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BeeHive • Winter 2007

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Highlights from the Headmaster

The 2006-2007 school year was another one to remember, but the 2007-2008 school year is one that will always stand out as a truly special one in my mind. I am incredibly honored to have been named the fifth headmaster of Detroit Country Day School.

The school holds a great deal of tradition and history that have become a large part of my life over the past three decades. The achievements of our students never cease to amaze me.

This year, our students have participated in Art from the Heart (a joint project between Children’s Hospital and our own Friends of the Arts) in which 42 pieces of framed student art work were donated to permanently hang in patient rooms, halls and clinics of Children’s Hospital.

The athletic season thus far has been one of the most memorable seasons in my 30 years at Country Day. The Middle School Varsity football team was undefeated competing in the Birmingham-Bloomfield League. The Middle School eighth grade girls’ basketball team completed their third consecutive undefeated season this year and our Upper School men’s tennis team was third in the state tournament with individual champions at the #3 and #4 doubles spots. The Upper School women’s golf team qualified for the state finals where senior Joan Dulieu captured the state championship--a first for Country Day. The Upper School men’s football team had a great run, making it to the championship game at Ford Field and finished as state runner-up in Division 4, our Upper School men’s Varsity soccer team won the state championship for the 13th time--an unprecedented mark of achievement. In March, the Upper School women’s Varsity basketball captured their 9th state championship.

Our students have earned the distinction of having 27 National Merit Scholarship Program semi-finalists--the highest percentage of students in a senior class in the state of Michigan. The cast and crew of "Comedy of Errors-Stayin’ Alive," our Shakespeare production, performed in an off-Broadway theatre this March where we combined the student theatrical performance with a post-show reception for our east coast alumni. In addition to these prestigious honors, Bella Voce, the Upper School select choir, has been invited to perform in Carnegie Hall this coming June.

We are also on the brink of some exciting building changes at Country Day. We held an official groundbreaking ceremony on December 7th to announce plans to construct a new Middle School gymnasium, locker room facilities and a pathway connecting the Middle and Upper Schools. This is just the first of several building projects to come.

I know that as the school year continues, the list of amazing accomplishments will grow as well.

I am so proud to be a part of the "One Country Day Family."

Sincerely,

Glen P. Shilling

Headmaster
After a long and arduous search, it turned out that the best candidate for the job was already here. On April 25, 2007, former Assistant Headmaster Glen P. Shilling was officially named Detroit Country Day School’s headmaster.

Being only the fifth headmaster in the school’s 93-year history, the decision was not only an extremely important one, but a historical one as well.

A nationwide search was conducted in which approximately 70 candidates were screened, nine semi-finalists were interviewed in Detroit, and four finalists were interviewed on Country Day’s campus by students, faculty, administration, parents, alumni and trustees.

“I think the Search Committee did a great job and came up with exactly the right selection,” said former Headmaster Jerry Hansen. “And I’m happy to shoulder some of the fund development activities and help transfer the executive responsibility to Glen for this wonderful institution that has been a central part of my life for the last 41 years.”

Shilling joined Country Day more than 30 years ago. He earned a JD from the University of Detroit, an MDiv from Harvard University and a B.A. from Albion College. He has served as Country Day’s Assistant Headmaster for the past 20 years.

“I now have the best job in the world,” said Shilling. “I’m both humbled and excited about the prospect of leading Country Day to even higher levels of excellence, and I have a great team to help me, along with a great board and a terrific mentor and friend in Jerry Hansen.”

The entire Country Day community is thrilled to see Glen in the headmaster role. “Glen’s commitment to the Country Day community is clearly seen in his presence at our diverse and extensive schedule of events and activities. As both a faculty member and former Country Day parent, I was touched by his support of the arts through his attendance at plays and concerts, at the wide venue of athletic events for both men and women and at the many College Night programs over the years,” said Anne Sandoval, director of Upper School college counseling. “Glen not only has the intellectual skills and experience to be headmaster he has the passion and heart.”

**Where did you go to college?**

I went to undergrad at Albion College. From there I went to Harvard University where I received my Bachelor’s Degree in Divinity Studies as well as a Master’s Degree. After coming back to Michigan, I went to law school at University of Detroit.

**What is a typical day like for you?**

One thing that is consistent about my day is that every day I start out by running.

Every day at Country Day is different. That is one of the things that I love so much about being here. In all of the years I have worked at Country Day, I have never missed a day.

**Did you always want to be the Headmaster of Country Day?**

When I came to the school more than 20 years ago, I started as a history teacher. Within a few years, I was asked to become the Upper School Director. A few years later, when Mr. Hansen became Headmaster, I was asked to become the Assistant Headmaster. I have always loved being in the classroom with the students. I’m thrilled at the opportunity to lead the school. I will take over the reigns from a wonderful leader and a great mentor. Even though I will become Headmaster, I will always stay involved in the day to day activity of the school and with the kids.

**What is the most important part about being the new Headmaster of Country Day?**

One Country Day – being a family, working together to fulfill the mission of the school. The parents, students, faculty, staff and alumni all are an integral part of the school’s success.

**What do you love most about working at Country Day?**

The people. We have the most amazing parents, faculty, students, staff and alumni. The relationships that we develop here at Detroit Country Day are the most rewarding part of my job.

I also love that no two days are the same and there is something exciting and new with each day. One day after school I attend a Lower School ballet recital, the next day I’m on the sidelines cheering on the football team, the next in the performing arts center watching our orchestra perform.

Everyday, it’s something exciting.

Interview conducted by Steven Mann ‘17 for his class project on careers.
Thank you Jerry

After 40 years with Detroit Country Day School, with 21 of those as Headmaster, it wasn’t easy bidding farewell to Jerry Hansen. The list of ways Jerry helped to make Country Day the amazing educational institution that it is today could go on and on. We hope that he realizes what an instrumental role he played, and will forever play, in the school’s history, and just how grateful the Country Day community feels to have him as a part of our school family.

“Thank you for all of your years of dedication to Detroit Country Day School. Your legacy will long be remembered. Your great love of the school was always apparent in every decision you made. Thanks for making Country Day the wonderful institution that it is.”

Anita Flynn Laurila ’78

“I remember in 1978 when we purchased the first computer for the lab. We have come a long way since then. Your sincere dedication to our school has caused it to grow in so many ways and for that I thank you deeply.”

Barry Webster
Upper School, Computer Science Department Head

“Thank you for always believing in me and for allowing me the freedom and support to follow my dreams. You have been a great leader for Country Day, helping the faculty to do their best. You have also been a good friend to so many. For this we thank you.”

Marlenn Maicki
Junior School, Dean, Science Department Head
In the Spring of 2007, Detroit Country Day’s Performing Arts Department presented the “Music Man” which included 102 in the cast, 36 in the orchestra plus 18 in the crew, making a total of 156 students in the production. There were also 28 students in community service who supported the effort with concessions and ushering.

“The Music Man is a time worn classic that speaks to the power of bringing a community together and discovering new things about ourselves. For our Country Day production, the creation of student families in the cast brought students from all four campuses into a unified performance.” Jeffrey Michael Nahan, Director of Detroit Country Day’s Performing Arts Center.

Chaos and confusion mounted to a crescendo in this wild and fast-paced comedy of mistaken identity in one of Shakespeare’s earliest plays. The story shares elements from the popular Roman comedy by Plautus and the Detroit Country Day School production sets the tale in the 1970’s, complete with original music and songs of the era.

A brilliantly designed set by Country Day’s technical director Jim Davis, outlandish 70’s costumes by Joyce Uzelac and original music by Country Day’s Instrumental Music Director Jim Territo propelled this time-worn classic into the near-present.

This production toured throughout the winter with its final performances at The Space @ 411 / Times Square Arts Center (West 43rd & 8th Avenue) in New York City’s Off-Broadway district March 26 – 29, 2008.
Country Day’s single largest student event of the year allows for students and faculty to showcase their works of fine and performing arts during the school’s annual “Celebrate the Arts” exhibition.

The 2006-2007 event took place April 26th through the 29th of 2007. The four-day extravaganza is put on by Country Day’s Friends of the Arts Association and has included a student directed theatre festival and a student directed film festival.
2007 Honors
convocation

Headmaster’s Cup Award winner Courtney Hurtt ’07 pictured here with former Headmaster Jerry Hansen.

award winners
The Gerald & Betty Hansen Cup
Caroline Rooney ’07
Citation Sara Goodman ’07
Established in 2007 The Gerald and Betty Hansen Cup honors Detroit Country Day’s long-serving Headmaster, former math department head and athletic coach, Gerald Hansen, along with his wife, Betty, a former Country Day teacher. The award, which will be presented annually, is determined by a vote of the Upper School faculty. It recognizes the senior who best exemplifies the spirit of Detroit Country Day School as demonstrated by his or her involvement and achievement in the four A’s of Upper School life; academics, activities, the arts, and athletics.

Headmaster’s Cup
Courtney Hurtt ’07
The Headmaster’s Cup has the longest tradition at Country Day, donated by our founding headmaster, F. Alden Shaw, and first presented in 1926. The award recognizes the senior who is a good scholar, an outstanding citizen, an athlete of achievement and who is respected as well as admired by students and faculty.

Women’s Athletic Cup
Emily Kunkel ’07
Citation Colleen Richards ’07
The Women’s Athletic Cup has been presented annually since 1978 to the female athlete in the Upper School whose achievement in terms of leadership, sportsmanship, ability, accomplishments and contributions makes her the outstanding representative of that which Detroit Country Day School seeks to teach through women’s athletics.

Men’s Athletic Cup
Chris Rucker ’07
Citation Stuart Shannon ’07
The Men’s Athletic Cup, established in 1937, is presented annually to the male athlete in the Upper School whose achievement in terms of leadership, sportsmanship, ability, accomplishments and contributions make him the outstanding representative of what Detroit Country Day School seeks to teach through athletics.

Schlegel Leadership Award
Candise Hill ’07
Citation Amardeep Grewal ’07
The Richard A. Schlegel Leadership Award recognizes the senior who, in the opinion of the faculty, represents the most outstanding academic, intellectual and moral leadership in the finest tradition of the Detroit Country Day School gentleman or lady scholar as evidenced through his or her achievements and the life he or she lives.

Amy and Alden Shaw Award
Jacob Smilovitz ’07
This award was originally a gift to Mr. and Mrs. Shaw on their retirement in 1961 from the faculty and staff of the school. Recognizing that very excellent qualities of character, talent and ability are not measured only by academic or athletic achievement, it was the wish of Mr. and Mrs. Shaw to have this cup presented to the senior who, by his or her cooperation and contribution, best furthers the principles and ideals of Country Day.

Fine Arts Cup
Erik Williams ’07
This award recognizes the Upper School art student who, through exhibition, competition and recognition, demonstrated excellence in and dedication to the art program at Detroit Country Day School. The award was established in 1984 by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Berry, Jr. and their family; it is dedicated to the memory of Harry D. Schwarzer, Chairman of the Country Day Fine Arts Department from 1971 until his death in 1988, and founder of Friends of the Arts.
Congratulations

class of 20
Auction 007
A Bond to the Future

The 2006-07 Auction was another success, raising $457,000. Laura Korotkin, Joanne Cherney and Amy Erjavac joined together to chair the May 5th event. Mindy Richards Dunbar and Noelle Cassel chaired the popular Auction Family Fun Night on May 4th which included activities the whole family could enjoy.

Auction is the school’s major fundraiser and community builder, plus our students directly benefit! The first $200,000 of the event’s proceeds went to the Junior School Capital Campaign. The six parent associations and the school divided the remainder seven ways. Each group allocates where their portion goes.
The 2007 Blue & Gold Golf Outing took place on September 24, 2007 at Franklin Hills Country Club. The annual event includes an auction, which brought in a total of $118,000 to go towards various athletics needs at Country Day. The highlight of the outing was Terry Milliken sinking a hole-in-one, winning 10 hours of air travel from Marquis Jet and a Ranger ATV donated by Harley Davidson.
**Country Day Welcomes New Faculty While Others Embrace New Roles**

**Linda Cohen**
Lower School PK4

Linda Cohen served as the reading specialist at Detroit Country Day’s Junior School for 14 years before retiring at the end of the 2006-2007 school year.

**Lois White**
Middle School Athletic Director

Lois White served as former headmaster Jerry Hansen’s administrative assistant for 25 years. She retired at the close of the 2006-2007 school year.
Pierette Domenica Simpson has never seen the entire "Titanic" film. It would have been far too traumatic. Simpson knows the terror of a shipwreck.

On July 26, 1956 she was 9 years old and one of the passengers on the Italian luxury liner the Andrea Doria when it collided with a smaller Swedish-American liner, the Stockholm.

As the 50th anniversary of the shipwreck approaches, Simpson shares the experience and details of the collision on that fateful foggy night in her book, "Alive on the Andrea Doria! The Greatest Sea Rescue in History."

The collision occurred 45 miles southwest of Nantucket Island. There were 1,706 people on board. Forty-six died on the Andrea Doria, and five died on the Stockholm. The Stockholm rammed the larger liner on the Atlantic at full speed piercing just under the Andrea Doria's bridge wing.

The Andrea Doria sank, but the Stockholm was able to make it to shore carrying 500 survivors.

"But I will be forever grateful to the French liner, Ile de France," says Simpson, a graduate of Wayne State University and a French language teacher at Detroit Country Day.

"The captain turned his ship around to save us."

Simpson, who now lives in Novi, was traveling with her grandparents from Italy to join her mother in the United States. Although she was a child at the time and has never had nightmares about the wreck, many memories remain.

"The jolt," the 59-year-old says and repeats it, "The jolt when we were hit. I was with my grandmother. We were celebrating in the social hall. My grandfather had gone to bed. Hundreds of bottles crashed to the floor. The lights were going on and off. People were screaming. It was pandemonium."

Cries of "Titanic" were common. A surprising number of passengers had read about the Titanic before the Andrea Doria's voyage. But this was not the Titanic, which hit an iceberg and sank in 1912. This was not a "second Titanic," this was the Andrea Doria.

"The Andrea Doria was built for beauty," Simpson says. But it became a disaster.

"Then men were moving all heavy furniture across the room," she says. "They were hoping it would keep the ship from listing."

It didn't.

Once little Pierette and her grandmother reached a deck to be lowered to the lifeboats, the fear was overwhelming.

"They lowered me with a rope wrapped around me because I was a child," she says. "I remember being terrified and screamed all the way. My grandmother had to climb down the rope. At one point her foot went into the water. I remember her screaming too."

While many families were separated, her grandfather also reached a lifeboat.

"When we were on the lifeboat, there was no motor. The men had to use oars," she says.

Simpson shares another memory rarely mentioned in the annals of shipwreck rescues: "Vomiting. Everyone was vomiting. There was the rocking and rocking of the boats. There was vomit everywhere. It was a terrible stench."

But there was also hope.

"The crew on the Ile de France, who rescued us, was so kind. They wrapped us in blankets, put us on deck chairs and gave us food. My grandmother said that 'why I became a French teacher — because the French people saved us and were so good.'"
When the rescue ship and the Stockholm docked in New York, it was a media circus of the 1950s era.

In the confusion, it was reported that lifeboats were filled with cowardly Italian crewmen. Crew members wore gray life jackets. Passengers wore orange life jackets. Gray jackets seemed to outnumber the orange. It was necessary to have trained crew aboard each lifeboat to maneuver the boats in the waters.

"Besides that, we saw many crewmen give their life jackets to passengers," Simpson says.

The cause of the collision would be argued for years.

With some trepidation, Simpson decided to research and write about the Andrea Doria. She discovered records showing carelessness aboard the Stockholm and the lifesaving efforts of the captain of the Andrea Doria.

"It took 2-1/2 years to write the book," she says. "I went to Italy and had records translated and interviewed many of the survivors. I contacted about a half a dozen publishers before the book was accepted. Now it is also being published by Sperling & Kupfer, one of the top publishers in Italy," Simpson says.

The former Farmington Harrison High School teacher received the 1994 Michigan Foreign Language Teachers' Association award and was elected to the Farmington Teacher Hall of Fame. Now she is often called "The Gate Keeper" for the Andrea Doria.

"The response for the anniversary is amazing," she says. "PBS has done a documentary. I was just interviewed for a TV program in Italy. The program is similar to our '60 Minutes' here."

She also plans to attend a reunion of Andrea Doria survivors, who will meet at Kings Point, Long Island, on July 23 in observation of the anniversary of the shipwreck.

Meanwhile, as she admits the writing of the book was a monumental task, she is not content to rest on her laurels.

"I would like to write another book, a full collection of stories about the passengers on the Andrea Doria."

For more information or to purchase the book visit www.pierettesimpson.com.
Creating Partnerships at Detroit Country Day

By Nuvena Ward
Country Day Intern

For four years Detroit Country Day School has partnered with DENSO International, a leading global supplier of advanced technology, to help the Robotics Team compete in the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition in Science and Technology) competition. This is a competition where over 1,100 student teams from around the world, including Great Britain, Canada, and Brazil compete in a game designed by the first organization.

“We first decided to partner with Detroit Country Day because of its great reputation and eager students. We wanted to support a team that has great interest in robotics,” said Corporate Communications Senior Manager Marlene Goldsmith.

DENSO provided a team of engineers to assist the students in their decision making process as well as a generous donation of $50,000 to cover all expenses for the FIRST competition. For this team, being financially stable is just as vital as having the opportunity to work with professionals in the engineering field. This partnership has had a strong impact on students like Nicholas Becker, a four year member of the robotics team.

It’s not just the faculty, staff and students within the school but it’s the community and the partnerships being created. Richard Fitzner, Detroit Country Day School chemistry instructor and advisor over the Robotics Team, gives his outlook on this project.

“It’s a mentoring program where engineers will work with students and provide engineer guidance during the design and construction phase,” said Fitzner.

DENSO is making an honest effort to help promote what the school is doing for its students by bringing out the best in each and every student on the Robotics Team.

“Our engineers and technicians forge a unique partnership from the start of the project design,” said Goldsmith.

The Robotics Team placed third in the 2003 FIRST competition at regional games in Cleveland, Ohio and won a Motorola Quality Award in 2004 for creating a well-built robot in concept and fabrication. In 2007 the team won first place in the San Diego Regional.

As a corporate sponsor DENSO continues to cover the regional event costs ($10,000), as well as airfare, hotel, and ground transportation for each competition for Country Day’s 15 member Robotics team. The budget DENSO has given the team for use has been in excess of $50,000 per year. They have also purchased over $5,000 in tools for the students to use, and each day of the six week program engineers and machinists come to the school to mentor our students and assist with the robot design and construction.

This March, the Robotics Team traveled to Portland, Oregon for its third regional event, along with the Detroit Regional at Wayne State University.

Creating partnerships at the school means building brighter futures. Congratulations to Detroit Country Day School Robotics Team for all their hard work and a special thanks to the school’s partner, DENSO.
Places have personalities. They influence and shape our experiences as surely as the people around us. The powerful affect of a brilliantly conceived space cannot be captured by words, however eloquent. To be in and part of a thoughtfully designed environment is a visceral experience. It awakens the senses, stirs the imagination and opens the mind to a world beyond the universe of self. This is precisely the kind of place that three, four and young five-year-olds experience at the Learning Village (lovingly referred to as the Hamlet) on the Lower School campus at Detroit Country Day School.

**A Brief History of The Hamlet**

Twenty-one years ago, when the Lower School moved to the Maple Road campus, the grades were reorganized, creating an Early Childhood Development Center composed of pre-Kindergarten through the second grade. In short order, they ran out of space and decided to add an Early Childhood wing for the pre-school. Former Headmaster Jerry Hansen, envisioned a village setting. Ruth Rebold, Director of the Lower School, and her faculty embraced the concept and made it their own. They drove through neighborhoods taking pictures of houses, poured over magazines and considered every detail before working with TMP, the architectural firm, who would bring their ideas to life. That was seven years ago and first time visitors to the Hamlet are still reduced to repeated expressions of “Wow,” as if the sensory experience reduces their vocabulary to exclamations.

**The Idea Behind the Imagination**

The Hamlet is organized as a village. Straight lines have been banished and replaced by a gently curving street that meanders as if to encourage strolling.
The floor is made of tiles to resemble bricks, that enhance the feeling of being outside. If the bricks were yellow instead of brown, you would be reminded of another road that for all its fame is no more charming.

Fluffy white clouds that never release a drop of rain reflect the warm glow of old-fashioned street lamps, inviting passersby to linger on park benches under sheltering trees. Classrooms cozy up to the path looking just like Victorian homes confident in their love of color: yellow, pink, periwinkle, purple, marigold and green. At the end of the lane is a gymnasium that masquerades as a one-room school house whose cupola shines at night like a beacon.

The Method
Behind the Magic

No doubt about it, the Hamlet is a magical place. But there’s a reason for that. When you build a school, you need to build an environment. Infuse the curriculum into the environment, add absolutely fantastic teachers and children will have a good opportunity to grow.

The Hamlet has seven classrooms; three 3-year-old, three 4-year-old and a junior kindergarten. While the Hamlet looks like the perfect playground, it is much more than a place to play. In many schools the formal reading program begins in the first grade rather than Kindergarten, as it does at Detroit Country Day. Consequently, the pre-reading skills that are taught in other Kindergartens, are part of the Hamlet’s pre-school curriculum, which also includes pre-math, beginning writing, thinking and deductive reasoning.

Each class has a home in the Hamlet, equipped with a kitchen and full-size refrigerator to streamline snacks and juice breaks. As Director Rebold describes it, “the home-like atmosphere is very important. Three-year-olds are just beginning to have the skills to separate from their parents. As they leave the only home they’ve known, it’s important that they find a new home here.”

In addition to the in-class curriculum, presented primarily in the form of arts and crafts projects, the three and four-year-olds have lessons in French, piano and science, complemented by physical education, visits to the library for storytime and group training in computer skills.
The method behind the magic of the Hamlet is to introduce children at the start of their life to the world of ideas and their innate capacity to learn. While this stimulating environment is critical to the cultivation of young minds, the Early Childhood Development Center is equally focused on the formation of positive character traits.

**A Sense of Self in Relationship to Others**

Character-building is as much a part of the curriculum as other learning skills. This is a school wide program that begins in pre-kindergarten 3 and continues through the 12th grade. During the summer, each student takes home a book, appropriate to their age, that teaches a particular character trait; kindness, for instance. When students return in the fall, they bring their book-related packet of work with them. This becomes the theme for character development throughout the year.

**From Wow to Know How**

Admittedly, the Hamlet is visually stunning. It’s colorful, welcoming, imaginative and beautifully designed down to the tiniest detail. But the real beauty of the Hamlet is that it’s a place dedicated to great beginnings. When young lives begin to learn in a place that stirs the imagination and opens the mind, they’re off to a great start. With fundamental learning skills and an emerging sense of self, residents of the Hamlet are prepared to explore a larger world and embrace what lies ahead with confidence and delight.
Ice Cream Social


The event was originally held to raise funds for the first playground that was built at the Lower School. The annual event has continued as a fundraiser and serves as the Lower School's Grandparents and Special Friends Day. The Ice Cream Social attracts between 800 & 900 people each year, and is sponsored by the Lower School Parents’ Association.

Cinderella Fella Ball

The Cinderella Fella Ball takes place in the first week of May each year in the Junior Kindergarten classes. The event is invitation only for parents and grandparents. Students dress-up for the ball, serenade and ballroom dance with parents and friends.

“The event is meant to encourage the art of giving rather than receiving,” said Krista Stern, Country Day Junior Kindergarten teacher.
Grandparents and Special Friends Day

Each year the Junior School hosts Grandparents and Special Friends Day to allow family and friends the opportunity to experience the excitement of attending Country Day. This year’s event took place on October 19th, 2007 with approximately 400 guests visiting the Junior School campus.

The Junior School BBQ

The Junior School held its fifth annual barbeque on September 28, 2007.

Put on by the Junior School Parents’ Association, it is a great kick-off event for the school year and gives families the opportunity to meet one another while enjoying burgers, hotdogs and treats. Games and activities are set-up for the children.
Junior School Building Improvements Complete

The Junior School building is now complete. Funded, primarily through the generosity of Country Day families, and completed over the course of three summers, this effort has transformed the learning environment for the students and teachers on that campus.

The Village Campus, now home to 240 students, 25 faculty and five staff, was originally erected in 1924 as a public school. A significant addition was built in the mid-1950s. Country Day acquired the building in 1975 for $600,000, and it was used to house both the Lower and Junior Schools. In 1986, the Lower School was moved when the Maple Road campus was acquired.

This recent round of work included the installation of a new HVAC system, new windows, lighting, carpeting, and classroom finishes.

In addition to the upgraded renovations, the office area was expanded to include a much needed health infirmary, conference room and added storage. Four new rooms were added, which included a second science laboratory, music studio and foreign language room.

Junior School Director Joe D’Angelo remarked, “We are thrilled with the changes. Each teacher will now have their own room, eliminating the need for some to travel from classroom to classroom teaching from a cart, as has been the practice for the past 30 years.”

During the course of the last 15 years, all the Country Day campuses have seen significant improvements, beginning with a new Middle School in the early 1990s, a comprehensive investment made to the Upper School facilities in the late 1990s, and recent improvements made to the Lower and the Junior Schools.

Headmaster Glen Shilling applauds the charitable nature of the Country Day community saying, “We here on campus are very grateful to all those families who made this such a success. The Junior School project is one more example of the generosity found in the Country Day community. It is important to understand that, over the years, most of our school facilities have been built primarily through charitable contributions.”
Bonding Day

The first ever Middle School Bonding Day was held on October 9, 2007. The day-long event gave Middle School students the opportunity to work together as a team and tackle various challenges.
middle and upper school
The 2006-2007 parent-student celebrations were full of cherished moments. Bernie Smilovitz, Country Day parent and local sports reporter, shared father-son memories with Upper School students and their dads at the annual Father-Son Breakfast. Middle School daughters danced the night away with their fathers at the Father-Daughter Dinner Dance at Orchard Lake Country Club, fathers and sons enjoyed gaming at Dave & Busters and Dave Dombrowski, Country Day parent and President, CEO and General Manager of the Detroit Tigers, entertained Middle School mothers and their sons at the annual Mother-Son breakfast. The year came to a close with the Upper School-Mother Daughter Breakfast at Oakland Hills Country Club where the girls shared some of their favorite memories of time spent with their moms.
'Bombardier' wins Country Day student spelling bee finals, earns her a place in the nationals in D.C.

By DIANA DILLABER MURRAY
Of The Oakland Press

A 13-year-old Detroit Country Day Middle School student won the Metro Detroit Scripps Spelling Bee Finals and a trip to Washington, D.C., to compete in the 2007 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Nithya Vijayakumar, 13, wearing No. 5, took the top honor in a showdown of four finalists that included a back-and-forth bout with Siddhartha Jena, 13, a Bloomfield Hills Middle School seventh grader wearing No. 7.

Nithya, an eighth-grader, came out the winner when she successfully spelled "carambola," a word that Siddhartha had missed, and then correctly spelled a second word, "bombardier."

"You are the champion!" WXYZ-Channel 7 anchorwoman Diana Lewis told Nithya, who stood stunned on the stage in a television studio where the last rounds were taped Saturday morning. The Oakland Press waited to release the story until the spelling bee was aired publicly at 7 p.m. Sunday on the station.

Oakland Press Executive Editor Glenn Gilbert presented Nithya with a trophy and congratulated her on the "wonderful achievement." Her school will receive a large traveling trophy.

More than 32,000 Oakland County students competed at their schools to send 113 winners to The Oakland Press Regional Spelling Bee at Oakland University on Feb. 25. The final four - who also included Madeline Burg, 14, an eighth-grader at Derby Middle School in Birmingham, wearing No. 6; and Erin Kissick, 12, a sixth-grader at St. Dennis School in Royal Oak, wearing No. 8 - went on for the televised showdown.

Erin went out first with the word "penultimate." She spelled the word correctly, but only after starting over again when she realized she had made an error in the first letters of the word. Although rules allow spellers to start over, they cannot change the part they already spelled.

Madeline completed five rounds successfully, but was out on the word "transience" in the sixth round.

Then it was Siddhartha against Nithya.

In the seventh round, Siddhartha misspelled the word "facsimile." Under the rules, when there are two spellers left, the second contestant must spell the word of her opponent correctly, then spell a new word with no error.

Nithya spelled "facsimile" correctly, but then misspelled "Geronimo." So Siddhartha was back in the competition, and he proceeded to correctly spell "Geronimo," but then misspelled "carambola," which is a name for star fruit.

So it was back to Nithya. She spelled "carambola" correctly, as well as the next word, "bombardier."

Nithya, the daughter of Punitha Vijayakumar and Vijayakumar Pandiarajan, will make her try for top place in the national spelling bee May 30 and 31.

"I felt really excited. I studied really hard for this," said a beaming Nithya. "My dad quizzed me a whole lot more."

Even her friends were giving her words to spell.

For luck, she wore the same outfit at the televised bee that she wore at Oakland University on Feb. 25 - a light colored Dr. Seuss sweatshirt with the words, "A person is a person no matter how small," and a pair of green running pants with a white stripe.

When Nithya came on the stage with the other three contestants, she was nervous. "At first," she said, "I was just shaking and I tried to calm down. As the bee progressed, I got calmer and focused only on the word."

Vijayakumar Pandiarajan said it was a good experience for his daughter.

"I think I give 100 percent credit to Nithya," he said. "She is very focused, a very hard working kid. As a parent, I can only show the path. I am very proud."

Cheryl Duggan, the spelling bee coordinator at Country Day, and husband Chuck Duggan, Nithya's English teacher, were there to support her.

"You really have to be very dedicated, just like you have to be dedicated to a sport" to go this far, Cheryl Duggan said.

Nithya has a junior black belt in karate, takes classical Indian dance, and likes to read.

Co-sponsors of The Oakland Press Regional Spelling Bee were Oakland University, radio station WNKO-FM (100.3) and WXYZ-Channel 7.

Country Day partners with Nankai High School

Detroit Country Day School signed an agreement to begin an exchange program that will mutually benefit teachers and students from Country Day and Nankai High School in Tianjin, China. Both Country Day and Nankai will send student delegation groups to one another as a means to broaden international perspectives. There will be a sharing of curriculum along with administrative and educational experiences. Country Day began offering Chinese Mandarin as a foreign language option for students starting in this past fall.
2006-2007 state champs

Men's Varsity Basketball

“This was an extraordinary tournament run. Unlike previous tournaments in which we always are a heavy favorite, this year we were the underdogs, not favored in the districts, regionals or finals. The team, under the able leadership of the four seniors, came together for the championship game. It was truly a "team" effort.”

- Kurt Keener, Varsity Coach

Women's Varsity Tennis

“We knew that we were the best team. The girls really stepped up and performed. I truly feel that the continuity of the coaching staff, Mark Mathews and Lamar Gray, has helped over the past six years. The girls have grown into a very confident group and they are always supportive of other teams. The leadership of the captains was great—they really demonstrated the true sense of the word team.”

- Rick Ellis, Varsity Coach

Men's Varsity Track and Field

“Our 2007 team reflected greater balance in terms of talent across all events than any other team I have coached at DCDS. We went into the championship meet as underdogs to a very strong Williamston team, yet we scored sixth place or better in nine different events, including four first place finishes, to capture our second State Championship in four years. Of the athletes who competed in the State meet, all but one scored each one earning All-State status.”

- Dave Wilson, Varsity Coach

Men's Varsity Soccer

“The key success of this DCDS soccer team can be attributed to its slogan, ‘212 degrees’ and five key character traits emphasized throughout the season: attitude, kindness, belief, focus, and perseverance. One of the most rewarding aspects of this year’s team was that no one took winning for granted. Throughout the year’s tournament run, no one knew better than the players themselves that there is a very fine line between winning and losing. The championship game performance was exceptional. The victory was truly a team effort culminated by John Rogers, ‘08 game winning goal midway through the second half of the game. John was also the 19th Country Day men’s soccer player to be named to the Michigan High School Dream Team.”

- Paul Bartoshuk, Varsity Coach
Commemorate your years at Detroit Country Day and create a permanent tribute to your student, recent graduate, faculty member or coach who has had an impact on your child’s experience at Country Day.

The Path of Excellence, located along the top of the hill leading to the athletic fields is a lasting tribute to the students, parents, alumni, faculty and staff of Country Day and their academic, athletic, and fine and performing arts accomplishments.

If your athlete has achieved individual All-State or All-American recognition, honor their accomplishments with a brick in the Circle of Champions, located adjacent to the new press box.

To purchase a brick please contact Donna Cronberger at (248)646-7717 ext. 1026 or dcronberger@dcds.edu.
Homecoming 2007

Nothing says Fall quite like Homecoming! Football, fun runs, Alumni vs. Varsity games... there's something to do for everyone in the family. October 13th was no different. The beautiful weather welcomed more than 200 alumni, as well as families from all four campuses. Face painting, moonwalks, arts & crafts and clowns; tailgating under the alumni tent and a winning Varsity Football team. Country Day beat University Prep 57 - 0! Thanks to everyone who turned out and had a great time.
Join us for Homecoming 2008 on Saturday, October 11, 2008!
Homecoming
Alumni Relations Message

By Kira Mann ’89,
Director of Alumni Relations

I am thrilled with the appointment of Glen Shilling as the fifth headmaster of Country Day. No one person better exemplifies all that the school holds dear and is more dedicated to the continued growth and improvement of our school. The alumni community shares in my excitement and we look forward to many years of continued success under the guidance of Mr. Shilling and his vision of “One Country Day.” With the welcoming of our new headmaster, we must bid farewell to Jerry Hansen, headmaster of 21 years. Jerry’s vision for Country Day, the development of the World Campus Campaign and the many projects which he pioneered for the school all helped us to further standout as a leader in independent education. We will forever be grateful to Jerry for his dedication to the students, parents, faculty, staff and alumni of Country Day.

The school year thus far has been a great one. The alumni office has been busy planning programs and events to keep our alumni connected to the school, faculty, students, and to one another. The new and improved website will provide you with details of all of the upcoming events and activities that are scheduled throughout the year as well as provide a forum for alumni to communicate with one another. In the coming months, we will launch a new alumni portal which will provide alumni with even more features to better improve communication and to provide a more personalized web experience. You will receive more details as we come closer to the launch date.

If you are in town, I hope that you will stop by campus to visit the alumni office, your former teachers and to welcome Mr. Shilling as our new Headmaster. I look forward to hearing from everyone and hope to see you at an upcoming alumni event.
class reunions

1982

1987

1997

1997

1987

1997

1987

2002
Garen Wolff ’03 doesn’t shy away from hard work. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience from Wellesley College in 2007 and since then, her studies have been published in the International Biology of Reproduction Journal. Due to this rare feat as an undergraduate student, she was given a grant from the National Institute of Health to research for a year with any scientist and lab that she chooses.

With all this in the works, Garen still manages to find time to work on building up City Prep, the non-profit mentoring program for young men and women that she started as a sophomore at Detroit Country Day School.

“Middle school pressures and social problems are universal and when I was a sophomore I went to an event where a lot of click type behavior was going on and it really bothered me,” said Garen. “I wanted to create a program to help girls with their self-esteem, academics and etiquette and so I asked some of my friends at Country Day if they would be mentors.”

The program started out small with a few sixth through eighth-grade girls pairing up with mentees at the high school level and now there are 10 mentors involved with around 30 mentees.

Today, City Prep brings in mentees from all over with the main purpose being to unite girls and boys in the city with girls and boys in the suburbs.

“I really wanted to integrate the program to have kids of all races and socioeconomic backgrounds,” said
Garen Wolff '03

Gives Back through Mentoring Program, City Prep

Garen. “Every year we try to do something different, something out of the box.”

An example of this would be the Ivy League Tour City Prep hosted for the female mentees and their moms. “I wanted to expose middle school girls to institutions of higher learning, and make it a mother/daughter event at the same time,” said Garen.

The girls made stops at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Brown, Yale, and Wellesley of course.

“The girls took a test after visiting each school and they kept a journal throughout the trip,” said Garen. “It was fun, but very academic too.”

According to Detroit Country Day School English teacher Beverly Hannett-Price, it’s no surprise that Garen is doing great things with her life.

“She (Garen) first caught my attention when she stepped before the entire Upper School student body in the big gym and spoke to the students and faculty,” said Hannett-Price. “She was 14 at the time. In no way was she intimidated but instead spoke with great confidence and poise. She has a way of looking at you, her audience, with such intensity, one could not help but listen to her. She has been back to visit me a few times. Beautifully groomed, glowing from her latest project, her Wellesley pearls proudly displayed around her neck. Garen has fulfilled that early impression we all had of her – a young woman going places.”

Garen admits that during her time at Country Day she wasn’t always thrilled with the requirements, but looking back she understands why they were so important.

“As much as I hated the two sport rule it helped me to organize my life and really got me ready for college,” said Garen. “It helped to build character and the team aspect and support of it all allowed me to push myself to the limit.”

“I can proudly say I graduated Detroit Country Day doing everything I wanted to. Country Day is great because it allowed me to have an ownership in my education. I have no regrets.”

Since the inception of City Prep, Garen has planned a variety of events including Festive Tables.

Festive Tables is a three day long exhibit of various holiday and special events tables. The event is intended to encourage family togetherness by bringing back that time honored tradition of dining together. It is held at the Metropolitan United Methodist Church in Detroit’s New Center and Priscilla Perkins, a current Detroit Country Day School parent was the honorary chairperson in 2005 and again in 2006. The event also included a silent auction with items including Oprah Winfrey tickets up for bid. All of the proceeds from Festive Tables went to City Prep.

City Prep is also gearing up for the Word Up! Spelling Bee, slated to take place May 30th and 31st of 2008 including students from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

“We decided to create

OfficialCityPrep’s 1st Detroit Spelling Bee, which uses some of the same word lists and rules as the Scripps Bee, but differs in categories and competitions. There hasn’t been a spelling bee in Detroit since 1995,” said Garen. “Students in Detroit have been denied the opportunity to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee for more than a decade. Scripps’ rules require a contestant to register with a sponsoring newspaper in their school district and unfortunately, neither the Detroit News or the Free Press have participated in the Scripps Bee in over 10 years.”

This is just the beginning for Garen and her organization. It is unsure what else she’ll accomplish in her life, but one thing is for sure, she isn’t slowing down. She can also add editor to her resume as she recently launched Intellect, a new intellectually stimulating and entertaining magazine written by and for middle and high school students.

Garen’s advice to current and future Country Day students?

“Take advantage of everything at the school, own it.”

Now that is some advice worth taking. After all, who wouldn’t take advice from someone who very possibly could be our first woman president?

To find out more about City Prep, visit www.citypreponline.com. To check out Intellect, visit www.IntellectMagazineOnline.com.
Twenty-five years ago a young student sat in my English class in Room 170 at the end of the hall down from the art rooms. A good student, a fine athlete, an exemplary citizen. A quiet, polite young man as I recall.

Michael Reilly made the honor roll, played lacrosse, wrestled, ran cross country, served as coeditor-in-chief of the yearbook. How ironic that a member of Country Day’s Flying Club would one day fall into the sea as a Navy Seal!

Michael chose as a quote for the yearbook’s senior page, “learn from the mistakes of others. You don’t live long enough to make them all yourself.” A hint of Mike’s subtle dry wit.

When and where were the seeds of greatness planted?

How did this young boy evolve from just another student to the highly successful and decorated hero who sits before us today?

What explains the transformation?

John Rogers recently wrote in a paper for my class something Muhammad Ali once said, “Champions aren’t made in the gyms. Champions are made from something they have deep inside them – a desire, a dream, a vision.”

The seed of greatness in Commander Reilly grew, nurtured perhaps by what the ancient Chinese philosopher Confucius identified as the Five Virtues: Honesty, Modesty, Tenacity, Piety and Loyalty.

Ashleigh Eberly ’07 described the common thread of self control that links those Five Virtues: The individual taking full control of and responsibility for his actions, his behavior.

All of us have within us the very same seeds of greatness that Michael carried 25 years ago. Shaped by challenges, honed by hardship, fine tuned by conflict, time and circumstances mold and direct our lives, Michael, as it did yours.

Who among you young people, sitting in the audience this morning, will nurture and cultivate your seed of greatness!

Armed with intelligence, character, pride and dedication to a cause and country he believed in, fought for, and defended, that very same young boy who once sat among us, today sits before us a man his school, his country honors.

A young man who found his true purpose in life and pursued it with passion and zeal, who rose above the ordinary, who found the steely resolve within himself to face overwhelming odds and overcome them.

Your school, your teachers commend you, salute you, embrace you this 5th day of October in the year 2006 Commander Michael S. Reilly.

Congratulations on earning the highest honor Detroit Country Day School can bestow on one of its graduates. Well deserved, young man!
Beverly Hannett-Price has been described as the heart and soul of Detroit Country Day School. So, as a means to honor her fiftieth year in teaching (35 of those being at Country Day), more than 100 people gathered in the school’s Seligman Performing Arts Center on October 12, 2007 to honor her.

The surprise event included Beverly’s family members, past students, current students, and fellow faculty and staff members.

The speakers included Beverly’s advisee John Wolff ’07, former Country Day faculty member Ronnie Clemmer, Headmaster Glen Shilling and one of her former students, Glenn Alexander ’77.
The alumni took the field on Homecoming morning for the annual alumni vs. Varsity soccer game. The event kicked off the Homecoming activities on October 13, 2007. When the buzzer sounded, the alumni were victorious over the Varsity team.
Detroit Country Day alumni took over the Shaw Stadium on June 16, 2007 for the annual alumni lacrosse game. This year’s event was held in conjunction with Country Day’s Varsity lacrosse team’s end-of-the-year celebration.

Following the game, alumni Varsity players and their families enjoyed a picnic while the team awards were distributed.
Country Day’s Alumni Council President, Don Nystrom ’88 and his wife Tracy hosted a party at their home on October 3, 2007 to celebrate Glen Shilling’s appointment as the fifth headmaster of Country Day. The party included Country Day alumni from 1950 to 2000, as well as Board of Trustees’ President Ken Whipple and former Headmaster and current President of the Country Day Fund Jerry Hansen.
2007 alumni pizza parties

Country Day’s Alumni Department stopped by the campuses of the University of Michigan and Michigan State University for its second annual visit with young alumni. The annual events provide a chance for the students to take a break from studying as they prepare for exams and to reconnect with their classmates and faculty who attend.
More than 30 alumni gathered at Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield, MI to pay tribute to former faculty, athletic director and coach Gene Reilly. Former faculty Ronnie Clemmer remembered hilarious stories of his days teaching with Mr. Reilly and former students, advisees and lacrosse players shared touching tributes of the impact Mr. Reilly made on all of their lives.
The alumni office hit the road and traveled coast to coast to visit alums in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston, Phoenix, Denver and Washington, D.C. Each year, the alumni department hosts receptions to provide an opportunity for alumni to connect with former classmates and network with one another. To find out when a reception will be held in your area, please visit the Country Day website at www.dcds.edu.
1956

Howard Howlett is the president of Three Circles, a consulting company, and is the Commissioner of Health for the state of New York.

In May 2005, Burton Raimi closed his law office in Sarasota, FL and accepted a position as General Counsel of the Washington Management Corporation.

1958

Joseph Golden was named one of Michigan's Top 100 Super Lawyers for 2007 and listed in Best Lawyers in American for the fifteenth consecutive year.

1959

Jamie Martin writes, "To the class of '59: Boys and girls, let's meet on the football field in a year or so to remember our brothers who have left our sides. Cliff, Jim, Chuck, Sheldon, Nate and Roy live in our hearts and memories. Hey David, where's Tom when we need him? I'll be seeing you, God willing if the crik don't rise."

1966

Michael Milne founded Access International Language Institute in Ann Arbor, MI, an English language school in 1983. There are students enrolled from 27 different countries. The Institute helps its students master the English language and to study at Michigan institutions of higher learning. The school is also a recognized translating/interpreting agency. He writes, "Like F. Alden Shaw, my calling has been education, and I have a school built on a dream."

1968

Tom Kerr is a cartoonist and design artist who not only works for the Omaha World Herald newspaper, but is also responsible for drawing the McGruff crime dog for the National Crime Prevention Council. He contacted the company himself letting them know he thought he could create the ideal McGruff cartoon. He was pleased when the NCPC called him back a year later interested in what he had to offer. To see more of Kerr's work visit his personal web site at www.kerrtoons.com.

1970

Byron Alexander is a senior electrical engineer. He lives in Arizona and has a teenage daughter.

1971

Jeff Finer is an attorney in Spokane, WA. He handles mostly federal court and criminal defense cases when he's not teaching at Gonzaga Law School. He continues to spend time in the studio painting and doing encaustic wax pieces. Jeff has two children.

1972

Alain Frene is a real estate agent with ERA Group in Le Roi, France, just 10 miles from Paris.

Seth Kogan is an OB/GYN in private practice in Long Beach, CA. He completed his undergraduate degree at Tufts University then continued to UCLA for medical school.

1973

Gary Bachman and his wife, Kate, are proud of both of their daughters, Ann and Rachel. Ann is a graduate of Tennessee Tech University with a B.S. in Fine Arts-Ceramics and Rachel lives in Orlando, Florida and is working for Walt Disney World. Gary and Kate recently relocated to Ocean Springs, MS.

1974

Edward Robinson's son Ben is living in Lincoln Park, outside of Chicago, where he works for Philips Medical. His daughter Becca worked in Germany and traveled throughout Europe. His son Travis is a senior at Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

1975

David Merritt visited the school in June 2006 while back in the US attending his son's high school graduation. David has lived in Germany for more than 25 years, where he teaches English.

1976

Stephen Modell writes, "Hi, everyone. I have managed to make a few of the Detroit Country Day homecomings. When the middle schoolers are able to pass you on a cross country run (but you think you are going fast), then you know you are getting old. Life is pretty much a mix of doing things for the family (helping my daughter brush her teeth and lugging groceries); getting some interesting projects done at work linking public health, genetics, and ethics/policy issues (Country Day left me with some pretty broad interests); and either trying to find time to exercise or watching my wife and daughter have a chance for outside activity. From those classmates I have talked to, we are still a bunch of characters!"

John Summerville writes, "I finally got the opportunity to return to DCDS with my children, Steve and Lesley. They were pretty impressed (as was I, since it had changed so much). I have been living in Richmond, Virginia since 1987, working as a pathologist (as does my wife), specializing in hematopathology. I enjoy biking, running, weird cars and old houses (or is that old cars and weird houses? I attended a seminar presented at our local Virginia Society for Pathology by none other than Yale professor John Sinard (DCDS class of 1979), I believe). That was a surprise. How's everyone doing out there?"

1977

Jim Rosenfeld was appointed to a one-year term on the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Board of Directors. He practices labor and employment law and serves as co-manager of Detroit-based Butzel Long's employment litigation practice group.

1978

Courtney Vance and his wife, Angela, welcomed twins, Slater Joshua and Bronwyn Golden on January 27, 2006.

1979

Desiree Mehrabian is a Certified Diabetes Educator, Program Coordinator for a diabetes self-management education program at a local community hospital. She has two wonderful boys, Albert and Sergei.

1980

Jay Bomze is a designer and implementor for 5G Metro, the first company to offer wireless broadband internet connections for trains.

Michelle (Raglan) West was featured in Halicure Health Magazine as part of the article entitled, "Real Beauty Tour." Michelle and her husband, Charles, were selected to participate in the Rocky Fitness Challenge in Colorado in 2005, which began a life transformation for them both.
Michael Olgren has been in Grand Rapids, MI working in the emergency room at St. Mary’s Hospital. His wife, Claire, is a pediatrician. They have a daughter and a son.

Tabassum Ahmad works as a system administrator in the IT department at Lear Corporation and lives in Troy, MI.

Steven Droblas is a sales representative for Evergreen Aviation in Chandler, AZ. He and his wife, Grace, have a one year old, Alexis.

Brad Goodman writes, “It is hard to believe that it is over 20 years since we graduated. I married a girl from Birmingham—not Michigan but Alabama and we have two children, Ben and Anna Lisa. I am an Interventional Physiatrist in a group orthopedic practice. I still try to play a lot of tennis along with other sports.”

Kevin Sell was appointed plant manager for DaimlerChrysler’s Kenosha Engine Plant. The Kenosha Engine Plant builds the Chrysler Group’s 3.5-liter V-6 engine used in the Chrysler 3000, Chrysler Sebring and Dodge Magnum.

Michael Reilly was the recipient of the 2006 Outstanding Alumnus Award. He is a retired Commander in the United States Navy and has over 20 years of experience in the United States Military including 20 years as a Navy SEAL. Michael held a variety of leadership positions during his military career including Commanding Officer of SEAL Team Three, Commander of all Naval Special Warfare forces in Iraq, and Director of Global Operations for the NSW Headquarters. Michael holds a M.A. in National Security Affairs from the Naval Post Graduate School, Monterey, CA and a B.A. in Aerospace Engineering from the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD.

Pooneh (Mohajer) Arnold’s clothing and accessory line, tokidoki, is being distributed internationally and is a huge hit. LeSportSac has a line of bags called tokidoki for LeSportSac. Arnold was also a co-founder for the popular make-up line, Hard Candy. To see where you can find tokidoki, visit www.tokidoki.it.

Charles Hegarty and his wife, Kathy, welcomed Brendan Michael Hegarty on April 29, 2007 at 3:54 pm. He weighed in at 8 lbs., 8 ozs. and was 21-and-a-half inches long.
Petter Kolm and his wife, Carmen, welcomed Kimberly Karin Kolm on April 23, 2007. She weighed 7 lbs 10 ozs and was 21 inches long.

Katherine “Kari” Karo married Mike Adams on June 18, 2005. The couple welcomed son, James Cash, born December 6, 2006. Kari is a physician working at Dynamic Rehabilitation in Farmington Hills,MI.

Ranjan Maitra and his wife welcomed their second daughter, Londyn Ashlyn, on November 14, 2006. Their oldest daughter, Layne, who is four, loves being an older sister.

Javed Ali and his wife Iram welcomed a new baby boy, Jibran.

Saurav Ghosh has been happily married for two years. He lives in Silver Springs,MD where he works for Hughes Network Systems managing their customer service website and back end systems.

Liz (Lerner) Hetzer welcomed her second child on March 25, 2007. It was a girl, Reese Hetzer. Her son Drew will be exactly 2 years older than the new baby. “My husband and I are happy living in the East Falls section of Philadelphia. Work wise, I am still with Nike, Inc. I will be the women’s specialty representative, focusing on two large regional department stores. Prior to this new position I was the tennis specialty representative for the northeast covering seven states. This new position will enable me to cut down on travel significantly.”

On April 4, 2008 at 2:06 pm, Erik Kafarski and his wife welcomed their first child, Matthew Mitchell Kafarski. He weighed 7lbs., 8 ozs. and measured 20 inches long. “We are all very excited and finally at home and getting settled in. Matthew is getting used to the new surroundings and we’re all finding our routines again but with just a few slight differences here and there.”

Joel Lemer moved to Sherman, Tx about 45 minutes outside of Dallas. He works for Terex Mining as the director of international marketing.

Karla Kellam and her husband welcomed a baby boy, Ali, into the family in September 2006. Ali is a happy little guy who loves playing with big brother Sami’s toys.

Calvin Schmidt and his wife Christa welcomed a baby boy, Ali, into the family in September 2006. Ali is a happy little guy who loves playing with big brother Sami’s toys.

Molly Shanahan started Mad Shak, a Chicago, IL based creative dance group, in 1994. As the artistic director, Molly collaborates with dancers, composers, video artist and designers to create solo and ensemble dance that has, at its core, a curiosity about the relationship between the observer and the observed. To find out more about Molly and Mad Shak visit, www.madshak.com.

Sheila Farooki was the recipient of the 1998 Lucy Frank Squire Distinguished Resident Award in Diagnostic Radiology. She received her B.S. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and completed her medical degree at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine with distinction in research and diagnostic radiology. Sheila has coauthored several publications in peer-review journals and has already presented her work at major radiological meetings, including the Radiological Society of North America, American Roentgen Ray Society and the American Institute for Ultrasound in Medicine.

1986

Dennis Archer and Denise Ilitch launched their new magazine, “Ambassador” in May 2006. The magazine is geared toward high-paid young professionals focusing on lifestyle and social issues. Dennis and his wife have two boys.

Rob Conway and his wife Maribeth welcomed their second daughter, Mackenzie Elle Conway, on October 20, 2006. She weighed 7 lbs., 11 oz and 20.5 inches long.

Evelyn (Stulberg) De La Cruz welcomed her second child, Liam Alexander, on October 21, 2005. Liam weighed 7 lbs., 7 ozs.

Rob Conway ‘87 and family

Evelyn De La Cruz’s ‘87 children Liam and Morgan
Jonathan Green and his wife, Sandy, are the proud parents of two year old Alexander Michael. “I always tell people he’s TOTALLY a mini-me, red head and all, except he’s also good looking.”

John Honos recently started a new software company, TurboCredit. To learn more about John’s venture, visit www.turbocreditsolutions.com.

Kerry Keener is the principal at Harwood Elementary School in Sterling Heights, MI. Harwood was one of only 23 schools throughout the state of Michigan to be awarded the prestigious Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School Award for the 2006-2007 school year. “I love leading this wonderful learning community because every day is a true adventure.”

Pam (McCree) Sampson graduated from the University of Michigan in 2001 with a bachelor’s degree in English and communications. She received her Master’s of Advertising and Public Relations from the University of Michigan in 2003. Presently Pam works for Kelly Services at the headquarters in Troy, MI where she is an editor. She has been married for three years.

In May 2006, Brian Rosenblatt was elected partner at SmithAmundsen LLC in Chicago where he co-chairs the law firm’s Entertainment, Media and Privacy practice group. In August 2006, Brian was named to the “Top 40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty” by the Law Bulletin Publishing Group. Brian resides in Highland Park with his wife, Robin, and two precious children, Madeline and Zachary.

1988

Barbara Behling recently left Roanoke, VA after three years of working doing autopsies. She joined her fiancé, Dominik Rosa, who is an anesthesiology resident, at Yale for the summer. In September 2006 Barb began medical school at Lecom in Erie, PA. She writes, “God knows I’ve waited long enough to start. In the meantime I’m setting up house and catching up on my lack of sleep. I just realized that I have been working continuously since I have been 15 years old!”

Sulee Stinson Clay is a partner with DLA Piper US LLP in Washington, D.C. Sulee has two children, Skylar and Preston.

Dave Curtis was married to former faculty, Dana Warren, in October, 2006.

James Green still practices civil litigation in Century City, CA. He has a son, Joseph.

Lara Honos-Webb was featured on World News with Rosemary Church on CNN International in December, 2006 to discuss the prevalence of ADHD diagnosis and the problem that these children often end up with multiple diagnoses.

Scott Matasar and his wife Sheryl welcomed Carlyn Rhian Matasar on October 11, 2007. She weighed 7 lbs., 2 ozs. and measured 20 ¼ inches long. “I think my son Aidan was a bit surprised to find out that the baby he was visiting in the hospital was actually moving in!”

Scott Matasar ‘88 and his children visit with classmate Manish Gupta ‘89 and his family

Mark Wisneski and his wife LeAnne have three children, Max, Noah and Veronica. They live in Burke, VA where Mark works as a consultant.

Max, Noah and Veronica Wisneski, children of Mark Wisneski ‘88

1989


Greta, Emma and baby Nash Albertie, children of Keith Albertie ’89

Simone Granville-Pacey and her husband, Julius, welcomed John Miles Pacey on November 30, 2005. He weighed 8 lbs., 7 ozs. and was 22 inches long. Simone lives in Atlanta, GA and is a financial planner for American Express.

Jennifer (Passer) Stauber has two children, Benjamin and Olivia Rose. She lives in Purchase, NY with her husband Ronen.

Eric Lullove opened his podiatric surgical practice in Boca Raton, FL in September 2005. Since then, Eric has been named as a staff physician at Delray Medical Center Wound Management Clinic and as a foot and ankle specialist for Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, FL. He has been named to KCI Negative Pressure Wound V.A.C. speakers’ bureau, PanLab speakers’ bureau and is a wound management consultant for Wound Care Innovations in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Eric was also named to the New Practitioner Advisory Board of the American Academy of Podiatric Practice Management.

Derek Rundell produced several full-length feature films, including KILTRO, a martial arts film starring Marko Zaror, the “Latin Dragon” from Chile. He founded Compass Entertainment in 2002, a diversified media and entertainment company providing management services to entertainers, access to innovative entertainment and marketing opportunities to corporations, production of motion picture and television projects, as well as brand development and acquisition. Derek also served as executive producer on “Protect-O-Man” in 1999, which won the 2000 Santa Monica Film Festival Award for Best Short Film.
More than six years ago, after gaining a few more pounds than he would have liked, Adam Uzelac started running with some friends. The running snowballed into participating in the IRONMAN USA competition in Lake Placid, NY. The race was a 2.4 mile swim, a 112 mile bike and a 26.2 mile marathon. He was on hiatus for the 2007 competition, but in the 2006 race he posted a time of 11:57, beating his times for the previous four years!

1990

Michelle (Marchena) Curtis welcomed a little boy, Charlie, in June, 2007.

Alice Dickens is the Executive-In-Charge for the Janice Dickinson Modeling Agency show on the Oxygen Network. To learn more about the show, visit oxygen.com/janice.

John Fish started and sold a new business called Openmarket Wine. His goal was to revolutionize boutique wine distribution using the internet and changing direct shipping laws. John and his wife, Elizabeth, live in San Francisco right next door to classmate Scott Sellers ’90!

Christopher Nagle and his wife, Stacy, recently moved back to Baltimore after the birth of their first child, Arella.

Bill Ogden organized a get together in July with varsity baseball coach Frank Orlando and several of his former players including: Scott Sellers ’90, Ed Wolkind ’91, Chris Ogden ’93, Mike Montiko ’90, Scott Leman ’90, Tolga Gursel ’90, Brian Feldman ’90 and Rob Parker ’91.

Bill Ogden ’90 and Mike Montiko ’90

Tamara (Lindgren) Saunders had her second child, Adrienne Eva on February 2, 2005. Her oldest daughter, Savanna, is five. In September 2005, Tamara rented a house for a week on Mission Beach in San Diego and was joined by Alice Dickens ’90.

David Walker is the corporate attorney for iCurie, a nanotech company that he helped go public by raising $17 million. iCurie specializes in the use of nanotechnology for microfluidic cooling systems in personal computers, personal communications and display units.

David Williams is the business developer for PatientsLikeMe, a website company recently named on the “Top 10 Innovators” in Health IT by FierceHealthIT. David and his wife live in Los Angeles and have two children.

1991

Kari (Grosinger) Alterman is the Midwest Regional Director and the Detroit Director for the American Jewish Committee in Bloomfield Hills, MI.

On April 9, 2007, Alvin Bowles joined BET (Black Entertainment Television) Networks as Senior Vice President of Integrated Marketing. Alvin graduated from the University of Michigan and Harvard Business School.

Tara (Jung) Grabel is living in New York City with her husband, Drew. They have two daughters, Carys and Devin.

Aaron Hamburger’s novel, Faith for Beginners, is now available in paperback. The novel is about relationships, healing and religion for one family struggling to find themselves. Aaron is also the author of The View from Stalin’s Head, for which he was awarded the Rome Prize by the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Faith for Beginners was nominated for a Lambda Literary Award. Aaron is the recipient of a fellowship from the Edward F. Albee Foundation and a first prize winner in the David Dornstein Memorial Creative Writing Contest for Young Adult Writers. His work has appeared in the Village Voice, Out, Nerve, and Poets and Writers. He teaches writing at Columbia University and lives in New York City.

Lisa Slovis Mandel has a little boy, Jacob V. Mandel, who was born on August 18, 2005.

Jacob Mandel, son of Lisa Mandel ’91

Adrian Tonon is the host of the “Borders Kitchen Show” featuring Nigella Lawson of the Food Network. To see the show, visit www.bordersmedia.com.

Adrian Tonon ’91 with Nigella Lawson

Ian Wasser finished his postdoctoral research and began law school. He intends to pursue a career in intellectual property and patent prosecution.
Jennifer Shane’s ’92 daughter Ella
Seth Shilling and his wife Christa welcomed their third child, Sawyer Glen Shilling, on October 25, 2007. He weighed 7 lbs., 8 ozs. Sawyer joins big brother Max and big sister Ainsley Rose.

1993

In 2005, Chad Bailey was married. The couple honeymooned in Paris for four days, then drove to Basque Country in northern Spain. They live in Saline, MI. His wife is a Spanish teacher and Chad has been researching a novel about 16th Century Spain. Along with Edy Kim ’93 and Craig Nastanski ’93, Chad attended the ordination of Father Nicholas Lombardo in 2004; Nicholas attended Country Day from grades 6-8. In 2006, Chad and his wife visited Spain again, this time with his wife’s parents. They visited Barcelona, Granada, and Salobrena. “I can now say I’m officially domestic. I put in a cork floor in our kitchen this year.”

Drew Nagle was married in County Kerry, Ireland in July 2005. The happy couple lives in Washington, DC.

Craig Nastanski is living in Hong Kong and having a great time. He manages the Market Analysis group in Intel’s Asia-Pacific regional business operations office, the most exciting growth market in the computer business. He’s having fun traveling around Asia, most recently to Cambodia. He’s also been to Japan, India, Australia, China, Singapore, Bali and Thailand.

The Ojala family has been from sea to shining sea as Galen Ojala is now stationed in the D.C. area. “Tina (my bride) and I are doing great and we have a small flock; Grace, Joy and Jacob who are enjoying all there is to do in our nation’s capital. If anyone is in the area, shoot me an email and we would enjoy having you over.”

Mark Peters writes, “I’m still out in Germany and loving the countryside. Other than a short trip to Iraq last summer for the Air Force, life has been good. Last year, I stopped at the home campus, took in a football game and talked to a couple of classes. I had a great time. Bea and Sara are doing well and taking advantage of the local German produce and bakeries, while I prefer the readily available brats (and German beer) for the grill. Thanks for all the support for the family while I was deployed.”

Lawrence Shapiro shot and edited “Jam in the Dam,” a DVD set featuring Umphrey’s McGee, Keller Williams, The Disco Biscuits and Particle. Each musical group performed sets lasting from 30 to 50 minutes and the DVD includes interviews with all of the artists. The first annual “Jam in the Dam” event was held in March 2005 in Amersterdam, Holland.

Paula Hall is a corporate bankruptcy attorney for Butzel Long in Detroit.

1994

Ajmal Ahmad directed the movie, “It’s a Mismatch,” which was featured at the Cinequest Film Festival in San Jose, CA March 1-12, 2006. To find out more about the film visit www.itsamismatch.com. He is presently working on a new film which will be shot in Detroit, MI.

A photo of Jessica Porada Becker and her sister, Samantha Porada, was chosen for the Jones Soda Co.’s Brussel Sprout flavored soda. The photo was taken by their sister, Sarah, at the 2003 Detroit Thanksgiving Day Parade and submitted to the company online. The soda was sold at Target, benefitting the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Less than 1% of the photos submitted are used on the labels.

Komaljit Bhasin is a dentist in Michigan.

Cherie Silapaswan Damel lives in Colorado and works as a manager at a software company.

Tanaya Suveerachimontien ’94, Komal Bhasin ’94, and Cherie Damel ’94
Sanjay Ghosh '94 and his Country Day wedding party

Sanjay Ghosh was married April 14, 2007 in St. Petersburg, FL to Shannon Swallows of Gainesville, FL. The couple met during the summer of their second year in law school while working as legal interns at a firm in Atlanta. In the wedding were fellow Country Day alumni Tom Lall '94, Tom Herrgott '94, Robbie Ghosh '01, Johann Jaeger '94, Chris Packey '94, Jeff Ringgold '94, Tom Chan '94, Sasha Stewart '94, Packey '94, Jeff Ringgold '94, Tom Chan '94, Sasha Stewart '94, and Mike Versacci '94.

Laura (Green) Gaffney '94 and her wedding party

Laura Green met Mike Gaffney at the start of business school at the University of Michigan and they wed in October 2005. Laura's bridesmaids included several Country Day alumnae, including her sister Allison '98, Neera Mehta '94, and Amishi Singal-Murthy '94. Laura and Mike received their M.B.A.'s from Michigan in April 2006 and then traveled to Asia for a belated three month honeymoon. The couple lives and works in Chicago, IL.

Thomas Lall is completing his internal medicine residency in Ann Arbor. He is engaged to Michelle Dumler who is completing her residency at Emory University in Atlanta.

Tanaya Liptawat lives in San Francisco and works as a senior consulting manager.

Harry Lomason was one of 156 golfers who competed in the 96th Michigan Amateur Championship golf tournament in Rochester, MI. He was able to capture one of the available 64 match-play positions. This was Harry’s second Amateur Championship. He coaches golf at Bloomfield Hills Lahser High School.

Anand Parekh completed his M.D. and M.P.H. and is working in the US Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C.

1995

Before graduating from the University of Michigan in 2000, Michael Forbes lived in London for a summer working as a bartender and then moved to Spain to study Spanish, literature, art and architecture for a semester. After graduating with a degree in mechanical engineering, he worked in Sunnyvale, CA for Lockheed Martin Space Systems, becoming a lead design engineer on military communication satellites. While at Lockheed, he earned a systems engineering certificate through Stanford while working in the space systems design lab developing miniature satellites. He then earned a Master’s of Mechanical Engineering through Georgia Tech. In August 2005, he moved to Boston and recently graduated from Boston University with an M.B.A. While still in school, Michael worked as an investment analyst for a Boston real estate developer and now manages real estate development projects for Leggat McCall Properties. His current project is a $154 million science complex for Brandeis University which broke ground in June 2006. He writes, “And the best thing that’s happened to me so far is that I married my wife, Andrea.”

Christopher Nogoy is engaged to be married and lives in Jersey City, NJ with his fiancé, Heidi. He's working as an architect in Brooklyn and the couple is developing their own creative consortium called “Craft House,” which will manifest their creative visions through installations, performances, education, design and fabrication.

Scott Balgenorth and his wife, Carol, welcomed their first child in September, 2006. He is working as the Director of Sales and Marketing for the Des Moines Menace soccer team.

1996

Kevin Berger writes, “I am currently living in Nashville with my wife, Kari, after moving here from Alexandria, VA in 2004. I am working with AMEC Earth & Environmental, a large engineering services company. I am responsible for the aviation planning and design services which encompass civilian clients as well as large federal contracts. One current project is the runway replacement at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam which has involved frequent travel to the island and Asia. The base has supported the USAF’s Global Strike mission by basing B-1, B-2, B-52, and F-15 aircraft. I have also taken the opportunity to start my own aviation consulting business which provides services to airports and airlines. Other than work news, our only other excitement is our yellow lab whom we brought home in the Spring of 2005.”

Andrea Straub '96 on a recent visit with classmates Pam Bierzynski '96 and Kerry Duggan '96

After graduating from NYU and living in New York for eight years, Andrea (Desy) Straub is now in Philadelphia and enjoying the City of Brotherly Love. She’s a full-time realtor focusing primarily on high-end residential sales. She sold Chris Webber '91 his house outside Philadelphia! “Best to everyone! Drop me a line or visit me at www.andreastraub.com.”

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After completing her Master’s at the University of Michigan, Kerry Duggan moved to Washington, D.C. where she works as Campaigns Program Manager with the League of Conservation Voters. Sarah (Shilling) Garn and Alex Garn welcomed a new baby girl, Addison Vivian Green, on September 19, 2006. Addison joins big brother Talon.

Albert Geldres graduated from Michigan with a B.S. in mechanical engineering and joined DaimlerChrysler as a design engineer in 2000. He recently completed his M.B.A. at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. He now works with Harrah’s Entertainment in planning and analysis at Country Day.

Andrew Kureth is living in Poland and is the deputy editor of the Warsaw Business Journal. He and his wife have been married for over five years.

Brett Gasper is a financial advisor for UBS Financial Services. He is a member of the Country Day Alumni Council and coaches Middle School football at Country Day.

Meredith (Franco) Meyers wrote a five-page feature on celebrity workouts in the August issue of InStyle magazine. She recently finished her Master’s of Fine Arts in New York City and planned to finish a memoir by the end of the summer.

Terika Richardson received Modern Healthcares 2007 Up Comer Award in November 2007.

Jaunique Sealey made two guest appearances as a correspondent on Court TV in May, 2007. She appeared during the Bloom and Politan segment commenting on the Phil Spector trial. She will return as a guest correspondent during the next few months. Jaunique graduated from Duke University in 2000 and Harvard Law School in 2003. She is currently an entertainment attorney, general counsel for Universal Music Group in Los Angeles, CA.

Juliana (James) Stein was married in 2006 to Peter Stein. The couple lives in Washington, DC.

Todd Williams wrote his first book, Knifeboy: A Novel and is finishing his first movie screenplay, Trainwreck: My Life as an Idiot. Knifeboy is available for purchase on Amazon.com.

Rachael Woods has a son, Derrick. She is working on her Master’s degree at the University of Phoenix, where she works as an enrollment counselor.

1997

Erin Eisenberg is teaching fifth grade in Bellevue, WA and she loves it!

Thomas Fitzpatrick and his wife welcomed their first child in December 2007.

Korbi Gosh is E-Onlines newest feature columnist. Get the latest scoop on today’s hottest TV shows in Korbi’s new daily column “Korbi’s Quickie” by visiting www.eonline.com. Click on “Gossip,” “Watch with Kristin” and then “Korbi’s Quickie.”

Christopher Radom and his wife welcomed their first child, Avery Christopher on November 2, 2007 at 10:58 p.m. He weighed 6 lbs., 5 ozs. and measured 20 ¼ inches long.

David Shaye is working at MTV as a Network Executive and Producer. David’s projects include twentyfourseven, Room 401, Hillary Duff: This is Now, Adventures in Hollywood and Dancelife with Jennifer Lopez.

1998

Rachel Avesian married Jason Rabidoux on August 11, 2006. They live in Englewood, CO near Denver. Since graduating from Michigan State with a degree in apparel and textile design, Rachel has been working at Neiman Marcus where she is a merchandise coordinator in the couture/fine apparel department.

Sara Balgenorth is in Cleveland, OH for graduate school.

Amanda Boltwood is engaged to Steven Zehnder of Clarkston, MI. In 2002 he received a B.S. in science and technology studies from MSU Lyman Briggs School and a DDS from the University of Detroit School of Dentistry in 2007. The couple plan to marry in August 2008.

Kimberly Ellsworth is engaged to Atticus Flores. Kim is a graphic designer at the U of M Law School. Atticus is an Automotive Product Engineer at Plastech. The Wolverines are planning a Spring 2009 wedding.

Allison (Green) Klein married a fellow classmate from Yale, Eric Klein, on August 1, 2004.

Aaron Kugan moved to Chicago where he began the MBA program at the University of Chicago in September 2006.

Gary Levy graduated from USU medical school in May 2006 and moved to Honolulu to start his OB/GYN residency at Tripler Army Medical Center.

Allison Lewinski moved to St. Louis where she is going to school. She also travels back and forth to China and Hong Kong.

Jibreel Lockhart received his M.B.A. from Harvard’s Business School in June 2005. He is working for American Express.

1999

Danielle Haggins Gibbs was recently married. “I have been a school counselor and I work with elementary school students at a private school in Columbus.”

On July 28, 2006, Danielle Haggins married Brandon Gibbs in Columbus, OH. Three DCDS alumni were in the wedding: Aisha Jett ’99, Elaine Barfield ’00 and her sister Amanda Colbert ’06. Danielle is an elementary school counselor and her husband Brandon is an attorney.
Matthew Lambert writes, "I am currently working tirelessly in the Gulf Coast, providing redevelopment plans and housing for Mississippi and Louisiana. I have been in contact with Lowe's, colleagues, and the Governor’s offices of Mississippi and Louisiana to enact upon redevelopment housing. Along with others, I have been developing “Katrina Cottages.” Congress passed a $1.2 billion bill to construct 40,000 such cottages in the two states. We are mobilizing panel developers and Lowe’s to provide low-cost house kits for individuals and builders. The situation is dire, but we are doing everything that we can to clear-up the cloud of FEMA and the Army Corps, and to deliver answers and hope to the Gulf Coast. We recently returned to New Orleans to provide Gentilly with a plan for regrowth and economic revitalization, and to build three more affordable housing models signified by the Katrina Cottage title.”

Rebecca Lewis graduated from law school and qualified as a barrister. She now practices criminal law. "I am working for the government rather than private practice and love my job. I’d love to hear from everyone, and would invite anyone who finds themselves in London to get in touch!”

Kevin Zanjani had a remarkable time on a road trip from San Diego to Vancouver, Canada. He spent the summer in Europe, staying in Hamburg, Germany. He visited Paris, Barcelona, Amsterdam, Kolding, and Denmark.

2000

Elaine Barfield attends NYU medical school.

Kerry Doman’s new web site, After5detroit.com was recently featured in Signature Magazine and the Detroit Free Press. The web site which showcases the best places to eat, shop and let loose in the Motor City, officially launched in June 3 and received 1.7 million hits in its first three months. If you’re looking to hit the town and are not sure where to go, what to do or what to wear, visit www.after5detroit.com. Kerry was also named to Crain’s 2007 “Top 20 in Their 20’s″ list.

Donald Wine passed the Maryland Bar Exam in November, 2007.

2001

Sanjay Dandamudi is in medical school at Georgetown University.

Jeff Joseph attends medical school at the American University of the Caribbean in St. Marten.

On October 14, 2006, Jason Kies was married. “I have been in the Navy for over four years. I work as a policeman and am enjoying the beautiful weather here in Cuba. Hope all is well and good luck to all.”

Charlie Kughn graduated from Wayne State University in April 2006. He currently works in commercial real estate development.

Michael Melonakos is in his last year of law school at the University of Georgia.

Carl Sowislo is a senior analyst for Cambridge Investment Partners in New York City.

Bei Tang is living in China and is finishing his Master’s degree. He also signed a record deal and his album titled, “Easy World – Sunlight on the Path to Freedom,” debuted 7th in November 2007.

Adam Wadecki received his M.S. degree from the University of Michigan in industrial operations engineering.

Heather White and her sister, Eboni, started njoi Learning, LLC, a provider of private, individualized tutoring services. To find out more, visit www.njolearning.com. Heather is working on her Master’s degree at the University of Michigan.

2002

Lauren Camp was elected captain of Georgetown University’s first ever Varsity softball team. The team was formed in July 2005 and prior to that, Lauren served as the head of a club women’s softball team at Georgetown.

Laura Cappelli graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.A. in biochemistry from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2006. As a Roy and Diana Vagelos Scholar in the molecular life sciences, Laura was also awarded a M.S. in chemistry. She was named one of nine 2005 Dean’s Scholars and was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Society during her junior year. Laura performed for four years as part of the Bloomers, an all female musical sketch comedy group. She currently attends medical school at Johns Hopkins University.

Andre Hester graduated from Morehouse University in Atlanta in May, 2007.

Marissa Kainz was married to Keating Simons in July 2006. The couple lives in Summerville, SC.

Pradeep Mouli was one of four finalists on VH1’s reality show, “The Pick-up Artist.” Unfortunately Pradeep wasn’t named the “Master Pick-up Artist,” but he did make the show a fun one to watch!

Kevin Nelson plays professional basketball overseas in Uruguay.

Kate Rhodes attends law school at Tulane University in New Orleans. She is enrolled in the Sports Law Certificate program and is on the Sports Law Society executive board.

Joshua Zarowitz married Amanda Short on March 19, 2008 on Paradise Island in the Bahamas. “We met during our medical school education at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, West Virginia. We sorted of eloped in that just Amanda and I were at the ceremony. Our folks and family remained in the US, at our request.”

Joshua Zarowitz ’02 and his bride Amanda

2003

Paul Fabre’ graduated from Lehigh University in June 2006. During his senior year, he played the role of Tuzenbach in “Three Sisters.” Paul plans to pursue his passion for acting and singing.
Eli Green played the role of the Bellhop in Ken Ludwig’s “Lend Me a Tenor” which turned out to be the most successful play performed in the Annie Russell Theatre in five years. Before that, he performed in Arthur Miller’s “All My Sons” as George Deever. He directed the play “Riverside Drive” by Woody Allen at the Fred Stone Theatre on the Rollins College Campus which opened February 1, 2007.

Carrie Moore is playing professional basketball on the Polish National team.

Kyle Polk graduated with Cum Laude honors from Morehouse College in May 2007. He received a B.S. in finance and is currently working in New York City.

2004

Ron Towns was named a Truman Scholar, one of 65 college juniors that was selected. He attends Columbia University in New York.

2005

Edmund Homes attends the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, MI. He is also designing shoes for Shane and Shawn Ward who are the owners of infamous Detny.

Courtney Battle is a broadcast journalism major at Howard University. She is involved in the Student Ambassadors Program, Michigan Club and the John H. Johnson School of Communications Freshman Mentors Program. She also writes for Howard’s daily newspaper, “The Hilltop,” as well as the student-run newspaper the “District Chronicles”. In addition, Courtney serves as a writer for the student-run news program “Howard Today.” She is a volunteer with Gentleman Scholars, a program which hosts African American males in high school for a weekend at Howard.

Caitlin Gilman is a member of the Denison University field hockey team.

Allison Miles is a student at Miami of Ohio. She recently served as president of her sorority, the only underclassman to hold the position in the history of the organization.

Randall Sarafa is the vice president of the student body at Harvard University.

Gabrielle Sims was this year’s Homecoming Queen for the University of Michigan. She is also president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Gabrielle Sims ’05 being crowned as Homecoming Queen

Colleen Sowislo is a junior in the business school at Miami of Ohio. She is president of the field hockey club.

2006

Yvonne Hamood attends University of Michigan Dearborn where she is a member of the women’s basketball team.

Jacob Mondry starred in Oakland University’s production of “By Jupiter.”

Mithum Neral, along with John Zhou ’06 and Jonathon Schwartz ’06 have started a new web site geared toward high school students. The site, www.scholarholler.com, is an on-line community that emphasizes the value of a well-rounded learning experience in the high school and college years. Contributing experts to the website include Megan Beems ’05, Hari Arul ’09, Amrit Misra ’05, Muthian Subramanian ’05, Leslie Tse ’06, Brian Tan ’07 and Rob Gustafson ’07.

Veronica Ptaszynski earned a gemologist diploma from the Gemological Institute of America in Carlsbad, CA in April 2007.

Andrew Thomson won the 2007 NCAA Division III doubles tennis championship in Mobile, AL. Andrew is a sophomore at Middlebury College.

Andrew Thomson ’06 at the NCAA Division III doubles tennis championship

Kyle Verbeek writes, “To the graduating Class of 2006, we are the future of this world.”
In Memorium

Harry A. La Pointe “The White Fox”
May 5, 1912 - May 24, 2007

Harry and his wife, Louise, moved from Calumet in 1935 to the Detroit area where they worked for seven years as a private chauffer and as a maid in the Grosse Pointe area. For the next 30 years Harry worked for Sealtest Dairy as a milkman.

In 1957, Harry became involved in Detroit amateur hockey as the coach of the neighborhood hockey team. Although he played some hockey when he was a boy, he never pursued the game himself beyond his early teen years. His 12-year run as coach in Detroit amateur hockey programs resulted in several state championships and five national championships.

In 1971, Harry joined Detroit Country Day School as our head hockey coach with continued success resulting in several city and state championships. His hockey coaching career was culminated in 1981 when he was inducted into the Michigan Amateur Sports Hall of Fame. He remained active in coaching until 1984, when at the age of 72, he said felt a little too tentative on the ice to skate with the team.

Although his teams won many championships, and he personally won many honors, what he loved the most was the relationships he forged with his players and watching them develop into young men. He loved to reminisce with and about the young men he coached. It seemed like he could remember something about each and every boy he coached during his 28-year career. He remained in contact with many of them up until the time he became ill. Harry is survived by his son, Gordon La Pointe, Columbus, OH. Harry is also survived by a sister-in-law and daughter-in-law, Josephine Cencich of Marysville, MI; and several nieces and nephews. Harry was preceded in death by his wife Louise; his parents Theophile and Amanda (Houle); and three brothers and three sisters. A memorial service took place Aug. 25th. Memorials may be directed to Calumet All Sports Booster Club, PO Box 295, Calumet, MI 49913 for the promotion of youth hockey in Harry’s hometown.
“Harry LaPointe was affectionately known by those of us who were close to him as “The Silver Fox.” While he coached the varsity hockey team for over a decade, his legacy to the school is measured by the boys he shaped into young men of character. “Harry’s boys” are now family men and citizen-leaders who remember him well for the extraordinary influence he had on their lives. Harry and I stayed in touch when he was well into his nineties. He would always share stories with me about his boys and how proud he was to have played a role in their lives.”

Glen Shilling, Headmaster
In Memorium

Norman Berry Jr., father of Norman Berry ’83, passed away on February 1, 2006. His vision of an innovative spark-plug wire led to the founding of LGM, Ltd, with his wife, Cherie, in 1985 in Maiden, NC. The company was sold in 1995 to C.O. Jelliff Corporation where he remained general manager until his death. He is survived by his wife Cherie, son Norman, daughter Patricia, step-daughters Kimberlee and Stephanie, brother Charles and many nieces and nephews.

Tom Downs, a well-known election expert and labor attorney, passed away on December 26, 2007 at the age of 91. He was the father of Tim Downs ’60.

The school recently learned that Donald Isbrandt ’53 passed away on December 14, 1999.

Harry Laning ’29 passed away on October 30, 2005 at his home after a long illness. He leaves a son, George II of Sharon, CT. After graduating from DCDS, he attended the University of Michigan and worked for General Motors designing automobiles. He served as a lieutenant commander in the Navy during World War II, developing supercharges for American fighter aircrafts. After the war, he moved to Sharon where he owned and operated several garages. In 1962, he moved to Tuper Lake, NY where he owned a lumber mill. In 1967 he returned to Connecticut where he worked for Pratt & Whitney Aircraft and after retiring in 1975, he returned to Sharon where he pursued hobbies including building models, automobiles and animals.

James E. Kramer ’59 passed away on February 27, 2006. He is survived by a son Marc, his mother Bernice and brother Michael ’61.

Robert Young ’70 lost his father, Dr. Robert P. Young Sr. after a long struggle with cancer on January 30, 2006. He was 81.

Albert Gilyard, father of Gary Gilyard ’76, passed away on February 16, 2006. Albert spent the bulk of his professional career as a teacher for the Highland Park School District where he taught special education and drivers education at Highland Park High School. Albert was married to his loving wife Louise for 50 years.

Former faculty John P. Campbell passed away on June 23, 2007 after a lengthy battle with cancer. Several DCDS alumni, faculty and former faculty attended his service and shared the impact John’s passion for teaching history had on their lives.

We recently learned that John Becker ’37 passed away on February 22, 2002.

Kevin E. Cosgriff ’77 passed away on July 26, 2006 at the age of 48.

Richard Lewis ’49 died peacefully at his home on March 29, 2007. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Lorie, two sons, Richard W. Jr. (Chris) of Palm Coast, FL and James (Linda) of Holland, MI, one daughter, Lisa (Martin) Capaccio of Kalamazoo, nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Along with his wife, Dick owned and operated The Rose Shop, a floral design shop still in operation. At the same time, he formed Mapa Mundi International Export Corp. to develop tractors for Third World countries. Lorie writes, “Dick had such vivid, wonderful experiences and memories of his years at Country Day, and his superb undergraduate training there well prepared him for college at Albion. He was always especially proud to be a Country Day graduate!”

Charles Louis Wilson, Jr. ’42 passed away in Harbor Springs, MI on August 30, 2007, surrounded by his children and wife of 56 years, Diane Wenger.

We recently learned that Edward Crooker ’42 passed away four years ago. His son-in-law contacted the alumni office to share this news.

Mitchell I. Kafarski, father of Konrad ’88 and Erik ’86, passed away March 8, 2008. In addition to his two sons, he leaves to cherish his memory, his wife of Zofia.
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