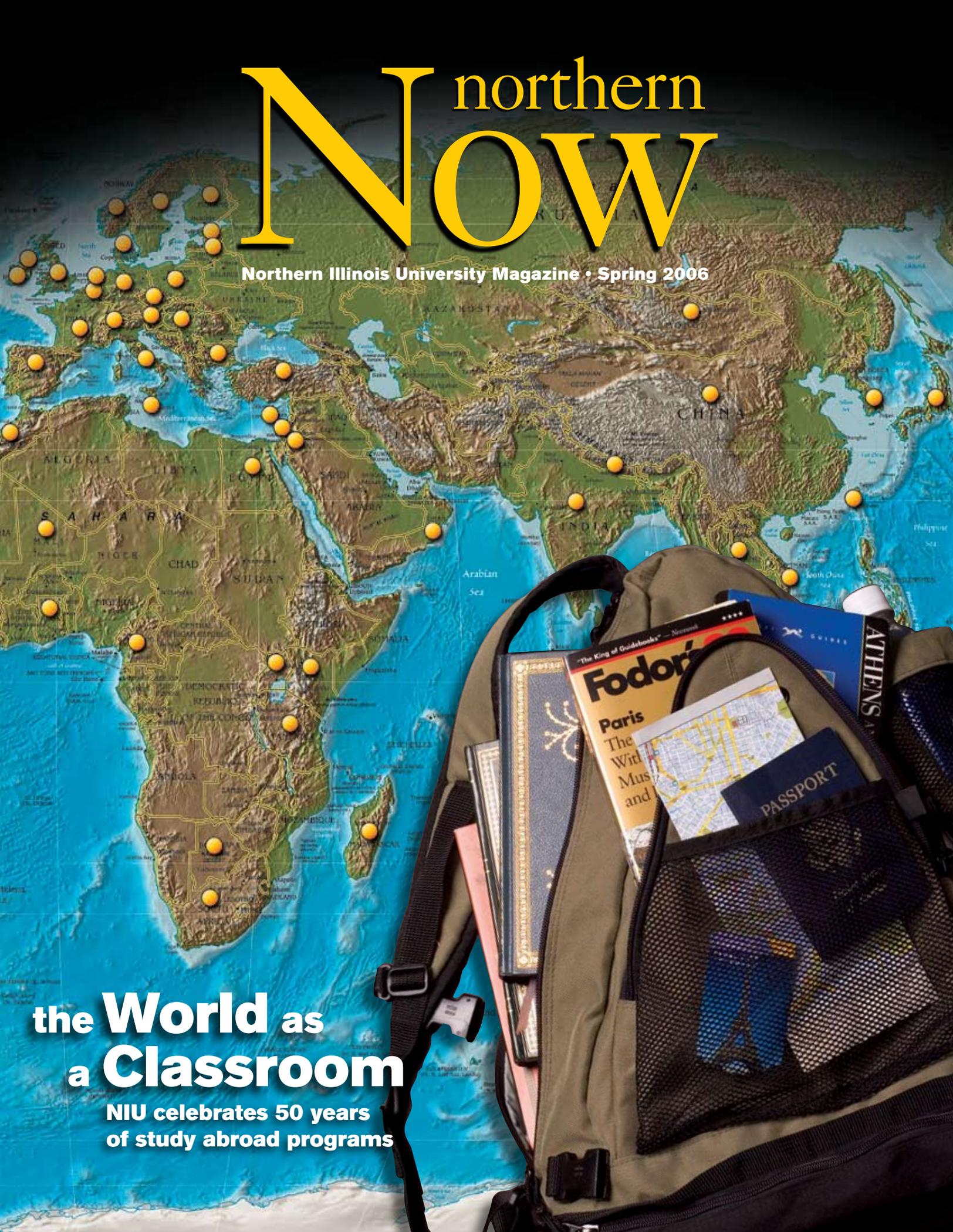


Northern NOW

Northern Illinois University Magazine • Spring 2006

the World as a Classroom

NIU celebrates 50 years
of study abroad programs





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page 6



page 8



page 14

FEATURES

Castle on a Hill 6

A pictorial history of Northern and DeKalb

Study Abroad 8

NIU marks 50 years of study abroad programs

Global Citizens 14

Three alumni who are making a difference

DEPARTMENTS

Northern Letters 2

Inside NIU 3

Huskie Sports 18

Supporting Northern 20

Northern Notes 22

Alumni Profiles

Events

Alumni Travel Programs

Marriages and Births

In Memoriam

Last Look 33



page 18

Northern Now

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Editor

Michael P. Malone

Associate Editor

Virginia Seymour, '73

Art Director

Jeff Strohm

Graphic Designer

Barbara Kolb

Business Manager

Lee Ann Henry

Contributors

Pat Anderson, M.S. '04, Julie Harris, '04,
Angela Johansson, M.A. '05, Melanie Magara,
Donna Marie Pocius, '79, M.A. '93, Jessica Schultz, '98

Photographers

Don Butler, '71, M.S.Ed. '03
Keith Lowman, M.A. '96
George Tarbay, '71, M.S.Ed. '84
Scott Walstrom

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Andrew Nelms, '06
John G. Peters, President

Division of University Advancement

Michael P. Malone, Vice President
Carlos Granados, '80, Director, Office of Publications
Mallory M. Simpson, Associate Vice President Development

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www.NorthernNow.niu.edu
(815) 753-6327

NorthernLetters

This is in response to "What is your most vivid campus memory" in the recent *Northern Now*.

- In 1963 there was a strong cohesiveness between the football team, cheerleaders, Marching Huskies and student body during the undefeated season. Dr. Bird had a tremendous interest in building up and showcasing the Marching Huskies. We always provided fresh shows and traveled.
- Professors lighting up in class. How times have changed.
- Never having a teaching assistant lead a class. All those teaching had at least a graduate degree. There was the interesting-to-hear Dr. Collins in Roman history, a real calculus teacher in Dr. Sons and the very tough Dr. Hellmich in math methods.
- There was constant dust, mud and noise during the major growth (1963-1968) while the campus doubled in size.
- We remember trying to get around after the major snowfall of '67. What is ironic is that two days before the temperature was in the 60s.
- Women in Douglas were allowed to stay up after curfew to help build the dorm decorations in the fall of '65. Yes, there was a time (10:30 p.m.) when the women were literally locked up during the week.—*John Almond, '68, M.S.Ed. '75 and Anita Almond, '68*

I actually have two "most vivid campus memories," among many that stick out in my mind about my days at Northern Illinois State Teachers College: (1) The day we moved the books from the old library on the east end of the second floor in Altgeld Hall to Swen Parson. We were given the day off and coffee and donuts as we moved things into the new facility; (2) January 21, 1952 (found the date in my old yearbook), when I went to hear

Charles Laughton do some readings in the old auditorium in Altgeld. When he finished, he asked if there were any requests and everyone shouted to have him give his speech as Captain Bly to Mister Christian in *Mutiny on the Bounty*.—*Charles Morgan, '54, M.S.Ed. '60*

The following letter was in response to our Winter 2005 Last Look which solicited memories of Altgeld Hall.

President Leslie Holmes invited his friend, DeKalb County Farm Adviser E. E. "Al" Golden, to hold a University of Illinois extension meeting in Altgeld Hall. On March 17, 1960, several hundred pork producers showed up from DeKalb, Kane, and Ogle counties. Dr. Holmes assigned Dr. William Froom to host the guests. A plug-in was found under the arches to provide electricity for the insulated glass refrigerated trailer that contained meat-type hog carcasses. The meeting was devoted to the new athletic-looking hog. Lean was in; fat was out. The Tea Room east of the Kish was alerted to be prepared for guests. The staff was overwhelmed. Dr. Holmes reported that "NIU cannot by charter, offer a degree in agriculture, but can host people from agriculture." Froom said, "Wait until the next year or two; we'll host you in the new student center."—*Elroy E. "Al" Golden, M.B.A. '63, Ed.D. '70*

Correction: In the winter 2006 issue of Northern Now, a letter from John Kerhlikar made reference to fellow classmate Bill Powers as being deceased. We are happy to report that Bill Powers, '63, is very much alive.

Textbook Staged Off-Broadway

How many college professors can take credit for an off-broadway production inspired by a textbook they've written? NIU Professor Carla Montgomery can.

A performance that uses dance, theater and acrobatics to interpret the geologic and evolutionary history of the Earth was inspired by the textbook *Physical Geology*, written in 1987 by Montgomery, a professor of geology and environmental geosciences who also serves as acting associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Titled *(w)HOLE*, an acronym for *(Whole) History Of Life on Earth*, the performance was produced by the award-winning Brooklyn-based troupe LAVA. Montgomery received a letter from the troupe's founder and artistic director Sarah East Johnson last semester inviting her to a performance. Johnson had become familiar with the textbook when taking a course at Brooklyn College nearly 10 years ago. Inspired by Montgomery's descriptions of earth's movements and systems of change, Johnson set out to create a performance that would link science



Professor Carla Montgomery (third from left) with cast members of the award-winning performance troupe LAVA.

with the emotional attachment we humans have to Earth.

After initially declining the invitation due to work commitments, Montgomery changed her mind in time to catch two performances in February before the production shut down after a seven-week run off-Broadway. She reports having had "a blast" enjoying two performances and meeting and visiting with Johnson and cast members.

NIU first in homeland security

Northern Illinois University is leading the way among Illinois universities in preparing students for careers in emergency management. Currently no other Illinois university or college is offering such a comprehensive set of certificates in homeland security. NIU's four certificates are in the areas of manufacturing and industrial technology, biochemical sciences, environment and hazard risk assessment, and health sciences. Each certificate program will provide students with an understanding of issues relating to disaster management while allowing them to focus within their primary field of study.

The state Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity issued a call last summer for Illinois universities to create programs designed to train emergency management professionals. NIU answered that call and, under the terms of a \$72,000 grant received from the DCEO, also developed a foundations course which will be made available for inclusion in similar homeland security programs developed by other universities and colleges.



Northern Kudos

Marketing chair slated as business dean

Denise Schoenbachler, chair of NIU's Department of Marketing since 2002, has been named dean of the College of Business following a lengthy national search. Schoenbachler will take over the position July 1 from acting dean William Tallon, who had been in the position since former dean David Graf's departure in May 2005. Among her priorities, she notes, will be increasing fundraising, developing new centers of excellence and raising the college's profile. "NIU, especially



the College of Business, means a lot to me. I have built my career here and I've watched the college grow and develop. I have a very personal stake in the NIU College of Business and I intend to see that it thrives." Schoenbachler came to NIU in 1992 as an assistant professor in the marketing department, becoming a full professor in 2003. She earned her department's Excellence in Teaching Award for six straight years and as department chair increased fundraising efforts for scholarships and other programs.

Accountancy programs shine

NIU's accountancy programs have once again been rated among the best in the nation in a survey released by the *Public Accounting Report*. In its 24th annual survey which asks professors in the field what five programs they would recommend to students, NIU's



undergraduate accountancy program was ranked 11th in the nation and its graduate program 10th (up two places from the previous year). James Young, who became chair of the Department of Accountancy in January, is pleased with survey results but adds, "Rankings are wonderful, but they are only one measure of success. We also pay close attention to ensuring that our students are prepared for the latest challenges in

the industry—not just in public accounting, but also in corporate accounting and internal auditing—and that our faculty remain on the cutting edge of research in their fields. I am pleased to report that we are excelling based upon all those measures, also."

Law professor lauded

NIU College of Law Professor Jeffrey A. Parness was named one of the "Best Law Professors in Illinois" by *Chicago Lawyer* magazine in its January 2006 issue. Recipients were selected from nominations submitted by faculty, staff, and students at the nine Illinois law schools. A member of the law faculty since 1982,



Parness was chosen in part for his ability to challenge students' prevailing perspectives, combined with a penchant for legal research and policy. The author of three textbooks on civil procedure and a book on the topic for Illinois attorneys, Parness particularly enjoys teaching the civil procedure course to first-year law students, motivating them to "think like a lawyer" and to develop their analytical skills.

Honors all-round

For more than 35 years, the NIU Department of English has hosted the national offices of Sigma Tau Delta, International English Honor Society. Now, thanks to the efforts of STD Executive Director William C. Johnson, Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Department of English, the department is host to another honor society, one that focuses exclusively on high school students and faculty. During his 25 years as Sigma Tau Delta's executive director, Johnson found that countless high school English teachers have wanted to share the honor society experience with their students—but because of its collegiate mission, STD wasn't able to charter chapters in secondary schools. Starting a separate organization seemed the logical way to go. So, over a period of several years, Johnson put together a constitution, bylaws and handbook; membership materials; assembled a national advisory board; and created a website. The end result: the National English Honor Society (NEHS) which became official last September. Notes Johnson, "NIU and STD have been very supportive; I consider NEHS both my gift in response to that support, and a way of sharing my own passion for books, authors, and writing with new generations of students and teachers." For more information visit www.nehs.us.

Northern's rising star

NIU's School of Theatre and Dance has helped create more than its share of successful acting careers, but few can match the speed of Justin Mentell's rising star: Less than six months after last May's graduation ceremonies, Mentell was sipping cappuccino with Candice Bergen and trading jokes with William Shatner on the set of ABC's hit show *Boston Legal*.

As brash young attorney Garrett Wells, Mentell, B.F.A. '05, is more than holding his own alongside veteran actors twice his age. Critics are praising his confident on-camera presence, while Web-based fan clubs extol his brooding good looks. Through it all, the Texas-born, Waukegan-raised actor maintains a strong commitment to his craft and a deep gratitude to the NIU faculty he says gave him the tools to succeed.

"I had always heard that NIU's acting program was one of the best in the nation, and once I got there I understood why," he said. "I realize my situation is unusual in terms of how fast things happened for me, but beyond the luck factor, I see things every day that make me realize how good my training was and how valuable the advice was that I got from my professors. They don't just prepare you to act – they also teach you about the business of acting, how to deal with agents, what to look for in a contract, etcetera."

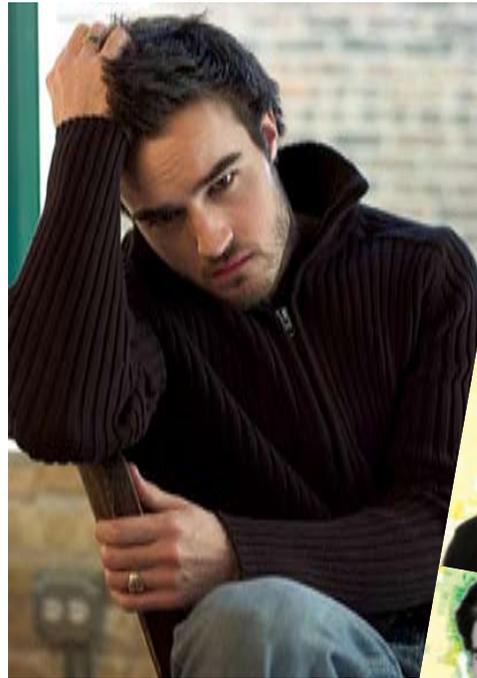
Mentell stays in touch with several NIU theatre faculty including Patricia Ridge, Kathryn Gately-Poole and Deborah Robertson.

"One of the things I've told Kathryn since I got out here is how right she was about always being on time," Mentell said. "She was unforgiving on that subject – if you were late for class, you simply wouldn't be allowed in. Believe me, when you're breaking into the business in Hollywood, being on time and ready to deliver is half the battle."

Robertson, head of the B.F.A. acting program, recalls Mentell as both punctual and prepared – and extraordinarily talented.

"Justin has tremendous charisma and a wonderful ability to step into someone else's experience and inhabit their emotional life," she said. "I'm thrilled for him but not surprised – even at NIU, he was always working hard, talking to agents and trying to keep himself connected to elements of the business."

Beyond the rigors of taping a weekly show and learning how to deal with sudden fame, Mentell says the best part of his



Justin Mentell, B.F.A. '05, portrays attorney Garrett Wells on *Boston Legal*.

Hollywood experience is working with veteran actors who are as kind as they are talented.

"Candice Bergen is one of the nicest people I've ever met," Mentell said. "She's very maternal and concerned about the younger actors. She's also a big practical joker – once when I was done taping a scene I went back to my chair and couldn't find a cappuccino I'd brought on the set. Everyone was snickering, and I look over at Candice and see her sitting there with an empty cup and a whipped-cream mustache. She's always knitting between scenes, and she told me she'd pay me back by making me a scarf."

"Bill Shatner is another guy who's just so generous with his time and willing to offer advice – he's also hilarious, in a much saner way than (his *Boston Legal* character) Denny Crane."

For his own part, Mentell hopes his career evolves into regular work as a character actor rather than a leading man. "I'd much rather play the sociopathic drug dealer or the crazy villain than the jock or the leading man," he said. "It's just much more interesting work, much more of a challenge as an actor."

Our Story

Castle on a Hill celebrates NIU and DeKalb

Readers of Glen Gildemeister's book *Castle on a Hill* will find themselves leafing through its pages, much like they would a family album or yearbook. Its 315 images, supported by 55,000 words, tell the story of Northern's transformation from a solitary "Castle on a Hill" to a comprehensive state university.

Gildemeister (M.A. '72, Ph.D. '77), director of NIU's Regional History Center and university archivist, offers this book as a pictorial history—a yearbook of sorts—to those who share his interest in the mutual history of the university and the greater DeKalb community.

Gildemeister's personal history with Northern goes back more than 35 years when he first came to DeKalb to pursue a master's degree in history. He has been director of the Regional History Center and archivist since 1977. Gildemeister is also very involved with the Friends of NIU Libraries—since he became treasurer of the organization its endowment account has doubled. All profits from the sale of *Castle on a Hill* will go to the library endowment fund.

Castle on a Hill was written with two groups in mind. "In doing this book, I really focused on two audiences," Gildemeister notes. "The first audience



consists of the people who have worked day in and day out for years to make NIU what it is today—our faculty and staff. The second audience is NIU alumni."

The book's seven chapters, each dominated by images obtained from university archives and the Regional History Center, tell the story of more than a century of growth of NIU and DeKalb. Chapter titles include "Foundations Laid," "Student Life," "The Academic Enterprise," "Athletics," "Campus Development," "Living in DeKalb" and "Town-Gown Relations."

All profits from the sale of *Castle on a Hill* will go to the Friends of NIU Libraries Endowment Fund. Each book is \$34.95 plus \$5 mailing and handling fee per copy. To order, send a check, made out to NIU, to: Regional History Center, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois 60115. *Castle on a Hill* is also available at the NIU Bookstore, Village Commons Bookstore, the DeKalb Gallery, and on Amazon.com. **N**

Chapter 1 – Foundations Laid

All students had to make that end-of-day walk back down the hill into town to the rooming houses in which they lived. Wood planks served to keep their feet out of the mud—and to reduce the burden of cleaning the halls of the Castle. Without the modern fibers and garments to protect them from the cold DeKalb winters, students dressed in layers of wool and cotton from head to foot. In this photo, smoke from the wire mills east of downtown hangs over the trees on the horizon.

Since there was only one building, the name of the school and the building were, at first, synonymous. A nickname, the "Castle on a Hill," soon took hold. When Williston Hall and other buildings became part of the campus, the Castle was known officially as the Administration Building until renamed Altgeld Hall in 1964.

Background image:

A crowd of around 30,000 attended the October 1, 1895, groundbreaking ceremonies for the "Castle on a Hill."



Chapter 2 – Student Life

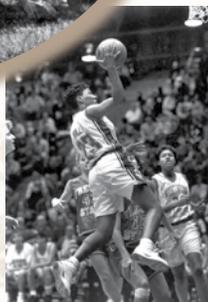
Sorority chariot races not only won laureates for the winners, they often also raised money for charities. One of the favorite activities of the decade was the Roman toga party later made famous in the movie *Animal House*. The hedonism of the playboy philosophy melded well with the Roman-themed parties. Active chapters of several national sororities and fraternities were on the campus in the 1950s, but it was in the 1960s that the growth took place to the north of the campus that became known as Greek Row.



Chapter 4 – Athletics

Initially, football and baseball became the foundation team sports at Northern for men. Women began playing intramural basketball in the fall of 1899. Newly invented in 1892, the sport was still new to most people, but Northern had both women's and men's teams from the first year forward.

Pictured: Football practice in 1901; E.C. Hill (#23), a Chicago-area native recruited by Coach Jane Albright, who brought Northern back-to-back 24-6 seasons in the early 1990s and signaled a new style for women's basketball at NIU.



Chapter 6 – Living in DeKalb

DeKalb's answer to Sycamore's Pumpkin Festival was Corn Fest. Corn Fest began as Corn Boil when Del Monte built its DeKalb plant.

It became Corn Fest in 1977 when the City of DeKalb under Mayor Judy King began running the annual event through a special committee. It served to welcome students back to DeKalb and to celebrate the role of corn in the county's agriculture and the city's commerce. Carefully setting the dates to correspond with the return of the students, city officials close off the four blocks of downtown between First and Fourth Streets in August each year and throw a giant, three-day block party.

Chapter 7 – Town-Gown Relations

Homecoming often brought out the best in town-gown cooperation. Local merchants benefited from increased business, and they often sponsored floats and special events, which students wanted. Here the Golden Anniversary Homecoming Parade of 1949 made its way through the heart of downtown DeKalb on Lincoln Highway.

Inset: In the wake of the Kent State violence on May 4, 1970, Northern President Rhoten Smith called for a two-day moratorium on classes . . . Two weeks after Kent State, the Jackson State killings caused Smith to call a second two-day moratorium for May 18 and 19 . . . By midnight on May 18, protesting students occupied the bridge across Lincoln Highway at the lagoon. Waiting for the crowd on the other side of the bridge were NIU Police, DeKalb Police, Illinois State Police, and the DeKalb County Sheriff's Deputies . . . In an attempt to defuse this confrontation between town and gown, President Smith came out to join the students on the bridge and sat down with his NIU baseball cap on.





NIU provides study abroad programs in 74 countries with undergraduate and graduate credit offered in more than 30 academic areas. Study abroad opportunities are available through NIU-administered programs directed by NIU faculty, as well as numerous NIU co-sponsored programs administered and managed by other organizations.

50 years of class

Africa and the Middle East

Botswana
Cameroon
Cyprus
Egypt
Ghana
Israel
Jordan
Kenya
Madagascar
Mali
Morocco
Oman
Senegal
South Africa
Tanzania
Uganda

Asia

China
India
Indonesia
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Thailand
Turkey
Vietnam

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New Zealand
Samoa

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Denmark

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Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Hungary
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Ireland
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Latvia
Malta
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Russia
Scotland
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland

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Belize
Bolivia
Brazil
Canada
Chile
Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
French Guiana
Jamaica
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama
Peru
Puerto Rico
Uruguay

Multi-Country

School of
International
Training (SIT)
Semester at Sea





**NIU's Study Abroad program
celebrates its 50th anniversary—
Making global citizens,
one student at a time**

By Donna Marie Pocius, '79, M.A., '93

When you ask Northern Illinois University alumni and students about studying abroad, they tell you how the experience changed them.

Clearly, international education helps students land internships and jobs in a diverse market. But programs, coordinated by NIU's Study Abroad Office, also give students confidence to explore new career paths and enhance their understanding of other cultures and the U.S. Map courtesy of The World Factbook.

ses in the world





Left to right: NIU Professor Earl Hayter, wife Beulah, and daughter Mary depart for the 1959 European Seminar / A Shakespeare class on the lawn at Oxford University / Professor program / Participants of the 1962 European Seminar relax on the deck of the "Empress of Britain" as they make the Atlantic crossing / Students take their meals at the Oriel College dining

In fact, the rewards from studying overseas are so great that even a professional actor, Justin Mentell, '05, who plays Garrett Wells on the television series *Boston Legal*, has difficulty finding words to describe them. (Read more about NIU alumnus Justin Mentell on page 5.)

Mentell participated in NIU's Theatre and Performance Studies in Moscow program during 2003. While abroad, he experienced firsthand the Moscow Art Theatre, rich in theatrical tradition. Lessons addressed acting, voice, movement and Russian theatre history.

"It is something that lives inside you," Mentell says of study abroad. "It is almost like seeing a ghost. It is different for everyone who has seen a ghost, and you can't explain it. But you had to be there."

Mentell, who is working on two films in California as well as his recurring role on *Boston Legal*, said the program in Moscow made a real impression on Hollywood insiders.

"Any actor who has anything to do with acting knows what the Moscow Theatre is, and it is very prestigious to be able to say you studied there. They said, 'Wow; you studied at the Moscow Theatre,'" Mentell recalls. "And it is something that can't be taken away from you. It makes you more open for any future experience."

After studying abroad, Kerry O'Brien, a music major, also envisions a bright future. She secured an NIU undergraduate research and artistry grant and headed to Salzburg, Austria, where she studied composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The endeavor exposed her to a related student Fulbright program, which supports graduating seniors in study abroad.

"Salzburg is where Mozart was born, so it was quite an experience to be where it all happened," O'Brien says. "And I have a chance to go to Berlin to study percussion. I applied for a Fulbright to do that, and I wouldn't have known about the program in Berlin if I hadn't studied abroad last summer."

NIU students also study design, architecture and art in Italy. Others explore media and culture in Ireland, learn contemporary graphic design in Poland and perfect their Spanish language skills in Spain. In all, the Study Abroad Office, a part of NIU's Division of International Programs, offers 60 different programs all over the world each year to NIU students and others.

"We really believe that one of the things we do here is building world peace—one student at a time. The more students know about another country, another culture, the more they can put a human face on another culture, the better off we all are," says Deborah Pierce, executive director, Division of International Programs.

A beginning 50 years ago

NIU students started studying abroad 50 years ago when the social sciences department coordinated a program for nearly 50 students in the summer of 1956 at Oxford University in England, according to the NIU Regional History Center. Another milestone was the creation of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies in 1963, following the participation of the political science and history departments in the U.S. Peace Corps training programs.

Eventually, decision-makers saw a need to pull together fragmented international education and study abroad activities by various departments, establishing the Division of International Programs in 1969. Centralization of NIU's resources made a world of difference to study abroad programs, according to Daniel Wit, the founding director and former dean of the Division of International and Special Programs.

"I don't think it would have developed as much as it did. We became a model for universities all over the country. I was asked by other institutions for insights," Wit says. "Our own faculty was going overseas, students were going abroad, and they were coming back and exposing that to the campus. It was fed to the classroom and contributed to the maturation of the institution."

As other U.S. universities struggled with equivalencies of courses taught



Jeffrey Chown with students in the "Media and Culture in Ireland" hall at Oxford University.

been there:

abroad, their students enrolled in NIU for the courses. "Students would apply through NIU for these courses and be registered through NIU. While abroad, the students were NIU students taking NIU equivalent courses. They would get an NIU transcript and then transfer to their own institution," explains Manfred Thullen, former executive director, Division of International Programs.

Wit adds, "We became a national hub. By the 1980s, after national surveys, we were ranked sixth among important universities in the country for this type of program."

Ways to study abroad

Today, most NIU study abroad students choose a faculty-directed program, as Mentell did. The programs are called "faculty-directed," because they are developed from the get-go by NIU professors who teach classes overseas often with educators and artists from foreign venues. About 20 faculty-directed programs depart annually, and more than 300 have been developed over the years.

The vast number of faculty-directed programs and the opportunities they afford graduate students as well as undergraduates set NIU apart from other universities, according to Pierce.

Also, NIU's Study Abroad Office opens up the world to students by partnering with international educators in

co-sponsored programs. NIU supports 14 organizations including Salzburg College, which attracted O'Brien. Many co-sponsored programs allow students to be abroad an entire semester—difficult for busy NIU faculty, who usually lead programs of shorter duration.

NIU faculty-directed and co-sponsored programs take place in 74 countries and award students with credits in more than 30 academic areas.

Organizers are quick to add that those who go are not necessarily the richest students. Many participants, they say, tap grants, scholarships and loans, which are described in "How to Find Money to Study Abroad," the division's online and print publication.

"There are ways, but it's not easy for students with restricted circumstances financially. Coming to Northern isn't easy for them either," Pierce says. "It's not impossible. Students shouldn't reject the idea out-of-hand. There are other options including a shorter term faculty-directed program."

Why students go

Tiffany Mason, who is pursuing a major in studio art with a photography area of study, joined visual communication professor Aleksandra Giza in "Exploring Contemporary Graphic Design and Design Education in Poland." The 10-day program in March, which cost \$1,585

"We were a group of Americans going to Poland. I learned many things and the struggles people have there. It is so overwhelming how they envy our freedom. I am more appreciative of what we have."

—Tiffany Mason, senior studio art major

"I never used to be patriotic, and I have been pretty patriotic. It is something that makes you a more cultured person, and it can help on your resume as they see you are someone who has traveled."

—Justin Mentell, '05, actor playing Garrett Wells on ABC's Boston Legal.

"You talk about what the (Russian) actors had to go through—communism. It was incredible."

—Lisa Comer, '05, actor recently playing Maudie Atkinson in To Kill a Mockingbird at Apple Tree Theatre, Highland Park, Illinois.

"While I was abroad, I lived with a host family. Politics are a big thing in Spain. Now, I actually watch CNN. I used to turn it off."

—Leana Harris, sophomore nursing major

"Every summer, I am going to a different country. This summer will be South Africa, even if I have to ramp up credit card debt to do it."

—A. J. Stabe, '05, freelance graphic designer

"My host mother and I went on bike rides a lot. They ride their bikes everywhere (in Austria). She would measure our rides in kilometers. I never knew what I was getting into. They were five to six hours, some of them. And it was great seeing the Alps. It was beautiful."

—Kerry O'Brien, senior music major

(excluding airfare), gave Mason a chance to broaden her education and travel overseas for the first time while she was still in college.

"I always heard about study abroad, but it seemed like something out of reach. But in two months, I had a passport and was filing out papers to go. You can do anything if you want to," says Mason, who is assistant photo editor at the *Northern Star*.

Studying at the Academy of Fine Arts in Katowice, a branch of the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow, Mason photographed the entire experience, which she describes as "interactive and hands-on."

"In America, we rely on computers. But we met a lot of people there who do not touch the computer until the final stages," she says. "We had a workshop with one of the most popular poster designers in Poland (Roman Kalarus), and he used posters, and we cut them up and made our own posters—a collage almost."

Leana Harris's decision to study abroad was aimed at enhancing her marketability as a bilingual nurse. The sophomore nursing major learned of a semester-long program in Alcala, Spain, during fall 2005. After spending three-and-one-half months in the home of a Spanish family and attending five classes, she returned to the U.S. with a broader view and a new plan to work for the American Red Cross or in a Third

World country.

"I think that is where I would be needed the most. Even if it takes being a volunteer first, that is what I would love to do," Harris says.

Experiences overseas gave A. J. Stabe, '05, the courage to move to New York, where he works part-time as a freelance graphic designer. After studying in Italy, he earned an internship at Number 17 Studio, New York. "It's one of the best decisions I made, a life-changing experience," he says of the programs in Ireland and Italy. "And the study abroad had a real-world application, too. It was great because what I learned in Italy was just coming over to America."

Global outlook

Anne Seitzinger, director of the Study Abroad Office, says employers expect graduates to have taken the initiative to study abroad. "The pressure is on these kids. So they are creative in deciding what they are going to do and how they are going to do it," Seitzinger says.

In fact, one in six American jobs is tied to international trade, according to a report by the Commission on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program. Speaker of the House J. Dennis Hastert, an NIU alumnus, appointed NIU President John Peters to sit on the commission, which was charged with recommending a program to Congress for expanding opportunities

for college students to study abroad.

"You also hope that the students will become more global. In a way, you hope they will stop being so focused and leave that comfort zone and realize there is much more out there than what happens in the United States," Seitzinger says.

That's what happened to Lisa Comer, '05, who traveled to Moscow twice. Comer just closed *To Kill a Mockingbird* at Apple Tree Theatre in Highland Park, Illinois. "Study abroad gave me not only a new respect for my art, but an appreciation of where I came from. It kind of rocked me out of my teen thoughts about America," she says.

It's an immersion

The American students are immersed in new cultures. One of the longest-running offerings is "Media and Culture in Ireland," led since 1992 by Jeffrey Chown, communication professor, and Robert Self, English professor.

The program attracts 14 to 32 each year, its popularity partly due to the large number of students with Irish ancestry and Ireland's English-speaking culture. Students reside with host families outside Dublin, where they study.

"They need to see how other people live. They are living with an Irish family—a different orientation to everyday. You don't take long hot showers. Cars are smaller. Houses and rooms are smaller. People live differently than Americans

Left to right: Peace Corps volunteers arrive by bus to start their training program at NIU in preparation for overseas assignments / Participants of the "Design, Architecture and Art" NIU professor Earl Hayter, the program's director of education, at Oriel College in 1959 / Students in the Italy "Design, Architecture and Art" program enjoy a seaside outing.



do,” Chown says. “The students take public transportation and learn how to be mobile without a car.”

The students study film and literature in the context of Ireland’s improving economy. They see films that are not available in the U.S. and plays performed by Irish actors. Perhaps some of the subject matter can be taught in DeKalb, but one really has to be there to make a greater connection, according to Self.

“Culture is abashed from its roots when you study any aspect of it here as opposed to studying it in its native environment,” Self says. “And it helps them not only to see another culture, but to see the U.S. with newer eyes, broader eyes and with a greater appreciation than they can have here.”

NIU students also travel to Milan, Florence and Sorrento, Italy, with visual communication professor Jon Ashmann, who has led the “Design, Architecture and Art” program since 1990. Students have access to some of the world’s most beautiful design centers and showrooms in Milan by day and learn Italian by night.

“The teachers of Italian are from Italy, so they teach about different cultural things—gestures and what is the right thing to do,” says Ashmann, who has an enthusiasm for Italy that warms the students to a new culture.

“A lot of them are scared. It’s not like going to England and Ireland, where they

speak English. Here, you are dropped in a country, and they are speaking Italian. They learn a lot. They become savvy travelers. It embeds something in them that makes them think differently. It’s good that it comes early in their lives.”

An international DeKalb

Currently, about 500 students or two percent of NIU’s enrollment annually participate in study abroad. While Pierce envisions a need to grow programs in areas including engineering and mathematics, she also wants to offer affordable alternatives to studying abroad for students who don’t leave the DeKalb campus.

“We have to look at the other 98 percent,” she says. “And one way is to infuse, as President Peters has asked, an international perspective through the curriculum, throughout all areas of instruction.”

In February, Pierce asked the General Education Committee to consider requiring two courses with internationally rich subject matter—undergraduates must choose one now. Another idea she put on the table is a global awareness certificate; if approved, students may participate in a portfolio of international activities, endorsed by the university and displayed on their transcripts.

Supporting professors’ research in foreign countries is also important to Pierce, who calls \$1.4 million in outside

funding for such activities, secured by her division’s International Training Office since 2002, a recent milestone. She would also like to start an endowment to support faculty research abroad, reaching out to alumni.

Indeed, study abroad can have a significant payoff, according to alumnus Mentell.

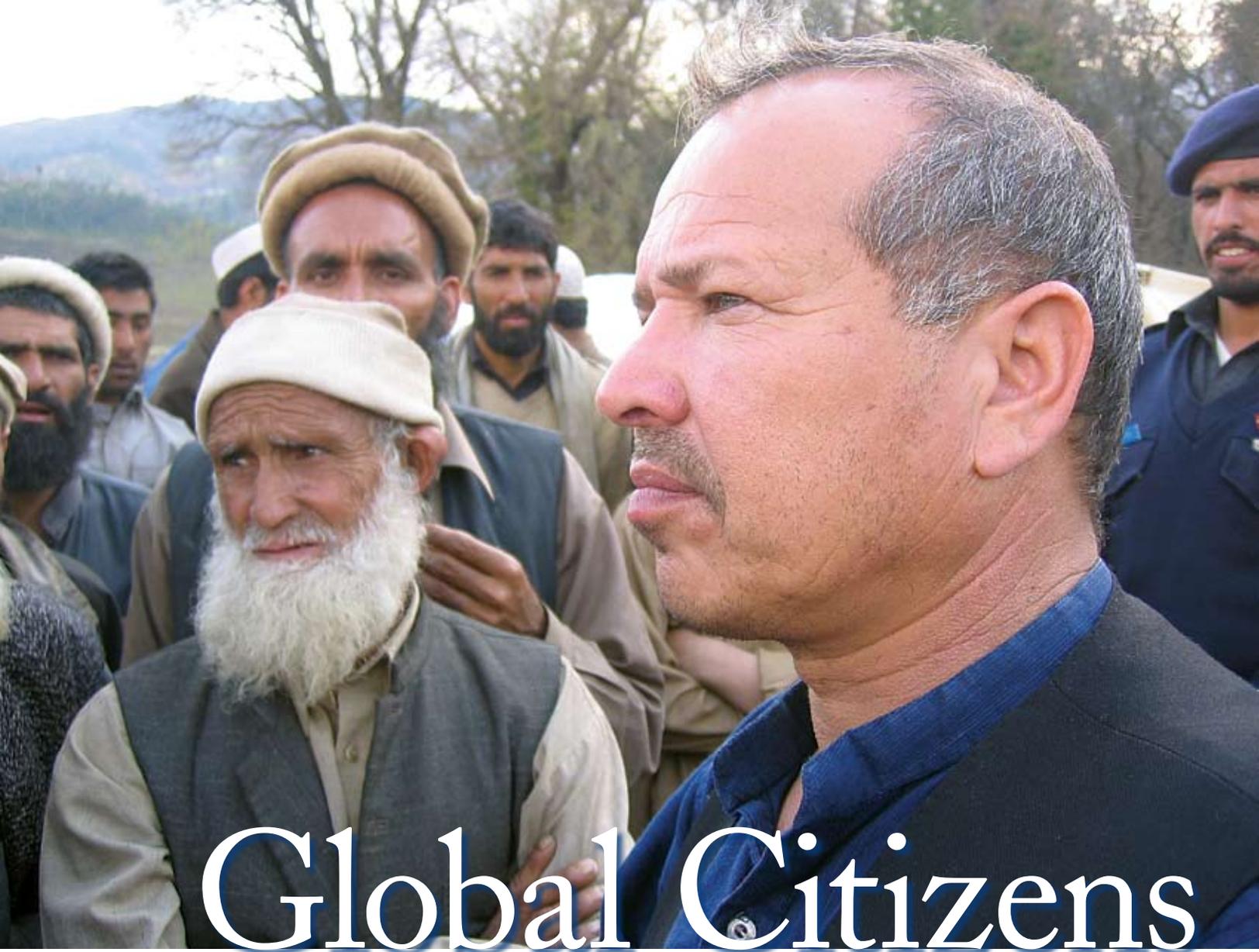
“It’s important that we understand each other better and become as cultured as we can,” Mentell says. “Then everyone will become more open.”

To learn more about NIU’s Study Abroad Office, visit www.niu.edu/niuabroad.

Donna Marie Pocius, a Wisconsin-based freelance writer, holds degrees in journalism from NIU. Photos courtesy of Jeffrey Chown, Gabriel Holbrook, Anne Seitzinger, A. J. Stabe, and University Archives.

program in Italy / Learning to “punt” at Oxford / NIU professor Charles Howell (left), the Oxford summer program’s business manager, with nurse Emily Belknap and





Global Citizens

Three Northern grads make the world a better place

*By Julie Harris, '04
and Virginia Seymour, '73*

Northern is proud of its graduates, the majority of whom have followed their dreams in the arts, business, education, law, and countless other professions—in no small part the product of their education at NIU.

While most initially pursue career paths based on their degrees, some discover new avenues to explore through further education, circumstance, or opportunity.

On the following pages, we introduce you to three NIU alumni who have made their mark through determination, opportunity, and in at least one case, a considerable amount of luck. Each though has made a difference in other people's lives, applying their talents and gifts to make the world a better place.

Ihsan Khan (foreground), mayor of Pakistan's Batagram district, with earthquake survivors.

Lotto Winner gives back

Ihsan Khan, '87, had been elected mayor of his hometown of Batagram, Pakistan, only days before a magnitude 7.6 earthquake left the country in ruins and 87,000 people dead on October 8, 2005. Many in his situation would be quick to panic and slow to action, but for Khan it was the opposite.

Khan's story starts with a dream. In the dream—replete with diamonds and rubies—the numbers 2-4-6-17-25-31 came to him. Khan played those numbers for years until, in 2001, he hit a \$55.2 million Powerball jackpot while living in Washington, D.C., and working as a cab driver. He took a lump sum award of more than \$32 million, which worked out to \$18 million after taxes.

Fast forward to 2005. It was on a trip to his hometown of Batagram that Khan noticed how the poor were denied equal education and job opportunities by provincial officials who favored their friends. Having lived half his life in the U.S. with citizenship in both the U.S. and Pakistan, Khan had strong attachments to his homeland, and decided to try to make a difference by running for mayor. Using his own money to run in the election, he promised to build a modern Batagram with street lighting, parks and more schools. He won the election just two days before the earthquake hit, killing 4,500 people in the Batagram district.

The newly elected mayor reached into his own pockets and paid pharmacists \$300,000 to dispense all of the medicine from their shelves. In the time since the earthquake Khan has led the cause by purchasing tents, supporting those in refugee camps and creating programs to supply the materials needed to rebuild shattered dwellings. Khan, who is said to have emerged as a colorful and outspoken critic of local government corruption, hopes to rebuild the entire district.

The town of Batagram is nestled in a mountain valley, a subsistence farming community where the average yearly income is less than \$500. In 1977 at the age of 19, Khan left the poverty of his homeland for the United States. He attended NIU where he met his first wife, and in 1987 earned a degree in political science. After he and his wife divorced after having one child, he moved to Washington, D.C., returning regularly to Pakistan for extended visits. On subsequent trips to his homeland, he met and married his second wife and fathered two more children. He maintains residences in both the United States and Pakistan.

Having realized his American Dream, Khan is concentrating now on using his good fortune to help his fellow country-

men. Quoted in a March 12, 2006, *Chicago Tribune* article, Khan notes, "Why I came here is I had some obligation, something to pay back." He has taken that philosophy to heart by spending a portion of his lottery winnings to help rebuild the Batagram region and, according to the *Tribune* report, to send some Batagram students to college and build a school.

A 20-year odyssey of humanitarian work

For Karen Hilliard, '79, what started as a semester in Quito, Ecuador, with the NIU Study Abroad Program, led to a passion in humanitarian efforts and eventually her life's work in Egypt, the Sultanate of Oman, Malawi, Haiti, Nicaragua and the Ukraine.

"I spent a semester at the Andean Center in Quito, Ecuador, studying Spanish and Latin American studies," says Hilliard, an NIU nursing graduate. "While there, I volunteered at a pediatric hospital in the capital city. That experience compelled me to pursue a career in development as my life's work."

Hilliard currently works for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) as the deputy regional mission director for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova. As deputy director she co-manages a program of U.S. foreign assistance valued at over \$100 million. This program fosters economic

Many of the countries in need of USAID are fragile states where simple events can quickly spiral out of control and generate dangerous situations for U.S. workers.

—Karen Hilliard, '79

growth, promotes democracy and establishes social reform programs. Hilliard's current mission is one of consolidating democracy in Ukraine and promoting a market economy in the wake of the historic Orange Revolution that took place in November 2004.

"We financed a contingent of election observers 1,000 strong, in order to detect any attempts at electoral fraud," Hilliard says. "When the election was nearly stolen through just such fraud, we worked very hard to link the observations

of those independent groups to local media in order that the average Ukrainian could become aware of the electoral fraud that was being perpetrated here. In so doing, in an indirect way, we helped to catalyze the Orange Revolution, which led to a renaissance of democracy here in the country.”

Many of the countries in need of USAID are fragile states where simple events can quickly spiral out of control and generate dangerous situations for U.S. workers. Hilliard is not exempt from these dangers; in Haiti she found herself in the middle of an angry mob of protesters burning automobile tires and demanding a change of government and on one occasion in Nicaragua was confronted with an AK-47.

“While on a field trip my group encountered a small troop of army regulars chasing an armed rebel group,” Hilliard said. “When they tried to commandeer our vehicle at gunpoint to give chase, our quick-witted driver was able to talk us out of the situation by saying that we couldn’t really lend U.S. Government property to the Nicaraguan armed forces to pursue those fellows!”

However, Hilliard says that she feels safe overseas because the U.S. Embassy takes extremely good care of their citizens.

“We have professional security officers who are much attuned to the evolving security situation in any of these countries, and are able to respond very quickly to safeguard our lives and our property. So, I have managed to pop around the world for nearly 20 years with my three children in tow without a scratch.”

Hilliard travels the world with her children: Clark, 14, Nathan, 12, and Mathilda, 8, whom she adopted while stationed in Nicaragua. All three have grown up witnessing things that most American children will never see.

“While on the one hand they see a lot of poverty and misery, they also identify very much with the beneficiaries of our programs overseas. I think they have developed a real empathy for others, and a deep understanding of other cultures and values.”

In late summer of this year Hilliard will move again, this time to Washington, D.C., to take up a new position as director of strategic planning and budgeting for USAID’s global health programs, valued at \$1.5 billion.

“We normally serve overseas for periods ranging from two to four years at a time. At least once during our 20-year career we are expected to rotate back to Washington to serve there at headquarters.”

Regardless of where she may travel, Hilliard says that living abroad makes her truly appreciate the remarkable strength and diversity of America. “My children are rooted in our Midwestern upbringing and our American values. I really



Karen Hilliard (right), USAID deputy regional mission director for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, was an invited speaker at the “Partnerships for Health” conference sponsored by the Ukraine 3000 Foundation and chaired by Ukraine’s First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko (left).

consider it a privilege to serve our country overseas and be able to share those values with others.”

An educational journey comes full circle

Rukudzo Joseph Murapa’s educational experiences have taken him full circle with a notable stop along the way at NIU where he earned his master’s and doctoral degrees in political science.

As a young boy he could not have imagined the journey that would take him from primary school in Zimbabwe to universities in the United States and then back to Zimbabwe where he would ultimately become the chief executive officer of an international university. His is a story of determination, discipline, and opportunity.

In January, 32 years after receiving his doctorate, Professor Rukudzo Murapa, M.A. ’67, Ph.D. ’74, returned to Northern, this time in his official capacity as vice chancellor of Africa University in Zimbabwe. His mission to establish formal ties between the two institutions culminated in a “Memorandum of Understanding” between Africa University and NIU which provides a framework within which the respective faculties can create research partnerships and other collaborative efforts.

Cooperation between the two institutions was already in the works—Ngoyi Bukonda, associate professor in the public health and health education programs of NIU’s College of Health and Human Sciences, was a visiting scholar at Africa University during a sabbatical last year. He was developing joint research proposals with Africa University’s faculty of health sciences and with its Institute of Peace, Leadership and Governance when talks were initiated to invite Vice Chancellor Murapa to NIU.

Having grown up in Zimbabwe in a family of modest means, Murapa showed at an early age his strong desire for an education. As a primary school student he consistently ranked at the top of his class. When he was not able to immediately gain entry into

secondary school, he took on odd jobs at the Old Mutare Mission as gardener, custodian, and eventually as clerk to the school superintendent, biding his time until he was accepted at Hartzell High School. Once there, Murapa exhibited the entrepreneurial skills which would pay his school fees: he performed laundry services that included borrowing the family iron to press classmates' uniforms; sold tea, cocoa, bread, and butter to fellow students after the evening study period; and raised chickens and sold eggs from a stall near the dormitories.

After graduation from high school, Murapa studied business at Luvave Technical College in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. Then in 1961 at the age of 21, Murapa was among a group of young African students selected to study in the United States on scholarships sponsored by the Methodist Church. He studied first at Kendall College, then at Hamline University where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science and economics.

While at Hamline University, Murapa studied for a semester in Washington, D.C., in the American Government in Action program which according to Murapa, "ignited a whole new interest in me, and gave me exposure to what government was."

His newfound interest in government—specifically public administration—is what ultimately led him to Northern to pursue his master's degree. When a Hamline professor recommended NIU as a school with a good public administration program, Murapa visited campus. "I met Professor James Banovetz [an expert in local government who played a large role in the M.P.A. program's rise to national prominence] and so the rest of the story is now history."

Murapa arrived at NIU in 1966, to a campus and a community notably lacking in racial diversity. "There were very few African students, very few African American students. DeKalb was a very parochial, inward-looking community," notes Murapa, who adds that he and fellow students would fear going into town.

It was also the height of the Civil Rights movement. "We were part and parcel of that whole motion for change. I remember that we got together the few African students and the few African American students that were here. I was sort of the driving force behind that and pushed to organize the African and African American Cultural Organization."

As president of this student group, Murapa recalls that they began to make a lot of demands on the university for change. "We brought in a number of nationally

recognized personalities like Stokely Carmichael [who coined the term "Black Power"], Muhammad Ali, H. Rap Brown – agitators of the time. It was quite a dramatic period."

He remembers the university at that time as an exciting environment for learning and for change. "We got a lot of support from the faculty and of course pressure was always on the administration."

Murapa earned his master of arts degree in 1967 and a doctorate in 1974, both in political science with a concentration in public administration. "When I initially came to NIU, I didn't plan to pursue my Ph.D. here because I didn't have funding. But thanks to the support that I got in terms of work-study programs, I was able to save some money," he notes. Then while pursuing his doctorate, Murapa worked for the Winnebago County Community Action Program as its executive director, living in Rockford and commuting to NIU.

Of those professors who stand out in his memory, Murapa remembers Professor James Wilson who was the chair of his dissertation committee. "He was a mentor in the sense that he really inspired me to always aim higher in life. A very humble man he was, very unassuming and like all professors I guess, very well read. He was very encouraging. Jim Banovetz was similarly so. It was their discipline and dedication to students. They spent a lot of time with students," notes Murapa.

Since his days at Northern more than 30 years ago, Murapa has been involved in teaching research and senior administration at universities in the U.S. and Africa. His commitment to African economic and social development is evidenced by his involvement with numerous organizations such as UNESCO, UNICEF, USAID, and the World Bank.

In 1998 Professor Murapa became vice chancellor of Africa University, located 10 miles outside Mutare, Zimbabwe. A United Methodist-related institution, Africa University opened in March 1992 as the first private, international university in Zimbabwe. Last year more than 1,200 students from 22 African countries were enrolled in undergraduate and graduate level programs.

As he reflects on his amazing educational journey, Vice Chancellor Murapa notes, "One has to discipline oneself and work hard. So in many ways you look back at it and say well, without that, where would I have been." And he adds, with a chuckle, "And it was fun. I guess on reflection it was fun." **N**

On a recent trip to NIU, Rukudzo Murapa, vice chancellor of Africa University in Zimbabwe, tours the new Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center.



Men Win West

It was a banner year for the men's basketball squad as the Huskies concluded their campaign with their first-ever Mid-American Conference West Division championship, plus wins over BCS schools DePaul and Kansas State.

The Huskies clinched the West crown with four straight regular season victories against MAC opponents, ending with a convincing 74-59 win over Western Michigan in Kalamazoo.

"The seniors we have on our ballclub

really rose to the occasion," NIU head basketball coach Rob Judson said of the victory. "They put their hearts out there today and I'm really proud of them and everybody that rode with them. This win is a testament to our

team's attitude throughout the season."

As the number two seed in the MAC Tournament in Cleveland, NIU drew Toledo in the first round and got behind early. Behind by 21 points in the second half, the Huskies put on a furious rally to lead by one point with 9.4 seconds remaining. Toledo hit two free throws and went on to a 78-77 upset of NIU.

"We definitely showed a lot of character to come back the way we did," Judson said. "In the first half we dug a very deep hole with Toledo's pressure defense and 14 turnovers."



Wrestlers send three to NCAA



Pat Castillo



Johnny Galloway

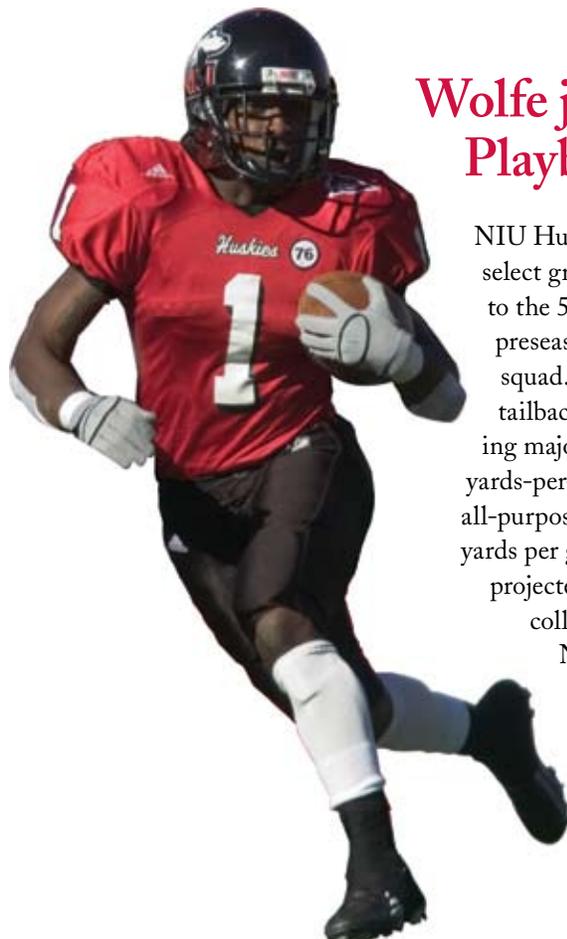


Josh Wooten

NIU Wrestling concluded a very successful season at the NCAA Championships this spring. During the 2005-06 season NIU matched its best-ever finish at the Midlands Championships, a tie for sixth, tallied their fifth consecutive 10+ win season, upset no. 12 ranked Wisconsin on the road, and sent three wrestlers to the NCAA Championships.

The Huskie trio, Pat Castillo, Johnny Galloway, and Josh Wooten lost close decisions at the tournament but gave notice that the NIU program is on the rise.

"I am proud of the effort our guys put forth," said NIU head wrestling coach Dave Grant. "The guys wrestled hard. We were real close. Sometimes that can motivate you for next year. We will return three national qualifiers (Castillo, Galloway and Mike Grimes) in addition to a top-15 recruiting class."



Wolfe joins Playboy roster

NIU Huskie Garrett Wolfe joins a select group of football players named to the 50th Anniversary Playboy preseason First-Team All-America squad. The 5-foot-7, 173-pound tailback is the nation's No. 1 returning major-college rusher (175.6 yards-per-game average in 2005) and all-purpose yardage performer (200.2 yards per game). Wolfe has also been projected to rank among the top six college runningbacks in the 2007 NFL Draft.

Dedicated to the sport



Marci Miller

One could say that Marci Miller is dedicated to soccer. Heading into her second season as head women's soccer coach, she also is a member of the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team which in January won the Four Nations Tournament title in a rousing 2-0 performance against host China. France and Norway placed third and fourth, respectively. The tournament was Miller's third opportunity to play with the national team since becoming coach of the NIU women's soccer program in 2005.

Miller values her experience on the team, convinced that it ultimately makes her a better coach. "I am constantly taking notes and am very fortunate as a younger coach to be around some of the best players and coaches in the world."

The St. Charles, Illinois, native was a three-year all-state soccer player at St. Charles East High School and was named to the all-state tournament teams in 1993 and 1994. Last December she was inducted into her high school's Hall of Fame as one of four recipients of the Jodie Harrison Lifetime

Achievement Award. Harrison was the athletics director at St. Charles East when Miller was a student there.

As a college player, Miller earned All-American honors at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After two seasons there, she played at Southern Methodist University where she led her team to a WAC championship and was named WAC Player of the Year. She played internationally before joining the WUSA and the Atlanta Beat. Last fall, Miller became the second coach in NIU women's soccer history.

As to her game style, Miller notes, "I like playing high pressure and I think that is what you will see more of from the Huskies." With the loss of eight graduating seniors, Miller looks to 11 new recruits to build a team for a winning second season.



HUSKIE FOOTBALL 2006

To reserve your tickets call 1-800-332-HOWL or buy online at www.niuhuskies.com



Sat., Sept. 2	at Ohio State, TBA
Sat., Sept. 9	Ohio, 2:05 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 16	Buffalo, 6:35 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 23	Indiana State, 2:05 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 30	at Ball State, 6:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 7	at Miami (OH), 1 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 14	at Western Michigan, TBA
Sat., Oct. 21	Temple, Homecoming , 2:05 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 28	at Iowa, TBA
Tues., Nov. 7	Toledo, 6:35 p.m.
Fri., Nov. 17	Central Michigan, 7:05 p.m.
Fri., Nov. 24	at Eastern Michigan, 11 a.m.

Outstanding Philanthropy and Service to NIU Recognized

Donald and Donna Kieso Outstanding Philanthropists, 2005

The Kieso name is well known.

Accounting students across the globe know Donald Kieso as the author of their textbooks; successful NIU alumni know him as an inspirational professor and mentor; and each year three of NIU's best and brightest students are proud to be named "Kieso Scholars."



Donald and Donna Kieso

Now NIU knows Donald and Donna Kieso as its 2005 Outstanding Philanthropists.

Citing Donald and Donna Kieso's support of NIU—support that spans over 20 years—Foundation President Mallory M. Simpson described a family who

"exemplifies all of the characteristics the Foundation seeks to celebrate with the Outstanding Philanthropist award."

Donald Kieso is the retired chair, and one of the original architects, of NIU's nationally ranked Department of Accountancy. While Kieso made it his life's work to build a top-notch, nationally ranked program, he never lost sight of his students and became increasingly known on campus for his influence on their careers and lives.

Donna Kieso has also enjoyed a long relationship with NIU having been active in the Newcomer's Club and Women's Luncheon groups. In fact, according to Donald, she has been the driving force behind the couple's contributions to NIU.

"My wife has always reminded me that the school and I are a great match," he said. "She is the real Huskie fan."

Donald's former colleague, accounting professor Greg Carnes, was not surprised when he heard of the Kiosos' selection.

"Many successful alumni have told me of the confidence that Don instilled in them before they started their internships," Carnes said. He told them that they would be working next to students from other top universities, many of which were better known than NIU, but he also impressed upon them that they were better prepared, and that they could handle the challenge."

Kieso's students not only met the challenge, they excelled as respected partners in leading accounting firms, as business owners, and corporate executives across the country. "Their success and gratitude has turned these graduates into donors," Simpson said.

Donald and Donna Kieso continue to impact students by funding three merit-based, full-tuition scholarships annually.

"Annual giving to the accountancy department is among the highest at NIU," said Simpson, "which is not surprising when you consider that building a culture of giving back begins with producing successful and grateful graduates."



While Kieso made it his life's work to build a top-notch, nationally ranked program, he never lost sight of his students and became increasingly known on campus for his influence on their careers and lives.

Rege Eisaman
Outstanding Volunteer, 2005

The NIU Foundation has enjoyed tremendous returns on Rege Eisaman's investments of time and expertise—investments that have paid off not only financially, but in donor trust and confidence as well.

So great have been the returns on Eisaman's service, he has been honored as the Foundation's Outstanding Volunteer for 2005.



Rege Eisaman

Eisaman earned his Master of Business Administration degree from NIU in 1991 and is currently CEO of InterOcean Capital, LLC. He has served on the Foundation board since 1999 and as treasurer and chair of the finance committee since 2001.

Eisaman has been credited with leading a comprehensive upgrade of the Foundation's investment

management program. Under his leadership, the committee has made shifts in asset allocation, hired new fund managers, enhanced benchmarking and the monitoring of manager performance, and improved financial reporting.

Eisaman's management of investment portfolios has earned him the respect of fellow foundation leaders.

"As his colleagues on the finance committee will attest, Rege's expertise truly is remarkable, and I venture to say he is one of the finest—and perhaps the youngest—foundation finance committee chairs in the country," Simpson said.

"Donors expect smart investments and good stewardship of their generous gifts, and thanks to Rege, the Foundation has met those standards. With Rege's acuity and watchful eye, our development team knows...market willing... they will have good news to share with our donors."

The NIU Foundation

Transforming Lives

Mission: To support Northern Illinois University by building financial resources to advance excellence and enhance the university's capacity to transform lives.

The NIU Foundation **Outstanding Philanthropists** award celebrates significant impact on NIU students and programs through:

- a strong pattern of giving
- breadth and depth of support
- giving that acts as a catalyst for other giving

The recipient of the NIU Foundation **Award for Volunteer Service** is honored for outstanding service to the NIU Foundation and active commitment to its mission.

You may contact the NIU Foundation,
Altgeld Hall 135, at (815) 753-9506 or
at www.niufoundation.org.



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

NIU Alumni Association President's Letter

The NIU Alumni Association is the largest single source of merit scholarships supported through private funds at Northern Illinois University. Because our scholarships are funded through an endowment, we can count on enough dollars each year to award between 50 and 60 scholarships, culling through more than 220 applications before deciding on the award winners.



Howard Blietz,
President, NIU
Alumni Association

As our alumni scholarship recipients graduate and go on to earn accolades, raise families, start businesses, teach others, and contribute to the growth and quality of the communities in which they settle, we trust they will remember how NIU alumni reached out a helping hand, providing scholarship assistance that reduced the financial burden of attending NIU.

Perhaps the scholarship they received allowed them to forgo that second job and spend more time on their studies. Or perhaps it meant they could accept a summer internship without the pressures of finding a high-paying summer job. And just as they had once made that phone call home notifying their proud parents that they had won an NIU Alumni Merit Scholarship, perhaps they, as alumni, would return the favor and support a new generation of NIU students with their financial support.

Manny Sanchez, B.A. '70, member of the NIU Board of Trustees (and the first Latino in Illinois to serve as chair of a public university board), chokes up with emotion when he talks of what it meant to him to be on the receiving end of an Alumni Scholarship. The founder of the nation's second-largest minority-owned law firm, Sanchez credits his scholarship with helping him stay in school. Last year he and his wife, Pat Pulido Sanchez, returned the favor with a \$100,000 gift to help build the Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center.

You will be hearing a lot about the importance of endowments in the months and years to come. NIU needs a steady source of private funds to help support our excellent students, faculty, and programs. Endowments are the foundation of private support for great universities—the gifts that, quite literally, keep on giving. The NIU Alumni Association is proud to have invested in endowments as a means of providing reliable support year after year to fund your NIU alumni scholarship program.

The following Class Notes were received between November 2005 and February 2006.

'49

William "Bill" Vickers sends his greetings. He is spending his 57th year following graduation and his 18th year following retirement from the Waukegan School District volunteering to those in need.

'62

Barbara Trester Heinrich retired after 33 years of teaching elementary education two and a half years ago. She is listed in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 9th Ed.* Teachers listed in this book are nominated by students who have received similar recognition and who are listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* or the *National Dean's List*. Nominators praised Barbara for her knowledge, passion, and dedication.

'65

Walter Darrell Haden, M.A., is retired from the University of Tennessee at Martin after 50 years and one semester of teaching English, including 37 years at UT Martin, one at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee, one at Nijijima College in Takasaki, Japan, eight at Sterling Township High School, one at Rock Falls Township High School in Illinois, and two years of junior high teaching in Missouri.

'67

Georgene A. Szymorski-McDonough-Hawkins, has retired from the Federal Aviation Administration. After living in Florida, she is now living in Kankakee, Illinois, on the river. Georgene and her husband, Gerald, fish weekly. She is also a fourth grade catechism teacher at the local Catholic school.

Judith Treece Wyckoff retired from Monterey Peninsula unified school district in Monterey, California, after

34 years in education, the last 26 as a school counselor. She is enjoying her retirement job with the district as a counselor for adult school and chief administrator of the GED program. Judith also loves spending time with her two granddaughters, ages 6 and 3.

'68

Dick Barton was elected president of Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce. He also serves as park commissioner while sharing a public relations and marketing business with his son, Alex.

'69

Peggy Deichstetter Mott was recently named a state finalist for the 2005 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST), the nation's highest honor for K-12 teaching in these fields. Peggy teaches at St. Edward High School in Elgin, Illinois.

Edward W. Glab, M.A., Ph.D. '75, is currently a professor of business and a director of Knight Ridder for excellence in management. He retired two years ago from Exxon Mobil after a 25-year career.

Michael J. King, M.A., Ph.D. '77, retired from Moraine Valley Community College in the summer of 2005 after teaching history for 34 years. His daughter Julie is currently a NIU history major.

'70

Larry Boress is the president and CEO of Midwest Business Group on Health, a Chicago-based coalition of 73 employers with self-funded health insurance policies. His plan is to continue operating a buying group that negotiates health benefits on members' behalf.

William Schlacks, M.M. '73, was named the Ruth Dorsey Neptune Distinguished Professor in Fine Arts at Muskingum College in April 2005. This outside juried honor was awarded in recognition of his 35 years of excellence in teaching, conducting,

composition, and service to the community. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Miami in 1982 and has been chair of the department of music at Muskingum for the past 20 years.

'71

Karl Elder, M.S. '74, is the 2005 winner of the *Beloit Poetry Journal's* 13th annual \$3,000 Chad Walsh Poetry prize. Karl Elder is the Jacob and Lucile Fessler Professor of Creative Writing and Poet in Residence at Lakeland College. He has authored seven published collections of poetry, the most recent being *The Minimalist's How-to Handbook* from Parallel Press (2005) and *Mead: Twenty-six Abecedariums* from Marsh River Editions (2005).

Michele Fricke, M.A. '76, M.F.A. '84, has been teaching art history (particularly of fiber and ceramics) at the Kansas City Art Institute for 18 years. She is now a full professor and writes for *Fiberarts Magazine* and *Surface Design Journal*.

Krystyna Richter Sullivan is working as a librarian at the Kennesaw, Georgia, campus of ITT Technical Institute. Her son Robert, a coast guard helicopter rescue swimmer, was involved in rescuing survivors in the Hurricane Katrina disaster. Her daughter Katie is getting married, and Krystyna and her husband, Tim, have lived in Marietta, Georgia, for 15 years.

John Yakel, M.S.Ed. '75, retired in 2004 from 33 years of teaching art, coaching tennis, and technical directing at Addison Trail High School. He moved to Cave City, Kentucky, and is currently working at Mammoth Cave National Park as a guide and also is supervising student teachers for Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

'72

Amy Bacon Volpe is a director of client services at Stewart Communications,

a boutique public relations firm that promotes "issues that matter" for health care, not-for-profit associations, banking, and community development clients. Amy is married to Tony Volpe, and has four stepdaughters and five grandchildren. She would like to hear from fellow classmates: at ajvolpe@aol.com.

George Eck graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1977 after serving in the United States Army for two years. He is a senior partner in the law firm of Dorsey & Whitney LLP, a 600-lawyer firm with its headquarters located in Minneapolis. He practices in the area of civil litigation. George was recently honored by being selected as one of the top 40 business litigation "Super Lawyers" by the *Minnesota Journal of Law & Politics*.

Stephen J. Goehl earned membership in MDRT's Court of the Table, which is a distinguishing career milestone, attained only by those who have demonstrated exceptional professional knowledge, client service, and ethical conduct.

John Manderino has published three novels by the Academy Chicago Publishers: *Sam and his brother Len* ('94), *The Man Who Once Played Catch with Nellie Fox* ('98), *Reason for Leaving* ('00), and a play that will be produced this coming spring.

Denise L. Rode, M.S. '76, Ed.D. '90, was named editor of the *Journal of College Orientation and Transition*, scholarly journal of the National Orientation Directors Association. The term extends to 2008.

'73

Lois Cregier Hobart has recently had playwriting works staged at Chicago's American Theater Company as part of their "Relatives" series and also in WRLS III at Chicago's Strawdog Theatre. Lois performed in an ATC cabaret and is thrilled to be supporting classmate to Richard Engling and his endeavors as he creates the new



Have you had your Flutie Flakes?

Better known as "Ty," **Ralph Taylor Ballou, '78**, is the creator and CEO of the Pittsburgh-based company PLB Sports, which specializes in creating unique private label food products that are officially endorsed by a wide variety of today's most popular athletes.

PLB Sports is best known for its launch of Flutie Flakes breakfast cereal for Doug Flutie, but the company has also worked locally with Ben Roethlisberger (beef jerky), Hines Ward (steak sauce), Tommy Maddox (cereal), Jaromir Jagr (peanut butter), Lynn Swann (cereal) and Jerome Bettis's highly successful line of food products. Nationally, PLB is also known for its Pedro Martinez salsa, the Ed McCaffrey line of products in Denver, and Kurt Warner cereal.

When it comes to being successful in an industry where cereal boxes are traded as easily as baseball cards, it is just as vital to select the right athlete as it is to select the right product. Ballou, a communication studies major, takes the time to find athletes who have taken difficult paths; athletes who people can identify with and respond to.

"We try to look for someone unique, someone with a story," Ballou says. "Omar Vizquel's painting, for example; Doug Flutie's interest in raising money for autism as he has an autistic son; Tom Galvin's support of child abuse shelters in Atlanta."

Not only are Ballou's athlete-sponsors sharing stories of inspiration, they are also donating an average of 25 percent of the proceeds from their products to a charity or foundation. For instance Flutie, who played with the San Diego Chargers, donated half of all profits to the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism, and Kurt Warner, who played for the St. Louis Rams, donated 100 percent of the proceeds of his Krunch Time Cereal to Camp Barnabas, a Christian summer camp for children with disabilities.

"The programs that last the longest are the ones where people really like the person," noted Ballou in a 1997 interview. "They have to want to buy the product, even if the team is losing, which is hard to do."



King Tut!



The Northern Illinois University Alumni Association and the Office of Alumni Relations are pleased to invite you and your guests to attend a private viewing of *Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs* at The Field Museum in Chicago on Friday, August 11, 2006, at 6:30 p.m.

“Tutmania” is returning to The Field Museum for the first time in almost three

decades and the exhibition is already the hottest ticket in town. The 1977 Tutankhamun exhibition attracted crowds of 10,000 to 12,000 a day, with more than 1.35 million visitors overall.

According to the *Chicago Tribune*, “Though the new Tut show will run two months longer here than the first one, the museum said far fewer people will get to see the new one because of more rigorous security and conservation measures taken to protect the artifacts. Those measures mean the exhibit will be shown in a space just one-fifth the size the 1977 show was presented in, limiting the number of people who can move through it.”

The Alumni Association has secured a limited number of tickets for this private viewing. The ticket price of \$150 includes a reception and dinner, an exclusive viewing for NIU guests, and complimentary valet parking.

Register online at www.myniu.com or call (815) 753-1452. We hope you will be able to join us for this truly memorable event!

Above: Canopic Coffinette of Tutankhamun gold, carnelian, obsidian, rock crystal, glass length 15 in., width 4 in., depth 4 in. approximately reign of Tutankhamun (c. 1136-1327 B.C.) © Andreas F. Voegelin

Polarity Ensemble Theatre in Chicago. **Steve Dudek, M.A. '75, M.F.A. '77**, was awarded a purchase award and a cash award at the San Diego Watercolor Society's 25th International Exhibition in October 2005.

Linda M. Noreng Shearer became chair of the board of directors of New Kingdom Trailriders, the only therapeutic horseback riding for the handicap program within 60 miles of the Quad Cities. In 1973, Linda was the first female degreed professional in Commonwealth Edison's Nuclear Power Plants, and in 1986, she was also the first female to earn the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Senior Reactor Operator License for a BWR in the company.

Harold Vickery was voted president-elect at the annual meeting of the Illinois Association of Chemistry Teachers in October. He will serve as president in 2006-2007.

'74

Donald Lewis is the director of the award-winning play for young audiences, *Melissa Tunes In*, published by Brooklyn Publishers in fall 2005.

'75

Glenn Galen owns Integrity Software Corporation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His company is currently creating state-of-the-art online software for training cardiologists in advanced medical technologies. Glenn is also a professional songwriter and performer.

Rod Ossowski was selected as director of development for Community Action, Inc. of Janesville, Wisconsin, in November 2005.

'76

Michael S. Kennedy has joined the Wealth Management Advisors group of Fifth Third Bank in Chicago as vice president. He was previously with LaSalle Bank's Wealth Management group for 18 years.

Rosalyn B. Berick Rosenfeld had

a great reunion at Flatlanders in fall 2005 with friends Arlene, Audee, and Linda. They are still looking for Marilyn. Rosalyn is married with two teenage daughters, Laura and Stacey. She is a personal shopper at Marshall Field's (soon to be Macy's), at the Old Orchard Mall.

'77

Steve Burgeman received an associate degree in accounting from Oakton Community College in 1981, a C.P.A. degree from Illinois in 1982, an M.B.A. from Keller Graduate School of Management in 1985, a J.D. degree from the John Marshall Law School in Chicago in 1990, a Master of Accounting degree from Keller Graduate School in 2003, and in 2005 an LL.M. (Master of Laws) from St. Thomas University School of Law. Besides being self-employed and working at a local CPA firm, he teaches financial accounting as an instructor (online) for Devry University.

'78

Robert J. Britz, J.D., is a shareholder with the firm of Ottosen Britz Kelly Cooper & Gilbert, Ltd. which has offices in Elburn, Wheaton, and Joliet engaged in the general practice of law in addition to representing over 200 units of local government in the state of Illinois. He is currently the first vice president of the 850-member Kane County Bar Association and will assume the position of president in June 2006. Robert has also recently been notified by LexisNexis Martindale Hubbell of having been awarded an AV Peer Review Rating. **Jim Carper, M.A.**, has been selected for delegation to China to participate in bilateral exchanges with professional counterparts in China, under the auspices of the People to People Ambassadors program. He is a past president of the Simi Valley Education Foundation and past director of Good Works for the Los Angeles Chapter

of Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriters.

Paul Finnicum received the 2005 Higher Educator of the Year Award from the Arkansas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (AAHPERD), a professional organization that promotes quality health and physical education programs in public schools.

'81

Karen Smith Green is the new director of marketing and public relations at the Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Karen has been with the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign since 1997.

Linda Walker Kersten, M.S.Ed. '86, Ed.D. '92, retired on disability in April 2005 from serving as associate pastor of the First Lutheran Church in Janesville, Wisconsin, for three years. Previously, Linda served parishes in Freeport and Sterling, Illinois, and Estherville, Iowa. Linda and her

husband, Orv (a retired associate professor of physical education at NIU), have 11 grandchildren, two cats, and two dogs.

Steve Tesdahl, B.S. '82, was recently promoted to senior vice president and CIO of AmerUs Annuity Group in Topeka, Kansas.

'82

Bryan Redington, M.S. '83, has returned to his alma mater to teach in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology. He teaches in the same classroom he sat in 23 years ago.

'83

Dave Dycus has recently accepted the position of development communications designer in the advancement division of Carnegie Mellon University.

Nancy Klein Maguire, Ph.D., has been a scholar-in-residence at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., and has published extensively on the relationship of theatre and politics in the 17th century. Her latest book was released in March:

An Infinity of Little Hours: Five Young Men and Their Crisis of Faith in the Western World's Most Austere Monastic Order.

'86

Todd K. Olson, M.B.A. '02: Shortly after finishing his executive M.B.A. program, his company acquired a firm in Vieux-Charmont, France. His NIU foreign language education was the primary reason behind his opportunity to live and work in Europe for two and a half years.

'87

Susan Branson, M.A. '87, Ph.D. '92, has joined the faculty of Syracuse University's College of Arts and Sciences as an associate professor of American studies. She is the author of *These Fiery Frenchified Dames: Women and Political Culture in Early National Philadelphia* and is currently on a yearlong National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship.

Robert Coats, M.M. '87, is the associate director of bands for Calhoun High School in Port Lavaca, Texas, a position he has held since 1994. He

teaches sixth through 12th graders in various band instruments and ensembles. He is the staff composer, theorist, arranger, and finalemeister. Robert plays the piano with a Dixieland jazz band and has two children: Caleb, 15, and Katie, 12.

'88

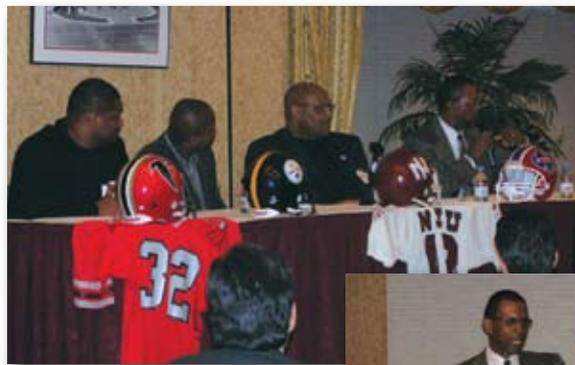
Jennifer Boltz Cummins was recently inducted into Rich Central High School's 2005 Hall of Fame. She has published an article on the extraordinary impact that sensory integration can have on development and intelligence potential which was featured in the magazine *SI Focus*. She has also had articles published by the Texas Department of Health.

JoEllen M. Simpson, M.A. '90, is the general director of the Bi-national Center in Cali, Colombia. Bi-national centers are independent, non-profit foundations that work in coordination with the U.S. Embassy to promote understanding between the host country and the United States. Language teaching/learning plays an important role in the activities of BNC. The center in Cali is one of

Former Chicago Bears lead panel on career transitions

Former Chicago Bears Mark Green, Bob Pickens, Mickey Pruitt, and Gale Sayers were the featured speakers at the NIU Executive Club's March 14 event at the Lisle/Naperville Hilton. Tim Tyrrell, former Huskie quarterback and NFL player with the Atlanta Falcons, Los Angeles Rams and Pittsburgh Steelers, served as moderator for a panel discussion on "Successful Transition into the Business World after an NFL Career."

Each player spoke of his personal experience in making the career move from football to business, citing the importance of an education in making that transition. An NIU football signed by Sayers at the event will be auctioned at the Endowed Scholarship Gala, an annual fundraiser for the College of Business, to be held November 4 at the Woodfield Hyatt Regency.



Panelists included former Chicago Bears (left to right): Mickey Pruitt, Mark Green, Bob Pickens, and Gale Sayers (inset: Gale Sayers).



NorthernNotes

nine BNC's in Colombia and one of approximately 150 around the world.

'89

Joseph Pasteris recently joined a local blues group called the Uptown Cats. They performed at the Waterfront in Rockford this past Labor Day. This band's website is www.uptowncats.homestead.com.

'90

Stephanie De Lair received her M.B.A. from DePaul University in 1997 and is a senior vice president with First Citizen's Bank in Greensboro, North Carolina.

'91

Dorceen Augustynowicz is a stay-at-home mom to William, 8, and Lauren, 4, a PTA board member, block captain for BEST, and helped to get a highly contested school district referendum passed.

William J. Black has started a new position managing the Department of Homeland Security and the Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OMEC) for Northrop Grumman Corporation.

Aaron A. Broholm recently established a new law office based in Mountain View, California.

Cindi Carr-Williams graduated in December 2005 with a Master of Arts degree in gerontology from Northeastern Illinois University.

Kelli El Christiansen is executive editor of the section of Business Law at ABA Publishing.

Garth Siekerman is currently in his 13th year of teaching social studies at Rancho High School in Las Vegas where both of his daughters attended.

Matthew L. Willens has been promoted to partner at Clifford Law Offices, a nationally recognized personal injury and wrongful death law firm. He is a member of the Million Dollar Advocated Forum in which membership is limited to trial attorneys who have obtained million and multi-million dollar verdicts and settlements. In 2004, he was named one of the "40 attorneys under 40 in Illinois to Watch" by the Law Bulletin Publishing Company.

'92

Antwon Harmon Johnson was named ITT's head women's basketball coach in August 2005. Following his retirement from professional basketball in 2001, Johnson spent three years working as a counselor and caseworker aiding and assisting disabled adults and at-risk young men. In addition, Johnson has

served as the dean of students at Rosa Parks School in Harvey, as a counselor clinician for the Chicago Bulls summer basketball camps in each of the last five years, and also has been working as the basketball director for the Hi-Five Academy.

Alan Hood, M.M., is the assistant professor of trumpet at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music where he also teaches jazz studies. He plays and records regularly with the Aries Brass Quintet, Denver Brass, Ken Walker Sextet, Hot Tomatoes Swing Orchestra, and Climb Jazz Group, among others.

Laura Miracle has been selected to teach through UNITE, Urban Impact Through Education, a program of the Inner City Teaching Corps in Chicago. UNITE is an alternative teaching certification program dedicated to serving children in under-resourced schools and communities. Laura is pursuing an Illinois teaching certificate and a Master of Science in Education degree from Northwestern University's School of Education and Social Policy. She currently teaches seventh grade math at Fairfield Academy.

'93

Maritia Griffith, J.D., was elected president of the board of directors of Christian Family Care Center, which operates the Domestic Violence Shelter and Men's Rescue Mission in Rock Island. She is an assistant state's attorney in Rock Island County and is in her 12th year in juvenile court.

'94

Gregory Dudzienski is teaching jazz harmony and arranging at the U.S. Navy School of Music in Norfolk, Virginia.

Carol Luc, M.F.A., is the recipient of the Helene Wurlitzer Foundation Award of New Mexico Artist's residency for May and June 2006.

'95

Karlene Olesuk just moved

from Chicago to St. Charles for a better commute while working as development assistant for Elgin Symphony Orchestra and administrative manager for her parents' financial services business in McHenry, Illinois.

Jaime Quezada married Abigail in December 2003. In 2004 he graduated from his residency in July, started his first practice in August and had his first son, Toby, in September. He was board certified in family medicine in February 2005, and his second son, Jake, was born in March 2006.

Zach Smith moved in October from FOX television in Dallas to WGN television in Chicago, where he is national sales manager.

William Kenneth Stein, M.S. '98, completed an M.B.A. at the University of Phoenix and has completed 10 years with Lucent Technologies.

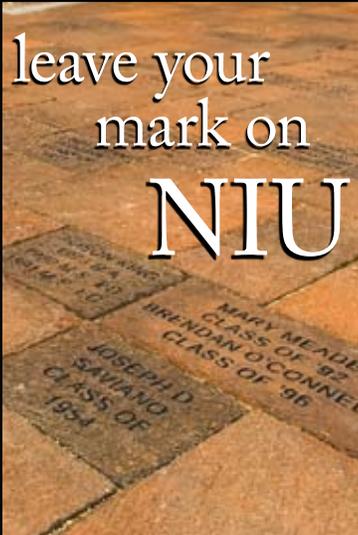
'96

Keri L. Demlow Duenkel has worked out of her home in Kenosha, Wisconsin, as a high exposure claim consultant for the Hartford for the past five years.

Deborah Haight Hackbarth, M.S.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction, M.S.Ed. in Educational Psychology and Counseling, has accepted the elementary principalship at Summit Christian Academy in Cedar Park, Texas. The school is one of two in the system which plans to grow to six schools in the near future. **Marcie Hill**, president of MLH & Associates, partners with organizations to write and design employee communications documents and manuals. She is currently starting a non-profit organization offering activities that will allow young adults to express their creative energies in a positive manner.

'98

Beth Achtenberg Fournier is working at Hope Children's Hospital in Oak Lawn, Illinois, in the pediatric surgical



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or call 1-877-GIV2NIU.

Your purchase of a brick is recognized by the IRS as a charitable donation.

Take me out to the ball game

Looking to meet and network with NIU graduates in your area? Or just simply want to get away and enjoy a day at the ballpark? If you're feeling a little homesick, an NIU Alumni Association pregame reception and Chicago baseball game are the perfect cure! Score some new connections and have a ball at one of our upcoming regional alumni receptions, where you can enjoy great food and drinks, reminisce about your college days, and catch up on the latest NIU news before heading to the stands to root for your favorite team.

All costs are per person and include a game ticket as well as the pregame reception featuring a ballpark buffet and beverages. The receptions are held 1½ hours before game time.

Tuesday, May 23

Miami Alumni Reception

Cubs vs. Marlins, Dolphin Stadium

Game: 7:05 p.m. (ET)

Reception package: \$100 per person

Friday, July 14

New York Alumni Reception

White Sox vs. Yankees, Yankee Stadium

Game: 7:05 p.m. (ET)

Reception package: \$100 per person

Friday, July 21

Washington D.C. Alumni Reception

Cubs vs. Nationals, RFK Stadium

Game: 7:05 p.m. (ET)

Reception package: \$100 per person

Home field advantage

In Chicago it does not matter whether you are a lifelong Cubbie fan or a follower of the World Champion White Sox, one thing is certain: summer is never complete without a day at the ballpark!

Make a day of it in Wrigleyville with your NIU friends. The event includes a pregame reception at Goose Island on Clark St. just a block from Wrigley Field (food and beverages served two hours before game time).

The following week NIU alumni will gather at U.S. Cellular Field for a "Suite" NIU experience. Enjoy the game from our own private Terrace Suite, featuring indoor and outdoor open seating. The Terrace Suite will be open 1½ hours before the game with continuous food and beverage service through the 7th inning.



Friday, June 16

Cubs vs. Tigers, Wrigley Field

Reception: 2½ hours prior to first pitch

Reception Location: Goose Island, Wrigleyville

Game: 1:20 p.m. (CT) Subject to change

Game Ticket and Reception package: \$100 per person

Friday, August 18

Cardinals vs. Cubs, Wrigley Field

Reception: 2½ hours prior to first pitch

Reception Location: Goose Island, Wrigleyville

Game: 1:20 p.m. (CT) Subject to change

Game Ticket and Reception package: \$100 per person

Friday, June 23

White Sox vs. Astros, U.S. Cellular Field

Reception Location: Terrace Suite

Game: 7:30 p.m. (CT) Subject to change

 **Please register for games online at**
www.myniu.com
(click on "Alumni Events & Registration").

We accept Visa, MasterCard, or Discover.

*Please note that ALL SALES ARE FINAL.
Game times are subject to change.*

Countdown to Huskie Football

Join Huskie Nation for all the pre-game festivities and another exciting season!

NIU vs. Ohio State

SEPTEMBER 2

NIU Alumni Association pregame reception in Columbus

NIU Homecoming

OCTOBER 21

A pregame reception will be held at the Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center, 3½ hours prior to kick-off.

NIU vs. University of Iowa

OCTOBER 28

NIU Alumni Association pregame reception in Iowa City

Go online at www.myniu.com (click on “Events”) or call the Alumni Association at (815) 753-1452. We accept Visa, MasterCard, or Discover.



heart unit as the clinical operation's assistant.

Megan Besley is currently a young artist with the Florida Grand Opera where she makes her debut as the Page Rigoletto and Frasquita Carmen this spring. This summer she returns to Glimmerglass Opera where she will sing Edith in *The Pirates of Penzance*. Megan completed her doctorate in voice performance in January 2005 at the University of Michigan.

Kevin R. Novak has started his own home inspection business, Huskee Home Inspection.

Jeffrey Palermo is president-elect of news directors and affiliate managers of the National Association of Radio Networks. Established in 1974, Louisiana Network delivers statewide news coverage to 82 affiliate radio stations through its Louisiana News Network and Louisiana Agri-News Network.

Jennifer Pascua Wooten has recently been hired by WZZM-13, the Grand Rapids ABC affiliate owned by Gannett. Jennifer most recently worked as a noon anchor/reporter at KWQC-TV6 news in Davenport, Iowa. She also has held reporting positions at KLJB-Fox 18 in Davenport; WQAD-TV in Moline, Illinois; and WREX-TV in Rockford, Illinois.

'99

Preeti Chaudhari, J.D., works on Capitol Hill as legislative counsel to Congressman Kendrick Meek in Washington, D.C. She serves as his chief advisor on foreign policy, homeland security, terrorism, international trade, and judiciary issues.

Dee Dee Hamilton is making the leap from corporate America to arts ministry. She gives thanks to her friends for their encouragement.

'00

Leah Cohen Gordon has left Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw to accept a

legislative policy analyst position with Abbott Laboratories. She will be working for the State Government Affairs division and will serve as the liaison for Abbott's state lobbyists across the country.

Dennis O. Earls, M.A. '02, recently published *Church Belles*, a history of the use of religious tracts during the Civil War. He also currently teaches at Wilmington College.

'01

Eric Bernholz, M.P.A., was promoted to commander of the United States Coast Guard and is now stationed as the chief of Inspections Division at Coast Guard Sector New York, located at Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, New York. He is responsible for the management and oversight of U.S. and foreign-flag vessel, cargo container, and regulated facility safety and security inspections within the Port of New York.

'02

Meghan Beran-Delarmonte moved to Colorado in 2003 after marrying Reggie Delarmonte. She has been teaching general music at an inner city elementary school for four years, and loves it. Meghan started her master's degree in research assessment and curriculum development at the University of Colorado in January.

Jody Jungerberg-Lundstrom has joined the firm of Savant Capital Management, a fee-only financial planning and wealth management firm in Rockford, Illinois, as senior advisor.

'03

Jason W. Proehl, J.D., is a partner in the Pekin, Illinois, firm of Kuhfuss & Proehl, P.C. He is also active in the family's grain farm in the Manito area and coaches junior high boys' basketball at Midwest Central. He married Amanda Galvin on June 26, 2004, and is the Tazewell County Bar Association treasurer for 2006.

'04

Dave Stamps, M.M., is currently the managing assistant director of the Center for Jazz Composition.

'05

Jan Pastores, M.S., and **Jennifer Pastores**, '03, relocated from Rockford, Illinois, to Dallas, Texas, after Jan was hired by L-3 Communications Integrated Systems Test Department in July 2005. They have three children: Mara Elsee 6; Jaxen Severeiano 4; and Kai Evan 2. They reside in Rockwall, Texas.

Marriages and Births

'92

Thomas Losiniecki was married to **Dawn Stephan**, '95, on June 4, 2005.

'94

Janie Yanca Bonasera and **Joe Bonasera**, '95, welcomed their second child, Joseph Edward, on June 2, 2005. **Mary Emrich-Muise** and Michael Muise announce the birth of their second son, Zachary Sawyer, on June 10, 2004. He joins big brother, Jacob Michael, born in 2000.

Regina Whitmore Shaefer, M.A. '02, and husband, David Shaefer, welcomed their first child, Matthew Robert Whitmore Shaefer, on January 21, 2006.

Kari Vos married Matt Smith on June 15, 2002, and had daughter Cassandra on September 6, 2005.

'95

Nikki Maske Leonard and her husband, Todd, announce the birth of their first daughter, Taylor Nicole, on April 30, 2005.

'96

Keri L. Demlow Duenkel and her husband, Michael, welcomed a beautiful baby girl named Lauren on August 8, 2005. She joins brother, Bret, 5.

Robert Maramba and his wife, Stacey,

welcomed their first child, William Tate, on October 10, 2004. *A listing in the 2005 Winter issue of Northern Now incorrectly listed the wedding date for Robert Maramba and Stacey Luebbering as May 3, 2004. They were married on May 3, 2003.*

Michelle Lahey Reed, M.A. '98, and husband Shane M. Reed joyfully announce the arrival of their daughter, Reagyn Michelle Reed, born on October 7, 2005. She joins brother, Jaxson, 2.

'00

Angie Casiano-Crowson and Dave Crowson became the proud parents of triplets Cameran Shea, Morgan Marie, and Brenden David born on March 3, 2005.

Leah Cohen married Daniel Gordon on October 29, 2005.

Karissa Lindberg Swanson and her husband, Ryan, announce the birth of their daughter, Annika Cecilia, on August 16, 2005.

Mark Reilly (communication studies major) and **Jodie Mirous Reilly**, '01, M.A. '03, (communicative disorders-rehabilitation counseling major) had a baby girl, Ella Josephine, November 23, 2005.

'01

Katie French Brenner and husband **Mike Brenner**, B.S. '00, welcomed their first child, Emily, in August 2005.

Jennifer D'Souza married Oscar Pinto on April 16, 2005.

Ryan Gaines and wife **Aimee Lefever** announce the birth of their daughter, Noelani Mae Gaines, on February 15, 2006. She joins brother Jackson, 2.

Rebecca Shaffer Sprindis and **Neil Sprindis**, '03, announce the birth of Riley Laurence Sprindis, on August 15, 2005.

Lori Wilk married Joe Prendergast on October 15, 2005.

'02

Jennifer M. Jones married **Chad M.**

Alumni perform on Tonight Show

In November two alumni from the NIU School of Music performed on NBC's *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*. Baritone saxophonist Tony Kidonakis, '01, and alto saxophonist Rich Moore, '02, helped to flesh out the live sound of the Redwalls, an up-and-coming rock and roll band from Chicago.

"It was just one of those special things that not everybody gets to do, to be on that set and see the inner-workings of that show," Kidonakis said. "I really enjoyed being able to hear the Tonight Show Band play, and not just in and out of the commercials. They have some amazing players in that band, and they really entertain the crowd during commercials."

Kidonakis, who is an elementary school band director in Downers Grove, Illinois, and a member of the four-piece cover band, the Federales, organized the trio at the request of Scott Ligon, who's been adding keyboards to the live sound of the Redwalls.

The NIU-dominated sax trio joined the Redwalls on stage for the first time in June 2005, for a sold-out CD release party at the Cabaret Metro in Chicago and again at the New Years Eve Rock 'n' Roll Ball at Navy Pier. The expanded band played "Build a Bridge," a song Kidonakis says "almost gives a nod to an old soul tune, like Otis Redding. Most of their music is guitar-driven, but this particular song has a really strong sax texture."

Moore, who plays professionally with jazz and salsa groups around Chicago and teaches private lessons, says that words cannot describe his *Tonight Show* experience. "To be able to perform in a situation like that is huge."

For Kidonakis and Moore, their musical journey together began at NIU in 1997. Later, as juniors, they were accepted into the legendary and internationally renowned NIU Jazz Ensemble, where the two were able to tour Europe with incredibly talented jazz legends.

The two NIU alumni have established a great relationship with the Redwalls and are keeping their fingers crossed for the opportunity to work with them again.



NIU alumni Tony Kidonakis (left) and Rich Moore (second from right) meet Jay Leno backstage at NBC's *Tonight Show*.

Alumni Association Travel Programs

All prices are per person based on double occupancy; single supplements are available, cost includes roundtrip airfare from Chicago, accommodations, and some meals. Touring itineraries are subject to change.



The Wonders of China

September 8-19, 2006

Cost: \$3,599

See the wonders of China on this unforgettable land and river tour that takes you to one of the most beautiful and mysterious countries in the world. Visit the cities of Beijing, Xian, and Shanghai, where you will see Tiananmen Square, the Imperial Palace in the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, the Ming Tombs, and the Tomb of Emperor Qun Shi Huangdi. This touring itinerary includes three nights in Beijing, two nights in Xian, a three-night Yangtze River cruise, and two nights in Shanghai. The three-night Yangtze River cruise includes visits to Shibaozhai, Wushan, and the Three Gorges Dam site. **Limited space available.**

Sun-kissed Sicily and Romantic Rome

December 27, 2006 – January 5, 2007

Cost: \$2,599

Celebrate the New Year in the “Eternal City” of the West and capital of Italy - Rome. With its mighty ruins, superb art, and amazing Italian cuisine, Rome has attracted the world’s people for centuries. Visit the Vatican Museums, the Basilica of San Pietro, the Pantheon, Trevi Fountain, the Coliseum, the Roman Forum, or just relax at one of the many luxurious cafes.

Whether you are more attracted by Greek temples, Roman villas and aqueducts, Norman cathedrals or Baroque churches, Sicily offers a range of historical sites that is not easily matched. Palermo combines the mystery of ancient architecture and buzzing Mediterranean center to entice visitors. It’s hard to resist the sweet Marsala wines and delicious olives of this region.



Historic Poland – Warsaw and Krakow

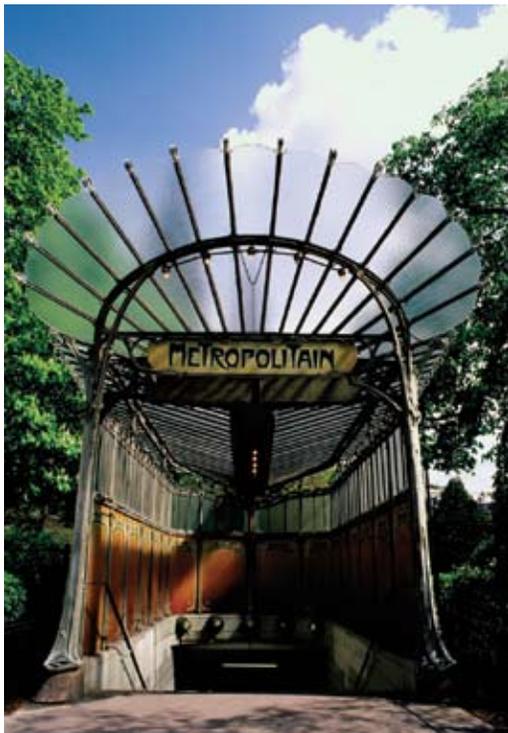
March 2007

Cost: \$2,049

Thanks to its rich history, Krakow represents a synthesis of all things Polish, connecting tradition with modernity. In the special atmosphere of the beautiful and mysterious streets of the Old Town and Kazimierz, you will find everything you need to allow you to escape from everyday life. Art galleries and museums, cafes, pubs and restaurants: all of these are an integral part of any visit to Krakow.

Warsaw, Poland's largest city and capital, has a rich history, interesting historical monuments and a fascinating cultural presence. Warsaw today is a busy metropolis that combines museums, art and music to provide a wealth of Polish culture and design.

This tour is still in the planning stages. Watch for details at myniu.com.



Paris in the Springtime

May 2007

Cost: To be determined

Paris is the city that includes all the famous sights you've dreamt and read about. You can choose which days you want to browse the fashion houses and shops, contemplate art in one of the 90 museums, be amazed at the architecture, relax and people watch in the sidewalk cafes, or venture outside of the city on the optional tours that we will plan for you. We invite you to come and experience the romance that is Paris. Whatever you choose to do, Paris has something for everyone.

This tour is still in the planning stages. Watch for details at myniu.com.

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9 A.M.

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NorthernNotes

Vincent, '03, on June 26, 2005, at the Wedding Chapels of Bellagio in Las Vegas, Nevada.
Teresa Perez married **Micah Zulas**, '03, on June 24, 2004.
Janet Smith Meegan and husband **Timothy Meegan**, '98, had a baby boy, Liam John, on July 21, 2005.

'03

Michael Carroll married **Elizabeth Feit**, '02, on October 2, 2004.
Carrie Loy Greinke and her husband, **Joseph Greinke**, '94, announce the birth of their second child, Elizabeth Grace, on September 29, 2005. She was welcomed home by big sister, Caitlyn.
Eric Loizeaux and **Sarah Hennessy Loizeaux**, '01, welcomed Mercy Rose on December 16, 2004.
Cherise Przyby married **Doug Kachelmuss**, '04, on October 15, 2005.

'04

Emily Carson married Bill Smith on August 5, 2005.
Kristin Lilly, Delta Zeta, married Paul J. Tortoriello on January 28, 2006, in Chicago.

'05

David E. Schultz II, (2nd Lt. U.S. Army) ROTC/TKE and **Sabrina Randecker** were married in Galena, Illinois, on September 17, 2005.

In Memoriam

Russell L. Stearns, '26, on January 31, 2006, in DeKalb, at 100 years of age.
Dorothy Johnston-Kelley, '28, on November 20, 2005.
Ethel Worsely Wallem, '38, on August 11, 2005, in DeKalb.
Everest Archie Green, '40, on December 18, 2005, in Chesterfield, Missouri.
Anita Nancy Heick Morris, '49, on December 8, 2005, in Northbrook, Illinois.

Lois M. Farr-Kann, '50, on October 6, 2005.
Donna Rae Haverstraw Clemens, '51, in October 2005, in Ottawa, Illinois.
Judith L. Baker, '62, on November 15, 2005.
Rob O'Connor, '65, in November 2005.
Roger Wolfe, '69, on January 21, 2006, in Mountlake Terrace, Washington.
Alan R. Tschudi, '71, on December 23, 2005, in Charlottesville, Virginia.
Phillip M. Jordon, '73, in 2004.
Margaret Ann "Peggy" Favor-Montgomery, '74, on October 20, 2005, in Alexandria, Virginia.
Dale G. Fraunberg, '77, on January 9, 2006, in Irving, Texas.
Eleonor Prueske, '78, in November 2005.
Jack C. Fields, '83, on October 21, 2004.
Gina A. Gilley-Danley, '92, on August 21, 2005, in Hillside, Illinois.
Ben Peters, '04, on January 10, 2005, in Morton, Illinois.

Faculty and Staff

Raymond B. Fox, retired professor and associate dean of the College of Education, on January 7, 2006, in Wabasha, Minnesota.
Earl "Ed" Harris, retired professor and chair of the Department of Business Education and Administrative Services, on October 25, 2005, in Prescott, Arizona.
James J. Martin, former staff member in the social sciences department, on April 4, 2004, in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
Francis M. Miller, professor emeritus of chemistry, on February 20, 2006, in Silver Spring, Maryland.
Michael Z. Salovesh, retired professor of anthropology, on December 7, 2005, in Baltimore, Maryland.
James N. Schubert, professor of political science, on September 5, 2005.
Robert L. Woggon, former director of the NIU Office of Public Information, on January 14, 2006, in DeKalb.

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Last **Look**

In October 1961, seven months after President John F. Kennedy signed an executive order establishing the U.S. Peace Corps, the first class of volunteers arrived at NIU to attend training programs. History professor J. Norman Parmer and political science professor Daniel Wit (founding director and former dean of the Division of International and Special Programs) were instrumental in bringing the Peace Corps training program to Northern. The photo above depicts one such group of trainees getting ready to depart campus for assignments overseas. Do you have a study abroad or Peace Corps experience to share? Let us know.

We want to hear from you!

Send comments and letters to the editor to NorthernNow@niu.edu or to Northern Now, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois 60115.

Letters to the editor may be edited for clarity and/or length. Please include your daytime phone number.



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