

# UConn

Summer  
2004

TRADITIONS



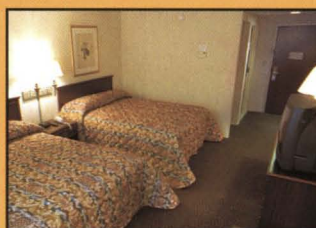
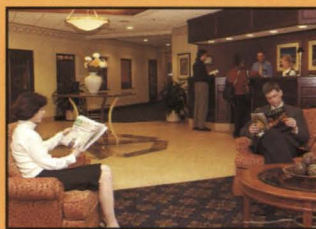
## Twin Titles

UConn's Historic Season





At the University of Connecticut



*The University's main campus is home to the Nathan Hale Inn & Conference Center, a full-service hotel featuring 100 guest rooms, a business center, conference and meeting rooms, a Jacuzzi, a swimming pool and a fitness center. The five-story hotel also includes the Blue Oak Café, offering fine dining and cocktails.*

*Alumni, parents and other guests are invited to visit the Nathan Hale Inn & Conference Center the next time travel plans bring you to UConn's main campus. Special discounted rates are available to members of the UConn Alumni Association.*







# Inside

UConn Traditions  
Volume 5, Number 2  
Summer 2004

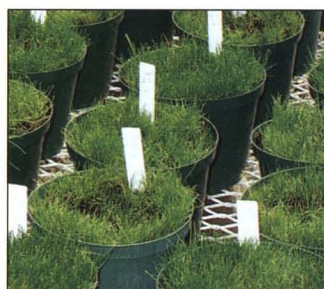
## FEATURES

22

### No. 1 from start to finish

In winning both the men's and women's 2004 NCAA basketball championships, UConn made history.

*By Kenneth Best*



26

### The art and science of growing grass

UConn's turfgrass science program trains students for the growing grass management industry.

*By Jim H. Smith*

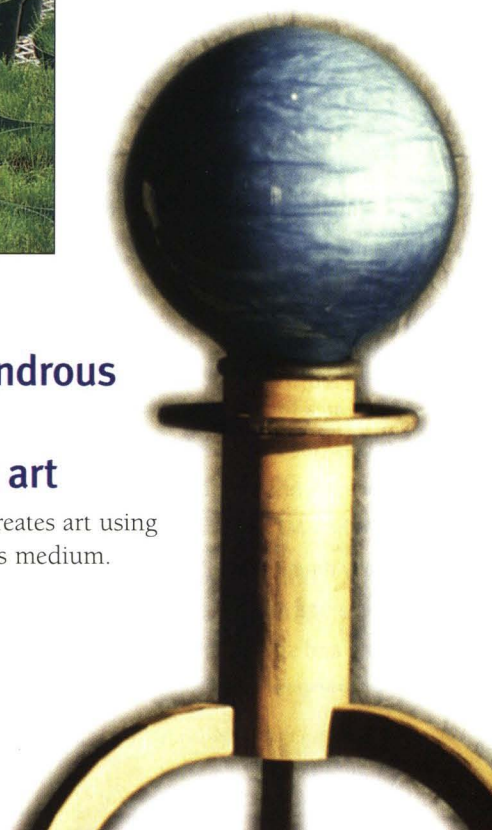


30

### Ned Kahn's wondrous exploration of nature through art

Ned Kahn '82 (CANR) creates art using the forces of nature as his medium.

*By Carl T. Hall*



34

### Tracking the red and blue states: Politics in the 21st Century

Stuart Rothenberg '78 Ph.D. is Washington's "must-read" political analyst.

*By Kenneth Best*

## DEPARTMENTS

- |                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 A Message from the Editor | 20 Spotlight on Students |
| 3 From the President        | 37 Focus on Faculty      |
| 4 Around UConn              | 39 Creative Currents     |
| 7 Investing in the Future   | 40 Alumni News & Notes   |
| 9 A Page from the Past      | 51 The Alumni Traveler   |
| 10 Schools & Colleges News  | 52 The Last Word         |
| 18 Report on Research       |                          |





## A Message from the Editor

### LESSONS FROM POPULAR CULTURE

The profile on page 38 of history professor Jeffrey Ogbar and the story about the new film studies minor on page 15 demonstrate there are varied lessons to be learned from taking a critical look at popular culture.

UConn has always served as a forum for an array of contemporary figures to provide both formal and informal lessons for its students. In the 1960s, outspoken folk musicians such as The Weavers and Peter, Paul & Mary performed on campus and political activists such as Jerry Rubin and the cartoonist Al Capp (of *Li'l Abner* fame) delivered their points of view. More recently, author and historian David McCullough and forensics expert Henry Lee have visited UConn to discuss topical issues of the day, while blues musician Susan Tedeschi, and hip-hop artist 50 Cent provided entertainment on campus.

The short distance between the Homer Babbidge Library—with its 2.5 million volumes of books and 3 million units of microtext—to the Harry A. Gampel Pavilion, where the hip-hop artist Ludacris performed, the Huskies celebrated two national championships and graduates received their degrees during Commencement, is a reminder of how UConn provides a unique environment for simultaneously embracing the past, reflecting the present and looking toward the future.

Films and music are particularly helpful in presenting new ways to think about what is going on in society and the world. They can provide insight into national cultures as well as a look inside subcultures that ultimately may influence society as a whole. It was not coincidental that among the first reflections on the tragic events on Sept. 11, 2001, were songs by folk and pop musicians and visual documentaries.

When MTV first aired in 1980, film and music were joined in a way that reflected the early days of rock 'n' roll. Madonna became the new Elvis—influencing attitude and dress and spurring on the rebellious nature of youth. Both musicians were of their time and spoke to their generation. Today they and other pop culture icons can be

the subject of college classes, thesis papers and exhibitions in museums.

Whether it is a concert at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts, an exhibition at The William Benton Museum of Art, an address by a visiting dignitary at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, or a classroom lecture, UConn continues to reflect the words of the music writer David Fricke: "Respect The Elders. Embrace The New. Encourage The Impractical and Improbable, Without Bias."

*Ken Best*

#### Letters to the editor

must be signed and should be no more than 300 words. They will be printed as space allows and edited for style, grammar, typographical errors, content and length. Send letters to:

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## UConn TRADITIONS

Volume 5, Number 2 • Summer 2004

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Want to keep up with news and events at the University? News releases, upcoming events and activities are posted at [www.uconn.edu](http://www.uconn.edu).  
UConn Traditions online: [www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu](http://www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu)





# President

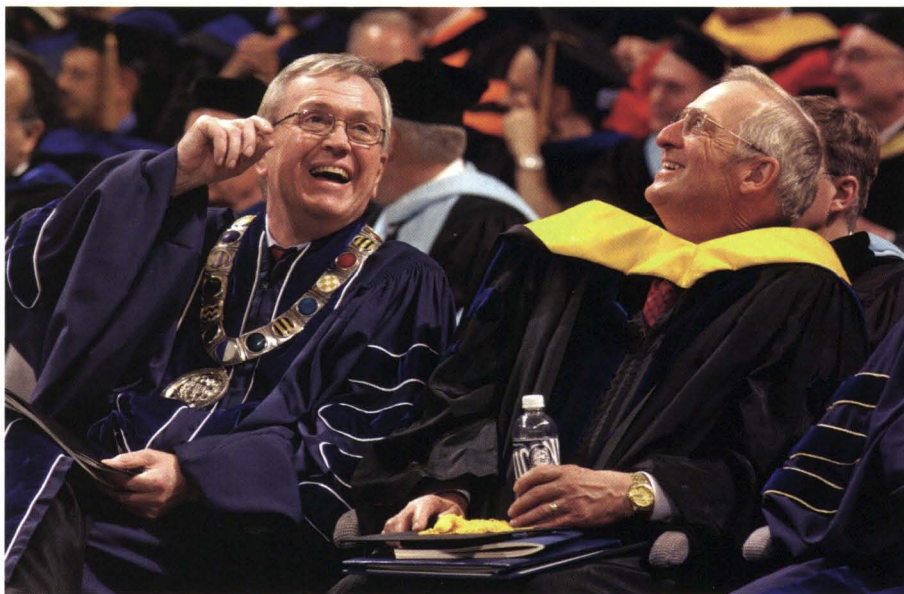
## On all-around excellence

Like all great colleges and universities, the University of Connecticut has its own special traditions and its own cycle of events, all important for their own sake and each significant because they help keep us anchored in a time of dramatic change.

As another academic year came to an end, as in years past we took time to honor outstanding faculty members who have been named Board of Trustees Distinguished Professors; welcomed thousands of bright, enthusiastic young people to our Spring open house for accepted students; held a convocation in recognition of students who marked significant academic achievements; and held five (yes, five) Commencement ceremonies.

This is not just a season of activity at UConn; it's also a time of tremendous excitement and for reasons that transcend the annual calendar. Magnificent new or newly renovated buildings continue to come online every semester: In the one just past, the new Center for Undergraduate Education and a wonderful new wing on the Benton Museum opened their doors. And though more than a month has passed as of this writing, the shouts of the 300,000 fans who lined the streets of Hartford for the parade in honor of our basketball teams still echo in our ears. Our men's and women's NCAA triumphs in San Antonio and New Orleans were wonderful in themselves and emblematic of the excellence the University is achieving in every field in which we are engaged.

I tried to convey that point at our ceremony in April for students who had attained great academic distinction. I said at that time that UConn maintains an absolute commitment to the



President Philip E. Austin enjoys a moment with Gene Likens, who delivered remarks during the Graduate Commencement ceremony.

attainment of quality, as do many other fine schools. But for us, when we talk in such terms, we refer to a special kind of excellence—one that befits our role

**“This is not just a season of activity at UConn; it’s also a time of tremendous excitement”**

as a public university committed to service for all the people of our state. At UConn, among other things, excellence translates into a commitment to exclude no qualified student because of inability to pay; a curriculum that requires students to get a good grounding in a wide range of general education courses; a high quality of student life; and a commitment to attract and retain some of the best faculty in the country, if not the world. Excellence at the University of Connecticut also means vigorously supporting a commitment to build a better society.

I have said many times that it is not the University's job to tell students what to think; our goal is to give them the research and analytical skills to think,

intelligently and perceptively, for themselves. I want all our students to make a commitment that when they leave UConn, or even while they are still here, they will devote at least part of their time and talents to creating a society that reflects the best, most fundamental and most widely shared American values.

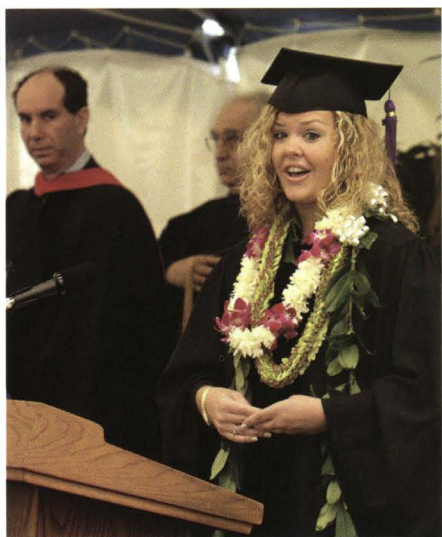
Perhaps that is the most fundamental of all our tenets of excellence.

As another successful year comes to an end, we can look with satisfaction on significant achievements. But we can, and should, also look ahead to an upcoming year of new challenges, new opportunities and a renewed commitment to the University's progress.

*Philip Austin*



Lanny Nagler



Peter Morenus



Dollie Harvey



Top: Dove A. E. Burns '04 J.D. sings the national anthem during the School of Law Commencement ceremony.

Center: Rebecca Maclure donned a personalized mortarboard to celebrate her degree in animal science during the morning Commencement ceremony at Gampel Pavilion.

Above: Daniel Bostic, Jonathan Bostic, Naresha Moore and Brandi Tape, smile during the afternoon undergraduate Commencement ceremony.

Right: John W. Rowe, M.D., chairman of UConn's Board of Trustees, delivers the morning Commencement address.

## 'Be open to change, be resilient, find some balance'

*2004 graduates celebrate Commencement*

The Class of 2004 was urged to "have the courage to stick with your instincts," by John W. Rowe, M.D., an expert on geriatric medicine and chair of the UConn Board of Trustees, during undergraduate Commencement ceremonies for more than 3,000 graduating seniors on May 9.

Rowe, chairman and chief executive officer of Aetna Inc., one of the nation's leading health care organizations, was a professor of medicine and founding director of the division on aging at Harvard Medical School.

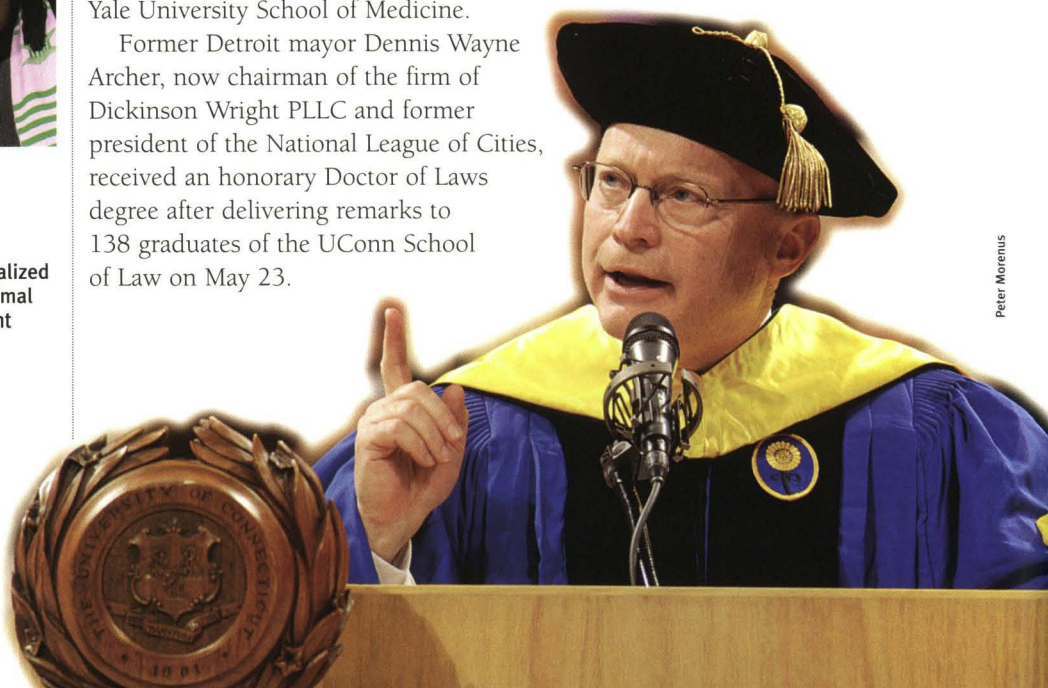
"Be open to change, be resilient, find some balance and be very open to opportunities as they come your way," Rowe told the graduates.

Two honorary degrees were also presented during the undergraduate ceremonies. David Macaulay, an artist and illustrator known worldwide, was presented with an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree, and Linda Darling-Hammond, a professor of education at Stanford University, received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Graduate School students who earned master's and doctoral degrees were addressed by Gene E. Likens, an expert in the study of forest, stream and lake ecosystems and winner of the 2002 National Medal of Science. Likens received an honorary Doctor of Science degree during the ceremony, along with Iogna'id G. O'Muircheartaigh, president of the National University of Ireland, where he was instrumental in establishing a prestigious center for human rights.

Author Francisco Jimenez, who has followed and written about the plight of migrant workers in the United States, delivered remarks to 104 new doctors and dentists at the UConn Health Center on May 16. Many of the graduates participated in a Health Center program helping migrant farm workers in Connecticut. An honorary Doctor of Science degree was presented to Gerhard H. Giebisch, the Sterling Professor of Cellular and Molecular Physiology at the Yale University School of Medicine.

Former Detroit mayor Dennis Wayne Archer, now chairman of the firm of Dickinson Wright PLLC and former president of the National League of Cities, received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree after delivering remarks to 138 graduates of the UConn School of Law on May 23.



Peter Morenus



## HELP WITH THE HUSKIES ROAD SHOW

**A**re you a Huskies football road warrior? If so, we'd like your help. If you plan to travel beyond the confines of Rentschler Field to see the Huskies compete on the gridiron or if you live outside of Connecticut and will be supporting the UConn football team at a game on the road this season, we'd like to see photos of you and other UConn alumni enjoying the game at the stadium or in gatherings on the road.

We'd prefer high resolution digital pictures that can be sent via e-mail, but high quality photo prints are also requested. Please be sure to identify all UConn alumni in the pictures with their year of graduation and their school or college and let us know who took the photo.

E-mail your digital photos to: [uconntraditions@uconn.edu](mailto:uconntraditions@uconn.edu). Please mark the SUBJECT line in the e-mail as FOOTBALL PHOTOS. Mail photo prints to UConn Traditions, 1266 Storrs Road, Unit 4144, Storrs, CT 06269-4144.



## Mansfield Downtown Partnership names planning group

**A** team of architects, investors and planners has been named by the Mansfield Downtown Partnership to develop a plan for transforming about 35 acres of land off Route 195 into a village of retail, cultural and residential activity that will enhance the campus experience for UConn students, faculty, alumni and staff and Mansfield residents.

The team is led by master developer LeylandAlliance, a development group based in Tuxedo, N.Y. Consulting partners include BL Companies, an engineering firm from Meriden, Conn.; Herbert Newman & Partners, architects from

New Haven, Conn.; and IntraWest—The Village People, retail consultants from Montreal, Canada.

"We have a talented group of skilled professionals. They are fully aware of the unique character of Mansfield and the

opportunities presented in developing the plan. They're excited to get started," says Thomas Q. Callahan, special assistant to University President Philip E. Austin and finance committee chair for the Downtown Partnership board of directors.

The downtown center will be located on land behind the two retail shopping strips near the School of Fine Arts. The LeylandAlliance plan is expected to include a mix of uses for the property, a list of potential tenants and a refinement of a physical plan for the area.

"We're making great progress on the village center," says Cynthia van Zelm, director of the partnership. "We're looking forward to continuing to work with the community, including UConn students, faculty and alumni, to review the latest concepts of the village plan."

LeylandAlliance is expected to prepare a business plan and a municipal development plan within the year. Development will begin once the University and the town of Mansfield approve final plans and permits are in place. Updated information is available at [www.mansfieldct.org](http://www.mansfieldct.org). Follow the Partnership link.



Mansfield Downtown Partnership

## Online calendar for UConn events debuts

**A** new comprehensive online calendar of events for the University will debut this fall.

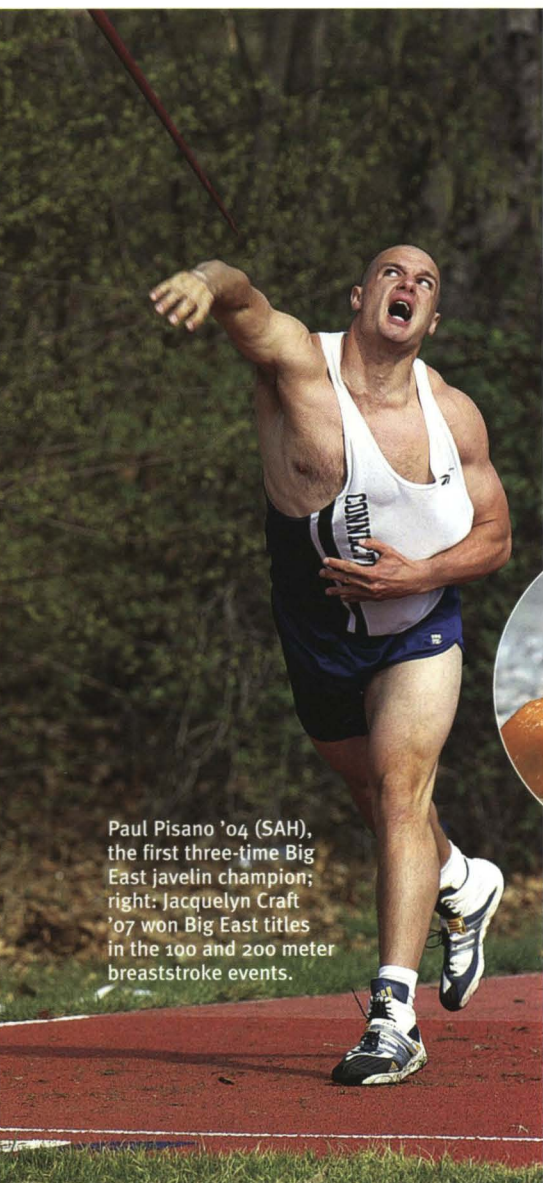
The calendar, which will be updated continuously, will include for the first time in one location information about events happening at all UConn locations including the main campus, the Health Center, the regional campuses, the schools of law and social work, and the agricultural extension centers.

The listing will include alumni activities, arts and entertainment, athletic events, meetings, lectures, and conferences, among other events. The calendar will allow alumni, students, faculty, staff, parents, and interested members of the public to search a database by type of event, date or location.

"A comprehensive up-to-date events calendar will be a more centralized and efficient way of communicating the many activities UConn sponsors and informing alumni and other members of the University community about where and when events are occurring," says Scott Brohinsky, director of university relations.

The Web site for the calendar will be [events.uconn.edu](http://events.uconn.edu). The calendar will also be accessible through the University's home page ([www.uconn.edu](http://www.uconn.edu)).





Paul Pisano '04 (SAH), the first three-time Big East javelin champion; right: Jacquelyn Craft '07 won Big East titles in the 100 and 200 meter breaststroke events.

Bob Stowell



Stephen Slade

## The home of champions in 2003-04

**T**he 2003-04 winter and spring sports seasons solidified UConn as the "Home of Champions." The most tangible evidence of this was when UConn became the first Division I university to win the NCAA championship in both men's and women's basketball in the same season. (See page 22.)

The men's indoor track and field team won the Big East Championship for the second time in the past three years. Will Thomas '04 (ED) won the heptathlon and was named the Most Outstanding Field Performer while Logan Jones '06 won the 800 meters and was named the Most Outstanding Track Performer. Head coach Greg Roy and his assistants were named the Big East Indoor Coaching Staff of the Year. The team went on to also win the New England Championship while Thomas earned All-America honors in the heptathlon. During the outdoor season, Paul Pisano '04 (SAH) became the first three-time Big East champion in the javelin and Joel Legare '05 (BUS) earned All-America status in the 800 meters at the NAAs.

In women's track and field, the indoor and outdoor seasons were highlighted by Deidre Mullen '04 (SFS) who earned All-America honors in the high jump for the third and fourth times in her career at the NCAA Championship.

The men's ice hockey team was led by forward Tim Olson '05 (CLAS), who was named the Atlantic Hockey Player of the Year after leading the Huskies with 41 points.

Freshman Jacquelyn Craft '07 became the first Husky to score points at the NCAA Championship for women's swimming and diving as she finished 12th in the 200 meter breaststroke. She also won the Big East titles in the 100 and 200 meter breaststroke events.

The women's lacrosse team had two players named first team All-Big East Conference in Melissa MacDougall '04 (CLAS) and Tracey Mullaney '05 (CLAS).

The Husky golf team finished second at the New England Championship while Jordan Burke '05 (BUS) finished in third place overall.

The UConn baseball team opened a new era as Jim Penders '94 (CLAS) '98 M.A. took over the head coaching reins, in a season highlighted by a nine-game winning streak.

## 4 HUSKIES FOOTBALL GAMES ON ESPN NETWORKS

UConn will be the only school in the Big East Conference to play seven home games during the 2004 football season and one of just 16 schools nationally to do so. It will also mark the first time in school history that UConn football will play on national television.

"There is tremendous excitement about UConn football with our entry into the Big East Football Conference and four national television appearances, the most of any team in the conference," says Jeffrey Hathaway, director of athletics. "We look forward to welcoming alumni to our home games at Rentschler Field and at games on the road."

The UConn Alumni Association will host Pre-Game Huddles for all Rentschler Field home games and is organizing alumni trips to all away games. For information, check [www.uconnalumni.com](http://www.uconnalumni.com) or call Deb Crary at (888) UC-ALUM-1.

## 2004 SCHEDULE

### SEPTEMBER

Sat. 4 MURRAY STATE  
Sat. 11 DUKE  
Fri. 17 at Boston College\* (ESPN2)  
Sat. 25 ARMY  
Thu. 30 PITTSBURGH\* (ESPN2)

### OCTOBER

Wed. 13 WEST VIRGINIA\* (ESPN)  
Sat. 23 TEMPLE\* (Homecoming)  
Sat. 30 at Syracuse\*

### NOVEMBER

Sat. 13 at Ga. Tech  
Sat. 20 BUFFALO  
Thu. 25 at Rutgers\* (ESPN2)

GAME TIMES AND LOCAL TV INFORMATION T.B.A.  
ALL HOME GAMES PLAYED AT RENTSCHLER FIELD IN EAST HARTFORD, CONN.

\* DENOTES BIG EAST CONFERENCE GAMES





## Pfizer donates \$2M to School of Pharmacy

*Distinguished Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology is company's first in the U.S.*

A \$2 million gift to endow the first distinguished chair in the UConn School of Pharmacy has been made by Pfizer Global Research and Development. It is the largest single gift ever received by the school and is the first such endowment in the United States made by Pfizer.

Establishment of the Pfizer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology will enable the School of Pharmacy to appoint a nationally recognized researcher, scholar and teacher who has made significant contributions to the field of pharmaceutical technology, the applied science for development of dosage forms.

"Endowed chairs are established by great schools and colleges of pharmacy to attract the best teachers and scholars," says Robert L. McCarthy, dean of the UConn School of Pharmacy. "Pfizer's gift elevates UConn to this elite group of institutions and demonstrates its confidence in the research, scholarship and achievements of our faculty and students."

Pfizer Global R&D is eager to continue to build upon its already strong relationship with the UConn School of Pharmacy, says Kelvin Cooper, head of Pfizer's pharmaceutical sciences group.

"Pharmaceutical sciences researchers play a key role in the discovery and development of new medicines for patients in need," he says. "In today's competitive recruiting environment, Pfizer must attract the best and brightest scientists in order to find cures for diseases like Alzheimer's, cancer and diabetes. We are proud to partner with UConn's School of Pharmacy and view their program as a source of qualified researchers."



Proceeds from the endowment will support the Pfizer Distinguished Chair in his or her academic activities, including pre- and post-doctoral graduate fellowships and a pharmaceutical technology symposium. In addition, the chair's duties will include

convening a working group of representatives from the School of Pharmacy and Pfizer to support the advancement of pharmaceutical technology at UConn.

Pharmaceutical technology addresses product development requirements for diverse medicinal agents, including organic molecules, proteins and other

biologics. It also encompasses the physical and engineering sciences of drug delivery through oral, intravenous and injection methods.

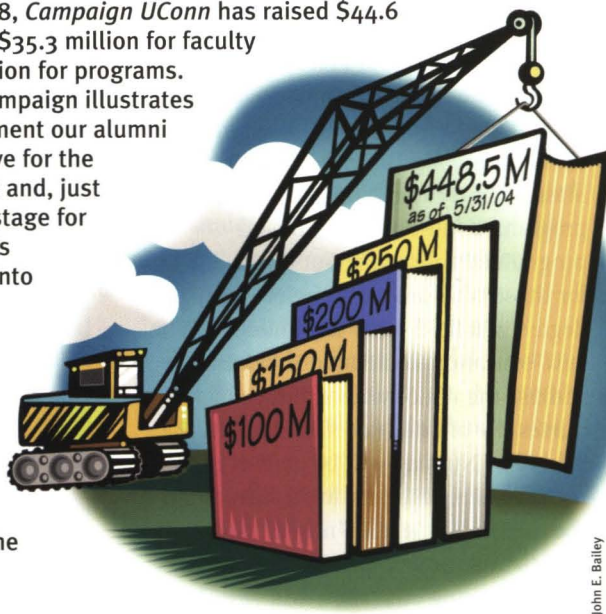
The Pfizer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology is the third distinguished chair at UConn. The others are the Harold S. Schwenk Sr. Distinguished Chair in Chemistry and the Ray Neag Distinguished Chair in Vascular Biology. UConn has a total of 47 endowed chairs and 12 endowed professorships, including 24 chairs at the UConn Health Center and one chair and three professorships at the School of Law.

## CAMPAIGN UCONN SURPASSES ITS GOAL

Campaign UConn, the largest fund-raising effort by a public university in New England, has surpassed its goal of \$300 million in private support of scholarships, faculty and programs. A total of \$302.5 million in gifts and pledges was reported as of May 31, with additional gifts anticipated by the conclusion of the campaign on June 30. This does not include the EDS software gift of \$146 million, which raises the total to \$448.5 million.

Since its launch in 1998, Campaign UConn has raised \$44.6 million for scholarships, \$35.3 million for faculty support, and \$222.6 million for programs.

"The success of the campaign illustrates the depth of the commitment our alumni and other supporters have for the University of Connecticut and, just as importantly, sets the stage for the next phase in UConn's ongoing transformation into one of the top public research universities in the country," says John K. Martin, president of the UConn Foundation. "By the end of the current fiscal year, this will go down as the best year for fund-raising in the University's history."



John E. Bailey



# Improving health care training

*Gifts to health-related schools open new opportunities for students*

Three of UConn's health-related schools have received grants that will provide new opportunities for students at a time of increasing demand for health care professionals in Connecticut and the nation.

Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc., provided funding for a significant building project within the School of Pharmacy, the Paul L. Jones Fund established scholarships to support a School of Nursing accelerated training program, and the Carlson Therapy Network started a scholarship program within the School of Allied Health.

Boehringer Ingelheim pledged \$250,000 for the Dosage Forms Laboratory Suite in the new Pharmacy/Biology Building. The state-of-the-art suite will serve instructional and research needs in the areas of drug formulation, manufacturing and quality assessment.

"The Dosage Forms Laboratory Suite will significantly enhance the School's teaching and research programs. It will facilitate our teaching pharmacy students how to formulate and evaluate drug products," says Robert L. McCarthy, dean of the School of Pharmacy.

The School of Nursing received a \$300,000 gift from the Paul L. Jones Fund to establish scholarships for the Master's Entry into Nursing (MbEIN) program, a full-time, accelerated program established about a year ago for those who hold a bachelor's or higher degree in a field other than nursing. The new educational initiative is helping address the nationwide shortage of nurses. By offering scholarships, the School of Nursing will be able to expand the program, resulting in an increase in the number of bedside nurses as well as nurses in advanced practice positions and in nursing education and research.

"There is incredible enthusiasm among the students and health care providers for MbEIN," says Laura Dzurec '74 (NUR), dean of the nursing school. "The students bring a maturity and certainty about what they want to do. We're very grateful to the Paul L. Jones Fund for their support."

Of the 24 students who began the program in 2003, more than half demonstrated significant financial need.

Carlson Therapy Network has pledged \$25,000 over five years to establish an annual scholarship within the School of Allied Health for UConn students from Connecticut, Rhode Island or New York, where the firm's 26 offices are located.

This is the company's first commitment to an institution of higher learning, says Valory Ramsdell Omasta '74

(SAH), vice president of clinical excellence for Carlson, which counts about 25 percent of its 100 licensed professionals as UConn alumni.

"Our hope is that this endowment will create a passion and fervor for physical therapy within the School of Allied Health," says Omasta, who serves on the advisory board for the School of Allied Health.

The scholarships will assist UConn students at a time when the School of Allied Health is expanding its programs to meet new criteria for accreditation by the American Physical Therapy Association, including an entry-level Ph.D. program, says Dean Joseph Smey '68 (SAH).

"We are excited to work with such a visionary company for the benefit of our entire profession," says Smey.

## Evelyn Simon Gilman Gallery Dedicated



Dottie Harvey

The dedication of the Evelyn Simon Gilman Gallery at The William Benton Museum of Art was celebrated by (from left) Salvatore Scalora, director of The William Benton Museum of Art; David Woods, dean of the School of Fine Arts; Judith Zachs '77 M.S.W.; UConn President Philip E. Austin and Evelyn Simon Gilman '47 (CLAS).



## Student voices play an active role at UConn

*Student government changes with the times and the University*

Whether you knew it as the ASG, the Student Senate, the FSSO, or the USG, student government at the University has been a part of campus life for 110 of UConn's 123-year history.

The first version of student government was called the Students' Organization, formed in 1894.

The earliest record of the Students' Organization is a listing of its officers in the first issue of *The Lookout*, UConn's first student newspaper, in May 1896. The president in 1896 was John Nelson Fitts, a member of the Class of 1897, who later became UConn's first dean of engineering.

An early issue for student government was a college policy making it compulsory for male students to provide manual labor three hours each day. Over the next year the faculty eliminated compulsory labor, and athletics began to take up more of the students' leisure time.

### **An early issue for student government was a college policy making it compulsory for male students to provide manual labor three hours each day.**

In the early 1900s, the entire student body made up the SO, which became the legislative branch of student government, while a newly formed Student Council was the executive branch. The Student Council could, "for just cause," recommend to a faculty committee for student affairs "suspension or dismissal of any member of the student body."

By 1918 the faculty "proposed a plan of student self-government" that apparently led to the formation of the Student Senate in 1922. It would be the most enduring form of student self-governance, surviving as part of what became known as the Associated Student



Leaders of the Associated Student Government debate an issue in 1970.

Government (ASG) in the 1930s.

In the later half of the 20th century, UConn's student government debated a variety of issues, but its chief responsibility was control over the budgets of other student organizations, including the student newspaper and radio station.

A national debate in the 1930s on whether military training should continue to be mandatory was one of the first times student government began to consider socio-political issues beyond the campus. By 1970, that kind of debate turned to the Vietnam War—and on May 4 of that year, the Student Senate voted to join a national student strike as a war protest, also voting to cut support for the upkeep of Jonathan the Husky, labeled a "symbol of the establishment."

Students were questioning authority—including student leaders. During the ASG election in the spring of 1972, the *Connecticut Daily Campus* questioned the election process as well as the effectiveness of the ASG. In a series of editorials,

the *Campus* called for a vote of no confidence, urging students to write-in the name of the fictitious Bill X. Carlson for ASG president and vice president.

The Carlson phantom received over 1,600 votes for president and nearly 900 for vice president; however, the Student Senate swore in the losing endorsed candidates following the March 14 election. The University administration called for a review of student government. The Senate voted for the redrafting of the student government constitution.

A constitutional convention resulted in students' approving creation of the Federation of Student and Service Organizations (FSSO), which encompassed the Student Union Board of Governors, the Residence Hall Council, and the Commuters' Union. A Central Committee, similar to the Senate, was the legislative body.

In 1980, the FSSO itself was dissolved, and replaced by the Undergraduate Student Government (USG), which continues to function today.

— Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS)



# News

## School of Dental Medicine

### *Spreading the word about oral health*

For Cynthia Hodge, practicing good oral health is an effective means to good overall health. As the new associate dean for community and outreach programs at the UConn School of Dental Medicine, Hodge is spreading that message throughout the state.

"It's the foundation of everything I do," says Hodge. "The mouth has the highest number of microorganisms. If there are problems there, it can be a pathway to other areas, such as the heart. Research has also demonstrated a relationship between some oral diseases and control of systemic diseases, such as diabetes."

She arrived at UConn from her position as a research fellow at the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Since then, Hodge has developed plans for the UConn community-based dental education programs to expand students' service and learning to more of Connecticut's federally qualified community health centers.

Hodge also has responsibility as principal investigator for the \$1.5 million Pipeline, Profession and Practice grant



Cynthia Hodge, associate dean for community and outreach programs at the School of Dental Medicine, at Charter Oak Health Center in Hartford.

Peter Morenus photo

from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which aims to increase access to oral health care among low-income and other disadvantaged populations needing quality dental services. UConn's dental clinics are already the largest single provider of dental care to Medicaid-eligible adults and children in Connecticut.

Creating new partnerships and collaborations is an important part of expanding the School of Dental Medicine's work in the community, Hodge says.

"What drew me to UConn is the thought that I could create these new alliances between the UConn Health Center and the community and bring improved health care to where it is needed," she says.

## College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

### *New minor program expands agricultural and resource economics*

A new minor in environmental economics and policy is being offered through the department of agricultural and resource economics, joining an existing minor program in agribusiness management.

The environmental economics and policy minor provides an overview of concepts and methods used to analyze issues and policies associated with natural resources and the environment. Students enrolling in the program will complete courses related to environmental resource policy and economics, cost/benefit analysis, food policy and coastal management.

Linda Lee, UConn professor of agricultural and resource economics, says the minors are designed as a way for UConn students to enhance their educational courses with business and economics fundamentals.

"It would be useful for students majoring in areas like plant science or dairy management who would like to get some business training," she says, noting that some students in other majors, such as economics, are taking the department's related classes in order to gain additional applied business-related coursework.

In addition to the two minors, the department is broadening its focus to include new subject areas for students. Two faculty members from the department have been appointed to UConn's Avery Point campus within the past two years, providing offerings there in areas such as fisheries economics and coastal management, says Lee.

The minor programs will also assist students in preparing for internships that are coordinated with First Pioneer Farm Credit, which provides financial services for agricultural businesses. First Pioneer offers internships for UConn students that ultimately could lead to employment opportunities.



## School of Family Studies

### *Working to prevent child abuse*

Preston Britner, associate professor of family studies, is highly respected by undergraduate and graduate students alike for his skillfully prepared lectures, fine organizational skills, fairness, humor, and dedicated mentoring.

All these characteristics and more have earned Britner University-wide recognition. He was named a 2003 University Teaching Fellow, the highest teaching honor at UConn, and also received the AAUP's Teaching Excellence Award for teaching promise.

Britner is working to bring the same level of skill to his responsibilities as the editor of *The Journal of Primary Prevention*, a professional journal dedicated to theory, practice and research on the prevention of problems and the promotion of health, healthy functioning, and psychosocial wellness.

Britner also works with the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) to develop child abuse prevention programs. In 2002, an estimated 896,000 children nationwide were determined to be victims of child abuse or neglect, according to the most recent report by the Children's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. More than 60 percent were neglected, 20 percent were physically abused and 10 percent were sexually abused. In Connecticut, there were 12,818 substantiated cases of child abuse in 2002, with 11 deaths, the report says.

"The problem with a lot of prevention programs is that they sound good but they lack the high quality research to prove their effectiveness," Britner says. "Both in the research I'm conducting and publishing in the journal, I want to make sure these worthwhile ideas are backed up with good studies."

He says often case workers can assess a family environment and assist families in learning time management and lowering stress in order to prevent a problem of child abuse or neglect from developing. Identifying and building up support systems or identifying and reducing the causes of stress in the family are the basics, he adds.

"UConn is in a really strong position to take the lead in this area because there is a good deal of prevention science going on," says Britner. "For someone in my field, it's a really great place to be right now."

**Preston Britner,**  
associate professor  
of family studies,  
focuses on child  
abuse prevention.



Peter Morenus

Peter Morenus



## College of Continuing Studies

### *Learning English for business and college classes*

When Ruzanna Davtyan came to the United States from Armenia in 2001, she had earned a university degree in advanced mathematics. She had two goals: to learn English and to pursue an M.B.A. But she knew only five words in English.

So Davtyan began taking English as a Second Language (ESL) courses in the American language program at UConn's campus in Stamford, one of the nearly 1,000 students enrolled in the program each year.

The program serves adults of all ages from 50 countries and offers a wide range of non-credit ESL classes from beginning to advanced levels. Classes help students develop and enhance their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and prepare for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) examination. The program also encourages students to develop proficiency in English for social, professional and academic purposes. There are also English classes that can be customized to meet the needs of a variety of business professions.

"The students are looking to either advance themselves in their careers or in academia," says Marcia Gethin-Jones, director of the ESL program. "Many of them go on to UConn for their undergraduate and graduate degrees."

For students such as Davtyan, who are academically ready to take credit courses, the program also offers a transition program to teach students how to function successfully and assimilate easily into the American university culture.

Davtyan took 10 courses in the regular ESL program and earlier this year enrolled in the Academic Strategies and American University Experience as transition program courses and also took undergraduate credit courses in financial accounting and microeconomics.

"UConn's ESL program was a wonderful experience," she says. "I learned English, became familiar with American customs and traditions and had excellent instructors. The program helped me to accomplish both my goals."

Davtyan, now fluent in English, has applied to five different M.B.A. programs, including UConn's.

Peter Morenus



## Neag School of Education

### *From UConn to the Yukon, gifted education online*

One student asked a classmate about a reading assignment. Another asked the professor for feedback on a paper. Several discussed a group project.

It sounds like ordinary classroom conversation, but there's a twist: The students live in Alaska, Singapore and New York—and their teacher lives in Montana.

These students are among the growing number of people from around the world enrolled in UConn's online master's degree program in gifted and talented education. There are currently 42 students in the program.

The program started two years ago when demand grew for more online courses, says Del Siegle, associate professor of educational psychology. "It's perfect for people who want to pursue an advanced degree in gifted and talented education without sacrificing family or work time," he says. There are other benefits, such as experts in the field from around the world who give guest lectures with an opportunity for students to ask them questions.

Siegle says the courses are very interactive. "We've designed them to stimulate discussions among students and instructors and have included group projects."

In addition to the online courses, students come to UConn's main campus in Storrs at the start of the program, when they meet fellow classmates and professors, and again at the end, to take comprehensive exams. The degree program also includes attending Confratute, a professional development conference and institute held at UConn during the summer for teachers of the gifted and talented.

"It is the only realistic way for me to take courses at this time," says Teresa Hedges, a full-time teacher who lives in Kodiak, Alaska. "I don't have to take a leave of absence, I don't have to relocate, and I can do most of the work on my own schedule."

Hedges, who learned about the program through Confratute, says she "wanted to be part of the UConn program. The people and the knowledge base don't get any better."

## School of Fine Arts

### *A design worth more than a plugged nickel*

Amy Mortensen '04 (SFA) took the call from her brother, Greg, in late November, as she was settling in to study for final exams. He had just noticed an advertisement in *Coin World*, announcing a nationwide competition for artists interested in redesigning coins for the U.S. Mint.

"He was really excited," Mortensen says. "He said, 'This is a chance for immortality!'"

In mid-February, Mortensen, a photographic illustration major, took a step toward that possibility when she was named one of 24 professional and student designers selected for the U.S. Mint's Artistic Fusion program, which for the first time opens coin design to a pool of artists. She was selected for the team based on a portfolio of her work, a personal background essay and rationale for receiving the appointment, and the required redesign for the backside of the Maryland quarter.

The program participants' first assignment is to prepare a new design for the back of the nickel, based on Native Americans and the Lewis and Clark expedition, which will be released in 2005. Mortensen attended a program at the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia to learn about the history of coin and medal design, the coin-making process and upcoming design opportunities.

In researching her nickel design, Mortensen used books from the Babbidge Library and reviewed online copies of



Amy Mortensen '04 (SFA) was selected to develop new coin designs for the U.S. Mint.

Lewis and Clark's journals.

"I focused on the navigational aspect of their journey, using constellations and a sextant, incorporating all those elements into the design," she says.

Mortensen says the artists were able to view one another's design concepts and get feedback, a process she found familiar.

"To find a real-world application for your art is interesting," she says. "UConn really prepares you for it with the critiques and your classmates' pointing things out."

All of the proposed designs for the new nickel will be displayed in Washington, D.C., later this year, when the new design is announced.





## School of Allied Health

### Cut salt to strengthen bones

Research by UConn professor Jasminka Ilich-Ernst suggests that increased sodium intake among post-menopausal women leads to reduced bone density.

Ilich-Ernst, a registered dietitian and associate professor of allied health, has spent the past three years studying the bone density of post-menopausal women. This segment of the population is already at a greater risk to develop osteoporosis or break a bone because their bodies no longer naturally produce the hormone estrogen, a leading risk factor of the disease.

"The higher sodium in the food, the more calcium will be excreted in urine," says Ilich-Ernst. "The question [for my research] was where was this calcium coming from? Something is probably going on where your bones are being compromised. The impact of this research likely will be to reduce sodium intake. And it's not just because of hypertension."

For the UConn study, Ilich-Ernst followed about 100 women who ranged in age from 57 to 88. The women were divided into two groups. One group reduced their sodium intake to 1,500 milligrams a day, while the other continued

## School of Nursing

### Memories that heal

Working in a convalescent home piqued the interest of Juliette Shellman '98 M.S., '03 Ph.D. to pursue the study of reminiscence as a tool to improve patients' well-being. As a nurse some 10 years ago, she noticed that reminiscing with her elderly patients made them feel better.

"I could see a real difference in them," says Shellman, an assistant professor of nursing at UConn. "I noticed that my patients liked to talk about the past, and the more I would initiate conversation, the better my patients seemed to feel. Talking about the past made them happier. It took them away from [troubles in] their present situation."

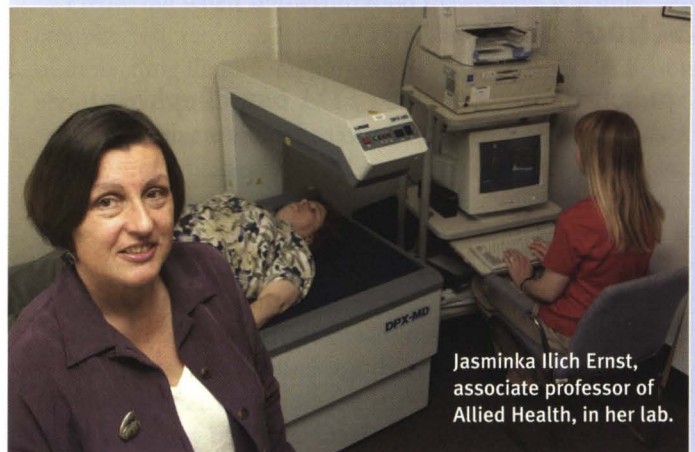
She is now working on a study to test the effects of reminiscing on depression and life satisfaction among older African-Americans, a patient group research has shown is vulnerable to depression.

"African-American elders with multiple medical problems are particularly at risk for depression," Shellman says, noting that life expectancy for African-Americans is rising. "There is a greater need for research on interventions to decrease depression and promote health and well-being."

Although the therapeutic effects of reminiscence have been well documented in the literature, Shellman notes, there is little research regarding the use of it as an intervention with African-American populations. Research has shown that older African-Americans underutilize existing health care systems and demonstrate a lack of trust in health care professionals, often as a result of personal experiences of discrimination, Shellman adds.

"With the unprecedented growth in the African-American elderly population, there exists an urgent need to adequately prepare nurses to deliver culturally competent care to help improve quality of life for patients," she says. "Health care professionals need to be able to deliver care to African-American elders that reflects a sensitivity to their cultural characteristics and lifetime experiences."

Shellman plans to gather data on the effectiveness of reminiscence as an intervention to identify which aspects—such as number and length of sessions—may contribute to decreased levels of depression and increased life satisfaction.



Jasminka Ilich Ernst, associate professor of Allied Health, in her lab.

Peter Morenus

to consume sodium at the normal rate of 3,000 to 4,000 milligrams a day. Although one teaspoon of table salt is equivalent to 2,000 milligrams of sodium, most of the sodium people consume is not from table salt, Ilich-Ernst says. Sodium is often found in deli products, canned foods and ready-made dinners.

To assist subjects, UConn graduate student Rhonda Brownbill, who worked as a research assistant in the study, says participants were taught how to interpret food label nutritional information on the products they consumed.

Final data on the sodium study should be released later this year. However, Ilich-Ernst's three-year research has already yielded other results. The *Journal of the American College of Nutrition* previously published the professor's findings that caffeine, alcohol and smoking may also contribute to whether a person develops osteoporosis or is prone to bone fractures.



## School of Medicine

### Identifying the earliest stages of colon cancer

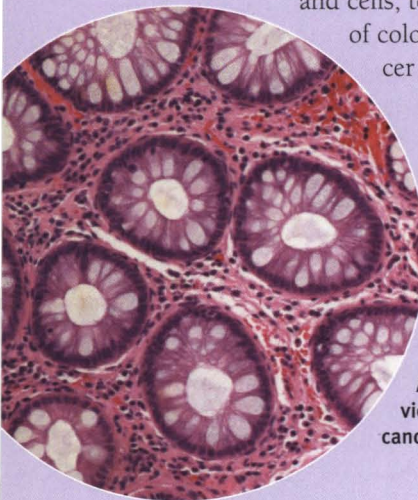
Two UConn scientists are working together, one in the clinic with patients and the other in the laboratory with tissue and cells, to identify the very earliest stages of colon cancer, a leading cause of cancer death in both men and women.

The long-term prognosis for a patient with colon cancer traditionally is determined by the stage at which the cancer is discovered, with a late diagnosis generally resulting in fewer treatment options.

"If we can identify the

molecular or genetic markers or fingerprints

A microscopic view of colon cancer cells.



of colon cancer, then we can begin to identify patients who are at high risk of developing the disease and offer them preventive measures like dietary or drug therapies before they ever develop it," says Joel Levine, professor of medicine who is co-director of the newly established UConn Health Center program in colorectal cancer with Daniel Rosenberg, associate professor of molecular medicine.

Levine and Rosenberg are looking at genes in human tissue obtained by colonoscopies to see if they can identify gene targets that signal an elevated risk of cancer.

"Our goal is to determine the very earliest molecular signature of colon cancer so we can identify those most at risk and help discover new ways to block the cancer from ever developing," says Rosenberg.

Adds Levine: "Up-to-date clinical care depends on first-rate laboratory research. The days of the separation of clinical care and scientific investigation are over."

## School of Pharmacy

### Student findings support FDA ban of ephedra

A UConn student research project played a small but noteworthy role in a Food and Drug Administration ruling that banned the sale of weight-loss products containing the controversial substance ephedra.

For the past four years, UConn pharmacy professor Michael White has had his pharmacy students evaluate a popular herbal supplement based on the same FDA health safety criteria used for new drugs. Last year's research project was Metabolife 356, the nation's number-one selling weight-loss supplement, which contained 17 ingredients, including ephedra.

The study, which showed that the drug affects both blood pressure and heartbeat, drew media attention nationwide in January of this year after it was published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. On Feb. 6 the FDA banned products with ephedra.

"Ephedra was linked to many case reports of arrhythmia and stroke," says White, whose expertise is arrhythmia—an alteration in the rhythm of the heartbeat—and cardiac pharmacology. "But until our study, no one knew what effect Metabolife 356 would have on heart rhythm and blood pressure."

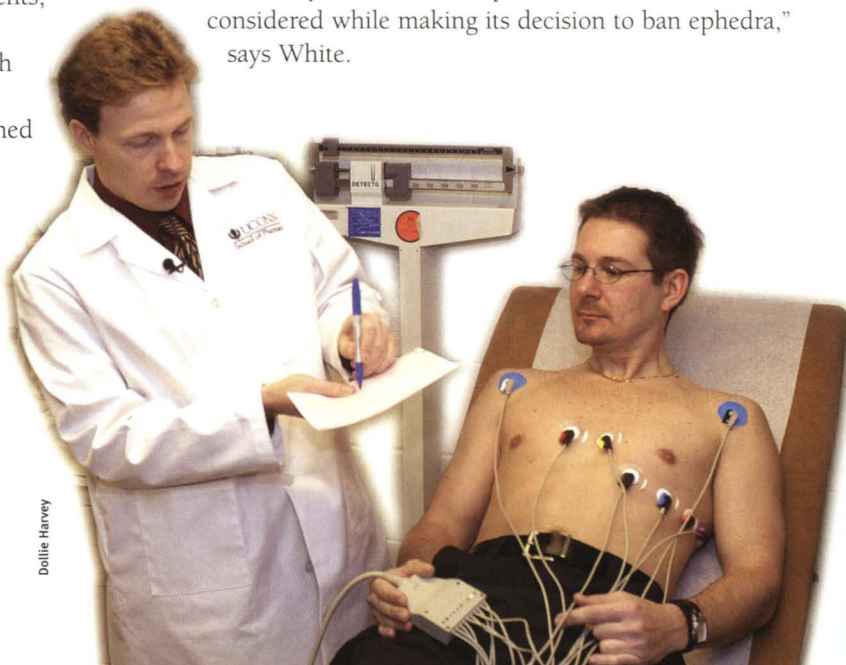
Angeliki Karapanos and Agnes Krudysz, fifth-year Pharm.D. students conducting the research, wrote a protocol, collected the data and then analyzed the results under the direction of White and with the

assistance of UConn pharmacy fellow Brian McBride.

The research team recruited 15 healthy, young adults for the study. On one day, the study subjects received half the recommended maximum dosage of Metabolife 356, and another day they were given a placebo. The patients' blood pressure and electrocardiogram measurements (EKG) were taken immediately before taking a pill and then at regular intervals.

The UConn data showed troubling results in terms of both blood pressure and in the electrical signals that control heartbeat, says McBride.

"We know from discussions we've had with the FDA that our study was one of the pieces of evidence it considered while making its decision to ban ephedra," says White.



Dollie Harvey



## College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

### *A night at the movies to understand other cultures*

One night it might be Howard Hawks' *Scarface*. Another night it might be Stanley Kubrick's *Spartacus*, or Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*.

These are some of the works students will analyze as part of the new film studies minor, an interdepartmental and interdisciplinary course of study offered through the department of modern and classical languages.

The program brings together a broad range of courses that will acquaint students with a variety of perspectives on film and enhance their critical appreciation of film culture in social and historical contexts, says Norma Bouchard, associate professor of modern and classical languages.

"We want students to have a good introduction to world cinema and comparative film theory, and those are part of the core courses," she says.

Core courses also include two newly created ones—Studies in Film History and Film Genres. In addition, the film minor will include courses taught in the departments of drama, communication sciences, English, women's studies, political science, Latin American studies, sociology, and Puerto Rican and Latino studies.

Students will also take classes in national cinema—which may include films taught either in English or a native language—as well as interdisciplinary courses such as Political Propaganda and Film. In a typical course, students will see 14 films.

Bouchard says the study of film has become an increasingly important part of academic disciplines: "Film has become a literary text. If you're studying the culture of Fascist Italy during the 1930s, film is fundamental to understanding what was going on in terms of propaganda—probably much more than the novel."

The study of film complements students' other academic courses and gives them a broader understanding of culture and society, faculty say.

"Film is the hegemonic narrative form of our time," says Roger Travis, associate professor of modern and classical languages. "Everyone knows that movies are important to our society, but in my experience, very few students understand just how deeply their entire world views are shaped by what they've seen in the cinema."



Fritz Lang's 1927 film, *Metropolis*, is one of several films analyzed by students enrolled in a new film studies minor.

### *Birds, bees, flowers and computers*

Birds, bees and butterflies come to mind when the subject is how flowering plants are pollinated. But some plants pollinate themselves, and the majority are equipped to do so.

Kent Holsinger, a UConn professor of ecology and evolutionary biology, is trying to determine under which evolutionary circumstances self-pollination occurs and why. His research office has little by way of plant specimens or pictures. Instead, a computer occupies center stage, because most of his research involves building mathematical models of the conceptual scientific ideas he is studying.

Holsinger explains that the vast majority of flowering plants have male and female reproductive parts in the same flower, yet nearly 90 percent depend on pollinators, such as insects, to move pollen from one plant to another to make reproduction happen. Only a few self-pollinate, such as tomatoes, wheat and peppers.

The primary explanation, he says, is what biologists call "inbreeding depression," the phenomenon that inbred offspring are less vigorous, less fertile and less likely to survive than those that are outbred. The phenomenon was first identified by the English naturalist Charles Darwin.

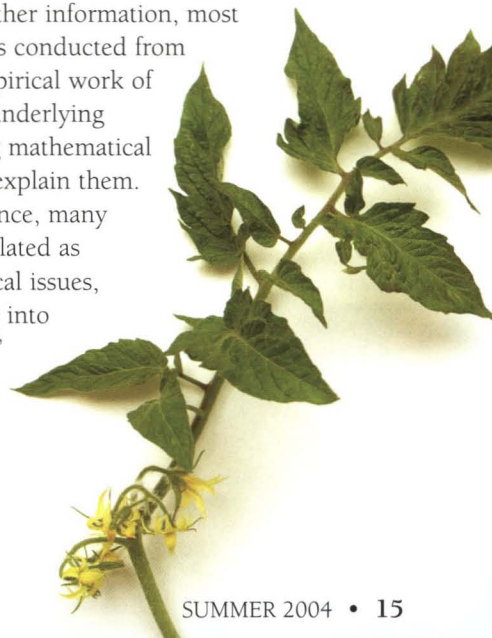
Predicting when self-fertilization may evolve is highly complicated, requiring detailed knowledge about the genetics of inbreeding depression in order to make reliable predictions about a particular plant, Holsinger says.

In his recent work on pollination systems, Holsinger has been trying to understand the circumstances under which there is an advantage in a plant's having self-fertilization and those in which there is no advantage. To do so, he creates mathematical models that can predict the consequences of particular forces interacting with one another.

Another way is to work back, describing the current status of a plant species and then constructing evolutionary scenarios for how that point was reached.

Unlike many of his departmental colleagues, who travel widely to gather information, most of Holsinger's research is conducted from his desk, taking the empirical work of others, identifying the underlying principles, and building mathematical or statistical models to explain them.

"In every area of science, many principles can be formulated as mathematical or statistical issues, and doing so may bring into focus certain problems," he says.



The tomato is an example of a self-pollinating plant.



## School of Law

### *A rare look inside the U.S. Supreme Court*

UConn School of Law students had the opportunity to hear first hand about the inner workings of the Supreme Court of the United States during an address by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who delivered the annual Day, Berry & Howard Visiting Scholar Lecture in March.

Speaking in the Starr Hall reading room before a capacity audience of several hundred students, faculty members and alumni, Ginsburg offered a look at the collegial nature of life inside the nation's highest court, noting that during court sessions, the justices first exchange handshakes and later have lunch together, often with renowned guests such as U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan or Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan.

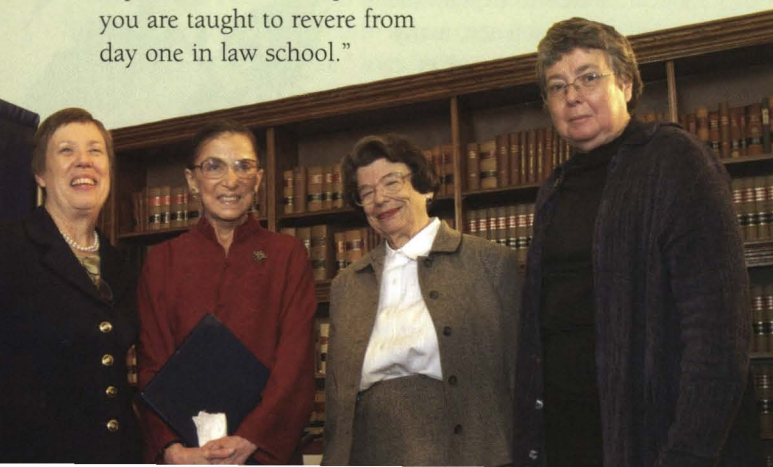
Justice Ginsburg also answered questions about legal issues posed by students on topics such as rulings in which the Supreme Court has cited foreign laws in its own decisions. The discussion was moderated by her former law clerk, UConn law professor Paul Schiff Berman.

"The Founding Fathers looked all over for models of government they could adapt to our circumstances," she says. "No one suggests that foreign law would be binding on us, but we have something to learn from the quality of reasoning on questions that confront us all."

Ginsburg is regarded as a legal pioneer after serving as the first tenured female law professor at Columbia and as an early leader in the battle against sex-based discrimination, when, for example, school teachers were forced to give up their jobs if they became pregnant.

"If not for women like Justice Ginsburg, I wouldn't be where I am," says Joette Katz '77 J.D., associate justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court, who attended the lecture. "I didn't have the struggles she had going to law school or practicing law. For me, it was inspirational having her here."

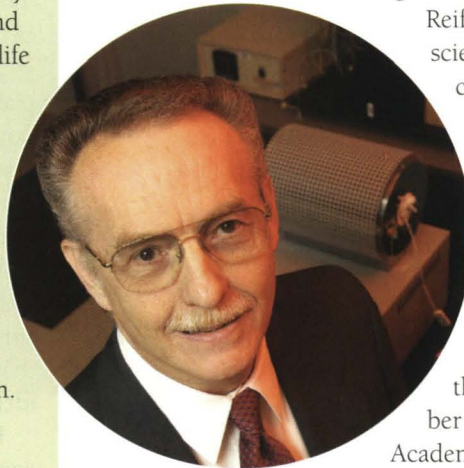
"It's extremely significant to bring a legal figure of this magnitude to the school," says Peter Haberlandt, a third-year law student and editor of the *Connecticut Law Review*, which co-sponsored the event. "It's a heartwarming experience to see the personal side of someone you are taught to revere from day one in law school."



## School of Engineering

### *National Academy of Engineering honors Reifsnider*

Kenneth Reifsnider, Pratt & Whitney Chair of Design & Reliability in UConn's School of Engineering, received one of the most coveted professional honors that can be bestowed upon a U.S. engineer—election to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE).



Reifsnider, a leader in the science and technology of composite materials, was cited by the NAE for his "development of strength-life relationships in composite materials and structures."

"This marks the first time in the history of the University of Connecticut that a full-time faculty member was elected to the National Academy of Engineering during

his career at UConn," said Amir Faghri, dean of engineering. "This tribute honors a researcher of impressive international credentials, and brings distinction to the University."

Two other faculty members in the School of Engineering held NAE membership when they joined UConn: David Crow, distinguished professor-in-residence of mechanical engineering, and Anthony DeMaria '56 (ENG), '65 Ph.D., professor-in-residence of electrical and computer engineering.

NAE was established in 1964 as an independent, nonprofit institution charged with advising the federal government and conducting research in engineering and technological subjects of importance to the nation.

Reifsnider is editor-in-chief of the *International Journal of Fatigue*; associate editor of the *Journal of Applied Composites*; and founding editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Composites Technology and Research*. He is also a founding member of the editorial board of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers' *Journal of Fuel Cell Science and Technology*.

Currently he is expanding his research, seeking to understand the physical changes that control the useful life of a composite-based material. He is involved in applying these concepts to high- and low-temperature fuel cell systems as a faculty member affiliated with UConn's Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center.

From left: Dean Nell Newton; U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg; Ellen Ash Peters, former chief justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court; and Carol Weisbrod, the Ellen Ash Peters Professor of Law at UConn.



## School of Business

### *Globalization offers positive changes*

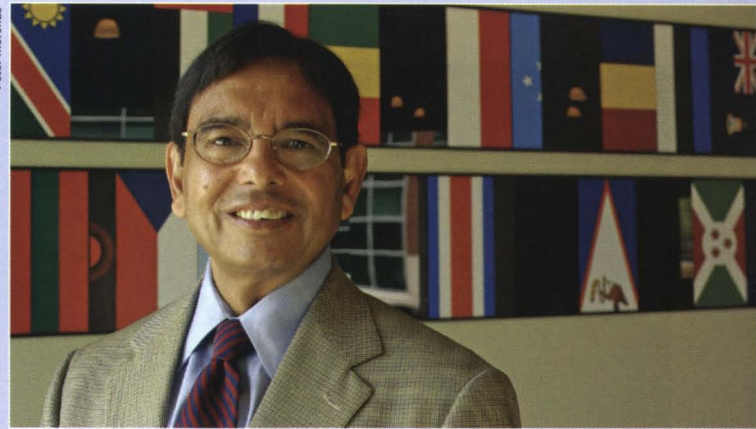
For Subhash Jain, director of UConn's Center for International Business & Education Research (CIBER), globalization is a positive force for changing lives throughout the world.

"In the not too distant future, multinational corporations will have a more dominant role in the world than they now play," Jain says. "People want jobs. They want the good life, and the multinationals can deliver. They develop the new technologies that make life better, which they sell all over the world."

Jain says that as corporations create new jobs in other nations, those countries witness the emergence of an entrepreneurial class of citizens who generate new spending resulting in stronger national economies. This helps to pay for improved education, medical research and social welfare.

Preparing students to understand that the world is becoming one large marketplace is one of the goals of CIBER, one of 30 such federally funded centers at top business schools across the nation. UConn's center began in 1995 and since that time has led the effort to bring together business leaders and researchers to focus on emerging globalization issues such as improved wages for workers, clean environments, creating government subsidies to stimulate business development and

Peter Morenus



**Subhash Jain, director of UConn's Center for International Business & Education Research, champions globalization as a positive force.**

trade tariffs. In April CIBER sponsored an international conference held at UConn's campus in Stamford, attended by more than 200 globalization experts.

CIBER also has provided opportunities for UConn faculty to travel internationally, visiting businesses, meeting with government leaders and academic colleagues and learning about the effects of globalization on other cultures. Faculty can then bring first-hand experiences into the classroom for UConn students, who also have the opportunity to study business abroad through CIBER scholarships.

## School of Social Work

### *A social work/social services partnership*

A working partnership between the UConn School of Social Work and the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) provides efficiency and shared resources that benefit not only the partners but the state of Connecticut as well.

The organizational and skill development section of DSS is staffed by 29 professionals from the School of Social Work who provide a variety of training, education, computer, media production and human resource development support for the agency's nearly 2,000 employees.

Operating under a contractual agreement for more than 25 years, the partnership has changed over time to meet DSS' developing needs.

"Initially it was primarily for training, but it has evolved to meet the growing demands of the department," says UConn's Judy Feinstein, director of organizational and skill development. "As new policies are introduced and as procedures change, we do refresher training. We also do problem solving around difficult cases."

The training provided by UConn ranges from presenting core policies and procedures for new DSS employees to refresher courses updating staff on new regulations and procedures.

Education and training addresses both general, agency-wide requirements and specific job training for DSS staff working in a range of program areas such as Medicaid, child care, child support, elderly services and case management.

A media production center develops educational materials for training projects, group presentations and other needs through newsletters, videotapes, posters and other communications tools.

"Using the staff experiences at DSS, we are able to further develop our training capacity to benefit others we educate and train," says Kay Davidson, dean of the School of Social Work, in describing one of the key benefits to UConn. "The staff has developed content training programs that have been incorporated into our social work curriculum."

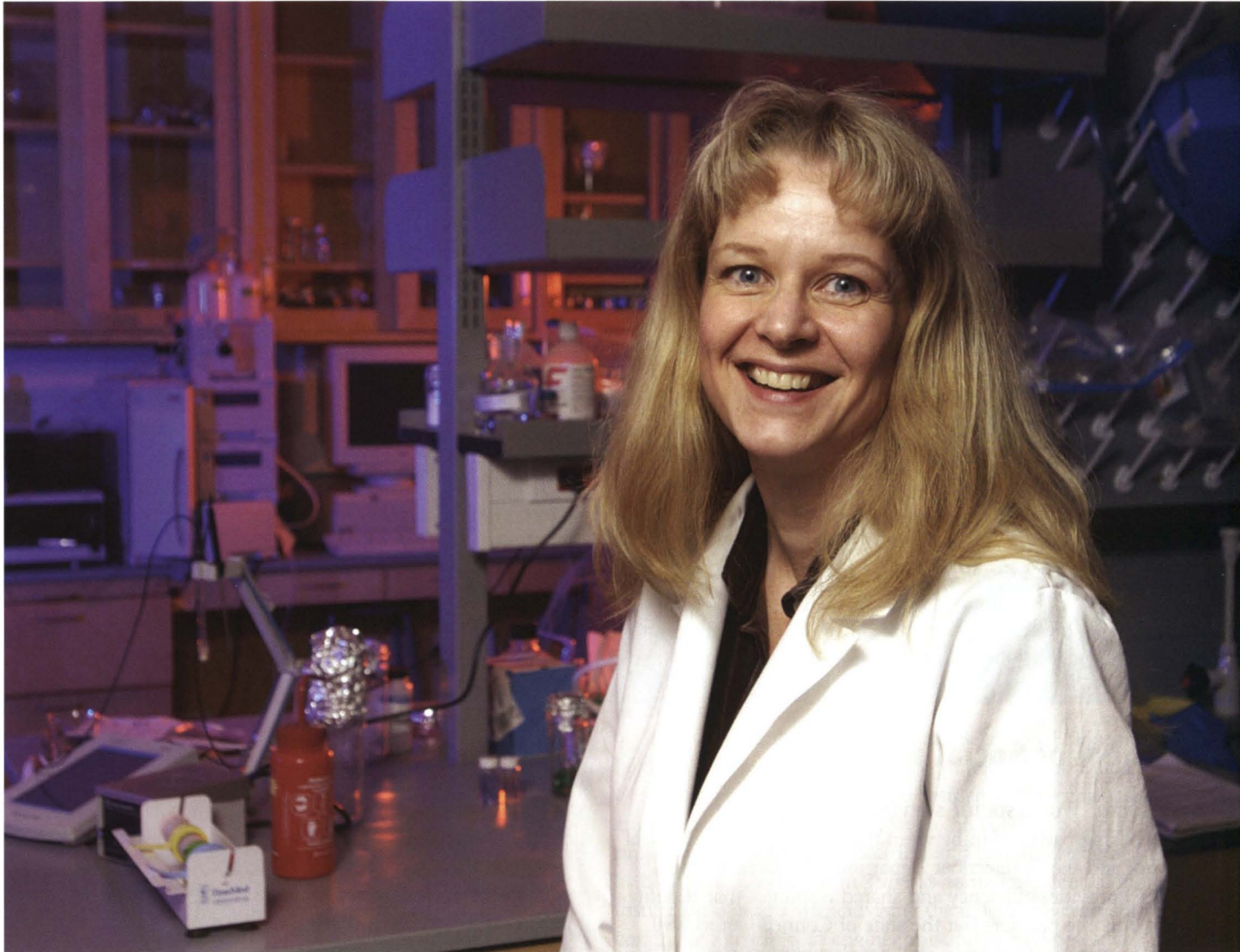
Graduate students from the School of Social Work are placed as interns in DSS departments, providing the opportunity for valuable experience, she adds.



**The School of Social Work has collaborated with the state Department of Social Services media production center to develop a variety of training materials.**



Peter Morenus



Annelie Skoog, assistant professor of marine sciences, explores the natural elements in the world's oceans.

## Waterworld

*Annelie Skoog studies the natural make-up of the world's oceans*

Sometimes, even the most interesting expeditions require a diversion. After all, researchers don't live by science alone. Ask Annelie Skoog, assistant professor of marine sciences in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at UConn's Avery Point campus.

In 1991, she spent nine weeks aboard a Swedish icebreaker in the

company of 70 scientists. It was summer and one day, after weeks at sea, the entire team decided it was time for a party. They went on to the ice, cranked up the grill, played a little soccer, and cooled down with a refreshing dip. Just to be safe, though, everybody who took to the water wore a line tethering them to the ship. Even on a bright, sunny

day in the heart of August, the water at the North Pole is mighty, mighty cold and it can have an unwanted effect on the heart.

Skoog can tell you a lot about the naturally occurring compounds of the world's aquatic environments. In addition to the Arctic, she can lay claim to having examined the waters of the



Antarctic, the Baltic and the Gulf of Mexico. In the north Pacific, she has studied the cold, lightless depths of the hellish world of deep thermal vents, ominously known as “black smokers,” that boil along the pressure ridges where continental plates collide. And in the Mediterranean near Sicily, on the appropriately named island of Vulcano, she has studied life around similar vents in waters so shallow she could wade to them.

**“What Skoog and her colleagues learn may have profound implications for understanding how humanity is changing the environment and whether we can help the Earth’s ecosystem remain healthy.”**

What Skoog’s explorations have in common is her primary area of research, the study of dissolved organic matter and how efficiently—or inefficiently—the Earth’s oceans cycle carbon and nitrogen. The environments and the various cycling processes she has studied are as diverse as the many remote locations she has visited.

Consider the Vulcano research. “Hydrothermal vents are extreme environments,” Skoog says. “They have high temperatures and unusual chemical conditions, either of which can kill bacteria. Despite the fact that the temperatures are high around the vents at Vulcano, bacteria live there and they derive their energy from inorganic and organic compounds.”

This is important for a number of reasons, she says. Insight into how unique bacteria survive in the pressure cooker environment surrounding thermal vents can help scientists understand how the world’s first microbial life flourished and set the stage for life as we know it.

More immediately, the oceans are important barometers for how the planet’s ecosystems are managing the excess of carbon dioxide generated by

the ongoing consumption of fossil fuels. What Skoog and her colleagues learn may have profound implications for understanding how humanity is changing the environment and whether we can help the Earth’s ecosystem remain healthy.

“We can’t account for all of the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere,” says Skoog. “We know how much there should be, but studies show the levels are not that high. So the carbon

dioxide has to go somewhere.”

That somewhere, clearly, is the oceans. However there is not much information about what happens to the carbon dioxide when it dissolves into the oceans. Scientists know some of it is consumed by algae, the bottom rung of the food ladder. But once it becomes organic matter, they don’t know how long it takes before it is released back into the environment. Moreover, there is not yet much research about how different climatic conditions affect the process and what the implications may be.

The Long Island Sound, for instance, is notorious for the fact that its configuration limits how quickly it recycles its water volume. As a result, the oxygen levels in the western part of the sound’s waters are low. During late summer each year, as marine bacteria consume the oxygen in order to degrade organic matter, the western end of the sound often becomes hypoxic, oxygen diminished, or anoxic, oxygen depleted.

Skoog is among the scientists studying how this impacts the sediments in the sound, where a great deal of algae-derived particulate matter ends up.

The world’s oceans are crucial to managing the carbon in the ecosystem. What Annelie Skoog’s research often shows is that an extraordinary range of factors impact how well they cycle carbon and nitrogen. Skoog and her colleagues are trying to understand how this occurs. In the process, they are learning how the oceans work, in the most basic sense. What they learn may well be essential information in the efforts of scientists to preserve the health of our planet.

—Jim H. Smith



**Skoog enjoys sharing research activities with her UConn students.**



# Students

## The Zen of teaching philosophy

*Adam Potthast enjoys providing a foundation for learning*

**"If** you can 'light that little spark' in students, they'll be eager to learn," says Adam Potthast '00 M.S. "And the most effective learner is a student who is genuinely interested in the subject matter."

Potthast, a UConn doctoral candidate and teaching assistant in the philosophy department, received the 2003 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award from the University. He says 'lighting a spark' is a challenge.

"In the past, philosophy teachers could often rely on pure fascination about philosophical questions to generate the kind of interest I'm describing," he says. "While this still appeals to many students, more and more come to a university valuing practical concerns over fascinating mysteries."

So how does he teach a subject that many students think will be too abstract to understand? "You have to make it practical," Potthast says. "So I teach [philosophy] mostly as a skills course—how to think in an ordered, clear way."

He says philosophy involves two basic skills: "Finding reasons for one's beliefs or opinions and learning to evaluate and weigh those reasons against others that are offered. If I can give my students a strong grounding in these two skills, they'll find that all of their academic pursuits will become easier and more enjoyable."

He tells his students that this ordered way of thinking is "basic to almost anything they'll ever study. So they can take practical lessons from philosophy and apply it everywhere. That's why I love to teach it."

Peter Morenus



**Adam Potthast '00 M.S., a doctoral candidate, teaches a philosophy course at UConn's campus at Avery Point.**

Potthast has students use online message boards to draw them into discussions with their peers about the course material.

He also abides by a policy he calls "full disclosure." "The point of this policy is to assure my students that they do not have to guess about what they're required to know or how they're doing in the class," he says. All essay or short-answer questions that have a chance of being asked on any exam are given to them ahead of time.

Recalling something he learned from Keith Barker, director of UConn's Institute for Teaching and Learning,

Potthast says, "You should always tell students what it is they need to know; otherwise it's not education. It's the lottery."

Jessica Kukiellka '06 (CANR), a fourth-semester agricultural and resource economics major who was in Potthast's honors philosophy class last fall, says he has "tremendous skill in demonstrating the importance and relevance of philosophy in an academic or real-life situation."

Another student, Jonas TePaske '05 (SFA), says, "I was lucky enough to have him. His teaching style was one that brought about a stimulating reciprocal environment, in which the students felt that they could challenge him as much as he challenged us."

Potthast says he enjoys using humor in his classes. "I always liked the professors who told jokes, so I try to imitate them," he says.

Professor Joel Kupperman, Potthast's academic adviser, says he is not surprised that Potthast was recognized for his teaching. "He is patient and willing to take the time to make something clear," says Kupperman. "He is a thoroughly decent person, and students respond to that. He also has broad interests, rather than having a narrow ultra-professional attitude toward his subject. This enables him to appreciate the point of view of someone who is coming to philosophy for the first time."

Potthast says it is rewarding to teach philosophy because "I love the discipline. I love helping students learn to think through arguments and reasons."  
— Sherry Fisher



# The world is her classroom

*Internships help Jessica P'an explore international business*

An economics major with an interest in international business, Jessica P'an '05 (CLAS) has made the most of her educational opportunities in both the School of Business and the department of economics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Although the honors program student is anchored by her courses at UConn, it is clear that she takes the world as her classroom.

She speaks Chinese, French and some Spanish. "Growing up I traveled a lot with my family, and I was exposed to international experiences," says P'an a Westport, Conn., native whose parents emigrated from China. "I think

**"UConn has helped me to grow as a person. It definitely gave me chances to stretch out as a leader."**

of the world as a global community rather than 'the world out there.'"

During the past several summers, P'an has sought to further her UConn education through business-related internships and international travel. She participated in a language and culture program in Taiwan, worked in sales and marketing at the St. Regis Hotel in New York City, studied for six weeks at the Beijing Language and Culture University, and held an accounting/bookkeeping job in Greenwich. Most recently, she interned at Estee Lauder in New York, in the global marketing department for Donna Karan cosmetics.

During the semester, P'an takes pride in showing off the University. She is one of five student coordinators of the Husky Ambassador Program, which matches host students with prospective students who have the chance to go to

a class or two, eat in the dining halls, and in general get a sense of what it's really like to be a UConn student. Promoting UConn comes easily to P'an, who values the variety of opportunities she has experienced as an undergraduate. She says, "UConn has helped me to grow as a person. It definitely gave me chances to stretch out as a leader."

One such opportunity came in her freshman year, when she and nine other honors students founded a theater group called Dramatic PAWS. (PAWS stands for Producing, Acting, Writing Students.) The group has successfully staged comedies,

musicals, and even original, student-written plays.

P'an has also been involved with the Asian American

Cultural Center's mentoring project for local elementary and middle school students. Currently, she is devoting her energy to establishing an internship program that would be a UConn chapter of an international organization called AIESEC (the acronym is French).

The program would create opportunities for UConn students to participate in internships abroad and for international students to find internships with businesses in Connecticut.

**Jessica P'an '05 (CLAS) speaks four languages and is headed toward a career in international business.**

This summer P'an will be fulfilling yet another internship related to her major, this time in the New York City office of HSBC, an international bank based in London. Like her other workplace experiences, this one will help her find her niche in the world of international finance. She says, "I want to find what it is that I'm really passionate about and from that, make a career choice." — Leslie Virostek



Peter Morenus





AP/Wide World



Stephen Slade



AP/Wide World

# No.1 From Start

**It's supposed to be hard. If it wasn't hard, everyone would do it. The "hard" is what makes it great.**

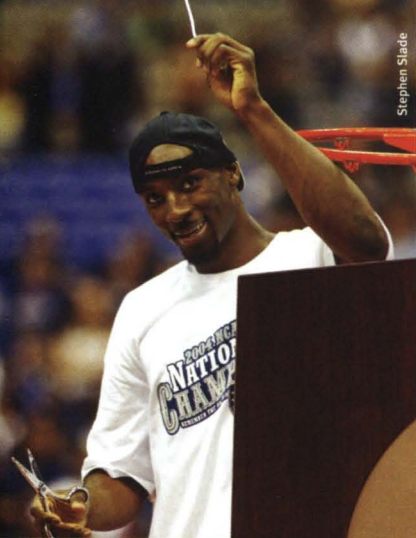
— Tom Hanks as Jimmy Dugan  
in *A League of their Own*

The college basketball season is arguably the most demanding of all intercollegiate team sports. For the top contenders, the "season" actually spans three changes in nature. In the fall, practice begins. The first tip off occurs just before Thanksgiving and games continue through the winter. When the teams that survive the seven months of the "season" cut down the championship nets, it is spring.

Just getting through a basketball season is hard enough. Win the NCAA championship? Only a handful of teams have ever done it—35 on the men's side and 12 on the women's side, including UConn. Win more than one title? Harder still. Ten for men and five for women, including UConn. How many universities can display both men and women's trophies from different years? Just three: Stanford, North Carolina and UConn.







Stephen Slade



Stephen Slade



NCAA Photos

# to Finish

2004  
DIVISION I  
MEN'S  
BASKETBALL  
CHAMPIONSHIP



NATIONAL  
CHAMPION

Win both the NCAA Division I men's and women's championships in the same year? Until 2004, it had not happened, it was thought to be nearly impossible.

The Huskies' dual championships in San Antonio and New Orleans in April were unprecedented. The achievement is stunning because in addition to surviving the grueling demands of a basketball season, both teams carried what men's head coach Jim Calhoun called "the mantle of expectations." Virtually every pre-season poll projected UConn as the team to beat during the 2003-04 season for both the men's and women's NCAA titles, with All-Americans Emeka Okafor '04 (BUS) and Diana Taurasi '04 (CLAS) gracing the covers of national magazines. Head coach Geno Auriemma's team had the additional challenge of trying for its third consecutive national championship. Then there were the expectations of students and faculty and an entire nation of alumni and fans diagnosed this year with an advanced case of Huskymania.

The men's 82-73 victory over Georgia Tech at the Alamodome on April 5 and the women's 70-61 win over Tennessee at the New Orleans Arena on April 6 established UConn as the nation's collegiate basketball capital and confirmed that Calhoun and Auriemma stand with the elite coaches in NCAA history. Calhoun's second championship in six years places him among only 11 in NCAA history with more than one title and as one of only three active men's coaches to win more than one title, joining Bob Knight and Mike Krzyzewski.

Peter Morenus



Auriemma's fifth title—and fourth in five years—came at the expense of Pat Summit, who has won six championships and whose record of three consecutive titles was matched.

The coaches say their student-athletes provided both support and incentive to one another during the long season of high expectations. Calhoun says the players from the men's and women's teams have often been close, because they share common experiences as students and a passion for the sport. "Over the last couple of years these particular teams have probably been tighter," he says "They shared something in common: Each wanted to win their own championship, but the bonus would be if both won."

"I caught it in the training room," Auriemma says. "You could hear a lot of talk back and forth about who was

going to do what. Maybe Ben Gordon or Rashad Anderson was saying something, or Diana and Jessica Moore were saying something. There was a certain amount of understanding what each group was going through, so the highs became community highs and the lows became community lows."

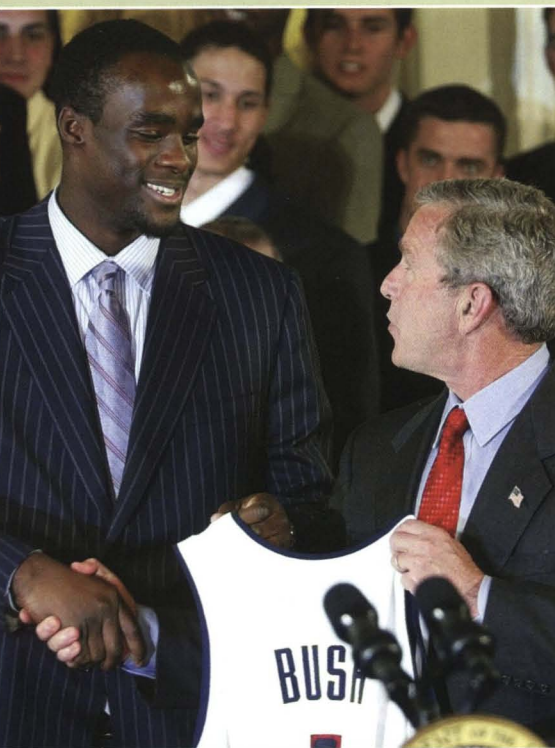
While each team's season played out independently, they found more common ground with turning points late in the year, which the coaches say focused their teams for whatever remained in their respective seasons. For the men, it came on Feb. 18 in the Hartford Civic Center during a 76-63 win over Miami. For the women, it was the stunning 73-70 loss to Boston College in the Big East tournament in Hartford on March 8.

The Miami game gave the Huskies their 20th win of the year, but Calhoun felt his team had played without pas-

sion. Always vocal and animated, the coach stomped his way across the sidelines during the game, imploring his team to show some emotion. In the locker room after the game, he threw down a challenge, asking to see some fire from his players.

"I told them I'd coached nearly a thousand games, heard the ball bounce a million times and heard a lot of whistles, but I can still display emotion," Calhoun says, recalling his remarks. "We just did our job and won this game, but we weren't going to beat Duke later on by just doing our job."

Calhoun's team responded. They played with intensity for the rest of the regular season and then marched through the Big East and NCAA tournaments to the championship, winning often by wide margins and then nipping Duke by a single point in



Emeka Okafor accepts congratulations from President Bush during Champion's Day at the White House in Washington, D.C. AP/Wide World photo

Nearly 300,000 people attended a parade through the streets of downtown Hartford on April 18 to honor the Huskies dual NCAA championships.







**Championship portrait:** The men's and women's basketball teams take a break after the parade through downtown Hartford and before being honored during a ceremony at the State Capitol.

Stephen Slade

the national semi-final game.

Meanwhile the women's team played the season trying to duplicate what it had achieved the year before, when no one expected UConn to survive the loss of four of the best student-athletes to ever play for Auriemma. "The whole season became a struggle to get through without expectations weighing you down," he says. "It was like running a marathon for the first 20 miles with a 50-pound pack on your back and thinking, I'm never going to be able to do this."

Auriemma says the way that the Big East tournament ended strongly affected the team. "We played great and still got beat. It had a profound effect on them," he says. "The team handled that loss differently than any other during the year. There was a certain resolve. Some of the things they were saying and the way they were carrying themselves changed."

The women started the NCAA tournament on the first day of spring by crushing Pennsylvania by a score of

91-55 in Bridgeport, Conn., and capped the East Regional with a 66-49 win over Penn State at the Hartford Civic Center before heading to New Orleans and the Final Four.

The coaches wanted their players to enjoy the excitement surrounding the Final Four city while still focusing attention on the business at hand. In San Antonio, Calhoun drew upon his experience from the 1999 championship in St. Petersburg, Fla. "It's part of my strategy to keep the team together," he says. "I actually soften up a little bit during that period of time to try and create confidence. We've done all we can. We weren't going to change who we were and what we did. We try to make it a happy atmosphere. I had my five grandchildren, two sons, my daughters-in-law and my wife with me. That was really a respite for me."

Throughout the NCAA tournament, the women's team followed its tradition of watching the men's tournament games on television together in Auriemma's

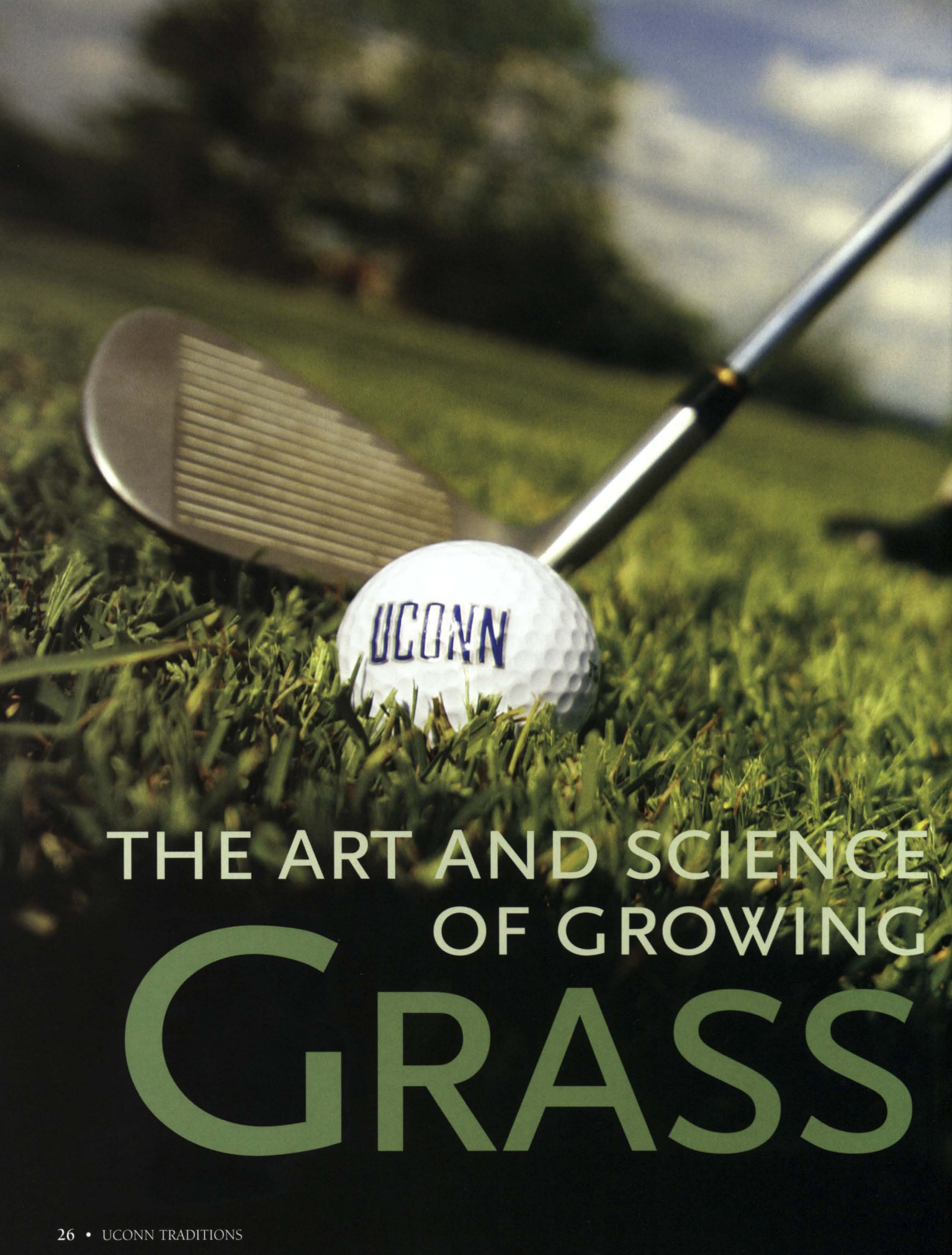
hotel room. With both teams in their respective Final Four games, the gathering in New Orleans on the night of the men's championship victory had an added dimension.

"We knew what was going on back in Storrs, that the anticipation level was at an all time high," Auriemma says. "In preparing for our games, there was this feeling of we better win. You could sense the guys were going to win. I don't think there was any doubt in the kids' minds that if the guys won the national championship, they were going to win too."

The state's overwhelming response to the Huskies' accomplishments was no less stunning than the historic dual championships. Nearly 300,000 people jammed the streets of Hartford on April 18 for a parade honoring the teams. Officials described it as the largest outdoor event in the state capital since veterans returned home from World War II nearly half a century ago.

*Continued on page 50*





THE ART AND SCIENCE  
OF GROWING  
GRASS





BY JIM H. SMITH

**S**pring in New England is an unpredictable thing. Jack Frost is usually slow to relinquish his grip. In February, occasional days of spring-like temperatures send hopes soaring. But it's only a tease. Snow nearly always follows.

However, once the snow is finally gone, an army of professionals in landscaping and golf course management emerges in full force. *Continued on next page*



Many of these experts knowledgeable in how to turn landscapes lush after the thaw, and keep the fairways and greens challenging, are graduates of the turfgrass science program in UConn's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

By mid-April, Matt Bagshaw, '03 (RHSA), accounts manager at E. A. Quinn Landscape Gardening, in Glastonbury, Conn., is upon the land in earnest, setting things right in the aftermath of the glacier's retreat, redirecting his crews from snow removal to landscape installation, mulch blowing, lawn maintenance and the construction of walls and patios.

Things are no less busy for Dan Gilbert, '00 (CANR), an assistant superintendent at the Ellington Ridge Country Club, in Ellington, Conn. All but the most relentless golf enthusiasts pack it in once the snow starts to fly, but turf maintenance is a year-round job at golf courses. All winter he supervises equipment maintenance and by mid-March, his crews are starting to prune trees, put the sand traps in order, edge the traps and mow the greens for the first time.

It may come as a surprise that UConn has an entire program devoted to the management of grass. But the turfgrass program is one of UConn's most successful, growing consistently over the last two decades and finding that it cannot provide enough graduates annually to meet marketplace demands. Every turfgrass graduate is highly sought after for a variety of positions.

"Within the field of agronomy, UConn has always had programs devoted to plants and soil science," says Karl Guillard, professor of agronomy "The focus was on economically important crops."



**A student measures the amount of chlorophyll to determine the quality of the color in samples of grass in the greenhouse at the Turfgrass Science Complex.**

It still is, but as economies have changed, so have the crops. When UConn was much closer to its agricultural roots, plant and soil science students focused mostly on the staples of traditional farms: corn, grasses, forage and silage. By the 1970s, though, as Connecticut's population became increasingly urban and suburban and the role of farming in the state's economy declined, the College began adding classes on turfgrass—the grasses used for lawns, parks, golf courses, athletic fields and other managed landscapes.

More and more students lost interest in traditional farming, but interest in horticulture and the emerging field of turfgrass management grew, especially as it became clear that there was likely to be a growing demand for professionals equipped to service this new, "recreational" form of agriculture.

In 1998, for the first time, turfgrass was offered as a degree program at UConn. Two years later, Guillard was joined on the faculty by Steven Rackliffe, extension instructor turfgrass science, who brought with him years



“IT’S AN EXCITING CAREER BUT A  
VERY COMPLEX AND DEMANDING ONE.  
THERE’S NOT A DAY WHEN MY UCONN  
EDUCATION DOESN’T PAY OFF.”

— Dan Gilbert, '00 (CANR), assistant superintendent, Ellington Ridge Country Club

of on-the-job experience in golf course management. The program's trajectory has been onward and upward ever since.

“This program is an enormous source of pride,” says Mary Musgrave, head of the department of plant science, who joined the UConn faculty in January 2003. “The demand for professionals in the turfgrass field has grown significantly over the last quarter of the 20th century, and I’m very impressed with the foresight the agronomy program demonstrated in adapting to offer the education needed to prepare students for this burgeoning new

agricultural economy.”

By way of demonstrating how significant turfgrass management is, she points to the fact that Connecticut currently has more than 180 golf courses, and more are being planned all the time. “It’s a huge value to the state,” she says, “and we’re playing an important role preparing the workforce needed.”

Some 60 percent of the program's graduates end up working in the golf industry. Another 30 percent take jobs in grounds-keeping, recreation field maintenance and other sports-related

field management. A few are employed in sod production, conservation and natural resources. But the program doesn't come close to meeting demand, says Guillard. Requests for graduates to fill jobs and undergraduates to work in internships outstrip available students by four to five times.

Although people who are unfamiliar with the industry may have a mistaken view of turfgrass as simple, the propagation and successful management of turfgrasses is, in fact, an extremely complex process. Courses offered at UConn cover such diverse issues as soils and soil fertility, plant diseases, integrated pest management, landscape design, environmental law, pesticide safety, business management and golf course design and management. And the University maintains greenhouses, a teaching nursery and a 150-acre teaching and research field facility to support the program.

“My education has been really useful,” says Bagshaw. “I had a small landscaping business while I was in high school, so I went to UConn with an interest in this field. I had a lot to learn, though, as I found out in the turfgrass program. On the job, I use what I learned at UConn all the time.”

Gilbert echoes that sentiment. “I grew up as a golfer, loved the game, played on UConn's golf team,” he says, “but I didn't think there was a way I could have a career in golf.” Then he signed up for the golf course management class and, he says, it changed his life.

The range of courses offered, Gilbert says, accurately reflects the variety of skills he needs to be successful on the job, wearing several hats. He manages a crew of 20 who are constantly at work.

*Continued on page 50*

Students check a color chart to determine the quality of grass on a field at the Turfgrass Science Complex.







# Ned

## A wondrous exploration of nature through art

By Carl T. Hall

"Invisible Whirlwinds"  
New Langton Arts  
San Francisco, Calif.





"Infalling Cloud"  
Exploratorium  
San Francisco, Calif.



Above: Ned Kahn '82 (CANR) standing before "Wind Portal" at the San Francisco International Airport BART Station. Below: "Turbulent Orb" at New York's World Financial Center. The two-foot diameter glass vessel filled with swirling blue liquid resembles the Earth when viewed from space.

# Kahn

'82 (CANR) knew exactly what he wanted to do with his life the minute he walked into the San Francisco science museum known as the Exploratorium.

That was in 1982, when Kahn, fresh out of the University of Connecticut with a degree in environmental studies, was bouncing around the country, looking for inspiration and a place to start his career. But until he landed at the doorstep of famed physicist and Exploratorium founder Frank Oppenheimer, Kahn wasn't quite sure what sort of career he wanted to start.

That changed when he saw what Oppenheimer was trying to do: make visible the typically invisible, secret ways of the natural world.

The encounter launched Kahn into a career as an artist and exhibit builder, one of the most successful in the country. He has had major commissions all over the world, and last year, Kahn was one of 24 individuals named as a fellow of the MacArthur Foundation, receiving the \$500,000 no-strings-attached "genius award," as the fellowships are popularly known.

Kahn lives with his wife and two young children in a big country house amid the vineyards of northern California's wine country, just outside the bucolic town of Sebastopol, located just north of San Francisco. He spends most of his time in two large studio buildings full of metalworking equipment, including a massive, 1942 milling machine that he uses to fashion prototypes of his artwork.

Kahn's work includes an array of large-scale public art pieces at locations such as the Civic Center Plaza in Arlington, Va.; Founders Court in Seattle; the San Francisco International Airport and Yahoo's headquarters in Sunnyvale, Calif.

All of them, in one way or another, derive their power and beauty from natural phenomena—the subtle shifts from chaos to order as sand piles blow in the wind; the movement of special suspensions of granular material, which can behave as a solid but liquefy when vibrated; the spontaneous birth of a vortex in a medium of fog; the play of light reflected onto waves by thousands of small mirrors, moving as though choreographed in a breeze.

The displays have mesmerized thousands of people who find themselves forced to linger on their way to a meeting or to catch a plane.

Kahn created some of his best-known works at the Exploratorium, many of which serve as the museum's signature attractions: "Tornado," in which little twisters set themselves up in swirling fog; "Chaotic Pendulum," a kind of loose-jointed stick figure of metal arms and legs, which spin about in unpredictable ways; and "Aeolian Landscape," where sand dunes rise and fall with the twist of a knob hooked to a fan.

"They're artworks," says Linda Dackman, an Exploratorium public affairs officer who has known Kahn from his early days there. "They're beautiful. And they're fascinating for different reasons. One reason is that these are in some ways miniature landscapes where these giant forces of nature are on display. It's like you get to stand outside and look in at them, which gives you an omniscient view, a god's-eye view, of how nature works."

Kahn is a plain-speaking, engaging sort who





loves nothing more than to play around with the odd little toys he has accumulated since first meeting Oppenheimer. When he finds himself becoming fascinated with the way something bends or dangles in the wind, it may become a prototype of his next creation. Some of his latest pieces may take a crew of 15 people a year to fabricate all the parts.

"I play around," he says, "and look for something that reveals the complicated behavior of things."

Just then he was playing around with sandwiches of air between sheets of glass and dry powdery materials that take on fluid properties. In another corner he had a collection of glass beads in a clear plastic container. In another model, water climbed up the outside of a sphere, trapped inside a bigger sphere.

## Art experts say Kahn is unusual, perhaps unique, in the way he straddles the worlds of science and art

One of his young sons wandered in, just home from school, and quietly began sketching at a sunlit, upper-floor desk. On the wall was a poster of dust devils. Out the window, there were rows of grapes on a hillside, dotted

with shiny pieces of foil, tied to the arbors to scare off birds.

The whole scene might have been a Kahn creation—unpredictable comings and goings, gameplaying, well-ordered patterns amid chaotic flashes of light.

"Everything I do is somehow involved in nature," Kahn says. "There are natural systems and there are man-made systems. These things I do are somewhere in between."

At UConn, Kahn started as a botany major and then tried psychology. Environmental studies was his final choice, Kahn says, because it was a broad enough area of study to encompass not just the botany and psychology but also architecture and sculpture. He says his parents thought, "What's he doing?"

It turned out he was doing something much the same as a lot of scientists—investigating nature—only with an

aesthetic aim in mind. Scientists who have worked with him say Kahn is a marvelous investigator.

He is captivated by clouds, waves and fire. He says his heart goes out to people who spend their days working and living inside "concrete places," driving back and forth in "metal cars," who may not get to appreciate too often the everyday miracle of an ocean breeze.

"The wind has amazing, intricate structure to it, an amazing assortment of textures," he says. "My whole life, summed up, is a matter of seeing something beautiful like that, really taking it in. Then when I have indulged in that for a while, I think someone else has to see this too ... Then I talk someone into putting it on the side of a building."

It's really not as simple as he makes it sound. It took him a year of trial-and-error experimentation to get the bugs out of "Tornado," for instance.

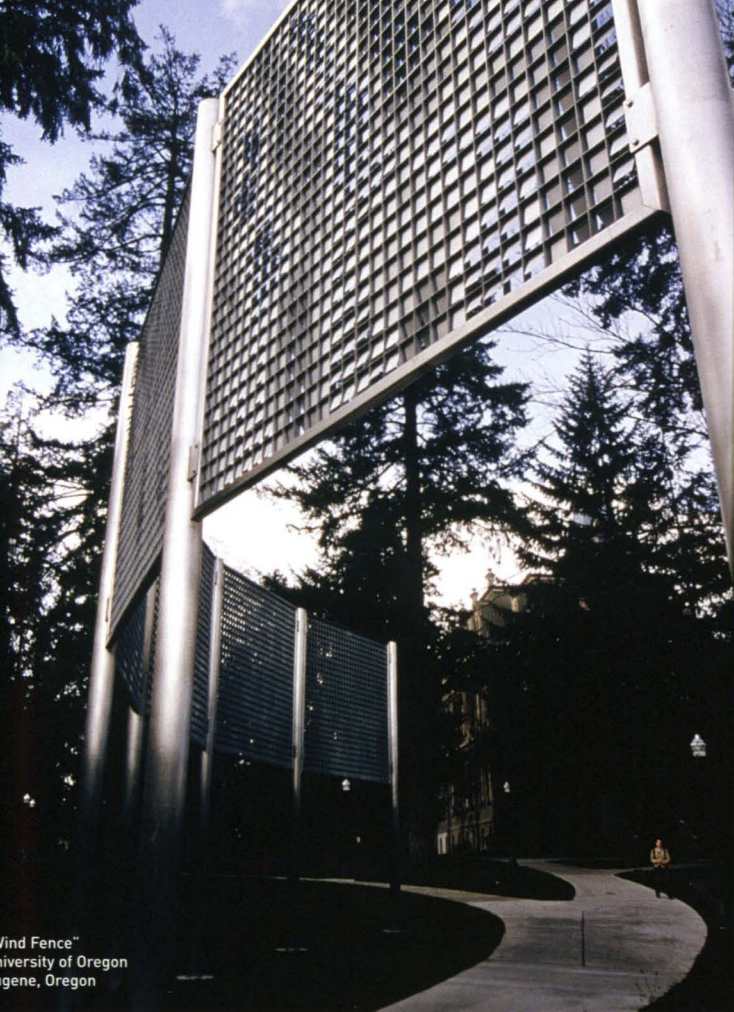
"He perseveres," says Exploratorium staff physicist Thomas Humphries, who worked alongside Kahn starting in 1984. "He just never gives up. He was going to make that tornado, for sure, so he tried new enclosures, new tracers, until finally it did work."

Kahn is no Ivory Tower art professor. He works with his hands, along with assistant Todd Barricklow, and spends a lot of time in physics labs, huddled with scientists trying to lay bare the same phenomena that interest the artist. Whereas one may be seeking to reveal the equations underlying some complex property, "Ned also wants to do some revealing, in a different way," Humphries says.

"It's about really witnessing and capturing some of these effects," he adds. "Ned is so good at exposing the fundamental, the essence of behaviors, and scientists of course are also looking for the essence of things, too. It's an inspiration, and even a help, for scientists."







"Wind Fence"  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon



"Qualis Systems Pavilion"  
IPO 2000  
Hannover, Germany

Art experts say Kahn is unusual, perhaps unique, in the way he straddles the worlds of science and art—captivated by turbulence and chaos theory, perhaps, but one who may use a lake surface or a wall as his palate, allowing color to come in by accident, depending on what the sky feels like doing.

Jennifer Dowley, president of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation in Great Barrington, Mass., got to know Kahn when she was executive director of the Headlands Center for the Arts in Sausalito, where Kahn landed in 1987 as an artist-in-residence.

That was one of his first ventures outside the Exploratorium, a critical step that led to the mature phase of his career as an independent artist. Despite all his fame and success since then, Dowley says the thing she recalls most about Kahn is his "shy and sly smile."

"It's as if he were thinking about something but also enjoying his time talking to you. With Ned there was always this sense of observing. He's self-deprecating, and very personable but he's also scanning all the time," she says.

In his own mind, Kahn is consumed by things such as onions and voids and spirals and plants bending in the wind—odd but natural things, many of which change all the time in ways no scientific formula can completely capture.

Sometimes it may take a Ned Kahn piece to capture it. Modest as he is, Kahn insisted that when it works best, it's just because the artist steps aside, allowing some element of nature itself—"Something other than me," he says—to do most of the intricate composing.

*Visit [nedkahn.com](http://nedkahn.com) to view more of Ned Kahn's work.*

"Fire Vortex"  
Technorama  
Winterthur, Switzerland







# TRACKING RED AND BLUE STATES: POLITICS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

**S**pend a day or so in Washington, D.C., and it is easy to understand how the nation's capital gives life to Aristotle's observation that "Man is by nature a political animal."

On early morning metro trains, cell phones bleep and commuters hang on to overhead railings while talking about AIDS legislation. On the streets of the city, men and women dressed in business suits hurry down the sidewalks debating foreign policy.

And in a hotel banquet room in the shadow of the U.S. Capitol, the eyes of those people attending the conference of the American Land Title Association are fixed upon their luncheon speaker, a trim man with dark, graying hair and glasses, dressed in a dark business suit and red tie, as he paces before the lectern that he occasionally leans upon.

With an infrequent glance at the papers he grips in his left hand, Stuart Rothenberg '78 Ph.D., is part political pundit and part stand-up comic as he breaks down the political landscape for the upcoming U.S. presidential election. In the bare knuckles world of 21st-century presidential politics, there are blue states for Democrats, red states for Republicans and about a dozen white states that will swing either way.

"Those of you who live in the 10-12 are relevant ... the rest of you are not. I'm sure you're all very nice people..." he says, pausing as the audience breaks out in howls of laughter. "If you're from Ohio, fake being a swing voter. You'll get a lot of attention."

A man asks a question about whether Democrats in Ohio can challenge Republican Senator George Voinovich in 2005.

"The Ohio state party is a mess. There's nothing I can do about it," Rothenberg answers, smiling as he shrugs his shoulders. "I'm probably talking to the Democratic state committee chairman."

There is more laughter as the lunch ends, the applause rises and a gaggle of conferees surround Rothenberg to ask more questions about their local political races before heading out to their next meeting.

The speech is one of many Rothenberg will give throughout the nation to similar groups this year, as the seemingly interminable 2004 presidential campaign moves toward the November election. He also serves as a regular analyst for CNN's daily political program, "Inside Politics;" appears on NBC's "Meet the Press" and C-SPAN; and writes two columns a week for *Roll Call*, the newspaper that covers Congress. Then there is his writing for *The Rothenberg Political Report*, the biweekly nonpartisan newsletter that he has published since 1989 and where his analysis of Congressional elections, gubernatorial elections and general political trends is considered a "must-read" for political insiders.

For the former political science professor who has spent nearly 25 years as one of the most respected political analysts in the nation, a presidential election year is the Super Bowl, NCAA Final Four, World Series and Master's golf championship all rolled into one.

"Does this seem like a real job? No," Rothenberg says, sitting among the political memorabilia, such as a hand puppet of former President Ronald Reagan, that surrounds his

Stu Rothenberg '78 Ph.D.  
is Washington's  
"must-read" analyst

By Kenneth Best





desk. "When it comes to politics, nothing captures the public's imagination more than a presidential election. Each election cycle is different, but Washington, D.C., is a company town and the business is politics. Everybody talks politics."

Everybody includes the inhabitants of Embassy Row in northwest Washington, where the representatives of foreign governments regularly invite Rothenberg, among a small number of respected analysts such as Michael Barone of *U.S. News & World Report* and Norman Ornstein of the American Enterprise Institute, to learn what is happening politically in the United States in order to provide world leaders with an accurate assessment of the political landscape. Washington-based reporters and political reporters from around the nation call Rothenberg for his insight and to provide him with "on the ground" views of local and state politics, helping him to assess important Congressional and state elections. He also meets with Democratic and Republican insiders to gain information about emerging political strategies.

"A lot of people in this town look to Stu to be nonpartisan and give an honest assessment of what's going on," says Nathan Gonzales, a former associate producer for CNN's "Capital Gang" and writer for CNN.com who has worked with Rothenberg for the past three years. "In a very partisan city, Stu is a breath of fresh air."

His ability to provide incisive, nonpartisan analysis is the key to why Rothenberg's views are eagerly anticipated by party insiders, politicians and the media, including his chief competition.

"I don't think anybody reads his stuff any closer than I do," says Charlie Cook, a longtime friend who publishes the competing newsletter, *The Cook Political Report*. "Whenever we disagree, which isn't often, I look at it real hard because there's a 50 percent chance I'm wrong. *Continued on page 49*



Political analyst Stuart Rothenberg '78 Ph.D. appears regularly as a guest on CNN's daily "Inside Politics" program.



## Connecticut's road warrior

*Researcher works to ease the daily jam on the highways*

Peter Morenus



**Lisa Aultman-Hall, director of UConn's Connecticut Transportation Institute and associate professor of civil and environmental engineering.**

**L**isa Aultman-Hall likes to cycle to work but says Connecticut roads could be more bike-friendly.

Fortunately for biking enthusiasts in the state, she is in a position to do something about it. As director of the Connecticut Transportation Institute in the UConn School of Engineering, Aultman-Hall oversees an organization dedicated to improving a transportation system that is often fraught with challenges. Upon joining the UConn faculty in 2001, Aultman-Hall was surprised by the nature of transportation issues in Connecticut.

"We have diverse transportation problems here, considering how small the state is," she says. "Congested freeways, heavy loads on small highways, and a lack of bicycle lanes and sidewalks are only some of the challenges."

To understand the nature and extent of everything from bicycle safety to how people plan and undertake short trips throughout the state, Aultman-Hall and her colleagues

collect data using such tools as global positioning satellite receivers and written surveys. As researchers add to the body of knowledge about how people bike and drive, engineers can plan better, safer and more varied transportation models and lead to informed public policy decisions, she says.

Aultman-Hall has been particularly successful in attracting funding for her research on traffic safety for specific drivers and circumstances, freight transportation planning, and traffic behavior. In each of her research areas, she has been prolific with articles in peer-reviewed journals, conference papers, technical reports and conference presentations.

"I think we're on the brink of realizing as a society that much of what we want in terms of quality time and quality of life relates to transportation," she says. "Many of our frustrations relate to transportation. The demands we make on our systems are certainly going to change. People love automobiles and love owning lots of land. That thinking is going to have to change if we're to succeed in developing transportation alternatives."

"In America we have an almost complete dependence on the automobile, which makes our transportation system very vulnerable," she says. "Educating people about this limitation and seeking ways to diversify our transportation system are very important."

Aultman-Hall invests considerable effort in educating audiences both inside and outside the University. She is active with the Transportation Research Board, part of the National Academy of Sciences, and chairs its Committee on Bicycle Transportation. She also participates in the American Society of Civil Engineers' Committee on Human Powered Transportation and has served on several state and national transportation advisory groups.

In the classroom, Aultman-Hall emphasizes two-way communication with students.

"Their ideas and feedback help me to say better, more relevant things so I can give them a solid grounding in research fundamentals and help them understand the real-world applications of the science," she says.

And what does she think of the Segway™, the latest human transporter?

"It's a clever vehicle that belongs on the road in a bike lane, not on a sidewalk. Speed is the issue. Nevertheless, it's an excellent vehicle with promise," she says.

— Scott Brinkerhoff



# Exploring hip-hop in an academic way

*Professor teaches there is more to hip-hop than just a good rhyme*

**M**ost students would be hard pressed to find a professor who could say he or she personally recalled the time and place of significant events that are the subject of a course they teach.

However, students in UConn history professor Jeffrey Ogbar's class on the evolution of hip-hop hear lectures peppered with memories from a professor who has seen the music genre grow into a force that permeates the air waves, influences fashion and adds words such as "jiggy" (meaning to be cool or with it) to the dictionary.

In Hip-Hop, Politics and Youth Culture in America, Ogbar reminisces about attending a concert by rap pioneers Run-D.M.C. when he was a teenager growing up in Los Angeles, known by his nickname, "Speed," and trying his hand at being a rapper.

As hip-hop matured, so did Ogbar as he went on to college and eventually earned his doctorate in history. Today he is one of a growing number of scholars whose passion is now taught as history to a new generation.

Ogbar began teaching his hip-hop class in 1998 as a small discussion course for freshmen. It soon became a favorite, and two years later he created a regular class that quickly reaches its full capacity.

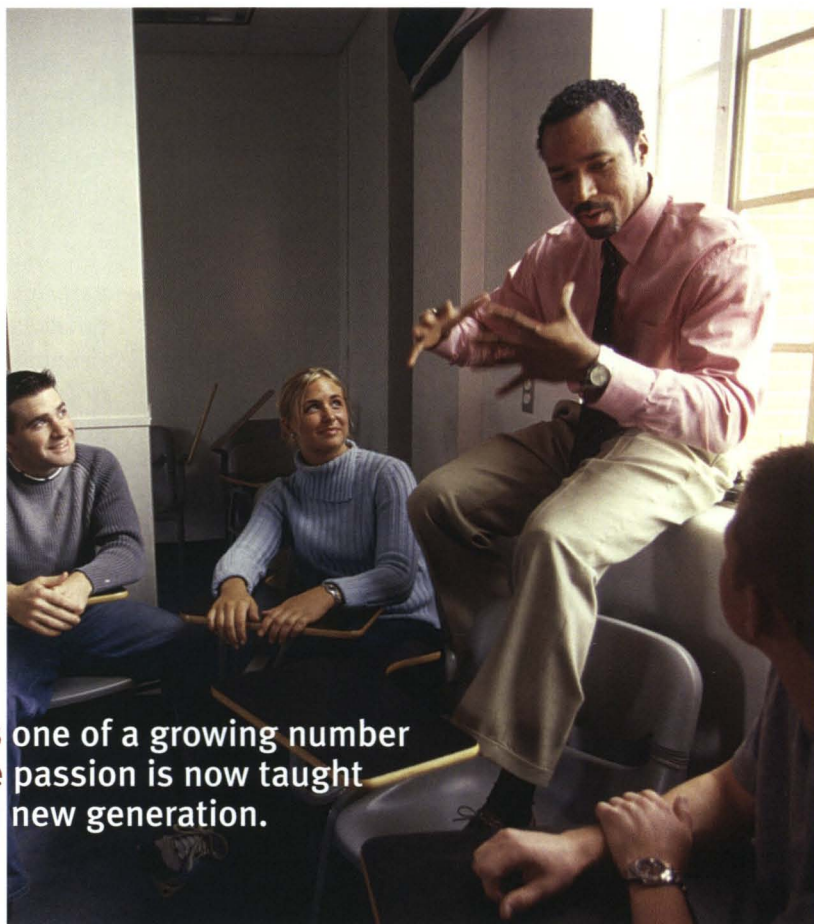
"The people who were raised as part of the hip-hop generation are now in a position to intellectually gauge it like never before," Ogbar says. "Being from the hip-hop generation, my classes have certain nuances that others can't offer."

With Atlanta-duo Outkast topping this year's Grammy awards, hip-hop remains on a musical journey from discovery to mainstream acceptance, inching closer to dominating popular music, Ogbar says.

"It's a fundamental trajectory that we see with jazz and rock and roll," he says. "It bubbles up in marginal sections of the black community, it's attacked for being crude and eventually finds its way into American pop music."

Today, hip-hop beats are heard in commercials even as Cookie Monster scratches records on a turntable. Rapping

**Today Ogbar is one of a growing number of scholars whose passion is now taught as history to a new generation.**



Jeffrey Ogbar, assistant professor of history, combines music, sociology and history in his class Hip-Hop, Politics and Youth Culture in America.

giants such as Jay-Z are retiring and hip-hop slang such as "dis" and "bling, bling," has become a familiar lexicon to many, signaling the music genre's age and staying power.

In Ogbar's course it isn't enough for students to recognize a good lyric, known as a "dope rhyme." They have to understand what makes the music so powerful. Even the most avid hip-hop heads are challenged by course work that requires them to study how Marxism, gentrification, poetry and other ideas and art forms have influenced the music genre that sprung from urban neighborhoods. Students pen their own lyrics and write research papers on how hip-hop is related to political and social events.

"Most students don't expect considerable academic rigor," Ogbar says. "The question for them is how can you explore hip-hop in an academic way? Hip-hop is pregnant with possibilities." — Peyton Woodson Cooper

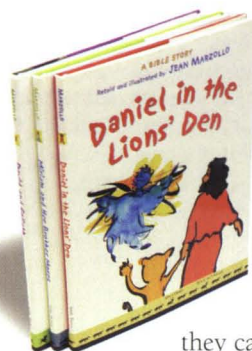




## Recent works by alumni and faculty

### I Spy an avocation

After many years of success with the *I Spy* series of educational books, as well as books on science, history, poetry and sports, author Jean Marzollo '64 (CLAS) has combined her writing career with her love for painting in a new series of books based on biblical writings.



"The stories in the Bible are endlessly interesting. Look how long they've lasted compared with the best writers of today," says Marzollo. "The stories are so great they can be read on many levels. My heart leapt at the possibility of doing them."

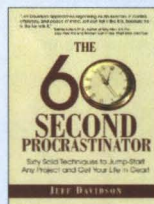
The Bible story series is published by Little, Brown and Company and includes *Miriam and Her Brother Moses*, *Daniel in the Lion's Den* and *David and Goliath*. The books feature her colorful paintings that illustrate each story.

Combining her professional and amateur interests is another turn in Marzollo's journey from her days as a home economics-turned-English major at UConn. A demanding English literature professor's critique of her writing inspired Marzollo to work harder. "He thought my compositions were too sentimental. That motivated me to write something about *The Grand Inquisitor* by Dostoevsky to show him I could write more intellectually," she says. "He gave me an A plus. It gave me the confidence that I could write for an intended audience. My education at UConn was terrific. I had wonderful classes."

After going on to earn a master's in education, she became a high school teacher in Massachusetts before deciding she wanted to pursue a career in writing. Moving to New York City, Marzollo became the editor of Scholastic's kindergarten magazine, *Let's Find Out*, a position she held for 20 years. One day a colleague suggested that she try writing a children's book. A partnership with photographer Walter Wick resulted in the first of the seven popular *I Spy* books and spin-off games and puzzles, which challenge youngsters to identify and find objects that fit in with rhyming riddles. The series led her to a new career as a best-selling author of more than 100 children's books.

Marzollo says before each of her books is final, she visits classrooms to read the stories to children. "A lot of writers think of a parent reading to a child. I always think of the books being read to groups of children," she says. "I go into schools to see if kids get them and that they're not bored. I can see out of the corner of my eye if they're squirming around or if they're laughing." — *Kenneth Best*

## ALSO OF INTEREST



### The 60 Second Procrastinator

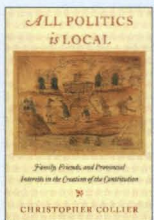
Jeff Davidson '73 (BUS), '74 M.B.A.  
(Adams Media)

Self-help books and management handbooks share a common trait: They break down complicated tasks into smaller, less daunting dilemmas that help move the reader toward resolving whatever situation may be at hand.

UConn alum Jeff Davidson, a management consultant and motivational speaker, has been a prolific author on such topics, having previously written several books, including *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Managing Your Time* and *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Managing Stress*.

Recognizing the difficulty of getting procrastinators to even begin reading, Davidson offers an easily accessible compilation of 60 essays filled with familiar, everyday examples of barriers to productivity and common sense approaches to overcoming them.

Combining psychology and management principles with humor and crisp writing, Davidson's book provides more than just an opportunity for procrastinators to fill out a collection of books on the subject. — *K.B.*



### All Politics Is Local

Christopher Collier  
(University Press of New England)

One of the 20th century's greatest politicians, Thomas P. (Tip) O'Neill of Massachusetts, who served as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, offered the sage observation that "All politics is local." Christopher Collier, UConn professor emeritus of history and Connecticut state historian, agrees with O'Neill and argues in his latest book that the concept originates from the days of the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

Challenging conventional views of why state delegates acted as they did in developing the U.S. Constitution, Collier makes the case in *All Politics Is Local* that Connecticut's 40 anti-Federalist representatives were not motivated in their decision making by ideology, economics or intellect. Instead, he says, it was family and militia connections, local politics and other more practical considerations.

Collier argues further that a state-centered micro-study of each of the other 12 original states is necessary to fully understand the origins of the U.S. Constitution and to help complete historical and contemporary interpretations of what the framers had in mind. — *K.B.*



# News&Notes

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Let your fellow UConn alumni know about the milestones in your life. You can keep them up to date by sending information and, if possible, a photograph, to Alumni News & Notes, University of Connecticut Alumni Association, Alumni Drive, Storrs, CT 06269; by fax to 860-486-2849; by e-mail to [alumni-news@uconn.edu](mailto:alumni-news@uconn.edu); or online at [www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu](http://www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu)



### ■ Reunion Weekend 2005 Volunteers needed June 10th & 11th

Volunteers are needed for the 2005 Reunion Weekend Planning Committee. If you are from the Class of 1980, 1955, 1950, 1945, or 1940 and are interested in being a part of this group, please contact Kim Lachut '90 (ED) at

860-486-2240 or toll-free at 888-UC-ALUM-1. She can also be reached by email at [kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu](mailto:kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu).

### ■ Special Interest Reunions

Interested in reconnecting with that special group of friends? Let the UConn Alumni Association help. If you have a specific group (i.e., dorm, student organization, fraternity, sorority, athletic team, intramural team, etc.) that you would like to get together, contact Kim Lachut '90 (ED) at 860-486-2240 or toll-free at 888-UC-ALUM-1, and she can help you. She also can be contacted by e-mail: [kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu](mailto:kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu).

## 1940s

**Robert H. Foote '43 (RHSA)** is professor emeritus of animal physiology and Jacob Gould Shurman Professor in the department of animal science at Cornell University. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Ithaca, N.Y., and have two children, Robert and Dale.

**Alfred L. Marder '46 (CLAS)** received the Mexican Legion of Honor in a ceremony at the University of Puebla in Mexico. He is president of the U.S. Peace Council, vice president of the International Association of Peace Messenger Cities and chairman of the City of New Haven Peace Commission.

**Herbert E. Baldwin Jr. '47 (CANR)** is a financial services consultant in Frankfort, Ind.

**Marilyn V. Spence '49 (CLAS), '52 M.A.** retired from teaching in 1987 and is one of five retired teachers selected for the Teacher Honor Roll at Norwalk High School in Norwalk, Conn.

## 1950s

**Erwin von Allmen '50 (CLAS)** and his sister-in-law, **Lois von Allmen Smith '60 (NUR)** published an article in the journal *Topics in Stroke Rehabilitation*.

**Wesley W. Parke '51 (CLAS), '54 M.S., '57 Ph.D.** retired as professor and chairman emeritus, department of anatomy, University of South Dakota School of Medicine. He is still keeping active with research and editing journal manuscripts.

**Margery (Gaylord) McBurney '55 (SFS), '63 M.A.** and her husband, Dean, were recognized as honorary alumni at Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio,



where she taught for 29 years before retiring in 1993.

**Richard Kallerman '55 (BUS)** has worked on environmental issues since retiring from IBM in 1989. He hosts a long-running radio show on alternative transportation and was recognized as the Sierra Club's Central Texas Volunteer of the Year and with the Texas State Service Award. He lives in Austin, Texas.

**Janet Warshaw '55 (CLAS)** manages an ocular pathology laboratory at the University of Rochester Medical Center in Rochester, N.Y.

**Peter B. Skonieczny '57 (PHR)** retired after 38 years as director of pharmacy at New Britain (Conn.) General Hospital. He and his wife live in New Britain and are enjoying their four children and four grandchildren.



**Yvonne Condell '58 M.A., '65 Ph.D.** began a one-year term as board chair for the Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union Board

of Directors.

**Mark F. Gross '58 (CLAS), '61 J.D.** was installed as an associate minister at Friendship Baptist Church in Stratford, Conn.

## 1960s

**William O'Connor Jr. '62 (BUS)** works for Travelers Insurance Company and was recognized as an outstanding course leader by the American Institute for CPCU and the Insurance Institute of America. He and his wife, Patricia, live in West Hartford, Conn., and have two children.

**Peter Phillips '64 (SFA)** is the author of the book *Creating the Perfect Design Brief: How to Manage Design for Strategic Advantage* (Allworth Press).

**Stephen Cohen '65 (CLAS)** is manager of information technology contracting for the County of Los Angeles in California and a volunteer in the Senior Citizens Advocacy Program of the Legal Aid Society of Orange County. He received his law degree from Pepperdine University School of Law.

**Winifred Laraine Hoyt '65 (NUR)** is a full-time clinical nursing instructor for licensed practical nursing students at Manatee Technical Institute in Bradenton, Fla. She vacations in Michigan, New York and Norway to visit her three children and four grandchildren.

## ABBREVIATION KEY

### School and/or College abbreviations for baccalaureate graduates

**CANR** – College of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
**SAH** – School of Allied Health  
**CLAS** – College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
**BUS** – School of Business  
**SFA** – School of Fine Arts  
**ED** – Neag School of Education  
**ENG** – School of Engineering  
**SFS** – School of Family Studies  
**BGS** – General Studies  
**NUR** – School of Nursing  
**PHR** – School of Pharmacy  
**RHSA** – Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture  
**SSW** – School of Social Work

### Graduate/professional degree abbreviations

**M.A.** – Master of Arts  
**M.S.** – Master of Science  
**M.D.S.** – Master of Dental Science  
**M.B.A.** – Master of Business Admin.  
**M.F.A.** – Master of Fine Arts  
**M.M.** – Master of Music  
**M.P.A.** – Master of Public Affairs  
**M.P.H.** – Master of Public Health  
**M.S.W.** – Master of Social Work  
**M.S.P.T.** – Master of Science in Physical Therapy  
**Ph.D.** – Doctor of Philosophy  
**D.M.A.** – Doctor of Musical Arts  
**J.D.** – Juris Doctor  
**M.D.** – Doctor of Medicine  
**D.M.D.** – Doctor of Dental Medicine  
**Pharm.D.** – Doctor of Pharmacy  
**6th year** – Sixth-year certificate



## PROFILE

## Engineering the end of the Cold War

Few people can contribute to the fate of nations.

**Raymond H. Williams, Jr. '65 (ENG), '69 M.S.** has helped do that by having a significant role in developing the formidable deterrent capabilities of nuclear submarines, one of the key factors in global diplomacy during the Cold War era.

"In my view, nuclear submarines were the primary force in ending the Cold War," says Williams, director of naval architecture at General Dynamics Electric Boat Corporation in Groton, Conn. "The U.S. nuclear submarine has a very integrated weapons platform, and its stealth is superior to anything else in the world."

Last year Williams joined the exclusive ranks of the University of Connecticut's Academy of Distinguished Engineers, which honors alumni who have made "sustained and exemplary contributions to the engineering profession." He was cited for "significant contributions" to the design, engineering and development of all classes of submarines, including Ohio, Virginia and Sea Wolf.

He credits the UConn School of Engineering with giving him "a great foundation" for his career.

Williams always had a penchant for tinkering, a childhood interest he developed while fixing broken equipment on his grandfather's dairy farm. He arrived at UConn in the early 1960s



to study mechanical engineering and joined the nuclear submarine training program at Electric Boat after graduation. As he rose through company ranks, he earned his master's degree attending UConn at night. Williams served as chief mechanical engineer before becoming director of naval architecture in 1994.

By the early 1990s, Electric Boat faced a new challenge as the Cold War wound down and the U.S. Navy commissioned fewer nuclear subs.

"When that happened, we had to re-engineer the organization," Williams says. He became so effective at enhancing operational efficiencies, he adds, "my boss anointed me the general in the effort on the war on costs."

Williams still has close ties to his alma mater.

He frequently hires UConn engineering graduates because "the program was rock solid when I was there and still is." Electric Boat currently employs around 100 UConn alumni. Williams monitors major university research nationally for projects that Electric Boat may find useful, noting that "UConn is one of our primary sources of engineering interests."

Williams is keeping a close eye on UConn's Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center for possible applications to unmanned underwater vehicles. He is also looking to develop more opportunities for U.S. Navy research with the University, saying, "UConn has the right facilities to make things happen."

—Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)

**Joel Pasternak '65 (BUS)** was promoted to group manager at Republic Mortgage Insurance Company in Winston-Salem, N.C.

**Larry Urda '66 (ED)** retired in June after 38 years as a teacher, coach and public school principal in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. He and his wife, **Beth (McNeil) Urda '65 (SFS)**, will be moving to their lakefront home on Mirror Lake, N.H.

**Joseph Migliore Jr. '67 (BUS)** retired in 2002 after 32 years as a claims service consultant in the insurance industry. He and his wife, Carol, spend time between their homes in Hamden, Conn., and Naples, Fla.

**Carl Lawton '68 (ENG), '85 M.S., '90 Ph.D.** is director of the Massachusetts Bioprocess Development Center, an interdisciplinary research and development and education center that assists start-up biotechnology companies, located at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

**Sandy (Bologna) Maineri '68 (ED) and Albert Maineri '70 (CLAS)** have been married for 31 years. Sandy is a freelance writer and has been a dealer of antiques and vintage jewelry. Albert is a history teacher in Southington, Conn. They have two daughters, Alberta and Terese.

**George Schuttler '69 (SFA)** received the 2003 Outstanding Faculty Award at Michigan State University, where he is a professor of theater.

**Paul Speltz '69 (BUS), '72 M.B.A.** was named as economic and financial emissary to China by U.S. Treasury Secretary John Snow. He will be responsible for leading the Treasury's ongoing program to strengthen its economic and financial activities with China.

**Bob Stepno '69 (CLAS)** received his Ph.D. in December 2003 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Thomas G. West '69 J.D.** was honored by the Connecticut Supreme Court as part of Law Day 2004, which celebrated the 50th anniversary of the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. He has served as a Connecticut Appellate Court judge since 2002, previously serving as administrative judge in Danbury.

## 1970s

**Miriam Erick '70 (SFS)** is a diabetes educator and high-risk perinatal dietitian at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Mass. Her new book is *Managing Morning Sickness* (Bull Publishing).

**Bob Takacs '70 (CLAS)** is the developer and owner of Gemstonegarden.com, based in New York City.

**Frank Bachyrycz '71 (PHR)** received the Adjunct Professor Appreciation Award from Western Connecticut State University, where he teaches

advanced clinical pharmacology in the department of nursing.

**Susan Dutch '71 (CLAS), M.A. '74, Ph.D. '80**, professor of psychology at Westfield State College, was selected as the winner of the 2004 Psi Chi/Florence L. Denmark National Faculty Advisor Award, which annually recognizes the faculty advisor who has made outstanding contributions both to Psi/Chi and to the field of psychology at the local, regional and national levels.

**Sherrill Hayes '71 (SAH), '82 M.S.** was appointed assistant dean for women's health and associate director of the Institute for Women's Health at the



University of Miami School of Medicine. She is also chair of the department of physical therapy.



**David Leferman '71 (CLAS)**, '73 M.A. is a senior director for Birds Eye Foods in Rochester, N.Y. He lives in Rochester with his wife, Maria, and their three teenage children.

**Anthony D'Andrea '72 (ENG)** is chairman of the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

**Dennis Hurshman '72 (CLAS)** earned an M.A. in conflict resolution from Columbia College in 2000 and an M.A. in organizational management from the University of Phoenix in 2002. He lives in S.C. with his wife, Regina, and teenage son, Nick.

**Jeffrey Heidtman '73 M.S.** is chief executive officer of Fuss & O'Neill, where he has worked nearly 30 years, and was recent-

ly elected to the board of the Manchester Community College Foundation. He lives in Manchester, Conn.

**Thomas O'Neill '73 (CLAS)** has served as a probation officer in Massachusetts for the last 30 years. He was recognized for exemplary work, professionalism and dedication to the field by the state commissioner of probation.

**Jessie Lee '74 (CLAS)** has formed Patrick Hubert Partners, LLC, which provides marketing and business development expertise to investment management companies in the San Francisco Bay area.

**Norma Meligonis '74 (CANR)** completed licensure graduate classes at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. She is a special education teacher in Virginia Beach, Va. where she lives with her husband, Dennis.

## Submit your News & Notes item online

[www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu](http://www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu)

**Theresa Bruneau '75 (NUR)** is an owner/manager of a medical transcription service. She and her husband of 26 years live in Florida and are enjoying sun, fun and travel.

**David Carlson '75 (BUS)** is senior vice president and deputy chief financial officer for Hartford Life. He also is a fellow of the Life Management Institute and is active in several industry groups, including the American Council of Life Insurers.

**Hyun Lillehoj '75 M.S.** is a microbiologist with the Animal Parasitic Diseases Laboratory in the Animal & Natural Resources Institute in Beltsville, Md., part of the U.S. Agricultural Research Service. She was recognized as the Outstanding Senior Research Scientist of 2003.

**William Denehy '76 (BUS)** was named senior vice president, director of marketing and retail banking, for South Shore Co-operative Bank. He lives in Plymouth, Mass., with his wife, Pat.

**Robert Glasser '76 (BUS)** is executive vice president and chief financial officer of Tadiran Telecom Inc. He lives in Port Washington, N.Y., with his wife of 25 years, Randy, and their three children.

**Pamela Fishman '77 (BUS)** is the director of marketing and development with The Golden Triangle BID in Washington, D.C. She has two children and in her free

## PROFILE

### Empowered to help others

As president and CEO of Empower New Haven, **Althea Marshall '91 (SFS)** makes decisions affecting the lives of thousands of local residents. The non-profit organization administers millions of dollars in federally funded development grants to low-income neighborhoods. It's a job she has been preparing for all her life.

"The desire to help others has always been in me," says Marshall, who is the first person in her family to earn a college degree. As a youth, she helped on local political campaigns and was inspired by her mother's work on Waterbury's Democratic town committee. But it was her UConn education, she says, that crystallized her plans to become "a positive agent of change."

At the School of Family Studies, she met two professors, Velma McBride Murray and Patricia Bell Scott, who became mentors. "They really took the time to speak to me...and explain how I could take what I was learning in an academic setting and put it into practice," Marshall says.

McBride Murray reminded Marshall of her mother—"very outspoken, very upfront and really supportive." Scott gave her a

deeper understanding of how issues centering on African-American culture affects families.

While at UConn, Marshall also served as human relations chair for the African-American Cultural Center. "It was a place of support for African American students to celebrate our heritage," she says. After graduation, Marshall gained experience in a progression of social services jobs before going on to earn a master's degree in sociology and a master's of divinity.

By 2002, Marshall's accomplishments had attracted the attention of Empower New Haven president and CEO Sherri Killins, who recruited her first to become a consultant and then a senior program manager. When Killins left Empower New Haven Marshall was named as her permanent replacement. She now directs federal money into housing, job training and business projects aimed at improving local neighborhoods.

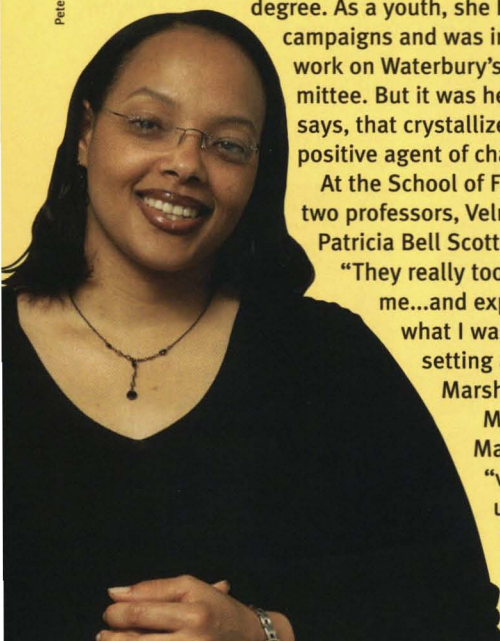
She says she did not fully appreciate the impact of her efforts until last October, during a community event featuring speakers who benefited from a home ownership project.

"When I first got into community economic development, the human services component was not immediately apparent to me," she says. "But when these diverse families spoke out on how our program changed their lives, I could see it in their faces."

At that moment, she says, the connection between her current job and her UConn education "came full circle," the understanding that assisting families to become more economically stable and secure also benefits the community at large.

"I realized human services work can influence life experiences, but when you improve housing you impact generations."

—Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)





time she teaches spin and pilates classes.

**Joel Hurliman '77 (CANR)** was sworn in as deputy chief



of the Shelton (Conn.) Police Department on Jan. 8, 2004. He is a recent graduate of the FBI National Academy and is also currently a master sergeant in the Connecticut Army National Guard with more than 22 years of service.

**John Kanter '77 (CLAS)**, is owner and founder of TAM



Communications in Stamford, (Conn.) the publisher of *RoadBike* magazine and *American Iron Magazine*, one of the nation's fastest growing magazines.

**Kathryn Reineke Meyering '77 (SFS)** received an M.A. in religious studies from Hartford Seminary in Oct. 2003. She teaches kindergarten in an independent school and is a freelance writer on issues of religion and spirituality. She and husband, **Mark Meyering '77 (CLAS)**, live in Middletown, Conn.

**Francisco Pardo De Zela '77 M.B.A.** has spent the past year studying Vietnamese in preparation for his new post as commercial counselor to the American Embassy in Vietnam. He previously was posted at the U.S. Embassy in Lagos, Nigeria, and has also served in Panama, Australia, India, Portugal and Brazil.

**Sally Ann Palumbo '77 (SAH)** was promoted to supervisor of rehabilitation services at Yale-New Haven Hospital. She previously was a staff therapist, senior therapist and clinical education coordinator. She lives in Branford, Conn., and is an adjunct faculty member at Quinnipiac University.

**Robert Campanaro '78 (ENG), '80 M.S.** has been vice president of Coastline Construction Corporation in Clinton, Conn., since 1992.

**Saul Kassin '79 Ph.D.** is professor of psychology and chair of legal studies at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass.

**Mark Collins '79 (ENG)** and Marta (Goty) Collins announce the adoption of Julia Alyona, 5, and Spencer Anton, 3, from Russia in 2003. Mark is director of engineering for AC Technology Corporation in Uxbridge, Mass. The family lives on their farm in Woodstock, Conn.

**Mark DiOrio '79 (ENG)** is founder of two companies in Silicon Valley: MTB Solutions, specializing in semiconductor packaging, and Celerity Research, which developed a new technology for silicon wafer testing.

## 1980s

**Anthony Bland '80 (BUS)** is president of Financial Fitness Company of America and has published his first book, *Six Steps to Financial Fitness*, a personal finance book.

**Gregory Curcio '80 (CLAS)** opened a new law office in Cambridge, Mass.

**Suzanne (Tumicki) Harle '80 (CLAS)** is founder and executive director of Green Planet Films, Inc., a nature, environmental and conservation films DVD rental and sales distribution non-profit corporation. She lives in Mill Valley, Calif.



**William Knox '80 (CLAS)** is vice president, legal affairs and administration for Fruit Growers Supply Company in Sherman Oaks, Calif. He joined the company in 2003 as general counsel and corporate secretary.

**Gene LeFebvre '80 (CLAS)** is a director with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority-Paratransit Division, overseeing contracted transportation services for the disabled community in New York City. He has homes in Manhattan and in Sullivan County, N.Y.

**Rick McMaster '80 Ph.D.**, an executive project manager at IBM, in Austin, Texas, was named Volunteer of the Year by the Travis Chapter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers.

**Brian Zibuda '80 (BUS)** is senior vice president of group benefits at Couch Braunsdorf Insurance in Attleboro, Mass.

**Janice Pasquale '81 (ED)** is coordinator of arts and enrichment at Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital in New Haven, Conn.



**Frank Pontarelli '81 Ph.D.** was named the dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein Graduate School at Johnson & Wales University, which has campuses in Providence, R.I.; Charleston, S.C.; Norfolk, Va.; North Miami, Fla.; and Denver, Colo.



**Gregory Sparzo '81 (CLAS)** was elected chairman of the Cheshire (Conn.) Republican Town Committee for 2004-2006. He lives in Cheshire with his wife, Dianne, and two sons.

**Susan Wang '81 M.B.A.** joined the board of directors of Nektar Therapeutics in San Carlos, Calif. She retired as chief financial officer of Solectron in 2002.

**Irving DeGraw '82 M.B.A.** was appointed assistant professor of business management at Washington College in Chestertown, Md.

**Alex Hasychak '82 (CLAS)** retired as a special agent with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Texas. He returned to Connecticut and now teaches, lectures, and does volunteer work for the Wethersfield Historical Society and the Audubon Society.



**Susan (Koch) Renner '82 (BUS)** and her husband announce the birth of Margaret Elizabeth in 2003, who joins Katie, 15; Bobby, 13; and John, 9. Susan is a CPA and the treasurer of American Cruise Lines in Haddam, Conn.

**Frank P. Bergonzi Jr. '83 (ENG)** is director of distributors, North America, for BASF Corporation. He previously was director of national distributors for Shell Chemical LP. He and his wife, **Mary-Lisa (Shukis) '84 (ENG)**, live in Westport, Conn., with their three children.

**Paul Catanese '83 (CLAS)** has signed a three-book contract with Simon and Schuster to write a series of novels inspired by classic fairy tales. The first book, *The Thief and the Beanstalk*, will be published in spring 2005. He lives in Bolton, Conn., with his wife, **Lisa (Stenza) Catanese '83 (CLAS)**, and their three children.

**Carole-Lynn (DeNigris) Saros '83 (BUS), '89 M.B.A.** was recognized as one of the top representatives by InterSecurities, Inc., an independent broker dealer serving financial professionals nationwide.

**Michael Townsend '83 (ENG), '94 M.B.A.** is president of Polytec, Inc., a manufacturer of laser-based measuring instruments in Auburn, Mass. He and his wife, Linda, celebrated the birth of their third son, Griffin Farrell, in 2003. The family lives in Upton, Mass.



Mary Kocol '84 (SFA) has her photograph on the cover of the best-selling John Grisham novel *The Last Juror*.

Franklin "Chip" Darius '85 (SFS), '88 M.A. and Marla Joyce (Borio) Darius '88 (NUR) have been married for 16 years. Chip is founder and owner of Safety Priority Consultants LLC in New Britain, Conn. Marla is a registered nurse at home with their four sons and daughter.

Patrick Letellier '85 (CLAS) is a freelance journalist and is the first winner of the Sarah Pettit Memorial Award for Excellence in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Media, a national journalism award. He married his partner of six years, Keith Hodge, in a ceremony at San Francisco City Hall on Feb. 13, 2004.



Robert Duley '86 (CLAS) is director of sales at Forest Express and spends his free time running, playing and coaching soccer, and writing. He has lived in Roswell, Ga., for the last 10 years with his wife, Paula, and their three children.

Steve Gavazzi '86 M.A., '91 Ph.D. was promoted to full professor in the department of human development and family science at The Ohio State University.



Lee Ann (Lewis) Jasinski '86 (SFS) is director of entertainment sales and marketing for SVM Corporate Marketing in New York City. She lives in New Jersey with her husband, Joe.

Rock Woodstock '86 (CLAS) is a contracting officer with the U.S. Army Tank Automotive & Armaments Command (TACOM). He participated in a program that allows civilian employees to accompany active army units in the field to experience customer requirements first hand.



Thomas Doggart '87 (ENG), '94 M.S. has started his own metallurgical engineering company, Nomad Metallurgy Inc., focused on industrial support, in Fort Mill, S.C.



V. Ashley Gasque '87 (CLAS) is the regional director for Africa on corporate marketing and program development for the International Executive Service Corps, based in Johannesburg, South Africa. She manages a trade promotion program funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development promoting trade between 14 African countries and the U.S.

Toby Lantz '87 (CLAS) celebrated the eighth year of his company, Suncoast Office Systems Inc., in Jacksonville, Fla.

Sandra Weingart '87 (CANR) was promoted with tenure to associate librarian at Utah State University in May 2003. She celebrated with a trip to Ireland accompanied by her mother, Patricia Henson Weingart '57 (SFS), and her sisters, Maria Weingart Nye '84 (CANR) and Janet Weingart Smith '88 (CANR).

Ramani Durvasula '88 (CLAS) and her husband, Charles Hinkin, celebrated the birth of their second daughter, Shanti Lindeman Hinkin, on July 26, 2003. She joins her big sister, Maya. The family lives in Calabasas, Calif.

Jill Keith '88 (ED), '95 M.A. has been a special educator for 13 years and is working for the Norwich, Conn., public schools. She married in 1994 and has two children, Joseph, 6, and Andre, 3.



Michael Flores '89 (CLAS) is an associate specializing in domestic relations litigation with the law firm of Zissou and Veara, in Dennis, Mass. He and his wife, Sarah, live in Harwich, Mass., with their two daughters.

William Jagrosse Jr. '89 (CLAS) is working as a registered nurse in the health care field.

David Tiedemann '89 (CLAS) is the head golf professional at Shelter Harbor Golf Club, a new course slated to open in Westerly, R.I., this summer. He returns to New England from his previous position at Scioto Country Club in Columbus, Ohio, the course where Jack Nicklaus learned to play golf.



## 1990s

Chantel (Antonini) DiPronio '90 (SFS) and her husband, Nicholas, celebrated the birth of their first child, Mia Isabella KiPonio, on March 12, 2004. The family lives in Stratford, Conn.

Kimberly (Crolle) Fleury '90 (NUR) and her husband, Ray, announce the birth of their son, Jace Christopher, born Aug. 11, 2003.

Gary Girouard '90 (ED) recently released his debut solo piano CD, *The Naked Piano*. He lives on Cape Cod, Mass.

Julia (Wugmeister) Brennan '91 (CLAS) and her husband, Mark, are employed by Synapse Group, a division of Time Inc., and live in Stamford with their son, Eli Daniel, who was born on April 15, 2003.

Pamela (Bellmore) Gardner '91 (CLAS) and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of their daughter, Mackenzie Lillian, on May 19, 2003. Pamela is the assistant principal at Bunnell High School in Stratford, Conn., and co-chair of the 2004 Northeast Regional Conference on Social Studies. The family lives in West Haven, Conn.

Paul Stuart '91 (ENG) and Jill (McKinlay) Stuart '88 (ED), '90 (SAH), '99 M.S. are celebrating the birth of their fourth child, Libby Katherine, born March 8, 2004. Libby joins her three brothers, Nolan, Hunter, and Galvin, at their home in Old Saybrook, Conn.

Kerri (Barron) Charette '92 (ED), published the first book



produced by Moms In Print, *Misadventures of Moms and Disasters of Dads*, an anthology of parenting humor. She also hosts "Families in the Making," an adoption talk show on cable television in southeastern Connecticut.

## IN MEMORIAM

### ALUMNI

Melvin Thomas Bishop '35  
Renato Spadola '40  
Susan (Lewis) Spencer '47  
John Blake Jr. '50  
Gordon Harris '52  
Harry Lake '52  
Joan P. Cobb '55  
William Connor '55  
Edward White '56  
Mitchell Gardner '60  
Perry Smart II '64  
Theodore Barchauski '65  
Arthur Zucker '65  
Sung Lee '66  
David Paul Gery '70  
Robert L. LaTaille '72  
Robert Giacomi '73  
Judith Gorman Ruskin '74  
Bryant Bullock '77  
Lisa Marie (Banks) Farraq '83  
Lisa Mallozzi '85  
Deborah Greenberg '91



**Kristi (Greges) Gannon '92 (SFS)** and her husband, James, welcomed their first child, James Francis, on Feb. 6, 2004. The family lives in New York City and Litchfield County, Conn.

**John S. Ho '92 (CLAS)** is an associate in the labor and employment law department of Bond, Schoeneck & King PLLC in Syracuse, N.Y. He previously was a prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Labor. He received his Juris Doctorate from St. John's University School of Law in 1997.



**Barry Inger '92 (CLAS)** and his wife, Maureen, announce the birth of Brian Maurice on Oct. 16, 2003. Brian joins big sister Elizabeth, 5, and big brother Kevin, 3. Barry is a sales manager for Serano Networks of Boxborough, Mass. The family lives in Groveland, Mass.

**Denise (Osborne) Hamann '93 (ED)** married Craig Osborne in May 2002. The couple celebrated the birth of their daughter, Christina, in August 2003.

**Brian Kelly '93 (SFA, ED)** and **Tyenne Straatveit-Kelly '93 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their second child, Bryson Nils, on Sept. 3, 2003. Bryson was welcomed by big sister, Lilah Bryn, 3. The family lives in Newington, Conn.

**Christine Scherma Marin '93 (SFS)** and **Marc Marin '92 (CLAS)** announce the birth of Julia Rose, on March 3, 2004, who was welcomed by her brother, Kyle, 2. Marc is an English teacher in Fairfield, Conn., and Christine is a school social worker in Milford, Conn.

**Charles Norris '93 J.D.** and his wife, Lynn, announce the birth of their son, Charles Jr., on Jan. 20, 2004.

**Mollie (Jacobson) Quinn '93, '95 (CLAS)** and **Don Quinn '93 (BUS)** announce the birth of their son Aidan Thomas on

Jan. 29, 2004. Aidan joins big brothers DJ, 6, and Devin, 5, and sister, Summer Rose, 1. The family lives in Colchester, Conn.

**Beth Taylor '93 (ED)** married James Mack on May 1, 2004.

**Tiffany Violette '93 (CLAS)** and her husband, Mahfouz Shaban, announce the birth of their daughter, Amina Jane Shaban, on March 1, 2004.

**Anna (Long) Brimfield '94 (CLAS)** and her husband, Jonathan, welcomed a son, Jackson Thomas, on March 6, 2002. Anna works in pharmaceutical sales for Merck. They live in Chapel Hill, N.C.

**Cheryl Bueno '94 (ED)** received her M.S. in exercise physiology in 1996 from Southern Connecticut State University and is currently a certified athletic trainer in Hawaii.



**Mary-Anne (Kanakry) Clarke '94 (CLAS)** completed the Rhode Island Teacher Education program at Rhode Island College and is certified to teach history in grades 7-12.

**Karen Cook '94 (ED)** was named the 2004 Norwich Free Academy District Teacher of the Year. She has been teaching world history, U.S. history and psychology at the Norwich Free Academy for the past seven years.

**Joanne Firmin Fletcher '94 M.S.** retired to Melbourne, Fla., and has been traveling, playing tennis, volunteering, and enjoying Florida with her husband of 39 years, Brian. They have five grandchildren.

**Pedram Henidzadeh '94 (CLAS)** is a partner at the Associated Podiatrists of Fairfield, Conn. He completed a two-year surgical training program in Detroit, Mich. He and his wife, Bitia, welcomed a daughter, Mikayla Alexis, on

## PROFILE

### Toying around with college mascots

**Alex Babbidge '99 M.B.A.** remembers playing on the main campus during the late 1960s and early 1970s, when his father, Homer, was president of the University.

He returned to UConn more than a quarter century later to earn a master's in business administration, which he says gave him the confidence to launch his new venture—a company named **Mascotopia™** that sells mobiles with college songs and mascots, as well as other licensed toys for infants and toddlers. The merchandise can be found at campus bookstores, including the UConn Co-op, toy stores and online at [www.mascotopia.com](http://www.mascotopia.com).

After graduating from Yale University in 1986, Babbidge started his first business, a construction management company specializing in small to mid-sized institutional and educational projects. The inspiration for his new business came as he was completing his work at UConn. Babbidge was singing a college fight song to his son while observing a mobile hanging over his younger daughter's crib. He was struck with the idea to develop university mascots hanging on mobiles playing school fight songs and playing alma maters.

"It was kind of a subconscious thing, and it just seemed like a natural fit," Babbidge says. "So many people are passionate about their schools and want to pass that enthusiasm on to their kids."

He thought the idea was worth pursuing. He brainstormed the concept with a friend and sought advice from UConn's office of athletics for licensing and athletic traditions, where he learned that manufacturers focused mainly on apparel and that the infant/toddler part of the college market was full of potential.

Soon afterward Babbidge and his business partner formed ER Concepts, LLC. Discussions with a collegiate licensing company led to early agreements "purely on the basis of a prototype." Since then, more than 63 agreements have been signed with colleges and universities, including UConn.

**Mascot Mobiles™** feature plush animals wearing colored sweaters bearing school logos. Fight songs differ, depending on the institution. Husky mascots on the UConn mobile, for example, are wearing blue sweaters bearing both the traditional and new UConn logos while playing the fight song "UConn Husky."

Looking to extend its Mascotopia™ brand, ER Concepts added puzzles and blocks to the line and recently completed an agreement with Major League Baseball for 2005.

"Parents are going to buy these types of toys for their children," says Babbidge, adding that his products deliver extra value because school insignias trigger college memories. "With these toys, they're more likely to sit down and play with their kids—and share those memories." —*Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)*



Peter Morenus



Jan. 3, 2004. The family lives in Stamford, Conn.

**Matthew Jarboe '94 (BUS)** married **Kimberly Miele '95 (ED)**, '96 M.A. in 1997. The couple have two daughters, Makinsey and Avery, and a son, Wyatt. Matthew recently became a technical manager at GE Capitol Real Estate.

**Jonathan Pope '94 (SFA, ED)**, and his wife, Jennifer, celebrated the birth of their second child, Lauren Whitney, on April 6, 2004. Lauren joins her big brother, Devon Joseph Charles, 3. The family lives in Newtown, Conn, where Jonathan is a music teacher.

**Charles Roche '94 Ph.D.** has joined the adjunct faculty at the



University of Hartford and is chairman of the mechanical engineering advisory board to UMASS-Lowell. He is an engineer with Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford, Conn.

**Jeff Sprankle '94 (CLAS)** and his wife, Carol, announce the birth of their son, Parker James, on Feb. 6, 2004.

**Andrew Tscheppe '94 (ED)** is a chiropractic physician practicing in Waterbury, Conn. He and

his wife, Michelle, have two sons, Samuel Peter, 1, and Timothy Tyler, 3. The family lives in Waterbury, Conn.

**Carey Beyor '95 (CLAS)** is as a primary therapist for Natchaug Hospital's adolescent partial hospital unit and is also part of a group practice, the Tolland Center for Individual and Family Therapy. He earned an M.A. in marriage and family therapy from Antioch New England Graduate School in 1998.

**David Christiano '95 (CLAS)** married Susan Maurizio on Nov. 15, 2003. He is a senior technical analyst at Georgia Pacific Corporation and lives in Monroe, Conn.

**Rick Greenberg '95 (CLAS)** and **Jessica (Tottenham) Greenberg '95 (SAH)** announce the birth of their first child, Jayson Robert, on Jan. 28, 2004. The couple started their own promotional marketing company in 2000 and live in Branford, Conn.

**Rebecca Lobo '95 (CLAS)** received the Red O'Neill Award from the UConn Club at its 51st annual awards dinner on April 23, 2004. The award is presented to a former student-athlete who combines the highest attributes of character, leadership and a successful career.

**Carlos Rodrigues '95 (BUS)** is the chief financial officer for Pequot Ventures, a private equity firm in Westport, Conn., and New York City. He and his wife, Jennifer, are also the owners of Yoga on Wain, a yoga, pilates and tai chi studio. They have a daughter, Emma Isabella, born on Dec. 7, 2003.

**Jennifer (Royal) Whelan '95 (ED)** and her husband, John, announce the birth of their first child, Katie Anne, born on March 5, 2004. The family lives in Rocky Hill, Conn.

**Jennifer (Croteau) Zettergren '95 (CLAS)** became a partner at



the law firm of Dzialo, Pickett & Allen, P.C. in January 2004, where she practices in the areas of commercial and residential real estate and estate planning. She works in the firm's offices in both Middletown, Conn., and Old Saybrook, Conn.

**John M. Halstead '96 (BUS)**, '01 Ph.D. is a Republican



Congressional candidate in Connecticut's First District. A resident of Wethersfield, he is a nationally recognized

stock market analyst who specializes in legal stock market timing.

**Brett McGurk (CLAS) '96** has been appointed by the



Department of Defense to serve as a legal advisor to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad, Iraq.

He will work with the general counsel to Ambassador Paul Bremer and is expected to handle a number of matters leading to the transfer of sovereignty to a provisional Iraqi authority on July 1, 2004.

**Diann Nicole (Grammer) Tuck '96 (CLAS)** is the facility support coordinator for the Phoenix Division of QuikTrip in Chandler, Ariz. She married Josh Tuck on May 24, 2003, in Richmond, Maine.

**Kelly (Thompson) Dolyak '97 (CLAS)** and **Keith Dolyak '92 (BUS)** announce the birth of their daughter, Paige Whitney, on Nov. 10, 2003.

**Lise-Helene Heroux '97 (ENG)** is an engineering manager with AgION Technologies, Inc., in Wakefield, Mass.

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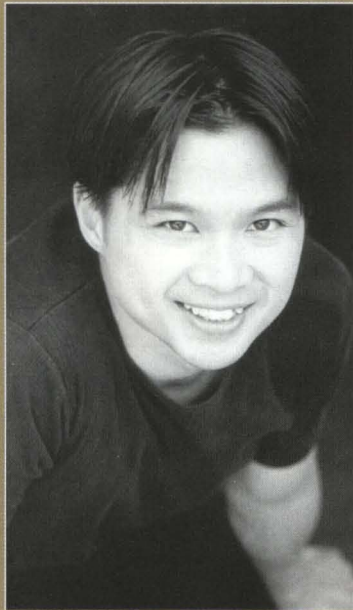
*The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc., is a tax-exempt corporation dedicated exclusively to benefit the University.*



## AT THE JORGENSEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

**Dat Phan****Friday, October 8, 2004  
8:00 pm**

The stand-out winner of NBC's 2003 "Last Comic Standing" reality series, fresh-faced comic Dat Phan is one of the most sought-after young talents in the nation today. A top draw at college campuses and comedy clubs across America (with his own Comedy Central special to his credit), Phan's razor-sharp, politically incorrect humor will have you rolling in the aisles.

**Masked Marvels and Wondertales****Sunday, October 31,  
2004, 1:00 & 3:00 pm**

Michael Cooper brings to life mythic stories of courage and wonder, using breathtakingly beautiful handcrafted masks, mime, outlandish stilt dancing and poetry in a performance that ignites the imagination. Children of all ages love Cooper's eye-popping visual artistry, which ranges from the zany to the sublime.

For more information about events at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts, call the box office at 860-486-4226 or visit us on the Web at: [www.jorgensen.ct-arts.com](http://www.jorgensen.ct-arts.com)

**Craig Murphy '97 (CLAS)** married Cassandra Napoli on Dec. 31, 2003, and lives in Westport, Conn.

**Lisa (Rosenberg) Banks '98 (PHR)** and her husband, **Dave Banks '98 (ENG)**, announce the birth of their son, Hayden Matthew, on Jan. 6, 2004.

**Jane Gauthier '98 (BGS)** is an assistant professor of dental hygiene education at Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester, Mass., and is also the chairperson for dental programs. She received a master's degree in education in 2002 from Worcester State College in Mass.

**Alan Green '98 (CLAS)** and **Kathy (Marzano) Green '98 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their son, Kenneth Charles (K.C.), on Nov. 10, 2003. Alan is a certified financial planner with Merrill Lynch in Southbury, Conn. Kathy is a school counselor for Region #15. The family lives in Woodbury, Conn.

**Robert Beinstein '99 (ENG)** is registered as a professional engineer in Connecticut and is working at Cabrera, which

provides specialized radiological and environmental consulting and field services.

**Megan Flock '99 (CLAS)** is outreach and planning director in the Office of Innovation and Improvement in the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C. She is a graduate student at George Mason University and has announced her engagement to John Gibson.

**Sara Hulbert '99 (CLAS)** is in-house counsel with The Hartford, in Hartford, Conn. She received a Juris Doctorate in 2002 from Western New England College School of Law.

**Jennifer Suozzo '99 (CLAS)** is a line producer for MSNBC, where she produces three hours of live news coverage. She previously was with NBC 30 in Connecticut.

**2000s**

**Jennifer (Moroz) Batterton '00 (ED), '01 M.A.** and **Shaun Batterton '00 (ENG)** announce the birth of their first child, Matthew Thomas, on April 15, 2003. The couple married on

June 30, 2001. The family lives in Seymour, Conn.

**Allison (Amorosi) Denicola '00 (NUR)** married Robert Denicola on June 8, 2003. She is a registered nurse on the orthopedic, neurology and trauma floor at Danbury Hospital. The couple lives in Danbury, Conn.

**Dian Greenwood '00 (CLAS)** will marry Troy Wendell Holder on Aug. 7, 2004, in Seymour, Conn.

**Scott Pietro '00 (BUS)** and **Kelly Sparan '00 (CLAS)** were married Oct. 18, 2003. Scott works for DeLoitte and Touche, and Kelly works for Women's Marketing Incorp. They live in Shelton, Conn.

**Richard Tanner '00 (CLAS)** is as a corpsman in the U.S. Navy and is stationed in Iraq.

**Swin Cash '02 (CLAS)** has been named to the women's U.S. Olympic basketball team for the 2004 Olympic Games in Greece this summer. She led the Detroit Shock to its first WNBA title in 2003.

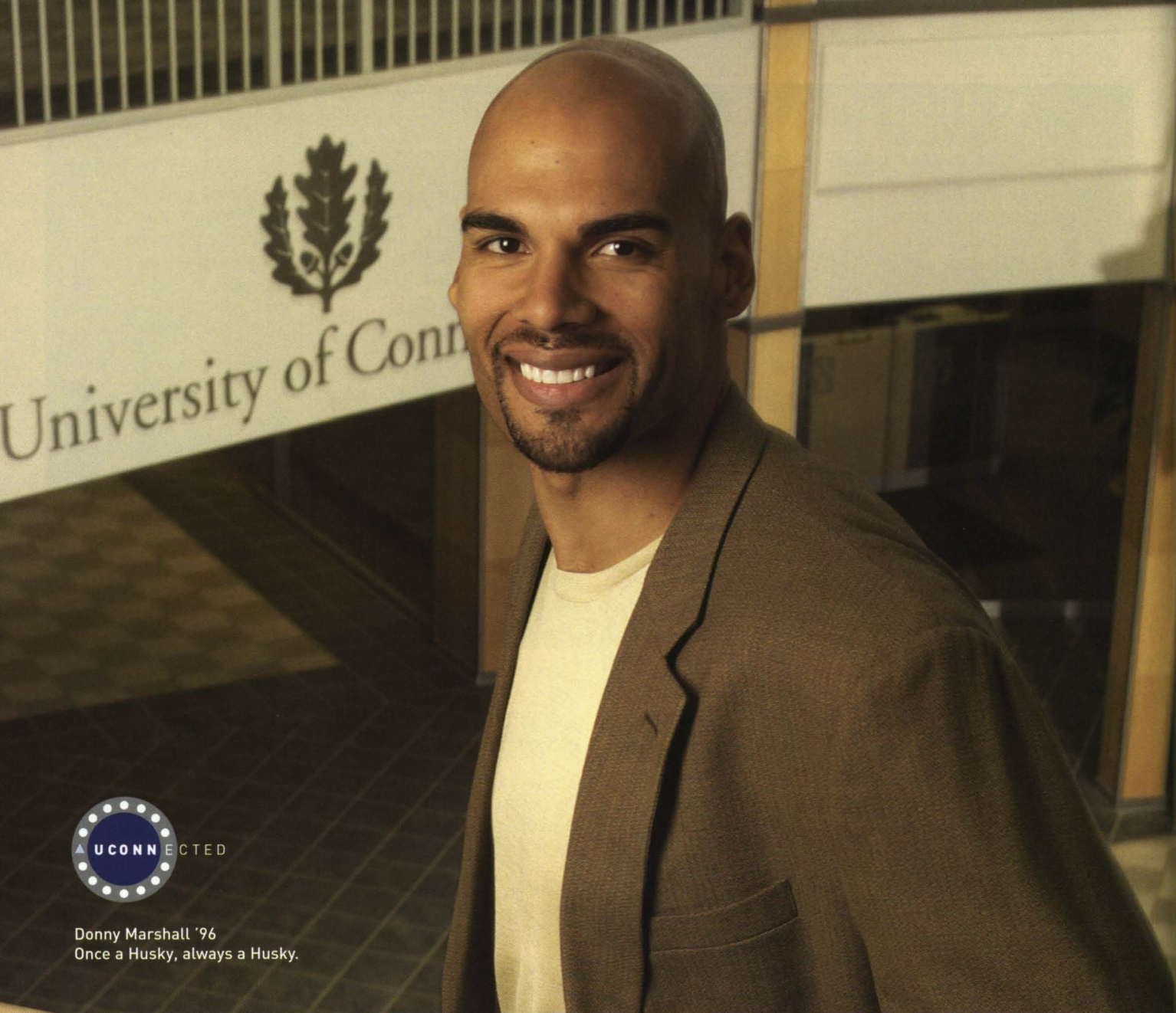
**Matt Jackson '03 (CLAS)** has completed sales training with Cintas Corporation.

**Matthew Masiunas '03 (CANR)** is a customer service supervisor with Shemin's Nurseries, Inc. in Windsor, Conn.

**Robert Pietrzak '03 M.P.H.** is earning multiple awards for his thesis, "Health and Psychosocial Correlates of Problem Gambling in Older Adults." He received the Durand Jacobs Award from the International Centre for Youth Gambling Problems and High-Risk Behaviors at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, and the Master's Thesis Award from the National Council on Problem Gambling in Washington, D.C. He will enter the doctoral program in clinical psychology at UConn this fall.

**Alumni News & Notes  
compiled by Brian Evans  
and Tina Modzelewski**





Donny Marshall '96  
Once a Husky, always a Husky.

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When you talk about playing basketball with passion, heart and UConn pride, Donny Marshall wrote the book. He shows his pride today the way many alums do—as a member of the UConn Alumni Association. Give us a call at 888-UC-ALUM-1 and join today. UConn Alumni membership. It's about pride.



## Stuart Rothenberg

*Continued from page 36*

When I find myself in agreement with him, I'm a lot more comfortable with my position. He's a blend of academic credentials and living in the real world of politics."

Rothenberg says he often thinks back to how his professors at the University of Connecticut, such as Garry Clifford and the late G. Lowell Field, might view current political situations. He credits his academic training for honing his analytical skills, building the confidence he needed to master his subject and providing him with the ability to remain objective in his analysis. Not that he avoids offering an opinion.

"Most of my strong opinions are about who's a good candidate and who isn't," he says. "I might hate a candidate because he's arrogant but still think he can win."

Tim Curran, editor of *Roll Call*, values Rothenberg's ability to take such a selfless approach to politics in a city where many pundits simply shout over the din to be heard. "Stu is different

where the parties are putting their resources to make a race out of it."

"I am Stu's biggest fan," says Judy Woodruff, host of CNN's "Inside Politics." "He's got a great sense of humor. He's somebody you can shoot the breeze with and a few seconds later, you're discussing a very detailed Congressional redistricting situation."

Besides his avid passion for politics, his office décor also reflects his long affection for baseball and UConn basketball.

A native New Yorker, a framed poster of Babe Ruth hangs over his desk and he faces a wall that bears the yellowing front page of the *Washington Post* sports section proclaiming the 1999 UConn men's basketball team as national champions. He and Gonzales chat up the latest baseball statistics in order to keep pace with their Rotisserie baseball teams. At times, he can combine his



Four ... Until that happens, we should all be skeptical."

Remaining skeptical is what allows Rothenberg to keep a wary eye on the shifting political environment. He would like to see more than the handful of competitive Congressional races that redistricting produced following the 2000 census. He describes the political air on Capitol Hill as "very partisan,

## "I believe this presidential election will be determined by events yet to come."

than a lot of people who put their primary emphasis on trying to look smart," he says. "Stu's primary emphasis is on trying to figure out what's actually going on and how to convey that. He understands Washington as well as anybody I know."

It also plays well in the nonstop cable television world of CNN, especially on election night. "Stu has the benefit of not only being an expert but being able to make his expertise understandable for the general public. There aren't many people who can do that," says former CNN Washington bureau chief Frank Sesno, now a professor of public policy and communication at George Mason University in Virginia. "The whole issue of Congressional races and politics is fraught with minefields and ideology. He knows the races, where the money is being spent and

love of baseball and politics, such as giving a speech before a group meeting at the Louisville Slugger Museum. After the speech, he was invited by one of the guests to attend the induction ceremonies at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y., where he met one of his childhood heroes—Bobby Richardson, the former second baseman of the New York Yankees.

He periodically issues an edition of his newsletter titled "Out of Center: Sports according to The Rothenberg Political Report," in which he demonstrates an insight to sports that matches his political acuity: "St. Joseph's is a solid team, but nobody has any idea how good they are. Their schedule is weak," he wrote in early February of this year, well before the NCAA basketball tournament. "I'll be surprised—no, shocked—if they make it to the Final

very combative," wistfully recalling the days when instead of running back to their districts for fund-raisers every weekend, members of Congress and their families socialized and then debated the issues during the week.

However, as long as there are elections each November, Rothenberg will look at the numbers, talk to everyone and call election races as he sees them. As to the 2004 presidential election, Rothenberg says he finds the daily grind of coverage since February, when Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts became the presumptive nominee of the Democratic Party, getting "a little tedious" even for most political junkies.

"I think a lot of what we're doing now is overkill. There's a long way to go," he says. "I believe this presidential election will be determined by events yet to come."



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## Turfgrass

*Continued from page 29*

He is an agronomist, keeping grasses and accent plants rich and robust throughout the summer. Additionally, he needs to know about plumbing, mechanics and electricity.

"It's an exciting career but a very complex and demanding one," he says. "There's not a day when my UConn education doesn't pay off."

The quality of the program and its students is impressing experienced professionals such as Greg Wojick '78 (CANR), course superintendent for the Greenwich Country Club in Greenwich, Conn., who earned a degree in agronomy, and Cindy Johnson, '78 (CANR),

course superintendent at Tumble Brook Country Club in Bloomfield, Conn., who earned a degree in horticulture.

Johnson has hosted UConn students from Rackliffe's classes in turfgrass irrigation at Tumble Brook's 27-hole course, which is undergoing renovations. "The students ask good questions and are interested in what I show them," she says. "I think it's wonderful that UConn has this program. It's what the state of Connecticut has needed."

Wojick hired one of the program's early graduates, Josh Satin '01 (CANR), as one of his assistant superintendents and for the second consecutive year has a UConn student, Justin Barry '05 (CANR), doing an internship in

Greenwich. He says the requirements for success in golf course management demand a broad educational background as well as the hands-on science for turfgrass management.

"Because of the high standards for entry into UConn, you receive a well-rounded education. The demands of the job require good communications skills, good management skills, technical knowledge, plus interpersonal skills when you meet the captains of industry at social functions," Wojick says. "I think that's what UConn offers. We've hit home runs on all of our UConn students. Why not have the epicenter for learning in turfgrass and landscaping at UConn?"

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## Dual Championships

*Continued from page 25*

The coaches view their historic achievement from the perspective of how it will continue to enhance UConn's reputation as a national university.

"You want what you have done to have made an impact to help strengthen the University," Calhoun says. "That's what I think has happened. Because we have Sports Center on ESPN, basketball is highlighted, but every time they say 'UConn' it's enhancing the University."

Auriemma notes how the perception of UConn has evolved over the years. "Ten years ago the average high school student around the country didn't associate with the name UConn," he says. "Over the last 10 years the entire University has been transformed. Now you walk into any state in the country and you don't have to explain who we are. They think: National champions, national university. The perception of the University has changed tremendously. It's really incredible the parallel lives our basketball programs and the University have lived over the last 10 years."

Following the NCAA tournament, the story of UConn's academic as well as athletic success was highlighted in

prominent national media such as *The New York Times*, Bloomberg News and the Associated Press, among others.

"At no time in my life have I ever been more happy about the decision I made to come to UConn," says Calhoun. "I think anyone who is here thinks UConn is a special destination for young people. It's allowed us to go to a student like Emeka Okafor and say: 'I know you're being recruited by Vanderbilt and Stanford, but we can more than compete with our finance program academically.' It should always be the UConn academic experience, and then it's our basketball program."

Auriemma says the demand for excellence is being met. "This is a state where there's a demand from the people who live here and from the legislature that the University will be the absolute best in every area—faculty, staff, resources and athletics," he says. "There's no reason why the University of Connecticut should not be listed among the nation's top public universities."

Since arriving at UConn nearly 20 years ago, Calhoun and Auriemma have been known not only for their achievements on the basketball court but also for their advocacy of UConn off the court and their personal involve-

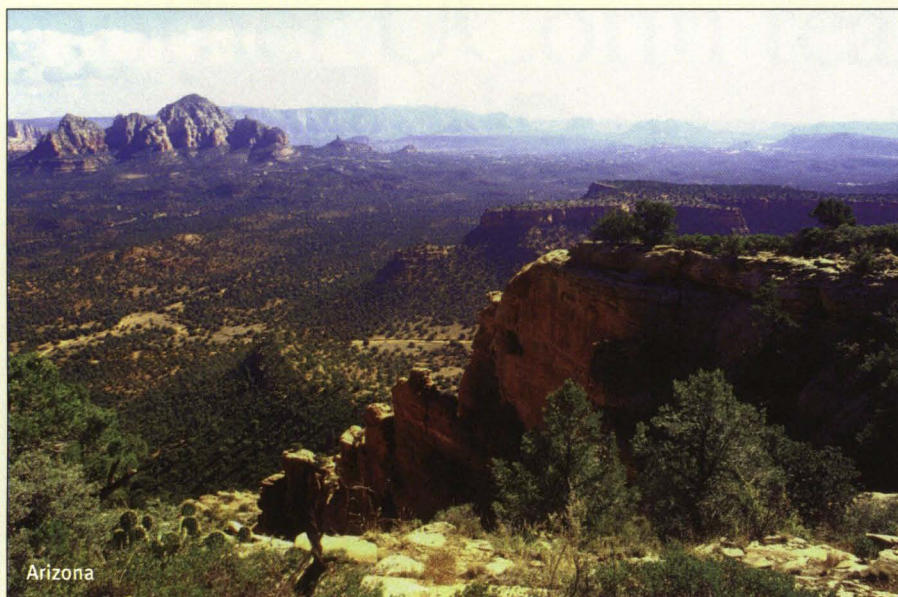
ment with enhancing University programs. Auriemma's generous support of the Homer Babbidge Library was recognized in 1998 with the naming of a room in honor of the Auriemma family, and he was the keynote speaker in 2003 during the library's 25th anniversary celebration. The Calhoun family's long and prominent advocacy and support for cardiology research and clinical care at the UConn Health Center was recognized earlier this year with the dedication of the Pat and Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center.

"The bottom line is the fact we now are a first choice for so many kids, that we are so competitive for top students," Calhoun says. "I keep track of those things. They're important to me."

Adds Auriemma: "The only thing I've ever wanted since I've been at the University of Connecticut is there to be absolutely no differentiation in quality between the basketball program and the University. Now, we've got a first-rate university and great basketball. That's the ultimate national championship."

— Kenneth Best





Arizona

## Featured Journey

**A long Labor Day weekend in Arizona—Phoenix and Sedona—including a game and reception with former UConn stars Diana Taurasi and Sue Bird**  
*September 3–7, 2004*

Relax in the pool or play golf at the fabulous Tapatio Cliffs Resort. Enjoy a WNBA game between the Seattle Storm and the Phoenix Mercury featuring our own former UConn stars Diana Taurasi and Sue Bird. Following the game there will be a private reception with Sue and Diana, sponsored by our Phoenix Chapter. Then see the red rocks of Sedona for two nights at the Orchards Inn.

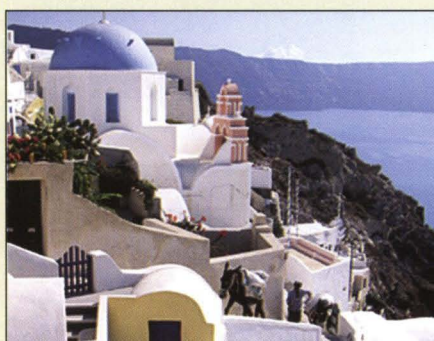
### South Africa

*September 1–12, 2004*

South Africa—a world in one country! An optional “Blue Train” excursion is available.

### Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Shaw Festival

We have offered the same program for several years and would like to know if the interest is still there. I am open to comments and suggestions! Call toll free 1-888-822-5861 and talk to Debra.



Greece

### Island Life in Ancient Greece

*October 10–18, 2004*

Cruise the sun-drenched Aegean, with its rich blue waters and bleached isles, on this cultural and educational experience in Ephesus and marvel at the Acropolis of Rhodes.

### Austria's Legendary Holiday Markets

*December 3–11, 2004*

Explore historic towns along the Danube between Regensburg and Vienna on a leisurely eight-day adventure.

### Antarctica and the Falkland Islands

*December 9–23, 2004*

Join UConn's Richard Wolak on a journey to a land regarded by scientists and world travelers as one of the last truly pristine regions on Earth—the Antarctic Peninsula.

### New Year's Eve in an English Country Manor House—Marlow-on-Thames, Buckinghamshire, England

*December 28, 2004–January 2, 2005*

Join your friends for an English country house party, in an elegant setting at the Danesfield House, Hotel & Spa. The New Year's Eve party will be resplendent with champagne, music, a seven-course dinner, and a Scottish piper. Our journey also includes tours of the countryside and visits to Windsor Castle and Oxford.



Smithsonian Journeys Travel Adventures

### Costa Rica: Nature's Museum

*February 17–26, 2005*

Your Smithsonian study leader offers in-depth knowledge of the natural and local history of Costa Rica, a land of rich natural wonders and friendly people.

### Where should we spend St. Patrick's Day—in Ireland of course!

*March 13–20, 2005*

Spend four nights in Dublin enjoying the festivities and the grand St. Patrick's Day parade. Sightseeing will include St. Patrick's Cathedral, *The Book of Kells*, the Guinness Brewery, Grafton Street, O'Connell Street and more. Then on to visit Kilkenny and Waterford, staying in one location, for two nights.

### The South of France

*April 2005*

Spend seven nights cruising past some of France's most beautiful countryside and richest vineyards along the Rhône and Saône Rivers. Following the cruise we will spend four nights, staying in one hotel, with our own personal guide, allowing us to experience France, not as tourists, but as the French do, shopping at the markets, enjoying cooking classes and indulging in wine and fine dining.

**For information on all UConn Alumni Association travel opportunities, call toll-free 1-888-UC-ALUM-1 (1-888-822-5861) or visit [www.uconnalumni.com](http://www.uconnalumni.com)**



## Full Tilt

"Full Tilt," an exhibition at The William Benton Museum of Art that ran from April 17 through May 14 culminated two years of graduate study at the School of Fine Arts by five artists—Laurel Jay Carpenter, a performance artist; Charles Livingston, an installation artist; Christine Mugnolo, a portrait artist; Mara Trachtenberg, a photographer; and Mark Williams, a sculptor.

**Exhibition statement:**

The making of art is more important than the particular art that is made. Simply being an artist is a crucially important activity in a world of the known and familiar. Being ready and willing to explore an idea, a thing, an activity, in a far-reaching dialogue of discovery that includes oneself—and setting up circumstances to sustain that quest over a lifetime: These are the first tasks of the artist.

The work in this show demonstrates the diversity and strength of art today. From performance to photography, installation to drawing and painting, the selection here reflects the open-ended nature of contemporary art, in which the criterion of value is no longer mastery of a single style or medium but the recognition and articulation of meaning.

**Charles Hagen,**  
*associate professor of art  
and graduate coordinator*

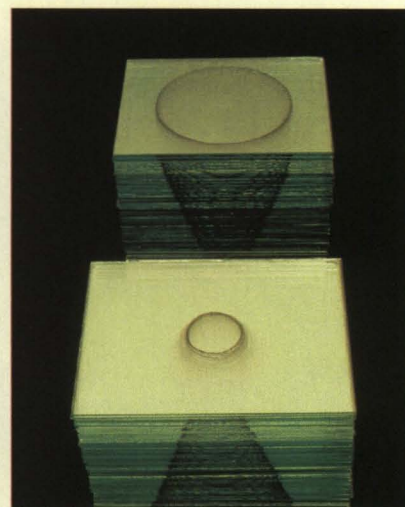
Top left: *Charlie and Katherine*, 2003. pencil.  
Christine Mugnolo

Top right: *Life Cycle*, 2004. wax pencil on glass.  
Charles Livingston

Center: *Red Woman*, 2003. performance.  
Laurel Jay Carpenter

Bottom left: *Untitled Chicken and Onesie*,  
2004. C-print.  
Mara Trachtenberg

Bottom right: *Monument*, 2003.  
color photograph.  
Mark Williams





# Another UConn team is winning hearts.



## The Pat and Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center.

AT THE PAT AND JIM CALHOUN CARDIOLOGY CENTER, an experienced team of specialists offers top quality care to diagnose and treat diseases of the heart and blood vessels.

UConn cardiologists and other specialists provide advanced medical approaches to help patients manage risk factors such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure and diabetes. Also, patients have access to a full range of sophisticated surgical procedures, performed by some of the most highly skilled cardiac and vascular surgeons in the country – in a convenient, suburban location.

And there's an important difference. As the only academic medical center in central Connecticut, UConn Health Center patients receive the advantages of the latest research and innovations in health care. It's no wonder the UConn cardiology team is winning hearts.

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*For health information visit*  
[www.uchc.edu](http://www.uchc.edu)



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Peter Morenus



A fanfare marks the beginning of UConn's undergraduate commencement ceremony at Gampel Pavilion.



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