs, Inc. has named Stamford resident Sara Mathews Dixon LCSW, MSW director of special services, where she will be responsible for managing the organization’s Youth Options Programs and Older Adult...
Services Program. Professional basketball player Corseley Edwards II was acquired by the Dakota Wizards in March 2010. [photo] James J. Flynn, social studies teacher at Platt High School in Meriden, is the 2009 recipient of a Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award, an honor bestowed on one teacher from each state. As part of the education award, each teacher gets an all-expense-paid trip to the 2010 Milken Educator Forum in Los Angeles, which took place in May, and receives a check for $25,000. Mary Maciulewski, head coach of girls basketball at Shelton High School, also played this spring in the Women’s Recreation Basketball League as a member of the Cougars, a women’s basketball team that played the team Fastbreak for the Milford city championship in March. Daniel A. Shlitz is district sales manager at Kowa Pharmaceuticals America, Inc. headquartered in Montgomery, AL. Patricia A. Trask (MS), an English teacher at Coventry High School, was named an All American Teacher of the Year by the National Math and Science Initiative. She is one of 18 advanced placement (AP) teachers nationwide honored for their remarkable contributions to their students and to the teaching profession, and for being an inspiring model of excellence to others.

02 [photo] Edward A. DePeau III MS '08, a mathematics teacher at Newington High School, won the Presidential Excellence in Teaching Award, an honor awarded to 103 math and science teachers nationwide. The prize includes a $10,000 gift from the National Science foundation and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, DC for a special reception. Antonio A. Dionizio is a vice president and branch manager at JPMorgan Chase in Wilton. Michael D. Evon is a senior service specialist at The Hartford in Windsor. Leo A. Mayo, track and field and cross country head coach at American International College (AIC) in Springfield, MA, was named Coach of the Year for the Northeast 10 Conference, and was also named NCAA Division II East Region Coach of the Year after leading the AIC men’s indoor track team into a second-place finish at the Northeast-10 Conference’s indoor championships. Mayo holds CCSU’s school record in the 3,000 meter run with a time of 8:33. Mark H. Mooney is a physical education and health teacher at Bullard-Havens Technical High School in Bridgeport. Anita J. Prazuchowski is a marketing director at O & G Industries in Torrington. Leilja (Richey) Brandt is a research assistant at the Community College Research Center and is currently in the M.A. Reading Specialist Program with a concentration in education policy at Teachers College, Columbia University in New York City. [photo] Roy A. Roberts, teacher of Caribbean studies, U. S. History and African-American Experience, and football coach at Bloomfield High School, has resigned his position there to become the dean of students at Capital Preparatory Magnet School in Hartford. He will also be offensive coordinator for the football team. Roberts, as head coach, led the Connecticut high school all-star football team to a 29-7 victory over Rhode Island in the 12th annual Governors’ Cup All-Star Football Game on Saturday, June 26 at Rentschler Field in East Hartford. David C. Sacharno is a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch in Hartford.

03 Edison E. Barahona started an IT support and Hewlett Packard partner business providing computer service, repairs and network solutions, in 2006 after working four years as an IT manager for Purdue Pharma LP in Stamford. Gregory A. Chambers is a social studies teacher at Robert E. Fitch High School in Groton. Michael D. Makoski is assistant director of operations at Fitchburg State College in Fitchburg, MA. James T. McKay is employed by Osmose Utilities Services, and volunteers as a Babe Ruth baseball coach in Framingham, MA. Bianca Shinn-Desras is a social worker for the Connecticut Department of Children and Families in Stamford, and is currently working toward a master of public health degree at SCSU. Brian D. Troccoli is an arts teacher at Chippens Hill Middle School in Bristol.

04 Dmitri Brook is a network specialist for Walker Systems Support in Farmington. Jacob A. Chamberlain is a lead customer service associate at People’s United Bank in Torrington. Christopher B. Conley CPA was promoted to manager at Guilmartin, DiPro & Sokolowski LLC, in Middletown. Conley has been with the firm since 2004 and is responsible for tax services and accounting. Luke M. Freimuth is a tax manager for Barnes Group, Inc. of Bristol. Adam M. Fridering is a systems administrator for Groton Public Schools. Portia Kollar works in equipment finance at Center Capital Corporation, a subsidiary of Webster Bank located in Farmington, and is pursuing an MBA at the University of Hartford. Katharine E. Kurze teaches third grade at Polk School in Watertown. Jerome D. Vison (MS, Ed.D. ’08), assistant principal of John Wallace Middle School in Newington, has been named principal of Anna Reynolds Elementary School, also in Newington.

05 Elisa K. Aniskoff is working for ESPN in Bristol as a graphics system developer. Laura J. Duncan, former all-conference women’s soccer player, has been named the head women’s soccer coach at the University of New Haven after serving five seasons as an assistant for the Fairfield University women’s soccer team. Shannon L. Evitts is a reading assistant at Salem Elementary School in Naugatuck, CT. Christopher R. Thompson earned an MBA at Strayer University and is a business unit manager at Pratt & Whitney in Cheshire. Cathy Valley (MS), an artist as well as a licensed marriage and family therapist, recently participated in Sending Home the States, an exhibition of painting, printmaking, sculpture, installations and music, at the Hagaman Memorial Library Gallery in East Haven.

06 Richard L. Hurley, assistant director of Bryant University in Smithfield, RI’s Center for Student Involvement (CSI), was recently recognized by Region I of the Association College of Unions International with its New Professional Award. In addition to his work with Bryant’s leadership institutes, Hurley oversees the University’s Community Service Office, an arm of the CSI. Peter A. Kiesla is an officer with the West Hartford Police Department. Robert P. Kozlowski (MS) is a counselor at Quinebaug Valley Community college in Danielson. Ashley (Ferra) McCurdy is a sales representative at Kelsah Associates LLC, a hardware manufacturer’s representative group located in New Britain. Lyndsay D. Ruffolo serves as a research and policy specialist for the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at CCSU.

07 Brian V. Atieri was employed at Zurich American Insurance Company for two years, and is currently a student at Quinnipiac University School of Law. Michael T. Butkovic is an electrical mechanical technician at St. Mary’s Hospital in Waterbury. Alexi M. Dalene was named communications coordinator for the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation, a national family support organization based in Avon. Mark A. Huston is a sales consultant at Carmax in Hartford. Jeffrey L. Landsberg is an internal whole-
10
James E. Mallory, CCSU All-America running back who led the Blue Devils to the Northeast Conference title last season, was invited to attend rookie mini-camp with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

New Arrivals
Births / Adoptions
Jennifer (Graves) '94 & Kevin Flattow: a son, William Elliott
Kerrin (Armstrong) & John M. Fumare '05: a son, Jack Christopher

Marriages
Jennifer N. Roberts '00 & Jonathan P. Boynton '99 10/3/09
Sousa Denise Berbic & Andrew N. Sousa '01 8/15/09
Christine Schirano & Mark H. Mooney '02 8/8/09
Anita J. Parzuchowski '02 & Jeffrey J. Goerg 3/5/10
Dana Lynn Orkis & Francesco Siano '02 8/7/09
Adriana Zavaleta & Jacob A. Chamberlain '04 11/13/09
Erin R. Covello & Michael T. Butkovic '07 8/15/09

In Memoriam
1931
Eva Bernstein Black 11/10/00
1926
Janice Hartt Goodrich 2/24/10
1930
Mary Lucile Halloran 3/20/10
Mary Halloran 3/20/10
Ellen Foster Sharp 2/23/10
1931
Millicent Preissel Scanlin 1/17/10
1934
Bertha F. Ceppa 3/1/10
1935
Ruby Armstrong Dimock 6/20/10
Josephine Zokitse Matel 11/22/05
Anna Caplan Poch 1/26/10
1936
Grace Resony Antonucci 12/4/09
Lucy Dybowski Dukenski 11/11/98
Christine Kelly Fossbender 5/2/10
1937
Martha Noren Mainer 12/13/09
1938
Dorothea Bahner Boyd 10/29/08
Florence Widger Lohse 7/26/06
Marie Luzzi Mainello 3/10/10
Ida Matis Paul-Cohen 12/23/09
Charles R. Shaw 2/12/10
1939
Helen Ivanovsky Johnson 8/15/08
Julia Ritch Swanson 9/1/73
Marian Roberts Turner 2/3/10
1940
Audrey Bantle Hatting 4/29/10
Dorothy Hippler Jessop 12/16/09
Louis J. Meotti 3/22/10
Marietta Vignot Story 2/17/10
1941
Mary Frances Edgett 4/3/10
1942
Freda Jaffe Bernstein 4/12/10
1943
Edith Kalb Carlson 4/16/10
Robert R. Cassidy 3/25/10
Anna Madia Morelli 12/31/00
Marguerite Wiedorn Yung 12/6/09
1945
Lucy Ryan Gafney 6/27/09
1947
Neil Macy 1/11/10
Jack Saffer 12/23/09
1948
Helen Binkowski 12/13/07
Arthur H. Larson 3/8/10
Claire Picone Scapellati 12/23/09
1949
John F. Smith 3/17/10
1950
Clifford E. Barton 4/8/10
Felix Borkowski 3/19/10
Richard B. Dakin 1/14/10
Louis Sarnizo 1/27/10
1951
Arne C. Carlson 9/30/08
Edward L. Morelli 12/20/09
Filomena M. Vincenzo 3/17/10
1952
Joyce Pizer-Booher Boschen 10/14/06
Lucia L. Mannello 9/1/09
Mary Rita Olson 1/29/10
Nicholas Scapellati 8/1/80
1953
D. June Carlson Bishop 4/9/10
Randall G. Gerrard 8/17/08
1954
Frank A. Lesieur 6/28/09
1955
Lillian A. Steinkamp 2/18/10
1956
Lillian Hansen Donovan 6/21/09
Donna Johnson Fuss 9/30/08
Philip John Laroche 4/3/10
1957
Richard P. Draper 4/17/10
1958
Paul F. Trudelle 3/4/10
1959
Richard Grodzicki 10/5/04
Arthur Tolis 1/22/10
Emilie A. Vetrano 7/23/09
1960
Marlyn Cadwell 3/9/10
Arnold B. Gorfin 7/12/09
Michael H. Pellegrino 3/28/08
Wayne Pierson 2/4/04
Nancy Kennedy Riccardi 2/12/10
1962
Grace E. Barnett 5/13/10
Roy A. Cook 3/18/10
Alan W. Davis 6/28/09
Jeanne Buskey DiPietro 11/8/09
Lois Macker Nystrom 9/17/08
Francis Wenzinger 12/10/09
1963
Alfred J. D’Angelo 7/26/08
Mimi Park Kaufmann 4/7/10
1964
Karen Knaus Barr 1/31/10
Helen Mercure D’Angelo 8/6/09
Elizabeth Gage Michaud 10/16/09
Marilyn M. Schmitt 4/14/10
1965
Anne Davenson 7/5/09
Elsie Parke Kamens 7/21/03
Caroline Louise Schaffrick 4/9/10
1966
Ernest E. Bekstrom 6/23/09
Raymond J. Davis 4/2/09
Robert S. Filler 3/18/10
Robert W. Garry 6/3/09
1967
Lillian Hansen Donovan 6/21/09
Donna Johnson Fuss 9/30/08
Philip John Laroche 4/3/10
1968
Anthony M. Altieri 12/9/08
Raymond L. Avenia 7/7/09
Robert B. Buganski 5/20/09
Frank H. Fiederlein 6/23/09
Chester C. Jedziniak 6/13/10
Gerald A. LeBrun 5/17/09
John F. Miller 11/22/09
Robert W. Taylor 10/22/09
1969
Dorothy Anderson Bailey 8/15/09
Denver T. Dale 3/2/06
Joann Sprangle House 3/19/10
Helen N. McKernan 10/10/09
Astrid L. Sundwall 12/15/09
Sharon Carbo Zysk 10/9/09
1970
Maureen Schoppman Beach 3/14/09
Sandra Behm 2/1/03
Robert L. Brown 10/12/09
Mary L. Cacchillo 9/10/09

Saler at MassMutual Financial Group in Springfield, MA. Ronald A. Tetreault is a design engineer at Legrand/Wiremold in West Hartford.

Sandra Lavaughn Carter is a program specialist at May Institute in Manchester, a nonprofit organization that provides educational, rehabilitative, and behavioral healthcare services to individuals with autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities, brain injury, mental illness, and behavioral health needs, and also provides training and consultation services to professionals, organizations, and public school systems. William H. Cummings III is coordinator of student conduct and commuter student life at Fitchburg State College in Fitchburg, MA. Dennis G. Insogna was promoted to vice president of media sales at The Job Shop Company in Prospect. Meghan L. Kenney is assistant director, student activities, at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Boston. Mario LaPosta, [photo]

the pizzaiolo (that’s Italian for pizza maker) at Tarry Lodge in Port Chester, NY, competed in the World Pizza Championships at Salsomaggiore Terme in Italy. Michelle L. Nelson (MS) is assistant director for student conduct at the University of Hartford.

Dian Evans is a manager for the Jamaica Customs Department in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Debra J. Knox (MS) is self-employed as a marriage and family therapist at the New Day Counseling Center. Matthew T. Shea serves Southington public schools as an outreach worker for Southington’s Town-wide Effort to Promote Success (STEPS).
The University offers a wide range of opportunities for alumni and friends to support educational programs they are passionate about. Below are a few to consider. Gifts to these funds may be made online at www.ccsu.edu/giving. If a fund you are interested in supporting is not listed, you may simply type it in, in the “Other” category and be confident that your contribution will support the fund you have indicated. For more information: alumnidept@ccsu.edu or 860-832-1740.

Institutional Support
Friends of the Library
The Friends of the Library Fund provides support for the Elibu Burrin Library in order to enhance teaching and research and meet the diverse educational needs of the CCSU community. The Fund provides program and acquisition support to augment institutional monies appropriated for a quality public university library.

Welte Society
The Welte Society provides funds for special cultural programs to enrich and broaden the lives of Central's student, faculty and neighbors.

International Education
James-Hauser International Exchange Fund
Originally established to support faculty, administrative, and student exchange opportunities with institutions in East Asia, South America, and the Caribbean, the James-Hauser Fund has recently been expanded to support the strategic goals of the George R. Muirhead Center for International Education and supports exchange opportunities throughout all of Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Scholarships
CCSU Alumni Association Scholarship
The CCSU Alumni Association Scholarship Fund provides scholarships for undergraduate (junior or senior level) students who are children or grandchildren of alumni and 1) completed at least two semesters at CCSU; 2) enrolled for 9 credits or more during the term when the scholarship is applied; 3) minimum GPA of 3.0; 4) evidence of service, leadership, and academic achievement; and 5) documented efforts to finance educational costs.

Educational Support Services Scholarship
This fund support for students enrolled in any University program aimed at providing access and opportunity to economically disadvantaged or educationally underprivileged students (e.g. Educational Opportunity Program, Connecticut Collegiate Awareness and Preparation Program).

Foundation Scholars
The Foundation Scholars Fund provides scholarship support for high-achieving, incoming first-year students who rank in the top 25% of their graduating class and have achieved a minimum of 1100 on the SAT.

Graduate Student Association Scholarship
Provides support for matriculated graduate students who have completed a minimum of 15 academic credits in residence at Central Connecticut State University, have earned a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or higher and have demonstrated exemplary involvement and leadership in student or community service activities.

Student Government Association Scholarship
Provides scholarship support for a full-time matriculated undergraduate student who has demonstrated exemplary involvement and leadership in the University community and who has earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.

Veterans Scholarship
Awarded to the undergraduate student(s) named as the Student Veteran of the Year at the annual Veterans Recognition Program, or similar program, regardless of the expected graduation date of the recipient(s). To be eligible for the Student Veteran of the Year award, a student must 1) be in good academic standing; i.e., minimum of 2.5 GPA; 2) have junior or senior class status; i.e., minimum of 53 credits, 3) show evidence of exemplary service to the University, the community and/or the country; and 4) have served active U.S. Military duty for a minimum of 90 days other than training.

Athletics
Frank Marietta Athletic Scholarship Fund
The Frank Marietta Athletic Scholarship Fund provides much needed support for grants-in-aid to CCSU student athletes.

Athletic Development Fund
The Athletic Development Fund provides support for the intercollegiate athletic program at CCSU.

If you would prefer, you can also enable the University to allocate your gift to where it is needed most by indicating Area of Greatest Need.
Brenda Reilly was the heart of women’s athletics at Central for many years. And she played a leading role in the national development of women’s sports during much of that time.

In honor of Brenda’s pioneering efforts on behalf of women’s athletics and the formative impact she had on young women’s lives, former players, family, and friends have joined in a campaign to name the new CCSU softball field in her memory.

Beyond her truly path-breaking leadership in women’s athletics, Brenda is fondly remembered as player, teacher, coach, mentor, and a friend. According to former player Dr. Gale “Gigi” Brown ’74, “Brenda challenged all who crossed her path to dream big and believe in one’s self. Brenda’s legacy lives on in the hearts of all she touched.”

Dr. Brown and Donna Fiedorowicz ’80, who are providing campaign leadership, feel that dedicating the field to Brenda’s memory is a fitting tribute to their former coach and friend. They are working with CCSU to engage alumni and friends in this campaign.

Fiedorowicz notes, “This is a wonderful tribute to an outstanding coach, mentor, and friend. Brenda Reilly touched so many of us throughout the years. Naming the softball field after her will keep her legacy alive and provide a fitting tribute where we can share her success and our great memories.”

The campaign is well underway. Donations will become part of the Brenda Reilly Scholarship and will support scholarships for CCSU’s female student-athletes.

Alumni and friends are invited to visit the campaign website — www.ccsu.edu/Brenda — to post memories and photos, make a gift, and track the campaign’s progress. Later this year, the University will host a “Brenda Reilly Day,” when we celebrate her remarkable life and achievements. Stay tuned for details.