Olympic Gold and Green
Oswego Alumni and the Winter Games

Plus
In Memoriam 9/11
Campus Center Concepts
Library Café Brewing
To learn more about these ways to love Oswego, along with the other 40, contact the Alumni and University Development Office at King Alumni Hall, 300 Washington Blvd., Oswego, NY 13126; or call 315-312-2258 or 315-312-3003; e-mail alumni@oswego.edu or visit our Web site at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu

#9 Start or volunteer with an alumni club in your area
#14 Visit Tyler Art Gallery or attend a sporting event
#17 Sponsor an intern
#23 Name Oswego in your will
#26 Attend Reunion July 19, 20 and 21
#28 Send a virtual card to an Oswego friend at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu
#32 Donate at a gift club level at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/development
#46 Encourage a high school student to visit Oswego
#47 Host an alumni event in your home
#49 Share your expertise through ASK (Alumni Sharing Knowledge)
OSWEGO

Alumni Association of the State University of New York at Oswego
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FROM THE

President’s Desk

September 11 continues to have a profound impact on our campus. While our last issue of the Oswego alumni magazine featured the heroes and survivors of that terrible day, this issue focuses in part on the 11 alumni we lost in that tragedy. They were among the best and brightest — intelligent, active people, making a real difference in the world and their careers. They were also devoted family members and cherished members of our alumni family.

The campus plans a special tribute to those affected by September 11, all of the heroes, the victims and the survivors of the attack on America. Our May 17 Torchlight Ceremony, the evening before commencement, will pay tribute to all Oswego alumni touched by the attacks. Our Masters of Ceremonies will be New York City firefighter Robert Bacon ’95 and NYPD officer Brendan Chamberlain ’91, representing all the police officers, firefighters, rescue workers and volunteers, of whom we are so proud. Robert was trapped for hours in the rubble of the Twin Towers and Brendan came back day after day to help with the recovery efforts. We are proud of them and their many colleagues.

On a sadder note, the Oswego family lost 11 cherished members on Sept. 11. But we celebrate their lives and the spirit they shared with all of us in a series of articles by Patty Rycraft O’Toole ’79.

And like those crocuses popping up, our campus is renewing itself like never before. Read about plans for the first new building in 35 years, an exciting place to gather in the library and new trees to surround the statue of our founder at Sheldon Hall.

Oswego may be noted for its winters, but when spring does come, we know how to relish it. Speaking of relish, I think it’s time for a Texas hot!

Michele A. Reed
Oswego editor

FROM

the Editor’s Pen

We’re working on Oswego weeks before it lands in your mailbox. So it’s the day after the first day of spring as I’m writing this column and it’s a typical Oswego early spring day. A patch of sun at noon and five inches of fluffly snow on the steps of King Hall by midnight.

But never fear — Rudy’s opened a week ago, the students are heading for Cancun as I pen this and the crocuses on the hill below Swetman are poking their heads out of the ground (or they were before the Lake Effect buried them today). If these images don’t make you think of hope and dreams and life, just flip through the pages of this issue of Oswego.

There’s nothing like the Olympics for reminding us that dreams can come true. Relive the memories with a half dozen alumni who followed their dreams to Salt Lake City.

Our hearts go out to the families touched by loss in the disaster. We have extended an invitation to them to come back to the alma mater of their loved ones, to partake in our special tribute and to take some comfort in our continuing concern and commitment. If you can make it back to campus that evening, please do and lift your candle in solidarity and hope. If not, think of your alma mater, your fellow alumni and the new graduates we are sending out into a world, changed forever, but full of dreams and the promise of so many great things.
'Main Street' to run through heart of campus

A three-level multi-use space that includes an academic commons, convocation spaces and an ice hockey rink is in the concepts for Oswego's new Campus Center and a renovated Swetman-Poucher complex. Sweeping views of Lake Ontario behind walls of glass, a covered walkway to connect the academic heart of campus with the student center and a unique approach to clustering academic spaces and social areas will all be part of Oswego's first new building in 35 years.

The new design project is planned in a move to bring Oswego's facilities in step with the college's goal of a "learner-centered environment," according to Jerry DeSantis, associate vice president for facilities management. "It really is a physical representation of a learner-centered environment," he said. "It is the integration of community events, academics and residence life."

The $22-million Campus Center is being built with a $17-million matching grant from the New York State Legislature. Oswego will have to raise about $5 million to complete the project. Renovations to Swetman-Poucher, including relocating departments to other buildings, will amount to another $17 million.

Flow is important

Putting the Campus Center and Swetman-Poucher projects together was important, according to DeSantis. "We have to begin to look at them as a single entity, because they are dependent on each other for success," he said. "The flow between them is so important."

The flow DeSantis is talking about is the traffic pattern from Poucher at the top level, where nearly everything is academic, through academic spaces and social spaces on two different levels in Swetman Hall, to the Campus Center, where the main convocation area-ice hockey rink will be at the lowest level.

"We are trying to create a kind of 'Main Street' that has on it all academic services," he said. "Getting off 'Main Street,' we will find faculty offices — a more 'residential area.'"

Walking into Swetman Hall by the main doors, instead of seeing a staircase leading up or down as now, visitors will see two levels, with the Academic Commons taking up the upper level: current concepts call for a lounge area, surrounded by academic departments. The lower level, also visible and accessible from the main door, will be the Educational Planning Center, housing such offices as Career Services, Student Advisement, Academic Planning and the Office of Learning Services.

An exterior enclosed walkway will take students and faculty members from the Academic Commons to the Campus Center. Some rooms will be classrooms during the day and meeting rooms at night, DeSantis said. Key to the design is a 200-seat auditorium spanning two levels. A large lecture hall during the school day, it can be used for movies or guest speakers during the evening.

The Campus Center portion will be set into the hill to the west of Swetman-Poucher. Its north end will open to the lake in a huge wall of glass. "There will be a lot of glass," said DeSantis. "It will be very visible at night."

The upper level of the Campus Center will house lounge space, a ticket booth, retail space and meeting rooms. The lower level will include a food court, a catering services area, locker rooms and support rooms to serve the ice arena.

DeSantis stressed the multi-use nature of the space. "There will be lots of different-sized venues, and each can be set up in different ways," he said.

A huge foyer opens out to a courtyard, overlooking the lake. There will be seating for 5,000 in the arena and another 200 to 400 in the courtyard area. A modular flooring system can cover the ice and dividers can break up the space as needed.

There will need to be moves to make the concept a reality. The School of Education will be consolidated in Wilbur and Park Halls, freeing up Poucher for other departments.
LYONS NAMED VP

SUNY Oswego recently welcomed Nicholas Lyons as its new vice president for administration and finance.

Lyons comes to Oswego from the position of assistant vice president for administration at SUNY New Paltz, where his responsibilities included maintaining the day-to-day financial operation of that college since 1997.

He has worked in the SUNY system since 1978, starting as an office supervisor for the Research Foundation. His positions in SUNY System Administration have included university internal control officer in the Office of the University Controller (1994 to 1997) and budget analyst in the Office of Finance and Business (1986 to 1994).

At Oswego, he oversees areas that include finance, student accounts, human resources, environmental health and safety, physical plant, technology and purchasing.

“The administration here emphasizes collaboration and has a real sense of community,” Lyons said of Oswego.

THE OSWEGO READING INITIATIVE’S Summer 2002 selection is Haven by Dr. Ruth Gruber. The story of the only refugee camp for Jews in World War II on American soil—at Oswego’s Fort Ontario—will be the topic of a fall convocation, class discussions and exhibitions on campus. The poster for the first-ever campus-wide reading initiative (above) was designed by Caitlin Schnabel ’03, winner of a competition in Kathy Lookingland’s graphic design class.

New Student Accounts Office is ‘on the money’

A spacious waiting room with a dozen or so chairs along the perimeter. Two new Dell computers against the wall, for student use. A nice new carpet and a small radio by the window, playing modern rock from a local station. Paradise? No, the new Student Accounts Office in Culkin Hall.

Doesn’t sound like the Culkin you knew? There’s a new face in town, and Christine McCullough, the new director of student accounts, isn’t wasting any time making changes.

“The administration as a whole knew changes needed to be done,” McCullough said. “It happened so quickly due to the support of many different offices.”

Among the most noticeable changes are the waiting room, complete with customer service representatives waiting to check students in and be of assistance; additional phone lines for student questions; direct deposit refund checks (“No more waiting in line,” said McCullough) and a revised time payment plan for tuition bills. “People will have another six months to pay,” she said. “It’s like another car payment.”

Byron Smith, director of business affairs, added, “We’re also going to have lab fees on the students’ bills, so that it’s not a separate expense.” To come, a lockbox system and a monthly statement for students regarding their tuition balances.

Smith said that he has been pushing for change for several years, since an audit was taken of Oswego and other campuses and found that improvements could be made in several areas. But the real changes didn’t begin to take place until McCullough stepped forward.

“Christine was the brains,” Smith said. “My role was to let her loose.”

The changes are expected to be finished soon, and the new Student Accounts and Accounting offices are set to be more student-friendly and customer service-oriented. “We just wanted to get these students out of the hallways,” Smith said. “Now, we want to be #1 in the nation, not just in SUNY.”

— Shannon Perry ’02
Plans brew for library café

For those who long to curl up with a cup of coffee and a good book, the dream will soon be a reality at Penfield Library. A modern café is in the planning stages, thanks to generous gifts from two donors.

The 3,000-square-foot café will be funded by $150,000 in donations — half from Lester J. Gosier ’37 and the other half from an anonymous donor.

The café will be sited in what is now the library’s group study room, where huge windows offer a view onto Hewitt Union and a busy quad area to the southwest of the library. Construction could begin in the summer of 2003.

Plans are still tentative for the area, but early ideas include comfy sofas and chairs, a coffee bar and café seating. Hanging lighting, a television, newspapers and magazines for browsing and wireless computer connections are some of the possible amenities considered, according to Director of Libraries Mary Beth Bell.

The menu has not been set, Bell said, but could include such treats as capuccino and latte, baked goods, fruit and salad bowls and soups, in addition to traditional brewed coffee.

Oswego’s planners looked at successful cafés on other SUNY campuses, Bell said. She hopes the new area will make the library a more inviting destination for students. Attendance at Geneseo’s library increased 300 percent with the addition of computers and comfortable seating, she said.

The combination of a challenge grant from an anonymous donor and a match with a twist by Gosier will make the café possible.

“arney and Max Ziel; or the time a very young Gosier tore his britches as he walked around the limestone ledge of Sheldon Hall, facing outward. “The biggest thing is, loyalty is built up of a whole bunch of so-called simple things, like torn out britches and Max and Libby,” he said.

That loyalty fuels his generosity to Oswego and his drive to inspire others to give. Gosier, who calls the 1937 graduates “the Giving Class” for their generosity to their alma mater, said he hopes others will get the idea to support Oswego as he and his classmates have done.

An active member of the Oswego Alumni Association Board of Directors, Gosier has served on that body for several decades.

He frequently visits campus for board meetings and reunions. Maybe someday soon, he’ll be able to stop in and have a cup of coffee at the library café and share his memories with a new generation of students.
Learning community breaks down barriers

A field trip to Seneca Falls, a performance by a slam poet and a visit to a feminist bookstore are some of the ingredients for a new learning community at SUNY Oswego.

Getting together and getting out of the classroom are two of the main components of the Women’s Studies Learning Communities Project, Distinguished Teaching Professor of History Dr. Geraldine Forbes said.

“This project enables us to have some of the feel of a small college, presenting experiences in small groups,” said Forbes, who teaches one of the classes involved and chairs Oswego’s history department.

One of the goals in the college’s strategic plan is to establish learning communities to generate a passion for learning and develop habits of intellectual inquiry, said Dr. Robert Cole, director of the women’s studies program.

Students earn one credit for participating in the program while gaining a greater understanding of women’s studies issues, including activism and social change, Cole added.

Organized through an initiative and grant from Oswego’s Provost Office, the learning community is expected to be the first of many such interdisciplinary groups designed to generate a passion for learning, develop habits of intellectual inquiry and break down the hierarchical relationship between faculty and students. Fifteen women and three men are enrolled in this pilot project.

“That’s an important part of blurring the boundaries between faculty and students,” Cole said. “It breaks down the hierarchical relationship and moves student-faculty conversations beyond the classroom. They all participate together, and they all learn together.”

Forbes takes the initial reaction as a positive sign. “We’re thrilled,” she said. “The response and the interest have been beyond what we expected.”

Patent yields profit for college

A patented technology for destroying groundwater contaminants has begun to produce income for SUNY Oswego.

Advanced Oxidative Systems, a limited liability corporation in Saratoga Springs, has a licensing agreement with the SUNY Research Foundation to market and apply the electrochemical peroxidation remediation process that was invented in Oswego’s Environmental Research Center and patented a year and a half ago.

Sixty percent of the income from the patent will come to SUNY Oswego and 40 percent to the co-inventors of the technology: Dr. Ronald J. Scrudato, director of the Environmental Research Center, and Dr. Jeffrey Chiarenzelli, formerly of the center.

Oswego professor to head national honors council

DR. NORMAN WEINER, distinguished service professor of sociology and director of the college’s Honors Program, was recently elected vice president of the National Collegiate Honors Council, the nationwide association of college and university honors programs and honors colleges.

He will become president of the council at the end of 2003, making him the first president from a SUNY school in the organization’s 36-year history.

Weiner has directed Oswego’s Honors Program since 1992, and Oswego has been active in the National Collegiate Honors Council for at least 20 years. “It provides an opportunity and a forum for honors directors, faculty and students to exchange ideas and have access to current developments in honors education,” he said.

Among his other scholarly and professional activities, Weiner chairs the editorial board of the State University of New York Press.
Perking up pre-calc

Dr. Jack Narayan wants to make pre-calculus courses more interesting to current and future students. And he’s not alone.

Narayan, Oswego’s dean of graduate studies and a distinguished teaching professor of mathematics, serves as a principal investigator for a National Science Foundation program seeking pre-calculus reform. With the help of a $99,165 NSF grant and other grants, Narayan and instructors from across the country are trying to make this subject more engaging to learners.

“We need to make the material more engaging, more relevant, more applicable to solving real-world problems,” Narayan noted.

Narayan shared the results of a pre-calculus conference he attended last October when he moderated a panel discussion on “Rethinking the Preparation for Calculus” at the joint meeting of the Mathematical Association of America and the American Mathematical Society, held this January in San Diego.

Professors emeriti George O’Connell (right), a printmaker, and Lewis Turco (left), a poet, collaborated last fall on a Tyler Art Gallery exhibition, “Collaboration: Prints and Texts.” They have been combining their talents for more than two decades, including issuing annual Christmas cards that combine poetry and printmaking. The exhibition included some of those cards, as well as larger portfolios “Bordello” and “The Jazz Joint,” plus selected manuscripts of Turco’s poems featuring O’Connell’s imagery.

Parkers establish annuity to benefit college

Fifty-five years after he graduated from Oswego, an alumnus, who treasures his memories of the college and values public education, has become one of the first to help his alma mater through the college’s planned giving program.

Davis Parker ’47 and his wife, Jane, have established a $10,000 annuity with the Oswego College Foundation.

“Janey and I have a strong belief in affordable higher ed and that’s one thing Oswego, of course, offers,” he said.

His reasons for the gift go much deeper, though. “Oswego has given me a good start in my career and I have a lot of very nice memories of it, although it is far different currently,” he said. “When I was there, there were only two buildings and something around 400 students.”

Parker said he has fond memories of the classmates and professors who were at Oswego when he attended between 1941 and 1947. He took three years off to serve in the Army during World War II.

His loyalty to Oswego is enhanced by the school’s present reputation. “I think the school is very well led by President Stanley currently, in the tradition of many other good leaders,” he added.

“We are grateful to Davis and Jane Parker for their generous gift to Oswego,” said Vice President for Development and Public Affairs Kevin Mahaney. “The annuity is one of the earliest in the brief history of the college’s planned giving program.”

He explained that a charitable gift annuity is one way to make meaningful gifts while enjoying income and tax benefits that can help enhance the giver’s future financial well being.

Parker agreed. “It provides a lifetime income for both Jane and me, and it provided a fair rate of return,” he said. “And after your life gives out, who needs it?”

The Parkers chose to give their gift without restricting how the funds could be used. “We thought it better to go into the general fund where it could be best used,” Davis said.

The couple is happy to support education, having spent their lives educating others.

Davis spent 27 years in the field, both as a teacher and administrator. He retired in 1981 as personnel director for the Webster school system. Jane was a fourth-grade and math teacher until her retirement in 1986.

Along with their careers, they raised a family consisting of Mark, now a physician; Stephen, an attorney (who attended Oswego for two years before transferring to Cornell’s School of Industrial and Labor Relations); and Sarah, “a wonderful mother,” said Dave. Dave is active with Oswego alumni matters, serving on the Oswego Alumni Association Board of Directors and helping with reunion committees for his class’s 50th and 55th reunions.

Besides giving to Dave’s alma mater, the couple is generous with their funds and time. They have volunteered over two years of time at the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. Jane teaches and Dave has taught part of the time, as well as done meals on wheels, medical transport and tutoring. That’s just one more way they act on their beliefs combining charity and education, which led them to their latest gift to support SUNY Oswego.
Stanley reaches out to Afghan women

Oswego President Deborah F. Stanley and 37 other women who lead public colleges and universities reached out to the women of Afghanistan, in an open letter in the Feb. 20 New York Times.

“As leaders in higher education, we take as one of our fundamental responsibilities the duty to work for justice for the people of all nations,” they wrote. “As women presidents and chancellors, we offer our special support for the redevelopment of education for women in Afghanistan and add our voices to your own in the struggle for greater human rights and a more peaceful world.”

The letter ran as a full-page ad in the newspaper’s front section, sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. A private donor contributed the money to fund Oswego’s participation in the ad.

Lashleys donate classroom for Rich Hall

For Richard ’80 and Beth Kagan Lashley ’80, Oswego was a pivotal point in their lives. It’s where they met and fell in love, and where they gained the skills that would make them successful in the business world.

This year they showed how important Oswego is to them by a gift to the School of Business. Their $30,000 donation will equip a flexible seating classroom in Rich Hall, now under renovation.

“We can both trace our roots in the business world back to Oswego and personally we both feel an affinity to Oswego,” says Rich.

Beth was in the first class of accounting graduates and among the first few to get a job with a Big 8 accounting firm. Rich graduated with a degree in business administration and went on for an MBA later.

Rich also credits Oswego with the experiences that helped him form his business, PL Capital LLC, an investment banking and investment management boutique that specializes in banks and thrifts.

“I remember going to Oswego’s library and flipping through option prices and stock prices,” says Rich.

There he developed skills in back testing, techniques of buying and selling options and stocks, that would make him the success he is today.

Beth, a CPA, worked on Wall Street and in private accounting for 12 years, before choosing to stay home with the couple’s two daughters.

“The Lashleys’ love for Oswego is due to more than the contribution it made to their professional lives. “It went beyond that — it was a great experience,” says Rich.

“I am a big believer in private partnership with public institutions,” says Rich.

“There will always be budgetary limits on public money, but the extra money the private sector can provide can make a huge incremental difference.”

Both Lashleys like the concept of the School of Business.

“When we graduated we were on our own, there were no predecessors, no one who had graduated from an Oswego School of Business,” says Rich.

“And I can tell you networking is a big part of opportunities in the business world. So maybe 30 to 50 years from now there will be a whole network of Oswego grads as CEOs and CFOs.”

Through their generous gift to the renovation of Rich Hall, the Lashleys will help future generations of students tap into that network of success, with its roots in Oswego’s School of Business.

Workers from General Contractor Bette and Cring examine a wiring plan on the third floor of Rich Hall, which an $8.4 million renovation is transforming into the future home of Oswego’s School of Business. In addition to support from the SUNY Construction Fund, college officials are seeking donations to help turn the center into a state-of-the-art, learner-centered facility. View other photos of work in progress at the Web site www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/richhall.
Professor emerita gives to beautify campus, improve instruction

As a student at Oswego, Dr. Barbara Palmer Shineman ’65 had many classes in Sheldon Hall, ringed by memorial trees planted to honor the college’s World War I dead. When the trees were badly damaged in a storm last fall, she donated $10,000 to have them replaced.

And, as a professor emerita of education, she knows how important a center for curriculum materials can be to future teachers. So she contributed $25,600 to renovate and update Penfield Library’s Teaching Materials Center.

Meaningful memorial

Trees have always been important to Shineman. “They are so lasting,” she says. She particularly thinks planting trees around Sheldon Hall is meaningful. Besides being an important campus landmark, the building played a big part in Shineman’s own life. When she entered college in the 1960s, not only did she have classes in Sheldon Hall, but the building also housed a nursery school her daughter attended.

“The loss of those majestic trees has been a deep concern to many on campus and in the community,” said President Deborah F. Stanley. “Barbara’s willingness to come forward so quickly and help us to restore the beauty of our most historic building is just the latest example of her love and dedication to Oswego.”

Helping future teachers

The Teaching Materials Center is another project dear to Shineman’s heart.

“The up-to-date curriculum support materials made available there will help Oswego education majors make efficient use of instructional technology in their classrooms,” wrote Dean of Education Linda Rae Markert ’76.

“I like to think that it will become a state-of-the-art Teaching Materials Center,” said Shineman. “It has a lot of potential.”

She is working with Director of Libraries Mary Beth Bell, Assistant Director Blanche Judd and Librarian Barbara Shaffer to help plan the center. Shineman said they will visit other campuses with established centers to get ideas on how best to serve the needs of Oswego’s students. “I am going to learn a lot about that. It will be a learning experience for me as well,” she said. “I have such faith in Mary Beth and Blanche and Barbara. They have a vision about what can happen in that library.”

While giving funds to help a worthwhile project is important in itself, Shineman is also glad to be involved in a hands-on way. “I think by doing it we can draw some other people in, if they really understand and knew what needs there are,” she said. She’s hopeful others will help. “It can range from a little bit of money to a moderate amount to a great deal of money.”

The library project is a natural extension of Shineman’s former role on campus – preparing future teachers. It is also an expression of her love for the library. “I think a library is one of the most important parts of the campus, whether at Oswego or wherever,” she said. “It is a hub.”

Principal James R. Riggs (right) presides over the June 1924 dedication of the memorial trees at Sheldon Hall.
Women's Soccer

The Laker women's soccer team earned a playoff berth for the 13th straight year by qualifying for the NYSSCAA Tournament. Oswego State was the fourth seed in the tournament and was upset by Hamilton in overtime to cap the season. The Lakers finished in sixth place in the SUNY Athletic Conference with a 4-4-2 record and had three players earn All-SUNYAC honors. Kathryn Stead '03 (Clifton Park/Shenendowa) was named both First Team All-SUNYAC and Northeast Regional All-American for the second straight year.

Men's Soccer

Oswego State made a run at the SUNYAC Tournament, but the Lakers came up short, finishing tied for sixth place in the conference standings. Derek Popovich '03 (Baldwinsville/Baker) moved into fifth place on the all-time scoring list as he now has 27 goals and 12 assists in three seasons. Four Lakers received All-SUNYAC honors.

Volleyball

The much-improved Lakers claimed the championship at the Plattsburgh Invitational and were second at the North Country Invitational hosted by Clarkson. Setter Jenn Prievo '05 (Carthage) set a freshman record for assists during the season compiling 868. Melissa Grow '02 (Rochester/Rush Henrietta) was on the receiving end of many of those assists as she recorded a team-high and school-record 312 kills.

Women's Tennis

Oswego State had a respectable showing at the SUNYAC Championships in Syracuse placing seventh. The tandem of Loren Wahl '02 (Oswego) and Angela Altimonda '02 (Oswego) won their first two matches of the tournament at first doubles, advancing to the semi-finals before being eliminated.

Men's Golf

The Lakers had a strong fall on the links led by Bill Grover '05 (Ithaca). Grover won the Hobart Golf Invitational with a score of 75 and was second at the annual Oswego State Golf Invitational at the Oswego Country Club finishing with a 74. Oswego's top finish in the fall was a second-place showing at Hobart.

Field Hockey

For the second straight year, the Laker field hockey team participated in the NYSSCAA Tournament. Cara Jacobson '02 (Sherrill/V-V-S) and Robyn Bramoff '04 (Sag Harbor/Piersen) shared the team lead in goals, scoring seven apiece. Jacobson was also the winner of the prestigious Dr. Dolores Bogard Award for her academic and athletic excellence among all SUNYAC institutions in all sports.

Cross Country

The men's and women's cross country teams enjoyed another successful fall with Susan McWilliams '04 (Central Square/Mexico) earning her second straight trip to the NCAA Division III Cross Country Championships. McWilliams also placed fourth overall at the SUNYAC Championships, helping the Laker women to a third-place finish. Rich Friedrich '03 (Goshen) led the men's team this fall. Friedrich was second at the Pat Peterson Invitational hosted by Oswego and was also second at the Harry Lang Invitational hosted by NCAA Division I Colgate University, where the Laker men's team placed third.

Swimming and Diving

The Lakers had another strong season in the pool as both the men's and women's teams placed second at the SUNYAC Championships. In all, the Lakers won 17 of the 40 events with Anne Sarkissian '04 (Oswego) being named Most Valuable Swimmer for the women. Josh Grutzik '03 (Weedsport) was honored as the Most Valuable Diver for the men. Beth Chmielowicz '02 (Byron/Port Byron) was the winner of the Grace Mowatt Award that is presented to the outstanding senior participant. The Lakers also qualified four women swimmers for the NCAA Division III Championships.
Indoor Track and Field

The Oswego State track and field team put together another fine indoor campaign in 2002. Highlighting the Laker efforts were SUNYAC Champions Jackie Cianfarano ’05 (Hannibal) in the long and triple jumps, Alisia Knight ’04 (Hastings/Paul V. Moore) in the high jump and Rich Friedrich ’03 (Goshen) in the 3,000 meters. The Laker women placed third at the SUNYAC Championships, best in team history, while the men were seventh overall. School records were broken in over 40 events during the season.

Women’s Basketball

The Lakers qualified for the SUNYAC Tournament by tying for seventh place. The team was led by Nicole Ferguson ’03 (Syracuse/Nottingham) as she was named First-Year Player of the Year in SUNYAC. She was also named Second Team All-SUNYAC as she led the team in scoring at 11.7 points per game. The team also set a new school record hitting 129 3-pointers with Sally Shuster ’05 (East Amherst/Sacred Heart Academy) setting a single season mark with 55.

Men’s Basketball

The Lakers had a strong post-season run this past winter, advancing to the championship game of the SUNYAC Tournament for the second time in five years. Oswego knocked off third-seeded Plattsburgh and seventh-seeded Cortland in the semis. The hoop team also participated in the ECAC Upstate Tournament. The team finished with a record of 18-12, the most wins in a season since 1963-64. Oswego State was led by Michael O’Steen ’03 (Buffalo/Seneca Vocational), named First-Team All-SUNYAC. The guard also set a new school record for most points in a season with 621. O’Steen was named to the SUNYAC All-Tournament Team along with Jeremy Greer ’02 (Fulton/G. Ray Bodley).

Wrestling

The Lakers boasted three All-Americans for the first time in nearly 20 years and the team placed ninth in the 58-team field at the 2002 NCAA Division III championships. Oswego was paced by Noah Seitell ’02 (Dobbs Ferry/Ardssley) as he placed third at 165 pounds. He finished his career with 112 wins and is only one of five Laker wrestlers to surpass 100 victories. Tom Mulchy ’02 (Utica/Whitesboro) and Frank Pertucci ’04 (Suffern/Don Bosco Prep) also earned All-American status by finishing sixth in their respective weight classes. Mulchy took the mat at 197 pounds, while Pertucci competed at 149 pounds. Throughout the season, the team maintained a spot in the NWCA top-20 rankings. In January, the Lakers hosted the 33rd Annual New York State Collegiate Championships, placing sixth out of the 23-team field, which included several Division I programs.

Hockey

The Oswego State hockey team advanced to the final series of the SUNYAC Championships, falling to nationally-ranked Plattsburgh. It marked the 24th straight year the Lakers have participated in post-season play. The two teams tied the first two games of the series before the Lakers dropped a one-goal decision in the deciding game. Oswego fin-

NCAA Division III Swimming and Diving Championship qualifiers were, front row from left, Anne Sarkissian ’04 and Kellie Winters ’03, and, back row from left, Beth Chihielowiec ’02 and Leigh DeRux ’02.

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Alumni Club Contacts

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New York City - Stacey Lorber ’98, 917-743-3108 (cell), e-mail: slorber1@aol.com
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Syracuse - Kitty Sherlock Houghtaling ’87, 315-656-2457 (H), e-mail: Kitty6of6@aol.com

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Washington, D.C. - Kim Brooke ’87, 703-845-0788 (H), e-mail: kbrooke@mcc.cs.vu.us

Atlanta

The Atlanta Club is collaborating with other SUNY alumni groups to expand networking possibilities and event offerings. The first combined function was a Business Card Exchange/Networking Social in January, attended by approximately 125 SUNY alumni. Other events have included networking socials in February and April and the 1st annual SUNY Team Bowling Day in March. Upcoming events include another networking social May 15 and the first annual SUNY alumni picnic June 2. For the latest information about upcoming events in the Atlanta area, check out the new Web site at www.geocities.com/sunyalumniatlanta or contact Jeffrey Travis ’89.

Binghampton

Area alumni enjoyed a BC Icemen hockey game in January and are looking forward to a Binghampton Mets baseball game this summer. If you have event ideas or would like to help with the club, please contact Margaret Clancy Darling ’82.

Boston

Area alumni gathered in January to watch the Oswego Lakers hockey team defeat Wentworth and for a networking social in March. Upcoming events include a Spring Social at John Harvard’s July 11 and a Red Sox baseball game Aug. 24. For details on upcoming events, or if you would be willing to help plan activities, contact Cheryl Webster ’98.

Buffalo

The Buffalo Club attended an Oswego Lakers hockey game in February as well as a Sabres game in March. Area alumni are looking forward to a Buffalo Bisons baseball game, a family day at Darien Lake Six Flags this summer and a Bills football game and tailgate party this fall. For more information, or if you have other event ideas, contact Larry Coon ’83.

Florida

President Deborah Stanley visited Florida alumni in March. Luncheons were held on March 9, hosted by Carol and Gordon Lenz ’58 in Delray Beach; and on March 10, hosted by Bill Spinnelli ’84 in Naples. A reception was held on March 7 in Tampa, coordinated by Brad Goldowsky ’99. Future Tampa area events include a get-together at Baywalk in St. Pete June 8, a Yankees vs. Devil Rays baseball game in July and a get-together at Channelside in Tampa Sept. 7. If you have other event ideas for the Tampa area, please contact Brad.

Mohawk Valley

The Mohawk Valley Club held a very productive planning meeting in February and followed up with an interest survey to all area alumni, asking for input on future events. The next planning meeting will take place May 22 at the Holiday Inn at 1777 Burstone Rd. in New Hartford. If you have event ideas or would be willing to help with the club, contact Liz Fowler ’68.

New York City

Stacey Lorber ’98 and a group of area alumni are organizing to rejuvenate activities in the New York City area. A planning meeting and social were held in March and a fundraiser for the REACH minority scholarship was held in April. Please contact Stacey with future event ideas or if you would be willing to help with the club.

Carol and Gordon Lenz ’58 (front row at left) hosted a luncheon for area alumni and President Deborah F. Stanley (front row, second from right) March 9 at their home in Delray Beach, Fla.
Events

**June 8**

**July 19, 20, 21**
Reunion 2002, Reunion Hotline 315/312-5559
Mini-reunions in the planning stages include Pi Delta Chi, Alpha Delta Eta, Alpha Sigma Chi, London Study Abroad, Student Association.

**July 20**
Presentation of Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Award 2002 and the Anniversary Class Awards of Merit. Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, 315/312-2258

**July 25-28**
The City of Oswego's fantastic Harborfest!
On-campus housing available to alumni, friends and family. Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, 315/312-2258

**August 5**
Emeriti Luncheon. Shelley Love, 315/312-5558

**August 30**
Welcoming Torchlight Ceremony. Oswego Alumni Association, 315/312-2258

**September 12-13**
Oswego State Fall Classic. Office of University Development, 315/312-3003

**September 27-29**
Return to Oz II, Alumni of Color Reunion (rescheduled date). Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, 315/312-2258

**October 18-20**
Parents, Family and Friends Weekend. Office of Campus Life, 315/312-2301

**October 26**
Second Annual Oswego Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner. Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, 315/312-2258

**October TBA**
Oswego Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting. Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, 315/312-2258

**November 2**
Communications Studies Annual Alumni Dinner. Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, 315/312-2258

**January 1**

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**Phoenix, Ariz.**
The first annual Arizona area alumni luncheon was held in January with a special guest, college Provost John Presley. A club outing to the Rock Springs Café took place in April. For information on future events, contact Charles Weigand ’50.

**Rochester**
Henry Seymour ’87 and Patrick Murphy ’95 are determined to make the Rochester club strong and active. They have been holding monthly socials at Jeremiah’s Tavern on the first Thursday of each month. Other events held recently include an Oswego Lakers hockey game and reception in January and an Amerks vs. Syracuse Crunch hockey game and pre-game get-together at the Dinosaur BBQ in March. Join area alumni for future events including first Thursday socials at City’s Edge, and “Alive at the MAG” June 14. Other event ideas include a golf tournament, wine tasting, alumni softball team, community service project and an alumni/incoming student picnic. The Rochester Club is also raising funds for a scholarship to support a Rochester area student attending Oswego State. For more information, contact the Alumni Office. Watch your mail, e-mail and the alumni Web site for details on upcoming events in the Rochester area. Contact Henry or Patrick if you have any questions or with future event ideas.

**Rochester**
On April 9, alumni enjoyed a presentation by Joni Daniels ’77, titled “Power Tools for Women,” and on April 11, alumni got together to socialize and network at Mulrooney’s in Armory Square. Upcoming events include a SkyChiefs baseball game and pre-game picnic on June 8 and a Skaneateles Lake Dinner Cruise on Aug. 3. For more information or to volunteer your event ideas or your time, please contact Kitty Sherlock Houghtaling ’87 or Paul Susco ’70.

**South Carolina**
Upcoming events include a NC/SC Oswego alumni and family day at Carowinds amusement park (just 15 minutes south of Charlotte, N.C.) on May 4, a Family Beach Day at The Windjammer on the Isle of Palms, S.C., on June 15 and a day at “Broadway on the Beach” in Myrtle Beach on Oct. 5. If you live in the area and have event ideas or would be willing to help, contact Sonya Nordquist ’91 or Karen Parker ’91.

**Syracuse**
On April 9, alumni enjoyed a presentation by Joni Daniels ’77, titled “Power Tools for Women,” and on April 11, alumni got together to socialize and network at Mulrooney’s in Armory Square. Upcoming events include a SkyChiefs baseball game and pre-game picnic on June 8 and a Skaneateles Lake Dinner Cruise on Aug. 3. For more information or to volunteer your event ideas or your time, please contact Kitty Sherlock Houghtaling ’87 or Paul Susco ’70.

**Washington, D.C.**
Area alumni met for ice skating in January and a Mardi Gras Social in February. Upcoming events in the D.C. area include a Cinco de Mayo Social May 5, a Flag Day Social June 14, a canoe outing on the Potomac in July, a picnic Aug. 10, the King Street Krawl Sept. 21, a get-together at Grevey’s to watch a Buffalo Bills football game in October, and a Holiday Social Dec. 10. If you have event ideas or if you would be willing to help plan future events, please contact Kim Brooke ’87.
Olympic gold

FROM THE SPARKLES AND spandex on Olympic ice to the nuts and bolts of shuttling athletes around, from the electrifying energy of Medals Plaza to the pride and tradition of the Olympic torch run, Oswego alumni made dreams come true and turned effort into excellence alongside athletes from around the world at the 19th Winter Olympic Games.

Travis Cook ’78 carries the Olympic torch New Year’s Eve in Syracuse. At right, he lights his torch from the Olympic flame.
EVEN THOUGH HE IS AMONG THE best in his sport and 1975 World Champion, Travis Cook ’78 knew he could never earn an Olympic medal. Lacrosse, the Native American sport at which he excels, is not an official Olympic sport. But this winter, Cook got his chance to be a part of Olympic history. On a blustery, frigid New Year’s Eve, he carried the Olympic flame on part of its 13,500-mile journey across America to Salt Lake City.

His face beams to tell of it, and excitement sparkles in his voice. “It was just awe-inspiring to feel the sensation, to be the only person at the time to be carrying the torch. There was no other human being on the planet doing what I was doing,” he says.

Cook was nominated because of his achievements in lacrosse and his work with children for the Oneida Nation, said Deb Marino, executive assistant with the nation. He remembers the day his torch-run suit was delivered. “It was the most beautiful thing I put on.”

The day he was to carry the torch, it was about 8 degrees with the wind chill as he was about to set out, but that didn’t cool Cook’s passion for the run. “You’re just so charged, you’re feeling no cold,” he says. “I felt very warm and ready to roll.”

His leg of the journey was 2/10 of a mile. A support runner ran alongside each torch-bearer. In addition, Cook, a Mohawk, had his own support team. His relatives and friends came from all around to cheer him on. There was a contingent, led by his mother, from Akwesasne: sisters, nieces and nephews.

He is married to Claudia Jonientz Cook ’75 from Fulton and her relatives were there, too. His son Alex, 14, ran alongside him. Travis and Claudia are also the parents of daughter Leah, 23, and son Dylan, 21.

Bob “Doc” Nelson ’78, a former assistant to Coach Dan Witmer ’82 on the Oswego State men’s lacrosse team, came too. “A lot of good friends of mine were there,” says Cook.

Meeting a legend

The torch run wasn’t Cook’s first brush with Olympic history. In 1995 he got to meet Billy Mills, an Oglala Sioux who was the only American ever to win the 10,000 meter run. Mills won the gold medal in the Tokyo games of 1964. “I remember watching it with my dad,” says Cook.

Mills “seemed like a very eloquent man, but also very powerful, because he had achieved this status of being the only American to win a gold medal [in his event],” says Cook. “It was a special moment to be connected to that person at that moment, and then now to take part in this Olympic torch relay, I felt connected to him and to all the Olympians who came before.”

A charter member of the Oswego State Athletic Hall of Fame (see p. 31), Cook credits his family with his athletic success. His father was a noted hall of fame lacrosse player himself, but wanted his sons to pursue mainstream sports such as baseball or football.

Travis had his own ideas. “I love lacrosse because lacrosse was part of our culture,” he says. “As a kid growing up in our little community, on the Sundays it was played, the highlight of our week. About 1,000 people out of a community of about 4,000 or 5,000 would come to the games.”

His dad was his personal unofficial lifetime coach. Travis’ mother was always there, behind the scenes offering balance. “She provided me with the nurturing, the love, the inspiration,” he says.

Lacrosse is not an Olympic sport, but people in about 17 countries play it. “I think eventually it is going to become an Olympic sport and in my lifetime we will see this, so maybe my children or grandchildren will have an opportunity to be in the Olympics,” Cook says.

Culture for kids

A geography major at Oswego, Cook is recreation director for the Oneida Indian Nation. For eight years he has worked in a number of management positions overseeing programs for the nation’s youth.

He also works with youth sports, including lacrosse, longball (the Native American forerunner of baseball) and in wintertime, throwing snowsnake. In that traditional game, men vie for who can throw not a reptile, but a long piece of stick the farthest in a groove of snow.

“We try to introduce or induce a lot of culture into what we do with the kids,” says Cook. “I think our kids have to have a sense of who they are, and knowing their history and culture is very important to that.”

His Olympic torch run is a memory Travis Cook treasures. “Just seeing the torch was pretty moving,” he says.

“The connection with all the great Olympic champions and all the people who participated — You are overcome with pride at being part of the greatest sporting event in the world.”

by Michele Reed

TORCHBEARER

Travis Cook ’78 carries the Olympic flame

There was no other human being on the planet doing what I was doing.
Derrick Salisbury ’90 gets the job he always wanted

D R E A M S. T H A T ’ S W HAT T H E Olympics are all about. But not only athletic dreams are fulfilled at the games.

In 1984, a youngster traveled to the Olympic games in California from his home in Upstate New York and hatched a dream to one day work at the Olympics. This February in Salt Lake City, Derrick Salisbury ‘90 realized that dream as he worked as venue transportation manager for Medals Plaza at the 19th Winter Olympic games.

He had the satisfaction of helping gold medalists like figure skater Sarah Hughes and skeleton athlete Jim Shea get to the awards ceremonies, and making sure the Dave Matthews Band and Sheryl Crow were there to perform on time.

“The atmosphere was absolutely electric. Just parties everywhere and fireworks every night,” he says. “Eight hundred to a thousand athletes were there every night — the flags, the pageantry; people’s faces painted from Norway, Germany; a cornucopia of excitement,” Derrick says. “The crossroads of the world came to our venue every night to celebrate the jubilation of the athletes.”

The nine days come out as snapshots. Seeing the excitement on the face of every gold, silver and bronze medalist. Meeting the chancellor of Germany, prince of Monaco and vice chancellor of Austria. Sharing the excitement with the volunteers who worked the venue and with his family watching on TV. Watching a snowball fight among the Foo Fighters while he was helping Dave Matthews and his band with their arrival. Seeing the Barenaked Ladies bring fellow Canadians Sale and Pelletier onto stage so the champion figure skaters could play with the band.

Pursuing a goal

“Never in my wildest dreams did I believe as I was sitting in Swetman Hall, if anyone said, ‘You would be working with the Olympics and the sports celebrities,’ that I would,” he says. How did he make it? “You just have to have faith in your abilities and work hard. Always pursue your goal, never let people deter you from your goal, because you never know how long it’s going to take,” says Salisbury. “It’s been a 17-year odyssey to attain what I wanted to.”

Salisbury flew out to the Los Angeles Olympics alone as a 16-year-old. His uncle, who lives in L.A., obtained tickets and the two of them watched track and field, baseball and gold medal women’s basketball.

“Sitting in the finals of the 4 x 100 men’s relay in the LA Coliseum, looking down the backstretch when Carl Lewis broke the world record, seeing 100,000 people go nuts and the American flag in the background — that galvanized my mindset. ‘That’s what I want to do for a living,’” remembers Salisbury.

When Salisbury returned home, he began working with his brother as a volunteer with the Syracuse Sports Corp., which helped bring amateur sports games, such as the Empire State Games and hydroplane races to the area, and even a national sports festival in 1981.

Always pursue your goal, never let people deter you from your goal, because you never know how long it’s going to take.

“I volunteered for years there, had an absolute blast,” says Salisbury. “That’s where I learned everything. That’s where I cut my teeth.”

His experiences at Oswego helped, too, says Salisbury. Five days after graduation, he attended the Sports Careers Conference and got an interview with Nike. “There were about 500 resumes in the stack, and I was one of the 10 to get selected,” he says. “I asked the lady, ‘why me?’ From all the big schools, and here’s little old Derrick from Oswego State. And they were intrigued by my work at Disney World.”

Internship helped

Salisbury had done an internship through Oswego’s Experience-Based Education Office at Walt Disney World in...
Florida. Although he started out as captain of a submarine at the “20,000 Leagues Under the Sea” attraction, he soon made the connections necessary to land an assignment in the marketing office at MGM Studios theme park.

He ended up in charge of coordinating all the foreign media covering the grand opening of the park.

How did he land such a prestigious assignment? Thanks to his Oswego mentor, the late Dr. Richard Benjamin. “I remember his comments when I was interviewing for this: ‘Just sit up straight, smile and be yourself.’ And it worked,” Salisbury says.

Although the recession meant Salisbury wouldn’t get a job with Nike, he made connections there with some people from World Cup Soccer, and volunteered for the venue in Orlando. “I got there on July 4, 1992, volunteered days at the World Cup office and worked temp jobs nights and weekends to make money,” he says.

After World Cup, Salisbury worked with the Orlando Area Sports Commission. While there, he co-authored a 315-page bid that successfully brought Olympic soccer to Orlando during the 1996 Atlanta games.

He left the sports commission in 1998 to start his own company, Strategy Sports Marketing. When one of his clients, Game Day Connection, was tapped to provide transportation for the Salt Lake City Olympics, they invited Salisbury to be venue transportation manager for Medals Plaza.

He was on site with the Olympics in January 2001 and developed an integrated transportation plan for his venue.

After the Olympics, Salisbury stayed on in Salt Lake City for the Paralympics from March 7 to 16.

Then it was back to his business, but with the added experiences he gained through his own Olympic run. And with the knowledge that, although Olympic dreams may vary, those who achieve them have one thing in common — a bold vision. “I came to Oswego as an average student,” says Salisbury. “The average person can achieve great things, as long as they don’t think average.”

Three billion people watched on TV and over 20,000 packed Olympic Medals Plaza each night to hear performers like the Dave Matthews Band, who depended on Derrick Salisbury ’90 to get them to the stage on time.
SEEING THIS YEAR’S USA HOCKEY team win the silver medal had to bring back memories for Pete Sears ’71. He was on the 1972 team that won the silver medal in hockey in Sapporo, Japan.

But Team USA of three decades ago was quite different from today’s squad, made up of professional hockey players.

“We won a silver medal, but we were picked to finish last by Sports Illustrated,” he says. “We were a group of amateurs, not expected to do anything.”

Sears says he made the Olympic team “out of the blue.” When he got out of college in 1971, it was perfect timing for the tryouts coming up.

Sears wrote to the Olympic coach, who said that he would have to see the young goalie play before he would even consider him. So Sears packed up his new wife (his high school sweetheart, Kay) and young child (Ranee, now 30) and moved to Minneapolis to play in a summer hockey league.

“I got a job working in a factory,” he says. “We got an apartment. We had a card table and two chairs and a mattress.” But he would play hockey three nights a week.

The coach came to watch him and eventually invited him to the tryouts.

The coach took select groups of players touring during the next three months. They played Detroit, Philadelphia and Madison Square Garden in New York City, all fundraisers for the Olympics. Their foes were minor hockey and Division I teams.

“In December, we were playing a game at Dartmouth when the coach officially told me that I was on the team,” Sears says. “To me, that was the biggest thrill of my life, bigger than the Olympics — knowing that I made the team.”

‘Dream fulfilled’
The team got to Japan in mid-January of 1972 and played some exhibition games with the Olympic teams from Russia, Czechoslovakia and other countries.

Although he was the back-up goalie and didn’t get to play in the medal round games, Sears got to play all the Olympic teams and enjoy the Olympic experience.

“I was an important part of the team, whether it was in practice, encouraging the guys as they came off the ice, or in the locker room,” Sears says. “My dream was being fulfilled.”

He adds that for himself and the other guys on the team, “making the team was the ultimate. Winning a medal was the icing on the cake.”

It only became a real goal for him in his last year of college at Oswego, when he saw the Olympics coming up.

Having been at “little old Oswego,” Sears took some teasing from his Olympic teammates, all of whom played on Division I teams. There were guys from University of Minnesota, Boston University and Boston College, all major hockey powers.

“No one had ever heard of Oswego, except one guy from Colgate,” says Sears. Oswego had played the Division I team, but never had beaten them, until that year. “So I could tease him,” says Sears.

Life-changing experience
This spring the team had a 30th reunion in Naples, Fla., with nearly all members attending. They’ve gotten together in smaller groups and stayed in touch by e-mail, but this was the first large-scale gathering of the group.

“When we get together, we stand up and tell what the Olympic dream means to us,” Sears says. “We were just so thrilled,
being a part of it, representing the US, representing our country."

And although Sears doesn’t live in the past — many people he deals with day to
day don’t even know he was an Olympian — making the team was a pivotal point in
his life.

“A lot of things that happened in my
life wouldn’t have happened if I hadn’t
had the chance to play on the Olympic
team,” he says.

“I’ve coached at Oswego High School
for 20 years and a lot of how we practice,
the pride we have in ourselves, I learned
being an Olympian,” he says. He also has
shared that pride and expertise with
members of Oswego State’s Laker hockey
team for 20 years.

A seventh-grade social studies teacher
at Oswego Middle School for 26 years, he
retires this year.

Sears was a charter inductee into the
Oswego State Athletic Hall of Fame (see
p. 31) and this March was elected to the
New York State Coaches Association Hall
of Fame.

“Those kinds of honors come to me
because of the Olympic experience,” says
Sears.

“There are things in my life based on
that one experience. It has carried
through,” he says.

While some use the Olympic experi-
ence to gain fame or money, Sears says,
“It’s personal for me. The memories are
great for me.”

The ‘perfect spot’
Sears, whose Oswego career was inter-
rupted for a two-year tour of duty in
Vietnam, played under two coaches in
college.

George Crowe started the hockey
program at Oswego, and Sears was on the
second and third teams he coached. “As
soon as I came, I was given the opportu-
nity to play, every game, as a freshman
and sophomore.”

When he came back to Oswego after
Vietnam, Sears played for Coach Herb
Hammond. In his last two years of col-
lege, he played every single game.

“The experience helped me make the
Olympic team,” he says. Even though
Oswego was not known as a hockey
power, it had great players, he adds.

His experience and subsequent suc-
cess has lit a torch of loyalty in Sears.
“Every good thing that’s happened to me
in my life came from Oswego, whether it’s
academics or sports,” he says. “If I had to
do it all over again, I would do it.”

Why did he choose Oswego? Two
good friends from his high school hockey
team played at Oswego and they encour-
aged him to come. “I visited and was sold
on it from Day One,” he says. Since he
wanted to be a teacher, Oswego had
everything he needed.

“Oswego had the hockey pro-
gram, had the education program. It
was perfect for me,” Sears says. “This
was the perfect spot.”

Many an American got a lump in
his or her throat when the 1980
“Miracle on Ice” USA hockey team lit
the Olympic torch in Salt Lake City.
But for Pete Sears it was a bit more
know how those guys felt.

“Some of them went on to play
professionally, but the feeling, putting
the medal around your neck . . . It is a
very, very personal thing to have a goal
like that and have it come true.”

Goalie Pete Sears ’71, top and above, right, in his 1972 Team USA hockey jersey
with Mike Curran of the University of North Dakota, the starting goalie.
SEQUINS AND GOLD

Jef Billings ’71 designs a champion’s dress

If they gave medals for costume design, Jef Billings ’71 would surely win the gold. In fact, that was his design on the podium when 16-year-old Sarah Hughes accepted her gold medal in women’s figure skating.

The lovely lavender dress Sarah wore to the women’s long program finals wasn’t the only Billings original in Salt Lake City. Those who watched the opening ceremonies saw Kristi Yamaguchi skating as the little girl skater who grew up, in a red skating dress by Jef. He also outfitted Yamaguchi, Katarina Witt, Kurt Browning, Scott Hamilton, Ilia Kulik, and Renee Roca and Gorsha Sur for the closing ceremonies, and then headed out to work the Stars on Ice Canada tour.

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in speech and theatre from Oswego, where he was active in many theatre department productions, Billings went on to earn a Master’s of Fine Arts at New York University. A protégé of the famed costume designer Bob Mackie, he has designed evening dresses for many Hollywood stars, from Cher to Kathy Bates.

Oswego’s Distinguished Alumnus in 1992, Billings has visited campus many times to share his expertise with students. The next time he visits classes, he can share another experience as well — seeing a dress he designed as the backdrop for an Olympic gold medal.

Peter LaFave ’74 volunteers where the action was

WHEN HE FOUND OUT HIS ASSIGNMENT as a volunteer Olympic bus driver wasn’t going to be in Salt Lake City, Peter LaFave ’74 was at first disappointed. Soon he found out, “I was where the action was,” he says. He drove spectators to venues at Deer Valley, which was the site of the mogul and half-pipe, and Park City, where the women’s and men’s downhill ski events were held.

LaFave, a part-time bus driver in his native city of Oswego, was one of about 250 bus drivers at the Olympics, including five from Oswego.

LaFave put in long days, rising at 3 a.m. to be transported from his barracks in Evanston, Wyo., 80 miles from Salt Lake City and 50 miles from Park City.

Although the hours were grueling, LaFave managed to get a few days off to watch Olympic events, like the four-man bobsled.

As a teacher in Washington County two decades ago, LaFave attended the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid. “It was very different,” he says of the 1980 games. “Security was less and you could see many venues without a ticket.” Not only were tickets required for everything at the Salt Lake City games, at every venue, spectators and their possessions were searched, as at airports. “So September 11 had a big impact out there,” says LaFave.

The drivers got to the Olympics five days in advance, for training and orientation. During that time, LaFave was able to snap up one of the most coveted souvenirs of the games — a Roots Team USA Olympic beret.

“The store was virtually empty . . .
There was a big picture of an athlete and I said "Those hats are nice, do you have any?"
There was a table full of them, and he bought two. "After the opening ceremony, you couldn't get one."

LaFave, who majored in industrial arts at Oswego, began a family tradition. His daughter, Renee Shaw Downs ’92 graduated from the college, and his son, Aaron LaFave, works in maintenance on campus and is taking vocational education courses.

While he confesses to being “overwhelmed by the whole experience,” of driving at the Olympics, LaFave hopes to do it again. “It’s just the camaraderie of the whole thing, people from all over the world, everybody is friendly,” he says. “It’s something to experience.”

Would he do it again? He hopes so. “They are trying to get the Olympics in 2010 at Lake Placid, so maybe if I’m around . . . ” he says. “It’s something to look forward to.”

Al Roker ’76 experiences Olympic pride

AL ROKER ’76 OF THE “TODAY” SHOW hosted a pre-Opening Ceremonies special and broadcast live from Salt Lake City throughout the Olympics.

“It’s been a great two and a half weeks here in Salt Lake City, covering the Winter Games,” he wrote in his online journal Feb. 22. “I remember the World Trade Center Flag coming into Olympic Stadium to deafening quiet.

“I remember high fiving Team USA as they entered the stadium.

“I remember the excitement of being an American during the Winter Games held in America.

“I remember the grit and determination of Apolo Ohno as he finished second after a collision and spill on the ice during his short track match.

“I remember the joy watching Derek Parra after winning the Gold Medal in Speed Skating as he skated with the American flag draped around his shoulders mouthing the words, ‘I Love You’ to his wife in the stands.

“I remember the insane pin trading that was going on all around us.

“I remember the pride I felt watching Vonetta Flowers climb the podium, the first athlete of African descent to win a Gold Medal at the Winter Games.

“And I remember the exuberance of Jimmy Shea, Gold Medal winner for Team USA in skeleton as he greeted our Today Show crowd, hugging and kissing people and showing them his medal.

“A lot to remember these last two and a half weeks. So much more to never forget.”

Roker dubbed this year’s Olympics “The Diversity Games,” in his Feb. 25 journal, pointing out that Mexican-American Derek Parra won a bronze and gold in speed skating, Japanese American Apolo Ohno won silver and gold in short track and Vonetta Flowers of the women’s bobsled team was the first African-American to win a gold medal in a winter games.

“There is pride there. Pride as an American, pride as a person of African descent, pride in a country that can rise up and show the world how great we can be in so many different ways,” Al wrote.●
CHEZ SCOTT
Bart hosted friends for his wedding

It was classic Scott.
The night before his wedding last August, Scott Bart ’95 opened the doors to his new home to 40 overnight guests because he didn’t want them to worry about getting a hotel room. He also rented a yellow school bus to shuttle them to and from the wedding and reception.

“He just wanted to make it a wonderful day for everyone,” said his wife, Elizabeth. “He always thought about everybody else.”

Scott and Elizabeth first met on Long Island four years ago, the summer before her junior year at college. They had known each other for only six weeks before she left to study for a year abroad in Belgium. The romance continued, with Scott visiting her overseas.

When Elizabeth did her student teaching back in the states, it was at a school about two blocks from the World Trade Center, where Scott, 28, worked for Marsh & McLennan.

They would meet for lunch, and when Scott worked late, she would go to his office to do her schoolwork.

“If I was teaching a book, he would read it so we could talk about it,” said Elizabeth, 24. “He was so thoughtful that way.”

At work, Scott was a vice president of risk management technology, with his office on the 96th floor of Tower One. “He was moving up very, very fast,” she said. “He was so ambitious at what he did.”

Scott always made sure to make time to spend with family.

“He was a great family guy. It was im-

The Oswego family was saddened at the loss of 11 alumni in the September 11 attacks. They were cherished friends, loving family members and people who enjoyed all that life had to offer. Here are their stories.

By Patricia Rycraft O’Toole ’79
important to Scott that we were close to both of our families,” said Elizabeth. They bought their home in Malverne, Long Island, less than 10 minutes from their parents’ homes. Elizabeth accepted a position teaching English at a Long Island high school. Scott and Elizabeth married Aug. 4, just six weeks before the terrorist attacks.

The oldest of four children, he was close to sisters Renee and Kathryn and brother James, and often went on family trips. While Scott attended college, Renee and James often visited, “and they fell in love with Oswego,” said Elizabeth. Both later enrolled, with Renee graduating in 1998, and James in 2000.

While at Oswego, Scott, who had a deep operatic voice, sang with the State Singers. He also sang with the Collegiate Chorale, performing four times at Carnegie Hall.

And at Oswego’s May 1995 commencement, that was Scott’s commanding voice heard early in the ceremonies singing the national anthem.

‘DADDY’S GIRL’
Shelly Bratton relished New York life

While driving over the Triborough Bridge the night of Sept. 10 with her mom, Michelle Bratton ‘00 pointed out the Twin Towers in the New York skyline. “You see the one with the spike on it,” she told her mother. “That’s my building and I work almost at the top.”

Just five weeks before, Michelle, 23, had started a new job as an executive assistant at Cantor Fitzgerald on the 105th floor of One World Trade Center.

“She was really excited about it,” said her mother, Mary. “She was kind of intrigued by the World Trade Center.”

Shelly, as she was known to Oswego friends, majored in history and belonged to the Sigma Delta Tau sorority. In her freshman year, she shared an Onondaga dorm room with her older sister, Erin, who later transferred to SUNY Stony Brook. Michelle is also survived by her brothers, William of Long Island, and Christopher of Yonkers.

“Her ultimate goal was to teach high school,” said her mother. She also wanted to be a diving coach.

A standout diver since seventh grade in Middletown, Michelle capped her senior year at Oswego with a third-place finish in the 3-meter diving competition at the State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) championships.

After graduation, Michelle went to work for an executive search firm in midtown Manhattan before joining Cantor Fitzgerald.

Although Michelle was living at home in Middletown, she would spend several nights a week at her sister Erin’s apartment in Manhattan. They enjoyed going out on the town with their friends, including several of Michelle’s sorority sisters, said their father, Bill.

Her mother recalls both daughters’ fondness of silver jewelry, and that Tiffany’s was “their favorite place to be in New York.” As a gift for their father for Christmas 2000, Michelle and Erin had caricatures of themselves drawn, depicting them holding shopping bags from Victoria’s Secret and Tiffany’s. They called the picture “Daddy’s girls.”

CHILDHOOD DREAM
Cawley was destined for FDNY

As a young boy, Michael Cawley ’91 would gladly share all of his toys with younger brother Brendan and sister Kristin, with one exception — his fire trucks. “They were his pride and joy,” says Brendan.

There was no doubt young Michael was destined to be a firefighter. He was just a toddler when his father, Jack, first took him to visit the firehouse near their home in Jackson Heights, Queens.

When the family moved to Flushing, the firehouse on Queens Boulevard in Woodside, Queens, became a regular Sunday stop for Michael, Brendan and their dad.

“The boys loved to play on the fire trucks, Michael in the driver’s seat. “He had to do the driving and hit the horn,” says Brendan. “I would laugh every time.”

That same firehouse where he played would be where Michael, 32, was working when he responded to the Sept. 11 attack on the World Trade Center.

After graduating from Oswego with a degree in political science, Michael took the next scheduled firefighter’s written test in 1992.

“He scored 100,” says Brendan. Two years later, Michael took the demanding physical exam. For months he trained, working out on a Stairmaster after strapping on a 90-pound weight vest. He scored 100 again.

In 1995, he realized his dream, becoming a New York City firefighter.

Michael applied the same single-minded determination to save up to buy a house.
He worked extra jobs in construction and as a nightclub bouncer in Manhattan and the Hamptons. In January 2001, he bought a house behind his cousin's in Belmore, Long Island, to be near his godchildren.

His cousin recently bought Michael's house so it can stay in the family, and plans to plant a tree in the backyard as a memorial.

"Michael was very dedicated to being a hard worker and achieving his goals but always had time for friends," says Brendan.

Since childhood, Michael urged Brendan to be a firefighter. It was, he told his younger brother, "the greatest job in the world."

Brendan has taken the written test, and is hoping to take the physical exam before December, when he turns 29, the cutoff to apply to the New York City fire department.

Though Michael was actually assigned to a firehouse in Elmhurst, he would substitute at the Woodside firehouse whenever possible, where Rescue 4 and Engine 292 are stationed. He hoped to be assigned to the rescue unit there.

On Sept. 11, Michael was filling in at Engine 292 overnight, and was probably already off duty when he decided to join the Rescue 4 crew headed to the World Trade Center.

Back at his parents' home, his mother, Margaret, keeps a composition notebook with drawings from Michael's boyhood.

"All of his drawings are of fire trucks," says Brendan. On one page, he had drawn a firehouse with a fire truck and the words "Engine 292."

TOOL TIME MIKE

Handy Collins enjoyed the outdoors

A financial manager in a high-tech environment during the week, Michael Collins '84 was also a self-taught handymen who loved weekend home improvement projects.

And it didn't really matter whether it was his house or someone else's.

"He was a very handy 'Tool Time Tim,'" said his wife, Lissa. "He did a lot of work around our house just because he enjoyed the challenge and the feeling of accomplishment.

"He also volunteered his time to the neighbors to help with their projects and their yard work because he liked helping people and truly enjoyed it," she said.

An employee of Cantor Fitzgerald in the World Trade Center for 15 years, Mike was a broker for 13 years and most recently was a manager in the firm's eSpeed electronic networking division on the 103rd floor of Tower One.

Michael is also survived by his parents, James and Mary of Irvington, where Mike grew up; his brother, Richard of Warren, N.J.; and his sister Nancy Kasak of Tuxedo.

Mike, 38, was also in his element outdoors.

"He loved outdoor sports," said Lissa, a children's wear designer in New York City. "Anything that was a challenge was what he wanted to do."

That included rock climbing, skiing, snowboarding, hard core mountain biking, white water rafting and kayaking.

"And then again, he loved sleeping on the beach in Hawaii when we went home to visit my family," she said.

Mike and Lissa met 11 years ago in Lake Placid. He was on a skiing trip with a buddy, she was visiting a girlfriend.

"It was true fate that we happened to be at the same place at the same time," she said.

"We went six and a half hours to meet each other to find out we only lived 30 minutes away from each other in the city.

Lissa was in Paris on a business trip Sept. 11. Several days before, Mike had sent her a letter via overnight delivery to say how much he missed her.

"Mike was extremely thoughtful and sentimental," said Lissa. "Every girl's dream."

WED BY ELVIS

O'Brien loved family, jokes

Michael O'Brien '81 was one of Wall Street's top bond traders. He was a devoted family man. And he was an incurable practical joker.

Just this past June, Mike and his wife, Rachel Filete O'Brien '82, renewed their wedding vows along with two other couples who joined them on a trip to Las Vegas.

No ordinary ceremony, however, would do for him. An Elvis impersonator officiated.

"He loved to play practical jokes," said
Rachel. “He could always make me laugh.”

Michael and Rachel met on an elevator on her third day at SUNY Oswego. He was a sophomore living on the 10th floor of Seneca Hall, she a freshman on the seventh.

From then on, Mike and Rachel never dated anyone else. They were married in 1983 after Mike earned his MBA from the University of Buffalo.

That was the same year he started his first job on Wall Street, at Clifford Drake. In 1991, Mike and a group of other bond traders founded Municipal Partners, Inc., and in 2000, sold it to Cantor Fitzgerald. He became senior vice president of the municipal bond desk for Cantor Fitzgerald, with an office on the 104th floor of the World Trade Center’s Tower One.

His days were long, rising at 4:15 a.m. to exercise and leaving for work by 6 a.m. It was usually after 6:30 p.m before he’d return to the family’s Cedar Knolls, N.J., home.

Despite the long hours his career demanded, Mike, 42, always made time for his family.

“He loved to play with the kids,” said Rachel. The O’Brien kids include Derek, 14, Sarah, 12, and Kevin, 7. Mike was also involved with his kids’ sports as coach and avid spectator, she said.

The O’Brien traditions included annual camping trips, one with the whole family, and one with two other dads and their kids. Last summer, the dads and kids went to Lake George for a weekend.

Another of his favorite traditions from his boyhood, growing up in New Hartford, N.Y., with brothers Dennis and Andrew and sisters Katie and Bridget, was going to the New York State Fair in Syracuse in August.

Last summer, he visited his parents, Robert and Mary Lou in New Hartford, and took the family to the fair to enjoy the rides and games on the Midway.

“He was always a happy person,” said Rachel.

IN MEMORIAM

Nikki and James Potorti ’72

Nikki and Jim loved the outdoors.

LIVING LIFE

Potorti’s passions: cooking and the outdoors

James Potorti ’72 logged long hours as senior project manager for Marsh & McLennan’s technology and information services.

But when he could, “he would drop it at the door and live life,” said his wife, Nikki Stern. “He had a very European outlook that way.”

Jim, 52, had many interests, from woodworking to wine. But his passions were cooking and the outdoors.

“Italian cooking was his specialty,” said Nikki. His two favorite ingredients were wine and olive oil.

When she and Jim traveled to Italy’s Tuscany region several years ago, Jim was in his glory. “He cooked up a storm,” she remembers.

Jim enjoyed building, gardening, kayaking, hiking and biking. “He loved to be outside,” said Nikki. They bought a kayak last summer and plied the waters of Cayuga Lake in Ithaca, Jim’s hometown.

“He was also very artistic,” said Nikki, adding that Jim enjoyed painting in watercolors.

After graduating from SUNY Oswego, where he majored in geology, Jim worked for the U.S. Geological Survey on Long Island. He taught himself programming and moved into the computer field and into business, working for Chase Manhattan before accepting a position with Marsh & McLennan. Jim worked on the 96th floor of Tower One.

Jim is also survived by his parents, Olga and Peter of Ithaca, and brothers, Bill, of Reno, Nev., and David of Chapel Hill, N.C.

Nikki and Jim met at a Memorial Day weekend party in 1988. One of their early dates was a trip to Paris. “It was love at first sight for me, but it took him a little bit longer,” she said. The trip to Paris, however, “sealed the deal.” Two years later, in 1990, they married.

Traveling remained a passion for Nikki and Jim, with three more trips to Paris and travels in Italy.

“He was so easygoing,” said Nikki. “He was such a joyous person.”

David remembers his eldest brother’s sense of humor.

“He was very good at telling a joke,” said David. Even as a child, Jim would entertain his younger brothers, often with sock puppets.

David, who spent several years working in Manhattan, said he is grateful for the fun times he and Jim spent together there.

“My whole experience of Manhattan was through him,” he said. “He would know the cool places to go.” One of his most memorable experiences in New York was taking a frigid ferry ride together to the Statue of Liberty in January and standing at the very front of the boat. “I remember standing out there and saying ‘what are we doing? We were just freezing.’”
CLASSIC ROCK DAD

Roberts shared his love of music

Whenever Leo Roberts '79 was behind the wheel of the family car, you could be sure his four kids were getting more than just a ride.

They'd also be getting a lesson in their dad's favorite music.

"He really introduced our kids to rock and roll," said his wife, Debra.

This was the deal: he'd listen to his kids' music for half of the ride, and then it was their turn to hear his classic rock favorites like the Beatles, the Doors and Hendrix.

"They listened to each other's music equally and my kids loved his music," she said.

When his youngest son, Dan, 11, started taking guitar lessons, Leo offered this encouragement to the family's budding rock guitarist: learn to play Led Zeppelin's classic "Stairway to Heaven," and I'll buy you a new guitar.

Leo, who majored in business administration, was a municipal bond trader and partner at Cantor Fitzgerald, with his office on the 104th floor of Tower One of the World Trade Center.

Leo, 44, was a devoted dad, said Debra. "Family was the most important thing. Leo absolutely loved his family and primarily devoted all of his time to our kids," she said. Along with Dan, the Roberts kids include sons Michael, 15, and Jeffrey, 13, and daughter Taylor, 8. Even before they were married, Debra and Leo talked about wanting to have a big family.

With each of the Roberts boys active in sports, and Taylor involved in competitive cheerleading, Leo and Debra logged lots of miles to and from practices, games and competitions.

He liked to watch his kids compete and offered strong vocal support. "He really had a powerful voice," said Debra. "Being a broker, he was the loudest one on the sidelines."

Leo and Debra met in 1981 when both worked as municipal bond traders for the same company. They were married in 1985.

Workdays were long for Leo, but he always made time for the important stuff, like wrestling with the boys and taking Debra out on a regular weekend "date."

He loved family fishing trips to Montauk on Long Island, and last year, joined his brother, Hunter, on a 10-day fishing trip to the Arctic Circle.

"My husband lived every day like it was his last day," she said. "He always smiled and made the best of everything. He was the perfect man."

Dan did get that new guitar, from his mom.

With brother Jeffrey providing vocals, Dan played "Stairway to Heaven" at his dad's memorial service.

' SOMETHING SPECIAL '

Generous Vincent drew people to her

Melissa Renee Vincent '94 surprised her mother two years ago with tickets to a World Series game at Yankee Stadium.

Lucille Vincent was a longtime Yankee fan who had never had a chance to sit in the stands to see her favorite team play.

But as thrilling as it was to go to the game, "what meant the most to me was seeing the joy on Melissa's face in being able to give me that," said Lucille. "She was beaming."

In many of the letters that the Vincents have received from Melissa's friends, they mention "her generosity and kind spirit," said Lucille. If she shopped with a friend who admired something but didn't buy it, Melissa would go back and get it for them, said Lucille.

Melissa joined Alliance Consulting Group a year and a half ago, working as a technical recruiter. Her specialty was recruiting software engineers. Her office was on the 102nd floor of Tower One of the World Trade Center.

She had been at Alliance for only a couple of weeks when her supervisor noticed something special about Melissa. Here was the newcomer at a company party, surrounded by co-workers.

"People really gravitated toward her," said Lucille. "People liked to be around her."

Melissa grew up in LeRoy, a small town
I N M E M O R I A M

IN MEMORIAM

in Western New York. Her mother, father, David, and sister, Carrie, now live in Webster near Rochester, and her brother, Matthew, is in Maryland. Melissa lived in Hoboken, and was planning to move to Manhattan in October. She continued to call home every day just to say hello to her family.

After Oswego, Melissa, a Delta Zeta sorority sister and marketing major, worked for a recruiting firm in suburban Rochester. When they offered her another job at their corporate offices in New Jersey, she jumped at the opportunity.

"She loved the whole New York thing," said Lucille. "She loved the shopping, all the people, the Broadway plays. She had season's tickets to the New York symphony." ●

LOVED BIG APPLE

Family, friends key to 'Woody'

Jim Woods '97 was a "real New Yorker" who loved the pace and pulse of the city.

A Long Island native, he was a big fan of New York's sports teams — the Jets, the Yankees and the Knicks. He and his father, John, were Jets season ticket holders since Jim was a little boy. Even while he was at Oswego, he would often travel home to catch a Jets game with his dad, a retired New York City firefighter who rescued several people after the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center.

Jim had an apartment on the Upper East Side, a great location with lots of other young people, plenty of restaurants and bars, and close to Central Park. It made perfect sense that his roommate was one of his best friends since childhood. During his four years at Oswego, Jim lived with another lifelong friend, Jason Rogan '97.

If there's one thing "Woody" did with ease, it was making lasting friendships. Two college friends had asked him to be in their wedding parties in 2002.

At Oswego, Jim majored in business and wrote sports stories for the Oswegonian.

Jim worked as a trader's assistant at Cantor Fitzgerald, an investment firm located in Tower One of the World Trade Center. He enjoyed spending time with his girlfriend of two years, Kelly Landin.

Family was central to Jim's life. He was very close to his only sister, Eileen, and the two often jogged together in Central Park. "The city is the place to be," he frequently told Eileen, a teacher in nearby Rockland County. His enthusiasm convinced her to move into his building when a room opened up in an apartment shared by several women. She moved in Sept. 8. After the terrorist attack three days later, she never went back.

Two summers ago, Jim and Eileen vacationed in Ireland with their mom, Joyce, and dad. "We had the best time together ... visiting relatives, driving around the country, having some pints of Guinness in local pubs, and Jimmy and my dad got to play some golf on beautiful courses. We are so happy we took that trip."

The following Christmas, Jimmy gave each of them photos of them together from the trip, said Eileen. "He was extremely thoughtful and generous." ●

REEL RICH

Caproni loved movies, family, friends

Rich Caproni '89 was a big movie buff. Big in stature at an athletic 6-foot-2 and 260 pounds, and big in his love for movies, Rich spent much of his time surrounded by family and friends.

About three times a week, Rich would go to a movie on his way home from his job at Marsh & McLennan on the 98th floor of the World Trade Center's Tower One, where he worked as a senior account specialist.

"Instead of fighting the rush hour, he would work a little later at his desk and go to the movies," said his father, Richard.

His affinity for movie-going started as a young boy, when his father took the kids to the movies every Friday night.

An avid reader of mysteries and history, Rich had a large book and video collection at the condo he purchased in August, three doors down from the mother of one of his best friends from SUNY Oswego, Michael Hannan '89. Mike also died Sept. 11.

Rich, 34, made and kept many friends throughout his life, from elementary school, high school and Oswego. "There are very few people who got to know Rich who didn't stay in touch, and maintain a relationship," said Richard. "His Oswego buddies were like family to him." They got together each year for a camping trip.

"He had a personality where everybody was drawn to him," said his father. "He was a people person who loved to make people
IN MEMORIAM

laugh and have a good time.” The business administration major “loved to joke and clown,” said Richard. Since he was so gregarious, people may not have always recognized that “there was a lot more depth to Rich,” he said. “He would be there for people when crunch time came. He would be there not only with moral support, but to render any help that might be needed.”

He liked to stay in shape, jogging to and from the gym most every morning, before taking the train into Manhattan. Rich’s siblings, Michael, who graduated from Oswego in 1993, Christopher and Lisa, all work in New York City. Lisa was helping Rich decorate his new apartment.

Rich had visited his father and mother, Dolores, in Ocean City, Md., over Labor Day weekend, staying until the following Wednesday. They went to Assateague National Seashore in Virginia together. “We treasure those days with him,” said Richard. “He was such a joy.”

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Hannan had a talent for bringing folks together

Friends and family were the center of his life.

But if you were to ask the friends and family of Mike Hannan ’89, what you’d hear was that it was he who was at the center.

“He was definitely the one to bring people together,” said his wife, Andrea. “He was always making new friendships.”

It was his easygoing nature that people found appealing, she said. “Michael was fun,” said Andrea. “He was funny and he had a magnetic personality. It was just so great to be around him.”

And once he made friends, he kept them, said his mother, Barbara. Michael kept in touch with his friends from SUNY Oswego, his high school friends and even friends from his elementary school days in his hometown of Lynbrook, Long Island, she said.

One of his best friends was SUNY Oswego classmate and fellow Seneca Hall resident Rich Caproni ’89. Both worked for Marsh & McLennan. Rich also died Sept. 11.

Michael was an assistant vice president for the company’s New York Finance Center division and worked on the 98th floor of Tower One of the World Trade Center.

“They have such a wonderful circle of Oswego friends,” said his mother. “Michael just included everybody, everybody from Lynbrook knew everybody from Oswego.” Each year, Michael, Andrea and their two children would vacation in North Carolina with Oswego friends.

Michael’s talent for making and keeping friends had a lot to do with his marrying Andrea. They had dated for two years and broke up when she left the state to attend college in Maryland. She and Michael stayed in touch as friends for the next five years before finally getting back together.

Michael lived within 10 minutes of his mother and each of his three siblings—Jennifer, Craig and Peter. His father, Lawrence, passed away three years ago. The Hannan family frequently got together for family birthdays and other events. “There always seemed to be something happening,” said his mother, Barbara.

Michael cherished his two daughters, Rachel, 5, and Alexandra, 2.

“He loved to read to the girls,” said Andrea. “He was a great snuggler.”

TRIBUTES TO FALLEN FRIENDS

ON FEB. 16, DOZENS OF ALUMNI GATHERED (at right) in Oswego to pay tribute to the memory of Richard Caproni ’89 and Michael Hannan ’89 and to raise funds to plant a tree in their honor. The tree will be on the lakeshore, across from Seneca Hall, where both friends lived, and will bear two plaques honoring the fallen alumni. The event raised $3,800, more than enough for a tree, and fundraising continues for other tributes to Caproni and Hannan.

Friends of Scott Bart ’95 are raising money for a memorial bench to be placed in front of Tyler Hall, where many watched Scott “perform, sing and of course make us laugh.” See www.scottbart.com.

For more information, or to make a donation to the Caproni-Hannan Fund or Scott Bart Fund, contact Barbara Manwaring at 315-312-3003 or by e-mail at manwarin@oswego.edu.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all members of the Oswego family — students, faculty, alumni and staff — whose family members and friends were lost. If you know of any alumni not featured here who were lost on Sept. 11, please contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations by calling 315-312-2258 or by e-mail at alumni@oswego.edu.
Class Notes

TWO OSWEGO ALUMNI WERE HONORED by the State University Confederation of Alumni Associations last fall. Dr. Harold Morse ’61, M’63 received the highest honor awarded by the association, as the State University of New York’s 2001 Distinguished Alumnus. He was recognized for his work in bringing the arts into the homes and classrooms of America, as founder of The Learning Channel and OVATION, The Arts Network. He has also been instrumental in expanding arts programming into the classroom, through OVATION’s work with schools to expand its Arts and Education in the United States. Gordon Lenz ’58 was honored as a distinguished alumnus in business and industry. He is CEO of New York State Business Group/Conference Associates, one of the nation’s largest health care purchasing groups.

Harold Morse ’61, M’63 and his wife, Susan Morse, at the SUNY Alumni Confederation dinner last fall.

Gordon Lenz ’58 and Oswego President Deborah F. Stanley.

To protect personal privacy, we currently do not publish Alumni Class Notes on our website. If you are interested in reading this part of the magazine and did not receive a copy, please contact us with your updated address and we will send it on.
Memories of Artist Sought

ATTENTION MEMBERS OF THE CLASSES OF 1958 TO 1963: The Roy Lichtenstein Foundation is preparing a complete scholarly catalog of all the work of Pop artist Roy Lichtenstein.

Before becoming part of the New York contemporary art scene, Lichtenstein was an associate professor at Oswego from 1957 to 1960. He was one of four art teachers who taught “Art and Man,” a first-year requisite.

The foundation would like to hear from any of his students who have particular recollections of the teaching method, course content, instructional aids, the “spirit” and academic or aesthetic rigor of the classes, his collaboration with other faculty, and/or any reference to or display of his own work, which at this time was very related to prevalent Abstract Expressionism.

Those with information are urged to contact Sarah Lowe, researcher, c/o Roy Lichtenstein Foundation, 745 Washington St., New York, NY 10014 or e-mail her at smlarthist@aol.com.

To protect personal privacy, we currently do not publish Alumni Class Notes on our website. If you are interested in reading this part of the magazine and did not receive a copy, please contact us with your updated address and we will send it on.
THE OSWEGO ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2001 to honor those persons who have made outstanding contributions to Oswego State athletics. Its purpose is to perpetuate the memory of those who have brought honor, distinction and excellence to the State University of New York at Oswego in athletics. Charter inductees in the Oswego Athletic Hall of Fame were front row, left to right, Pete Sears ’71, a member of the 1972 US Olympic hockey team; David Parisi ’82, NCAA wrestling champion; James Howard, wrestling coach emeritus and member of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame; John Walter ’70, NCAA wrestling champion; and back row, left to right, Travis Cook ’78, lacrosse national champion and member of Ontario Lacrosse Hall of Fame; Doug Morse ’84, NCAA wrestling champion; Steve Buso, NCAA high jump champion; and Fred Maxon, accepting for his grandfather, legendary Oswego coach Max Ziel. Charter inductees had to meet criteria such as participation in an Olympic Games, NCAA championship, or membership in a national hall of fame. Nominees in subsequent years will be evaluated on the merits of their athletic achievements as well as their accomplishments since leaving Oswego. For more information, visit the alumni Web site at http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/halloffame/. The second annual Hall of Fame Induction Dinner is scheduled for Oct. 26, 2002.
LIFE IMITATED ART THIS SPRING IN THE THEATRE
DEPARTMENT’S original, improvisational and interactive production “The Beat and the City.” The innovative play owed its inspiration to the interactive, long-form improvisation developed by alumni like Gary Izzo ’79 and Ellen Flint.

“If there was a home-grown type of theatre to Oswego, this would be it,” says director Tom Kee of the theatre department. “It’s one that has been taken to a refined form here, but has also gone from here to places like Disney, being carried by the people from Oswego.” Kee explains that actors from SUNY Oswego, led by Izzo, refined the interactive form at the nearby Sterling Renaissance Faire, which became a kind of “hothouse” for growing actors involved in the innovative method of acting.

While developing the production, Kee sought advice from Izzo and Flint, and Izzo took part in a WRVO broadcast on interactive theatre.

In “The Beat and the City,” students acted out an imagined meeting of poets, writers and artists of the Beat Generation in 1958. They studied their characters and improvised dialogue and actions, much as the Beat poets themselves did. No two shows were the same.

A REUNION OF PHI LAMBDA PHI ALUMNAE was held in Little Falls at the home of Kathy McDonald George ’69 on Aug. 1. Sisters attended from as far away as Mississippi and Long Island. Attending were, back row from left, Patricia Hroncich Colmer ’69, Barbara Buongiorne Cooker ’69, Leona Stone Scott ’69, Ann Carol Marcellino Claudet ’71, Beth Szczesn Segar ’70, Erin Griffin Dinneen ’71, Linda Keller Wassel ’69 and Bobbie Paras McGlone ’71; and front row from left, Jane Casatelli Hagerty ’68, Barbara Stroppel Shiflett ’69, Kathy McDonald George ’69, Donna Tesiero Gendron ’69 and Nancy Forsythe Sumner ’68.
SEVERAL ALUMNAE WERE ON HAND TO CELEBRATE THE SCHOOL of Education’s accreditation by NCATE last fall. From left are Wendy Holcomb, Ellen Nowyj ’90, Dean of the School of Education Dr. Linda Rae Markert ’76, Peggy Smith ’75 and Susan Shaw ’74. Holcomb, Nowyj, Smith and Shaw are all teachers at Fulton’s Lanigan Elementary School, one of Oswego’s Professional Development Schools.

MATT WEILLER ’84 (RIGHT), FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER WITH THE U. S. EMBASSY IN ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN, and his wife, Brigid, met U. S. Secretary of State Colin Powell on the secretary’s visit to Kazakhstan on Dec. 9 and 10. The Embassy is still in the old capital, Almaty, but the secretary visited in Astana, the new capital, which is on the southern edge of Siberia. “I’ve never been so cold in my life, not even in Oswego,” writes Matt. “It was minus 14 F with a 10 to 15 mph wind on the tarmac at arrival.” Weiller was the administrative control officer for the visit, in charge of coordinating all logistical details, including motorcade, hotel, supplies and communications. “We had to move 90 people via Air Kazakhstan . . . Two trucks filled with supplies, and several cars went overland from Almaty to Astana (800 miles over bad roads). We made it a family affair when my wife, who works as the training coordinator for the U.S. Agency for International Development, took the reins of the hotel control room,” says Matt. “It was a lot of work and a lot of fun.”

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Top Tech Teacher

Even before coming back to teach at her alma mater as an assistant professor of technology, Donna Matteson ’83 M ’88 made a name for herself in the world of technology education. For her innovative teaching at G. Ray Bodley High School in Fulton, Matteson was named to the All-USA Teacher team by USA Today for two years in a row. This year she was honored as a second-team selection for using the Internet and video conferencing to help her Fulton “Design and Drawing for Production” class collaborate with classes in Las Vegas and California on a technology design, construction and marketing project. “We grow as educators by sharing,” Donna says, adding that “It’s a global community and these kids were able to share across the United States.” The project also was a runner-up in the “Creative Uses of the Internet” category for the National Semiconductors Innovation Award. Matteson was named the Central New York Technology Education Association Teacher of the Year, and is a candidate for the same award on the state level. The Northeast Teacher of the Year in 1991, she also served as a teacher trainer with the New York State Education Department.

Donna’s enthusiasm for technology education and her love for Oswego are both part of a legacy she shares with her own children. Her daughter, Star Matteson ’97 M ’02, teaches technology in Fulton, and her son, Dustin, a high school senior, has been accepted for the fall 2002 semester at Oswego, where he, too, will study technology education.

Donna Matteson ’83 M ’88 shows Rich Kulibert, a sophomore technology education major, the AutoDesk Inventor Software she acquired for SUNY Oswego as a donation from the manufacturer valued at $100,000. The software helps Oswego students learn 3-D solid modeling they will be teaching to public school classes themselves someday.
RICH DAVIS ’89 WORKS FOR SONY MUSIC IN NEW YORK CITY.

At Cherokee Recording Studios in West Hollywood, Los Angeles, this February, Davis (seated at right) was working as production coordinator on an upcoming record for Sony International. Also pictured are, standing from left to right, programmer Robert Conley; producer Walter Afanasieff; artist/producer Robi “Draco” Rosa, and seated at left, engineer David Reitzas. Rich is also involved with projects for Celine Dion, Darren Hayes, Michael Bolton and Beyonce Knowles of Destiny's Child.

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Oswego Matters

As spring begins to think about arriving in Oswego, our thoughts turn to the time-honored notion of “spring cleaning” – getting our alumni “house” in order. For the past two years, members of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association have worked diligently to identify our alumni goals for the next five years. As we begin to implement our strategic plan, we’re finding that, just as we had hoped, the plan is beginning to shape specific alumni issues and projects and budget needs.

We’re excited about the plan because it will allow us to reach out to our alumni across the country and better serve you, and, in turn, allow you to reconnect with your alma mater and volunteer your time, energy and resources to help us meet our goals and benefit Oswego State.

Some of the highlights of the plan are outlined below. To view the complete plan – an ongoing “work in progress” – visit our Web site at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/longrangeplan

Vision—Partnering for Lifelong Relationships

Mission—The Oswego Alumni Association, Inc. exists to inform and interest a diverse constituency in the life of the college to create a partnership that encourages involvement, enhances loyalty and serves the current and future needs of the institution and alumni.

Goals—Encourage the involvement of a broad spectrum of alumni and friends in Oswego Alumni Association programs and communications. Elevate the visibility of the Oswego Alumni Association. Communicate the need and encourage support for the college.

Finally, in an effort to better inform our planning and prioritizing, this spring the Alumni Association, with the assistance of the Office of Institutional Research on campus, conducted its first comprehensive survey of alumni in many years. The feedback from this survey will help to shape and focus our decisions as we continue to fine-tune our plan and develop specific action steps and prioritize funding for alumni programs, publications and initiatives. I’ll update you on the survey results in a future issue.

In the meantime, if you’d be interested in volunteering to be an ASK mentor, or becoming an alumni admissions volunteer, or helping plan events in your local area or planning a mini-reunion of your club or student organization, give us a call! We also encourage you to let us know about job or internship openings at your company.

We’d love to hear your ideas for increasing alumni involvement and strengthening our network of more than 50,000 Oswego alumni! As a friend of mine often said, “Together we can!”

Betsy Oberst
Alumni Bookshelf

In *Power Tools for Women™ Plugging into the Essential Skills for Work and Life*, management consultant Joni Titlebaum Daniels ’77 teaches women how to be personally and professionally more effective and efficient at work and at home. In her nearly 100 workshops a year, Daniels discovered that women could attain more professional and personal power by tapping into the metaphor of the tool kit. Among the tools and their associated skills are: the Power Saw, how to get rid of the dead wood that’s holding you back; Safety Goggles, how to create a clear vision of what you want; and the Power Drill, how to get the information you need. Joni is the founder and principal of Daniels and Associates, a consulting group specializing in personal and professional development. For more information on *Power Tools for Women™ Plugging into the Essential Skills for Work and Life* visit [www.powertoolsforwomen.com](http://www.powertoolsforwomen.com). Three Rivers Press/Crown Publishing, 2002.

*Teen Girlfriends: Celebrating the Good Times, Getting Through the Hard Times*, by Julia Rozines DeVillers ’89, explores the special bond among teen girlfriends. While the media are quick to cover the down side of peer pressure, teen expert Julia DeVillers focuses on the positive power of girls supporting each other in their newest book. She interviewed about 150 young women to find out what makes these important girlfriend relationships work, and why. In the book, she acknowledges several alumni “teen girlfriends” with whom she is still close: Carol Turner Burke ’89, Melanie Beniamino DeLorme ’89, Jackie Fox Watson ’89 and Sue Phillips Beckwith ’89. DeVillers is the co-author of *You Can Make It Big Writing Books*, published in 1999, and lives in Columbus, Ohio, with her husband, Jeff DeVillers ’89 and her two children. Her next book for teens, *GirlWise: How to Be Confident, Capable, Cool and in Control*, will be published by Random House/Prima in fall 2002. Wildcat Canyon Press, 2001.

*Tall Tales of the 58th*, by Harvey Handel ’48, is the story of the 58th Seabee Battalion. Handel, who was a carpenter’s mate 1st Class in A Company wrote many of the tales as writing assignments in English classes taught by professors Vernon Rank, Charles Wells and Erwin Palmer during his undergraduate days at Oswego in 1947 and 1948. “Today I appreciate the opportunity they gave me to write about war experiences I was trying to forget,” he writes. Handel presented *Tall Tales* to his battalion mates at the 55th reunion in Atlantic City in October.

*M-Business: The Race to Mobility* by Marcia Robinson ’86 takes the mystery out of mobile business or m-business. The e-commerce hype has barely subsided, and the media and venture capitalists have already moved onto the mobile Internet. “Everywhere you turn—newspapers, magazines, television, even the sides of city buses—you encounter debate about mobile business (or m-business),” writes Robinson. The goal of *M-business: The Race to Mobility* is to provide a business perspective of the m-business landscape that is insightful and useful for managers. However, the book aims to help anyone understand the basics of m-business, when m-business makes sense, and how it should be applied. The focus of the book is practical: helping senior management plan for and manage m-business investments. McGraw Hill, 2002.

*How to Get Grants and Gifts for the Public Schools*, Dr. Stanley Levenson ’54 offers ideas and techniques to help administrators, teachers, parents, school board members and anyone interested in locating and developing important funding sources for their school or district. Besides an overview of the types of grants available and names and Web sites of granting agencies, the book includes sample successful grant applications and blank forms for mini-grants. Levenson is a fundraising consultant to schools and teaches fundraising and grantwriting classes at University of California at San Diego. Reach him at [www.grantsandgiftsforschools.com](http://www.grantsandgiftsforschools.com). Allyn & Bacon, 2002.
The Long-Awaited Return to Oz II Alumni of Color Reunion is in the works for Sept. 27, 28 and 29! The three-day celebration will be an excellent opportunity to reconnect with friends, former classmates and favorite faculty of the Oswego family. Events planned include tours and workshops, as well as a picnic, a golf outing and the popular Grand Dinner and Dance. It’s not too late to join the Reunion Committee. Help plan events and get friends and classmates back to campus.

For the success of this reunion, please note that advance registration is necessary. To join the Reunion Committee or to register for the event, contact the alumni office at 315-312-2258 or visit the Web site: www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/returntooz.

Newly Sighted on Our Site

Remember when Rich Hall was Penfield Library? Fall 2001 marked the beginning of a major renovation of the historic building into the new School of Business. The project won’t be completed until 2003, but you can view photos of the work in progress at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/rich-hall. While you’re there, view pictures of the groundbreaking ceremony, or reminisce about old times with the historical pictures of Rich Hall.

Don’t miss the Oswego Alumni Bulletin Board at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/bulletin. Look for updates from friends and former classmates and post your news. It’s a great way to keep informed!

For fun, send a virtual e-card to a friend from campus. Photos are available of several different scenes across campus, and the service is quick and easy. Visit www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/virtualcards.

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Kendis Gibson ’94 is entertainment anchor and correspondent for CNN Headlines and CNN based in Atlanta, since January 2002. Before that, he was a correspondent with NBC News and entertainment reporter for WNBC since February 2000. He chatted with Oswego in late February.

Q. Kendis, how did you get where you are today?
A. I did a lot of internships when I was at Oswego — about 5 different internships. I was able to make some tapes, and used them to get my first job in Rochester. One thing led to the next. I ended up staying in Rochester for three years, Philadelphia for two years and NBC for two years.

Q. You’ve gotten quite far for someone so young.
A. It’s been 7 years. It happened pretty quickly. What can I say? I’m blessed. I get bored pretty easily and left local news and went to national news with NBC and now I’m completely out of news because I didn’t like news. I work primarily for Headlines in the mornings, doing entertainment, like celebrity gossip or if there’s new movies coming out, new CDs, we’ll just talk about it, laugh about it and not take anything too seriously.

Q. What’s your day like?
A. We get in at 3 a.m. and my producer and I go over the wires and video feeds. After a lot of make up we go on the air at 6 a.m. We’re off the air by 10 a.m., but may be aired later. Sometimes we get to go out and travel, like the Grammys for a week.

Q. What are the most satisfying parts of your job?
A. I get to just be myself and relaxed and have fun on TV. It’s like “Wayne’s World” on national TV.

Q. Were you into entertainment at Oswego?
A. I didn’t do anything in entertainment, just WTOP. I was all into news, big time into news. I thought I’d do the Peter Jennings thing, but that got pretty boring pretty quickly for me.

Q. But you weren’t a broadcasting major?
A. I did political science, because I did an internship my freshman year as a broadcasting student, at the “Today” show. And everybody said, “You don’t need to do broadcasting to be in broadcasting. Get some depth, take some other courses.” I just took the advice of Jane Pauley and other people there.

Q. Your freshman year you had an internship at the “Today” show? That’s pretty cool!
A. That part was pretty easy. I just called up and found out what types of internships were being offered, sent in my resume and did a quick interview. The cool thing that Oswego does that other schools don’t do — You’re not limited to when you can do your internships. And there’s no limit or a high limit to how many internships you can do.

Q. Did you meet another Oswego alumnus, Al Roker, at the “Today” Show?
A. Al and I have met many times. We’ve done live sets together for the Syracuse station and other stations around the country. Al Roker has been very cool, very supportive, whenever he’s met me.

Q. Are there other celebrities you’ve met or interviewed?
A. Oh man, I’ve met tons! I’m amazed at how many I’ve met, but it doesn’t even faze me anymore. Destiny’s Child, the boys from Sugar Ray, ‘Nsync. Next week, the Grammys will be like celebrity overload.

Q. When was the last time you visited Oswego?
A. I was there six months ago, just because I wanted to breathe. I visited a friend of mine who is a teacher in Syracuse and I said, “We have to go back up to the bluffs. You won’t believe it’s in NY.”

Q. What at Oswego State helped you in your career?
A. Besides the internships . . . having the political science background I think helped a lot. WTOP was awesome. I learned so much. I got to learn about the morning hours when I started “Sunrise” with a couple of friends from Onondaga. It was a morning TV show. Our hook was to be able to get class cancellations early on. We also did the lunch menu. We always needed to know if there were chicken patties there. It was an early introduction into knowing what’s important to your viewers’ life. What would make them tune into you. That was the biggest key — being able to make some mistakes right there.

Q. Speaking of mistakes, any regrets?
A. I wish I had traveled abroad. Because now I do, and I absolutely love it! I never did a semester abroad . . . I thought I was going to miss out on something.
TWO ALUMNAE FROM THE CLASS OF 1991 were the recipients of the 2001 Creative Writing Alumni Awards from the English Writing Arts Program. Christene Barberich (left) and Leigh Flayton (right) were honored for their work in magazine publishing when they returned to campus last fall as Alumni-in-Residence. Barberich has worked in editorial, creative and administrative positions for *The New Yorker*, *Worth*, *Gourmet*, *Modern Bride* and *Detour*. She helped create and design lifestyle magazine concept *City*, and is executive editor of *City NY*. Flayton is executive editor of *City AZ*. She has been a television movie executive, free-lance writer, playwright, screenwriter, an associate producer for Viacom and a research assistant for award-winning writer Ken Auletta ’63. Three alumni won the Creative Writing Alumni Award in its inaugural year, 2000: John J. Garrett ’96 for scriptwriting, Christian Langworthy ’90 for poetry and Robert O’Connor ’82 for fiction.

Yanks for a Week

STAN BAHNSEN. OSCAR GAMBLE. JOE PEPITONE. PAUL BLAIR. Some of the greatest Yankee names of all time, rubbing shoulders with Oswego alumni Jay Rubin ’93 and Steve Messina ’91? You bet your pinstripes!

Rubin and Messina attended the weekend Yankee Fantasy Camp this spring in Tampa, Fla., and played on the very fields the Yankees used to prepare for the season. They played seven games in four days, followed by "The Dream Game."

In this game, Rubin and Messina played against Yankee legends including Banhson, Gamble, Pepitone, and Blair, as well as Roy White, Al Downing, Mickey Rivers and Jim Spencer.

But "Steve and I so didn't play baseball at Oz," Jay writes. "Steve was GM of WTOP for two years and I worked at WTOP, WOSR/WNYO, and the 'Gonian for four years. He was a meteorology major and I was a broadcasting major."
A.S.K. Shares the Wealth of Knowledge

AS AN OSWEGO STATE ALUMNUS, are you willing to extend your career experience to a current Oswego student? With your help, the Alumni Sharing Knowledge (A.S.K.) program can give an Oswego student the opportunity to prepare for the "real world" by partnering with an alumni mentor. Aspects of the A.S.K. program include mentor shadowing, mock interviewing, relocation information and resume critiquing. Over 300 Oswego alumni in a wide variety of career fields have volunteered to participate in the A.S.K. program, and the program, in its 12th successful year, has been able to assist many students in gaining valuable knowledge into the world of careers. To volunteer or for more information, visit www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/ask or contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at (315) 312-2258.

Kristin Marang '95, assistant to the vice president of Harper-Collins Children's Books, chats with communication studies major David Russell '04 (center) and Assistant Professor of English Robert O'Connor '82 (left) on a recent visit to campus as part of the Alumni in Residence program. Kristin will also serve as a mentor for students through the A.S.K. program.

Loved Oswego State? Pass it On!

AS AN OSWEGO ALUMNUS, you're aware of all the great opportunities Oswego State has to offer. Why not share your experience with prospective Oswego students from your area? The Alumni/Admissions Network invites you to become an Alumni/Admissions representative. You'll contact students in your area who have been accepted to Oswego, encourage them, and answer any questions concerning the campus, the city or the programs offered.

If you are interested in becoming an Alumni/Admissions representative, please contact the alumni office at (315) 312-2258 or visit the Web site at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/alumni/getinvolved.html.

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HONORING KING’S INFLUENCE — Oswego’s Assistant Dean of Students Robin McAleese ‘93, second from right, was one of three honorees recognized at the 13th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration in late January. The event pays tribute to the civil rights leader’s legacy while honoring the work of members of the college community. Three awards are given — one to an instructor, one to a staff member and one to a student — by Alpha Phi Alpha, King’s fraternity. Anthony Henderson, left, chair of the organizing committee and master of ceremonies, congratulates honorees sociology major Lisa Earle ’03, emerita history Professor Judith Wellman and McAleese. At right is keynote speaker the Rev. Richard V. Rice of the Peace Baptist Church in Rochester, who discussed the need to rekindle King’s teachings.

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SEAN MCPHEE ’98, RIGHT, WAS SITE SUPERVISER FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR BMI, working on the first phase of a large-scale rigging renovation in Waterman Theatre of Tyler Hall. The job, which was completed this winter, cost about $90,000. The renovations included new rigging, battens, pipes, ropes and blocks. The act and fire curtains were tuned up and 60 renovated line sets were installed.

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Oswego Students + Your Job Opening = Success

IS THERE A JOB OPENING IN YOUR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT? Whether it is in a corporation, an elementary school, or a small business, many SUNY Oswego students are qualified and ready to work with you! It's free to advertise your internships and career opportunities on Oswego's Career Services Web site.

At www.oswego.edu/careerservices, navigate to "Employer Services" and click the link for the vacancy listing form. Using this form, simply provide the necessary organization, job and contact information.

Oswego's Career Services site also offers a searchable job opening database, e-mail listserv, and an online recruitment system. It's now easy and profitable to support the programs of SUNY Oswego while plugging your company to a large, career-oriented student body.

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Come Together at Reunion ’02

Reunite and relax with classmates and friends this summer at Reunion 2002. The celebration this year will take place July 19, 20 and 21.

Classes of ’71, ’73, ’96 and ’98: because of the cluster reunion system, this is YOUR year. As always, anyone from the Oswego family is welcome to attend any reunion!

Beginning in May, you can register online for the event. Visit the Web site at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/reunion2002 and get the most up-to-date information.

75th – 1927
70th – 1932  55th – 1947
65th – 1937  50th – 1952
60th – 1942  40th – 1962

30th cluster – 1971, 1972, 1973
25th – 1977
10th – 1992

Mini-reunions:
Pi Delta Chi, London Study Abroad, Student Association, Alpha Delta Eta

Class of ’51 members gather last summer at the home of Distinguished Teaching Professor of Psychology Emeritus Herb VanSchaack ’51.
Above: Jacqueline Muoio Mazzilli ’92 was married to Steven Mazzilli Aug. 19, 2000. Pictured are Oswego graduates Tracey Donovan Fanning ’92, Rich Stoller ’92, Andrew Trager ’92, the bridegroom and bride, Jeannine Muoio Salamone ’92, John Salamone ’91, and Jenifer Egan Milliman ’93. Jacqueline is employed with Morgan Stanley as a regional sales coordinator and Steven is an executive recruiter for TMP Worldwide. The couple lives in Tampa.

Above: Carmen Rufa Boardman ’95 and William Boardman ’95 were married June 9, 2001, in Ogdensburg. Oswego alumni in attendance were, from left, Matthew Yox ’93, the bride and groom, Jillian Carleton ’95, Lisa DeMarco ’95, Jim Shoniker ’94, Nicole Coyle, Paul Brennan ’93, John Coyle ’95, Stacy Bolton, Becca Shoniker, Lynn Dollard ’85, Jill Shin ’95, Barbara MacKenzie, Joe McRoberts ’95, Ed Bolton ’93, Matt Shin, Patti McNeil, and Bill Dollard ’84. Carmen teaches first grade and William is a seventh-and eighth-grade history teacher. The couple resides in Albany.

Above: Michael F. Trombley ’91 and Karin Sherman Trombley were married on July 8, 2000, in Binghamton. Mike is a service manager at the Plattsburgh Housing Outlet, and Karin is a special education teacher at Plattsburgh High School. Present at the wedding were Oswego alumni, from top left, Michael Morrealle ’92, James Smith ’91, Glen Zimmerman ’91, Dave Schultz ’91 and Luke Stiffleear ’91. On the bottom, from left, were James O’Boyle ’91, the bridegroom and bride, Don Lovell ’91 and Mary Kay McKenna Lovell ’92. The couple resides in Plattsburgh.
Above: Cindy Belden Bredenberg ’94 and Scott C. Bredenberg were married in September 2000. The bride is a Spanish teacher in the Donegal School District, and the bridegroom is employed by John Deere Corp. Oswego alumni in attendance were, from left, Jennifer MacDonnell MacDevitt ’91, Bob MacDevitt, Mary Haworth, the bridegroom and bride, Nancy Esper Byrne ’93, Joe Byrne, Cathy Lansing Carlson ’94, Joy Hopper ’93, Craig Carlson ’94, and Sean Fallon. “Hello to Joe B., Mr. Man, Kelli Barnes, Steph MacGuire, and all the field hockey crew from ’90 to ’93,” Cindy writes. The couple lives in Lititz, Pa.

Above: Gayle Grabow Wallace ’95 and Steve “Brooklyn” Wallace ’95 were married June 30, 2001, in Glens Falls, New York. In attendance were several Oswego alumni, including, from left, Amy Barber ’95, Sharee Malone ’95, Lisa Stirpe ’95, the bridegroom and bride, Jeff Gaulin, Jennifer Shaffer Gaulin ’96, and Shannon Center ’96. Also present was Nick Liggins ’97. Gayle is an associate with Morgan Lewis and Bockius in Washington, D.C., and Steve is an officer with the Fairfax County Police Department. The couple resides in Falls Church, Va.

Above: On July 7, 2001, Rebecca Luber Sullivan ’93 was married to Brendan Sullivan in Oswego. Oswego alumni in attendance were, from left, Jennifer Magro ’93, Kristin DeLeo Scharf ’93, Jeanne Walpole ’93, Kathleen Cooper Greco ’93, Jennifer Byrd Leibowitz ’93, Christian Greco ’93, Jason Leibowitz ’92, the bride and bridegroom, Lisa Curia ’93, Natalie Vona ’93, Lyndsay Jenks Hanchett ’92, and Drew Hanchett ’91. Rebecca is the director of public relations at Arnold Worldwide, and Brendan is employed as a science teacher and coach in Needham, Mass. The couple resides in Boston.

Left: On May 19, 2001, Eva Tettenborn M ’97 and Thorsten Daum were married at sunset at Breitbeck Park in Oswego. In attendance were Martina Machovcova M ’01, Amanda Besl ’98, James Java Jr. ’98, and the bride’s sister Ildikó Tettenborn. The couple lives in Binghamton.
IN MEMORIAM

Helen Sayer Beers ’24 of Jamesville died Jan. 8. She taught in Port Chester, Canastota, Fulton, Oswego and Syracuse. Following her retirement from the Syracuse City School District, Helen worked in real estate. She is survived by a son, David.

W. Clinton Merritt ’27 of Waterford died Jan. 11. He is survived by his son, William.

Della Draper Martin ’29 of Liverpool died Sept. 19, 2001. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Syracuse University. Della taught in Glens Falls and Syracuse, retiring in 1969. She is survived by a daughter, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Anna Coleman Thompson ’32 of Fulton died Dec. 4, 2001. She earned a bachelor’s and master’s degree at Oswego. Anna taught in the Fulton School District for many years, retiring in 1972.

Mary Phelps Wellman ’32 of Camden died Jan. 13. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Columbia University and her master’s degree from Syracuse University. Mary taught in the Camden School District from 1932 – 1949, then became elementary supervisor/principal from 1949 until her retirement in 1971. She is survived by a son, Harmon, and two grandsons.

Margaret Brown Zabel ’34 of Charlestown, R.I., died April 2, 2001. She taught for several years at the House of Good Shepherd in Hartford. Margaret is survived by a son, two daughters, 13 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Dorothy Howard Downing ’35 of Oswego died Sept. 10, 2001. She taught for many years at Fitzhugh Park School.

Ruth O’Brien Lawrence ’35 of East Northport died Aug. 18. She retired in 1979 after teaching special education for 43 years in Huntington. Ruth is survived by a daughter, two grandsons and one great-grandson.

Blanche Seifert ’37 of Blossvale died Feb. 3. She returned to Oswego to earn her bachelor’s degree in 1945. Blanche taught for more than 30 years, retiring in 1971.

Helen McCormack Scheutzow ’42 of Oswego died Jan. 9. She was a medical secretary for Dr. Joseph Riley for many years. Surviving are a sister and a brother.

Jane Annal Harter ’46 of Parish died Oct. 16, 1990. She was a teacher in the Altmar-Parish-Williamstown School district prior to retiring in 1971. Jane is survived by her husband, Robert; two daughters and eight grandchildren.

Calvin Shaad ’48 of Mayfield died Sept. 1, 2001. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie.

Harold Ludwig ’48 of South Lyon, Mich., died July 19, 2001. He is survived by his wife, Winifred.


Richard Pepper, Sr.’48 of Camillus died Dec. 16, 2000. He earned a master’s degree from Syracuse University. Richard taught in the Tully school district for 33 years, retiring in 1983. He is survived by his wife, Rose Marie; a daughter, a son and two grandchildren.

Louis Frani ’49 of Latham died Jan. 12.

Dr. John Conkley ’51 of Middletown, Pa., died Sept. 30, 2001. He received dual master’s degrees in education and history from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University and a doctorate in history from Syracuse University. John was vice president at Dowling College from 1969 to 1978, and president of Lackawanna Junior College from 1979 until his retirement in 1985. He is survived by two daughters, two grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Harry Baumann ’52 of Miami Beach died Jan. 9. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor ’51.

Michael Mounce ’53 of Baldwinsville died Sept. 12, 2001. He was a veteran of the Korean War, serving with the Marine Corps. Michael taught in the Liverpool school district for 32 years, retiring in 1986. He is survived by his wife, Mildred Moksvold ’52; three daughters, three sons and nine grandchildren.

Edward Purletti ’59 of Red Creek died Nov. 12, 2001. He earned a master’s degree from Syracuse University. Prior to retiring, Edward was superintendent of schools for Red Creek Central Schools. He is survived by his wife, Marion, four sons and two grandchildren.

Lyle Creadick ’60 of Honolulu died Dec. 12, 2001. He was a member of Sigma Gamma fraternity. Lyle is survived by his wife, Jean, and three children.

Dr. John Ephraim ’61 of Jonesborough, Tenn., died May 14, 2001. He received his master’s degree from Ohio University and his doctorate from the University of Missouri, Columbia. John was an emeritus professor of technology from East Tennessee State University. Surviving is his wife, Rebecca.

Thomas McMahon ’63 of Burnt Hills died Aug. 9, 2001. He is survived by his wife, Patricia.

George Cuney ’64 of Morrisville died Sept. 11, 2001. He also received his master’s degree at Oswego. George retired in 1999 after 35 years as a professor of automotive technology at SUNY Morrisville. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; two daughters and three grandchildren.

Helen Schaffer McGrath ’64 of Palm Harbor, Fla., died Jan. 24. She taught in the Huntington School District for 26 years, retiring in 1990. Helen is survived by her husband, David.

Diane Herrmann Larke ’65 of Gaithersburg, Md., died Aug. 20, 2001. She is survived by her husband, Bob, and a son, Aaron.

David Mealy ’66 of Marcellus died Dec. 2, 2001. He earned a master’s degree from State University College at Cortland. He was principal at Cayuga Elementary School in Union Springs, retiring in 1998. David is survived by his wife, Sandra Sondej Mealy ’68, a daughter and a granddaughter.

Virginia Muirhead-Stange ’70 of Orchard Park died Oct. 5, 2001. She taught elementary school in Maryland for 10 years, then went on to a career in marketing and advertising. Virginia is survived by a son, George, and her mother, Bevra Pease Muirhead ’46.

Irene Angell ’71 of Waterloo died March 4, 2001. She was a teacher at Seneca Falls Middle School.

Helen Hibbert ’72 of Liverpool died Sept. 14, 2001. She had previously been an admissions representative with Boyd Airlines Travel School in Pittsburgh and a district manager with Petra Fashions in Boston. Helen is survived by three sons and six grandchildren.


Richard Reynolds ’75 of Oswego died Sept. 8, 2001. While at Oswego, he was a member of the football team. Rich retired in 2000 after 19 years as a nuclear reactor operator for Niagara Mohawk. He is survived by his wife, Linda Faery ’74; a daughter, Maria, and a son, Steven.

Gabrielle Lecat Adler ’78 of Bridgewater, Conn., died Dec. 16, 2000. She is survived by her husband, Jay ’77, and two daughters.


George Clarke ’77 of Andover, N.J., died Feb. 5.

Robert Auer ’80 of Oswego died Oct. 23, 2001. He was a painter at Oswego Hospital and owned and operated the Brush-Off Painting Co. Bob is survived by his wife, Patricia Schrader ’77, and two daughters.

Mark Zona ’80 of Manchester died Sept. 25, 2001. He taught in Pavilion for three years and was a mechanic for United Parcel Service. Mark is survived by his father.

Frances Deitrick ’85 of Auburn died Jan. 7. Her book, I’m Not Crazy was published in 1992. Frances is survived by her parents and six siblings.

Joan Hill Boshammer ’88 of Ruckersville, Va., died Sept. 26, 2001. She is survived by her husband, Lenny.


Jeffrey Lawton ’90 of Auburn died Oct. 10, 2001. He served in the U.S. Air Force for six years. He came to Oswego as a non-traditional student and later earned his master’s degree at Oswego. Jeffrey taught in the Cato-Meridian School District. Surviving are eight sisters and four children.


Douglas Riebeschl ’92 of Waquoit, Mass., died June 3, 2001. He was a graphic arts teacher at Falcon High School. Douglas is survived by his wife, Cathy, and two children.

Klaus Burkhardt, assistant professor emeritus of German died Feb. 5.

Dr. Thomas Mustico, professor of curriculum and instruction emeritus died Jan. 26. He received his bachelor’s degree in 1962 and his doctorate in education in 1967 from the State University at Albany. Dr. Mustico retired in 1995 after 28 years at Oswego. Surviving are a daughter, two sons and four grandchildren.

Melba Watkins Brown, 96, widow of former Oswego President Foster S. Brown, died March 2 in Naples, Fla. She married Dr. Brown in 1978. Foster Brown was president of Oswego from 1952 to 1963.
Tell Us About Yourself

Share your information in the Class Notes section of an upcoming Oswego magazine.

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Please send admissions information to:

| Name |
| Address | City | State | Zip |

I would like to make a gift to Oswego State. Enclosed is my check made payable to Oswego College Foundation for $_____. For credit card gifts, gifts of stock, or information on other forms of giving, call 315-312-3003 or go online to www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/development.

Clip and mail to The Office of Alumni Relations, King Alumni Hall, SUNY Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126 or respond electronically on our Web site at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/alumni/where.html

Find Old Friends

Seek and be found with the third Oswego Alumni Directory. If you’ve lost contact with fellow Oswego alumni, the directory is an excellent source to reconnect with old friends, as well as to update your own information. You should have already received questionnaires from Harris Publishing, which will once again be printing the directory. Look for additional information soon. The directories are expected to be delivered in December.

Please note that the Alumni Association offers this directory as a service to its alumni; we do not benefit from the proceeds of the sale of the book.

Hideo Haiku

ON THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIDEO TAKAMINE’S graduation, Oswego alumni magazine honors this pioneering international alumnus with our first-ever Hideo Haiku contest.

Haiku is the traditional Japanese poetry form written in 17 syllables, usually three lines of five, seven and five syllables each. Often haiku will incorporate a theme from nature or a seasonal reference, but this is not necessary. For the Hideo Haiku contest, poems should make some reference to Oswego State.

You may enter as many poems as you like. Simply type or print the haiku on an 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper, no more than five poems on a sheet. Please include your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address on each sheet. Also state your relationship to the college: alumnus/alumna (include class year), faculty, staff, emeritus/emerita or student. Employees of the Office of Alumni and University Development are not eligible to win.

Prizes will include Oswego State memorabilia, provided by the Oswego Alumni Association. Winning haiku will be published in a future issue of the magazine.

Mail entries must be postmarked by Sept. 1, 2002. Send entries to Hideo Haiku Contest, King Alumni Hall, 300 Washington Blvd., Oswego, NY 13126. Or you can enter online at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/haiku by Sept. 1.

So have some fun, honor a fellow alumnus and celebrate Oswego’s enduring connection with Japan. Write and submit some haiku today!
Hideo Takamine, the “Sheldon of Japan”

125 YEARS AGO A YOUNG man graduated from Oswego and went on to found a teacher’s college in Japan. His name was Hideo Takamine. This fall, an exchange student from the institution he founded was intrigued by the name of Takamine Street on campus. A chance meeting with one of Takamine’s grand-nieces sparked her exploration into the life of the “Sheldon of Japan.” Here’s the story in her own words.

“I knew that there was a Takamine Street on the campus near Sheldon Hall, but I did not know who Mr. Takamine was and how he was related to SUNY Oswego.

“It was interesting to learn about him through Mrs. [Eiko] Nakamura’s e-mail. In 1875 the Japanese government sent Mr. Hideo Takamine to Oswego to research teaching methods. Oswego was famous for the [object] teaching method. He studied at Oswego and established Tokyo Teachers’ College after he came back to Japan. Mr. Takamine was a vice-principal of the school, and he became the principal later on. Tokyo Teachers’ College became Tokyo Educational University, and it was the predecessor of Tsukuba University, which I attend now. I knew that the exchange program between SUNY Oswego and Tsukuba has been operating for about 10 years, but I did not know this long relationship dated back to more than 100 years ago.

“I hope that people in Oswego know about the long relationship between Japan and Oswego. In addition, spreading a better understanding of Japanese culture is another dream of mine. I’d like to make a wider and stronger bridge between Japan and Oswego.”

—Kayoko Natsume
Jan. 28, 2002

Read Kayoko Natsume’s entire article, “A Bridge Between Oswego and Japan,” online at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/bridge

HIDEO HAIKU

A long time ago —
One hundred twenty five years —
Hideo came here,

Studied with Sheldon,
Then he went home to Japan,
Founded a college.

Now students travel
Across the sea for learning
And sharing culture.

We honor his life
With a poetry contest
In the haiku form.

Just write some poems
Of seventeen syllables
And send them to us.

Be sure to mention
Something about Oswego —
That is the whole point.

Tell us if you are
Alumni, faculty, staff,
Maybe a student

Mention your address,
Your class year and your e-mail,
And your phone number.

By September first
Be sure and have them postmarked —
That is the deadline.

Send them to King Hall
Here at SUNY Oswego
Or submit online.

Winners get neat stuff
And published in Oswego.
Send poems today!

*See p. 47 for complete rules.
A gathering place in the center of campus. A blend of the academic, athletic and social. A truly learner-centered space. The Campus Center, the first new building on the Oswego campus in 35 years, will be all these things and more. To learn more about plans for this multi-purpose hub of campus and how you can help build it, call the Office of University Development at 315-312-3003.
With an actor father and a radio announcer brother, Dr. Lewis B. O’Donnell was raised in an environment that inevitably led him to a life of performance and teaching. “I started taking drama lessons as a kid,” he recalls, “and by the time I was in high school I was working as a radio actor.”

In the early days of local television O’Donnell was announcer, host, director and producer. To Baby Boomers, he was best known as Mr. Trolley on Syracuse’s “The Magic Toy Shop.”

Hired by Oswego in 1962 to set up a television system to support and improve instruction across campus, “Doc O’Donnell” launched the program with nothing but an empty room in Piez Hall and “a dream.” Recruiting students as camera operators and audio and lighting technicians, he made the studio work on a budget. Students requested specialized courses in TV-radio, and administrators responded by allowing O’Donnell to teach through the department of speech and theatre, before communications studies was a separate department. As the demand increased, O’Donnell made a decision that placed him with students for the rest of his career: He asked to change from an administrative line as producer/director to a faculty line. About the same time, Dave Nellis was hired, bringing the number of faculty teaching these courses to two.

“What started out as my teaching a few kids to help in the studio grew into one of the most popular and highly enrolled majors at Oswego,” says O’Donnell. An early studio student was history major Vince Doody, who now teaches production courses at SUNY Oswego himself. He says, “Lew’s legacy is that he respected students and worked hard to develop a professional relationship with them. He brought to SUNY Oswego the credibility of a seasoned professional. Over the years we have worked to maintain this credibility in our teaching staff.”

Students wanting to be big TV stars or nationally known DJs soon understood they would benefit from a well-rounded, liberal arts background in addition to the requisite skill training for their careers.

“I firmly believe that the content of broadcasting, or any communication area, is the world in which it exists,” says O’Donnell. “How could kids become newscasters if they didn’t understand political science and history? How could they write about events if they didn’t understand philosophy and literature and music?”

As a non-traditional student (already married to Elizabeth ’68, MS ’73) O’Donnell earned a bachelor’s degree at Syracuse University and developed an appreciation for the liberal arts. After being assigned to work on a television program called “Ten O’clock Scholar,” covering approximately 40 area school districts, he returned to S.U. to earn a master’s in education. From there, it was a simple decision, even taking a “hefty pay cut,” for O’Donnell to join the Oswego State family.

Serving as chair of the communications department, earning his Ph.D., and receiving the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching brought satisfaction to O’Donnell. His real reward came, however, in the ongoing relationships he formed with the “kids,” first as students, then as alumni and friends. To honor his belief that learning takes place outside the classroom as well as inside, he worked with students in WOCR radio and WTOP television and served as advisor to Zeta Chi Zeta fraternity.

Today, as O’Donnell tallies the Oswego State alumni who are playing contributing roles in communities across America—on camera and behind the scenes, or teaching their own students—he reaps the fulfillment of a 26-year career in education.

“That I was able to help young people grow and develop into better educated citizens is what made it all worthwhile for me,” says Doc O’Donnell.

—Linda Morley Loomis ’90, M ’97