

THE MAGAZINE OF SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY

# The Extra Mile

SPRING 2008

## Inspired Leadership

Alyson Pitman Giles '88





# Southern New Hampshire University

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# The Extra Mile

SPRING 2008

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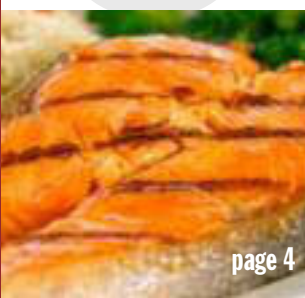
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## Write to Us!

Letters to the editor of The Extra Mile are welcomed and encouraged. Submission does not guarantee publication, and those letters that are published may be edited for style and length. Please include the writer's name, the year of graduation if you are a graduate, a daytime phone number and a return address. Letters may be sent by fax to 603.645.9676, by e-mail to [snhumagazine@snhu.edu](mailto:snhumagazine@snhu.edu) or by mail to the Office of Marketing and Communications, Southern New Hampshire University, 2500 North River Road, Manchester, NH 03106-1045.

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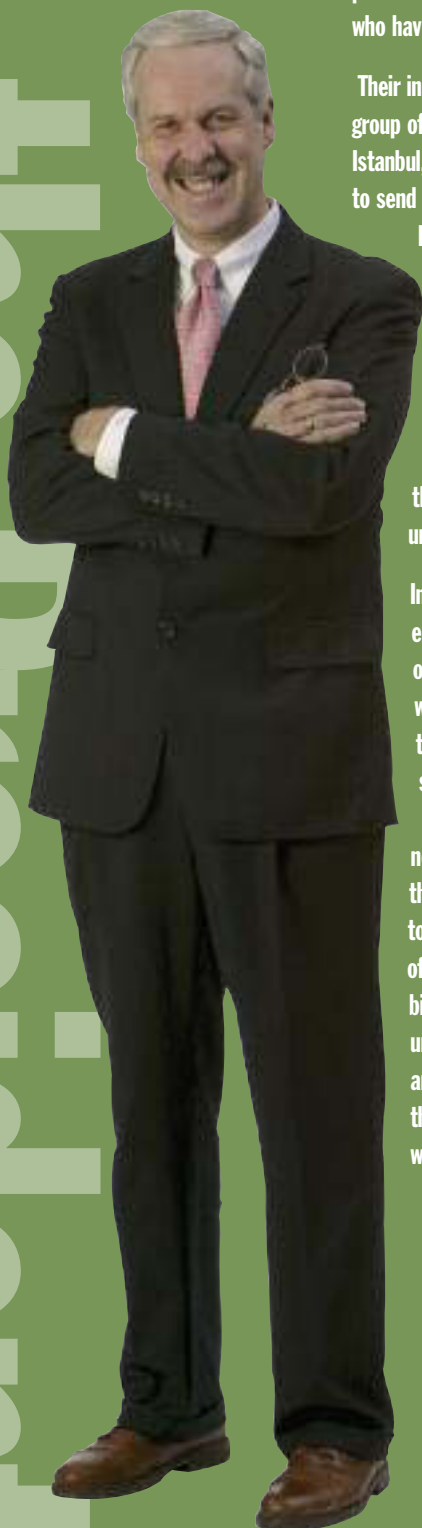


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Dear Friends,

Each issue of The Extra Mile includes a cover story that highlights some aspect of the university and its place in the world. In this issue we focus on leadership, a topic most pertinent in an election year and one for which there is a never-ending stream of new books and articles. Our Q&A with four alumni, three CEOs and a CIO, provides insight into the successes and lives of people who have been called upon to lead their organizations.

Their insights echo conversations I recently had with a group of very successful SNHU alumni at an event in Istanbul, Turkey. Turkey was one of the first countries to send international students to what was then New

Hampshire College (we now have students from 79 countries). Those early graduates now head up some of the biggest and most successful companies in their home country, and they all spoke warmly about their time in Manchester and the lessons they carry with them to this day. Those lessons are learned in the classroom, in student organizations, in volunteer work and in countless other ways.

In this issue of the magazine you will see various examples, including community economic development student Rene Njamishi's work to revive women's cooperatives in Cameroon, our education alumni helping an officer Iraq gather school supplies for children in that war-torn country, and business students creating an entrepreneurial recycling awareness project. As one of those Turkish CEOs said to me, "The people who today only see success don't realize how far any of us have come and what we learned in so many big and small ways as students." Our role as a university is to create those opportunities — big and small — and help prepare our graduates for the kinds of roles undertaken by the four alumni we highlight in the cover story.

Paul J. LeBlanc  
President



This letter allows me the chance to share news and updates from the campus. We are very proud that New Hampshire Business Review's readers have named SNHU as having "The Best MBA Program" and "The Best Online Program" in the state. Already a Preferred Provider for the U.S. Navy, SNHU Online also has become one of only 33 universities nationwide chosen for eArmyU, the U.S. Army's massive online learning program for its troops.

I occasionally teach a poetry course online, and one of my recent students had completed a tour of duty in Iraq and has since been deployed to Afghanistan. I was struck by the powerful links she and other military students make between their classrooms (even if virtual) and their day-to-day challenges in the field. Indeed, the dangers of that life lend a particular resonance to the big life and death themes of so much poetry. I am proud of the work SNHU does with its military students and I think you would be warmed by the photos of them taped to the walls of the SNHU Online offices.

Through conversations with established leaders, seeing the dedication and energy of student volunteers and working with soldier-students thousands of miles away, I am reminded again of just how powerful education is in shaping people's lives. I hope this issue of The Extra Mile gives you some sense of that mission and reinforces your commitment to and support of the university for which we are so grateful

# My Top 5

My Top Five is a new feature where we ask people on campus about a few of their favorite things. For this issue, we talked to President Paul LeBlanc:

Choosing my Top Five has paralyzed me. I have so many possible answers for most of the questions: what poet on what day for what mood? Only one book? And each one invites far more explanation than I can give it here. As such, thinking about the questions has provided hours of enjoyable discussion (and sometimes debate) with family and friends and that, after all, is why making Top Ten lists is so much fun. If you ask me today, my answers would be:

[ 1 ]



**The book everyone should read:** There are books that resonate deeply with me (Lawrence's "Sons and Lovers"), others that strike me as quintessentially American (Fitzgerald's "The

Great Gatsby") and guilty pleasures (Roberts' "Shantaram"), but Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina" is my choice. This is a book so full of life, so insightful, and at once able to grapple with sweeping themes of spirituality, falsehood and honesty, and social class while capturing the drama of relationships in the tiniest of details.

[ 2 ]



**Web site I check every day:** BBC.

Perhaps it's a vestige of empire, but the BBC's international reporting exceeds anything available in the American media. It also offers a less parochial view of world affairs than is generally reflected in our own press. Followed closely by ESPN (I am a sports junkie).

[ 3 ]



**Most played song on my iPod:** There really isn't only one, but the one I always play at least once is Rod Stewart's

1971 "Every Picture Tells a Story" (the title track to the album, the only really good album the guy ever did and long before he became a parody of himself). In my view, it's one of the best rock 'n' roll songs ever written, with the classic themes of teenage alienation, love and lust, rebellion, and adventuring out into the world. I was 14 when I first heard it and now at 50 have no excuse to love it as much as I do, but it transports me and reminds me that the implicit promise of rock 'n' roll was that it could save your life.

[ 4 ]



**Favorite movie:** Can there be any other choice? "The Godfather." The best American movie ever made,

it is operatic with a beautifully directed ensemble cast of amazing actors led by Marlon Brando and Al Pacino. Every other mob movie after was in some way a response to it, though it is really an American parable of the destructive seduction of power and money. I can't click the changer when I come upon it.

[ 5 ]



**Beloved poet:** This is as hard as question No. 1, but I have a warm spot in my heart for John Donne, the great 17th-century English

metaphysical poet. The language can feel arcane, the metaphysical conceits can seem too intricate and belabored to some, but I love the ability to balance the profound and profane and the passion of his love poems. He appeals to the head and heart and he always seemed to me a guy I'd like to know.

# Savor Summer



Summer is a time for cool cocktails, fresh produce and outdoor cooking. Grab some ice, fire up the grill and kick back with these scrumptious summer treats, courtesy of the university's resident grilling and wine experts.

## Grilled Salmon

By J. Desmond Keefe, Associate Professor of Culinary Arts

Serve with roasted pepper and olive salad (recipe follows)

### Ingredients

- 1 lemon or lime, thinly sliced
- 1 ounce red onion, peeled, minced
- 1 tablespoon rice wine vinegar
- 1 teaspoon maple syrup
- A dash of fresh, cracked black pepper
- 8 salmon fillets, 4 ounces each, cleaned, trimmed and cut into steaks

- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar or lemon juice

### Instructions

1. Heat grill; preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Clean and trim fresh salmon. Remove all bones. Cut salmon into 4 oz. steaks. Place into a small insert pan.
3. Combine lemon, onion, vinegar, maple syrup and black pepper; mix well. Rub mixture evenly onto salmon steaks. Allow salmon to marinate for about 15 minutes.

4. Remove lemon slices from salmon. Grill salmon until evenly marked and browned on both sides.
5. Place salmon steaks on slightly oiled sheet pan and finish in oven for approximately 3 minutes.
6. Remove salmon from oven and test for doneness. Salmon should be firm to the touch and flaky.
7. Drizzle with balsamic vinegar or lemon juice.

## Roasted Pepper and Olive Salad

### Ingredients

- 1 pound each red, green and yellow bell peppers, cleaned
- 4 ounces English cucumber, peeled, seeded and diced
- 8 ounces Roma tomatoes, peeled, seeded and julienne
- 4 ounces red onion, peeled and julienne
- 30 black kalamata olives, pitted and quartered
- 1 serrano pepper, seeded, membrane removed, finely minced
- 1 ounce cilantro, snipped
- 1 ounce sherry
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 4 ounces rice wine vinegar
- Kosher salt to taste
- Fresh, cracked white pepper to taste

### Instructions

1. Brush the pepper skins with olive oil. In a 375-degree oven, roast the peppers until they are evenly browned and the skins are blistered.  
**Note:** Peppers can be grilled on char-grill instead of in oven if desired.
2. Place peppers into a bowl, cover with plastic wrap and allow to cool until you can handle them comfortably.
3. Peel peppers, remove seeds and membrane, cut peppers into strips and place into large mixing bowl.
4. Clean, peel and dice English cucumbers; add to peppers
5. Add the tomatoes, onions, olives, serrano and cilantro to the peppers. Combine ingredients gently. Add sherry, oil and vinegar and adjust seasoning with salt and pepper. Allow flavor to mature for at least 2 hours. Adjust seasoning prior to serving.

## Cucumber Cooler

By Susan Torrey, Assistant Professor of Hospitality Business

This is a refreshing, light drink that is perfect for summer. It is a great palate cleanser, is food-friendly and doesn't have a heavy alcohol taste. The following recipe makes two drinks. Cheers!

### Ingredients

- 4 ounces of cucumber simple syrup (recipe follows)
- 2 ounces gin
- Juice of 1/2 lime
- 4 mint leaves, muddled, or 1 ounce mint-infused simple syrup (recipe follows)
- Cucumber spear for garnish

### Instructions

Muddle mint leaves in a mixing glass. Add a 16-ounce glass of ice, gin, lime juice and cucumber simple syrup and shake well. Strain into a highball glass. Garnish with a cucumber spear.

### Cucumber-Infused Simple Syrup

#### Ingredients

- 1 cup sugar and 1 cup water boiled and reduced to a total of 1 cup liquid
- 2 whole large or 3 medium-sized cucumbers, pureed in juicer (include skins and seeds)

#### Instructions

Boil water and sugar in a pot over medium heat. Stir until sugar is dissolved and the liquid becomes syrupy, about 30 seconds after liquid starts boiling. Reduce volume to 1 cup total. Add cucumber juice and store in a container in the refrigerator. (The liquid may also be frozen.) This is the base for the drink.

Fresh Mint-Infused Simple Syrup – same recipe as above, but substitute a package of fresh mint leaves for the cucumber juice. Steep the leaves in the hot simple syrup. Puree and strain or simply strain after tasting for strength.



# Environmental Enterprise



By Ashley Liadis, School of Business

**Some entrepreneurial-minded School of Business students are urging members of the university community to stop being so wasteful.**

## Entrepreneurial Spirit

**Our chapter of Students in Free Enterprise is urging classmates to recycle. SIFE has projects on campuses all over the world.**

The university's Students in Free Enterprise organization is promoting recycling on and off campus. The group created and aired a 30-second commercial for the university TV channel that informed the campus community about reducing waste and promoting recycling.

The project already has changed the ways of Jeff Lison, a second-year business student in the 3Year honors program and the project manager for the group's communications plan. The group also is working on a recy-

cling promotion plan for other colleges and high schools.

"If I had not taken time each week to think about innovative ways to spread the word about recycling to my classmates, my lifestyle would be much different than it is now," he said. "Since I have become a member of SIFE, I have stopped ordering to-go lunches from the cafeteria – instead I order my food on a glass plate and use metal utensils. Although this may not seem like a big deal, it adds up every day."

Lison hopes other students will do as he did and spread the word.



“For years my family has thrown away cans and bottles without making any effort to recycle. I have encouraged my parents and siblings to recycle cans and bottles in order to be environmentally responsible,” he said. “When I see a classmate being irresponsible, I don’t hesitate to inform them about what their decisions may lead to.”

### Acting Locally, Globally

SIFE is a global nonprofit organization that supports student teams on more than 1,800 college campuses worldwide. It has about 950 chapters in the U.S.

Members work with faculty advisers to develop educational outreach projects that are evaluated at regional and national competitions. Judges are national business leaders from such corporations as

Johnson & Johnson, Microsoft, Kraft, Coca-Cola, AT&T, Boston Consulting Group and Wells

Fargo. Projects typically focus on entrepreneurship, business ethics, market economics or personal finance.

“We are a small organization here at SNHU. However, the impact of our individual efforts is multiplied many times over worldwide,” said Visiting Professor Keith Moon, a Sam Walton Fellow with SIFE since 1999.

SIFE is a powerful student organization capable of creating far-reaching change, Moon said. For example, the SIFE chapter at the University of Cape Coast-Ghana partnered with Ghana’s Social Security and National Trust to create a plan to help workers understand the importance of saving for retirement. Due to its success, Ghana’s Social Security and National Trust has since expanded the program nationally.

The chapter at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne created a film encouraging ethical business practices that was offered as a curriculum supplement to schools in the United Kingdom. In Florida, the Flagler College chapter’s syndicated talk-radio program, Cash Positive Radio, provides financial tips to an audience of more than four million U.S. college students.

“It is refreshing to see our youth willing to make a difference in this world. I like the fact that they are having a positive impact in their communities,” Moon said.

That altruism is what lured accounting student Lisa Sheehan, vice president of SNHU’s chapter, to the group.

“I wanted to help the community in new way,” she said. “This organization also gives me the opportunity to lead as well as express my ideas in ways that will help others, not just myself.”

### Building Up Business

Students also are working on business plans for a local executive placement firm, a local construction company and the Upper Room in Derry, N.H.

“It is refreshing to see our youth willing to make a difference in this world. I like the fact that they are having a positive impact in their communities.”

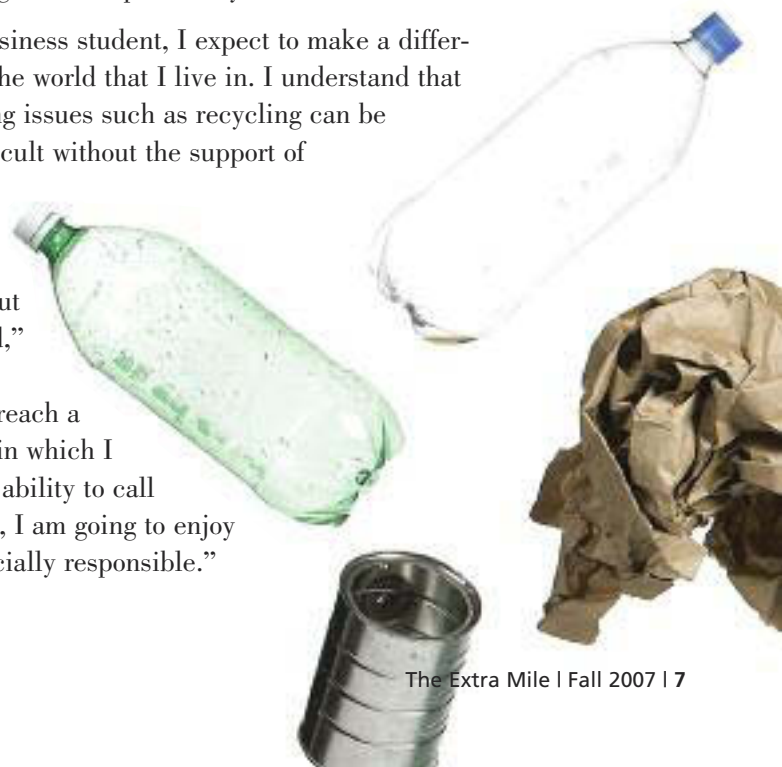
— Keith Moon

“This is a major project that involves social entrepreneurship principles ... and has the potential to positively impact over 10,000 families here in New Hampshire,” Moon said.

The SIFE experience has motivated Lison to continue promoting social responsibility.

“As a business student, I expect to make a difference in the world that I live in. I understand that combating issues such as recycling can be very difficult without the support of large businesses throughout the world,” he said.

“Once I reach a position in which I have the ability to call the shots, I am going to enjoy being socially responsible.”



# Helping Themselves



By Woullard Lett, School of Community Economic Development

**Rene Njamnshi was helping distribute clothes three years ago to a small group of widows and orphans at Mbandfung in Ndu Sub-Division in Cameroon when a woman said something that sparked a memory and an inspiration.**

## Cameroon Cooperative

School of CED student Rene Njamnshi is helping revive cooperatives in rural Cameroon villages.

“Thank you for the gift of clothes. We will be very glad if you can help us acquire fertilizer for our farms. The farms are too old and are almost like empty dust. We also need cooking oil and farm tools,” Ma Rebecca Girwar, a widowed mother of eight, told him.

Njamnshi remembered that when he was a child, his mother was able to afford palm oil for cooking because their Cameroon village’s cooperative was able to buy it in bulk. That women’s consumer cooperative has been

defunct for more than 20 years. But Girwar’s comments motivated Njamnshi.

“I thought that reviving a co-op economy which had once existed in Ndu Sub-Division would help poor women like Ma Rebecca to acquire basic needs without promoting dependency and reducing beneficiaries to paupers,” he said.

An international master’s student in the School of CED, Njamnshi began organizing the cooperative as his school project. With the support of his employer, the Torchbearer Foundation, a Cameroon grassroots faith-based organization, “Co-operate out of Poverty” was created in February 2007.

Cooperatives are self-help groups formed to address a common need.

Their structure and operation combine social and economic goals. Features include open and voluntary membership, democratic decision-making, limited return on equity and dividends based on patronage.

### Reviving Cooperation

The Torchbearer CO-OP is made up of 79 co-ops in 15 villages. More than 90 percent of the estimated 1,500 clients are women. The co-ops offer education; supplies for basic home needs, such as palm oil, rice, salt, kerosene and laundry soap; and farm equipment and materials, including fertilizer, machetes and seeds. Torchbearer is exploring expansion that could include microloan programs, farmers' markets and health programs.

"Poor management and lack of co-op education are some of the factors that contributed to the rupture of the defunct women's co-op in Ndu Sub-Division," Njamnshi said. "My aim was to revitalize and improve on a women's consumer cooperative economy that had gone into oblivion."

His childhood experiences contributed to his desire to serve the community.

"I was born and raised in a rural setting – Taku Village – to a poor family. I worked hard to assist my parents, to put food on the table for the family, while I was still in primary school," he said. "I believe I unconsciously picked up interest in cooperatives in particular and community development in general around the age of 12, having seen the resourcefulness of grassroots self-reliance initiatives like cooperatives and being close to my father's involvement in helping with community construction of public buildings, road repair and other community development issues."

His efforts are having a positive impact.

"I like the co-op idea, for I believe that when we work as a group, each achieves more than when one works alone," said village resident Juliette Munka.

**“There is more peace in my family now** than before as supplies of basic needs has put an end to some hitches my husband and I used to have when we lacked certain things. In all, my family now enjoys a healthier life than before.”

— Constance Ndzi

Nchuqui Edward, pastor of the Njilah Baptist Church, said the benefits of the cooperative have extended to the spiritual.

"Generally, the people's living conditions have been well ameliorated by the newly created cooperative scheme. This has also strengthened my church and the spiritual life of my Christians," he said. "They also exercise love now more than before."

### Beyond the Basics

The social benefits of the co-op reach beyond the community and into homes, said Constance Ndzi.

"There is more peace in my family now than before as supplies of basic needs has put an end to some hitches my husband and I used to have when we lacked certain things," Ndzi said. "In all, my family now enjoys a healthier life than before."

For Njamnshi, it is about more than providing daily necessities.

"Helping communities to realize their potential and making use of it increases their dignity," he said.



Rene Njamnshi



# Pen Pals



By Marilyn Fenton and Judy Timney, School of Education

**First Lt. Richard Blackwell was checking progress at a water pump station in Iraq when he saw a number of school-age children running through the village streets.**

## A Learning Experience

First Lt. Rick Blackwell distributes letters from alumna Chantel Bonner's sixth-grade students to Iraqi schoolchildren (pictured above).

The School of Education is helping Blackwell collect school supplies and letters.

Blackwell, 25, a team chief with the 448th Civil Affairs Battalion in Ramadi, was dismayed. Earlier he and his team had found half-empty hallways and classrooms at a new school that had been supported in part by U.S. dollars. He was told that a lack of supplies keeps students from participating fully.

"I asked a crowd of kids why they weren't in school. They replied that they have no copy books and no pens and pencils, so they don't go to school," he recalled.

Though Blackwell was skeptical, his interpreter confirmed that the lack of supplies was a real problem and the main reason more children don't go to school. In other villages south of Fallujah, children were asking soldiers for pens instead of the usual candy and soccer balls.

With money under his control already earmarked for other projects, Blackwell and his superior determined "the fastest way to address the issue is to turn to our personal support networks." Among those to whom Blackwell reached out via e-mail was friend and SNHU graduate Katie McKenney '03 and '05; he asked her to connect with friends and educators.



Tiffany Lyon '00 and '02, in the university's Office of Institutional Advancement, received a copy of the e-mail and forwarded it to the School of Education.

The School of Education is in a unique position to help, as SNHU sends interns out into the local

schools and thus has daily contact with teachers and their students. College students, professors and interns have collected and sent supplies and letters from our children, which tells Iraqi children that American kids care about them. Lt. Blackwell and his fellow soldiers have distributed supplies and letters from U.S. children out to the schoolchildren in Iraq.

Alumna Chantel Bonner '05 and her sixth-grade English pupils in Hudson, N.H., are already working on the challenge.

"My students wrote letters that were sent out before Christmas, and our class is willing to continue working on the project," Bonner said.

When the supplies and letters were received in Iraq, Blackwell reported "they (Iraqi children) are very happy to receive notebooks, pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, crayons, construction paper, glue and many more basic supplies. As we load the supply closets in the classrooms, we see that the school has nothing except desks and chalkboards ... until today. Every last student gets a letter. Some like them so much that they try to sneak to the back of the line to get a second letter.

A 10-year-old changes the world in a very real way with the simple act of writing a letter."

The Young Educator Society (a.k.a. the YES Club), associated with SNHU's School of Education, will cosponsor efforts on campus. The plan here is to enlist

the support of mentors and teachers. Pens, pencils notebooks and other basic school supplies are being collected and sent to Iraq.

Associate Dean Ellen J. Kalicki said such projects increase students' global awareness and will help them better understand the daily challenges Iraqi students face.

"It's a natural fit that the YES Club spearhead the involvement of students, both at the university and at local partner schools," Kalicki said.

Blackwell believes the effort will not only help get Iraqi children back to school, but also bodes well

for relations between the two countries.

"To Iraqi children who have never seen a TV, all Americans are men who get out of big armored trucks and walk around with guns. They don't even grasp the concept of American children existing," Blackwell said. "A letter from an American kid accompanied by a pen or a notebook would go a long way in building a peaceful bridge between our two nations for the future. I think we have a chance to make a difference."



First Lt. Rick Blackwell on the job in Iraq.

**“Every last student gets a letter.** Some like them so much that they try to sneak to the back of the line to get a second. A 10-year-old changes the world in a very real way with the simple act of writing a letter.”

— First Lt. Rick Blackwell

# Ahead of the Game



By Michelle E. Dunn

**As the game industry gets serious, the university is getting serious about gaming.**

## Combining Disciplines

The schools of liberal arts and business have created an interdisciplinary degree to help meet the needs of the gaming industry.

Video game industry sales continued to spike in 2007, and now surpasses music industry revenues. The U.S. game industry generated nearly \$18 billion in sales in 2007, up 43 percent from 2006, according to The NPD Group, a consumer and retail information provider.

“This isn’t just about entertainment,” said Dr. Lundy Lewis, chair of the university’s IT program.

The industry is expanding into “serious games.” Video gaming technology is being used for education, medical rehabilitation, business, and military training and combat simulations, Lewis said.

**“Game design and development is by nature interdisciplinary —** technical, artistic and business. That’s what the industry wants. The problem is some schools have a hard time coming up with such an interdisciplinary major because at most schools, the School of Liberal Arts snubs their noses at the School of Business, and the School of Business snubs their noses at the School of Liberal Arts.”

— Dr. Lundy Lewis

“(Soldiers) are better able to think and respond in the real world, thanks to experience in the virtual world,” he said.

With the industry expansion comes an increasing demand for university graduates with more than just game-related technology skills.

#### Getting in the Game

In response, SNHU’s School of Liberal Arts and School of Business teamed up to develop a new major that encompasses facets of the gaming industry in a way many other universities’ gaming majors have not, said Dr. Lundy Lewis, chair and associate professor of the new game design and development major.

Many gaming programs focus solely on technology or design, Lewis said. But SNHU’s major incorporates business, design and computer technology courses. Graduates will be prepared for entry-level jobs as generalists who can work in modeling, storyboarding, animation, broadcast graphic design, video production, 3-D illustration and more, Lundy said.

“Game design and development is by nature interdisciplinary — technical, artistic and business,” Lewis said. “That’s what the industry wants. The problem is some schools have a hard time coming up with such an interdisciplinary major because at most schools, the School of Liberal Arts snubs their noses at the School of Business, and the School of Business snubs their noses at the School of Liberal Arts.”

While the expansion of the game industry is creating new job opportunities, competition can be tough. But because game industry executives eagerly are searching for talented job-seekers who have well-rounded

university educations and experience working in teams, SNHU’s major could give graduates an edge.

#### Multidimensional Degree

SNHU’s degree program fits both those students who wish to work on the mission, theme, plot, visuals and rules of a game, or those who want to focus on game production and the business of gaming.

Students may choose the B.A. in game development and design, which includes liberal arts core courses, or the B.S., which includes business core courses.

In addition to common courses in game design and production and IT, students may choose between five areas of specialization: interactive storytelling and supportive arts, visual

and audio design, game development and supporting technologies, psychology and marketing of games, and game production and the business of gaming. Students work together on game development and are encouraged to start their own businesses, Lewis said.

“I’m excited about the computer graphics illustration and 3-D illustration components we have in the graphic design program,” said Prof. Harry Umen, chair of the School of Liberal Arts’ Communications Department. “The hope is to develop that further if and when the game development program takes off.”

The program includes hands-on work and internship opportunities. Students will collaborate to produce final products that include storyline creation, character development, audio, visual design and production management, and will create business and marketing plans.

“It is team-intensive to design and develop a game,” Lewis said. “It’s also good to have a basic understanding of what other members of the team do.”

**Computer and video  
game software sales  
tripled from 1996 to  
2007.**

Entertainment Software Association





Inspired

# LEADERSHIP

Alumni share a passion for leadership and life

By Michelle E. Dunn

We're fortunate at Southern New Hampshire University to have thousands of graduates who are pursuing career success in a number of industries and fields.

We sat down with a few of our most successful graduates, leaders in their industries who have surmounted professional and personal challenges and risen to the top. In the pages that follow, you'll read about their views on leadership and leaders they admire, about career milestones, and the professional, the personal, the serious and the whimsical.



**Lou Altman '91 (graduate, M.B.A./marketing concentration) is the founder and chief executive officer of Globafone, a satellite communications company based in Portsmouth, N.H. What began in 1998 as a small cell phone rental start-up has blossomed into an international mobile communications outfit that serves clients such as Reuters, Colgate-Palmolive, Continental Airlines, defense contractors, government agencies and disaster responders. Altman graduated in 1991 with an M.B.A. with a marketing concentration.**

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**What do you love about what you do?** We provide the communication systems that work when everything else has failed. If people don't have satellite communications after a disaster, people die. You've seen the videos of people plucking people off of roofs. How do you think they knew where to go? Satellite communications. I own a company that helps people save lives.

**What are some characteristics of leaders?** I bounce from one thing to the next to the next to the next. That's a sign of a leader: creativity. The mind is always moving.

I've got people here who are following me down a garden path, and they don't know where the hell they're going. These people believe in what I'm saying. So what makes it a leader? That other people believe you. Other people are willing to follow you. This is who I am. You don't like it, don't follow me. You do like it, let's go, we have stuff to do.

Another good sign of a leader: persistence. Never ever give up. Never.

Most of being a leader is action. "We're going to go do this. Come along if you want."

**What are some words you live by?** On my laptop I had taped a Chinese fortune: "You are the master of every situation." If you change how you look at something, what you're looking at will change. If you decide something – good, bad, ugly, it doesn't matter what it is – you can make it happen. The power of intention. If you believe full force in what you're doing, it will happen.

Never try to figure out how you're going to get there. The "how" will show up as long as the "what" is strong enough. If you believe strongly enough in your goal ... the path to make it happen will show up. How do I know we're going to get to five million sales? Because I said so. We got 20 percent of it yesterday.

I'm going to steal this from my wife: I'm a reverse paranoid. I believe the universe is conspiring to support me.

**Leaders who inspire you:** Jim Cook (creator of Samuel Adams beer). Boy, does that guy exude to you that he loves what he does.

Richard Branson. I'd just like to hang out with Richard Branson for an afternoon, just be with somebody who is further along in their path than I am. I'm not sure he aspired to be a billionaire; he just had a hell of a lot of fun doing what he does. I like what the Virgin brand stands for. It's all about leisure and fun. Another leader I very much admire is Chuck Yeager. He's got balls. The stuff he was doing – he didn't know how jets worked.

**What is most important to you?** I'm an entrepreneur because I have kids and I will leave whenever the hell I damn well feel like it to support them in what they are doing. That's my corporate culture here. Your kids are more important than anything we do here.

What's more important than your wife and kids? Your business, your car, your house? You can get more of any single

one of those. It's the bond you have with your wife. It's the relationship you have with your kids. It's the fact that you're setting the example for how these two people live their lives.

And you damn well better be growing and developing because if you're just staying the same, your life is over. You will stagnate and die early, probably painfully. Not physically, but emotionally. You will lie on your death bed and regret stuff. Spend the time at home now. The relationship you build and the bond you have comes out of those activities, even if it's just my wife and I sitting on the couch at home laughing at something we saw on TV.

**What's the last thing you've done for the first time:** Take my kids (a son and daughter, ages 12 and 13) to Mexico.

**Our next president should be someone who:** can say what the opposition or the last presidency did that was good. No one will do it. I'd like somebody with a little bit of honesty. No presidential candidate will say that because that makes them look weak or like there is something wrong. I want them to be genuine.

**Your epitaph would say:** Here lies Lou Altman. He loved his wife dearly and his kids the same. Creator of companies, giver to the needy, lived his life with love, fun and adventure.





**Alyson Pitman Giles, FACHE, is the president and chief executive officer of CMC Healthcare System. Highlights of her tenure include orchestrating Catholic Medical Center's financial turnaround and bringing back maternity services. Business NH Magazine named her Business Leader of the Year in 2005 and Modern Healthcare magazine named her one of the Top 25 Women in Healthcare in 2007. She graduated with an M.S. in human services administration in 1988.**

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**Why create The Mom's Place?** When we reestablished ourselves as a Catholic hospital, it was critically important that we have a maternity program in the Catholic tradition. We also thought we could do a program that was smaller and very intimate and very mother-focused, and that was something that was needed in the community. We went from zero deliveries to almost 1,000 (a year) in six years.

**Proudest accomplishment:** I think the proudest achievement in my life is having a very close and loving and healthy family. I have my husband of over 10 years and two adult stepchildren and my two children, and we have blended into an extraordinary family unit with tremendous support for one another. I think being a mother is my greatest gift, and the thing that I am best at is mothering.

**What do you love about what you do?** The culture is passionate at this hospital, and people care deeply about the patients' and families' experiences. We all know one another, and there's 2,000 of us. We work hard, we laugh, we care about our patients and we care about our families and we have fun every day.

**How do you define leadership?** A leader is someone who understands that you have to bring diverse people and problems and issues into a sort of unified whole to accomplish something. You're not just ticking off a to-do list and doing the analysis and putting the plan together.

**Leaders who inspire you?** I've really gotten a tremendous amount of inspiration from the American College of Health Care

Executives. I had the incredible privilege of being the chairman of the national board last year. Through that I have had more mentors and met more health care leaders who have inspired me and taught me than probably ever before.

Two people who really taught me a huge amount of leadership locally ... when I worked at Easter Seals – Larry Gammon (president of Easter Seals New Hampshire) and Paul Boynton (president of Moore Center Services).

**When did you know you were a leader?** My entire life I was always the person who organized everything, from the time I was in elementary school. I organized the jacks tournament. I organized the neighborhood softball tournament. So I don't know that I knew I was a leader, but I knew I was an organizer of people from the time I was in third grade.

**Ever had an "a-ha!" moment?** I have "a-ha" moments almost every day. I will come down here to the Mom's Place and talk to a mother and talk about their experience and I can have an "a-ha" moment. I will go into the operating room and I will observe a surgery, which I love to do, and I will have an "a-ha" moment that I have the privilege of leading this organization that has physicians who can do these live-saving surgeries.

**Childhood dream:** My childhood dream was to be a mother. Now I have this huge family that is so rewarding and bountiful for me.

**Define living a good life:** For me it's living the fullest life I can and achieving as much

as I believe I can achieve, being as good a mother and wife as I can. I also love giving back to the community and mentoring other people.

**What inspires you?** People who are passionate about what they do, people who do good things, and I am forever inspired by my husband, who is a very smart, giving and loving human being ... and watching my children unfold and develop who they are and skills they have. For example, my son is a musician ... it's fascinating, it's one of the greatest gifts for me, to watch people grow and unfold.

**What do you daydream about?** I daydream about being a grandmother, I daydream about being a groupie for my son, and I daydream about the time when it's right for my husband and for me – we are passionate about sailing and boats, so we daydream about the time when we will spend six to nine months a year on a boat going place to place, just enjoying the sea and the outdoors.

**What is something about you that would surprise people?** I love to do laundry. There's a beginning and an end, and my job never has an end. And it's very nurturing.

**What was the last thing you did for the first time?** Today I started Jenny Craig.

**Speaking of leaders, our next president should be someone who:** Someone who has real experience in the Senate, real experience in the armed forces, and someone who will keep our country safe.

**If you could write your epitaph, what would it be?** She was a great wife and mother.



**A few years after deciding to forgo college to become a wife and mother, Brenda Quinn '85 walked into the Manchester Center with two of her three children in tow, determined to get a college education. After earning her B.S. in accounting in 1985, she launched her career as an accountant. Today she is chief executive officer of Intelitek, a worldwide technology education and manufacturing company based in Manchester, N.H., and Israel.**

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**What do you love about what you do?** You know the excitement that you get when you walk into a job on the very first day? I still feel that almost every day that I come in here. I enjoy the activity and the productivity and the manufacturing environment because I love to see a piece of metal turn into a product. Even more than all of that, it's serving the customers that we serve. We're serving education and we truly have touched as an organization hundreds of thousands of students in this country and around the world and have an impact on their career and their livelihood.

**Proudest accomplishment:** It's my family. I'm a widow; my husband passed away four years ago. My goal was to have happy, healthy and productive, contributing children and they've all attained that goal.

**What makes a leader?** I don't think it's really any one specific quality but a combination of multiple things. Vision, passion, honesty, quality; I like to have a little fun along the way.

**Your first job:** was at an ice cream parlor.

**What is the difference between management and leadership?** Management, I feel, is maybe defining or leading a process ... defining the steps you need to take to achieve a goal. Leadership, in my mind, involves people and cooperation and the vision and sharing, the incorporation of ideas that will promote growth and advancement.

**Ever had an "a-ha!" moment?** A large one for me was when I was promoted to vice president for the first time. A

sense of accomplishment, a sense of reward for all the hard work and time invested, a little bit of pride and the recognition and acknowledgement that others felt I was good enough or had achieved enough.

**Childhood ambition:** From the time I was in high school I wanted to be an accountant. Career awareness at the time in the late '60s, early '70s, they didn't think too much of promoting careers to women. I decided to try to take a bookkeeping course and it just completely mesmerized me. That was again where education had an impact and power. Then I went and got married and I had my family and so I sort of strayed from it, but then came back to it. And now I think I'd die if I had to sit and do debits and credits all day long. The thing is, is that it was clearly the foundation that prepared me for everything in life.

**What inspires you?** Challenge inspires me. It can come in a lot of different places – very small problems or large global issues.

**What do you daydream about?** I work 12 to 14 hours a day; I don't have a lot of time to daydream. But if I do have a moment I think of some of the projects I've started since my husband passed away. I took ice skating lessons, I learned to sail, I learned how to scuba dive. If I daydream about anything, I daydream about scuba diving.

**Define living a good life:** First, responsibility. After that, fun.

**The last thing you did for the first time:** Snow skiing. I just decided that I needed to try it. I loved it.

**One of your biggest challenges:** My husband was very sick for four years before he passed away. That was, I hope, the biggest challenge I had to face.

**If there was one thing you could tell your college self, what would it be?**

Never give up. There will always be an obstacle and there will always be a way to get through it.

**Any advice for working moms?** I know how hard it is. Try and use whatever is possible for your support system, whether it be helping with day care, helping with finances, helping with cleaning house. One of the greatest days of my life was when I didn't have to pay for child care anymore. I have huge compassion for working moms today. There's so many roadblocks. I was able to work the way I did because of my husband. He was the one who transported the kids and prepared meals. That partnership was so important. A lot of working women don't have that partnership.

**Our next president should be someone who:** has integrity. I think that leadership is the way you live your life ... honesty, integrity are important qualities for a leader.

**Your epitaph would say:** I already know what it is: Wife of, mother of. It's all with happiness and love and good feelings, not sadness.







**Tom Dionisio '76 is a partner and managing director at The Boston Consulting Group in Boston, named one of Fortune's 100 Best Companies to Work For in 2008. He is in charge of information technology for BCG's 66 offices in 28 countries and has been with the company for 10 years. He graduated with a B.S. in management information systems in 1976.**

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**One of your biggest challenges:** When I got here, each office in the world functioned as an individual entity. My biggest challenge was to take what were 45 disparate IT organizations and try to meld them into one cohesive organization that functioned as a worldwide team and provide the same sets of services across the whole firm. The challenge was organizational, to get everyone to think and act in the same way, to get people to relinquish authority and control. It was fun. The fun part for us is not necessarily doing things in the best-of-class kind of way, but trying to essentially invent what is best of class. We try to be on the bleeding edge not so much with the technology but how we deliver the technology. An example would be, while the rest of the world is outsourcing support services to India, we're outsourcing support services to Iowa. So people from China are actually dialing into Iowa for assistance. We try to reset what is best practice beyond where people are today.

**When did you know you were a leader:** It wasn't a few years I was out of SNHU and I was asked to take charge of the IT organization ... at the Catholic Medical Center. I hired a bunch of people and at that time you wrote all the software. Me and a bunch of people wrote several main lines of code and one day turned it all on. I had never done anything of that magnitude. I was 24 years old, or 25 years old at the most, in charge of all this responsibility and wasn't really sure it was going to all work, and when we turned it on, it did.

**What inspires you?** I think what inspires me is my kids. My kids have been incredibly successful. My daughter has an undergraduate degree from Columbia, a master's from MIT and is in the process of getting her Ph.D. from Harvard. My other daughter went to Notre Dame and is in the process of getting her M.B.A. at the University of Georgia. You always want your kids to do better than you did, and in my case my kids certainly have, yet they're pretty proud, I think, of where their dad has come and gone for someone who went to a relatively small college in the sticks of New Hampshire, at the time. I'm proud that I set a good bar for them and they feel pretty proud of what they've done. I think that would go for my spouse as well, who also is an SNHU grad [Sheila (Milne) Dionisio '76].

**Define living a good life:** Sharing the time with friends and family. I wouldn't see much point in working if I had no opportunity to share the time with the family, the kids, the friends. It's simple for me at this point. I have plenty of intellectual challenges and rewarding things that I can do and I'm beyond the point where I have to prove anything to myself or anybody else. I'm in a sweet spot, I guess, career-wise.

**If you could tell your college self one thing, it would be:** The one thing I would have passed on was that I had a lot more capability than I probably thought at the time. I had some opportunities at that time to launch my own business in

this whole tech arena and I think I would have enjoyed that and I think I didn't take enough risk.

**The last thing you did for the first time:** My wife and I went on a five-day cycling trip through Holland during the tulips, last spring.

**What do you daydream about?** Summertime and nice weather and outdoor activities and sports.

**Your first job:** Parking cars and a busboy at Hampshire Country Club (in Mamaroneck, N.Y.).

**Childhood ambition:** It was probably to be like my dad. If I had a childhood hero, it was my dad. I still miss him today.

**A leader you admire:** I think one of the people who was actually a great leader was (former President George) Bush Sr. I say that because when Bush Sr. made the decision, and it seemed appropriate, to drive people out of Kuwait. I think he received tremendous pressure from lots of people in government to continue the battle right on through Iraq. He was committed to what he said he was going to do ... I think he had the guts, despite tremendous internal pressure, to say no, we did what we said, we're done.

**Our next president should be someone who:** has an international focus ... it's very much a global world.

# Hoop Dreams



By Greg Royce, Sports Information Director

**When most sports fans think of the American Basketball Association, their thoughts turn to the early 1970s. During a time of social upheaval, the ABA provided an upstart rival to the more established NBA.**

Future basketball Hall of Famers George “Iceman” Gervin and Julius “Dr. J.” Erving roamed the ABA’s courts, playing with a red, white and blue basketball and being awarded three points for made shots from long range, something that was unheard of at the time.

Those same fans would probably tell you that the ABA ended in 1976, when it merged with the NBA. However, the league that gave basketball the three-point shot and the slam dunk contest was reincarnated in 2000, not as a competitor to the NBA this time, but as a minor league in which hoop hopefuls could play and even shoot for the big time.

## **Penmen Play in ABA**

**Penmen basketball standouts enjoy another chance on the court.**

The league has given former SNHU basketball standouts P.J. Young '06, David Cooper and Bobby Miller another chance to bask in the spotlight they enjoyed as Penmen. Young and Cooper spent the 2007-08 campaign as members of the Manchester Millrats, a team that calls the SNHU Fieldhouse home. Miller has spent the past three seasons with the Montreal Royal.

Young, who also starred at Manchester’s Central High School, enjoyed a stellar four-year career with the Penmen. An athletic 6-6 forward, Young averaged 13 points and 9.2 rebounds as a senior in 2005-06 to earn Northeast-10 All-Conference honors. After completing his Penmen career, he spent the 2006-07 season playing professionally in Portugal, averaging 21 points and nine rebounds. For Young, the chance to play in Manchester and at a higher level was too good to pass up.

"I had a great season last year in Portugal, but it was the second division. I had a chance to go back, but that would have essentially been a step back," he said. "I need a strong basketball resume, especially coming from a smaller school, and saw this as one opportunity to build it. Overseas, those guys have made it, so to speak, but in the ABA, everyone is hungry and trying to get to the next level.

"I'd love to go back to Europe, but over there, youth is not valued as highly as experience," he said. "I want to go back, but it has to be at a higher level. Certainly nothing can prepare you for playing professionally, but I got a great foundation at SNHU and I keep building on that."

While Young is just starting out his professional career and looking to move up, Miller is wrapping up his. Miller, a 5-10 guard for the Penmen from 1997-2000, wowed Fieldhouse crowds with his athleticism and gritty play. He was the final Player of the Year in the now-defunct New England Collegiate Conference in 1999-2000 after averaging 16.2 points and 7.8 rebounds per game.

At age 33, the Montreal native is hanging up his sneakers, at least professionally, after the 2007-08 season. Miller said they probably would have been hung up long ago were it not for the ABA.

"I spent a year overseas in Lebanon and was set to go back, but then 9/11 happened, and I felt like the Middle East wasn't the best place to be at that time," he said. "So I was just working, playing in leagues recreationally and coaching at the college level as an assistant when one of our other assistants, Pascal Jobin, was put in charge of a new ABA franchise here in Montreal.

"I wasn't really looking to play anywhere, but since I was playing anyway, I figured I would give it a shot. Talent-wise, it's the best competition I have ever faced; everyone has played at the Division I or II level, and it's been great. For me, it's been more of a hobby."



P.J. Young '06



David Cooper



Bobby Miller

Cooper, who played with Young at Central, spent one season at SNHU (2001-02) and was a member of the NE-10 All-Rookie Team before transferring to Division I James Madison in Virginia. He became involved with the Millrats as a part-owner, but right before the season started decided to give it a go on the court, making him a rare player-owner in the world of pro sports.

"I've been battling some injuries and originally wasn't going to play," he said. "But I decided to give it a go. It's a good brand of basketball and I have been very impressed with the level of play.

"As an owner I couldn't be happier. We have a great group here. I want to take my playing career as far as my health and my body will take me, but if that doesn't work out, I feel like this (being an owner) gives me the opportunity to stay involved with the game on the business side."

While all three play in the league for different reasons, all three have gotten exactly what they wanted out of the ABA. For Young, he has the chance to take a step to the next level. Miller got the chance to once again test his mettle on the professional level without having to travel halfway around the world, while Cooper has the chance to

succeed in basketball either on the court or in the boardroom. Whatever the final outcome, the ABA has given three former Penmen another shot at achieving their hoop dreams.



# Penmen by the Numbers

# SPORTS SHORTS

**531** – Consecutive games in which the men's basketball team made a three-pointer before failing to do so at Pace in December. The last time the Penmen had failed to connect on a three-pointer was in 1990.

**270** – Kills recorded by freshman Stephanie Dluginski of the volleyball team en route to Northeast-10 Second Team honors. Dluginski was one of only four freshmen to earn NE-10 All-Conference accolades.

**149** – Career points for senior men's hockey player Brandon Hammermeister, who wrapped up his career eighth on the SNHU scoring list.

**22** – Career shutouts for men's soccer goalkeeper Dan Pelc, who recently wrapped up his SNHU career. His 22 shutouts tie him for second place on SNHU's all-time list.



Marc Hubbard

## Hubbard Named Men's Soccer Coach

Marc Hubbard has been named the seventh head coach in the 44-year history of the men's soccer program.

Hubbard, a 2003 graduate of Colgate University, spent the past five seasons as an assistant coach at the University of New Hampshire. During his tenure, the Wildcats advanced to the America East Conference semifinals in 2006 and 2007 and posted a 12-5-3 record in 2006 that earned the UNH coaching staff the America East Coaching Staff of the Year award. UNH was ranked No. 1 in New England in 2005. UNH was 40-30-21 and produced two America East Goalkeeper of the Year selections, one Rookie of the Year, one Offensive Player of the Year, 14 All-America East players and seven NSCAA All-Region players during Hubbard's tenure.

Hubbard enjoyed a stellar four-year career as a Raider during his years at Colgate. A three-time Patriot League Second Team selection, he also earned NSCAA All-New York honors as a senior. He played at the professional level, having spent the past three years with the New Hampshire Phantoms of the USL Second Division. He was team captain in 2006 and 2007. In 2006, he was a USL First Team selection and a Defender of the Year finalist. He also has professional experience with the Wilmington (North Carolina) Hammerheads and the Syracuse (New York) Salty Dogs.

## A New 'Coache' for Women's Tennis

Gregory Coache has been named the university's new women's tennis coach.

Coache has served as a high school tennis coach for the past 10 years. His teams reached the playoffs, which included one state championship and five state semifinal appearances.

A New Hampshire Coach of the Year, Coache also has extensive experience as a player. In 1992 he ranked No. 1 in New England in doubles. He plays United States Tennis Association team tennis; for the past five years his teams earned trips to the regional championships and one year earned a trip to the national tournament in Hawaii. He was a Health Recreation and Physical Education major at Springfield College, where he played tennis from 1976 to 1980.

## Honors and Milestones

Matt Delaney



Laurie Boland



Alex Brown



### Delaney Garners Several Regional Honors

Men's soccer senior captain **Matt Delaney** earned a host of awards in 2007. Delaney, who anchored a defense that allowed just over a goal per game during the 2007 regular season, was a National Soccer Coaches Association of America and Daktronics Division II Second Team All-New England selection. The senior sport management major also was named to the ESPN the Magazine/College Sports Information Directors Association Academic All-District Team.

Delaney also was a First Team All Northeast-10 selection for the second straight season and was named to the Northeast-10 men's soccer All-Academic squad.

### The Best of the Rest

Delaney's teammate on the backline, sophomore **Richard Kentish** was also a Northeast-10 All-Conference selection as he garnered Second Team honors. Kentish started every regular season game in 2007.

The men's soccer team reached the Northeast-10 Tournament for the eighth straight year but was eliminated in the quarterfinals by eventual national champion Franklin Pierce. Senior **Dan Pelc** closed out his career with 22 shutouts in goal, tying him for second in school history with Erik Fernstrom.

Senior **Laurie Boland** and junior **Cary Rivett** were named women's soccer All Northeast-10; both were selected to the Second Team. It marked Boland's second All-Conference selection, as she was also named to the squad as a sophomore. Boland led the Penmen in scoring with six goals and six assists and notched three-game winning goals. Rivett was named All-Conference for the first time in her career after starting all 19 games. She has played in every possible game over her three seasons (55) and started 50 times.

Freshman **Stephanie Dluginski** had an immediate impact on the volleyball team and was one of only four freshmen in the NE-10 to be named All-Conference. A Second Team selection, Dluginski led the Penmen in kills (270) and blocks (100) while ranking third in the Northeast-10 in hitting percentage (.289).

Junior **Andrew Maziarz** was named All Northeast-10 Second Team in golf after finishing tied for eighth at the NE-10 Championship last fall. He registered a two-day score of 153.

Junior **Alex Brown** had an outstanding fall on the cross-country trails, twice setting a school record for the fastest time – 27:31 over an 8-kilometer distance at the Northeast-10 Championship. Brown set five of the 20 fastest times in school history this season, while classmate **Nick Watts** set four of the top 20 times, including a season-best 28-minute effort at the NE-10 meet. On the women's side, **Svea Dellea-Messner** was SNHU's top runner in six of seven meets this fall and recorded a top time of 21:46 for the 5,000-meter (5k) race at the NE-10 Championship.

### All-Academic Selections

Three women's soccer players were named to the Northeast-10 All-Academic team, including **Boland**, who was named to the First Team for the third straight season. Nicole Ebner was named to the Second Team and **Rivett** was a Third Team choice. Men's soccer had a pair of All-Academic performers, with graduate student **Simon Kearney** and senior **Delaney** named First Team choices.

Junior **Nicky Dumond** was named volleyball All-Academic First Team for the second straight season, while **Dellea-Messner** earned First Team All-Academic accolades in women's cross country after being named Second Team in 2006.

# Alumni Awards

**During Alumni & Family Weekend, the Alumni Association presented its annual awards to recognize graduates for their work with the university and the community.**

## Hall of Fame Award

The recipient of the 2007 Alumni Hall of Fame Award is **Theresa Desfosses '72**.

The award recognizes an alumnus or alumna who graduated 10 or more years ago and has made outstanding contributions to his or her profession, the community and the university.

Desfosses went to work right out of high school as a bookkeeper. At the urging of her supervisor, she enrolled in night classes at the university's center in Portsmouth, N.H., where she graduated with a degree in business administration.

She took over the family business, State Manufactured Homes, when her father retired three years later. She joined a number of investors and purchased Burlington Homes of Maine, a custom home manufacturing company in Oxford, in 1994. She quickly became president of that company as well; it now commands 20 percent of the manufactured home market in Maine.

She is a trustee for the Hospice of Southern Maine and the Manufactured Housing Institute in Washington, D.C., and is vice chair of the Manufactured Housing Regulatory Board in Augusta, Maine.

A university trustee since 2001, Desfosses created the Desfosses Family Scholarship to benefit women who are interested in business management.

## Alumni Distinguished Service Award

**Linda Hicks '94 and '99**, director of Dining Services at the university, received the 2007 Alumni Distinguished Service Award.

The award is given to an alumnus, alumna, faculty member, staff member or friend of the university to recognize leadership, dedication and loyal service to the university and its objectives.

Hicks has been affiliated with the university since 1985, when she joined Dining Services as a unit manager. During her 23 years here she has earned the respect of students, faculty and staff and works diligently to ensure all events she oversees go off without a

hitch. On top of her 60- to 70-hour work week, she serves on the university's Safety Committee and is a delegate for the National Association of College and University Food Service.

## Young Alumni Award

Former student leader **Katherine A. McKenney '03 and '07** received the 2007 Young Alumni Award.

The award recognizes younger alumni who graduated not more than five years ago who have demonstrated leadership and have supported the Alumni Association, the Alumni Board and the university.

McKenney worked for the Office of Annual Giving and was one of its star Telefund callers. She also was a member of the Student Government Association, Phi Omega Psi and the Inter-Greek Council.

An alumni board member, she now volunteers her time and provides financial support for the President's Cup Scholarship Golf Tournament, assists at the annual wine festival and alumni weekend events and presents at the Alumni Leader Corps Symposium. An advisory service specialist for Jefferson Pilot Securities Corporation in Concord, N.H., she also works with university offices to identify students for positions with her employer and its owner, Lincoln National.

**The annual Alumni Awards Dinner was held Oct. 13, during alumni weekend.**



**Linda Hicks '94 and '99**



# Alumni News

## Upcoming Events

Reconnect with classmates, friends, staff and faculty at alumni and university events.

**June 16**

**President's Cup Golf Tournament**  
Sky Meadow Country Club  
Nashua, N.H.

**Sept. 26 to Sept. 28**

**Alumni and Family Weekend**  
SNHU Main Campus  
Manchester, N.H.

**Oct. 17**

**President's Circle Dinner**  
By invitation only

**Oct. 22**

**Wine Festival**  
C.R. Sparks  
Bedford, N.H.

Visit us online at [www.snhu.edu/alumni](http://www.snhu.edu/alumni) or contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 603.645.9799 for more information or to register for events.



Graduate Admission staff offered graduate students a sweet start to the new year. They baked more than 250 dozen cookies and delivered them to classrooms at the beginning of the January term.

## Be in the Know

Don't wait for the next magazine to find out what's happening on campus. Provide us with your e-mail address and we'll make sure you stay connected to the university all year long. The alumni office sends a monthly e-newsletter that includes alumni profiles, upcoming events, campus updates, promotions, giveaways and athletic news. On occasion you also will receive invitations to special events and campus announcements. Sign up now by sending your e-mail address to [alumni@snhu.edu](mailto:alumni@snhu.edu).

## What's Happening

Looking for something fun to do with your friends and family? Check out the Alumni and Friends Events Calendar at [www.snhu.edu/alumni.asp](http://www.snhu.edu/alumni.asp). Finding and registering for an event is easy, and events are posted well in advance.

## SNHU Alumni Board

### President

David Lee '93

### Vice President

Peter Perich '76, '85

### Treasurer

K. Brian McLaughlin '88

### Secretary

Meghan (Cotton) Dalesandro '00

### Executive Director

Michael DeBlasi '70, director of Alumni and Major Gifts

### Directors

Janice Fitzpatrick '93  
Steven Gore '90, '02  
Robin (Sorenson) Kazes '97  
Kristina (Kintzer) Oleksak '01, '03  
Ashley (Adams) Liadis '02, '05  
Tiffany Lyon '00, '02  
Katherine McKenney '03, '05  
Jeff Penta '05  
Seth Wall '00

### Student Government Representative

Alexander Pillsbury

### President Emeritus

Chad Mason '98, '00

For more alumni news, visit

**snhu.edu**

# Where Are They Now?

By Gail Dexter

Institutional Advancement



**Most know there are vineyards and wineries in California, Washington and the Finger Lakes of New York. But many may not be aware that they also can thrive in New Hampshire.**

**Bob Dabrowski '86**, owner of Candia Vineyards and treasurer of the New Hampshire Winery Association, knows they can. His is one of 14 vineyards in the state, he said. It is located on one of Candia's oldest farms, which dates back to the 1760s.

"I made a commitment to viticulture to keep the land productive, because I enjoy growing things, for the challenge of science involved in growing top quality fruit and because I wanted to offer rare varieties that were not previously available in New Hampshire," he said.

### **From Numbers to 'Noses'**

A financial analyst for most of his career, Dabrowski also is a longtime wine enthusiast. He started the vineyard in 1999. He grows 14 cold-hardy grape varieties to produce a number of wines, including Diamond, Frontenac, Noriet, LaCrescent, LaCrosse, Marechal Foch and Leon Millot.

"Some of these grapes have an extremely complex background and are essentially the end result of 100 years of selective breeding," he said.

The vineyard produces about 4,000 bottles of wine a year. It was the most awarded New England vineyard at the 2007 Eastern States Exposition, where its wines won two silver and four bronze medals. Candia Vineyards also received a gold medal at the 20th annual International Wine & Grape Juice competition in Florida in February for its 2007 Noiret Vault Reserve.

Dabrowski credits his background in finance and business for his success in the industry. He previously worked for a Fortune 100 company and smaller companies forecasting business operations, developing profitable business models, and performing financial



reporting and decision support for management, legal teams and small businesses. This ability to see through the fog of complex data and uncertain projections has proven invaluable in the wine business, he said.

“Finance is all about planning and forecasting, which is absolutely necessary in growing grapes, winemaking and all of the other facets of properly running and building a business,” he said.

#### Getting a Grasp on the Grapes

Despite his experience, the winemaking learning curve was steep.

“I spent many years making wine, perfecting my stylistic vision of wine, developing the vineyard and studying the different trellising and viticulture methods that work best in our growing area,” he said.

He has spent 10 years studying the compounds that are in the grapes, how they are affected by temperature in the vineyard and during fermentation and how they change again during the cooling and aging process.

“When you combine the dozens of yeasts

that we can use, dozens of oak aging options and a myriad of aging options, there are literally thousands of possible wine outcomes to any particular batch of grapes,” he said. “While any number of people can be trained to take laboratory measurements of wine, it’s critical that a winemaker be able to understand the test results, where it is leading to in the development of the wine and what immeasurable sensory attributes will be affected.”

#### Reaping the Benefits

Consumers’ increased interest in buying locally – for example, the number of farmers markets in New Hampshire has nearly tripled in the last six years – coupled with the rise in U.S. wine consumption is good news for Candia Vineyards.

According to Wine Spectator magazine, wine is the favorite alcoholic beverage in the United States, narrowly beating out beer and easily beating liquor. The weather in New Hampshire last summer was perfect for grapes, warm and dry well into October, so the October harvest was the best Dobrowski has seen. It should make for some fabulous wines when released from his vault in March.

“The weather makes each year’s harvest different and even affects the aging process. And particularly in New Hampshire, the winemaker has special challenges as the fruits can have dramatically different flavors and analysis ... from year to year,” he said. “At the end of the harvest, it’s all in the winemakers hands to see it through to a great wine.

My passion is to craft wines that pair especially well with foods, and sometimes, when I’m lucky... creating that unforgettable wine to share with that spicy someone special.”

Visit [www.candiavineyards.com](http://www.candiavineyards.com) or call 603.867.9751 to learn more.

## Where are you now?

Let us know: E-mail updates and Class Notes to [alumni@snhu.edu](mailto:alumni@snhu.edu) or visit [www.snhu.edu/alumni](http://www.snhu.edu/alumni) to update your profile.



# Class Notes

## Achievements

'70

**Carl M. Baldwin**, of Santa Fe, N.M., was awarded the lifetime achievement award by the New Mexico Society of Certified Public Accountants.

'71

**Water R. Fulton**, of Durham, Conn., was elected to serve as chair of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants Advisory Council for 2007-08.

'75

**Janet (Yerdon) Mc Carty**, of East Springfield, N.Y., retired from Cherry Valley-Springfield Central School after 32 years of teaching.

'79

**Kevin N. Grenier**, of Derwood, Md., was named head of underwriting activities for Geico.

'80

**Abdul-Majid K. Hasan**, of Hamden, Conn., received his Ed.D. in Islamic Studies from Auberdeen University in Boise, Idaho. Hasan is a consultant with the Connecticut Department of Corrections in Wethersfield.

**Suzanne H. O'Malley**, of Nashua, N.H., is a manager for Burger King Corporation in Salem.



'81

**Peter V. Ferris**, of Rye, N.H., is manager of Industrial Thermal Solutions in addition to his role as president of Charter Medical Ltd.

'82

**Rose (Zocco) Cignatta**, of Meriden, Conn., was appointed to the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. Cignatta also was honored by Meriden as an arts advocate and by the state of Connecticut as a founder of Battered Women of Meriden.

'84

**Suzanne P. Lang**, of Venice, Fla., is a council member for the Venice City Council.

'85

**Darcy (Senese) Catucci**, of Peabody, Mass., is an Algebra 2 professor for Peabody Veterans Memorial High School. Catucci tutors special education students in mathematics to better ensure their success on SATs and college entrance exams.

**Doug A. Cullen**, of Goffstown, N.H., is regional manager for the Northeast for Kuder Inc.

**Layne S. Gordon**, of Shamong, N.J., is a practicing attorney for Wizmur, Gordon & Finberg, LLP in Marlton.

**William King**, of Windsor, Conn., has earned an M.F.A. in English and writing and an M.A. in creative writing.

'86

**Robert Sabrowski**, of Candia, N.H., is the owner of and winemaker for Candia Vineyards. Candia Vineyards won more awards than any other vineyard in the Northeast at the Eastern States wine competition.

'87

**Teresa G. Baillargeon**, of Hartsdale, N.Y., is a religious sister with the Sisters of the Resurrection.

**Michael S. Lynch**, of Londonderry, N.H., has opened his third InkSpot location in Derry. InkSpot refills ink and toner cartridges for consumers and small businesses.

'88

**John P. Arsenault**, of Rock Hill, S.C., is the food and beverage director for Carolina Lake Golf Club in Indian Land.

'89

**Donald G. Martel**, of Colorado Springs, Colo., is the support operations project manager and engineer for Oracle's EBS Delivery Support Operations team.

**Joseph G. Porrazzo Sr.**, of Sahuarita, Ariz., is the author of a mystery thriller, "Solemnly Swear."

'90

**Georgette Yaindl**, of Honolulu, Hawaii, is the staff attorney for United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646. Yaindl graduated from the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law in May 2007.

**Gerard M. Young**, of Haverhill, Mass., was named to Strathmore's Who's Who in American Business.

'92

**Christina A. Fortier-Rolfe**, of Wildwood, Mo., is the director of marketing in North America for APC-MGE, Critical Power and Cooling Business Unit of Schneider Electric in O'Fallon.

'93

**Leonardo R. De Moraes**, of Plano, Texas, is a sports agent for Major League Soccer, representing Brazilian soccer players.

**Todd S. Kiley**, of Wakefield, Mass., is the executive chef for The Cottage Restaurant in Wellesley.

'94

**Robert M. Benoit**, of Brunswick, Maine, is the shipping/inventory manager of Westcon Manufacturing.

'95

**Siomara Concepcion Bertrand**, of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, is the co-owner of ANED Consultores in Honduras.

**Jeffery P. Boutin**, of New Ipswich, N.H., is the principal of The Boutin Financial Group.

**Betsy A. Rosenbluth**, of Charlotte, Vt., is the Northeast projects director for the Orton Family Foundation.

'96

**Paul D. Sullivan**, of Chicago, Ill., is the vice president and chief relationship officer for The Energy Infuser Inc.

'97

**La Tanya M. Arnold**, of Boston, established Lend A Hand Consulting, a nonprofit niche marketing firm.

**Michael L. Tobin**, of Charlotte, N.C., is the regional disaster program coordinator for Carolinas Healthcare System. Tobin is responsible for disaster preparedness plans for 21 hospitals and nine emergency medical services agencies in a 12-county region.

'98

**Maggie A. Cohn**, of Roxbury, Mass., is the executive director for The Boston Collaborative for Food & Fitness.

**Mayte A. Rivera**, of Plaistow, N.H., is the director of Community Development for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Banks.

**Paul D. Sorli**, of Portsmouth, N.H., is the owner of Portsmouth Gas Light Co. Sorli received the restaurateur of the year award for 2007 from the New Hampshire Lodging and Restaurant Association.

'99

**Stacy Bugg**, of Nashua, N.H., is a musician and recording studio owner and released his fourth CD in February. Bugg is also a music instructor for bass guitar, drums and electric guitar.

**Mamadou S. Djaquite**, of Senegal, is the director for the West African Rural Development Centre in Serekunda, The Gambia, West Africa.

**Carol A. Estes**, of Dover, N.H., is the AVP commercial banking officer for Federal Savings Bank.

**Frank J. Gioia**, of Burlington, Mass., is a senior associate for Sapient in Cambridge.

**M. Katherine Pondo**, of Baltimore, Md. was recently reassigned to Tanzania with Catholic Relief Services.

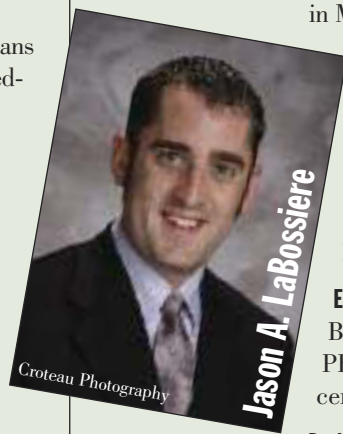
**Benjamin J. Wheeler**, of Jaffrey, N.H., is a senior vice president for TD Banknorth.

'00

**Patricia G. Dinsmore**, of Ontario, Canada, is the executive director for Ontario Wine Guy Enterprises.

**Nelson R. Gomes**, of Wallingford, Conn., is a territory manager for Forest Pharmaceutical in St. Louis, Mich.

**Benjamin W. Gorman**, of Meredith, N.H., is a board reporting analyst for Fidelity Investments in Merrimack.



**Jason A. LaBossiere**, of Londonderry, N.H., was promoted to director of merchandising for the Manchester Monarchs.

**Elsie M. Mucci**, of Bella Vista, Ariz., is PHR and SPHR certified.

**David W. Pearson**, of Whitman, Mass., is a trust officer for Bank of New York Mellon in Everett.

'01

**Susan E. DeFranzo**, of Hampton, N.H., is an account manager of the Carhartt Mobile Marketing Tour for Cameo Marketing Inc.

**Nancy L. MacKenzie**, of Lowell, Mass., is a senior accountant for Kelson Energy Inc. of Burlington.

**Kevin E. Noworyta**, of Braselton, Ga., is a controller for Aetna Group USA Inc. in Duluth.

**Gregory P. Smith**, of College Park, Md., is a financial analyst for the Financial Management Division of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Smith recently graduated from the Presidential Management Fellowship Program.

'02

**Susan M. Anderson**, of New Haven, Conn., is an accountant for the Yale Medical Group at Yale Medical School.

**Erick D. Bell**, of Tarpon Springs, Fla., is a technical advisor for the Joint International Tax Shelter Information Centre of the National Office of the Internal Revenue Service.

**Marcelo Borsatto**, of Evans, Ga., is the director of operations for FPL Foods LLC in Augusta.

**Joseph W. Drift**, of Nashua, N.H., is the owner and executive chef for Saffron Bistro.

**Christopher M. Laperle**, of Stanstead, Quebec, Canada, is a coach and teacher at Stanstead College. As an assistant coach, LaPerle won the 2004 NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey National Championship at the University of Denver and the 2005-06 NCAA Division III Men's Ice Hockey National Championship at Middlebury College.

'03

**Marcia (Johnson) Benner**, of Waldoboro, Maine, is the assistant vice president, human resources officer for Damariscotta Bank and Trust Company.

**Louis A. Cardinale**, of Merrimack, N.H., is a financial representative for New England Financial.

**William D. Ogle**, of Berwick, Maine, published his first book in June 2007, "Snapshots of the 31st Century," and a second book in December 2007 entitled "Coming Home."

'04

**Thomas A. Deel**, of Manchester, N.H., is a mental health counselor for Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester.

**Erika L. Glidden**, of Essex Junction, Vt., is a mortgage lending manager for Opportunities Credit Union.

**Sarah J. Goodwin**, of Windham, N.H., is the corporate services coordinator for Regulatory Compliance in Londonderry.

**Pamela M. Jones**, of Roxbury, Mass., is the director of policy and planning for the Boston Public Health Commission.

**Benjamin E. Piscopo**, of Weare, N.H., is the director and trainer of Boss Language Training Center's TutorSearchChina.com in Zhuhai, Guang Dong, China.

**Brian P. Santerre**, of West Warwick, R.I., is a marketing associate for Hallsmith Sysco Foodservices in Norton, Mass.

'05

**Christine E. Collum**, of Fayetteville, N.C., earned her license as a North Carolina certified public accountant.

# Class Notes

**Frank E. Ferreira**, of Nashua, N.H., is a customer service representative for Pickington Glass in Manchester.

**Jonathan H. Hebert**, of Dover, N.H., is a sous chef for The Portsmouth Brewery in Portsmouth.

**Kristen A. Muglio**, of Valrico, Fla., is the finance director for KForce Professional Staffing Co. in Tampa.

**Lauren P. Uthenwoldt**, of Silver Spring, Md., is a banquet chef for the Marriott in Washington, D.C.

'06

**Ahmed Ayad**, of Alexandria, Va., is the field program adviser for Afghanistan-LGCD on a team implementing a local governance and community development project for USAID.

**Lindsey (Field) Boisvert**, of Rochester, N.H., is an associate business analyst for Liberty Mutual in Dover.

**Lindsay B. Frydryk**, of Lewisville, Texas, is an electronic publishing specialist for Fidelity Investments.

**Alan "Jared" Gabrey**, of Manchester, N.H., is a residence director for Southern New Hampshire University.

**April M. Monsen**, of Merrimack, N.H., is an educational sales representative in health science for Reed Elsevier.

**Robin L. Rothfuchs**, of Hudson, N.H., is an assistant manager for Absolute Gymnastics in Tyngsboro, Mass.

'07

**Megan E. Manley**, of Topsham, Maine, is an LRC coordinator for Northrop Grumman in Bath.

**Kristin M. McCarron**, of Hudson, Mass., is a history teacher for Hudson High School.

## Marriages

'81

**Betty M. Russell** married Douglas M. Crosier.

**Eunice D. King** married Walter Butler Sr.

**Thomas F. Tapke** married Susan Russell.

### The Boisverts



'92

**Marcell R. McPherson-Wood** married Fausto Cruz.

'94

**Susan A. Haskell** married Mark Dufour.

'98

**Mark J. Deyette** married Michelle Wilhardt.

**Scott Martin** married **Emily M. Richie** '99.

**Lisa C. Kirton** married Brian Molnar.

'99

**Emily M. Richie** married **Scott Martin** '98.

**Amy G. Slattum** married George F. Sliney.

'01

**Sara L. Cassavaugh** married James Basbas.

**Lisa M. Thibodeau** married Philip Levesque.

**Kevin E. Noworyta** married Marisa Dohring.

'02

**Mary-Ellen D. Odesse** married Michael R. Deschenes.

**Ryan Frew** married **Anastasia Carson** '04.

**Jason Sterritt** married Laura R. Suchocki.

**Matthew R. Thaisz** married Kathryn Goodwin.

'03

**Marcia L. Johnson** married Chad V. Benner.

**Jennifer A. Butler** married Daniel A. Drago.

**Tanya J. Dupont** married Jason Ouellette.

**Robin E. Woods** married Lloyd Reshard.

**Danielle Broyer** married Nathaniel B. Wetmore.

'04

**Anastasia Carson** married **Ryan Frew** '02.

'05

**Michael Landrigan** married Alyson Coates.

**Anna M. Lugauskas** married Eric J. Milot.

'06

**Lindsey B. Field** married **Adam C. Boisvert** '07.

**Jeffory J. Dobe** married Karina Dudok.

**Ryan Flynn** married Anne Petri.

**Nicholas P. Haseltine** married Ashley E. Sherry.

### The Milots



### The Slineys



### The Ouellettes





**Rachael L. Gosselin** married Norman P. Lavoie.

**Daniel L. Pletcher** married Julie Ann Brown.

**Bryan E. Walch** married Erin A. Welch.

'07

**Adam C. Boisvert** married **Lindsey B. Field** '06.

**Katie A. Rines** married Christopher R. Husson.

**Renee A. Sasseville** married John A. Sifferman.

## New Arrivals

'93

**Lynne (Proulx) Cruze** and her husband, Edward, announce the birth of their daughter, Kaitlyn Paige, on Oct. 9, 2007.

**Jill (Southworth) Nuss** and her husband, David, announce the birth of their daughter, Samantha Anne, on June 1, 2007.

'94

**Susan (Haskell) Dufour** and her husband, Mark, announce the birth of their son, Mason Roy, on Nov. 30, 2007.



**Andrew J. Mendolia** and his wife, Vanessa, announce the birth of their daughter, Natalia Elizabeth, on Nov. 19, 2007.

'97

**Angela (Buckler) Edwards** and her husband, Gino,

announce the birth of their twin sons, Connor Jaxson and Colton Ty, on July 23, 2007.

**Nicole (Detrani) Lizotte** and her husband, Thomas, announce the birth of their daughter, Marisa, on Feb. 6, 2007.

'98

**Jason G. Lauder** and his wife, **Michelle** '99, announce the birth of their daughter, Eshaya Ruth Madeline, on Aug. 31, 2007.



Pictured from left to right: Christie Lenda, Liz Marsden, Dr. Pat Spirou, Stan Spirou, Sara Thurling, Keri Belanger, Mike Zubretsky, Amy and George Sliney, Sue Soucy, Steve Soucy, Polly St. Hilaire, Nicole Corvini, Amanda Olson, Kristen Freitas, Chuck Spirou, Steve Agostino, Brian Cole and Karen Kenney.

**Courtney (Rozett) Sanchez** and her husband, Javier, announce the birth of their son, Jacoby Javier, on Oct. 27, 2007.

'99

**Michelle L. Lauder** and her husband, **Jason** '98, announce the birth of their daughter, Eshaya Ruth Madeline, on Aug. 31, 2007.

**Sarah (Wolstencroft) Salera** and her husband, Paul, announce the birth of their son, Gavin Joseph, on May 14, 2007.

'00

**Lauri B. Ashford** and her husband, Joshua, announce the birth of their daughter, Makenzie Violet, on July 25, 2007.

**Corinn M. Chadwell** and her husband, **Matthew** '01, announce the birth of their daughter, Emma Catherine, on Aug. 16, 2007.

**David Pearson** and his wife, Tara, announce the birth of their son, Ryan Joseph, on Aug. 17, 2007.

'01

**Matthew B. Chadwell** and his wife, **Corinn** '00, announce the birth of their daughter, Emma Catherine, on Aug. 16, 2007.

**Craig DiNatali** and his wife, Nicole, announce the birth of their daughter, Madeline Anne, on July 4, 2007.

**Melissa (Cowdrey) Lascelles** and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their daughter, Abigail Paige, on Oct. 22, 2006.

**Kevin E. Noworyta** and his wife, Marisa, announce the birth of their daughter, McKenzie, on Feb. 11, 2006.

'05

**Angela Estes** announces the birth of her son, Ronald A.E. Marquette, on March 13, 2007.

'07

**Katie (Rines) Husson** and her husband, Christopher, announce the birth of their daughter, Kalie, on Dec. 28, 2007.

**Brianne E. Stone** and her husband, Joshua, announce the birth of their daughter, Emma Elizabeth, on June 22, 2007.

## In Memoriam

'39

Mary Webster

'67

Roy Currier

'68

Patricia Rogers

'77

Delfin Reyes de Jesus

'81

James M. Kemp

'87

Linda J. Frost

'89

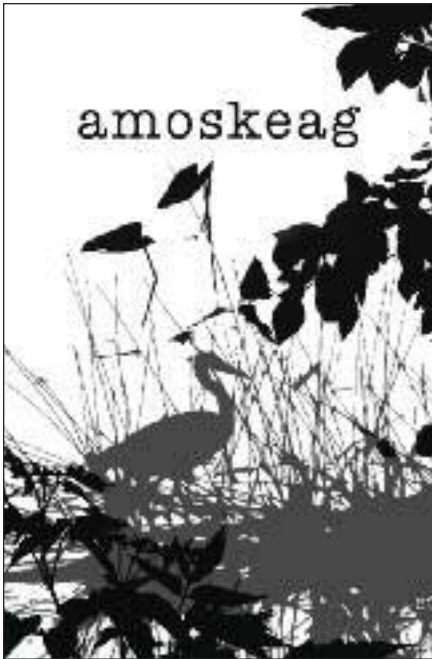
Jeffrey G. Stickles

'02

Stephanie C. Rosamilia

For more alumni news, visit

snhu.edu



## Getting Creative

**Amoskeag: The Journal of Southern New Hampshire University** showcases poetry, essays, fiction and photography from contributors all over the U.S. The journal is celebrating its 25th anniversary this spring.

The Journal holds student writing contests for short fiction and poetry and publishes the winning entries. The following is the winning SNHU student entry for poetry, which appears in the 2008 journal. The winning entry for short fiction, by Nate Boesch, will appear in the fall issue of the magazine.

## Suitcase And Left

By Alicia Beane

I do not have much to say  
Not tonight  
I haven't for a while.  
But I don't know why.  
Perhaps my brain  
Went on vacation:  
Packed up each word  
In his suitcase and left  
(no doubt to Hawaii.)  
And I'm stuck here  
Useless  
Empty  
Void of any common sense  
Or poetry.  
And I want it back.  
Here  
Is where it belongs,  
Along with each of my words.  
How I miss them,  
They should be cradled once again  
By my thoughts  
And the ink of this pen.  
I'll be sending a postcard-  
With my sad face on the cover,  
Pleading (yes it is shameful)  
WISH YOU WERE HERE.



# Hiring Help

**Lynne Kennedy Crouse '04 is in a great position to help university graduates.**

Kennedy Crouse, who earned her B.S. in business administration (and met her husband, Bill) at SNHU's Nashua Continuing Education Center, is senior site manager for Veritude, a staffing company that serves such clients as Fidelity Investments, Avid Technologies Inc. and EMC.

Veritude has provided a number of recent SNHU graduates with temporary positions that, in many cases, have led to permanent jobs. Kennedy Crouse also has participated in on-campus networking events and career nights, held onsite interviews, helped students write resumes and conducted mock interviews with students through the Career Development Office.

"Our staffing specialists really do have a lot of contact with our associates when they're on assignment," she said. "Whether it's myself or my staffing specialists, we really do have ongoing relationships (with graduates). We know them by name; we stay in touch."

Temporary jobs can be a great start for graduates, she added.

"There is a lot of benefit to it, especially with students who don't really know what they want to do or don't have a lot of corporate experience," she said. "It's good to get your feet wet before you take a permanent job that may or may not work out."

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