

# Monmouth

M A G A Z I N E UNIVERSITY



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*Sails Set to the Sky*

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VOL. XXIII, NO. 3 SUMMER 2003

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# Calendar of Events

## OCTOBER 8

Founders' Day/

President's Inaugural

## OCTOBER 10

Two River Film Festival

## OCTOBER 16-19

Homecoming 2003

## OCTOBER 18

Children's Theatre:

The Velveteen Rabbit

Pollak Theatre, 2:00 PM

## OCTOBER 25

The Shirelles

Pollak Theatre, 8:00 PM

## OCTOBER 29

Distinguished Business Leaders'

Award Dinner

Woodrow Wilson Hall

## NOVEMBER 7

Yujia Wang, Piano

Pollak Theatre, 1:00 PM

## NOVEMBER 9

Robert Earl Kean

Pollak Theatre, 7:00 PM

## NOVEMBER 14

Candlelight Dinner/Tour

Woodrow Wilson Hall, 6:00 PM

## NOVEMBER 15

Richie Havens & Leon Redbone

Pollak Theatre, 8:00 PM

## DECEMBER 5

The Orchestra of Saint Peter

by the Sea

Pollak Theatre, 8:00 PM

## DECEMBER 6

Library Association Annual

Holiday Ball

Woodrow Wilson Hall

## DECEMBER 7

Children's Theatre:

Winnie The Pooh,

A Christmas Carol

Pollak Theatre, 2:00 PM

# Monmouth

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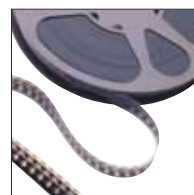
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COME TO THE

## candlelight dinner

*Experience the magic and majesty* of Monmouth University's historic Woodrow Wilson Hall as it was in 1929 when it was known as "Shadow Lawn," private home of F. W. Woolworth President Hubert Parson and his wife, Maysie.

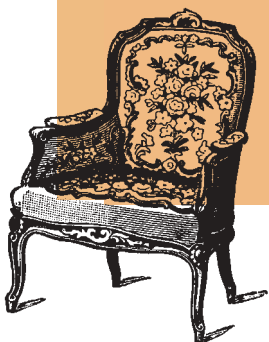
You'll be transported back to a bygone era as you walk through the gilded rooms and ornate splendor that distinguish this historic mansion.

This very special evening features a full-course dinner in the beautiful Versailles Room, a fascinating photo presentation by Dr. Kenneth Stunkel, plus a guided tour of one of the country's most magnificent architectural treasures.

A limited number of tickets for the Candlelight Dinner Tour are available for \$45.00 each.

**Order your Candlelight Tour tickets today!**  
**This event sells out fast!**

To make a reservation for the Dinner Tour, call the Office of Special Events & Programs at 732/571-3509. Or, e-mail us at: [specialevents@monmouth.edu](mailto:specialevents@monmouth.edu). We look forward to greeting you.



### REAL ESTATE INSTITUTE DINNER HONORS AWARD RECIPIENTS



Donald M. Moliver (right), Director of the Real Estate Institute, receives the "Decade of Excellence Award" from Arthur M. Greenbaum, HN '96. Mr. Greenbaum was the first recipient of the "Leadership Excellence Award".



John A. Somers (left), Executive Vice President of TIAA-CREF, receives the "Leadership Excellence Award" from last year's honoree, Mitchell E. Hersb, CEO of Mack-Cali Realty Corporation.



Donald Moliver (center) with past recipients (left) Steven J. Pozyski '73 (right), Mitchell E. Hersb, John A. Somers, and Charles Klatskin

## THE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP BALL TURNS TWENTY

**M**onmouth University and the 2003 Scholarship Ball Committee celebrated “Twenty Years of Vision and Commitment” at the annual event in historic Woodrow Wilson Hall, held on May 3. Sixteen chairwomen of the past two decades were honored for their extraordinary leadership. Under their guidance, Monmouth University’s Scholarship Ball has raised \$1,050,000 for deserving students who might not otherwise have been able to afford a college education. Thanks to the inspired vision and selfless dedication of this group of very special women, a Monmouth University tradition has grown and flourished over the past two decades, bettering the lives of scores of young people and providing a festive highlight to the Monmouth County social calendar.

The black tie affair offered an elegant evening of dining and dancing, with music by “Smooth Sailin” conducted by orchestra leader Lou Parisi ’74. The event featured a silent auction; chances for a \$1,000 Shopping Spree at “The Grove” in Shrewsbury; a 50/50 raffle; and a live auction that included such unusual offerings as a private dinner party for twenty in Wilson Hall’s beautiful Versailles Room; a private skybox at a sporting event with transportation via stretch Hummer; and a trip to Cabo San Lucas.

### Scholarship Ball Chairwomen of the past 20 years:

Judith Stanley Coleman (1982 & 1983) “Annie Benefit Premier”  
 Pamela Bathgate ’68 (1984) “Golden Anniversary”  
 Elaine Sourlis (1986) “Celebrating India”  
 Susan Stanger (1987) “Moulin Rouge”  
 Sharon Burnham (1988 & 1989) “Masked Ball” and “The Fan Dance”  
 Judith Dawkins (1990) “The Summer White House”  
 Deborah Cary (1991) “Islands of the Caribbean”  
 Joyce Borden Vernon (1992) “Bal a Versailles – The Splendour of France”  
 Maria Steinberg (1993) “Aboard the S.S. Wilson”  
 Beliza Ann Furman (1994) “Night of the Harlequin”  
 Mary Weir (1995) “Best of Broadway”  
 Nancy Roberts (1996) “A Knight in Camelot”  
 Susan Casper (1997) “Scholarship Harvest Ball”  
 Juliet Winokur (1998 & 1999) “Harvest Ball in Vienna” and  
 “Carnevale in Venice”  
 Marion Guerrera (2000) “Vive La France”  
 Tindra Lanfrank (2002 & 2003) “Rose Ball”  
 and “Twenty Years of Vision and Commitment”



*The Scholarship Ball chairwomen of the past twenty years celebrate the vision and commitment that make the May event a perennial success. Judith Stanley Coleman (far left) organized the very first Monmouth College Scholarship Ball in 1982, an inaugural evening that attracted hundreds to elegant Woodrow Wilson Hall. The tradition has continued and the event has grown in size and stature over the past two decades.*



*Peter Novello, Paul Corliss, and Master of Ceremonies John Kessler '69 enjoy the 2003 Scholarship Ball in fine form.*



*Tindra Lanfrank, Chair of the 2003 Scholarship Ball (right), appears with Kristen McNally '03, a Scholarship Ball award recipient.*

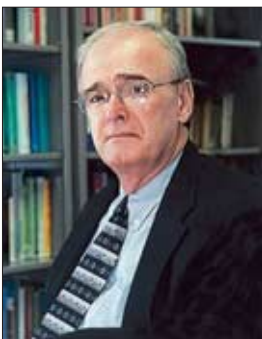


## ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY, AND STAFF

**T**he Monmouth University Board of Trustees announced the renaming of the campus student center in honor Dr. Rebecca Stafford, recently retired president of Monmouth University, at a special ceremony held on June 8. The Rebecca Stafford Student Center was named in tribute to the former president's successful 10-year tenure, during which Monmouth achieved university status and experienced many positive changes, including expanded student enrollment and significant growth in educational opportunities.

"This naming is well-deserved and a lasting tribute to Dr. Stafford's exemplary leadership," said Charles T. Parton, a life trustee of the University and chair of the committee to honor Dr. Stafford.

"I am so honored and flattered to have my name on the student center," commented Dr. Stafford. "The students have always been what we care about the most, and why we all chose to be educators."



**Dr. William Stanley** has been appointed Dean of the School of Education, effective July 1, 2003. He most recently served as Dean of the School of Education at the University of Redlands, California, where he also held an endowed faculty chair. Prior to that, he served as Dean of Education at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He holds a doctorate in Curriculum

and Instruction and a master's in history from Rutgers University. He also holds a New Jersey social studies teaching credential and a K-12 school principal credential.

**Professor Emeritus of History Tadeusz Swietochowski** received a Fulbright Senior Specialist grant in political science. Under this grant, Dr. Swietochowski taught a graduate course and seminar on the Caucasus in the twentieth century at the University of Warsaw, Poland, Center for East European Studies last fall. A large proportion of his students came from the former Soviet Union. Due to the popularity of his visit, the University of Warsaw invited him back this summer to give lectures.

The first Stafford Presidential Award of Excellence was presented at Monmouth University's annual Employee Awards and Recognition Luncheon held on May 14. The award was established to recognize members of the University staff or administration



*Stafford Presidential Award recipients are recognized at the awards ceremony. To the left of Rebecca Stafford are Maureen Paparella and Datta Naik; to her right, Bertha Hughes.*

who have demonstrated outstanding effort, dedication, creativity, and evident commitment to supporting and enhancing Monmouth University. The award is named after Dr. Rebecca Stafford, who retired June 30 after 10 years of exceptional service as president.

This year's award was shared by three recipients: Bertha Hughes, Custodial Supervisor, Facilities Management; Datta Naik, Dean of the Graduate School and Continuing Education and Vice Provost for Strategic Planning; and Maureen Paparella, Director of Information Technology. In addition to a citation and University wristwatch, each recipient received a \$1,000 honorarium.



**Irene Towt** has been appointed Director of Institutional Advancement Publications effective July 1, 2003. Most recently, Ms. Towt served as Associate Director of Development at Far Hills Country Day School and Managing Editor of *Pages*, its flagship publication. She is the former principal of Farrell-Towt International, Inc., a marketing consulting firm that served

international clients including AT&T, *The Economist*, the *International Herald Tribune*, and the Metropolitan Opera Association. Prior experience includes editorial and marketing roles with Time Inc. Magazines in New York. Ms. Towt currently serves on the PSPA Executive Board of the Pingry School and the board of the Bach Choir. She is a former trustee of the NJ Youth Chorus and the Business & Education Partnership.

## GUGGENHEIM MEMORIAL LIBRARY GROUNDBREAKING

**G**roundbreaking for the Guggenheim Memorial Library Expansion and Renovation was presided over by (from left to right): Paul S. Doherty, Jr. '67; Rebecca Stafford, past president; Alfred J. Schiavetti, Jr., trustee; and Doug Johnson, former trustee.

The groundbreaking ceremony celebrated many years of planning for the \$14 million expansion and renovation of the Murry and Leonie Guggenheim Memorial Library on March 18. "When completed, the former Guggenheim home will be restored to its former magnificence and will be a wonderful resource for the community," remarked Jean Schoenthaler, interim library dean.



## OUTREACH: MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY AND OCEAN TOWNSHIP SHORE UP COMMUNITY TIES

**I**n an effort to forge stronger relations and to develop a direct line of communication, representatives from Ocean Township and Monmouth University met to discuss "town/gown" matters this past July. Officials from Ocean Township included Mayor William F. Larkin, Deputy Mayor J. Avid Hiers, and Township Manager David R. Kochel.

As a result of the dialogue, two Ocean Township residents will be appointed to the Monmouth University Community Relations Task Force Committee to serve as a voice for the residents of Ocean Township, effective fall 2003. The new members are Charles Ruggirello and John McCahill.

## QUIXOTIC QUEST BECOMES A REALITY

**M**onmouth University has become the first institute of higher learning in New Jersey to buy wind energy for resale. Monmouth has agreed to purchase one million kilowatt-hours per year for a five-year term from Community Energy, Inc., a leading green energy marketing and development firm.

The electricity will first be supplied by the Mountaineer Wind Energy Center, the largest wind generating facility in the Eastern United States. Monmouth's wind supply will then be transferred this fall to New Jersey's first commercial-scale wind power facility — the Jersey-Atlantic Wind Project — to be located north of Atlantic City. Visible from downtown Atlantic City and the AC Expressway, the Jersey-Atlantic Wind Project will be the first coastal wind farm in the U.S. The project will consist of five 220-foot-tall wind turbines, and is expected to commence operation late in 2003.

Monmouth University M.B.A. graduates share a common trait

## They Stand Out

"My Monmouth University M.B.A. helped me take my career to the next level by differentiating me from my peers and giving me the confidence to take on any challenge."

**KRISTEN DAVEY, M.B.A.**

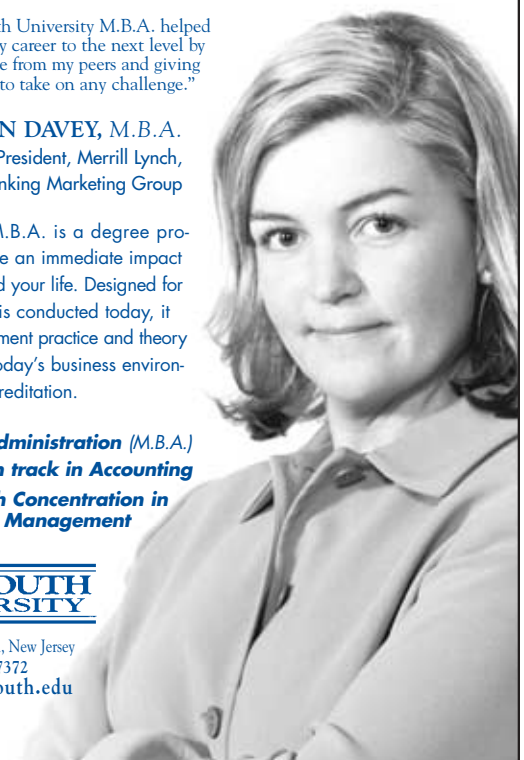
Vice President, Merrill Lynch,  
US Banking Marketing Group

The Monmouth M.B.A. is a degree program that will have an immediate impact on your career and your life. Designed for the way business is conducted today, it combines management practice and theory in the context of today's business environment. AACSB accreditation.

- **Business Administration** (M.B.A.)
- **M.B.A. with track in Accounting**
- **M.B.A. with Concentration in Healthcare Management**

**MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY**

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# ON Campus

## EXCELLING IN ACADEME

**T**he Governor's School convened on campus for four weeks this past summer, hosting more than 100 students from public, private, and parochial schools selected from New Jersey's 21 counties. This highly competitive, publicly funded program featured lectures by academic experts and legislators, performing arts events, and tours of Washington, D.C. and Trenton that included opportunities to meet with elected officials. The theme for this year's program was "Public Issues and the Future of New Jersey".

Monmouth University has established a **Study Abroad Program** at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia. This semester-long program will run each fall (July-November) and spring (February-June) along with the London semester program at Regent's College. Students enrolled in the program will attend a full-service college where they will earn credits toward their undergraduate degree at Monmouth University. A five-week summer program in Madrid, Spain, launched in 2002, will continue its successful run, offering six credits.



*Study abroad students take a well-deserved break. Top row: (left to right) Christopher Jones, Craig Cawley, Robert Driscoll, and Adam Galotti. Bottom row: (left to right) Shenoa Vild, LaToyah Burke.*

Monmouth University accepted four students – **Fiori Alite** from the Academy of Allied Health and Science; **Rajesh Gupta** from Vineland High School; **Sadaf Kazmi** from Freehold Regional High School; and **Preethi Pirlamarla** from the Academy of Allied Health and Science – for entrée into the prestigious Monmouth Medical Scholars Program. This highly

competitive program, directed by Professor of Biology James Mack and Graduate School Dean Datta Naik, works in conjunction with Monmouth Medical Center and Drexel University College of Medicine. The program is designed for students who have excelled academically and wish to enter the medical disciplines of family medicine, general internal medicine, or pediatrics. Four students are selected into this prestigious program each year. Upon successful completion of the Monmouth University undergraduate degree program, students are granted admission to the Drexel University College of Medicine, where they complete their medical degrees.

Graduate Education Programs at Monmouth University

## Change the World...

*one child at a time*

"The background I have in classroom management, curriculum development, and educational psychology has made me a better educator. Monmouth's M.A.T. program offered me the flexibility I needed to achieve my goal in the time frame I required."

**SYLVIA WITTENBERG**  
M.A. in Teaching, Initial Certification  
Science Teacher  
Recipient: National Student Teacher of the Year

- **Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.)** - Initial Certificate
- **Advanced Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.)**
- **Master of Science in Education (M.S.Ed.)** with concentrations in Principal, Reading, Special Education, and Educational Counseling
- **Post-Master's Certifications** in Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant and Supervisor
- **Certifications** in Teacher of the Handicapped, Reading Specialist, Substance Awareness Coordinator, and Early Childhood

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Monmouth University supports equal opportunity in recruitment, admission, educational programs, and employment practices regardless of race, color, age, sex, disability, veteran status, marital status, religion, national origin, or sexual orientation.





## MONMOUTH STUDENTS WELCOME PRESIDENT GAFFNEY...



*President Gaffney meets Monmouth University students Chris Puder, Jackie Biss, and SGA President Matt Soto.*

## ...WHO WELCOMES GUIDANCE COUNSELORS TO MONMOUTH



*President Gaffney speaks at Wilson Hall during the July visitation of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (AICUNJ) to Monmouth as part of the 2003 Summer Guidance Tour.*



*Admissions Ambassadors Lucrecia Lopez, Lindsay Risler, and Amy Silva explain their duties to President Gaffney.*



*President Gaffney, Vice President for Student Services Mary Anne Nagy '91, and Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Thomas S. Pearson greeted 40 AICUNJ guidance counselors – many of whom were here for the first time – from around the country.*

## WHAT EXIT?



*New signage naming Monmouth University, along with other important destinations off Exit 105 of the Garden State Parkway, was recently installed on both the north- and southbound lanes.*

## IN MEMORIAM

The campus community mourns the loss of:

Robert F. Sutton, Associate Librarian at Monmouth University from 1958 until his retirement in 1990, died on February 17, 2003.

Mary Jane Diehl, Professor of Education Emerita at Monmouth from 1967 to 1983, died on June 22, 2003.

Aldean Davis, Wilson Hall Gate Attendant from 1970 until his retirement in 1991, died on January 31, 2003.

Michael Aho, Millicent Fenwick Research Professor in Education and Director of the Governor's School at Monmouth University since 2001, died on April 16, 2003.



# 2003

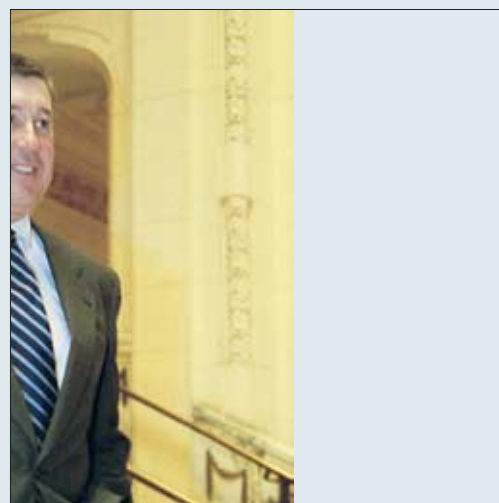
## IT'S ON TO NEW HORIZONS

### FOR 'O3 HAWKS

BY SHERRY CONOHAN

ONE ERA ENDED AND ANOTHER WAS USHERED IN WITH THE 2003 GRADUATION AT MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY.

**D**r. Rebecca Stafford presided over the commencement exercises on May 21 for the final time after 10 remarkable years as president of the school. Her successor, Paul G. Gaffney II, who was appointed by the Board of Trustees as the new leader of the University, would start in July to pick up where she left off, but not until after this year's graduates were well on their way to new jobs in the working world or further studies. Monmouth University conferred just less than 1,400 degrees this year — 935 to undergraduates and 460 to graduates — with about 900 of those recipients participating in the graduation ceremony held on the Great Lawn. There was a steady rain, but it did not dampen the joy of those who received their diplomas: The graduates—along with thousands of rain-coated spectators—made many-a-smile their umbrella.



Somewhat shrouded by mist associated with the rain, Wilson Hall — that neoclassical French beauty built in 1927 as the private residence of former F. W. Woolworth Co. president Hubert Templeton Parson and his wife Maysie; that central building on the main campus through which all students pass again and again during their tenure at the University — loomed as poised and proud as ever, serving once again as the backdrop for the graduation.

Brevity was the hallmark of the speeches offered. Blair Kamin, the Pulitzer Prize winning architecture critic for the *Chicago Tribune*,



who was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree by Monmouth University, set the tone. "Never confuse making a living with having a life," he advised the students in his brief remarks. Kamin grew up in nearby Fair Haven, N.J., and graduated from Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School before going on to Amherst College and Yale University School of Architecture.

Stephen B. Siegel, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Insignia/ESG, Inc., who received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, was even briefer: "In closing," he began his two-sentence remarks, "I am proud and honored to be here today. Good luck with your life."

Since joining Insignia/ESG's predecessor company, Edward S. Gordon Company, in 1992, Siegel has presided over the rapid growth of the commercial real estate firm from annual revenues of approximately \$50 million to nearly \$700 million on an international basis.

MU's President Stafford, who conferred the honorary degrees on Kamin and Siegel, was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Public Service degree, which was conferred on her by Charles T. Parton, former Chairman of the Monmouth University Board of



Trustees and a Life Trustee. "I invite all of you to look around campus," he told those in attendance at the graduation. "Every building was either created or totally renovated under President Stafford. We are very grateful."

President Stafford, who was slated to be the commencement speaker, outdid both Kamin and Siegel in the brevity department by throwing out her speech. She told the University community upon receiving the honorary degree that she was proud to

be part of 'this beautiful hood'. "Whether I deserve it or not, I love it," she said of the degree. "Thanks."

"Graduation speeches are like the *Star-Spangled Banner* being sung before a basketball game: You have to do it, but you want to get it over with," she added, in explaining why she was doing away with hers. "It is my duty to officially kick you out of the nest," she said. "Go Hawks!" In her prepared remarks, which she did not deliver, Stafford told the students to

PRESIDENT STAFFORD SAID HER SECOND PIECE OF ADVICE WAS TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK. "FIND A CAUSE. FIND A WAY TO SERVE OTHERS."



Dr. Rekha Datta, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science/Philosophy, poses with Dr. Thomas S Pearson, Provost and V.P. of Academic Affairs ... as the graduates' smiles celebrate the culmination of their college careers.

Steven B. Siegel, Chairman and CEO of Insignia/ESG, Inc., received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.



follow their passions, whatever they may be. Stafford told the graduates, that, like them, she was starting a new life. “We have both finished a big job. We both have diplomas,” she noted. “Now what are we going to do with them?”

Her advice: “First ... expect and take failure in stride. I can certainly resonate to that. I sometimes think

that experience is making all the mistakes and learning from them. I’ve made some doozies in my life. ...

“I know that your education has prepared you for a broad range of possibilities, so when you fall on your face, as I did, you can say: ‘Well, I can’t do this, but maybe I can do that.’ And sometimes the ‘that’ is more satisfying in the long run.”

“ALL OF US NOW ARE GOING TO HAVE TO ADJUST TO SOMETHING NEW. WHETHER WORK OR GRADUATE SCHOOL, MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY HAS PREPARED US FOR WHAT WE GO ONTO NEXT.”

Dr. Rebha with trustee Alfred L. Fersuson Esq.



Blair Kamin, Pulitzer Prize winning architecture critic for the Chicago Tribune, received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree.



President Stafford said her second piece of advice was to give something back. “Find a cause,” she urged. “Find a way to serve others. Engage in acts of kindness. Most of you aren’t in any position to help any cause financially – you incurred lots of debt just to get to this day,” she noted. “But you can find other ways to give back. ... You might start with your families, who have supported you so long in this educational venture.”

Paul S. Doherty Jr., ’67, Chairman of the Monmouth University Board of Trustees, welcomed the students at the outset of the ceremony by saying that their graduation was the culmination of hard work, discipline, sacrifice – and hopefully fun. He said they were the latest link in the long line of alumni that began 69 years ago when the school was founded.

“You exemplify the mission of the university,” he said.

Kellie Norman, Vice President of the Class of 2003, delivered the “greetings of the graduates” to the assemblage. “All of us now are going to have to adjust to something new, whether work or graduate school,” she said. “Monmouth University has prepared us for what we go onto next.”

In addition to diplomas, a number of awards were handed out at graduation.

Awards from the Student Government Association for Outstanding Academic Achievement were presented to two students: Steven Robert Chadwick, President of the Student Government Association, and Barbara Hackett, both of whom posted perfect 4.0 records.

Mary Anne Nagy, ’91 and ’01, Vice President for Student Affairs, made the presentation.

The Alumni Association Academic Achievement Award went to Katie Jean Blackburn, who also wrapped up a 4.0. Marti S. Egger, ’81, a Trustee and President of the Alumni Association, presented that award.

An award for the outstanding active participant in campus life went to Pamela Szabo, President of the Class of 2003.





# A BIRDS-EYE VIEW OF SEVEN NEW HAWK ALUMS



## STEVEN CHADWICK

From president of the student body in high school to Senator of the United States: That's the leap Steven Robert Chadwick '03 would like to make someday after he finishes law school.

Already he's been hop-scotching the East Coast to find the right path to take him there: from his home in Torrington, Connecticut to the Mainline in Pennsylvania, up to Manhattan and down to Monmouth, he's been winding his way to the end of the alphabet and the start of his dream: Washington D.C.

"I'd like to become a United States Senator," announces Steven. Asked from which state he expected to run, Chadwick replied he hadn't figured that out yet. "There are several I could run from and not be considered a carpetbagger," he quipped.

Monmouth University was a major steppingstone to Chadwick's political ambitions. He got into student government at Monmouth through his association with Elan Abutboul '02 when both of them were working as student ambassadors for the Admission Office at MU. Abutboul was Vice President of the Student Government Association at the time. "I had expressed an interest (in the SGA) in my first year on campus, and Elan suggested that I show up and plead my case for one of the at-large positions that was available on the Student Government Association," Chadwick recalled. "It worked."

Since then, his interest in government and politics has grown. When he entered Monmouth in 2001 with 36 credits from Villanova in his pocket, he outfitted himself with another 100 of Those Graduation Essentials, and walked down

the runway for his Monmouth diploma last June—plus an award from the Student Government Association for outstanding academic achievement. Steven was 26 years old when he graduated, and became a poster-child for the non-traditional Monmouth student.

"I just had an amazing experience," Chadwick said. "I could write volumes about the opportunities in the Political Science department. The teachers are of the highest caliber."

## BARBARA A. HACKETT

A non-traditional student, Barbara A. Hackett started her college career on her fiftieth birthday at Brookdale Community College in Lincroft, N.J., and graduated from Monmouth University at the age of 54. She went to school full-time and enjoyed associating with the younger students. "I never had a problem," she said. She took a break after graduation from Monmouth, cleaned her house, and, at mid-summer, was getting ready to go out and look for a job. "I'm thinking maybe as an administrative assistant," she said, noting that she had worked as a secretary before going to college. "I'm a very organized, detailed type of person. I was hoping to get something in a non-profit organization or on a campus (at a university) because I enjoyed my time there (at Monmouth University) so much, and liked being with the younger people," she said. "I have been sending out résumés."

Hackett majored in communications at Monmouth, which she noted allowed a lot of electives. Her favorite professor, she said, was Dr. Richard Veit, an Assistant Professor who teaches anthropology courses in the History and Anthropology Department. Hackett, who posted a per-

fect 4.0 record and graduated summa cum laude, was one of two students to be presented Student Government Awards for academic achievement at the graduation exercises by Mary Anne Nagy, Vice President for Student Services.

## KATIE JEAN BLACKBURN

Katie Jean Blackburn graduated with a perfect 4.0 grade point after four years at Monmouth University, and still found time to engage in activities beyond her studies. Blackburn, a math major who hails from Woodbury Heights, N.J., outside Philadelphia, was involved with the Student Alumni Association and the Honor Society, and worked in the Math Learning Center where she helped her peers—whoever showed up on any given day—master their math assignments.

"So it wasn't all study," the summa cum laude graduate said of her experience at Monmouth. Blackburn said her favorite place to study was a little math major room in Howard Hall with a table and four chairs, which also gave her access to go around and visit the math professors.

She said her favorite professor was Dr. Thomas Smith, an Associate Professor in the math department, whom she got to know fairly well. "He was so challenging, but he was always available for extra help," she explained. "He always had time for his students. Many mornings I would go into his office and we would talk about the headlines in the paper—not math oriented matters. It was relaxing."

Blackburn said she plans to be active in the Alumni Association and that she and her friends already are looking forward to homecoming. On graduation day, she was awarded the Alumni Association Academic Achievement Award.

## PAMELA JOYCE SZABO

Pamela Joyce Szabo, President of the Class of 2003, shared the same leadership skills on campus as her sister who went before her. (Cheryl, '98, was a senator in the Student Government Association.) Pamela was recognized at graduation with the award for outstanding active participant in campus life, a designation conferred on her sister at her own graduation five years earlier. They are believed to be the only sister act in that award category.

Pamela, of South Brunswick, N.J., majored in elementary education and special education. She will be teaching seventh grade social studies in East Brunswick this fall, and working in a special education research room. She said she feels well prepared by Monmouth for her new job. "I was able to go into classrooms and see what teaching is all about," she said.

Pamela is in the process of applying for graduate school at Monmouth University, with the intent of qualifying to become a principal, and noted that her sister has garnered two master's degrees from Monmouth University. "We were able to march together at commencement," she said. She and her sister Cheryl also are the co-chairs of homecoming for the alumni this fall.

Pamela Szabo said that having a woman President of the College and Mary Anne Nagy as Vice President for Student Services provided her with role models she could really look up to as a student. She served as the only undergraduate student on the search committee for the new Dean of Education,

William Stanley, and said she learned a lot from the process.

"I got to work with many wonderful professors," she said. "Some of the members had past experience on search committees. I was able to learn what they were looking for, and, in turn, I contributed what I was looking for in an educational leader from the point of view of a prospective teacher. It seemed we were all on the same wavelength. It worked out well."

## STEPHANIE ANN RACANIELLO

Stephanie Ann Racaniello, treasurer of the Class of 2003 and a Hawks' cheerleader, knows exactly what career she wants to carve out for herself. "Basically, I want to work in a university and eventually be a dean," she said. "I'd like to be a Greek adviser and dean of students." Racaniello got a good start on that career this summer when she was admitted to graduate school at Elmira College in New York, and landed a job there as a graduate assistant.

A business management major at Monmouth University, she said she would be working with residential assistants and a couple of student organizations while working towards a master's degree in adult education and student affairs. She has the background for the job, having served as a residential assistant for two years at Monmouth, a senator in the student government organization, treasurer of her sorority Zeta Tau Alpha, and Vice President of the Panhellenic Council. She said she was a very active member of the Inter-Greek Council while on campus. "I loved Monmouth," she said.

Racaniello, who came to Monmouth University from Cedar Grove, N.J., in Essex County, said she spent most of her time in the student center. Her best memory of her undergraduate career was her sorority winning "Greek Week" this past year. She also was thrilled to cheer for the Hawks in NCAA play. Her favorite professor, she said, was Dr. Eugene Simko, an Assistant Professor who taught strategic management. "He was awesome," she said. "You didn't feel as though you were learning something, but I got more from that class than from any other."

## JENNIFER LAUREN GRADZKI

Graduation isn't taking Jennifer Lauren Gradzki away from Monmouth University. Gradzki, the Secretary of the Class of 2003 who majored in marketing in the School of Business Administration, plans to spend another two years at Monmouth in graduate school studying towards a master's degree in corporate communications, specializing in human resources.

"I love working with people, and that's what I want to do in the corporate world," she said of her interest in human

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GRADZKI LOOKS BACK ON HER UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE AS "THE BEST FOUR YEARS EVER" IN HER LIFE. "I HAD A GOOD TIME, I THINK SOME OF MY BEST MEMORIES WERE WITH MY SORORITY, AND SEEING THE ALUMNI COMING BACK TO THE UNIVERSITY TO CELEBRATE HOMECOMING."

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resources. She's getting a leg up in the business world with her job for the second summer this year with the University's Conference and Program Services office.

Gradzki looks back on her undergraduate experience as "the best four years ever" in her life. "I had a good time," she said. "I think some of my best memories were with my sorority, and seeing the alumni coming back to the University to celebrate homecoming."

Asked if she would be coming back through the years for homecoming, she replied, "You bet!"

Gradzki, who came to Monmouth University from Maywood, N.J. in Bergen County, was the second vice president and pledge trainer of her sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha. She served for two years as a residential assistant in the dormitories. In addition to being the class secretary, she served as a senior senator in the Student Government Association.

Gradzki said she was very happy with the business program at the University, and that her favorite professor was Dr. Joseph Mosca, an assistant professor whose classes focus on management and business. "He was wonderful," she said.

#### ANGELA MARIE COSTELLO

Helping others through a community service program provided satisfaction to Angela Marie Costello while at Monmouth University. Working through the office of Marilyn Ward, coordinator of service learning and community programs in the Life and Career Advising Center, she took part in a tutoring program at Hope Academy, a charter school in Asbury Park. "We were doing projects on New Jersey," she recalled. "We taught the students how to do research on the internet," she said.

A business management major and summa cum laude graduate, Costello began law studies at Baltimore Law

School in mid-August. She said she doesn't know yet what area of law she might want to specialize in. She was President of Lamda Sigma Tau honor society while at Monmouth. Costello said that her first three years at Monmouth were devoted pretty much to her studies and softball. She played softball—second base—in her freshman, sophomore, and junior years. But in her senior year she gave up softball and branched out into other activities, including community outreach and serving as a senator with the Student Government Association.

Her favorite faculty people were Marilyn Ward, and Grey Dimenna, Vice President and General Counsel at Monmouth University, who taught an ethics class. "I interned in his office," she said, referring to Dimenna. Costello said she enjoyed the opportunities her classes, extracurricular activities, and community service offered her while at Monmouth. **MU**

## DR. REKHA DATTA

### WINNER OF DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

The winner of this year's Distinguished Teacher Award was Dr. Rekha Datta, Chair and Associate Professor of Political Science. Dr. Thomas Pearson, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, presented it. Datta, who lives in Marlboro, N.J., was Director of Global Perspectives at Monmouth University from 1995 to 2000, a program that oversees and implements global education in the curriculum. In 2001, with partial funding from the Judith Stanley Travel Fellowship, she helped create a voluntary group of students, faculty, and staff at the University called the Global Understanding Project. Its mission is to foster better understanding of local and global issues and cultures through community outreach, curriculum development, and interdisciplinary programs and conferences.

"Rekha Datta is one of Monmouth University's finest teacher-scholars, who brings her expertise into the classroom and beyond," Pearson said. "She is hailed for her ability to engage students in debate, her rapport with students, and her respect and sensitivity to student comments. She has inspired and empowered many students and members of the community through her leadership, dedication, and passion for teaching," he said.

An emotional Datta thanked the entire campus community for the honor. "I share it with all my faculty colleagues and students, as good teaching is testimony to good students as well," she said in an e-mail response to the college community.

"Tom Pearson has socialized us into making teaching our number one priority," she continued. "His teaching, scholarship, and knowledge give us fitting guidance. This award is a tribute to our students, whose success is testimony to what we do in and outside the classroom," she said. "Our students do us proud and we cherish them."



2

# two river

film festival interns get good look  
at the [silverscreen]

BY TOVA NAVARRA

[ former two river film festival intern at Monmouth University, Siobhan Corcoran, believes the film industry is a trendsetter, an educator, an instigator, and – most importantly and more evidently – an entertainer. ]

“ I THINK WE CAN LOOK AT FILM THROUGH THE

DECADES AND SEE THAT IT'S A MAJOR PART OF

OUR CULTURE, AND THAT IT IS NOT GOING AWAY,

UNLIKE SOME PHENOMENA, SAYS SIOBHAN. ”

[S] he's right on the money. Most of us love to go to the movies. Movies reflect our deep-seated desires, and offer us myriad ways of dealing with the pressure of being human. For decades, the silver screen has unabashedly taken on what's bothering, badgering, and bewildering people. War? Got it from all points of view. Ethics? Six ways since Sunday. Love? If an ounce of it still hasn't been addressed, you can be certain someone is writing the screenplay as you read this. ...

... Or an intern is getting a hands-on learning experience about storytelling through film and many other aspects of the film industry. So when Rumson resident Rosellen Otrajki put together a

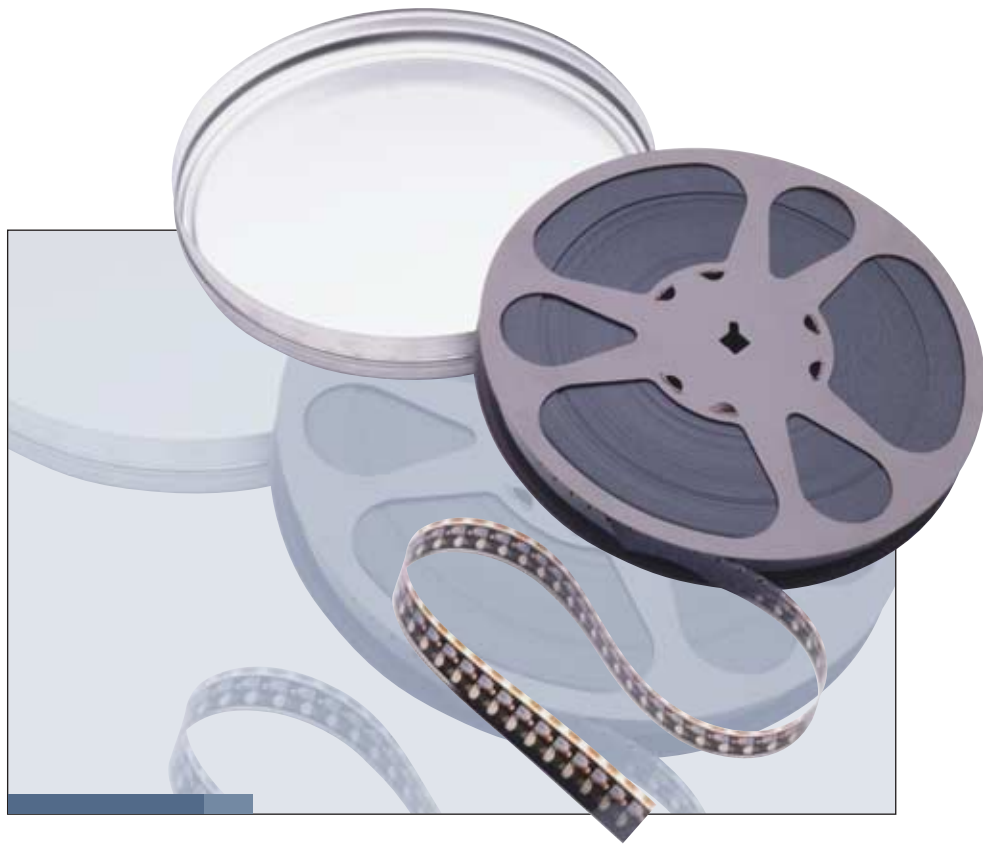
board and a group of ardent supporters to create the Two River Film Festival for Monmouth University, she and other movers and shakers on campus drew a line in the sand, challenging anyone intrepid enough to dive into uncharted waters.

“The Two River Film Festival is dedicated to bringing quality films and film-related programs to Monmouth County residents and students,” said Otrajki, CEO and President of the Board. “We want to expand the community's cultural and educational opportunities, and create new programs for film and education while raising needed funds to support arts and education programs throughout Monmouth

County. State and local funding cuts in these programs have made this more important than ever before.”

Dr. Don Swanson, Chair of the Department of Communications, said: “The concept of a film festival was discussed with Otrakji and other members of the community. The University was approached, specifically the Provost and the Department of Communication, because the founders believed that a start-up film festival should have an ‘academic anchor’.

“The festival has the potential to not only provide access to exceptional films,” Swanson said, “but also to educate regarding the cultural impact of film. We teach a range of concepts regarding film, including aesthetic features, history, screenwriting, digital production, and certainly the values



**“the festival** has the potential to not only provide access to exceptional films,” Swanson said, “but also to educate regarding the **cultural impact of film.**”

and ethics that are transmitted by widely distributed film and screen products. Note that I say screen products. We focus on television and digital production in our production courses because that is where the industry is moving. However we study films in all of their forms. We also have a popular minor in screen studies.



“This past spring and this summer, for example, some of our communication students have worked under the auspices of the festival on media education projects. They have engaged with elementary school students on exploring the nature of media violence (The Horizons Project).

“As we teach in our CO155 Media Literacy course, required of all communication majors, it is essential to have an understanding of the impact of screen images, whether on TV or in film. How the business of making these images is conducted is also a key element of the process. Business decisions obviously impact what gets theatrical release or appears on cable and the networks.”

Corcoran thinks she’s come through an important part of her college career having the benefit of the film festival internship. “I really didn’t want to do another internship,” she said. “I had already interned in Congressman Frank Pallone’s office and at

Comedy Central as an undergrad. However, at one of my graduate seminars, Dr. Swanson mentioned the new internship program for the undergrads that would have to do with the new film festival in Red Bank. Being a big fan of Red Bank (I went to high school at Red Bank Catholic and have worked at Murphy Style Grill in Red Bank for over two years), I thought I would just go to the meeting and see what Roselle had to say about the film festival. She talked about setting up a media education curriculum for the surrounding schools, and helping to make kids more aware of the dangers and pleasures that can be acquired by absorbing themselves in the media. After listening to her speak and talking to Professor Kris Simoes, I thought that this would be a great experience, because I would really be able to get my hands dirty, so to speak, and become involved in a project from the ground up.”



Corcoran was quick to add that movies intrigued her most of her life. "I have always been interested in film," she said. "I like that I can see things, people, and places that I might not have a chance to see in real life, but can experience vicariously through the characters on the big screen. I like the fact that

classes. I'm also impressed that current generations of students are very visual learners. The downside of this is that at times students do not show as much ability to read, and read between the lines, so we have to provide that learning experience but meet students more than halfway. If using visual means

in historical and cultural studies. That is partly how I became involved with the film festival concept.

"The professional side is my feeling that, with the new Plangere Center for our program and the department offering screen and film studies, we provide the students with a wonderful vehicle to bring positive attention to our University, and elevate its presence within our cultural community.

"We are beginning this partnership, and our intent is to have a very successful and tightly run festival this fall, which we hope will bring a lot of favorable attention to the University and the festival," Pearson said. "In time, our hope is that rather than doing the festival on one designated weekend of the year, we may be able to acquire more films and film experiences on campus. That includes attracting experts in the industry to come to campus on regular basis to enrich the communications curriculum and media studies areas."

Swanson said he also loves film and its ability to illuminate concepts to which the public may not otherwise pay attention.



**"the people I have worked with on this project have been exceptional, and the experience is one that I will never forget."**

characters in movies can make mistakes, and I can sometimes learn from them. I thought that this internship would, perhaps, help me better understand what the film industry is like, and make me more aware of non-commercial, non-mainstream films."

A major component of the University's quest involves precisely what Corcoran describes as a vicarious experience, as well as taking it a step farther to being able to interpret it.

"I have both a personal and professional interest in the festival," said Provost Thomas Pearson, co-chair of the Two River Film Festival board.

"As an educator, I'm a believer in educating students; I'm an historian by background; and I have used films in my

helps students connect issues and think more critically, it's a good vehicle for educating students on how to watch and interpret the messages in films, particularly



"Like everyone who patronizes the film industry," he said, "I am selective in what I decide to watch. I am bothered by the fact that a lot of quality films never receive theatrical release or enough promotion to be viewed by large audiences. Consequently, it is the task of film festivals to raise public consciousness of films that should receive attention. The movie business *is* a business, and subject to entertainment expectations of certain segments of the population. Theatrical showings are constrained to fit an audience demographic that rewards sameness rather than creativity. I agree with many critics that the industry has some significant problems."

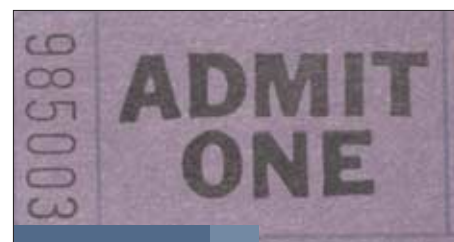
When asked to define the "essential intern," Swanson said: "This is an interesting phrase. Obviously with a huge

undertaking like this film festival, intern assistance and volunteer work is absolutely essential. Both elements are a key feature of the festival. In the spring, 18 interns put in approximately 2,000 hours of work on the festival, and this summer four interns are each doing a day or two a week all summer. So they *are* essential. Interns also learn what it takes to do such a large, important project. It combines concepts of public relations and special events promotions, business management, interpersonal influence and persuasion, business savvy, and a sense of social responsibility with solid dedication and hard work to make the festival go."

Intern Corcoran was one of the beneficiaries of those opportunities, and put her abiding interest in film in motion. "My responsibilities for the film festival varied," she explained. "Along with Alison McGlinchy, I helped to supervise the undergraduate interns. I scheduled

their hours spent with Rosellen each week, and distributed assignments to them based on the guidance that I received from both Rosellen and Professor Kris Simoes. I also aided in creating the press material and sponsorship material for the festival that would be distributed to the press and sponsors, respectively. I extensively researched other festival web sites so that we could get an idea of what we wanted ours to be like, and what we definitely didn't want ours to be like. Additionally, I attended the two major events that the Two River Film Festival hosted during the spring semester—the Oscar gathering at 'Nauvoo Grill and Lounge' in Fair Haven, and the fundraising event at 'Due Process' in Colts Neck. During these events, I acted as a liaison between Monmouth University, the Two River Film Festival, and the participants of each gathering."

Kristin Dutch, another Two River Film Festival intern, feels strongly that she has been the beneficiary of invaluable learning opportunities. "This internship has been a wonderful experience for me so far, and I am sure I will take a lot away from it. The work that I have been doing has exposed me to many different aspects of events planning and fundraising: areas that I am very interested in pursuing after I graduate. The people I have worked with on this project have been exceptional, and the experience is one that I will never forget." **MU**



**2** **two river film festival symposia**

[www.tworiverfilmfestival.com](http://www.tworiverfilmfestival.com)

**the two river film festival symposia** will launch a three-day weekend of events at Monmouth University on **October 10, 11, and 12**. For more information about the schedule on campus, as well as other events throughout Monmouth County, visit the Two River Film Festival web site for full details:

[\[www.tworiverfilmfestival.com\]](http://www.tworiverfilmfestival.com)



# SAILS SET TO THE SKY

BY IRENE FARRELL TOWT



**P**aul G. Gaffney II, the newly appointed seventh President of Monmouth University, seems to have landed in seventh heaven.

After 35 years of commissioned service with the Navy, including duties at sea, overseas, and ashore in executive and command positions, he has taken the helm of Monmouth University, and there is no question that he has set an ambitious course for himself and the school he has embraced as his own. Personable, positive, poised, and looking perfectly comfortable in his navy (some things take a little more time) civilian suit, he is a man on a new mission: the continued growth of Monmouth University.

*The President walks the campus. He engages students in conversation. He stops in town for coffee in his jogging togs. But this “retired” Navy Vice Admiral is also keeping his eye on a Monmouth County watershed project; meeting with important political, civic, and religious leaders in the community and the state; connecting with alumni; reviewing the curriculum; shoring up the athletic program and facilities; and serving on international boards. And that’s just since July 7, 2003 ...*

*But — as President Gaffney is quick to point out — he is primarily playing the role of listener and fact-finder, not change agent in*

*these early months. Nonetheless, his approachable style and “can-do” attitude are infectious. It all augurs well for the school ... and the man who has come on board to lead Monmouth University into its eighth decade as an educational institution.*

*In an interview after just one week on the job, President Gaffney offered a telltale glimpse of how he plans to approach his newest assignment, and consequently confirmed exactly why he was the Board of Trustees’ unanimous first choice for the presidency of Monmouth University ...*





## THE MAKING OF A PRESIDENT

(Education, Athletic, and Career Highlights)

- Raised in Massachusetts and Ohio
- Extensive travel in Europe, the Middle and Far East, Africa, and the Americas
- B.S., U.S. Naval Academy, 1968
- Twelve letter-winning seasons in track & field, cross country at the USNA (NCAA Division I)
- M.S.E., Mechanical Engineering (Ocean), Catholic University of America
- Graduate, U.S. Naval War College
- M.B.A., Jacksonville University
- Chief of Staff, Office of Naval Research (ONR), 1989-1991
- Chief Executive of the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL), 1991-1994
- Director of the only worldwide oceanographic and meteorological services organization, 1994-1997
- Chief of Naval Research, 1996-2000
- Commissioner, U.S. Ocean Policy Commission, 2001-present
- President, National Defense University, 2000-2003
- President, Monmouth University, Appointed 2003

### What attracted you to Monmouth University?

"For the last 10 to 15 years I've known that I wanted to somehow be involved with the administration of a university when I retired from the United States Navy. Initially I was looking at public universities—a natural focus for me, considering my role as President of the National Defense University. However, I was encouraged by some colleagues to consider private universities as well. It was a dose of good providence that led me to a listing in the classified section of the *Chronicle of Higher Education* announcing the search for a new President at Monmouth University. I already knew about the strides MU has made in recent

years, under the leadership of Rebecca Stafford, through Lillian Barrone, the former Port Authority Director of Port Commerce for New York and New Jersey and one of 16 colleagues with whom I serve on the U.S. Ocean Policy Commission. (There are now *two* New Jersey Commissioners, so our state is well represented.) Ms. Barrone is a resident in the area who has been watching MU for years. 'All vectors are up, and have been for some time,' was her report.

"So my wife Linda and I decided to come up from Washington and take a look for ourselves. It was Thanksgiving weekend. There was not a soul in sight. The weather was bleak—a wild day for

walking around campus. Nonetheless, we instantly fell for Monmouth University. The surrounding area also impressed us: great residential communities, nice little towns, convenient commutation by train and car to Philadelphia and New York (and even regular boat transportation to Manhattan), and easy access to airports as well. Plus the location is only three hours from our daughter, Crista, my parents, and some friends and colleagues who live in the Washington area.

"When Monmouth asked me to interview for the presidency, I was impressed instantly by the warm and welcoming atmosphere, the humor and congeniality of those I met in the MU community, and the history and unique character of the campus. Linda and I felt it was a great fit for us: there was a palpable sense of purpose and opportunity. So I was delighted to be offered and pleased to accept the position as the seventh President of Monmouth University.

"When you join any organization, you always hope to do more, not less. In the public education sector, budget cuts sometimes make it difficult to continue that forward motion, and perhaps even hard to maintain existing programs and services. MU is an independent institution with a reputation on the rise. Sam Magill and Rebecca Stafford put us in the game; I would like to continue moving the ball down the field."

### How do you think your professional and community life will change as a civilian in the New York metropolitan area, as opposed to the military career that brought you around the world, across the country, and into the political heartland of Washington, D.C.?

"Certainly putting on civilian clothes will be a challenge for me every morning. Fortunately, I can rely on Linda's keen eye as my clothier consultant. In the professional arena, my responsibilities as a university president will shift in focus from the public to the private sector. As an institution, Monmouth has a very different student demographic than that of the National Defense University. The average age of the NDU student is 40; at MU, the average age

is 20. I've been asked on several occasions about the generational transition. In a narrow, statistical sense, yes, it is a change. If one considers, however, that the average age of people who serve in the U.S. Navy is also 20, and that virtually every sailor is a high school graduate, the demographics of those professionals and students for whom I've been responsible are quite similar. What is more, no matter how old I get with each passing year, the average age of my clients, if you will, stays the same. It is energizing to be around young people with bright ideas, passion, vitality — all the things that help keep one renewed, like the constant ebb and flow of the tides. It's one of the reasons I'm looking forward to the Monmouth University experience."

**Would you share with the readers of *Monmouth University Magazine* some of the highlights of your career as a Vice Admiral in the U.S. Navy?**

"I've had a few very exciting operational positions earlier in my career. I spent a year in Vietnam in charge of surveying some of its rivers, islands, and coasts, including blown-up ships and navigational markings. I was in charge of an all-Vietnamese crew of 10: most of them spoke English and were trained in the United States. I lived with them, ate the local food, and traveled on junks, sampans, and river patrol craft. From 1979-1980, I was head of an expedition that surveyed the strait between Borneo and Celebes Islands in the middle of the Indonesian archipelago. We were 300 days at sea on the USNS Chauvenet, a ship that carried about 200 people, sophisticated equipment, and a helicopter. It was the equivalent of a small city. Part of our mission was to set up navigational stations to enable our ocean survey efforts. The helicopter would drop a sailor with a chain saw into the jungle; once on the ground, the sailor would cut down a few trees and erect a radio tower. Three such camps were set up with a tent city for four sailors in each. At one location on a small island, we discovered several canons of Dutch origin from the 1700s.

"My last four positions were more strategic in nature. In the early 1990s, I ran the Naval Research Laboratory as its



*Joe Lizza, Suraya Kornegay, and President Gaffney discuss upcoming campus events at Monmouth University.*

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**It is energizing to be around young people with bright ideas, passion, vitality – all the things that help keep one renewed, like the constant ebb and flow of the tides. It's one of the reasons I'm looking forward to the Monmouth University experience."**

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Commanding Officer. It is an organization of 3,000 highly skilled people — 750 of them Ph.D.s, and one of them a Nobel prizewinner. The lab had an \$850 million a year budget allocated to basic and applied research from all parts of government. The personnel there were independent thinking and high-energy people — not unlike those at MU. I enjoyed it very much.

"After that, I headed up the Navy's Oceanography Program, with its 'world headquarters' on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi. My charge was to collect and disseminate information about the oceans and waters, literally around the globe. The unit was also in charge of weather forecasting for the Navy: information that was crucial for strategic and operational maneuvers. We worked in close collaboration with NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, which is a civilian organization responsible for compiling data on the U.S. weather and our coastal waters.

"My next position was heading up the ONR (Office of Naval Research) — the organization that essentially invented the idea of giving federal grants for research, and pre-dates the National Science Foundation. It was an unusually rewarding job. We were in the business of giving a couple of billion dollars to industry, government labs, and educational institutions to do research for the Navy. In my role heading up this organization, I frequently visited universities, and it was always a satisfying experience. I was exposed to many academicians, and was often impressed by the bright people taking the lead on cutting edge research.

"My position prior to accepting the presidency of Monmouth University at the National Defense University was prompted by my pursuit of the dream to become a senior university administrator. I wanted to learn if my aspirations were well founded; I quickly discovered they were. It was electrifying to be surrounded by fascinating academic challenges, learned professors, international strategic issues and events,



fundraising for a noble purpose, and the issues that surround sound governance of a university. I was hooked."

**You were a star runner at the Naval Academy, a track coach, and currently serve as a track official and an announcer. Those who read the *Asbury Park Press*, as well as many who have seen you on campus in the early morning hours, are aware that you are a dedicated jogger. How often do you work out?**

"I ran in track and road races until I was 40 years old. Now I jog primarily to keep in shape—about three to four times a week for about a half hour, which for me is anywhere from two to four miles. I run enough to allow me to fit into my clothes."

A leading miler and two-miler in indoor and outdoor track and field and a cross country runner on freshmen and varsity teams, President Gaffney had 12 letter-winning seasons over his four years at the U.S. Naval Academy (NCAA Division I). He also served as a graduate assistant track coach at Catholic University of America and, later in his career, as an Assistant Track Coach and recruiter for the U.S. Naval Academy.

**How would you describe your leadership style? And how do you envision your typical day at Monmouth University?**

"I would hope that others characterize me as inclusive of different opinions in the decision-making process, and I do that as much as I can. I assume that my staff is smarter than I am in their areas of expertise. So I would be nuts not to listen to their advice on key issues that are in their province. Ultimately, I will take full responsibility for the running of the University; sometimes, in exigent situations, that means I will have to make decisions without having time to confer with others, and I hope I will have earned the trust to do just that.

"A typical day? Well, a typical day will most likely be atypical, but a general forecast is that there will be lots of meetings with key stakeholders in the University. I want to be walking around, seeing things. I'd like to talk to people both on campus and off to get a feeling

for what's going on at the University. Of course, I'm not going to solve problems while I'm walking around. But I do want people to approach me, and I do want to get absorbed in the environment.

"About half of my time will be spent representing Monmouth to generous University supporters, key neighbors, alumni, and political figures on the state and federal levels, as well as others who can help us continue to improve. I'll be working with the Trustees, who have a vested interest in the school, and with those who have been or would like to be generous to Monmouth University."

**You have stated that you would like to reach out to the alumni of Monmouth University. Do you have any preliminary thoughts about how you would like to accomplish that goal?**

"An alum is any person who made it through the first day, in my opinion. So I want even the newest student to start thinking on the first day about the future of MU. One should always be able to say that he or she attended Monmouth, and is proud of it. The University has to continue to make progress, or else the diploma will lose its impact. Alumni will trade on the quality of the education and the reputation of the school. The value of one's

investment in his or her education can and should grow throughout one's career. I want to make sure the credential of a Monmouth University education makes every alum's résumé look better.

"For the first time in its history, Monmouth has a mature alumni base. Twenty-five years ago, the situation was quite different. Now some of our alumni are at the height of their careers, and some have already made their mark on the world and are ready to retire. I'd like to involve myself with the alumni population. It's important to the health of the University to cultivate that connection. I want advice from alumni on how to amplify participation in University events; how to attract student and alumni spectators for cultural and athletic events—not necessarily only to increase our income, but also to engage them in the *entire* experience of Monmouth University. College is more than what happens in the (very important!) classroom."

Vice President of Advancement Dennis Macro agrees. "The word is getting out. Alumni are starting to reconnect with Monmouth University—not only with their former classmates but also with the school's current academic and athletic programs, and alumni and special events. We have many accomplished professionals



*President Gaffney meets with West Long Branch mayor Paul Zambrano at the Raceway Diner in town.*





*President Gaffney and Belinda Amatekor, who hails from Ghana, discuss the wealth of higher educational opportunities in America, particularly at Monmouth University where Belinda is a graduate student in psychological counseling.*

out there who are graduates, and they are starting to come home to the Monmouth University community in new and different ways.”

**In these early days of your presidency with Monmouth University, can you give us your impressions, and, perhaps, share any marked differences and similarities that you see between MU and the National Defense University?**

“The National Defense University is a fully accredited, degree-granting institution that is governed by the same body that certifies Monmouth University. NDU has a focus on the social sciences (diplomacy, economics,

political science, information management, decision making, etc.) On the other hand, Monmouth has a much broader selection of offerings.

“Education, like science, is an incredibly useful tool for national diplomacy, especially national security diplomacy. When officials talk about war or peace or arms control—difficult and often sensitive issues—they need to be both diplomatic and precise. They are delivering a policy message. But defense education and science institutions can discuss any issue at a scholarly level so that it does not become politically charged. Whether or not we are friendly with a country, we need to

maintain relations. Indisputable knowledge is the great leveler: It’s the way to stay connected to people around the world.

“The outreach mission of the National Defense University is heavily geared to multiple, international, external organizations. In a globalized world, information and commerce connect people in ways never imagined 10 years ago. MU, too, can connect beyond the regional level. The value of what we teach and the talents resident here have a place in a globalized world. I hope we can take advantage of our opportunities to reach out.”

**As President of NDU through the September 11 attacks, did the curriculum at the University change in any significant way, and, if so, how?**

“Yes. The faculty took the lead in responding to the situation with amazing alacrity, intelligence, and sense of purpose. In fact, we were required to catalog all post-September 11 homeland security and counter-terrorism changes to the institution’s curriculum for the Congress. Altogether, 180 changes were made to the readings, simulations, discussions, field trips, and roster of speakers. I have high regard for the faculty who took on this undertaking headlong. They were so responsible.”

**Tell us about your experience as a commissioner of the U.S. Ocean Policy Commission.**

“The Commission was formed on September 13, 2001 by President George W. Bush in response to a statute passed by Congress. The 16 commissioners were nominated by representatives from both parties. Needless to say, it was an untimely start for this important new initiative. With the airports closed after the September 11 attacks, we were only able to get a quorum for the first public meeting through a conference call. With the President’s focus on more immediate concerns, the Commission’s timeline was delayed. But we have concluded the field hearing stage, where we gathered information on the legal, regulatory, infrastructure, educational, and scientific aspects of U.S. policy regarding ocean and coastal use management. We’ve already heard

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*Hundreds of well-wishers from the Monmouth University community met President Gaffney and his wife Linda in the Erlanger Garden at a special brunch held in their honor.*

from over 400 witnesses from all over the country. We made site visits in the Northeast, New Jersey, the Carolinas, Florida, Puerto Rico, the Gulf Coast, the Chesapeake Bay area, Texas, the Great Lakes, California, Alaska, and Hawaii. Our report on national policy, investment, and governance reform will be presented to the President, Congress, and governors by the end of 2003.”

**As a professional oceanographer with a master’s degree in ocean engineering, and now as president of a university situated right on the Atlantic coast, can you tell us something about the oceanographic aspects of our area and the efforts that are being made to preserve our beaches?**

“Tourism is a top revenue source in New Jersey, and that income relies heavily on beach and coastal water health. The coastal ocean environment is a system—an ecosystem—with many parts. I believe our Commission is united in recommending that America spend more effort in trying to understand the relationship between coastal beaches and estuaries; the importance of ‘upland’ practices to the

local watershed; and the relationship between human needs for development (responsible development!) and human desires to protect the valuable resources in the broad ocean ecosystem. Knowing more about this incredible resource so close to Monmouth University will lead us to make better public policy regarding our coast. We are fortunate in New Jersey to have Congressmen Frank Pallone and Jim Saxton, who are experts in ocean issues, and who support programs that enable sustainable, responsible use of our coastal environment through greater knowledge.”

**Can you tell us about “Gaffney Ridge”, the oceanographic feature named in your honor?**

“I was nominated by a group of professional colleagues and subsequently selected by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN), a Federal body created in 1890, as a candidate for the naming of a geographic feature. There was a small ridge in the South China Sea, about 220 miles west of the Philippines, that had been discovered by an American survey ship many years ago, and they chose to put my name to it, as it was in an area where I spent most of my time at sea. It was a compliment of which I am very proud.”

**How is your move from Washington, D.C. going, and when do you plan to take up residence in your new home on Cedar Avenue?**

“Linda has the daunting task of moving our household effects. We’ve been in the President’s House at NDU for three years, and we’ve accumulated a great deal. There is certainly a lot for her to do. Fortunately she is very good at it. I am not, so my being here and her being there is the right division of labor. We lived on campus, so we already have had that experience, and we enjoyed it very much. We were 50 feet from the Washington Channel of the Potomac River, overlooking the Washington monument, and 150 yards from the University. We are looking forward to being so close to campus activities and to the wonderful beaches of the Jersey Shore. Our temporary house on Cedar Avenue will be ready in mid-August, and we can’t wait to settle in.”

**Can you tell us a little bit about Linda’s special interests, and where and when we might see her around campus? Will your daughter, Crista, be visiting?**

“Linda was deeply involved with international students at NDU. She is an accredited high school and junior high school teacher who has been an educator in California, Morocco, and Virginia. In fact, we initially met as competing coaches at a high school track meet in Madrid. Her other interests include fishing, which she often did in the Washington Channel, and sculling, which she learned on the Potomac. These days, she also enjoys movies, travel, and walking—the last of which she is looking forward to doing around the campus and on the boardwalks in Monmouth County. Linda is also a terrific hostess, and I’m sure she will add a great deal to the official entertaining at the University.

“My daughter, Crista, who is a marketing executive in the telecommunications industry in Northern Virginia, happens to have a roommate from Monmouth County, so she’ll be coming up here to visit family and friends ... *and* we hope it is often.”

**Do you have some initial thoughts about what you would like to accomplish at Monmouth University?**

“Following someone who was such a roaring success is not easy, and Rebecca Stafford certainly raised the bar at Monmouth University. As an educator (in the larger sense), I’d like to follow a bit of wisdom from the Hippocratic Oath: ‘*First do no harm.*’ I have a very good Cabinet here, a distinguished faculty, and prestigious trustees. I plan to take a lot of advice, and listen and learn for a good while. I believe in increasing the quality of the things we do well before introducing new initiatives. I want to connect to the alumni, and represent the University beyond the campus confines. The opportunities for Monmouth University go well beyond 400 Cedar Avenue, Monmouth County, and New Jersey. My job is to make sure those opportunities happen.” **MU**





# IN A MONMOUTH STATE OF MIND

BY IRENE FARRELL TOWT

**Spend just five minutes** talking with Alfred J. Schiavetti, Jr. — long-time Monmouth University Trustee, Treasurer of the Board, successful corporate executive turned entrepreneur, and passionate advocate of independent education — and you'll learn a lot...

...not least of all about 400 Cedar Avenue in West Long Branch: home to a student population topping 6,000; habitat of the NEC Championship-winning Hawks; and site of two national historic sites, Woodrow Wilson Hall and the Guggenheim Library. An avid reader, traveler, and patron of the arts, Schiavetti is a man full of interests and ideas, many of which focus on quality independent education. Not surprisingly,

his passion for cultivating new generations of leaders and thinkers and does springs from his own liberal arts schooling as a 1961 graduate of Williams College. In a recent conversation, Schiavetti shared some insights on what makes independent education so special — particularly at Monmouth University — and discussed where he sees the University headed with President Gaffney at the helm.

"Liberal arts institutions are among the most important supports of a civil society. These educational mainstays have taught a lot of people how to think about and solve problems; how to question and challenge; how to continue to learn and grow throughout the course of their lives," Schiavetti maintains.

"Barbara (his wife) and I actually stumbled into our involvement with Monmouth, even though we lived close by. In 1989, we met Sam Magill (fifth President of Monmouth University) at the Aspen Institute. When we introduced ourselves around the table, we realized we had traveled some 1,800 miles to get to know a wonderful educational leader who literally lived down the road from us. It was because of that meeting that we became involved in supporting our local university," he recalls.



Ever since, Al Schiavetti has been a man with Monmouth on his mind, adding mental muscle to how the University can capitalize on its history, its physical location, its academic and athletic strengths, its relative youth as an academic institution, and the endless opportunities to reach out to the community—locally, across New Jersey, and beyond our state borders. He believes in cultivating the larger meaning of a university community: the one that includes alumni both far and near; neighbors down the street and in corporate towers; and friends at large who understand and value a good liberal arts education.

“Monmouth University fulfills its mission well,” says Schiavetti. “Establishing stronger ties with alumni; spending time with friends and neighbors who are curious to learn more about the school; interesting our community leaders in spreading the word about the marvelous opportunities available on our campus—from performing arts events to lectures and symposia—are all ways we can get the word out about this true educational gem on the Jersey Shore. So we need to continue to shine the lighthouse beacon from MU.

“I have an extremely strong belief that a community is only as strong as the educational institutions in it. Without those influences, community life would not be as rich, as interesting, or as rewarding. Besides offering great academic opportunities, Monmouth University has fascinating architectural structures and top-notch modern facilities. The beaux-arts Guggenheim Library coupled with Woodrow Wilson Hall, a National Historic Landmark, add character and important history to the University’s campus. The Pollak Theatre, our center



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for the performing arts, and the award-winning Jules L. Plangere Jr. Center for Communication and Instructional Technology have been important additions to the campus. And we have several buildings that also serve as state-of-the-art

conference facilities for corporations, small businesses, and non-profit and civic groups.

“This year we’ll be marking our 70th anniversary as an educational institution, and we already see our alumni moving into high gear to make the most of this landmark. It’s truly an exciting time to be associated with Monmouth University,” Schiavetti says enthusiastically.

He is pleased to have President Gaffney leading the way. Schiavetti chaired the search committee that was charged with recommending four unranked finalists to the Board of Trustees for consideration as the seventh President of Monmouth University. He presided over a distinguished group of leaders, which included trustees, faculty, administrators, and students. President Gaffney was chosen by acclamation by the Board of Trustees, and the appointment was made.

“Monmouth University flourished over the last decade under Rebecca Stafford’s leadership, and has an ambitious agenda for the future,” says Schiavetti. “President Gaffney’s considerable academic, executive, and management background, as well as his long-time involvement with national and global issues, are perfectly suited to the University’s strategic plans and ongoing initiatives. We have full confidence that President Gaffney will make an enormous contribution to our continued success. The tide is right, the crew is on board, and the forecast is full speed ahead for Monmouth University.” **MU**

# Monmouth's MENTORSHIP PROGRAM: An Odyssey of Excellence

BY CATHERINE LEIDEMER



*Karl Gordinier '62, Chairman of Monmouth University's Business Council*

A solid education might be the reason to go to college, but it shouldn't be the only means through which one benefits from the campus experience. Chances are that while in college, a variety of professors, students, and friends will have a lasting impact on one's career choices, interests and hobbies, and not least of all, lifelong relationships.

While these individuals can help shape both college experiences and future plans, they certainly aren't the only ones with the ability to do so. Thanks to Monmouth University's new Mentoring Program, there's an opportunity to tap into one of the University's most valuable resources: its alumni.

Led by an ambitious group of alumni and dedicated administrative staff, this new program will soon make a significant step toward taking full advantage of the University's growing alumni base. From the fields of accounting and communications to computer science, engineering, and nursing, Monmouth alumni have forged successful livelihoods across the country and around the world. Along the way, they've no doubt learned valuable professional and life lessons that just can't be found in the classroom. What better way to prepare current MU students for success than to implement an innovative mentoring program and further connect current MU students with generations past?

The program currently under development will mirror a solid mentoring program that already exists at Monmouth's School of Business, explains Karl Gordinier '62, Chairman of Monmouth University's Business Council. A past president of the Alumni Association, former head of MU's Placement Office, and the former Vice President of Human Resources for International Flavors and Fragrances, Gordinier is a longtime active supporter of the University. "I've been involved in mentoring students at Monmouth for years," Gordinier says. "When I was graduating, I didn't know what I wanted to do, and it would have been nice to have had some guidance from a mentor." Approximately five years ago, he helped to develop what has become a popular mentoring program at Monmouth exclusively for business students and alumni in related fields.

The business school program has developed such an impressive reputation, in fact, that the Monmouth University Alumni Association came to Gordinier and solicited his expertise in expanding

the program to increase the number of mentors and to expand opportunities for students of all majors.

The result is a team effort, led by Gordinier and the Alumni Association, which also partners with Monmouth's Life and Career Advising Center (LCAC) and Office of Alumni Affairs. "Through this new and expanded mentoring program, our goals are to provide students in any major—particularly juniors, seniors, and graduate students—with guidance and role models, as well as to share business and career experiences. We'll also answer students' questions and address any career concerns they might have. Many students simply don't know what career they want to pursue, and they're looking for leads and networking opportunities. Our program can meet these needs, and our alumni can also offer them hands-on experience and practical knowledge."

"It's a value-added program," notes William Hill, the LCAC's Assistant Dean of Placement and Student Employment. "There is so much potential here. Having

a mentor can provide the extra edge that helps students overcome obstacles and advance in their careers and lives.

"Even after they get their first job, students can and should continue to learn from mentors," Hill continues. "Over the course of their lives, people can have many mentors, who can provide advice on everything from career guidance to buying their first house. Mentoring is a powerful concept from which everyone can benefit."

As the program will now be open to students in all majors, the first step entails recruiting alumni in a wide vari-

gram and with students' needs. On October 22, alumni mentors and interested students will be invited to an orientation program that will set the Mentoring Program in motion.

"First, we'll present a seminar that offers basic job search advice for students," Gordinier explains. "Afterward, students will have the opportunity to network and familiarize themselves with the alumni in attendance. Once the orientation is over, the students must take the initiative. They'll be provided with a list of alumni who have offered to serve

Gordinier adds, however, that students should not expect their mentors to provide them with job opportunities. "Mentors can provide networking opportunities, but students should not expect their mentors to present them with job offers," he says.

Mentors can also keep students current on necessary job skills, adds Jack Wagner '97, Chair of the Alumni Association's Career Development Committee. "We need to be able to mentor students on what really happens after graduation, what types of skills they'll need in particular industries, and what continuing education classes they might need," he says.

While the benefits to students are plentiful, the program promises to be just as gratifying for the alumni who participate, adds Marti Egger '81, president of the MU Alumni Association. "It's definitely a personally rewarding experience to serve as a mentor," she says. "Plus, the more [alumni] interact with students in helpful and meaningful ways, the more these students will come back and help future graduates. This program will also foster better communication between alumni and students and help to build a support network so students feel they have someplace or someone to go to for advice. Career development is one of the Alumni Association's greatest goals, and we have a lot of hopes and dreams for the Mentoring Program."

Gordinier and his counterparts at Monmouth have high expectations for the program. "Monmouth has a relatively large number of alumni and business executives with whom current students can develop relationships," he says. "A strong alumni network is vital to any university, and this is a great way to help Monmouth's alumni stay involved with the University. I expect this program to be very successful." **MU**

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*Alumni who are interested in becoming mentors and/or joining the MU Career Network and Business Directory, as well as current MU students who are interested in the Mentoring Program, should visit [www.monmouth.edu/alumni](http://www.monmouth.edu/alumni) or contact Marilynn Perry, Director of Alumni Affairs, at 732/571-3489.*



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ety of fields who are willing to mentor students, Gordinier explains. While the first group of alumni mentors was culled from a career survey sent by the Office of Alumni Affairs, Monmouth's web site now offers a link that allows alumni to join the Career Network on an ongoing basis and, in turn, volunteer as mentors ([www.monmouth.edu/alumni](http://www.monmouth.edu/alumni)).

During the fall '03 semester, Gordinier will hold a training session for interested alumni to familiarize them with the pro-

as mentors, and it is then up to the individual student to make contact with an alumnus/alumna in his or her field. From this point on, the actual mentoring can take several paths," Gordinier continues. "There are no specific requirements," he says. "Mentoring can be done via e-mail, over the phone, or in person, as well as through shadowing, networking, or even internships. It can take place in any form upon which the student and mentor agree."



# Noel Hillman '81

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# *Truly a Man of Integrity*

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BY CATHERINE LEIDEMER

Noel Hillman, B.A. '81, has come a long way from his days working after class at Monmouth Stereo in Shrewsbury, where he demonstrated one of the first CD players in the country for local rocker Bruce Springsteen.

These days, he is spending his time dealing with high-profile individuals of a different nature: those who have been targeted for investigation and/or prosecution by the Public Integrity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice's Criminal Division.

As Chief of the Public Integrity Section, Hillman is responsible for leading the charge as his team of 30 attorneys works to eliminate public corruption across the nation. Hillman refers to them as "the bad guys", and

their offenses are numerous: from election crimes to campaign finance violations to visa fraud. The resulting docket of cases is daunting. For that matter, so are the individuals who are under investigation, as many cases that end up on Hillman's desk involve alleged criminal misconduct on the part of elected and appointed officials.

Hillman isn't deterred by the challenge, though, as he has taken on plenty of formidable opponents in the courtroom over the years and has a solid track record

to show for it. Anything less would simply be atypical of the former honors student and undergraduate English major who always had his sights set on a legal career.

"Many of the heroes I had as a youngster were lawyers," he remembers. "I remember studying American history and being very interested in the notion of a nation and its conduct being ruled by law. Also, one of my older brothers is a lawyer, and I have always thought of it as an admirable profession."

Having been told that English was a good training ground to prepare for law school, the Red Bank, N.J. native became an English major at what was then Monmouth College after transferring from Berry College in Georgia. He spent much of his time fine-tuning his writing and communications skills — talents that would later enhance his legal career — by writing for *The Outlook*, co-editing the literary magazine, working as a music director for the campus radio station, and writing poetry, eventually earning the Senior Poetry Prize.





After graduation, Hillman quickly moved on to Seton Hall Law School. He won a prestigious Law Review scholarship that allowed him to work on a part-time basis for his brother's small law firm in Belmar, and then went on to serve as a law clerk for then-U.S. District Court (now 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals) Judge Maryanne Trump Barry, Donald Trump's sister. Next was a stint as an associate at Lord Day & Lord, Barrett Smith, a New York City practice that specialized in securities litigation and white-collar criminal defense.

It was at Lord Day — where Hillman served on a team of lawyers who worked on the defense of Lowell Milken and his brother Michael, the highly publicized former junk-bond financier who served time in prison for securities fraud — that Hillman realized he was on the wrong side of the courtroom.

"The late '80s and early '90s was an interesting time to be at a Wall Street law firm with the savings and loan crisis in full bloom," he says. "But I found that, at that point, I really saw many of these cases from the perspective of the government."

It wasn't long before Hillman made the switch. He joined the Criminal Division of the Newark, N.J., U.S. Attorney's Office in 1992 — a move that, he says, "fit neatly into my own crisis of faith, if you will, as a defense lawyer." He quickly rose through the ranks, serving as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Fraud and Public Protection Division before being named deputy chief of the Criminal Division in New Jersey. Along the way, he investigated and prosecuted a full range of complex federal crimes that included money laundering, arms control, narcotics, firearms, and smuggling,



"I do miss going to court, but now my role is to get the most out of the Public Integrity Section and its lawyers, and to fulfill the Attorney General's and President's agenda to vigorously prosecute corruption all over the country



as well as international trade and export controls. He also spent much of 1999 and 2000 serving on the Campaign Financing Task Force of then U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, investigating and prosecuting election law abuses in the 1992 and 1996 election cycles.

In 2001, Hillman was offered the opportunity to relocate to Washington, D.C., where he would revitalize the Public Integrity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice. Slated to start the new position on September 27, 2001, he found himself still in Newark on September 11. Before he left for the new post, Hillman logged a 48-hour shift at the FBI's command post in Newark immediately after the attacks, during which he helped to take many of the first investigative steps in the World Trade Center case.

Today, Hillman's position as Chief of the Public Integrity Section requires him to spend more time behind the scenes instead of on the front lines in court. He is responsible for coordinating the efforts of his attorneys—many of whom are constantly out in the field working with the

FBI, other law enforcement agencies, and U.S. Attorney's offices to investigate cases of crime and corruption.

"I do miss going to court, but now my role is to get the most out of the Public Integrity Section and its lawyers, and to fulfill the Attorney General's and President's agenda to vigorously prosecute corruption all over the country," says the father of three. "I think if the Public Integrity Section can contribute to the antiterrorism effort, produce cleaner elections, and keep foreign influence out of American politics, then we've done our job. I want to see that justice is done."

Though Hillman does spend some of what little free time he has on pro bono work — particularly for low-income citizens in Washington, D.C., and for the Surfrider Foundation (where he serves on the Board of Advisors with such notables as actor Gregory Harrison and pro surfer Kelly Slater) — don't expect him to call it quits on his distinguished federal career anytime soon.

"Being a prosecutor is the best job a lawyer can have," he says. **MU**

## FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

**F**all has to be the most exciting time of year for me. The change of seasons, the colors of the leaves becoming a glorious mix of red, orange, and gold, the smell of autumn, and the hint of frost to come.

Each year at this time, I am reminded of the new cycle starting at Monmouth University. It's a time to see old friends and meet new ones. The first game of the season is upon us and competitive rivalry with other schools invigorates us all. There are also new classes, new things to learn, as well as work and fun to fit into our busy lives.

This fall begins with even more excitement as Monmouth assumes new leadership. There is such hope for our individual futures as well as the future of Monmouth University. We will all play a part in shaping these futures.

As I think about this cycle of renewal, I can't help but relive my own incredible journey at MU. From the first time I wandered onto this campus, I knew I never wanted to leave Monmouth. Becoming active in the Alumni Association has given me the opportunity to stay here and remain connected. Once here, you will find the Alumni Association has a lot to offer. You can volunteer as a career mentor, as a recruiter, or help with Homecoming. You can become active on any of the committees that continually look for ways to link alumni to the students and the school.

We can all be proud of Monmouth and its own incredible journey over the last ten years. And we can all play an important part in the new direction Monmouth will go under our new President's leadership. I invite you to join us and become a part of the adventure. Help us to celebrate some old traditions and to start some new ones.

With Best Wishes,

**Marti S. Egger '81**

PRESIDENT Alumni Association

## NOTE TO READERS

Alumni who are interested in mentoring students are invited to come to campus for a mentoring orientation on October 22. After a short presentation on mentoring responsibilities, students will join us to meet the volunteers and exchange contact information. Please call the Alumni Office for details.



## HELP RECRUIT THE CLASS OF 2008

**1)** Be a "caller". Enthusiastic alumni volunteers are needed for two hours (6-8 p.m.) on the evenings of November 11 and 12, and February 3 and 4. Callers speak with interested and/or accepted students and encourage them to make Monmouth their first choice. No prior experience or special knowledge is necessary, only a willingness to share your positive Monmouth experience with prospective members of the class of 2008. Volunteer for one or more evenings.

**2)** Join "ARC", the Alumni Recruitment Committee, and represent MU at college fairs. Energetic and enthusiastic alumni complement and expand the reach of the undergraduate admission staff, especially in the following geographic areas:

- Long Island
- Greater Philadelphia
- New York City boroughs
- Rockland County
- Westchester County
- New Jersey counties except Monmouth, Middlesex, and Ocean (admission staff members cover these three counties)

**I**f you live outside the NYC metropolitan area, let us know the names and addresses of the high schools near you, and we will find out if they host college fairs.

ARC duties entail:

- Providing information and answering questions from prospective students
- Forwarding leads to the Admission Office

**I**nterested in volunteering to recruit students? Call the Alumni Office at 732/571-3489.



## NEW DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS ELECTED



Results of the elections for directors were announced at the annual meeting of the alumni association on May 1. Elected to three-year terms were Judith Cerciello '96, Belford; Tara Fredreck Peters '94 '99, Wall; and John Riggio '00, Jackson. Incumbents Lauren Vento Cifelli '99, Colt's Neck; Aaron Furgason '93, West End; and Jack Wagner '97, Milltown, were re-elected to a second term. Sotiris Kaklamanis '99 of Bradley Beach will complete the unexpired term of former director Peter Zurica '75, who

stepped down in June. Officers re-elected for a one-year term are Marti Egger '81, president; Gary Barnett '63, vice president for services; and Cheryl Szabo '98 '01 and '03, secretary. Judy Cerciello was elected vice president for programs, and Peter Bruckmann '70, treasurer. Terms commenced July 1.

All alumni are welcome to attend association meetings scheduled for December, March, and May. Please call the Alumni Office for detail at 732/571-3489.

## YOUNG GRADS ENJOY ONE OF THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER AT THE ANNUAL REUNION

Despite high humidity and the threat of thunderstorms, many alumni, predominantly from our most recent graduating classes, showed up at the annual summer party, which this year was held at Bar Anticipation in Belmar.



## ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

### ADDRESS

320 Wilson Hall  
Monmouth University  
West Long Branch, NJ 07764-1898

### PHONE

800/531-ALUM  
732/571-3489

### FAX

732/263-5315

### E-MAIL

[alumni@monmouth.edu](mailto:alumni@monmouth.edu)

### INTERNET

<http://www.monmouth.edu/alumni>

## the Alumni Association (Nominating Committee)

- ▶ seeks names of alumni to be considered for a position on the Board of Directors. If you or an alumnus you know is interested in an opportunity to serve in this capacity, please reply to the Alumni Office by **December 15, 2003.**

# Alumni NEWS

## ALUMNI WINE TASTING DRAWS LARGE CROWD

**R**ed and white were the predominant colors at the ever-popular wine tasting. Don't miss the next one: Make plans to meet your Monmouth friends in Wilson Hall on Saturday, February 14, 2004.



## BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

**S**outhern California alumni came out in full force for what is hoped to be the first of many annual events on the west coast. The Beverly Hilton was

the perfect venue for a Monmouth University reception, and all who attended had a wonderful time making friends and renewing ties with the school.



## HAWKS IN HOBOKEN

**T**he fifth annual Hawks in Hoboken party on April 11 was once again a big success. O'Donaghue's was packed with happy "Hawks" all eager to catch up and trade stories.





## PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

**H**enni '68 and John '69 Kessler hosted East Coast Florida alumni at their beautiful Palm Beach penthouse condo situated in the middle of the intercoastal waterway.

Guests enjoyed the incredible panoramic view, delicious food, a dramatic sound and light show put on by Mother Nature, and the company of old and new friends.



## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PARTNERS WITH MONMOUTH TO PRESENT CHILDREN'S THEATRE

**G**ive your children the opportunity to experience live theatre at a special alumni discounted rate. *Goldie Locks and the Three Bears*, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, *Winnie The Pooh*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Three Little Pigs*, and *School House Rock* will be performed September-April at Pollack Theatre. Don't miss these charming productions. Call the box office for more information at 732/571-3483.

## OTHER CAREER NEWS

**R**ecent grads are reminded to visit the MonsterTRAK.com site to find jobs targeted to Monmouth University alumni. If you decide to post your resume on the site, use HAWKS as your initial password. Once you are in the site, you will have the ability to select your own private password.

# » VISIT THE MU ALUMNI HOMEPAGE

» [HTTP://WWW.MONMOUTH.EDU/ALUMNI](http://www.monmouth.edu/alumni)

» LOG IN **“as a first time user”** IF YOU HAVE NOT YET **“personalized”**.

» UPDATE ONLINE AND JOIN THE **business and career networks.**

**THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** urges you to update and keep your alumni record current online at [www.monmouth.edu/alumni](http://www.monmouth.edu/alumni). It's more than a matter of good record keeping. Complete and accurate data facilitates dissemination of important information in a timely manner. But equally important, information that you share, especially professional data, is the backbone of the alumni career network and the alumni mentoring program. So, help shed some light on today's job market by taking a few moments to tell where you work and what your title and job responsibilities are. Make your e-mail address available for quick consultations about searching for a career in your field. Be sure to click inside the online boxes to join the Business and Career Directories.



# SENSATIONAL SENTIPAL: THE COMEBACK KID

BY THOMAS DICK

IT WAS ALL ABOUT  
TIMING FOR JOE  
SENTIPAL.

Last season, Sentipal became the first player in the history of the Monmouth University football program to earn Division I-AA All-America status. He was tabbed an All-American linebacker by both the American Football Coaches Association and the *Associated Press*.

This season, he will be returning for an encore performance as a fifth-year senior. In 2001, he had contracted mononucleosis. One week later in the season, and his playing career at Monmouth would have been over. Heading into 2001, Sentipal was coming off one of the finest defensive displays in school history. But he only played in the first two games before succumbing to the illness and missing the remainder of the year. The NCAA granted Sentipal a medical redshirt for the season, allowing him to return in 2003.

"Having Joe come back this season is big for us," head coach Callahan said. "No matter who we are playing this year, we know we have the best player on the field playing on our team. I take comfort in knowing that he isn't just coming back this season to play. He is coming back this season to win."

Last year, Sentipal's layoff showed few signs of rustiness as he spearheaded a highly-polished Hawks' defense. Along with being selected as an All-American, he became the second player in school history to earn Northeast Conference Defensive Player of the Year accolades. He logged 106 tackles, four forced fumbles, and two interceptions. In Monmouth's 7-0 win over St. Francis University, he almost single-handedly won the game.



"Joe deserved all of the awards he received last season," Callahan said. "He is one of the hardest workers I have been around. You can always count on him being one of the first players to show up for practice, and one of the last to leave after his weight room workout."

Standing on the sidelines for much of the 2001 season was one of the most difficult experiences Sentipal has been through. "It was tough," Sentipal said. "You are so used to being out there with the guys. Towards the end, I was starting to feel stronger, and thought I could go out and play ball. In the long run, I'm glad I didn't, because I was able to come back this year and get a full year in. I basically traded one or two games for a whole year."

Sentipal took the Northeast Conference by storm in 2000. During his junior campaign, he set a school and NEC single-season record with 15.5 quarterback sacks. He also became the first player in league history to earn NEC Defensive Player of the Week honors on four occasions in one season.

This season, Sentipal looks to lead the Blue and White to its third Northeast Conference title in eight years. The Hawks boast an 11-game schedule this season, including five home games. Monmouth opened the season on Saturday, September 6 when the Hawks hosted St. Peter's College at Kessler Field. **MU**

## Class of 1950

H. DOUGLAS BURKETT (A.A.) died Saturday, January 11, 2003 in Carlisle Regional Medical Center. He was a retired logistics specialist for the Department of the Army in Ft. Monmouth, NJ, New Cumberland Army Depot, and Zweibrücken, Germany. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline H. (Thomas) Burkett, two sons, Douglas and Jesse, and his sister.

## Class of 1957

MURRAY GUNAR (Psych.) died on October 22, 2001. He is survived by his wife, Janette, of Merritt Island, FL.

## Class of 1964

MARLENE J. COSTA (A.A. Lib. Stu.) died April 14, 2003 at home after a long battle with cancer. She worked as a banking and retail manager and enjoyed shopping for antiques, photography, and crafts. Marlene was the former wife and long-time friend of John Pollitt. Marlene is survived by two sons, Jeffrey Pollitt of Columbia, MD, and Christian Pollitt of Alexandria, VA.

## Class of 1966

COL. JACK D. HOWELL (El. Ed.) has been nominated for NASA's Educator Astronaut Program. He is the lead teacher for the military science program at Ribault High School, FL. In September, Howell was named the Christa McAuliffe Memorial Teacher of the Year by the Aerospace Education Foundation in honor of his work furthering concepts of aerospace technology in the classroom. He resides in Palm Coast, FL.

CRYSTAL STAMOS ARIDAS (El. Ed.) died April 18, 2003 after a recent battle with cancer. She taught for many years in the Ocean Township school system. She loved teaching, learning, and family time. Crystal is survived by her two daughters, Pauline and Constance, her son, James, her mother, Mary, and four brothers.

## Class of 1968

JAMES A. BULVANOSKI (Bus. Admin.) died February 13, 2003 while vacationing in Savannah, GA. Credited as a dynamic visionary, he was a

well known and respected entrepreneur, community leader, and humanitarian. He is survived by his wife, JOAN (Goss) BULVANOSKI (El. Ed. '69), and his two sons.

DR. MARION FIRTH JEFFERSON (Art) died March 17, 2003.

## Class of 1969

THOMAS LIBONATE (Bus. Admin.) married Marion H. Sears on May 11, 2001 at the Boat House in Central Park, NYC (the site of the couple's first date). Thomas is the co-founder and president of Ryan Partnership, a promotional, direct, and interactive marketing agency. Prior to Marion's recent retirement, she worked as a special event coordinator. The couple resides in Weston, CT and Normandy Beach.

DR. YVONNE THORNTON (Bio.) served as the 2003 commencement convocation speaker at Tuskegee University on May 11. She states: "Words are inadequate to describe my feelings of elation and surprise...I am truly honored." Yvonne resides in Teaneck.

## Class of 1970

DR. HARVEY MESKIN (Psych.) practices psychotherapy in San Diego. He and his wife, Letty, own a clinic specializing in the management of chronic pain. They look forward to the graduation of their son, Mikku, from the University of Puget Sound as an international business major. Their daughter, Brielle, begins her sophomore year at Emerson College as an acting major.

## Class of 1971

ARTHUR DUBE, JR. (Bus. Admin.) retired as chief pilot from Bristol Myers Squibb after 26 years with the company. He has since become vice president of Werner Corp., specializing in private and corporate aviation. He resides in Sherman, CT and Avon-by-the-Sea.

RICHARD HANCOCK (M.S.Ed.) is the newly elected president of the Florida Assoc. of Scholars, an affiliate of the National Assoc. of Scholars. He has gained 30 years of experience in teaching and administration. He is dedicated to academic freedom,

curriculum enhancement, and the reform of higher education. Richard resides in Hobe Sound, FL.

## Class of 1972

MICHAEL F. CASTANIA (Sp./Comm./Thtr. & Ed.) looks forward to his retirement from teaching speech and theatre at Wayne Hills High. During summer months, he works at many of the major rock concerts in the NY-Metro area as a member of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees. He also enjoys flying, motorcycles, and his family ties. Michael recently re-married. He resides in Franklin.

JEAN DE CICCIO-LEVINE (Bio.) died April 13, 2003 at Centra State Medical Center, Freehold Township. She was a registered nurse and a graduate of Ann May School of Nursing. Jean worked as the psychiatric head nurse at Marlboro Psychiatric Hospital and owned Country Tutor Nursery School, Freehold Township, before her retirement in 1976. She is survived by her husband, Ronald M. Levine, and son, Brian DeCicco.

## Class of 1973

KATHLEEN (Haugh) HALLGARTEN (El. Ed.) is currently working on her master's thesis at Victoria University while teaching, as well as providing Inclusion Coordinator services for secondary school students. Kathleen married Peter Hallgarten on October 10, 2002. Peter serves in the Department of Defense, IT Research and Development. The couple resides in Victoria, Australia.

YOLANDA G. RUSSAMANO D'AMELIO (A.A. Bus. Admin.) died at home April 23, 2003, after a lengthy battle with cancer. In January, she retired from her position as accounts receivable supervisor at Brookdale Community College, a job she held for 30 years. Yolanda is survived by her four sons and two daughters-in-law.

## Class of 1974

DENISE SATTER-GORE (Art) died at home after a long battle with cancer. She was a gallery artist and freelance illustrator. She had exhibited her work in New York, San Francisco, and Philadelphia. She is survived by her parents, Helen and Warren Satter of Long Branch; her husband; and stepsons, Richard and Jeremy Gore of Santa Clara, CA.

DEBRA SWAN-CHRISTIAN (Art) previously taught art to grades K-8 at St. Mary's in West Allenhurst. In 1981 she became a flight attendant. She is married to Dr. EDWARD P. CHRISTIAN (Bio. '79). The couple resides in West Chester, PA.

## Class of 1975

MARCIA (Levine) DE VORE (El. Ed.) died May 24, 2003. She is survived by her husband, Robert, and mother, sister, and brother. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or to a charity of the donor's choice. Her family resides in Springfield, VA.

## Class of 1976

JOHN GALLO JR. (M.B.A.) died January 24, 2003.

HOWARD LEVINE (Bus. Admin.) just celebrated his twentieth year at Sussman Shank LLP as an attorney. He represents lenders and creditors in Chapter 11 reorganization cases. Howard has been married to his wife, Jan, for 16 years. The couple has two daughters. The family resides in Lake Oswego, OR, a suburb south of Portland.

## Class of 1977

RONALD CASEY (Bus. Admin.) died on April 26, 1999. He is survived by his wife, Celeste, of Freehold.

## Class of 1978

SUE (Moreland) BUTLER (El. Ed.) happily works for Bel Air Athletic Club as a pre-school teacher. She has been married for 12 years to Mick. The couple has two children, Casey and Clark. Sue is an avid open-water swimmer and a triathlete. She competed in the 1998 Hawaiian Ironman (1.2m swim, 112m bike, 26.2m run). The family resides in Abington, MD.

FRANK GOGLIA (Bus. Acct.) died in 1991 of brain cancer. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

## Class of 1979

DR. EDWARD P. CHRISTIAN (Bio.) received his Ph.D. in Physiology from Wake Forest University and is employed at Astra-Zeneca as a research neuroscientist. He is married to DEBRA SWAN-CHRISTIAN (Art '74). The couple resides in West Chester, PA.

GLENN HOPLER (Bus. Acct.) entered the Ph.D. program in accounting at Temple University. Simultaneously, he works as a graduate research assistant. Glenn resides in Lincroft.

## Class of 1980

HELEN HENDERSON (Comp. Sci.) published her second book, *Matawan & Aberdeen - Of Town and Field*. She resides in Keyport.

NANCY TRICULES-SMITH (Art) died on May 29, 2003. Most recently, she worked for Rutgers University (New Brunswick) as a research assistant in the immunology lab while studying at UMDNJ Medical School. She is survived by her husband, Curtis and daughter, Kelly; her parents, Rev. Homer and Magdalene Tricules; and her sisters. Her family resides in Oakhurst.

## Class of 1981

CHRISTINE (Mitchell) O'MEARA (Bio.) joined Prudential Fox & Roach Realtors in their North Brunswick office as a sales associate. She lives in Monroe Township with her husband, John, and their two children, Colleen and John.

## Class of 1982

DR. ARTHUR PAOLELLA (E.E.) was named a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) for his technical contributions. He resides in Jamison, PA.

## Class of 1983

AMY (Petrovich) ALBELLI (Art) married Kevin Albelli on October 13, 2002 at the Ballyowen Golf Club. Amy is a freelance artist and formerly a designer with Greenhouse Gallery of Colts Neck. Kevin is a staff meteorologist with Universal Weather and Aviation. The couple resides in Mahwah.

MICHAEL GREENBLATT (Bus. Acct.) has acted and modeled over the past ten years. He received his training in acting from the late Lauren Woods. Just this past year, Michael appeared as a hospital orderly in Ron Howard's *A Beautiful Mind*, starring Russell Crowe. He worked for five days on the set and appears on screen for three scenes. Michael resides in Wayside.

ALICIA (Holden) TORGERSEN (Bus. Admin.) died in 2000. She is survived by her husband and two young sons.

## Class of 1986

WALTER A. WOODS (M.S.Ed.) died June 2, 2003 in Riverview Medical Center, Red Bank. Walter was athletic director of the Middletown Township school system since 2000. He also was head baseball coach at Monmouth University from 1984 to 1993, winning Northeast Conference titles in '89 and '91. He is survived by his wife, Kathy; son, Jason; and his father, Walter A. Jr.

## Class of 1988

SALVATORE CACCAVALE (Bus. Mngt.) joined Superior Bulk Logistics of Oak Brook, IL as Director of Environmental, Health, and Safety. In October of 2002, he received the Distinguished Service to Safety Award from the National Safety Council. He currently resides in Plainfield.

IVO SESNIC (A.A.) writes that he became a German citizen in 1995 and works at a book binding company. He would be interested in receiving e-mail from other alumni. His address is ivo.sesnic@freenet.de. Ivo resides in Munich, Germany.

## Class of 1989

KIMBERLY M. CUNY (Sp./Comm./Thtr.) has been hired to serve UNC-Greensboro as director of the University Speaking Center. She will oversee the proactive and reactive center, designed to improve communication skills of students, faculty, staff, and community. Kim resides in Greensboro, NC.



DOUGLAS P. DEGIROLAMO (Bus. Acct) (M.B.A. '97) and his wife, CHERYL (White) DEGIROLAMO (Bus. Admin. '92), announce the birth of twins, Matthew Ethan and Julia Emma, born June 1, 2002. The family resides in Tinton Falls.



## Class of 1990

ALISA MARINO-TOTH (Pol. Sci.) and husband, Alex, announce the birth of their daughter, Camryn Rose, on November 24, 2002. Alisa is an underwriter for MetLife. They reside in Manville.

## Class of 1991

JAMES A. DE LEONARDO (Hist.) died on February 2, 2003, at Community Medical Center, Toms River. He was a member of the Muscular Dystrophy Association and resident counsel at Kensington Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Toms River. He is survived by his brother, Joseph, and three sisters, Victoria, Christine, and Patricia.

EMILY FURTADO (Gen. Bus.), a.k.a. "Jan," attended the 57th Biennial Convention of Zonta International in Gothenburg, Sweden in the summer of 2002. Zonta is an international service organization of executives in business and the professions working to improve the status of women worldwide. Jan resides in Red Bank.

JOHN HENDRICKS (Math.) and KELLY McCAFFREY (Crim. Just. '00) married and have two children, Anna and Sean. John is a vice president at Merrill Lynch. Kelly is a devoted stay-at-home mom. The family resides in Scituate, MA.

MICHELE (Pedoro) VACCARO (Bus. Intg.) married DOMINIC VACCARO III (Comm. '93) in June 2002 at St. Catherine's Roman

Catholic Church in Spring Lake, NJ. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii. Michele is a senior analyst for a government-contracting firm in Eatontown. Dominic is a principal network engineer for a government contractor in Fort Monmouth. The couple resides in West Long Branch.



## Class of 1992

CHERYL (White) DEGIROLAMO (Bus. Admin.) and her husband, DOUG DEGIROLAMO (Bus. Acct. '89; M.B.A. '97), announce the birth of their twins, Matthew Ethan and Julia Emma, born June 1, 2002. The family resides in Tinton Falls.

CAROLYN P. (Colletti) PATTERSON (M.B.A.) is working for YAHOO!, Inc. as vice president of customer care. She has over ten years experience in operations management and data services development and deployment. Carolyn resides in San Francisco, CA.

ANTHONY SEIJAS (Pol. Sci.) has joined Scarini & Hollenbeck, LLC as an associate in the firm's litigation group. His practices involve civil defense litigation, focused on professional liability and insurance law. Previously, he held the position of law clerk for the Honorable Barbara Ann Villano after receiving his J.D. (Rutgers) and admission to the bar in 1996. Anthony resides in Hoboken.

## Class of 1993

ALAN KALB (M.B.A.) and wife, Stacey Wolfe, practice law in Lakewood. Alan specializes in intellectual property law including patents, trademarks, and copyrights. Stacey's work embodies labor/employment and real estate law. The couple resides in Lakewood.

MICHAEL PIERCE (Comm.) is an associate producer at CBS. He married Nicole Butka in May 2002, and the couple resides in Matawan.

RACHEL SCHRAGER-WEINER (S.W.) and her husband Mark will celebrate the second birthday of their first child, Brianna, on October 17. The family lives in East Brunswick.

DOMINIC VACCARO III (Comm.) married MICHELE (Pedoro) VACCARO (Bus. Intg. '91) in June 2002 at St. Catherine's Roman Catholic Church in Spring Lake, NJ. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii. Dominic is a principal network engineer for a government contractor in Fort Monmouth. Michele is a senior analyst for a government contracting firm in Eatontown. The couple resides in West Long Branch.

## Class of 1994

MICHAEL P. LARGEY (M.B.A.) is executive vice president of IT Web Solutions. The firm provides technical solutions to businesses, primarily in the pharmaceutical, financial, telecommunications, and transportation industries.

## Class of 1995

TOM COOK (Crim. Just.) has worked for Homeland Security as a criminal investigator since 1998. Previously, he was employed at the Durham Police Department. Tom and his wife, JENNIFER MCCLAIN-COOK (El. Ed. & Psych. '95), are proud parents of three children, Brianne, Savannah, and Allison. The family resides in Fredericksburg, VA.

BETTY L. MEGILL (Eng.) is the pastor at Asbury United Methodist Church in Long Branch. She recently completed her Elders' interviews and is soon to be ordained.

MICHAEL YEVCHAK (Bus. Admin.) and his wife, Kathy, are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Sophia. Mike recently graduated from the PGA Professional Golf Management Program and was named head golf pro at Pine Barrens Golf Club, Jackson. Mike and his family reside in Shark River Hills.

## Class of 1996

STEFANIA (Zolofra) BRITT (Psych. & Ed.) works for the Long Branch Board of Education as a teacher and enjoys her time in the classroom. Stefania is married to Christian Britt. The couple resides in West Long Branch.

JESSICA (Trapanese) BRUNO (Comm.) married Gregory Bruno on November 16, 2002 at the Sheraton Crossroads in Mahwah. The couple honeymooned for two weeks in Hawaii and now resides in Nutley.

HARRY COLANGELO (Bus. Admin.) works for the Middletown Township Board of Education as a special education teacher, enjoying every minute of it. He has "found his soulmate" in Adrienne Ciuffo. They live in Bayville and enjoy frequent travel.

GERI (Nordmann) CROUSE (Bus. Admin.) is happily married to Don, and enjoys being a homemaker. She has prior experience as a market research analyst at Roberts Pharmaceutical. In her leisure time, Geri relishes a good book or a dreamy vacation. They reside in Bridgewater.

MATTHEW HARMON (Comm.) is happily employed at Bloomberg Radio, WOMB, MU. He is also co-owner of the Boathouse Bar & Grill. He married Megan on October 20, 2002, and the couple enjoys raising their four-year-old son, Daniel, while living in a home by the sea in Belmar.

MATTHEW L. HEGT (Bus. Admin.) is president of X-Factor Unlimited and enjoys spending time with his family and two dogs at their home in Long Branch.

HEATHER LEVIS (Comm.) looks forward to her wedding on November 1, 2003. She works for Organon Pharmaceuticals USA as senior public relations specialist. Heather is enrolled in the Master of Arts program at Fairleigh Dickinson (Madison), studying Corporate and Organizational Communication. She resides in Morris Plains.

VALERIE NAGLER LEVI (Intrd. & Anthro.) enjoys working as Executive Assistant for Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc. in McLean, VA. Her husband Andrew and she often saw fellow Monmouth alumni EDWARD BUTOWSKY ('97) and RONALD KLOOR ('96) while living in Potomac Falls, VA. ELIZABETH (Montano) PETROSINO (Bus. Admin.) works for Lord & Taylor as a divisional sales manager. She is married to Christopher. They reside in Bradley Beach.

DAWN (Penzarella) POTTS (Comm.) owns and operates Sandy Paws Beach Club and Doggy Daycare & Grooming Spa in Sea Bright. She writes: "I am grateful to my professors, who helped me realize my potential as an entrepreneur. Thanks 'Huber'." She and husband Gene have one child, Evan, and reside in Red Bank. Dawn would love to reconnect with old friends from MU.

DAVID REALE (Comm.) remains close with his fraternity brothers. He especially enjoys cooking and golf outings. David is a vice president and

part owner of the Phoenix Tube Company, Inc., the largest manufacturer of stainless steel tubing, in North America. David resides in Clinton and Manhattan, NY.

WENDEE (Hoyt) TREFZ (Eng. & Ed.), a first grade teacher for the Orange Board of Education, is on the lookout for a new vocation. Her husband Christopher and she reside in Linden, but hope to move back to Monmouth County soon. If any Gamma Sigs happen to read this, do drop a line!

## Class of 1997



LAURA (Delaney) LEP-ORE (Comm.) was married on September 21, 2002 to Mario at Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church in Milltown. The wedding party included ANTOINETTE (Mastropaolo) PATALANO

(Comm. & Ed. '97). Laura works for Merrill Lynch as a senior plan administrator. Mario is employed by Robertet Fragrances as a quality control manager. The couple resides in Milltown, N.J.

NICOLE REINARTZ (Sp. Ed.) died July 21, 2002.

CHRISTINA SANTONI (Comm.) is currently recording her debut full-length album (due out in fall 2003) with Jethro Tull's keyboardist, Andrew Giddings. Christie has written songs for films such as "Daria" and "Watch the Flowers Grow". Most recently, she wrote a song for the film "Jersey Girl" starring Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck.

## Class of 1998

TOM BIRO (Bus. Admin.) announces his engagement to Terry Leigh Campbell of Hackettstown on New Year's Eve. Tom is currently employed as a market manager for T-Systems, USA in Red Bank. He resides in Bloomfield.



TAMARA A. (Falvo) FORT (Sp. Ed.) married Bryan K. Fort on November 9, 2002 at St. Michael's Church, West End. Tamara's wedding party included STACEY (Anderson) SCHAPIRO, CAR-OLEE (Stripko)

BOLES, JAMI (Wolf) RAPOSO, and JOHN FALVO JR. The couple resides in Belmar.

MELANIE-JO (McCarthy) FRICK (Sp. Ed.) married Jared A. Frick on September 14, 2002 in Conshohocken, PA. The couple honeymooned in Aruba. GINA SOS ('99) and LESLIE OAKERSON ('99) were members of the bridal party. Jared is a pension administrator, and Melanie is a high school special education teacher. Melanie graduated in December 2002 with her master's degree in Educational Leadership and Policy. The couple resides in Havertown, PA.



YVONNE (Mathison) ITCH-MONEY (Eng.) married Corey Itchmoney on September 14, 2002 at the Stone Museum, Monroe Township. She is employed by First Washington State Bank as an administrative assistant. The couple resides in New Egypt.

LAURIE S. JEFFERS (Nursing) opened a private practice in Little Silver specializing in women's health. She believes in her patients' active role in understanding and treating their ailments. Jeffers works closely with other health professionals to ensure her patients' full care. Laurie and her family reside in Rumson.

MICHAEL LUNA (Comm.) believes that his attainment of the Academic Achievement Award among graduate students at California State University "would not have been possible without the experiences and encouragement [he] received from Monmouth University." Michael is pursuing a master's degree in Educational Psychology and Counseling. He resides in Burbank, CA.

DAVID STOUT (M.A. Psych. Couns.) and wife, Heather, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Tatum Alexandra Stout, on January 4, 2003. The family resides in Wall.

DANIELLE (Mattio) TIRICO (Eng. & Ed.) married JOHN A. TIRICO (Crim. Just./Minor Psych. '98) on October 19, 2002 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Hainesport. She is currently studying education counseling at Rowan U. and teaches language arts for the Mount Laurel Board of Education. John studies education counseling at St. John's U. and is a special education teacher for the Plumstead Board of Education. The couple resides in Turnersville.



NATASHA (Puza) WOODIER (Bus. Admin.) and ROBERT WOODIER (Crim. Just. '98) were married on September 7, 2002. The wedding party included eight MU alumni, including: EDWARD DOWLING

('92) and MELISSA TANKSI ('97 & '00) – two of them. Robert is employed as a sales manager for Cingular Wireless in NYC, and Natasha is a department supervisor for a life insurance company in Woodbridge. The couple resides in Colonia.

## Class of 1999

JOSEPHINE AMBRUZS (Bio.) was recently accepted to the UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She resides in Middletown.

ROBIN ANN (Cantora) BELLOMO (Sp.Ed., M.S.Ed. '01) married ANTHONY BELLOMO (Bus. Admin. '99) on July 6, 2002 at the Immaculate Conception Church in Spotswood. She teaches at an Old Bridge Board of Education elementary school. Anthony works as a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch, East Brunswick. The couple lives in Marlboro.

SHANN FERREIRA (Art) received her M.S. in Communications Design from Pratt Institute in May 2001. She is currently an assistant professor of advertising/graphic Design at Guilford Tech in Jamestown, NC. Shann resides in Greensboro, NC.

MARK E. GRAUSSO (BA Crim J) married MARIA (Conley) GRAUSSO (Sp. Ed. '00) on May 25, 2002 at St. Charles Borromeo Church, Cinnaminson. There were 16 Monmouth alumni at their ceremony. Maria is a special education teacher at the Children's Center of Monmouth County, and Mark works as an Ocean County Probation Officer. The couple resides in Toms River.



KRISTY N. OLIVO (Bus. Admin.) joined the regional defense litigation law firm of Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin, Philadelphia as an associate. Her practice encom-

passes workers' compensation matters on behalf of insureds and self-insureds. Kristy received her J.D. degree from Widener University in 2002. She resides in Delran.

## Class of 2000

DANIELLE (Hayes) FORSHAY (Sp. Ed.) married Michael Forshay on June 15, 2002 at the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD. The couple honeymooned at the Sandal Royal Bahamian Resort. Michael is a pilot for the U.S. Navy, and Danielle is a teacher. The couple resides in Orange Park, FL.



MARIA (Conley) GRAUSSO (Sp. Ed.) married MARK E. GRAUSSO (Crim. Just. '99) on May 25, 2002 at St. Charles Borromeo Church, Cinnaminson. Monmouth alumni in the wedding party included

JENNIFER HARRADEN '00, KRISTA (Naumowicz) GEISENDORFER '00, REBECCA DILL '01, and MICHAEL DROBNY '00.



Maria is a special education teacher at the Children's Center of Monmouth County, and Mark works as an Ocean County Probation Officer. The couple resides in Toms River.

KELLY (McCaffrey) HENDRICKS (Crim. Just.) and John Hendricks (Math. '91) are married with two children, Anna and Sean. Anna is a homemaker, while John is a vice president at Merrill Lynch. The family resides in Scituate, MA.



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GERALDINE FERRARA, M.S.N.  
Nurse Practitioner  
Ocean Renal Associates

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KIMBERLY KWIATKOWSKI (Sp. Ed.) teaches fifth grade at the Smithtown Central School District of Long Island, NY. She graduated from New York University in May 2001 with a master of arts degree. Kimberly resides in Farmingdale, NY.

### Class of 2001

JENNIFER KOSTROWSKI (Bus. Mkt.) writes, "I absolutely love what I do." As an account manager for Advanced Heath Media, Jennifer

works with all the major pharmaceutical companies. She meets with sales representatives and doctors across the U.S. Jennifer resides in New Providence.

JAMES M. SCHMIDT (Comm.) works for Millennium Radio Group, LLC as a broadcast engineer. As a guest at Middlesex County College, he spoke to the students, faculty, and staff about a degree in communication and careers in the broadcasting industry. James is a

certified broadcasting network technologist through the Society of Broadcast Engineers. He resides in Brick.

### Class of 2002

ELAN ABUTBOUL (Comm.), "Lonnie", is employed by Johnson & Johnson, Ortho-McNeil Division, as a pharmaceutical representative. He resides in Sewell.

MICHELLE S. (Borbotko) JACKSON (Eng. & Ed.) married JEFF A. JACKSON (M.A.T. '02) on September 27, 2002 at the Union Church of Lavallette. They honeymooned at Walt Disney World, and traveled to Thailand, Hong Kong, and Europe. The couple owns Old Time Photos on the boardwalk in Seaside Heights. The Jacksons reside in Toms River.

MICHELLE (Ryan) MCMULLIN (Eng. & Ed.) and her husband, Brian, have a daughter, Grace Ann, who will celebrate her first birthday on November 24. Michelle is a happy mother and home-maker. The family resides in Oceanport.



### Class of 2003

SUSAN KOREEN (Bio.) was recently accepted to the UMDNJ joint M.D./Ph.D. program and to the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons Medical School. She resides in Long Branch.

LAUREN MASON (Bio.) was recently accepted to Seton Hall's PA program. She resides in Toms River.

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JOHN HENDRICKS (Math.) and KELLY McCAFFREY (Crim. Just. '00) married and have two children, Anna and Sean. John is a vice president at Merrill Lynch. Kelly is a devoted stay-at-home mom. The family resides in Scituate, MA.

MICHELE (Pedoro) VACCARO (Bus. Intg.) married DOMINIC VACCARO III (Comm. '93) in June 2002 at St. Catherine's Roman



Catholic Church in Spring Lake, NJ. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii. Michele is a senior analyst for a government-contracting firm in Eatontown. Dominic is a principal net-work engineer for a government contractor in Fort Monmouth. The couple resides in West Long Branch.

## Class of 1992

CHERYL (White) DEGIROLAMO (Bus. Admin.) and her husband, DOUG DEGIROLAMO (Bus. Acct. '89; M.B.A. '97), announce the birth of their twins, Matthew Ethan and Julia Emma, born June 1, 2002. The family resides in Tinton Falls.

CAROLYN P. (Colletti) PATTERSON (M.B.A.) is working for YAHOO!, Inc. as vice president of customer care. She has over ten years experience in operations management and data services development and deployment. Carolyn resides in San Francisco, CA.

ANTHONY SEIJAS (Pol. Sci.) has joined Scarini & Hollenbeck, LLC as an associate in the firm's litigation group. His practices involve civil defense litigation, focused on professional liability and insurance law. Previously, he held the position of law clerk for the Honorable Barbara Ann Villano after receiving his J.D. (Rutgers) and admission to the bar in 1996. Anthony resides in Hoboken.

## Class of 1993

ALAN KALB (M.B.A.) and wife, Stacey Wolfe, practice law in Lakewood. Alan specializes in intellectual property law including patents, trademarks, and copyrights. Stacey's work embodies labor/employment and real estate law. The couple resides in Lakewood.

MICHAEL PIERCE (Comm.) is an associate producer at CBS. He married Nicole Butka in May 2002, and the couple resides in Matawan.

RACHEL SCHRAGER-WEINER (S.W.) and her husband Mark will celebrate the second birthday of their first child, Brianna, on October 17. The family lives in East Brunswick.

DOMINIC VACCARO III (Comm.) married MICHELE (Pedoro) VACCARO (Bus. Intg. '91) in June 2002 at St. Catherine's Roman Catholic Church in Spring Lake, NJ. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii. Dominic is a principal network engineer for a government contractor in Fort Monmouth. Michele is a senior analyst for a government contracting firm in Eatontown. The couple resides in West Long Branch.

## Class of 1994

MICHAEL P. LARGEY (M.B.A.) is executive vice president of IT Web Solutions. The firm provides technical solutions to businesses, primarily in the pharmaceutical, financial, telecommunications, and transportation industries.

## Class of 1995

TOM COOK (Crim. Just.) has worked for Homeland Security as a criminal investigator since 1998. Previously, he was employed at the Durham Police Department. Tom and his wife, JENNIFER MCCLAIN-COOK (El. Ed. & Psych. '95), are proud parents of three children, Brianne, Savannah, and Allison. The family resides in Fredericksburg, VA.

BETTY L. MEGILL (Eng.) is the pastor at Asbury United Methodist Church in Long Branch. She recently completed her Elders' interviews and is soon to be ordained.

MICHAEL YEVCHAK (Bus. Admin.) and his wife, Kathy, are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Sophia. Mike recently graduated from the PGA Professional Golf Management Program and was named head golf pro at Pine Barrens Golf Club, Jackson. Mike and his family reside in Shark River Hills.

## Class of 1996

STEFANIA (Zolofra) BRITT (Psych. & Ed.) works for the Long Branch Board of Education as a teacher and enjoys her time in the classroom. Stefania is married to Christian Britt. The couple resides in West Long Branch.

JESSICA (Trapanese) BRUNO (Comm.) married Gregory Bruno on November 16, 2002 at the Sheraton Crossroads in Mahwah. The couple honeymooned for two weeks in Hawaii and now resides in Nutley.

HARRY COLANGELO (Bus. Admin.) works for the Middletown Township Board of Education as a special education teacher, enjoying every minute of it. He has "found his soulmate" in Adrienne Ciuffo. They live in Bayville and enjoy frequent travel.

# *Lentis '61* When Nicholas “Nick” Lentis ’61 reflects on his life, he can’t help but wonder how things may have differed if not for Monmouth.



Looking back, he believes that it is important for all of us to remember the people and experiences that have influenced our lives and, if possible, give back a little of what they have given to us.

Nick, who received a bachelor’s degree in business administration, was influenced by his father’s strong belief that a good education would serve as a passport to life’s enrichments; he became the first member of his family to graduate from college. Crediting Monmouth and his professors with influencing many of his decisions and for helping him shape his own values, he wonders what his life might have been if his father, a first generation immigrant from Greece, had not pushed him to get an education.

One day in the future, those reflections will benefit future Monmouth students who receive the Nicholas M. Lentis Endowed Scholarship that will be created through a bequest in Nick’s will. Students entering their junior or senior year of study will be eligible for the scholarship, but preference will be given to students majoring in English.

For information about how you can include Monmouth University in your estate plans, contact:

Georgina West  
Director, Planned Giving and Resource Development  
400 Cedar Avenue  
West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Phone: 732-571-3503  
E-mail: [gwest@monmouth.edu](mailto:gwest@monmouth.edu)



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**aloha!**