"The difference between a professional career and a 'job' – that stays with me."

Jory Abrams
VP, Regional Transportation Manager, CH2M HILL
B.S., Structural Engineering, Class of '79

JORY ABRAMS UNDERSTANDS THE EFFORT A CAREER DEMANDS.

As a Portland State University student, she learned that becoming involved, developing relationships and giving back to her profession and community are always worth her time. And she believes that for people who want more than just a job, PSU remains the ideal training ground – a radiant hub of activity that brings students, business, government and the community together for the common good.

PSU created a firm foundation for Jory’s life – and she wants to give others the same opportunities she had. That’s why she’s a contributor to Building Our Future, Portland State’s $100 million comprehensive campaign. To join her in supporting the place where real careers start, call 503.725.4PSU, e-mail give@pdx.edu or visit www.pdx.edu/giving.
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Five schools with just one application

President Dan Bernstine and the presidents of Chemeketa Community College, Clackamas Community College, Mount Hood Community College, and Portland Community College signed a historic agreement this spring to integrate student admissions and enrollment, academic planning, and support services.

The schools have formed the Portland Area Higher Education Consortium, which will allow students to move freely among all five schools, tailoring course offerings and times to their own needs and schedules.

“A student at one school may be a student at all five if he or she wishes,” says Joe Johnson, president of Clackamas Community College.

Students at the consortium schools already are benefiting from joint enrollment agreements and single financial aid packages. Soon a single application and registration process will be in place. The agreement also calls forjoint academic planning, the sharing of classroom facilities where possible, and the opportunity for students to complete a four-year degree from PSU while remaining on a community college campus.

Representatives from the five member schools have met for over a year to coordinate course offerings.

For more information, contact Guy Sievert, Portland Area Higher Education Consortium coordinator, at gsievert@pdx.edu or 503-725-5234.

Prime real estate students

Students in PSU’s Center for Real Estate program won the 2006 National Association of Industrial & Office Properties Pacific Northwest Real Estate Challenge with a development solution for a two-block site on Seattle’s waterfront.

The seven graduate students defeated teams from University of Washington, Washington State University, and University of British Columbia. The winning proposal for Seattle’s Elliott Bay Lofts combined retail space with 285 condominium units, targeting young “creative class” workers, empty nesters, and single baby boomers. With many high-end condos opening in the downtown Seattle market, the team mitigated risks by focusing on buyers of more modest means. The proposal also called for

Tracking the invasive New Zealand mudsnail

Researchers in PSU’s Center for Lakes and Reservoirs have a couple of serving suggestions for the New Zealand mudsnail: frozen, dried, or marinated in a toxic bath of Formula 409—anything to help prevent the spread of this miniature menace from Down Under.

Working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, PSU researchers distributed “wanted” cards with information about the mudsnail, and have since found the creature in Coos Bay and in the lower Deschutes River near the Oregon fly-fishing hotspot of Maupin—first sightings in both areas.

The New Zealand mudsnail, though averaging only one-eighth inch in length, can quickly propagate to densities of 50,000 per square foot, literally blanketing riverbeds, crowding out existing species, and wreaking havoc on native plant and fish populations. With a “hatchdoor” known as an operculum, the New Zealand mudsnail can seal itself inside a shell—allowing survival out of water or through a predator’s digestive tract. Early detection of the species, which first appeared in the West in the 1980s, is critical to controlling its spread.

The mudsnail is already prevalent in Oregon’s lower Rogue River, New River, and Umpqua River. It has also been found in Garrison Lake, Floras Lake, Devil’s Lake, and the Coffenberry Lake on the Oregon coast, as well as in the Columbia River estuary and the Snake River. It is not known how the snail arrived in Oregon, but potential pathways include fish hatcheries, boaters, watershed survey crews, and anglers.

“Although new sightings of this invasive species are disappointing, there are many watersheds in the Pacific Northwest where NZMS have not been discovered, and their spread is not inevitable,” says Dave Allen, director of the Fish and Wildlife Service’s Pacific region.

The Center for Lakes and Reservoirs at PSU provides technical assistance, education, and research on management of lakes and reservoirs with an emphasis on management of aquatic invasive species.
rooftop gardens, energy saving devices, and other environmentally sustainable features, including updating an existing parking garage.

The Center for Real Estate is a joint program of the School of Business Administration, the Nohad A. Toulan School of Urban Studies and Planning, and the real estate community. The center educates future real estate professionals in finance, development planning, economic analysis, market analysis, and appraisal.

**Work-life balance (if the boss approves)**

A recent survey of human resources professionals revealed that 56 percent of companies surveyed allow employees to address personal or family issues on company time.

The "Work-Life Flexibility and Dependent Care Survey," conducted by the Regional Research Institute for Human Services at Portland State, WorkatWork, and the Alliance for Work-Life Progress, found that a new understanding of the need for work-life balance is now challenging the belief that long hours at the office equal success.

"It seems that employers are realizing that allowing employees to work flexible schedules and handle some of their personal needs at work can improve both employee satisfaction and bottom-line results," says Anne Ruddy, president of WorkatWork, a professional association concerned with compensation and benefits.

Although the survey results are encouraging for workers, the data also shows that there is still progress to be made before use of flexible work schedules becomes commonplace. Ninety-five percent of the survey respondents said their organization offers some type of flexible scheduling, but most reported that flextime is not used by a majority of employees. The survey also revealed that flexibility is more often than not at a supervisor’s discretion.

A total of 552 compensation, work-life, and human resources professionals completed the survey. To view the complete survey results go to www.worldatwork.org.

**Award helps prof bridge the ‘terahertz gap’**

Professor Lisa Zurk has received a five-year, $400,000 grant from the National Science Foundation’s CAREER Award program to study terahertz frequencies for use in detecting explosives and in biomedical imaging.

Until recently, scientists lacked the means to detect energy at frequencies that fall between microwaves and infrared waves—nicknamed “the terahertz gap”—on the electromagnetic spectrum. Now, researchers like Zurk have begun to explore the unique properties of terahertz radiation, which could be used to scan for explosives by detecting signature “fingerprint” of deadly materials, and for detection of skin cancer with non-ionizing or “safe” radiation.

An assistant professor in the Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Zurk is the fifth PSU faculty member since 1999 to receive a CAREER award—considered NSF’s most prestigious grant. It supports teachers and scholars who are conducting significant research early in their careers.

Since arriving at Portland State in January 2005, Zurk has secured over $1.5 million in research funding. She founded and runs the Northwest Electromagnetics and Acoustics Research Lab, which allows students to conduct research on wave propagation and scattering for such applications as radar, sonar, and biomedical processing.

Zurk has also spearheaded a record number of collaborations with other institutions, including MIT’s Lincoln Laboratory, the Applied Physics Laboratory at University of Washington, Oregon Health & Science University’s OGI School of Science & Engineering, Oregon State University, and the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

In addition to explosives and bioagent detection, Zurk is interested in remote sensing of earth surfaces and acoustic detection of underwater life, such as salmon populations.
Soul at Work: Spiritual Leadership in Organizations
By Margaret Benefiel MA '80, Seabury Press, New York, 2005.

Soul at Work describes the way organizations could do business if they incorporated spirit in the workday. Drawing on examples ranging from Southwest Airlines to the band U2, Margaret Benefiel describes the role that awareness of the soul, or spirituality, can play in leadership and organizational life. The book looks at the role of individuals and the organizational reality in which they work.

Eyes of the Mirror
By Margaret Emerson MA '01, Artichoke Press, Bayside, Calif., 2005.

Margaret Emerson's autobiography moves back and forth between South Korea, where she taught English and studied Tai Chi for two years, and the Pacific Northwest, where she earned a master's degree in writing, taught Tai Chi, and almost died from type-1 diabetes. Emerson uses the two locations to reveal a portrait of her whole self, from small daily tasks to yearnings to her nightly dreams. Today, Emerson lives in Humboldt County, Calif., where she writes and teaches Tai Chi.

Fins, Finns and Astorians
By Greg Jacob (English faculty), CPH Press, Astoria, Ore., 2006.

By 1890, half of Astoria's population could trace its roots in Finland. The area's booming fishing industry attracted these immigrants, who made the town their own. Greg Jacob's small book, 59 pages, tells the story of these hardworking people, who purchased their own cannery in 1897. Union Fishermen's Cooperative Packing Company stayed in business until almost 1950. Jacob grew up in Astoria and his brother, Robert, developed and owns Cannery Pier Hotel built on the Union Cooperative's old pier.

The Tree-Sitter

Julie Prince, a wealthy student at Wellesley, abandons her life to join a group of tree-sitters in the forests of Oregon. At first it's romantic, but as her boyfriend moves toward violent acts of sabotage, Julie must choose between love and her own sense of right and wrong. Suzanne Matson, who teaches at Boston College, also wrote the novels A Trick of Nature and The Hunger Moon.

Superpower on Crusade: The Bush Doctrine in U.S. Foreign Policy
By Mel Gurtov (political science and international studies faculty), Lynne Rienner Publishers, Boulder, Colo., 2006.

Mel Gurtov first traces the sources of U.S. missionary and expansionist tendencies and highlights their particular manifestations in the current Bush administration. Then turning to the war on Iraq, he focuses on real vs. stated objectives. Subsequent chapters examine U.S. policy with regard to such issues as nuclear proliferation, international law, development assistance, the environment, and human rights.

Rebels: Youth and the Cold War Origins of Identity

Holden Caulfield, Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry, and James Dean—these and other symbols of youthful rebellion were more than entertainment figures in postwar America. Leerom Medovoi argues that these "bad boys" stood for dissent and defiance at a time when the United States was looking for emancipatory figures to represent its anti-authoritarian, democratic self-image.

The Raven Deception
By Michael Murray '02, ibooks, New York, 2006.

Michael Harreschou (Murray's real name) has written a novel of intrigue that involves spies, impersonation, and secrets never before revealed from World War II. This is a sequel to Harreschou's earlier book, Raven. A prolific author, Harreschou has written a series of novels on the Navy Seals, as well as a 1992 book, Chain of Evidence, penned under the name Michael Detroit, which was optioned by Disney.

Rik Love's Journal
By Richard S. Nystrom, Sr., '04, PublishAmerica, 2005.

This novel is the diary of 80-year-old Rik Love and tells of his romantic, adventurous, mysterious, and philosophical life experiences. The book is also autobiographical. Richard Nystrom is a self-proclaimed retired hippie, former technical writer, and perennial student. Since 1991, he has written three novels and a nonfiction book on philosophy while attending PSU. He hopes to earn a Ph.D. before he turns 80, which is only a few years away.

Reviews are of faculty and alumni books, recordings, and Web publications. To have a work considered for this page, please contact PSU Magazine via email at psumag@pdx.edu, or fax to 503-725-4465, or mail to PSU Magazine, Office of Publications, Portland State University, PO Box 751, Portland, OR 97207-0751.
"Through Building Our Future, Portland State University is a center for the vision, commitment, and leadership our community expects. It has furthered PSU as a place of transformation, where people discover their futures, renew their lives, and enrich our community."

—Daniel O. Bernstine
President, Portland State University

CAMPAIGN CABINET

The following individuals provided outstanding service to the campaign between July 1, 1999 and June 30, 2006.

Don Frisbee, Co-Chair
Ken Thrasher, Co-Chair
Phil Bogue
Fred Buckman
Jeannine Cowles
Les Fahey ’68
Jack Garrison
Robert Gooette
Ray Guenther MBA ’83
Bob Huntington
Ed Jensen
Lynn Johnson
Tim McGinnis ’67
Dave Morthland
Larry Ogg
George Passadore
Jordan Schnitzer
Peter Stott ’69
Keren Brown Wilson PhD ’83

Building Our Future: A campaign to raise $100 million for Portland State University

CREATING A NEW ERA

Portland State’s first comprehensive campaign breezed by its $100 million goal this winter and continues to garner historic levels of support as it nears its June 30 completion date. The campaign includes 17,700 donations from alumni—gifts that are ushering in an unprecedented surge of growth at Portland State, including new and renovated buildings, new programs, laboratories, scholarships, and professorships.

Less than 15 percent of Portland State’s total annual revenue comes from state of Oregon resources. The campaign couldn’t have come at a better time in light of decreasing state funding, skyrocketing research costs, and a growing tuition burden for students. Those who contributed to the campaign understand this and have given generously through gifts of cash, appreciated assets, and estate gifts.

The private support generated by Building Our Future is advancing Portland State’s preeminence in:

♦ Producing the engineers, scientists, and research our economy demands
♦ Preparing the teachers who will educate our children and grandchildren
♦ Training the professionals who strengthen our family systems
♦ Meeting the demands of business in a climate of rapid innovation, changing technology, and a global marketplace
♦ Creating thoughtful citizens and enriching cultural life through the humanities and the fine and performing arts.

There has never been a better time to invest in Portland State University. Take a look at what we have accomplished so far.
campaign at a glance

Left to right: Prof. Jason Podrabsky in new fish lab; Michael Sah, Ames business scholar; new Native American Student and Community Center; and the Integrated Circuits Design and Test Laboratory.

Scholarships for tomorrow's best minds
No contribution has a greater impact for students than scholarship support. Gifts for scholarships provide for the people who will teach our children, dispense our health care, create new industries, protect our environment, and bring beauty and meaning to our lives. This support allows Portland State to open its doors to all who have the desire to learn and draws students of exceptional promise who enrich our learning community.

Building a first-rate learning environment
New buildings, high-tech research laboratories, and improved student study and gathering areas help students get the most from their university experience and offer valuable resources to others in the community. Private gifts to Portland State are funding the construction of first-class teaching, research, athletics, and student facilities that attract exceptional students and faculty, and benefit local companies as well.

Creating vital and relevant programs
Working in close partnership with the community, Portland State offers programs that sustain our region's high quality of life. Current and deferred campaign gifts are funding innovative new programs in such areas as astrobiology, urban planning, sustainable business, and "small tech" nanotechnology. These and other programs are contributing unique research and study that benefits the region and beyond.

14.2 MILLION 28 MILLION 37.7 MILLION
Supporting an outstanding faculty
Portland State attracts an exceptional kind of individual to its faculty: entrepreneurial, proactive, and fired by a mission to teach and conduct innovative research. These scholars inspire students and generate ideas that change the way we think and live. Endowments for professorships and chairs recruit and retain the faculty who lead PSU's teaching and research agendas in areas vital to our region's economic and social well-being.

Expanding research horizons
Portland State researchers develop new knowledge and find groundbreaking ways to advance industry, improve the quality of our lives, and sustain our planet's resources. Research growth during the Building Our Future campaign—including projects involving cyber security, smart transportation, and biotechnology—is bringing new research to market and strengthening the University's role as a powerful economic driver.

The campaign supports
The following is just a partial list of the many initiatives supported by campaign gifts.

- Roger Ahlbrandt Professorship in Management of Innovation and Technology
- Alice and Taylor Alexander Endowed Scholarship for Women's Athletics
- Gary and Barbara Ames Scholarships, School of Business Administration and Graduate School of Education
- Ames Professorships in Management of Innovation and Technology
- Department of Architecture
- Ernie Bonner Equity Planning Endowed Scholarship
- Gerry and Marilyn Cameron Endowed Professorship in Finance
- Campbell Endowed Professorship in Child, Youth and Family Mentoring
- Center for Electron Microscopy and Nanofabrication
- Center for Excellence in Writing
- Center for Japanese Studies
- Center for Lakes and Reservoirs
- Center for Life in Extreme Environments
- Center for Professional Integrity and Accountability
- Center for Real Estate
- Center for Science Education
- CH2M HILL/CH2M HILL Foundation Intelligent Transportation Laboratory
- David T. Clark Scholarship
- Edward H. Cooley Memorial Fund, Materials Science and Engineering
- Jeannine B. Cowles Distinguished Visiting Professorship in Opera
- Norm Daniels Athletic Endowed Scholarship
- James DePreist Endowed Visiting Professorship in Ethnic Art
- Developing Leadership in Reducing Substance Abuse
- Mark and Ann Edlen Family Scholarship
- Emerging Technologies

Left to right: graduate student Eric Hayden in Keck Geonomics Laboratory; Walk of the Heroin; and Brittany Ferry, Caroline P. Stoelfellow in history.
Pumping up athletics
Leadership, team building, physical prowess—athletics programs provide all of this for students. That’s why donors earmarked more than $6.8 million to PSU Athletics for scholarships and facility renovations. Athletics sponsors 14 intercollegiate varsity programs, six for men and eight for women. The new Bob and Jane Morrow Team Room has become a hub for coaching and team strategizing. The team room is an appreciated addition to the Morrow Academic Center, where student athletes study, receive tutoring, and work from the center’s 16 computers.

Help for startup companies
Melissa Appleyard, an Ames Professor in the Management of Innovation and Technology, spearheaded a proposal to guide 12 startup technology companies through Oregon’s Lab-to-Market Initiative housed at PSU. By networking private-sector business expertise and research at Oregon’s universities, the initiative is facilitating the commercialization of novel technologies. Appleyard represented the business side of the proposal, which also included faculty in chemistry and physics. She and Prof. Pam Tierney hold the first Ames endowed professorships, which were created through a generous campaign donation from Gary and Barbara Ames. The renewable, three-year appointments encourage research on strategic issues relevant to the management of innovation and technology, while attracting and retaining outstanding faculty like Appleyard and Tierney.

Opera program draws elites
Conductor Steven Crawford of the Metropolitan Opera was on campus this spring working with the student orchestra and coaching singers for the three-act opera Tartuffe. He was just the latest in a series of renowned operatic artists who have accepted the Jeannine B. Cowles Distinguished Professorship in Residence created through the campaign. Marilyn Horne, Sherrill Milnes, Tito Capobianco, and Martina Arroyo have all tutored rising stars in PSU’s award-winning Opera Theater Program.

Knowledge central
The use of technology in libraries has emerged at an astonishing speed. Data ports and wireless access within the library and Web access from remote sites link patrons to an unbelievable amount of information—much of it delivered through agreements with other libraries. This describes Portland State’s Branford P. Millar Library, which houses 1.3 million volumes and serves more than 800,000 patrons annually. The Library’s major $2.8 million renovation included a state-of-the-art research center and reorganization of its entire collection, thanks in part to the Building Our Future campaign.

Clockwise starting upper left: Heather Arns, women’s basketball; Cenerentola performed by PSU Opera Theater; Melissa Appleyard, Ames Professor in the Management of Innovation and Technology; and new Millar Library Research Center.
Clockwise starting lower left: Food Industry Leadership student at trade show; Ricardo Alonso, Marta and Ken Thrasher education scholar; and Thomas Keller, Duncan and Cindy Campbell Professor for Children, Youth, and Families.

A passion for teaching
As students rush through the halls of Portland’s Madison High School, it’s easy to mistake math teacher Ricardo Alonso M.Ed. ’05 for one of them. But once at the chalkboard, his knowledge and self-assurance set him apart. Math education is a passion for the Cuban native and offering instruction in two languages, English and Spanish, is a bonus for students. Alonso completed the Bilingual Teacher Pathway Program at PSU and earned multiple scholarships. He was particularly grateful for the Marta and Ken Thrasher Scholarship, which is available for students who plan to teach in areas of teacher shortages: math, science, special, and bilingual education.

Mentoring at-risk youth
Learning from the most successful mentors of children and teaching those skills to university students is the goal of Thomas Keller, the first Duncan and Cindy Campbell Professor for Children, Youth, and Families. For at-risk children, a nurturing adult mentor can make a huge difference in school and in life. The best mentors, says Keller, have a purpose but are also flexible—often following a child’s lead in projects or activities for learning. Keller expects to build a unique program in the Graduate School of Social Work—one that provides Portland State students with the mentoring and other skills necessary to improve the lives of children, youth, and families.

Creating leaders
Industry partnerships are the heart of PSU’s Food Industry Leadership Center. Through collaborations with companies like Fred Meyer, Franz Family Bakeries, and PepsiCo, the center has developed educational and research programs for the food and consumer packaged goods industry. Housed in the School of Business Administration, the center is one of only six programs of its kind in the nation. The campaign raised $1.5 million to fund center courses, programs, conferences, seminars, and internships for industry employees as well as talented students interested in the food industry—the largest employer in the state of Oregon.

Eugene Enneking Fellowship in Statistics
Justin Eyerly Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Marilyn Folkestad Endowed Scholarship in Creative Writing
Fred Meyer Scholars Program
Food Industry Leadership Center
Foreign Languages Programs
Fund for PSU
Future of Promise Scholarships
Garrison Endowed Scholarship for Athletics
Geriatric Enrichment in Social Work Education
Helen Gordon Child Development Center (expansion)
Hatfield School of Government
Heritage Language Program
Homeier-Anderson Doctoral Scholarship
Hopes and Dreams Scholarships
Arthur M. James Professorship in Electrical Engineering
Mary Kinnick PACE Student Award
Donna J. Koch Scholarship
KPMG/Les Fahey Endowed Faculty Fellowship in Accounting
Dolores and Fernando Leon Family Endowed Scholarship
Integrated Circuits Design and Test Laboratory
Intel Systems and Networking Laboratory
Intelligent Transportation Systems Laboratory
Irving Levin/Stephanie Fowler Scholarship
Macdonald Opportunity Scholarship
Sheldon Maron Endowed Scholarship
Maseeh Fellowship for the Outstanding Mathematician
Maseeh Fellowships in Engineering and Computer Science
Maseeh Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium Series
Maseeh Professorship in Electrical and Computer Engineering
The impact of philanthropy
Contributions to Building Our Future provide growing numbers of Portland State students with the resources they need for success, inside and outside of the classroom. Annual gifts to the Fund for PSU—$2.5 million since the campaign began—assist promising students, advance faculty excellence, and kick-start innovative and exciting new programs. This crucial support comes from thousands of alumni and friends who belong to the President’s Circle and make gifts to Portland State’s annual fund. Proceeds from the Simon Benson Awards Dinner also benefit the Fund for PSU. The annual event honors Oregon’s contemporary pioneers of philanthropy and features distinguished keynote speakers such as Colin Powell, Mario Cuomo, Bob Dole, Rudolph Giuliani, Madeline Albright, Walter Cronkite, and Queen Noor of Jordan.

The new face of engineering
Serving more students, increasing research funding, and expanding industry collaborations is the impetus for the Northwest Center for Engineering, Science and Technology. With help from the Building Our Future campaign, the center dedicated a new 130,000 square-foot building in May. Supporters of this shared vision include the Maseeh family; Gordon and Betty Moore; the James F & Marion L. Miller Foundation, the Vollum family; and many alumni, faculty, staff, and friends.

The new building provides space for nearly 41 laboratories and teaching spaces, doubling previous space dedicated to the Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science.

Located on Southwest Fourth Avenue between College and Hall streets, the building is a model of sustainable construction. Sophisticated computer-controlled systems were incorporated to integrate natural ventilation. Storm water from the roof is collected in the Hydrology Lab for analysis by civil engineering students. Deep-water wells allow geothermal heat exchange to augment the mechanical systems. The building's design is being submitted for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.

The $53 million project also involved renovations in the adjacent 125,000-square-foot Fourth Avenue Building. The two buildings connect through their lower levels, as does the existing 1900 Building, owned by the city of Portland.

A three-dimensional sculpture stands in the entry courtyard to the new building. The piece, titled “Tecotosh” by its creator, Ed Carpenter, is a graphic illustration of the four basic engineering principles: tension, compression, torsion, and shear.
Planning for social equity
Urban planning should provide more choices for those who have the fewest. This sentiment was written by the late Ernie Bonner, a longtime activist and former director of the Portland Bureau of Planning. His family has established an endowed scholarship in his name in the Nohad A. Toulan School of Urban Studies and Planning. It will provide funds for students pursuing master's or doctorate degrees in urban and regional planning—particularly students who plan to advance conditions of social equity. As Portland's city planner in the 1970s, Bonner is credited for creating the historic downtown revitalization plan. A collection of his urban planning papers is available in the PSU Millar Library.

Microscopic frontiers
The Center for Electron Microscopy and Nanofabrication is emerging as one of the Pacific Northwest's most advanced facilities for nanoscale science and engineering research. The center's high-resolution electron microscopes—made possible by the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, FEI, and others—allow scientists from Portland State, other universities, and high-tech companies to study material properties at the atomic level and create novel materials and nano-devices. This translates into more efficient miniaturized electronic products that can benefit the fields of medicine, manufacturing, and information technology.

In touch with Jewish culture
Judaism is an ethnic religion that became a world civilization as a result of its diaspora. The Harold A. Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies, founded with the help of campaign dollars, looks at this civilization's encounter with the modern world. It includes faculty and courses from education, foreign languages, history, politics, Middle East studies, sociology, and urban studies. Students, who may earn a certificate in the program, pursue Judaic learning for different purposes: religious identity, intellectual curiosity, teacher certification, and preparation for advanced study. The program also serves hundreds in the community who attend lectures, workshops, and noncredit courses.

Private support through the campaign is advancing Portland State's— and our region's—leadership in nanotechnology, which is expected to be a $2 trillion industry by 2015.
The surprise package arrived at Portland State on October 17, 2005: the lost payload from a balloon launch three months before.

Ranchers David and Janette Roth stumbled on the compact cargo before the winter snows had a chance to bury it for perhaps another half a year. It was in amazingly good shape for having fallen from the fringes of space. On it was written a return address and an offer for a small reward to the person who recovered the package. The money wasn't much, but returning it seemed the right thing to do, so the Roths packed it up (they had to break an antenna to get it in the box), sent it off at the tiny Christmas Valley post office, and returned to their lives.

For the recipients—Mark Weislogel, associate professor of mechanical engineering, and his students—receiving the package was an unexpected thrill. The payload, which they had given up for lost, included a digital camera, complete with 200 stunning images—all flawlessly intact. Taken from more than 20 miles up, they showed the curvature of the Earth, with a band of deep blue separating the warm summer daylight of Central Oregon from the freezing blackness of space. The Three Sisters, Mount Bachelor, and Broken Top show up as a tight cluster of white specks.

Thrills, disappointments, victories, defeats—they're all a way of life for Weislogel and his select crew of engineering students who take part in Launch PSU, a NASA-sponsored program in which students send helium-filled balloons and their high-tech payloads out of the atmosphere. In the two years they've been doing this, the group has performed three high-altitude launches in Central Oregon, as well as a handful of small demonstrations at county fairs where they've elevated dogs and chickens.

"We're kind of weird over here. If we get interested in something, we do it," says Weislogel.

The program is so popular that Weislogel is forced to turn students away. Part of it is the sheer geek factor. If you're into ham radio operation, electronics, global positioning systems, and the challenge of designing complex electronics that can fit in a space the size of an Altoid tin, this is the place to be. The other part is that it's just plain fun: the camaraderie, the all-nighters, the adventure of four-wheeling across the desert to chase down your returning cargo.

"When I was in school, this was my favorite kind of class," Weislogel says.

Portland State's group established such a good reputation for being able to launch balloons that Oregon State University enlisted its help and the
Engineering students send helium-filled balloons and their high-tech payloads to fantastic heights.

By John Kirkland

groups have now done joint launches. The projects give students great hands-on experience in solving technical problems that can't be done in any other environment.

Each high-altitude balloon carries items such as cameras, radio gear, GPS devices—all of which requires communication with the crew on the ground. Temperatures plunge to -60 degrees Fahrenheit when the balloons reach their peak altitude, so someone has to design heaters that will keep the components working. All the technical gear must be small and lightweight. Weislogel limits his balloon teams to six students or less, so each team has a challenging load of puzzles to solve before launch day.

Students do most of their problem solving during the 10 weeks leading up to launch day. On the evening before, with their van loaded with gear, they leave PSU and head over the mountains for sagebrush country. Trying to sleep is pointless. When they arrive at their designated spot outside of Millican, they have only a few short hours before they have to start preparing for launch, a process that begins around 3:30 a.m.

“A lot of the fun is the sleep deprivation,” says student Joshua Hatch, an amateur radio operator, who is on track for a master's degree in mechanical engineering this June.

“In the van we have the helium tanks, sleeping bags, and a lot of loud music,” says Hatch. “Everyone brings music. It becomes a contest of who can find the cheesiest song in the collection.”

Which at times means actually composing one or two. Bob McGown, who studied sand dune formations in Africa from a hot air balloon, is the resident song writer. Among the group he is famous for ditties sung to the tunes of “Satisfaction” and “Yesterday.”

Ready to launch: The balloon team makes final preparations as the day's first light reaches the Central Oregon desert.

Pre-dawn is ideal for launching balloons because of the lack of wind. But that means that the hardest work—assembling all the parts and filling the balloon—is done in the freezing cold by the light of headlamps and lanterns. The balloons, made of latex or polyethylene, can cost $1,000, so the crew is careful not to snag the material on the surrounding brush. Students work according to their specialties: the electronics experts make sure the batteries, antennas, and heaters are in working order. The mechanical experts—including McGown, an experienced rock climber who knows knots—make sure everything is put together correctly. Then they hook the balloon up to the helium tanks and watch it come to life.

Ironically, the pre-dawn hours are good for another purpose. At launch,
the balloon rises high enough to meet the sun's rays while it's still relatively dark on the ground, "making it the biggest star you'll ever see," says Weislogel. It actually makes it easier for the crew to watch the balloon than if it was launched during full sun.

The group whoops and cheers as the balloon lifts off and gains altitude. But the going up part is only half the mission. The other is the coming down.

All the balloons are designed to pop, either on their own or with help from a device onboard. As the balloon rises higher and higher—up to six times the height of a commercial jet's cruising altitude—the atmospheric pressure decreases, allowing the helium inside to expand to the point where the balloon bursts. A parachute carries the payload gently to the ground, although at that high altitude it may have to fall a long way before there is enough air to fill it.

The crew has been tracking the payload this whole time, so when the descent begins, Weislogel and his student make a mad dash to meet it.

It doesn't always go well.

In their July 2005 launch, the group raced across unpaved desert in vehicles woefully inadequate for the job. One, a Ford Taurus, scraped up so much sagebrush that the engine caught on fire. Turns out the fire was only one problem; the car bottomed out so hard on the rutted terrain that it smashed the transmission fluid pan and drained it completely.

On another occasion, the group lost GPS contact with the payload, so they enlisted a local pilot to track it from the air. The pilot spotted the parachute and made wide circles around its descent path so the PSU students knew which direction to look.

Being on the balloon team helped Donovan Finnestad win a place in a PSU group that will participate this year in NASA's Reduced Gravity Flight Opportunity Program in Houston. Two teams from PSU out of 65 from throughout the country will conduct experiments onboard a flight craft nicknamed the Vomit Comet. The KC-135 flies in a parabolic arc to attain zero gravity for 18 to 20 seconds, 30 times in a row.

For Finnestad, there's a direct link between being selected for the Houston project and the work he's done in the balloon program. There's just nothing like the experience of sending a packet of electronics up into the ozone to get your experimental juices flowing.

Even if a rancher has to return it to you in the mail.

(John Kirkland, a Portland freelance writer, wrote the articles "A Painful Interlude" and "Rising Temperatures, Shrinking Glacier" in the winter 2006 PSU Magazine.)
The Faces of Portland State Alumni*

* There are 105,000 of you!

1. Roberta McEniry
   BS '76, Business Administration
   CPA, CIA
   Resources Global Professionals
   President, PSU Alumni Association

2. W.T. "Bill" Lemman
   Vanport; D.Hum.L., h.c. '04
   Executive Vice Chancellor Emeritus,
   Oregon University System
   Board member emeritus, PSU Alumni Association
   Outstanding Alumnus Award 1990

3. The Honorable Margaret Carter
   BS '73, Education
   State Senator, Oregon District 22
   Past president, Urban League of Oregon
   Educator
   Outstanding Alumna Award 2002

4. Ray Guenther
   MBA '83
   General Manager, Intel Operations (Retired)
   Outstanding Alumnus Award 2002
Mathematics professor Steven Bleiler isn't the type who would usually buy a Powerball ticket. To him, the size of the prize versus the odds of winning seldom justify spending even a couple of bucks.

"Imagine a swimming pool 12 feet across, 30 feet long, and four and a half feet deep. It's filled with M&Ms, but there's only one green one in the whole lot, and it's the prize," says Bleiler. "Playing Powerball is like blindfolding yourself and plunging into the pool with the hope of retrieving the one green M&M. Your odds are 146.1 million to one."

So when Bleiler puts money on the line, it's in something that makes mathematical sense: poker. He competes in the World Series of Poker in Las Vegas, and is currently in training for this year's event, which will take place in July and August. For Bleiler, training consists of pedaling his recumbent bicycle, watching his diet, and playing as much poker (a lot of it online) as his off-hours schedule can handle. He's anticipating nine straight 16-hour days at the poker tables, so he's got to be in shape both mentally and physically.

Bleiler, 56, a popular professor who won a distinguished teaching award in 2003 from the Mathematical Association of America, has been playing poker since high school. He got earnest in the early 1980s as a graduate student at the University of Oregon. "I can remember six mathematicians in the room, and we would have serious mathematical games," he recalls.

By mathematical, Bleiler means games in which all parties are thinking and planning based on statistical odds and—his specialty—game theory, an arcane science that finds its way into business, economics, law, and other social sciences. It's the science of strategic decision making.

In other words, Bleiler doesn't play like the rest of us. Five-card draw? Too mechanical and, ultimately, boring. Wild cards? Sorry, they're just not used by serious players.

Bleiler's preference is Texas hold 'em. The dealer starts by handing out...
two cards to every player. These are the only "down" cards—the only cards players keep to themselves. All the subsequent cards are "up" and placed in the middle of the table. They are communal; all cards are used by all players to add to the cards they hold in their hands. Players bet after they receive their down cards, again after the first up card, then again after three more up cards, and once more when the fifth and final up card is placed on the table.

Statistics show that 80 percent of the time the up cards will include three or more cards of a straight, 40 percent of the time there will be three or more cards of a flush, and 40 percent of the time there will be a pair or better. In only one time in 50 will there be none of these things present. The money is in figuring out what everybody is holding in their hands. Bleiler knows that if 10 people are dealt in, there is a 90 percent chance that someone at the table can make a three of a kind out of a pair that’s showing in the up cards. The chances go down with fewer players.

You can only go so far with statistics, however. The rest is simply figuring out the mindset and playing style of the people you’re playing against. This is a major part of game theory: How you react to your opponent’s strategic choices?

"If they’re conservative, they won’t bet on anything low. If they’re maniacs, they’ll bet more freely," he explains. "A bad player might not play his good hand strong enough, or he’ll play it too strong. You have to figure out: Do they make poor starting decisions? Are they too tight or too loose? Nothing substitutes for knowledge of your opponents."

Bleiler uses the example of two hypothetical players, Bob and Alice. After several hands of Texas hold ’em, it becomes clear to the other that each has a certain style of play. Alice has a tendency to play "weak-tight," that is, she’ll bet only if she holds a strong card, otherwise she checks. Bob simply likes to play "tight." In other words, he calls only when holding a strong card.

Either player also might bluff when betting or calling. Both players are silently calculating the possible payoff of playing a particular strategy, knowing that poker is a zero-sum game: Whatever one player wins, the other has to lose.

"Of course, if either Alice or Bob always plays the same strategy, the other will quickly catch on," Bleiler says. "For example, if Alice never bluffs by betting when she holds a weak hand, Bob will soon decide to never call unless he has a strong one. Similarly, if Bob never calls a possible bluff unless he has a strong hand, Alice will show a profit by bluffing every time she is weak. So it behooves the players to mix up their game and play each of their strategic choices with a certain probability."

Part of Bleiler’s training includes watching ESPN tapes from previous World Series of Poker tournaments in anticipation of playing some of the same players who made it to the top. He’s looking for behavioral clues.

“Serious players have a playbook on other players’ strategies, quirks, physical mannerisms—and how meaningful they are. Clues are very subtle, and some players fake them to throw you off."

One reliable clue is when a player’s pupils dilate. It means he’s excited. That’s why many players wear dark glasses or baseball caps, Bleiler says.

Surviving into the top rounds at the World Series of Poker, therefore, is not just a matter of making endless calculations, but enduring hour after hour at the card tables, mixing up your own game at the same time you’re sizing up your opponent’s style of play. As with chess or other games of strategy, success often means simply making fewer mistakes than the other guy.

Yet Bleiler is quick to point out the difference between chess and poker. Chess is a game of “perfect information” in which everything is showing. There are no secrets; each player knows everything that the other knows about the state of the game. Texas hold ‘em is a game of “imperfect information.” Some things are showing and some are not. It’s up to each player to mentally fill in the blanks.

For this reason, a game theorist studying chess would use a whole different set of tools than one studying poker, which is more concerned with strategy in the face of uncertainty.

Nobel laureate John Nash, the subject of the movie A Beautiful Mind, is a game theorist. So are the winners of the 2005 Nobel Prize in economics. In a sense, so are the actuaries and other decision makers at insurance companies: they calculate the odds of having to pay out claims for specific groups of people, and must also decide how much to charge in premiums to offset those chances.

Game theory as well as its applications is seen in so many disciplines—from financial markets to politics to national security—that it’s virtually ubiquitous. You even see it in the movies. Remember the scene in The Princess Bride where Westley and Vizzini are squared off over a table with two goblets of wine, one of which contains lethal poison? Vizzini spends the next few minutes verbally calculating the odds of choosing the right cup based on what he knows of Westley’s personality. Unfortunately for Vizzini, both cups are poisoned.

Bleiler explains part of the game theory of poker in a lecture titled “Quit Work, Play Poker, Sleep ’Til Noon,” which he’s presented at several academic institutions. At the 2005 PSU Weekend, he gave a public lecture on poker, again focusing on the nuances of game theory. Other lectures Bleiler has taken on the road are “Implicit Collusion and the Fundamental Theorem of Poker” and “Quantum Bluffing and Entangled Poker.”

Fortunately for PSU, Bleiler finds academic life more rewarding than professional poker. Still, the fact that he made it into the top third at the 2003 World Series of Poker might give one the impression that he has a decent shot at coming home from Vegas with more cash than he started out with.

What are the odds? You’ll have to ask him. ☰
From small to large, from World War II to post 9-11, from all-male sports to Title IX. Portland State celebrates its 60th year and the milestones its students, faculty, and community have experienced. Following are the stories of four students: two from Vanport days and two from today. They have things in common—the GI Bill, softball, and a need to help others. But their differences tell the real story—one of time, perspective, and progress.

The mood among returning American veterans after World War II was, if not upbeat, then certainly determined. They arrived home in droves ready to make up for lost time—time spent away from their families, careers, and for some, their education.

Capt. John Hakanson was one of these ready-set-go veterans, but he took his return a step further. As he pursued his own education, he helped transform Portland State's precursor, Vanport Extension Center, into a permanent college.

In 1946, because of the GI Bill, Vanport Extension Center had a lot of students, and they were mostly World War II veterans.

Hakanson, now 86, was born and raised in Oakland, Oregon, and saw action in New Guinea, the Philippine Islands, and Japan as a first lieutenant of the 123rd Infantry Regiment. He returned home a captain.

"After the war, colleges were so crowded with people, they could hardly function," Hakanson says. Vanport's makeshift halls were choked with students from 7 in the morning to 11 at night.

They were not college preppies. "Most of us were older than the typical college student and a good deal more experienced in the world," Hakanson says. "Many of us had families, too."

No one realized the long-term consequences when President Franklin Roosevelt signed the GI Bill into law. In fact, many people who would never have had the chance to go to college—working class natives of Oakland, Oregon, for instance—took up the government's offer of books, tuition, and a stipend.

The problem was, there weren't enough facilities to educate and house all these would-be college graduates. Vanport Extension Center became the institution of choice among local veterans for its location in Portland and its plentiful housing, previously occupied by shipyard workers.

That housing came in handy when Hakanson enrolled in 1945, and his new bride, Helen, signed up for the nursing program at the University of Oregon Medical School now OHSU.

As a summer project, Hakanson researched and wrote a fact-filled essay calling for the establishment of Vanport Extension Center as Portland State College through an act of the Oregon Legislature.

His essay was featured prominently in The Oregonian, and soon the issue was indeed taken up by state lawmakers.

Hakanson continued his education at Willamette University in Salem, where he drafted a bill establishing Vanport as Portland State College. Rep. Rudy Wilhelm introduced it and guided it into law.

Hakanson never went back to Portland State. He earned advanced degrees at University of Oregon and University of California at Berkeley.

Later he helped establish Clackamas Community College, serving as dean of instruction and retiring as college president in 1984.

He and Helen raised three sons and one daughter, each of whom made a personal mark in their home communities through teaching in public schools, and involvement in neighborhood sports programs and the community college system.

Now that the adults are stepping back to watch the family's 10 grandchildren enter college, Hakanson finds his strong feelings about access to education remain undimmed. Indeed, some of the same issues that plagued Oregon in his day remain unresolved, generations later.

"The thing I think about now is how difficult it is for some people to go to college at all, even community college," he says. "We probably are shooting ourselves in the foot in that respect."
World War II veterans returned home to a society that rallied around the success of the war. Today, young veterans must come to terms with their war and service experiences without the same sense of support.

Where big crowds of veterans once filled classrooms in Vanport, creating their own culture, today’s veterans tend to feel more isolated from fellow students as well as from society.

Wilson Bowlby, 27, comes from a line of soldiers stretching as far back as the Oregon Trail. “In every generation of the Bowlby family there’s been someone in the military,” he says. “So far, I’m the only one in mine.”

Bowlby traveled over half the world with the U.S. Air Force, then moved to Portland a few years ago from Fort Walton Beach, Florida, to be near his father, Kenneth—who retired from the Air Force—and attend Portland State.

This June Bowlby receives a degree in business marketing with support from the GI Bill. He has yet to settle down with a family of his own, but he definitely plans on it. Eventually he plans on going for an MBA.

Bowlby enjoys travel, he likes to work out at a local gym, but above all, he’s passionate about changing the perception that military veterans have no options once they get out of the service.

“I’ve been part of the Veteran’s Administration work-study program since I started college and it’s provided me, as a full-time college student, so many opportunities,” he says.

Bowlby was raised a “military brat,” as he puts it. His parents, Kenneth and Min Hui, met and married in Korea in the early 1970s. Bowlby had already lived in Germany, Korea, New Mexico, California, and Washington state before his senior year in high school.

Enlisting at age 19, he went first to Japan, where he spent three years working as a satellite radio operator, learning the technical side of communications. He also spent all his free time traveling through the countryside, climbing Mount Fuji, and exploring Japanese food, art, and culture. While in Japan, Bowlby extended his tour for another year after his original two were up.

Next Bowlby was sent to a base in the U.S. Strategic Air Command in Nebraska. It was a more prestigious opportunity, involving a high-profile assignment. It was also tougher technical work in a freezing, featureless, and isolated location.

The young airman never saw combat, but he certainly prepared for it. On Sept. 11, 2001, Bowlby got to meet President George W. Bush, who stayed at the Nebraska base because it was considered one of the most fortified locations in the nation.

A turning point for Bowlby was the death of his mother in 2000. “Her big thing, while I was in the Air Force, was to get me to go to college,” he says. “She’s my motivation.”

Even though Bowlby’s father was living in Portland, PSU was not a shoe in. He shopped around the country before deciding on Portland State. However, when he got here, it was all about family. While visiting his father’s ancestral home in Cornelius, he was surprised to find out that his great-great-grandfather, Wilson Bowlby, was a covered wagon pioneer on the Oregon Trail.

“Moving here was a cool idea because I’ve been able to spend time with my father and learn about the original Wilson Bowlby,” he says. Born in New Jersey, the first Wilson Bowlby came to Oregon in 1852, became a doctor, set up practice in Cornelius, and eventually served in the Oregon Legislature, rising to Senate president in 1862.

Now that he’s out of the military and looking forward to a new career, Bowlby, it seems, will never quite leave the Air Force behind. He insists that the single most important thing Portland State does is support veterans.

“It seems like a lot of the veterans today don’t know about the services available to them,” Bowlby says. “That’s the most important thing—helping the veterans.”
Walking through Portland State University's 49-acre campus today, it's easy to take Oregon's only urban college for granted. It's big, it's international, and it nestles in the middle of Portland as if it's always been there.

Few realize that every degree and every department was won piece by piece, carved by University advocates out of an intransigent higher education system.

Margaret Dobson, 74, was one of those carvers.

It was hard. For the first several decades of Portland State's existence, officials from the Oregon State Board of Higher Education would not allow the school to offer any degree offered by the two downstate universities.

For Dobson, who joined the faculty in 1955 as an instructor and retired in 1990 as executive vice president of the University, it was a situation that required finesse as well as firmness.

"Every step of the way we fought a major battle," Dobson says. "For every degree we got, I had to wine and dine my colleagues at University of Oregon and Oregon State to get their support before the State Board of Higher Ed."

"Our first Ph.D. was in urban studies because, obviously, there was no conflict," Dobson says. "People won't believe how hard we've worked to get where we've come. In the last few years we've gained more students and have a larger student body than any other university in the state."

Dobson's accomplishments as an athlete often seem to eclipse her academic achievements.

In the late 1940s, Dobson started playing third base on a semiprofessional softball team, the Erv Lind Florist team of Portland. She was 16 years old. At age 19 she enrolled at the Vanport Extension Center, only to find the school had no softball team.

It didn't matter; Dobson was so good at the sport she was invited to play on the men's 1951 baseball team, where she earned a varsity letter and notice in Time magazine.

Dobson continued to play women's softball and was voted Most Outstanding Player in the 1952 National Softball Playoffs. She set a record batting average, .515, at the 1954 Women's World Softball Tournament.

Dobson made enough money from softball to put herself through school. Like many others from the early days, she attended Vanport but could not get a full baccalaureate degree there. Instead, Dobson earned degrees in physical education and educational administration from University of Oregon and University of Wisconsin.

The deeper she delved into sports and education, the more committed Dobson became to making both available for all children. In the early 1960s, she and a small group of like-minded people began lobbying influential people to provide sports opportunities for mentally challenged children. One of the people she met at the time was Eunice Kennedy Shriver.

As a result, in 1962 Shriver started a summer camp for the disabled at her estate in Maryland. At the same time, Dobson toured universities across the United States instructing future educators on how to teach disabled kids.

By 1968, the camp project had grown. Today it's considered a global movement and known as the Special Olympics.

During Dobson's tenure as an administrator at Portland State, the University added five new certificate programs, five baccalaureate degrees, four new master's degrees, and four new doctoral programs. During the same period Dobson was listed by Sports Illustrated as one of Oregon's 50 greatest sports figures of the 20th century, and named to the National Softball Hall of Fame.

This spring Dobson received the President's Award for Advancement (see page 28).

Which is her most enduring legacy?

"So often throughout my life I've been talked about as an athlete," she says. "But I'm much prouder of what I did as an educator."
One Wednesday afternoon early this spring, Michelle Hext convened her usual Little League softball practice on a windy, green field in Hillsboro.

She may appear petite and quite feminine, but Hext is a stern taskmaster. The all-girl squad—this particular team is now, one by one, entering the teen years—came ready for Hext’s tough workout of running, batting, pitching, and catching drills.

Parents milled at the sidelines. One came over and huddled with Hext; it was a team member’s birthday, and someone had brought a big sheet cake in the back of her car.

“It’s just times like that where I say, okay, pitch for half an hour and then let’s have some cake,” says Hext. “As I’ve gotten older, I’ve gotten better at coaching, including knowing when to goof off.”

Twenty years after Margaret Dobson, alumna and retired PSU administrator, won a varsity letter at Vanport, Title IX became law, requiring schools to give girls equal access to sports.

By many accounts it took another 20 years—a whole generation—of lawsuits and additional legislation to put Title IX rules into effect. Which explains why the sports community supporting girls and women has flourished most in the past 10 years.

There is no better example of the growing trend of women, girls, sports, and community building than Hext.

In contrast to the barrier-busting Dobson, Hext had the opportunity to do every sport her brother did, right in the public school system.

However, although Hext could aspire to professional women’s sports, which are now booming in popularity like never before, she’d rather invest her time and expertise training female athletes of the future.

In that sense she definitely takes a page out of Dobson’s book.

Hext, 22, is one of the best softball pitchers in the Pacific Coast Softball Conference. Last year Hext, a right-hander, racked up a career-high 11 strikeouts in one game, which ended in a PSU shutout against University of San Diego. She’s been named to the All-Conference Second Team for two years in a row.

Her biggest challenge? Keeping her schedule straight. “I have every second of my planner filled out for the next three months,” she says.

Every day Hext goes to class, then to softball practice with the Vikings. She then heads to Hillsboro for her part-time coaching job. Late in the evening, past dinnertime, she goes home to her own schoolwork. She’ll be graduating in June with a dual degree in English, and arts and letters.

A native of Beaverton, Hext started T-ball in grade school and began playing competitively at age 11. That was the year Hext’s dad, Steve, rearranged much of the family’s routine around Michelle and her baseball-playing brother, John.

Hext has been playing softball 17 years now, and the sport is more than just a game; it has a social fabric all its own.

Which Hext found out for herself a few years ago, when her high school softball mentor asked her to coach a group of girls. The job has kindled a fire inside Hext she didn’t realize was possible.

“I have a group that’s just going from 12 to 13 years old, and I’ve had them for a few years—now they’re coming in to practice with makeup and hairdos,” she says. “They’re changing, their attitudes are changing, and their attitude toward me is changing. Definitely I think they’re facing a lot more than I did,” she says. The kids are specializing at an earlier age, she says, in part because they have fewer electives in school. They’re also more competitive—all of which sometimes makes the kids’ lives more stressful.

Nevertheless, Hext says the community is investing more time and energy in its daughters, and the future payoff will be stronger, more fulfilled women.

“Just interacting with them and their parents,” she says, “sometimes I just watch them and it reminds me of what my dad did for me.”

(Lisa Loving, a Portland freelance writer, wrote the article “From Descartes to Diapers” in the winter 2006 PSU Magazine.)
Patrick Augustine, a Hewlett-Packard software engineer, is in PSU's Master of International Management program.

Four million women from the Philippines and Indonesia—10 percent of the workforce—travel to other Asian countries and the Middle East for work. While some are better off for the experience, others suffer, sometimes brutally.

Foreign maids, cooks, and nannies are routinely required to work 18-hour days with a day off every three months. Some domestic helpers are confined to their employers' homes—permitted to step outside only to set out the garbage.

The 2005 Trafficking in People report by the U.S. State Department notes the virtual enslavement of maids. In some horrific cases, women are sexually or physically abused, even forced into prostitution. Some, in desperation, commit suicide.

"Since 1999, over 100 maids have fallen from high-rise apartments in Singapore," says Patrick Augustine. Hearing such reports, he says, "I was just compelled to do something."

Augustine, 39, is a software engineer with Hewlett-Packard and also a final-year student in the Master of International Management (MIM) program at Portland State. Last year, working with other students from the program, he started Guardian of Humanity, which seeks to improve the working conditions for domestic helpers in Asia and the Middle East.

How does a software engineer wind up heading an international organization helping women in Southeast Asia? Augustine's story says a lot about the village-ization of the globe and one man's resolve to do something about a seemingly hopeless situation.

Women from poor countries throughout the world increasingly travel to places where middle-class and wealthy families hire them to watch their children, cook their food, and clean their homes. Why? A college graduate can earn up to five times as much working as a maid as she would earn in her home country as a teacher. That salary—$100 to $500 a month—can in turn be sent home to help her family achieve a better life.

From Sri Lanka, 650,000 women travel primarily to the Middle East to work as maids and nannies. Globally, the numbers are hazy, perhaps unknowable, given the shadow labor force of women working illegally outside their home countries. In Malaysia, for instance, 165,000 Indonesian maids were registered in 2003. But add the women working illegally in the country, and the numbers increase by an estimated 100,000.

Augustine's working-class background, a history of looking out for others, and his international perspective have helped him sympathize with these women's plights.

His story starts outside of San Francisco in the town of Vacaville. Augustine's father worked in a warehouse and his mother had her own business making leotards—first for his younger sister, a gymnast, then for gymnasts throughout northern California.

He graduated from high school in 1984 and promptly followed his older brother into the U.S. Army, serving in the infantry and military police. Augustine was stationed in Hawaii and Texas, but was also deployed around the world—to Thailand, Japan, Korea, Panama, and Somalia.

"As a combat M.P.," says Augustine, "you're protecting not only military personnel and equipment, but also civilians—whomever you come in contact with."

It was a life that suited him—for a while.

"I was pretty much planning on a career in the military," he says.

His toddler changed all that. "After my fifth year of service, my wife and I had a baby girl," says Augustine. "I was traveling so much—19 months on the road out of the last 24 I was in the service—that I was a stranger to my daughter. She would cry every time I tried to pick her up, and that really bothered me."

Knowing little about what his future held, Augustine decided to find a career in the then newish field of computers. "I figured," he says, "I'd try something 'easy.'"

Although he discovered that computer science wasn't easy, he loved the work. His enthusiasm and accomplishments landed him an internship at the Hewlett-Packard research and development facility in Vancouver, Wash.

When he graduated from Chico State, a job was waiting for him.

The Vancouver R & D lab develops Hewlett-Packard's most successful product: state-of-the-art inkjet printers. The company produces those printers at facilities around the world. Augustine quickly moved up the corporate ranks to a position that required him to travel frequently to the company's far-flung production facilities and to launch contract facilities in Asia.

When he traveled, he picked up local English-language papers. What he read convinced him he had to do more than just read.

"Every time I went over there, I'd read a major story of abuse," says Augustine. "It really opened my eyes as to what was happening overseas with domestic workers . . . Finally, I just couldn't take it anymore."

By that time, Augustine had enrolled in Portland State's MIM program. The MIM degree is similar to an MBA, however courses are focused on

Photo: Steve Durnil
Indonesian domestic helpers rally outside their consulate in Hong Kong asking for safe working conditions.

International issues and the degree requires a foreign language, either Chinese or Japanese. Augustine is taking Chinese. Students can complete the work in one year as a full-time student or in two years in the part-time program. About 70 students are in the program.

MIM students complete an exit project in their final year—often working in groups of three to five with a local company to help solve a real-world problem. Last year, Augustine, who is in the two-year program, solicited students in their final year to conduct research into the plight of domestic workers working outside their home countries. Four students said yes.

Their first task was to understand the scope of the problem. They researched the numbers of people affected, foreign labor laws, and most importantly, the informal positions governments held regarding guest workers.

Augustine paid for himself and two members of the MIM team to travel to the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Taiwan and meet with government officials. These meetings helped them understand the nuances behind official positions on foreign workers—and the best way to go about establishing a helping agency in each country.

The MIM students found a profitable, poorly regulated industry with financial motivations for governments to ignore the situation. Some 12 to 16 percent of the gross domestic product of the Philippines and Indonesia comes from overseas salaries sent home. According to a United Nation's economic report, maids and other nationals working overseas sent more than $8.5 million home to the Philippines in 2003.

The money trail begins with recruitment agencies that often operate out of the public eye. Agents collect fees of $100 to $400 from women in small villages whom they encourage to sign up for overseas jobs. Some agencies offer women the option to pay the fee from their first several months' salary. With hundreds of unregulated agencies, the potential for abuse is staggering.

"A lot of bad things can happen to them," says Augustine, "before they ever leave their country."

Women may be told they will receive a month or two of training in laundry, cooking and caring for infants and elderly patients. Instead, says Augustine, they may be locked up for six months to a year in facilities with barred windows and razor-wire topped walls—buildings that resemble prisons more than schools. Guards monitor their activities, and they are often bused out to worksites where they provide free labor until they're sufficiently "trained."

Once they're sent to their overseas employer, things can become really ugly. Work visas restrict the women to a single employer and worksite. But unscrupulous employers may farm them out to relatives' homes, small businesses, even massage parlors. These are all outside the scope of the work visa, and if the women are discovered, authorities send them home.

Foreign labor laws generally do not protect the domestic worker, says Augustine. Employers face few if any consequences for withholding all or
part of a maid’s pay. “The government is well aware, and they’re turning a blind eye.”

But as unfair as those work practices are, some women are subjected to even worse: physical abuse, sexual abuse, and rape.

Often, says Augustine, workers are abused by women employers, who accuse the maids of flirting with their husbands. Employers have burned maids with clothes irons and scalded them with boiling water.

While the numbers of reported cases of abuse and rape are small—in Southeast Asia only 25 to 30 cases a year may be reported—the more telling fact, Augustine believes, is that none of these are reported by the maids themselves.

Instead, individuals who see signs of the abuse call the authorities. Typically a worker is turned over to her country’s consulate, which sends her home. “Their goal is to send money home,” says Augustine. If they’re forced out of their job, there’s no money to send home. “That’s why they don’t go to the authorities.”

Still, the MIM researchers found that when the Philippines government acknowledged the situation and set up a safe house in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, some 30 women a week sought refuge.

Michele Gamburd, a PSU anthropology associate professor, has written about the issue as it relates to women in Sri Lanka in her book, The Kitchen Spoon’s Handle: Transnationalism and Sri Lanka’s Migrant Housemaids. Out of a nation of 19 million, 650,000 Sri Lankan women travel abroad for work, primarily to the Middle East, she says. Gamburd is interested in how global economics have helped create this diaspora.

The real issue, she says, is why these people “can’t make ends meet at home.” Gamburd points particularly to policies of the International Monetary Fund, which she says have been virtually requiring Third World countries with outstanding loans to cut back spending on social services—things like subsidies for rice and cooking kerosene.

“Basically these are programs that are really devastating to poor people,” she says. “The local economy is in the tank . . . going abroad is the only recourse.”

Gamburd believes that true relief must come through governmental action. “The large-scale structures that oppress need to be worked on,” she says. Job placement agencies need to be more tightly monitored so that women can be assured of being placed where they are told they will be and paid what they’re promised.

Augustine has some of the same concerns.

“There is one thing that particularly upsets me about this issue,” he says. Women working in foreign countries as maids “are making huge sacrifices to provide for their families back home—many of them leave behind their husbands and children in the process. They are willing to accept the difficult working conditions, and for the most part that is all right. What will never be all right is all the abuse that is happening.”

Building on the research and field visits, Augustine formed Guardian of Humanity to work with governments to provide safe houses and develop protective foreign labor laws for domestic helpers.

Guardian has a board of directors composed of MIM students from Southeast Asia, Thailand, Korea, Taiwan, Yemen, and Turkey. Fellow MIM student John Lee is vice president of the board and is also Augustine’s coworker and friend.

When they started the MIM program, the two were on the same work team at Hewlett-Packard and sat in across-the-aisle cubicles. Since Augustine joined the company, he and Lee have traveled together to Singapore, Spain, Japan and other countries for the company and socialized together outside of work.

As Augustine developed the idea for Guardian of Humanity, Lee jumped on board.

Why are he and Augustine so willing to commit time and personal resources to the plight of people halfway around the world?

Lee says the motivation for Guardian of Humanity was a fusion of Augustine’s growing awareness of the issue as he traveled more to Southeast Asia on business combined with the focus of the MIM program on international topics and the opportunity to interest MIM students in the cause.

“You get to a certain stage. You have a family, house, kids, and successful job. You’re faced with a choice of spending on material goods or asking, ‘What else can I do?’” says Lee. “Some people find religion. Some people volunteer. Some people say maybe there’s something unique I can contribute—a skill or knowledge. That’s Patrick’s motivation.”

This year, Augustine is working with another group of MIM students on an exit project seeking $2 million in grants and other funding so Guardian of Humanity can begin opening embassy-affiliated safe houses. These houses would primarily offer refuge for abused domestic helpers, but Augustine would also like to provide job training that could qualify women for better jobs, such as beauticians or dental assistants, back home.

Once under way, Augustine believes the safe houses could be self-funding. Currently, maids send their wages home via remittance centers, where they are often charged high processing fees. If Guardian partnered with such a center, together they could offer lower fees and keep a portion as operating capital for the safe houses.

It’s an enormous goal—perhaps even quixotic. But Augustine sees no choice.

“The physical and sexual abuse needs to be addressed immediately,” says Augustine. “These women are entrusted with babies and grandparents.” How do you mistreat someone who has those kind of responsibilities? I can’t even begin to imagine. Fortunately, I don’t need to understand why. I just have to prevent it.”

(Melissa Steineger, a Portland freelance writer, wrote the article “A New Way Home” in the winter 2005 PSU Magazine.)
Softball team scores winning season

Change can be good or bad. For the 2006 softball team, there wasn't a whole lot of bad in a season of huge changes.

Good came as the team captured its first-ever winning season as a Division I program and its first Pacific Coast Softball Conference title. Change came with the retirement of head coach Teri Mariani after 29 seasons and the entrance of coach Amy Hayes, former assistant coach at University of Oregon.

Thanks to Mariani, who is now interim director of Athletics, Hayes inherited a team with seven returning letter winners and four position starters. While the Vikings stumbled to a 0-5 record at the start of the season, the team finished 38-20 and 15-5 in the conference to secure the league's NCAA Regional berth. As the No. 3 seed in the four-team NCAA Corvallis Regional, Portland State was eliminated with a 1-2 record. However, the Vikings showed they belonged with the nation's elite, dropping two tight contests to nationally ranked Baylor University.

"What a year, I am so proud of these young women," says Hayes. "Teri Mariani recruited a great crew of athletes, so we had a good foundation to work with. They all worked so hard. They realized that you can't just talk about what you want, you have to be disciplined, dedicated, and determined to get it. They did just that. A conference championship and an NCAA Regional win—what a first year."

With the success on the field, the Vikings were recognized with post-season honors. Hayes was named the Pacific Coast Softball Conference (PCSC) Coach of the Year, while sophomore right-hander Mandy Hill was named the conference's Pitcher of the Year. Hill also hit 12 home runs, earning her second-team honors.

Five players earned All-PCSC, including three first-team selections in Hill, senior shortstop Lacey Gorman, and senior right-hander Michelle Hext. Sophomore designated player Stephanie Bean and junior left-fielder Kimi Daniel gained second-team honors.

Viks add Ducks to Division I-A menu

The Portland State football program has added an unprecedented third NCAA Division I-A opponent to its football schedule for the 2006 season. The Vikings will face the Oregon Ducks on Oct. 28 in Eugene.

PSU, a member of the Big Sky Conference and a I-AA football participant, is already scheduled to open the season on Sept. 2 at University of New Mexico – Los Alamos, a member of the Mountain West Conference. The Vikings are also scheduled to play University of California – Berkeley, a Pac-10 school, on Sept. 16 in Berkeley.

Coach Tim Walsh is looking forward to the competitive challenge and the television exposure the nonconference games will generate. He also expects the games to gross nearly $1 million.

In the past, the Viking have not had much luck against the Ducks. They played University of Oregon in 1994 and 2002, losing 58-16 and 41-0. New Mexico and Cal will be brand new opponents.

The coaches of these higher-ranked teams better hope their players put on a good show. Coaches get fired when they lose to Division I-AA teams, says Walsh.

"In 2004, when we lost to Fresno State 27-17, and had the ball at the goal line at the end, Pat Hill came up to me and said, 'We are not playing you guys again.'"

The change in schedule will give Portland State just four home games and seven road games. The home schedule starts Sept. 9 with PSU battling Northern Colorado at PGE Park. The Bears begin their first season as a member of the Big Sky Conference.

All Portland State home games are scheduled for 6:05 p.m. Season ticket information is available by calling 503-725-5627 or visiting www.goviks.com.

Be there for the games

Join Viking football fans in Berkeley Sept. 16 and in Eugene Oct. 28. The Alumni Association is planning events around the two nonconference games. Call 503-725-4948 for details.
PSU: Weekend Edition

The Alumni Association is excited to announce that Scott Simon, popular host of National Public Radio's Saturday Weekend Edition, will be the keynote speaker for the 16th Annual PSU Weekend October 20 and 21. Simon will speak at a Saturday brunch as part of a new format for PSU Weekend, which includes free seminars given by PSU professors and area luminaries. An exclusive Preview Night party and a pre-football game reception is planned for Friday, Oct. 20.

Known as one of the best writers in broadcast journalism and winner of the Peabody Award, Simon's participation in this year's event continues a tradition of outstanding, nationally-recognized PSU Weekend speakers. Past speakers have included Frances Mayes, Robert Kennedy Jr., David Halberstam, and Ursula Hegi. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information, contact Jim Turner at 503-725-8210 or jhturner@pdx.edu. For a PSU Weekend schedule, visit the PSU alumni Web site at www.alumni.pdx.edu.

Longtime staffer retires

Myrna Duray, administrative assistant in the Office of Alumni Relations, and compiler of PSU Magazine's Alum Notes section, is set to retire June 30. Duray, who has greeted alumni and been the office's sole support staff for the past 12 years, is retiring from a 21-year career at Portland State, nine years of which she spent at the Athletics Department.

"Myrna has been our frontline person and the face of the Alumni Office to many of our alums," says Pat Squire, assistant vice president for Alumni and Constituent Relations. "The entire community will miss her positive and friendly attitude and her knowledge of the campus."

Duray plans to spend time in her garden, volunteer for pet causes, and do some traveling.

Alumni Association goes international

International alumni comprise a significant portion of Portland State's 105,000 graduates, and this year the University got reacquainted with many of them in Thailand, South Korea, Japan, and in the Middle East.

Making a first major alumni trip to Asia were President Dan Bernstine, Provost Roy Koch; Michael Reardon, professor emeritus of history and humanities; Cassie McVeety, vice president for University Relations; and Gil Latz, vice provost for International Affairs. The group met with foundations and university representatives, business leaders, and prospective students.

More than 80 alumni and friends gathered in Bangkok, Thailand, February 11 at an event organized by alumni Thuchchai "Ake" Piyakulchaidej '04 and Toryos "Och" Pandejpong '97. University officials also met with Ministry of Science and Technology representatives, visited a Nike contract factory outside Bangkok, and signed a formal cooperative agreement between PSU and Dhurakij Pundit University for exchanges and joint projects.

In South Korea, alumni and friends met February 15 at Sangmyung University, which co-hosted the event. Professor Jin Hwan Lee of Sangmyung made all the arrangements for the alumni event as well as the ceremony between the two universities. Visits were arranged with the Korea Foundation and the Korean Broadcasting System. Ma-Ji Rhee, PSU professor of foreign languages and literatures, was instrumental in the event.

The Oregon Bar and Grill in downtown Tokyo was the setting for the Japanese alumni event attended by more than 120 alumni and friends, including a number of dignitaries and PSU's own Patricia Wetzel, professor of Japanese and director of the Institute for Asian Studies. Organized by Hideo Uratani '79 and Hiroyasu Ejima '95 in Japan, along with Yoko Sakurautchi '04 from the PSU Alumni Association in Portland, the event featured speeches, awards, group photos, and a special prize of one round-trip airfare from...
In Bangkok, President Dan Bernstine (left) poses with alumni event co-organizer, Toryos “Och” Pandejpong '02, and his wife.

Tokyo to Portland, courtesy of Northwest Airlines. Other activities in Japan included visits with the Tokyo and Nippon foundations, meetings with officials from Waseda University, and informal alumni meetings.

Some 50 PSU alumni and friends held their third annual reunion at the Hilton Kuwait Resort in Kuwait City March 16. Alumni and friends from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Kuwait attended the event hosted by Abdullah Al Saleh '03. Also present at the banquet was Richard LeBaron, the U.S. ambassador to Kuwait, and Rasha Al Sabah, Kuwait undersecretary of the Ministry of Higher Education. Joining President Bernstine from Portland State were John Damis, Middle East Studies Center director; Marvin Kaiser, dean of the college of Liberal Arts and Science; and administrators Linda Morrell and Pat Squire.

In Bangkok, President Dan Bernstine (left) poses with alumni event co-organizer, Toryos “Och” Pandejpong '02, and his wife.

Upcoming events for alumni and friends

♦ 2006 Intel alumni event; join fellow alums for socializing and mingling; place and time to be arranged
♦ Pendleton alumni event, September 14, 5 to 7 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main Street
♦ Northern California alumni event and Viking football, September 14 to 16, location and details to come (PSU vs. University of California – Berkeley, September 16)
♦ PSU Weekend, October 20-21, speakers and details to come
♦ Vikings vs. Ducks road trip to Eugene, October 28, details to come

For additional information, go to the Alumni Association Web site at www.alumni.pdx.edu or call 503-725-4948.

Old yearbooks wanted

Do you have old Portland State University, Portland State College, or Vanport yearbooks? Don’t throw them out. Donate them to the Alumni Office by calling 503-725-4948. ☐
Saluting alumni and friends of Portland State

The lives and accomplishments of the following seven people were honored at the annual PSU Salutes reception May 11.

Margaret Dobson '53 (Vanport)
President's Award for University Advancement
♦ Faculty member since 1955; professor emerita of health and physical education and executive vice president emerita
♦ Highest ranking woman administrator at PSU from 1980 to 1990
♦ Former board member of the Viking Backer Advisory Council
♦ Generous donor to Viking athletics scholarships, programs, and other campuswide programs
♦ Member of the National Softball Hall of Fame and the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame
♦ Viking baseball player in 1951

Dick Powers
Outstanding Friend of Athletics
♦ Volunteer team photographer for over 17 years
♦ Photographer of thousands of PSU images used in Viking programs, media guides, and other communications
♦ Former Multnomah County reserve deputy, who assisted 1946 Vanport flood victims
♦ Veteran of three decades of decorated military service

Michael Reardon
Distinguished Faculty Career Award
♦ Faculty member since 1964; professor emeritus of history and humanities; former provost
♦ Early pioneer and longtime supporter of international advancement and recruitment
♦ Recipient of the George C. Hoffman Award for Faculty Excellence and the Mosser Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching
♦ Recipient of the national PEW Leadership Award for Transformation of Undergraduate Education and a Kellogg Award for Leadership in Institutional Transformation

Mike Richardson '77
Outstanding Alumnus Award
♦ President and publisher of Dark Horse Comics, third largest comic book publisher in the U.S.
♦ Founder of Dark Horse Entertainment, producer of such movies as The Mask, Alien vs. Predator, and Hellboy
♦ Supporter of PSU Athletics the Millar Library
♦ Viking basketball player from 1973 to 1977

Jim Rippy
President's Award for Outstanding Philanthropy
♦ Founder of the Hopes & Dreams Scholarship for first-generation students at PSU
♦ Lead donor to the Future of Promise scholarships program at Portland's Roosevelt High School
♦ Member of the PSU President's Circle
♦ Donor to the new PSU Northwest Center for Engineering, Science, and Technology
♦ Sponsor of Northwest Science Expo, the region's premier science fair for middle and high school students
♦ PSU Foundation board member

Joan Shireman
Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award
♦ Faculty member since 1985; professor emerita of social work
♦ Founder and first director of PSU's Ph.D. program in social work and social research
♦ Founder of the Charles and Joan Shireman Endowed Scholarship for PSU students interested in careers in child welfare or juvenile justice
♦ Volunteer and board member for more than 20 years at Friendly House in Portland
♦ Board member for the Oregon foster care Citizens Review Board

Milton Smith '62
Outstanding Alumnus Award
♦ President of Smith Investments, an investment and accounting firm
♦ Board member for the Swan Island Network, Inc.
♦ A founder of ThrustMaster, Inc., and of Floating Point Systems, Inc.
♦ Past chairman of the Oregon Council of the American Engineering Association (AEA) and a member of the AEA national board, the Oregon Business Council, and six other nonprofit organizations
♦ Generous supporter of PSU physics, engineering, and other programs
Compiled by Myrna Duray

Clarence Porter recently retired from his post as vice president and provost of the Takoma Park campus of Montgomery College in Maryland.

Terry Yamauchi is a pediatric physician at University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock, Arkansas. In 2005, he was named top pediatrician in central Arkansas by readers of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.

Edre Berry BA '67 is a homemaker living in Long Beach, California. Berry and her husband, Max, are taking classes to learn basic computer and Internet skills. She formerly worked for the county of Los Angeles.

Richard Rice is completing a year as faculty trustee at University of Tennessee and two years as faculty senate president at the Chattanooga campus, where he teaches Asian and world history.

Donald Muno is retired and living near his grandchildren in North Ogden, Utah. He contributes editorial commentary to local newspapers and assists in community development. During his career as an educator, Muno received many awards, including eight national awards for curriculum reform and design.

Tom Foeller recently received one of Bonneville Power Administration's highest honors, the BPA Award for Achievement in Equal Employment Opportunities and Diversity. Foeller manages BPA's energy efficiency marketing section.

Jean (Moon) Floten MS '70 is president of Bellevue Community College in Bellevue, Washington. Last year she received the Association of Community College Trustees National Equity Award and the 2005 Puget Sound Business Journal Woman of Influence Award.

Louanne Harrington recently qualified as a certified financial planner. Harrington works at Merrill Lynch in Boise, Idaho, and is on the board of directors for the Four Rivers Cultural Center and Museum in Ontario.

Dale Cooke, a stage manager, is on tour with Lee Meriwether and Betty Garrett in the musical Nunsense. He has lived in Los Angeles since 1979, appearing in stage and film productions, including a two-year part on the soap opera Santa Barbara. He can be reached at daleacooke@asl.com.


Montana ranchers own a world record-setting filly

LAST SEPTEMBER, A QUARTER HORSE owned by Dr. Ray '69 and Wendy Norgaard '67, MST '72 set the world’s record for the fastest 300 yards in a derby trial at Yellowstone Downs in Billings, Montana. Although the couple didn’t make any money, they had something better.

"You dream of a moment like that,” says Ray Norgaard. “Winning a race is wonderful, but when Eyes of Dawn broke the previous record, she made history.”

Inclement weather conditions canceled the actual race a few days later, but the Norgaards plan to run the filly this year. With 30 other horses on their Arlee, Montana, ranch and 20 more boarded in other states, Eyes of Dawn won't be the only Norgaard horse to cross national finish lines.

A retired anesthesiologist, Ray Norgaard did his residency in Portland. He returned to his home state of Montana in 1977 to start his practice and raise cattle. Wendy Norgaard taught in Portland-area elementary schools for 10 years. In Montana, she has helped manage their ranch and raise their two children.

When he was young, Ray Norgaard’s uncle raised horses and let them roam. The thrill of chasing them back to the corral sparked his lifelong interest in horses.

In the 1980s, the Norgaards began racing quarter horses and thoroughbreds. They sold their cattle a few years ago and made horse racing and breeding their business. The Norgaards breed 12 mares each year and aspire for one out of 20 surviving offspring to become fast runners. Last year their horses won 15 races in various venues, but they haven't won a lot of stakes races. Eyes of Dawn could change that.

"Horse racing is all about hope,” says Ray Norgaard. “If you were in it only for the winning, you’d quit. It truly is our passion.”

Ray Norgaard recently read that it take about 20 years before horse racers truly know the business. If that’s true, the Norgaards are just hitting their stride. -KJ Fields

PHOTO BY MICHAEL GALLACHER
Currently RV-ing at Florence on the Oregon coast. Would enjoy hearing from old friends." He can be reached at lehaber9735@yahoo.com.

Candace Wheeler MSW was appointed by Gov. Ted Kulongoski to serve on the state of Oregon Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision.

Wallace Howey is a counseling psychologist in vocational rehabilitation at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Oklahoma City.

Edwin “Ed” Landauer MST ’75 teaches engineering, statistics, and mathematics at Clackamas Community College. Landauer, a Navy Reserve captain, spent five months in the Middle East as Navy Inspector General for the Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command.

Dan Roisom MST ’81 is the varsity softball coach at Tualatin High School. Roisom retired from teaching in 2005 after 29 years with the Tigard-Tualatin School District. He received numerous coaching and teaching honors during his career.

Jan Heald Robinson is chief financial officer at uXcomm, a management software products company. Robinson lives in Portland.


Paul Clemente, after retiring from practicing law, is working on a book of short stories. Clemente lives in Montpelier, Vermont, with his two daughters.

John Gardin MS is director of behavioral health services at ADAPT, an addiction treatment agency in Roseburg.

Mary George has been working as executive assistant to the company president at Truitt Brothers, Inc. George has colon cancer and is undergoing chemotherapy. Her advice: "Get a colonoscopy, no matter if your insurance pays or not." She lives in Keizer.

Jim Lommasson, photographer and author of Shadow Boxers: Sweat, Sacrifice and the Will to Survive in American Boxing Gyms (Stone Creek Publications), was awarded a 2006 Individual Artist Fellowship from the Oregon Arts Commission. Sculptor Maryjo “M.J.” Anderson '77 also received the award.

Wade Middleton is vice president and regional business center manager for WFS Financial, an auto finance and banking company in Lone Tree, Colorado. He is also in the executive MBA program at University of Denver.

Michael Scorvo, a former emergency room physician, writes that he is living in the Oregon Veterans Home in The Dalles as a result of a Vietnam War medical disability and the effects of Parkinson's Disease. He is starting a travel business for the disabled and constructing a nursing home in Washington.

Michael Sutherland is president and chief executive officer at Utility Trailer Sales of Central California. He lives in Modesto.

Dennis Hoffman PhD received a 2006 Outstanding Teaching Award from University of Nebraska at Omaha Alumni Association. Hoffman, a professor of criminal justice, has been at the university since 1980.

William Rall is senior project auditor with The Regence Group, a health insurance company in Portland.

Eric Stromquist is executive director of Oregon Culinary Institute, a new professional cooking school in southwest Portland. Stromquist has had a 27-year career as restaurant owner, consultant, and instructor. He lives in Portland.

Michael Hausinger is the estimating and proposal manager at Raytheon Aircraft Company in Wichita, Kansas.

John Kincheloe is senior vice president in sales and marketing with GeoLogistics Corporation, a global transportation and logistics company in Santa Ana, California.

Diane Luther MPA is the Multnomah County housing director in Portland.
Lawrence Conrad

MUP is a senior transportation planner with Clackamas County Department of Transportation and Development.

Mark Peterson MA

represented PSU President Dan Bernstine at the inauguration of Judith Ramaley as president of Winona State University on April 7. Peterson is executive director of the Winona County Historical Society in Winona, Minnesota. Ramaley served as PSU president from 1990 to 1997.

Dave Black

is general manager at WSUM Radio at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Black writes, "I am one of the founders of the station, which is now one of the most successful student radio stations in the country."

Shirley Dahlsten won Best of Show and $10,000 for her oil painting, "The Dream," at the Journey's End National Art Exhibit on display in November in Astoria. Dahlsten earned the top prize from among 200 national artists. She owns a studio/gallery in Astoria.

Dennis Roginski is vice president of business development at Vorpal Wing Securities, Inc., in Spokane, Washington.

Steve Nelson is the Albany district manager for NW Natural. Nelson has worked for the company for 25 years.

James "J.D." Perkin is an artist who creates life-size figurative ceramic sculpture. His work has been featured at the Portland International Airport, the Bush Barn in Salem, and at Portland's Laura Russo Gallery in February.

Michael Sorum is the chief academic officer for the Fort Worth Independent School District in Texas.

Maryann Beebe is director of marketing training in the U.S. for Merck & Co. in Pennsylvania. She recently completed her final oral exam for an EdD degree at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Bethany Dalton-Kash is a songwriter and works at Carrot Light Producers. Her songs can be heard at alexkash.com. She lives in South Florida.

Jennifer Meisner is executive director of the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, a non-profit that promotes preservation in Washington state. She lives in Seattle.

Colin Elligsen earned an MBA at Northwest Christian College in Eugene and is teaching computer science and management of information science classes there as a full-time professor.

Joan Plank has been named chief of staff of the Oregon Department of Transportation. Plank has been with the agency 30 years.

Supin Sangcharoenvanakul is finance manager at Saha Charoen Metal Plastics Product Company in Bang Plee, Thailand.

Craig Gilbert MS '02 is an associate faculty member at University of Phoenix and teaches communications, business application writing, business literature, and film studies. Gilbert also represents a company that provides online employee and student tip lines for businesses and schools. Gilbert lives in a 60-year-old log cabin in Brightwood.

Eric Irelan is a transportation planner at Perret, Inc., in Everett, Washington. Irelan is modeling future transportation demands for State Route 167 in south King County.
Joel Maier is a plastic surgeon with the Petroff Center in Lake Oswego.

Perry Morris is line lead at Conair Corporation, a hair products manufacturing company in Gibson City, Illinois.

Lisa Nettles is a customer service representative with the water utilities division of the city of Vancouver, Washington.

Fereidoon Safdari is a city engineer in Cornelius.

Rosanna Linnell MT ’93 works at Columbia Cardiology Associates, Ltd., in Portland. Linnell also serves on the board of directors at NW Documentary and on the Blazers’ advisory board.

Thomas Michael is an assistant professor of religion at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Michael has authored *The Pristine Dum: Meta-

physics in Early Daoist Discourse* for the State University of New York series in *Chinese Philosophy and Culture*. He lives in Alexandria, Virginia.

Kim Larsen is a senior underwriter in employee benefits at The Standard Insurance Company in Portland.

Wendy Crook Ryde MA ’97 has received a new assignment as consular chief to the U.S. Embassy in Port Louis, Mauritius, an island country in the southwestern Indian Ocean. Her husband joins the information staff there and her son, Liam, will start daycare in September.

William "Ike" Eisenhauer is assistant vice president of management science and analytics with Wells Fargo Consumer Credit Group in Portland.

Kimberly (Foreman) Larsen is case manager for Innovative Health Care Concepts in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Larsen has been working with developmentally delayed children and adults for six years. She is married and has a son.

Michael Penney MPA is principal management analyst for the town of Southampton, New York.

Deborah Sommer EdD was chosen 2005-06 Oregon Superintendent of the Year by the Oregon Association of School Executives. Sommer has been the Canby School District superintendent since 1999.

Ali Eghtedari MS, PhD ’05 is traffic manager with the city of Vancouver, Washington.

Tim Kuhns is president for Gap, Inc., Outlet Brands Marketing (Gap, Banana Republic, and Old Navy). Kuhns has been with Gap in the San Francisco area for six years and previously was a retail designer with Nike.

Betty Rivinus MS received board certification as an early childhood through young adulthood-exceptional needs specialist. She has taught for eight years and is a learning specialist at Ackerman Middle School in Canby.

Marcus Glass is regional accounts manager-industrial filter applications for Total Filtration Services in Auburn Hills, Michigan. Glass is married to Diane (Kittle) Glass ’94, MPA ’03. They had their first child in March and live in Lake Oswego.

Brad Kuhns is an art director for Gap, Inc., Outlet Brands Marketing (Gap, Banana Republic, and Old Navy). Kuhns has been with Gap in the San Francisco area for six years and previously was a retail designer with Nike.

Betty Rivinus MS received board certification as an early childhood through young adult-exceptional needs specialist. She has taught for eight years and is a learning specialist at Ackerman Middle School in Canby.

Congratulations to our 2006 honorees for their achievements.

Mike Lindberg

Williams & Dame Development

NECA/IBEW Local 48

Thanks also to OppenheimerFunds for their generous scholarship contribution.
Making it in New York City

It’s not unusual for Deirdre Lorenz ’95 to crisscross Manhattan as she auditions for a commercial, poses for a designer catalog, and attends a premiere gala—all in 24 hours. Maintaining careers as an actress, model, and film producer makes for a high-velocity lifestyle, but Lorenz is up to the challenge.

“The pace can be daunting, but it’s also truly exciting. I get to meet many interesting, talented and very artistic people,” she says.

Her latest acting roles in two upcoming films placed Lorenz in El Cantante, a film starring Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony, and in Perfect Stranger, where she plays the ex-girlfriend of Bruce Willis’ character. Lorenz also appeared in Two Weeks Notice and The Emperor’s Club. She’s landed television spots on Sex and the City, Law and Order, and The Sopranos.

As a model, Lorenz’s portfolio includes print and runway work for Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren, Ann Taylor, Victoria’s Secret, Abercrombie & Fitch, and other designers. It was modeling that originally brought her to New York.

After graduating from PSU with a business administration degree, Lorenz worked in high-tech corporate sales. She found herself longing for more creativity, so she took an acting class and began working with an agent. Commercial work and modeling jobs immediately followed, and Lorenz’s life took a new direction.

In addition to her success in front of the camera, Lorenz is active behind the scenes as well. She collaborated with a director to produce three short films in New York, and they are now working on their first feature film together. Lorenz became captivated by the beauty of Santorini, Greece, after attending a wedding there, so they decided to set part of the film on the island. Last year, Lorenz launched her production company, Thira Films, to produce the feature, titled Thira, which was the island’s original name. They shot the first half of the film in Santorini and now are finishing the project in New York.

While in production on the island, Lorenz found that professional connections could surface in the most unlikely places. Hanging out at the island’s Oia Market to relax at the end of the day, she befriended the Greek family who run the market. It turned out that one of the owner’s friends is Linda Ellerbee, the famous journalist, television personality, and writer. The owner introduced the two women, and Ellerbee quickly referred Lorenz to another friend, Ann Thomopoulos, executive producer of the HBO drama series Rome.

Back in New York, Lorenz’s routine once again kicks into high gear. She starts her mornings with a workout at a club, several fittings for modeling jobs, and a trip to her agency. She’ll speed walk to an afternoon audition before she tackles contracts for the crew members of Thira, makes calls to potential investors, or attends the film’s editing sessions. Lorenz is also pitching a television series called Copy That, a darkly ironic comedy about a low-level production assistant.

Her evenings leave little room for down time, as her friend Richard Belzer, who also has a part in Thira, commonly invites her to celebrity events. After watching Belzer walk the red carpet, Lorenz and her date cruise in behind him to enjoy the premieres of productions such as The Sopranos or the film V for Vendetta. Then, it’s off to sip cocktails at the after party and rehash the story line.

Lorenz says New York life isn’t for the faint of heart. To keep herself grounded, she spends time with friends, stays in touch with her family, rents foreign movies, and volunteers for various organizations. She’s working to increase literacy by reading to children at public grade schools and hospitals through the Screen Actors Guild BookPALS (Performing Artists for Literacy in Schools) program.

Although she misses Oregon, Lorenz says New York is a tough city with a soft heart.

“I love how energetic and resilient it is. I like being able to run out my door and find stores open within a block at any hour, and I enjoy the immense history and culture, and the very international flavor of the city. I never doubted that I am where I should be—at least for this time in my life.” —KJ Fields

Deirdre Lorenz ’95 (left) is producing and starring in a movie that was shot in Greece and will soon start filming in New York. (Photo by Petros Kalfas)
Stephanie (Hixson) Somanchi MBA '03 has a radio coaching segment on 105.1 FM (The Buzz) The Nelson & Terry Show, at 8 a.m. Thursdays. Somanchi also owns a life coaching practice. She lives in Beaverton.

'98

Clark Benight is director of operations at Portland Bioscience, LLC, a biotechnology firm in Portland.

Maria Jaramillo is an administrative specialist with Washington County Health and Human Services in Hillsboro.

Suhakat Saengsin MS works in Ac Changkot, a family owned tractor shop business in Sawankhalok, Thailand.

Jeffery Williams is a transition leader in marketing at Chevron Corporation in San Ramon, California, the energy company's headquarters.

'99

Steve Flunker MBA was named supplier compliance director for the JCPenney Company. His department manages floor-ready, transportation and packaging requirements with nearly 2,000 suppliers. In October, Flunker was named 2005 retail industry innovator of the year by the Vendor Compliance Federation for his work on supplier education and collaboration. He lives in Frisco, Texas.

J. Michael Garvison writes, "In December of 2005, I was part of a seven-member delegation sponsored by the American Council of Young Political Leaders to travel and meet with our counterparts in the Palestinian Territories and within Israel. This was also an official U.S. State Department sanctioned delegation. It was an amazing experience." Garvison is a Skamania County auditor in Stevenson, Washington.

Kanaan Kanaan is an instructor at PSU and teaches courses in interactive media, including Web design and computer graphics. Kanaan is finishing a master's of fine arts program through Warrnborough University in the United Kingdom. His nine-piece tile series called "The Pulse of Spirituality" was displayed at Portland's Providence St. Vincent Medical Center in January.

Hannes Knopf MS is an electrical design engineer at SMA Technologe AG, a renewable energy systems technology company in Niestetal, Germany.

Jennifer Larkin is an art teacher at St. Joseph Elementary School in Portland. She also is a freelance artist and has painted scenic props for plays and concerts.

Anne Cohen MPH '02 is a disability and health policy consultant at Disability Health Access. Cohen lives in San Francisco.

Austin Whipple is co-owner at Pinball Publishing, a full-service print shop, creative resource center, and headquarters for Eye-Rhyme, a journal of new literature. He lives in Portland.

Andrew Essreg MEM '04 is a management consultant for Five Winds International, an environmental management consulting firm with offices in the U.S., Canada, and Germany. Essreg is working with Holland America/Windstar Cruise Lines, advising their executives and training their captains, engineers, hotel directors, chief and environmental officers onboard. He lives in Boulder, Colorado.

Denise (Oakley) Laird is a sales and marketing representative with KitchenAid/Whirlpool and lives in Hillsboro. She got married on a Jamaican beach in October.

Jennifer Porter MURP is a conservation program specialist with the city of Portland.

Shimabukuro has been with the company since 2003. She lives in Los Angeles.

Fara Tucker MSW is a student and family support specialist with Portland Impact, a social services agency in Portland.

Pareena Arsirawajana MS is a government relations supervisor at Thai Oil, PLC, a refinery in Bangkok, Thailand.

Erica Hoagland MS '05 is a special education teacher at Whitford Middle School in Beaverton. Hoagland is marrying Sterling Humphrey '03, a first-year medical student at Oregon Health & Science University, on July 22.

Mila Lee was appointed commissioner to the state of Oregon's Commission on Asian Affairs by Gov. Ted Kulongoski. Lee is the international and natural resource programs coordinator at the Executive Leadership Institute in PSU's Mark Hatfield School of Government.

Junghan Lee is president at Neo-Information Systems Company, Ltd., a mobile wireless system company in Seoul, Korea.

Victoria Otto is pursuing graduate studies at Pepperdine University in the marriage and family therapy program.

Nicholona Terzieff is campaign manager for Oregon Rep. Larry Galizio (D-Tigard).

Alissa Alexander is campaign manager and legislative assistant to Oregon Sen. Richard Devlin (D-Tualatin).

Oksana Andrejeva-Zukova is a coordination specialist at IRGO, a nonprofit agency that provides services throughout Portland for newly arrived refugees and immigrants.

Kathryn Bassett is a service manager at Wells Fargo Bank in Beaverton.

Doug Baumgartner is a junior civil engineer at PACE Engineers, Inc., in Oregon City.
Sara Boario MPA is a state affiliate political organizer for the Alaska Public Employees Association/American Federation of Teachers (APEA/AFT) Union. Boario lives in Anchorage, Alaska.

Brent Carnes is a funeral director and embalmer at Finley's Sunset Hills Funeral Home in Portland.

Arielle Dolinajec is an accounts coordinator at Wongdoody, an advertising agency in Seattle.

Aaron Eder MS is project manager and civil engineer at Kennedy/Jenks Consultants in Portland. Eder assists with public works projects, such as water and wastewater pipelines and treatment plant site development. He has also run six marathons; run the Hood to Coast since 1998; and climbed Mt. Hood, Mount Adams, South Sister, and Middle Sister.

Brian Francis is a project engineer with BEA Consulting, LLC, a mechanical engineering consulting firm in Portland.

Robert Glenn is president at R.C. Glenn and Associates, LLC, a business management consulting firm in Portland.

Valerie Hamby MSW is lead mental health specialist at Lane County Mental Health in Eugene.

Anne Kornfeld MS is a resource and methods behavior support teacher at Dexter McCarty Middle School in the Gresham-Barlow School District. Kornfeld lives in Portland.


Kimberly Krüger (formerly Krueger) is creative director at Coldwell Banker Mountain West Real Estate in Salem.

Lakshmy Menon has been accepted for the master's in public health program at Emory University in Atlanta.

Cezanne Miller is marketing coordinator at Thomas Hacker Architects of Portland.

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This alumnus wants in your back pocket

GARETT CROFT STENSON '04 SITS in his north Portland bungalow among boxes stacked full of wallets, tape, stickers, and promotional posters, all ready to be mailed to retailers.

The house serves as home to Stenson and his new company, db clay, which offers fashion-forward wallets made from a patent-pending design.

"A wallet is a great market to be in," says Stenson, 26. "Everyone wears T-shirts, everybody wears blue jeans, and everyone carries a wallet. Everything else is optional."

Wallets are not a new business for Stenson. He paid for his Portland State tuition with ductbill, a business that sold hand-made duct tape wallets—more than 30,000—at Portland's Saturday Market, in boutiques, and on the Web. Db clay combines that experience with a new upscale vision.

The company's flexible, tight-knit staff of four full-time employees create multiple high-end lines, including wallets featuring photographs, another line of everyday recycled objects, and a limited edition sketchbook series of original art. And today the wallets are made from gaffer tape, a waterproof cloth tape, and nylon stitching. The unique creations retail for between $40 and $85.

Stenson's dream company encompasses more than just wallets. He is interested in an online community using his Web site for people to browse his products, communicate, and trade ideas about fashion, culture, and art. He also plans to expand db clay into a broader product line of clutch purses and luggage, and is courting investors to help grow the company and offer advice.

Stenson's business degree is coming in handy as he leaves the cutting table and concentrates on the marketing end of the business.

"I realize this is gonna take hard work, and this will be a long road," says Stenson. "But I truly want to be a household name for personal accessories. The decisions we're making now are toward a respected, timeless label."

-Zach Elliott Kronser
"I believe that women returning to college deserve a helping hand."

Judy Clark enrolled at Portland State as an adult student, completing her bachelor's degree in sociology and anthropology in 1993. In order to help future returning students, Judy created an estate plan that will establish the Judy Rae Clark Scholarship for women students over the age of 50.

Judy is using her home to create a "retained life estate" in which ownership of her condo will transfer to the PSU Foundation, but not until both Judy and her partner are deceased. This allows Judy to enjoy an immediate charitable income tax deduction while knowing that someday her home will fund the Judy Rae Clark Scholarship.

Making it easier for women students like herself, is why Judy made a significant gift to Portland State and the Building Our Future campaign. To learn more about giving to PSU today or through your estate, call Mary Anne Rees at 503-725-5086 or email her at mrees@pdx.edu.
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