For Alumni, Friends and Family of DETROIT COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

BeeHive

Summer 2004

Remembering Dr. Richard A. Schlegel, DCDS Headmaster Emeritus
THE BEEHIVE IS PUBLISHED TWICE ANNUALLY
FOR ALUMNI, PARENTS, PAST PARENTS, STUDENTS
AND FRIENDS OF DETROIT COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

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Front cover: Dr. Schlegel surrounds himself with Country Day students in 1986.
(L-R) Natalie Greenspan ‘86, Bill Passer ‘86, Keith Fenton ‘86, Dr. Schlegel,
Dennis Archer ‘86, Kathy Williams ‘87, Carol Gillow Giles ‘86 and David Levine ‘86.
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IN MEMORIAM 45
The Country Day family lost a great leader and friend this spring. Dr. Richard A. Schlegel, Headmaster Emeritus, passed away on March 21 after a battle with cancer. Like so many of his family members and friends, the school community will remember Dr. Schlegel not for how his life started or ended, but for the amazing journey he lived in between. His life reads like the great American dream in which he truly fulfilled his potential — and then some. He showed us what it was like to live each day to the fullest and to achieve our own personal best.

I certainly was impacted by Dr. Schlegel’s positive influence and was shaped by his guidance and support. Walking into Detroit Country Day School as a math teacher 38 years ago, I couldn’t have known that I would later become the Headmaster of this extraordinary institution, following in the footsteps of my colleague and beginning a journey of my own.

This spring, more than 30 alums revisited campus to share their professional journeys with our Upper School students during Career Day. Our distinguished guests represented a broad range of fields, including broadcast journalism, filmmaking, music video production, law, dentistry, finance, medicine, education, government, sports, engineering and the military — just to name a few. All of these talented alums took one step at a time to get to where they are today, and their journeys are still far from complete.

And on June 10, one journey ended and another began for the Detroit Country Day School Class of 2004. For them, their next great journey leads them to colleges and universities around the country, bound to learn new concepts, explore life on their own, meet some of the most influential people in their young lives and while they are at it, choose a career path. Daunting? Maybe. Irresistibly thrilling? Indeed.

Our destinations are unknown, yet that’s what life is all about — the journey. It’s what takes us to places unimaginable and defies the impossible. Wherever your journey make take you, if there’s one thing Dr. Schlegel taught us, it was this: Enjoy the ride.

You will be missed, Dick.
In the Winter 2004 BeeHive, Michele Weisz was mistakenly omitted from our new faculty and staff listings. Michele joined DCDS last fall as the Upper School’s morning receptionist. Michele comes to us from Wilton, Conn. where she worked at the Wilton Chamber of Commerce and the Wilton Family YMCA. Her impressive professional background also includes database development and support, senior-level art direction and print buying in Los Angeles and New York.

The donor of the Junior School moose was mistakenly left unidentified in the Winter 2004 BeeHive. The school wishes to acknowledge its gratitude to the Lim family, who informed us that this generous gift was bestowed upon the Village Campus in 1977 by their father, Dr. Jess U. Lim. For the full story, please see page 18.

In the Winter 2004 BeeHive, we misattributed a class note to Lisa Mancini Saunders ’82. See her corrected class note on page 37.

The BeeHive corrects all factual errors. If you know of an error, please contact Mary Ellen Rowe, BeeHive editor at (248) 646-7717 x 1024 or mrowe@dcds.edu.
Happy Birthday, President Lincoln!

Grace Markey ’18 really got in touch with history in celebration of President Abraham Lincoln’s birthday on Feb. 16. Grace and her classmates in Mamie Bailey and Patricia Morse’s Pre-k 4 classroom donned Abraham Lincoln hats and beards and also enjoyed a birthday party, complete with a poem recitation and a cake decorated by the class. According to Grace, President Lincoln “would have been 195 this year.”

Students Unveil “Art from the Heart”

Students Create, Donate Art For a Permanent Collection at Children’s Hospital of Michigan

This winter, Detroit Country Day School students of all ages dedicated 24 unique works of art they created to the Children’s Hospital of Michigan as part of a program sponsored by the Friends of the Arts Association. The art remains at the hospital as part of a permanent collection which the school hopes to add to each year. Said Corey Curnutte ’04, “I just looked at it as one small thing I could do for someone who doesn’t feel well.” Curnutte donated a colorful painting he calls “Rastaman.” Other student artists include Grace Markey ’18; Blake Fisher ’17; Hannah Lewry ’16; Michael MacLean ’16; Christopher Sobeck ’16; Rachel Ross ’16; Jesse Jeppesen ’15; Alexander Manning ’15; Marina Selenica ’15; Michael Carr ’14; Priya Patel ’14; Courtney Trott ’14; Joe Zimmer ’13; Jacob Chapman ’12; Meghan Gatward ’12; Olivia Celani ’10; Jeffrey Jones ’10; Manisha Kaura ’10; former student Joscha Laukart ’09; Michelle Mrowka ’09; Savina Aneja ’04; Jared Smith ’04; Amanda Zaitchik ’04 and 1996 alumna Sarah Gregor.
This winter, Eric Greenberg ’05 earned first place in the Birmingham Optimist Club essay contest for his essay “The Best I Can Be.” Upper School English teacher Beverly Hannett-Price and Upper School Dean Betsy Moss attended the award presentation at an Optimist Club meeting where Eric presented his winning essay.

This spring, the Middle School Community Service Club helped organize a drive to support U.S. troops serving in the Middle East. Students worked with Operation Troop TLC, a local organization founded by Country Day parent Dayle Hoffecker (mother of Brooks Hoffecker ‘10 and Grant Hoffecker ’12), which sends care packages to U.S. troops in Iraq. “Our troops are living and working under dangerous and strenuous conditions and they truly look forward to receiving supportive mail and a few ‘luxuries’ from home,” says Hoffecker.

The students began collecting paperback books, lightweight snacks, DVD movies, hard candy, insect repellent, hand sanitizer, and other comfort items. The Student Council collected a generous donation so school nurse Dr. Kristin Benit could purchase medicinal products for the troops. Students took the initiative to write letters or call friends and family, or even go door-to-door in their neighborhoods to collect items.

The drive ended on May 6, when Community Service Club members helped to load Mrs. Hoffecker’s van for delivery to the Southfield office of the U.S. Army Reserves, where the items were sorted and shipped overseas.

An Army Major in Iraq poignantly wrote, “The gifts that people like you send to us make it more bearable here – not solely because of the boxes you sent; they disappear far too quickly – but rather because the boxes you sent say you care and that we are not forgotten. And we appreciate that more than all else, more than we can say, more than you can easily understand. We cannot thank you enough, nor will we forget it.” Middle School parents and teachers are proud of the patriotism and generosity shown by our students in this effort, and we are grateful to Operation Troop TLC for allowing the school this opportunity to express its gratitude to our American troops.

Middle School Students Think Globally, Act Locally

1 Members of the Japanese Women’s Society instruct in the art of a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. Students pictured here are David Zussman ’04, Jake Olsman ’04, John Meza ’06 and Evan Pacholski ’04. 2 J/S Japanese teacher Jackie Riley, Alan Bunne’y ’05, Katherine Lee ’05, Ari Martina ’05, Caitlin Gilman ’05, Jeff Whitlow ’05, Sarah Larson ’05, Tom Cassel ’05, Michael Zampani ’05. 3 Adam Pullman ’05, David Litwin ’05, Matt Riley ’05, Brian Kegley ’05, Stephen Grace ’05, Keng Lor ’05, Jaclyn Winkelman ’05

Pictured left: Aruski Hukku ’08 and Shreya Sharma ’08 team up to send a box of paperback books to U.S. troops stationed in the Middle East. Through Operation Troop TLC, an initiative supported by the Middle School Community Service Club, students collected and donated two van-loads worth of comfort items from home.
The Detroit Country Day School community sadly lost one of its most treasured members on March 21, 2004. The passing of Dr. Richard A. Schlegel, Headmaster Emeritus, has touched us all as we remember his devotion to furthering the dreams of students and faculty alike. Here, with a special tribute by Assistant Headmaster Glen Shilling, our school community offers memories of its former headmaster; and, on behalf of the BeeHive staff, we wish to share our sincerest sympathies with Dr. Schlegel’s wife of 55 years, Mrs. Margot Schlegel and her family.

By Assistant Headmaster
Glen Shilling

After two years as Assistant Headmaster, Dr. Richard A. Schlegel took the reins as Headmaster of Detroit Country Day School in 1967 and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1986. There have been only four headmasters in the 90-year history of the school, which was founded in 1914. Dr. Schlegel was the third headmaster. His background of education and business and his spirit of innovation and imagination were propitious for the time.

He embraced the proven traditions and brought an even deeper commitment to founding headmaster F. Alden Shaw’s sense of mission. Under Dr. Schlegel’s leadership, the school assembled a highly talented and caring faculty, expanded the breadth and depth of the curriculum and became coeducational in all grades in 1972.

He established the fine arts and music departments, the pre-kindergarten, the International Baccalaureate program, the National Scholar/Athlete Award and a foreign student exchange program. Enrollment rose to 800 in 1975, to 1,000 in 1980 and totaled nearly 1,200 at his retirement. With a supportive board of trustees and invaluable assistance from individual parents, past parents, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the school, Dr. Schlegel spearheaded capital campaigns and fund drives that produced the two-story art and science wing, the library, several classrooms, the Flint Flag Plaza and the Shaw Gymnasium complex, all on the Thirteen Mile Road Campus, as well as the purchase of the Bloomfield Village Campus (Junior School – Grades 3-5) and Maple Road Campus (Lower School – Grades PK-2).

But more important than what he did was who is was. On a very personal note, Dr. Schlegel was a friend and mentor to many of the current faculty and staff at Country Day. He and his wife, Margot, were a great team leading the school for nearly twenty years. Dick provided the innovation and imagination, while Margot is the pragmatist. They remained loyal members of the Country Day family after retirement since three of their grandchildren attend the school. Dick used to comment how he had “Blue and Gold” blood running through his veins.

Those who knew them characterized Dick in the image and spirit of “Mr. Chips,” the traditional college preparatory school headmaster for he often wore a bow tie to school events.

He continued to regularly attend Country Day football and lacrosse games throughout his retirement. He enjoyed watching his grandson play on the varsity football team as recently as last fall. He was an honorary member of the varsity football coaching staff and paced the sideline during each game. Country Day established the Richard A. Schlegel Leadership Award in his honor, which is given to the senior “who evidences through his or her achievement and the life he or she lives, to the knowledge and in the opinion of the faculty, the most outstanding academic, intellectual and moral leadership in the finest tradition of the DCDS ‘lady scholar’ or ‘gentleman scholar.’” Each year since his retirement, Dr. Schlegel personally presented the Leadership Award to the student recipient and citation winner. He will be missed this year by those who knew him well for he provided a wealth of knowledge, wisdom and perspective during his tenure as Headmaster and throughout his retirement. What a wonderful legacy he leaves – to have touched and guided the lives of so many students and teachers is testimony to a life well lived.
“Dick Schlegel and his wife Margot arrived in Birmingham in the early 1960s with their five children and two dogs only to find their house in Georgetown unfinished. So, after parking their trailer on campus behind the old science building for a few days, they decided to take off on a cross-country trip prior to the start of the school year. With five kids and two dogs, it must have been a challenge—but that was what Dick loved!

Soon after, Dick asked me to join the all boys Upper School with its all male faculty in 1969. I remember Dick and Margot serving homemade lasagna, salads, chocolate and apple pies to the sophomore students before our monthly trips to Meadow Brook Theatre evening productions. Dick loved hockey. He brought hockey to the school, building a temporary outdoor rink on campus, then moving the team over to the Southfield permanent rink. Always in attendance, he and Harry LaPointe cheered the boys to victory. Dick also loved horseback riding and owned his own horse for years. One sunny afternoon he brought his horse to the football field and demonstrated dressage for the entire Upper School student body gathered in the football stadium.

He gave the whole school the day off (and called it a Headmaster’s Holiday) when we beat Cranbrook in football for the first time. Country Day was becoming the most talked about and sought-after prep school in the area. When I arrived in 1969, we had 200 students total in the entire K-12 school community, on one campus at Thirteen Mile Road. Tuition was $2,000! Dick Schlegel built additions, stadiums, basketball courts, added campuses, improved the curriculum, emphasized character development and attitude and paved the way for Country Day’s reputation as one of the best schools in the country.
Cynthia Goldberg, 
Middle School director

“I came to DCDS after several years in public schools. After being here only a short while, I was offered a position back in my former district. The public school position would pay more and my loyalty here was not yet established. Since the DCDS enrollment was soft that summer, I had not yet been offered a contract. When I informed the school that I had another contract offer, Dr. Schlegel called me in over the Fourth of July weekend to persuade me to stay. I did and never dreamed that I would one day be a division director.

I remember him telling me how he thought I could make a difference in the school. I think he saw something in me that I did not recognize in myself at that time. In the years since his retirement, he kept in touch. Many times, he treated me to a lunch or a dinner out where the conversation would range from religion, to politics, to educational theory. He was interested in so many things, but he never lost his interest in the school or its welfare. That was always where we concentrated our conversation. He was a unique, passionate man. He affected the course of my career, and for that I am grateful.”

Barbara Becker, 
Upper School mathematics teacher

“I remember Dr. Schlegel demonstrating dressage for the students, and how the Schlegels fed the entire sophomore class before they attended Meadow Brook Theatre. When I knew him, he was already an icon...sort of a cornerstone of the school’s broad-based tradition of excellence. I remember tears from many when he announced his impending retirement. I remember many colorful stories, and the very moving story of graduating from high school and going directly off to fight in World War II. Many of his classmates did not return...a memory most pertinent to our families sending loved ones to Iraq these days. Mostly, I remember that he exemplified the qualities of character and pride in tradition and respect that we hope students still strive for today.”

Nora Abello Labiano, 
Upper School Spanish teacher

“Dr. Schlegel was a man of character, a great father and an outstanding headmaster. He was very spiritual and he always found time to tell about his experiences. He shared stories about his life and his experience as a war veteran. He was both strict and very kind. He stood tall and was very self-confident. Over the years, he and Margot became American parents for many European exchange students. The Schlegels gave endless priceless hours to Detroit Country Day School. We will always remember him, for he was the teacher of teachers. Dr. Schlegel, you’ll keep living in our hearts and minds. Margot, you can count on your Country Day family for anything and everything.”
HEADMASTER’S SALUTATION
TO THE CLASS OF 2004

Congratulations, Class of 2004

RAMIE MUFID ABU-ZAHRA
OMAR A. ABURASHED
ALOKI NATH AGGARWAL
AISHA NICOLE AHMAD
MOHAMMAD ALI AMIN
ALISON BRIANNE ANDREOFF
SAVINA ANEJ A
AMADI PHILLIP ANENE
NICHOLAS EDWARD BACKOS
J AYA BADHWAR
MONEKA BAHADUR
LAUREN LOTFEA BARTLETT
J JUSTIN ALLAN BECKER
GILLIAN FRANCES BESS
DENNIS I. BOJ RAB II
HEATHER ROBERTSON BOWMAN
BRANDON MILES BRADFORD
ALEXANDER KILCLINE BUSSER
KATHRYN ANN BUTTORF
MATTHEW J OHN CARD
LAUREN ELIZABETH CARROLL
DEMEA POINTS CARTER
KIMBERL Y SUZANNE CARTER
DANA NICOLE CHIDIAC
GARRETT GREGORY CHRISTOPHER
KATHRYN HANNA CRAGG
KATHRYN J ANET CUMMING
COREY MICHAEL CURNUTTE
XAVIER DEON CURRY
PHILIP RYNNE DAMASKA
CHRISTOPHER WILLIAM DANIELS
ANEESA DEEN
KIMBERLY MARIE DI CLEMENTE
STEPHANIE ELIZABETH DULIEU
J ESSICA LAUREN EDE
ANNA MARIE ELIassen
J OHN ROBERT ESHelman
SARA ELLEN ESHelman
J OEL DAVID FENKELL
CHASE HARRISON FISHER
STEPHANIE ANN FRAZIER
KURT SPENCER GARWOOD
FRANCESCA UYASAN GAYADAN
AHMED K. GHAMRAOUI
ALEXANDRA DEVON GHENT
J ASPER SINGH GILL
BRENT JAMES GOODMAN
KELLY MARIE GORIS
STEPHANIE ERIN GOULD
ANDREA LYNN GREB
KESHAV K. GROVER
PRASAD R. GROVER
ANDREW SHAM GUPTA
HARRY ADOLPH HAIRSTON, J R.
DONNA M. HASSOUN
TIMO HOEFS
DANIEL N. HUNDLEY
EARNEST LEE J JACKSON III
HUGH L. JOHNSON, V
J ESSICA LAUREN J JOHNSON
NAOMI J OSEPH
J ASON AARON KANTER
J OSHUA SAMUEL KANTER
CHRISTOPHER JAMES KARCHON
HIRSH KAVEESHWAR
NICOLE CHANTELE KIZY
SINDHURA KODALI
NAMRATA KOLACHALAM
RAVI S KODESIA
LISA NICOLE KULWICKI
J EFFREY THOMAS KUSCH
J JUSTIN MITCHELL LAKAMPER
“Friendship should be surrounded with ceremonies and respects, and not crushed into corners. Friendship requires more time than poor busy men can usually command.” – Ralph Waldo Emerson

“If this year’s commencement is nothing else, let it be a ceremony that celebrates the friendship this class has demonstrated. The members of the class of 2004 have very notable achievements, and have risen above the “busyness” of their lives and richly invested in what is required to be true friends. I admire your camaraderie, spirit, and your devotion to the school and to each other.

This faculty has seen you lead by example. Student-lead organizations have flourished this year. The Diversity Council, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Peer Intervention, S.A.D.D., and the student component of the Tutorial Enrichment program - all helmed by members of this class - have set new standards for student involvement and compassion. Your community service efforts alone are enough to distinguish you. These efforts have continued into senior project, taking you as far away as Australia - and as close as our campuses, as some of you chose to make a difference in classrooms where you were once students yourselves.

You are happy, involved, caring, and invested in each other and your school. These are rare and admirable qualities in young adults today.

To secure the future, it will take more than good scholars and good athletes – it will take good people. Good people like you. For the character and optimism you have shared with us, I thank you.

As scholars, athletes, and artists, your class shined brightly - not only this year, but throughout your time in the Upper School.

It seems a simple enough thing to sum up four years – or in some cases fifteen. But in a sense, it’s not simple at all. It’s not even possible. A life, even as young as all of your lives, cannot be reduced to a list of accomplishments or a series of accolades. The real story of a sea of friendships and the journey of 144 young men and women cannot be condensed to a few congratulatory notes, or ‘crushed into corners.’

So once again, we who stay behind bid another class farewell. We have done our best, and you have too. You have made us proud by becoming the men and women of character we so desperately hoped you would be, and we will miss you a lot. And we hope that from time to time, we will see you all again.”

Gerald T. Hansen, Headmaster
AND THE AWARD GOES TO....

2004 Honors Convocation award winners

Seniors: Asish Misra ’04, Amadi Anene ’04, Robert Reznick ’04, Neil Lydick ’04, Kurt Garwood ’04, Jonathan Pohl ’04, Jaya Badhwar ’04 and Chuchi Ahmad ’04 happily accept their Honors Convocation awards following the ceremony on May 27.

Anthony C. Buesser Cup
Amadi Anene ’04
Citation: Ashley Salari ’04
The Anthony C. Buesser Cup is awarded to the senior student who has distinguished himself or herself in the field of writing and oral expression; who has participated successfully in competitive, interscholastic athletics; and who has demonstrated qualities of courtesy, good sportsmanship and a willingness to help others within the school community.

Fine Arts Cup
Aisha (Chuchi) Ahmad
This award recognizes the Upper School art student who has, 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 DCDS Fine Arts Department from 1971 until his death in 1988, and founder of Friends of the Arts.

Headmaster’s Cup
Robert Reznick ’04
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
Kim DiClemente ’04
The Women’s Athletic Cup has been presented annually since 1978 to the female athlete in the Upper School whose achievements in terms of leadership, sportsmanship, ability, accomplishments and contributions make her the outstanding representative of what Detroit Country Day School seeks to teach through athletics.

Men’s Athletic Cup
Jonathan Pohl ’04
The Men’s Athletic Cup, established in 1937, is presented annually to the male athlete in the Upper School whose achievements 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
Neil Lydick ’04
Citation: Freya Pitts ’04
Citation: David Zussman ’04
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.
TRAVESE CITY - Jim Territo wants “a little more punch” in the notes made by East Junior High band members. He knows how the piece should sound, since he wrote it.

Band students at the school have been practicing since February for a world premiere performance of two original compositions, including one Territo specifically wrote for them.

Peter Deneen, director of bands at East Junior High, said students are more connected to the music when they meet the composer and realize he is “a living, breathing person who eats lunch and makes mistakes.”

Having Territo in the classroom proves to be an invaluable teaching tool during rehearsal.

“What’s supposed to be quieter during this part?” a student asked Deneen.

“Let’s ask the guy who wrote it,” Deneen says, turning to Territo. Territo, a young, energetic composer, takes the band back through the piece. The soaring music ends with a bang of percussion. Deneen and Territo raise their hands in the air, give each other high-fives and shout “Woo-hoo.” The students also feel the energy in the room.

“Territo and Deneen have clearly created an environment where the band members have the freedom to express themselves,”Territo said.

Collaboration is dream-come-true

By Vanessa McCray, Record-Eagle staff writer

March 19, 2004

TRAVESE CITY - Jim Territo, shared his musical composition “Alleluia in Memoriam” with students at East Junior High School in Traverse City, Mich. in March.

Amy and Alden Shaw Award

Jaya Badhwar ‘04

Detroit Country Day’s founder F. Alden Shaw and his wife Amy set forth this special award. Recognizing that the excellent qualities of character, talent and ability are not only measured by academic achievement, it was the wish of Mr. and Mrs. Shaw to have this cup presented annually to the senior who by his or her cooperation and contributions best furthers the principles of Country Day.

Clayton Hill Gordon Science Award

Asish Misra ‘04

This award is presented to the outstanding Upper School science student of the year in honor of the Board of Trustees Chairman Emeritus, Clayton Hill Gordon, M.D. This award was established by Katherine Gilchrist Fletcher in 1977 at the conclusion of Dr. Gordon’s term as chairman.

White Scholarship Cup

Neil Lydick ‘04

Mr. Kirby White, a deceased Trustee of the school, established this award in 1927 for the senior who attended Detroit Country Day School for four years and attained the highest scholastic average.

Collaboration is dream-come-true

By Vanessa McCray, Record-Eagle staff writer

March 19, 2004

TRAVESE CITY - Jim Territo wants “a little more punch” in the notes made by East Junior High band members. He knows how the piece should sound, since he wrote it. Band students at the school have been practicing since February for a world premiere performance of two original compositions, including one Territo specifically wrote for them. Peter Deneen, director of bands at East Junior High, said students are more connected to the music when they meet the composer and realize he is “a living, breathing person who eats lunch and makes mistakes.”

Having Territo in the classroom proves to be an invaluable teaching tool during rehearsal. “Aren’t we supposed to be quieter during this part?” a student asked Deneen.

“Let’s ask the guy who wrote it,” Deneen says, turning to Territo. Territo, a young, energetic composer, takes the band back through the piece. The soaring music ends with a bang of percussion. Deneen and Territo raise their hands in the air, give each other high-fives and shout “Woo-hoo.” The students also feel the energy in the room.

“It’s been a lot different working with the composer,” eighth-grader Preston Sanford said. “You know how it is supposed to be, how to feel about it.” Territo has entrusted his very private piece, titled “Alleluia In Memoriam,” to a group of strangers. “This has been a composer’s dream, working with Pete’s group,” Territo said.
Detroit Country Day School recently was among just eight schools nationwide chosen to be one of Microsoft’s prestigious Centers of Innovation. More than 200 schools were considered for the honor this year, but Country Day stood out as a school that, despite challenges of funding and time, has implemented technology into its operations in ways that genuinely enhance the learning process.

Initiated in 2003, the Centers of Innovation program was established by Microsoft to recognize educational institutions that have demonstrated innovation in using technology to create inspired, connected communities of learning. To be chosen as a Center of Innovation, schools must demonstrate great leadership, strong strategic planning, a solid technology infrastructure, systemic professional development and a commitment to providing a truly connected learning community for their students.

“Yet there are schools in America that are doing more, that are challenging themselves and their students to think about what’s possible, and then to make it happen. Detroit Country Day School has shown what can happen when teachers, students, administrators and parents work together to give today’s students the skills that are critical for a successful future,” Cullinane says.

Preparing Students for Today’s World

Of the eight honorees, Detroit Country Day School is the only Center of Innovation in the state of Michigan and also the only independent school on the list. Strong professional development has proven to be a critical factor in the success of efforts to create a learning environment where technology plays a central role.

Serving approximately 1,550 students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12, DCDS embarked on a comprehensive technology program in 1999.

The goal of that technology program, says Assistant Headmaster Glen Shilling, is to ensure that students will leave DCDS with the skills they’ll need both for college and the professional world beyond.

“Times have changed and so have expectations,” says Shilling. “We’re committed to developing students who are prepared for today’s world, not the one we grew up in. That’s why every student grade six and above, and every faculty member, has a portable computer. Today, students use their laptops for in-class assignments, homework, labs and quizzes and tests. They also use public folders in Microsoft Outlook to deliver homework to teachers, and they take advantage of e-mail and
Web sites created by teachers to stay connected with their instructors after hours, and to collaborate with each other on projects and homework. In addition, the ability to post current information on the school Web site and exchange e-mail with parents has been the catalyst for a significant increase in parental involvement at the school.

Technology has also had a dramatic impact on classroom instruction at DCDS. One example, says Shilling, is an Upper School math class where students are shown how a calculus formula changes a three-dimensional model on a computer screen. That computer model has enabled the teacher to teach a difficult topic in two weeks rather than six. For Spanish class, students use their laptops as portable language labs to practice and improve pronunciation. In math class, interactive Microsoft Excel spreadsheets help teachers explain everything from the translations of functions to the concept of loans and amortization.

Shilling strongly believes that teacher involvement and teacher training is critical to the success of any educational technology program. And teachers at DCDS are central to the training process. At DCDS, a “Technology Across Curriculum” (TAC) committee made up largely of teachers, reviews new technology before it is released. Those teachers then act as a liaison back to their departments.

“It is critical to have buy-in from the people who are most important in delivering education to students,” says Shilling. “That’s why we established the TAC committee. We have great teachers and we wanted to make sure they understood that the goal of all this technology isn’t to replace them, but rather to provide them with another set of tools that would help them improve the way they deliver education.”

The Importance of Leadership

Shilling believes that there is a second important factor in determining whether a school succeeds or fails in its efforts to integrate technology — leadership. For DCDS, that leadership came from Headmaster Gerald Hansen.

“I think it’s very important for people to recognize that it takes someone who has a clear vision of the value of technology and is willing to face the challenges and the risks,” says Shilling. “In many ways we’re a fairly traditional school, and initially not everyone was eager to infuse all this new technology into the daily lives of our students. Today, I wouldn’t be able to take it away from them. That never would have happened without the Headmaster’s leadership.”

Microsoft’s Cullinane concurs. “DCDS has tremendous leadership and I’m very impressed by their willingness to push the envelope and challenge teachers,” she says.

“The end result is a staff that is dedicated to using technology to augment learning, rather than just for its own sake.”

This ability to adopt technology in ways that enhance learning will become more and more critical as schools strive to meet the needs of students in a complex and rapidly changing world. Because it was at the forefront of the development of information technology, Microsoft can play a valuable role in helping schools understand how to use technologies to achieve educational excellence.

“We’re in a unique position to help schools showcase best practices,” says Cullinane. “That’s why we started the Centers of Innovation program — to give a voice to schools that are doing a great job of integrating technology into education and to provide a forum where other schools can learn the lessons that they have to offer.”

“Microsoft is a leader in information and communication technology,” says Shilling. “So to be recognized as a Center of Innovation is a wonderful honor. It’s also very gratifying to be able to share our story with other schools so they can build on some of what we’ve already learned here at DCDS.”
DCDS Celebrates the Arts! The sounds of Detroit Country Day School’s annual fine and performing arts.

Celebrate the Arts is not only a celebration of the vast array of artistic talent at DCDS, but also a veritable feast for the senses including sights, sounds, touch and taste experienced and enjoyed by all ages.

1 Matt Riley ’05 gives a ceramics demonstration to interested onlookers in the Morris Gym.

2 Middle School musicians fill the halls with lively sounds to Celebrate the Arts.

Celebrate the Arts featured the talent of students in pre-kindergarten through grade 12, as well as that of the faculty. Works in painting, drawing, printmaking, ceramics, jewelry, metals, photography and graphic design from all grade levels filled the Upper School halls while performances by individuals, ensembles, school bands (including the Upper School jazz band, string orchestras and choral groups from Grade 2 to Grade 12) took place throughout the afternoon and a wonderful hands-on craft area gave young visitors the opportunity to create some of their own art.
young musicians and the works of budding artists were center stage at an arts extravaganza, “Celebrate the Arts,” on Sunday, April 18.

A student-directed theatre festival kicked off the weekend’s events on Friday and Saturday in the PAC. The annual student-directed film festival, “Burn the Film,” (after which the first “Gordies” were awarded for Best Film and Lifetime Achievement) also was met with great success on Sunday evening. Guests were treated to a delicious international culinary arts buffet prior to the Film Festival, courtesy of the Upper School Diversity Council.

Celebrate the Arts is proudly sponsored by the Friends of the Arts Association, a parent organization whose members work to support and promote the Fine and Performing Arts at Detroit Country Day.
Over 450 parents, alums and friends of the school clamored for hundreds of items up for bid at the annual school auction held Saturday, May 1. Among the sought-after spoils were a Seabourn Mediterranean cruise, an Elton John performance at the Bellagio Las Vegas, a Tiger Woods luncheon and hard-to-get 2004 Ryder Cup weekly season tickets with GM tent access. The most popular live item, however, was a trip for five to Aspen, Colo. aboard a private plane. The seven-night ski getaway went for $22,000. Also featured was a Red Wings away game trip raffle in which the winner will travel with the team on the team plane, stay at the team hotel and use the owner’s seats at the game.

Thanks to the dedication of this year’s auction Chairs - Carole Christian, Karin Elias and Kim Prowse, volunteers and the generosity of the Detroit Country Day School community, the event netted more than $500,000 – a school record! In its 24-year history, the auction has raised more than $8 million to support the school’s educational programs and initiatives.
In the age of immediacy, letter writing may have become something of a lost art, giving way to cell phones, pagers, e-mail and text messaging. But the book Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown is changing all that for second-graders at Country Day. When the main character Stanley Lambchop is accidentally squashed “as flat as a pancake” by a falling bulletin board, he learns the situation is not all bad. Some of the advantages Stanley discovers are the abilities to fly like a kite, slip under doors and through sidewalk grates and best of all, he’s able to easily fold himself into an envelope and visit interesting places he’s never before seen.

In their Flat Stanley project, second-graders taught by Mrs. Diane Doebel and Mrs. Susan Bannon read the book and were asked to create their own flat selves to mail to a friend or relative in another U.S. state. Before doing so, all the students completed extensive research about the state their flat self would visit, including state landmarks, history and weather trends. In a letter to their friend or relative, the students described what they had learned about the state and asked for their flat selves to be taken to special places in the destination state. Through their preparation and in the responses they received, the students not only learned an interesting lesson on U.S. geography, but also were given the gift of written correspondence the old-fashioned way. Students learned to write neatly, tell the reader a little about themselves and ask questions in their letters.

“Call me Pierre,” remarks the eight-foot moose head hanging casually on the wall.

Last winter, when the BeeHive put out the word that our moose mascot was in need of a name, we had no idea what kind of responses we would receive. While some of our students suggested whimsical names like Chocolate the Moose, Moosetracks, Moosinator and Pee Wee, others opted for a respectful title – Mr. Duncan, Mr. Andler. Some thought he was just an ordinary guy – a Dave or Joe, while some just thought he was a Bob – Boogie Bob, Billy Bob, Robert and Bob.

But of all the responses we received, one stood out as a clear winner in our “Name The Junior School Moose” contest. Congratulations to Michael Lim ’86 and Suzanne Lim Wilson ’88, who have amazingly known this moose’s name all along!

Read on for the real story of our beloved mascot, in the words of Ms. Lim Wilson.

“First and foremost, the moose does indeed have a name. His name is Pierre. He was so named by the beloved Lower School French teacher, Madame Corcos, shortly after his arrival. The children’s love and fascination with the massive moose prompted her to make up little stories and rhymes about his life and personality as a way of engaging student’s attention during French class.

We know this information for a fact because not only were we students in the Lower School at the time, but it was our father who was responsible for bringing Pierre to the Village Campus in 1977.
"Our father, Dr. Jess U. Lim, was a physician. When a patient, who had been an avid huntsman, passed away, his family set about dispersing his large collection of stuffed trophy animals. Our Dad was asked if he knew of any person or organization that might appreciate such items. At the time the Village Campus was a relatively new property for DCDS and several of the hallways and rooms were unused and unadorned. He contacted Mr. Joe D’Angelo and asked him if the school might like to adopt an “animal.” Our mother, Dorothy Lim, recalls that Mr. D’Angelo was very positive about the idea and actually chose the moose from a list of available animals. Our Dad spent a good bit of time and energy on this endeavor and even borrowed a pick-up truck in order to deliver Pierre to the school himself on a Saturday.

“As his children and students at the Village campus, we were extremely fond of Pierre and proud to be part of how he came to the school. Memories of our time spent within those walls include countless walks up and down those stairs past Pierre. He was loved by the students then, and we are thrilled to know that this enchantment continues on so many years later.”

Imagine the school’s surprise in learning that not only does the moose have a name, he has an extraordinary history to boot! While we always had a sneaking suspicion that this creature embodied the sophisticated air of a Frenchman, Pierre never mentioned a thing about his storied past.

“It’s really a relief that the Lims felt compelled to share my true identity,” said Pierre recently. “I was beginning to fear I would be renamed Mr. Tickles for the rest of eternity.”

Pierre declined further comment, but did express his sincerest gratitude to the Lim family and the Junior School students, who became aware of the moose’s name when Junior School Director Joe D’Angelo shared the Lim’s letter. Not surprisingly, the students whole-heartedly agreed that Pierre seemed a fitting name for the proud beast.

Our thanks to the Lim family for shedding some light on their father’s generous gift to the school. With their help, the moose’s identity is no longer a mystery as his story comes alive to a new generation of Junior School Yellowjackets.

On behalf of Detroit Country Day School and the BeeHive, we are pleased to introduce Pierre, the Junior School moose!
Nationally renowned author Jack Gantos visits fifth graders

Jack Gantos, award-winning author of more than 32 adult, young adult and children’s books visited the Junior School February 23 to present an interactive writing workshop to fifth grade students. His lively presentation focused on journal writing, the journal as a creative writing notebook and organization techniques.

A former professor of creative writing and literature at Boston’s Emerson College, Gantos is best known for his children’s books, which include the Rotten Ralph, Joey Pigza and Jack Henry books. Based on the writer’s childhood journals, the Jack Henry series provides an honest and humorous account of Gantos’ adventures as an imaginative young student.

I started writing when I was in second grade. I kept journals and wrote in them obsessively about everything I saw and felt and wondered. I wrote about kids I knew. I remembered conversations I’d heard and put those in my journal. For me, it had nothing to do with writing, and everything to do with privacy. I lived in a household with three siblings. The fact that the diary had a strap and a lock and key was the most exhilarating thing about it. It was like a lockbox or a pirate’s chest. It was one little corner of the world that I had control over.

Jack Gantos, visiting author
We're Going to Disney World!

By Jacob Matthews '09

Sunday, February 8, 2004

My classmates and I arrived bright and early at the airport at 6:00 a.m. today to set off for the much-awaited seventh grade Florida trip. We said goodbye to our parents, and two and a half hours later we were out of the frigid wastelands of southeastern Michigan and on the sunny shores of Florida. (Well, not really shores. It was Orlando, but you get the picture.) It was beautiful. We boarded a bus with our baggage stowed away and the trip officially started.

Monday, February 9, 2004

Today was Magic Kingdom Day, where we learned about roller coaster physics, and dark ride special effects. Even though we've already done all of these scientific lessons in our special Florida unit in science, we still learned a lot today including movie making skills, marketing techniques, and a lot about one another other. (Who knew we'd also learn about time management skills? We had to be dressed and at the breakfast table at 6:00 a.m. this morning!)

Tuesday, February 10, 2004

We're staying in the Holiday Inn Suites, with two or three (or in one case, five!) people to a suite, so it is rather like an apartment, except we have chaperones coming in around at 10:00 p.m. to make sure we're asleep. The rooms even have kitchens in them! All meals so far have been good: we eat at the parks with meal tickets, except at breakfast, which we eat at the hotel. The people at the parks are nice (except one guy who seemed like he was having a really bad day), the bus drivers are nice, even the people at the fast food restaurant we went to today were nice!

Wednesday, February 11, 2004

This was the only day that we were not in Disney World. We first went to the beach, and no one went swimming because if we did, we were not allowed back on the bus, and because the water was full of Portuguese man o' war jellyfish. Next, we went to a nature preserve, where we mostly saw trees. We ate at a few fast food stops on the way there. The highlight of the day was when we went on an airboat ride, and some boats saw over twenty alligators, many of which were uncomfortably close and large.

Thursday, February 12, 2004

Last full day of the trip. Here we are on a street designed to look like Britain in the middle of MGM Studios. Everyone's first or second choice on favorite thing we did was when we went to Medieval Times tonight, where we ate the way we would normally not be encouraged to eat: too much, with no napkin or silverware, and all while yelling. (We were cheering on the blue knight during the joust.)

Friday, February 13, 2004

The worst moment of the trip came today when the nice warm plane we boarded in Florida spat us out in snow back in Michigan. All in all, the Florida trip was great. I believe that every seventh grader should go on this trip because it is a good experience for both character building and having fun in the sun during the coldest part of the school year.
Hands on Detroit gives back to the city

by Ellis Hamburger ’07, Detroit Country Day School freshman and Day Times staff writer

Whether it’s for last-minute white points or solely to give back to their community, Upper School students participate every year in an event called “Hands on Detroit” – a day full of charitable activities – to improve the city of Detroit. Hands on Detroit is run by Volunteer Impact (www.volunteerimpact.org), an organization that puts together many charity events like this one. In past years, the activities ranged from fixing up a park and schools, working with Gleaners Community Food Bank (www.gcfb.org), or various projects at Focus: Hope (www.focushope.edu). Twenty-five students participated this year, accompanied by Upper School media specialist Carol Keeler and Upper School mathematics teacher Mark Schmitt, making this the largest group DCDS has taken since they began the program five years ago. For some students, the event was even the second or third year they’ve attended. “Hands on Detroit is a special project. It is a day where DCDS students and faculty work alongside members of the Detroit community to improve the city and its schools. Real progress is made, real teamwork is experienced, and all participants enjoy a great time,” Mrs. Keeler said.

The students arrived at the Mathieu Gymnasium at Wayne State University the morning of Saturday, May 15 to join approximately 300 others already there. “Hands on Detroit is a great experience that lets you have a good time while earning white points. That’s why I returned for a second time this year,” sophomore Melanie Backos ’06 said.

The assignment this year was to help out the students and teachers at Higgins Elementary in southeastern Detroit by giving their campus a face lift. Country Day volunteers participated in planting vegetable gardens around the school, painting murals, and painting doors. The supplies necessary for the project were donated by the generous people in Detroit, and were put to good use by all the volunteers working at Hands on Detroit.

Hands on Detroit requires each student to raise $25 in pledges for the fundraising aspect of the program in any way they can including asking friends, neighbors, teachers, and parents. “My friend, Zahrah Fadel ’07, went to Hands on Detroit this year and seemed to have really enjoyed it. I donated a dollar for her to use as some of her pledge money and hope to take part in it next year, because it seems like a fun thing to do,” freshman Sahar Omrani ’07 said.

A sigh of relief signaled the end of a long day of hard work and when it was all over, the students returned to the Mathieu Gymnasium for pictures and Hands on Detroit t-shirts. “Hands on Detroit was a very rewarding experience. It felt great helping our community and those less fortunate than us. I hope to continue going in the future and further helping Higgins Elementary,” junior Sanjay Aneja ’05 said.

At the end of the day, students who attended knew they had given back something valuable to their city. DCDS plans to continue their support of Higgins Elementary in the future years through the Hands on Detroit project.
Like so many of my fellow alums, I was deeply saddened by Dr. Schlegel’s passing on March 21, 2004. I couldn’t help but consider the ways in which Doc shaped the school community we know today with his spirit and character. For many of us, he was the very foundation for the Country Day experience we will always remember.

In school assemblies, who could forget the question he’d invariably ask of us: “how do you feel today?” to which we’d eagerly respond, “G-r-r-r-eat!” in our best Tony the Tiger voices. The simple fact that he was able to coax a crowd of teenagers to do something so silly is testament to his influence and the power he had to bring together an entire student body. And who can forget the bow ties?

Even after he retired, Doc was still an important part of the Country Day family. For him, it was all about the people – no matter who you were. He frequently visited campus to take in a football game or just to talk. My family and I were fortunate to visit with Doc and his wife Margot last March at their home in Florida. He shared stories with us of the history of the school and as he did on more occasions than I can recall, he shared ideas and visions for the school that extended well into future years. No one loved the school more or wanted more for its students than Doc.

Today as I write this, I imagine ways that we, as alums and friends of the school can perpetuate Doc’s unwavering loyalty and kinship with the Country Day family. It’s simple really. Reach out to one another. Bridge the distances. Remember the ties we’ve formed. Stay close to those who mean so much to each of us.

Doc, I’ll miss you.

Kira Mann
More than 40 DCDS alumni and friends of the school shared their career experiences with Detroit Country Day Upper Students at the school’s biennial Career Day on March 10. Designed to help students examine different careers as a stimulus for planning their college paths, the program featured speakers representing a number of fields, including broadcast journalism, filmmaking, music video production, law, dentistry, finance, medicine, education, government, sports, engineering and the military.

In small group settings, our speakers gave an overview of their field, including career advancement opportunities; and described their own career path with recommendations for studies and training.

The keynote speaker of the day was Richard N. Wiener, Chief of Staff to Governor Jennifer M. Granholm.
A special thanks to our alumni guest speakers who made this event a resounding success.

Dr. Joel Alsup
Veterinarian and Owner
Michigan Veterinary Specialists

Mr. Andrew Appleby
President and CEO
General Sports and Entertainment L.L.C.

Mr. Dennis Archer, Jr. ’87
Director of Business Development and National Sales Manager - Radio One, Inc.

Mr. Marc Barron
Major Crimes Prosecutor
Oakland County Prosecutors Office

Dr. Amit Batra ’91
Associate, Partner
Personalized Dental Care

Mr. Timothy Baughman ’67
Chief of Appeals
Wayne County Prosecutors Office

Dr. Annalisa Behling ’89
Naturopathic Physician
Nature’s Path Medical Center

Dr. William Cardasis ’83
Forensic Psychiatrist
Center for Forensic Psychiatry

Mr. Thomas Catalano
Former Special Agent - United States Secret Service, Vice President – Corporate Security
Kelly Services

Dr. Paul Cullis ’70
Chief of Neurology
Michigan Neurology Institute

Mr. Patrick Cunningham ’88
President
World Mortgage Corporation

Mr. Dave Curtis ’88
Managing Partner
Leland Partners

Mrs. Evelyn De La Cruz ’87
Human Resource Manager & Marketing Team
Unlever

Dr. Laura Delellis
Veterinarian
Michigan Veterinary Specialists

Mr. Brian Feldman ’90
President
Detroit Wizards Hockey Club

Dr. Gary Gilyard ’76
Orthopedic Surgeon
Gary G. Gilyard, M.D., P.C.

Dr. Scott Glickman ’90
Neurosurgeon Resident Physician, Providence Hospital
Neurosurgey Consortium - Southfield, Novi, and Detroit.

Ms. Cara Griffin ’96
Corporate Legal Officer & Associate Counsel
Comerica Inc.

Dr. Richard Hainer ’82
Plastic and Hand Surgeon
North Oakland Plastic Surgery

Mr. Jason Hillman ’90
Attorney - Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss, PC
Anchor - WDFN Radio “The Fan”

Mr. Dave Hoffa ’89
Attorney
Hyman Lippitt, P.C.

Lt. Col. Andrew Hofley ’79
Lieutenant Colonel
U.S. Navy

Dr. Sawait Kanluen
Forensic pathologist
Wayne County Chief Medical Examiner

Mr. C. Raamin Kashef ’83
President
Millennium Enterprises

Dr. Steven Korotkin
Cardiologist
Cardiology Assoc. of Birmingham

Dr. Kevan Kreitman ’79
Podiatrist
Shores Podiatry Associates PC

Ms. Allison Kuhn ’96
National Broadcast Negotiator
J. Walter Thompson / Ford Motor Media Division

Dr. Marci Lesperance ’82
University of Michigan Medical School Surgeon and Assoc. Professor

Dr. Dan Lorimer
Veterinarian
Michigan Veterinary Specialists

Mr. Kevin MacKenzie ’87
Attorney
Clark Hill, P.C.

Mr. Steven Mann ’88
Marketing Director
Kelly Services

Mr. Jeffrey Matte ’75
Detective
West Bloomfield Police Department

Dr. Jefferey Michaelson ’87
Director Orthopaedic Sports Medicine Porretta Center for Orthopaedic Surgery

Mr. Haytham Obeid ’92
Vice President
Pine Cove Building Co.

Ms. Paula Osborne ’93
Attorney
Butzel Long P.C.

Mr. Huel Perkins
News Anchor/Reporter
WJBK-TV Channel FOX 2

Mr. James Rosenfeld ’77
Attorney
Butzel Long P.C.

Ms. Stefenie Sasson ’00
President
Sasson Pictures, LLC

Mr. Sam Slaughter ’81
President, Partner
Bob Sellers Pontiac

Mr. Adrian Tonon ’91
Proprietor
Ristorante Café Cortina

Mr. Michael Versaci ’94
Restaurant Owner
Baja Fresh

Brad “Cheese” Wells ’89
Executive Producer, Partner, Entrepreneur
33 Degrees Pictures
Cheeseburger Films

Ms. Jennifer Wells ’90
Director of Communications
The Parade Company

Mr. Brian Willey ’86
Regional Vice President
Primerica Financial Services

Ms. Nikia Williams ’92
Multimedia Applications Engineer
Ford Motor Company
Regional Receptions

Whether you live around the corner or around the globe, Country Day’s got you covered with opportunities to just have fun. This spring, we sponsored regional receptions in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington D.C., Chicago and New York City. Relocated classmates joined the action as we dropped in to their new hometowns to catch up. For information on a regional reception near you, contact Director of Alumni Relations Kira Mann, at (248) 646-7717 or e-mail kmann@dcds.edu.

Washington, D.C.

It’s all smiles at the Washington, D.C. reception for Director of Alumni Relations Kira Mann ’89, Joe Mullens ’89, Javed Ali ’86, Preeti Hans ’90, Liesl Arends ’85, Mark Wisnieski’88, Dave Nogueras ’96, Juliana Jones ’96, Mimi and Pat Leahy ’87, Mike Leahy ’89, Florence Birebent ’85, Scott Pierson ’80 and Jay Bomzee ’80.

New York


Los Angeles

Former faculty member Ronnie Clemmer played host at the Los Angeles reception to Tim Stungh ’90, Kathryn Lucas ’90, Lori Champagne ’82, Michael Reilly ’82, Henry Rosenfeld ’73, Headmaster Jerry Hansen, John Genga ’79, Director of Alumni Relations, Kira Mann ’89, Alice Dickens ’90, Pooneh (Mohajer) Arnold ’83, Ronnie Clemmer, Jeff Straus ’72, former faculty member Eugene Reilly, Brian Varnum ’78, and Anup Sinha ’89.

San Francisco

Former faculty member Marianne Kruze takes a moment to pose with DCDS Director of Alumni Relations Kira Mann ’89 and Charles Shaw ’42. Meanwhile, Mona Patel ’85, Headmaster Jerry Hansen and Naveen Chandra ’89 share a laugh at the San Francisco reception.

Chicago

Windy-city reception guests included Suzanne Morrison ’01, Meher Ali-Owens ’84, Matt Gorge ’01, Kristen Pope ’02 and Brian Rosenblat ’87.
the taste of sweet success

Adrian Tonon ’91, slips into a booth at Ristorante Café Cortina on a Wednesday afternoon, tossing his cell phone onto the seat next to him. For the next hour, the phone goes untouched, even though it rings occasionally. Though he is the busy owner, maître d’ and director of operations of this upscale restaurant, Tonon is the consummate host and gentleman.
He speaks in polite, hushed tones pausing just a moment to run his fingers over the tablecloth and straighten the position of the salt and pepper shakers. No detail is overlooked, and his meticulous perfectionism is obvious. He’s unmistakably smooth—but as we talk, I realize it’s all part of the carefully planned experience Tonon hopes his guests enjoy. Glancing around the dimly lit room dripped in warmth, it’s fair to say he’s set the scene for lifelong memories in the making. It’s not just about putting food on the tables to this young entrepreneur.

It wasn’t the most unlikely of careers for Adrian, yet to him, the family business seemed, at times, inconceivable. “The commitment running a restaurant required was too much to consider when I was younger,” he says. “The weekends, late nights…I was a kid on a milk crate washing dishes, but did I always see myself making it a career?” He shakes his head, smiling. “There were times I despised it!” But it was in his blood, and Adrian’s driving force was a deep sense of allegiance to his family. “I wanted to carry on the tradition my parents had started when they opened Café Cortina in 1976,” he says.

The tradition of nearly 30 years permeates throughout. A large brick fireplace separates the rooms, and it is easy to imagine Adrian’s parents, Adriano and Rina sitting here at its hearth making plans for their future. When Adriano passed away in 1993, the Tonon family was left with a heartbreaking gap in the family and a tough decision about the future of the restaurant. They soldiered on, and today, the restaurant’s great success would make Mr. Tonon proud. Among the restaurant’s many distinctions, Café Cortina was named Restaurant of the Year in 2003 by Hour Detroit magazine and has also received a DiRoNa Award (Distinguished Restaurant of North America), and a Wine Spectator Award of Excellence.

All this from a guy who wasn’t even certain he wanted to pursue the restaurant business until his second year of college? Until that point, he had considered architecture and business as possible career options—but a trip to Italy changed all that. As a sophomore at Michigan State University, Tonon (who is fluent in Italian) landed a summer internship at the prestigious Hotel Cipriani in Venice where he began seeing the business in a different light. “I saw the whole experience a good restaurant delivers and began to recognize it as entertainment:”

When Adrian wasn’t working at the hotel, he was living and breathing the Venetian culture, taking in the local flavor. “I still don’t study all the culinary guides,” he admits. “Instead, my research comes from first-hand experience. I gather ideas from the restaurants and vineyards I visit in Italy.” Tonon and his family routinely travel to their native Italy and have even brought along their head chef and friend, Chef Jeffrey Hoffman (“Hoffa”) to help taste. Today, their creative collaborations inspire an impressive menu of dishes like costine di agnello vino Barolo e fichi secchi and other delicious but difficult-to-pronounce delicacies. The restaurant always prepares its food from scratch, often times using fresh vegetables and herbs grown in a backyard garden originally sowed by Adrian’s father.

Tonon runs his restaurant like a tight ship and admits to taking a disciplined approach to management. After all, owning the family business is one thing—running it is quite another. He says his leadership style is one that was shaped, in part, in the classrooms and on the athletic playing field at Country Day. “I’ve been able to apply lessons I learned from Coach (Joe) D’Angelo and Coach (Kurt) Keener about leading a successful team. The knowledge they bestowed on me was priceless—my former teachers and coaches are true mentors and heroes.

**BEEHIVE**

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“I’m really proud of Adrian,” says Junior School Director and former varsity football coach Joe D’Angelo.

“He’s been able to channel and temper the ferocity he had as an athlete in a positive and constructive way as a businessman today.”

By all accounts, Tonon is a man with a plan. He is cool and collected, controlled and composed. Or... is he?

I had the opportunity to sit down with a few of Adrian’s former DCD teachers who, despite having all good things to say about him, remember this student as being a little less, well, buttoned up. His advisor, Mary Ann DeVogel, remembers Adrian as the well-liked student athlete who never took himself too seriously. “He definitely had the ability to put others at ease with his easy-going personality” she said. “I remember him being silly and having fun, but he was also very well-respected by his teachers and peers.”

So when we asked Adrian to come clean about his pre-maitre d’ days, he told us “The truth is, yes, I still have that sense of humor. At least I strive to. I believe you must always strive to maintain the kid in you,” says Adrian. Though he’s all business when he hits the floor at Café Cortina, “When I’m out with friends or at home I just lay low and try to enjoy each and every day.” This, to him, means spending valued time with his wife Leslie, his two young sons Andrew and Caleb, and his mother and younger brother Giancarlo. This means a five-year anniversary trip to Disney World instead of Hawaii; this means sitting front row at a concert featuring the “The Wiggles” (a foursome of popular children’s entertainers); and this means leaving work to come home for dinner, even though more often than not, dinner is just a small break before heading back to the restaurant. And despite being surrounded by exotic handmade cuisine and the finest wines all day everyday, Adrian is enthusiastic about Leslie’s cooking. “It’s a treat – it’s meatloaf and mashed potatoes and everything I never had growing up.”

Family man, businessman and all-around good guy, Adrian Tonon is in but the first chapters of a life story which should prove to be a heck of a read.

Tonon talks passionately about his latest ventures including an ever-expanding offering of menu items at Café Cortina, a line of authentic pasta sauces he recently took to market and a food-related television project currently in the works.

“I still don’t know what I want to be when I grow up,” he says with a laugh.

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**Pesce Spada ‘Tireno’**

*(Mediterranean Swordfish)* Serves (4)

**Ingredients:**
- 2/3-cup extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tsp. minced garlic
- 3 cups coarsely chopped Roma tomatoes
- 1 tsp. salt
- 4 swordfish steaks (1/2 pound each)
- 1 cup of dry white wine
- 1/2 cup finely chopped basil plus two basil sprigs
- 1/2 cup finely chopped Italian parsley
- 1/8 tsp. oregano
- 1/2 tsp. chili flakes
- 2 tbs. capers, drained
- 2 tbs. Gaeta or other oil cured black olives, chopped
- 4 anchovy filets, crushed with a fork
- 4 slices crusty country bread

**Procedure:**

Prepare your ingredients: measure all your ingredients before you start cooking and set them on the counter.

In a 14” skillet heat 1/2 cup of the olive oil over medium-high heat and add the garlic: cook 30 seconds, or until the garlic barley begins to take on color (cooking the garlic longer will make it acrid).

Add the tomatoes to the skillet; season with salt and cook for five minutes, stirring often.

Add the tomatoes to the skillet; season with salt and cook for five minutes, stirring often.

Pour in 1/2 cup of the wine. Cook the swordfish for five minutes on each side, turning once, for a total of ten minutes. Remove the swordfish from the skillet to a tray and set aside.

Fold the chopped basil, parsley, oregano, chili, capers, olives and anchovies into the tomato sauce in the skillet, reduce the heat to medium-low, and cook for five minutes. Add the remaining wine and return the swordfish to the skillet, still in a single layer. Cook the swordfish for three minutes on each side, turning once, for a total of six more minutes. The sauce should be reduced and the swordfish should be tender when poked gently with a fork.

Transfer the swordfish and its sauce to a serving platter and drizzle evenly with the remaining olive oil. Garnish with the basil sprigs and serve hot, with the crusty country bread.
Alumni Sports
Spring Sports

1 With a strong turnout, the alumni were victorious at this year’s Alumni Lacrosse game! The event was held at DCDS on Saturday, June 19.

2 Alumni Soccer was held during the 2003 Homecoming on Saturday, October 11.

3 The Alumni Baseball and the second annual Alumnae Softball games were held on Sunday, June 6 at DCDS. Here, Coach Frank Orlando gets a squeeze from alums Sean Hamilton ’86, Seth Shilling ’92, Dave Barkholz ’00 and Mike McGavin ’00.

4 Participants in the second annual Alumnae Softball game included: (top) Colleen Sowislo ’05, Rachel Gordon ’06, Dana Leone ’06, (middle) Mhoire Murphy ’05, Amanda Palmer ’05, Kathleen Murphy ’05, Ashley Fowler ’06 (front) Ariel Kern ’05, Beth Adelson ’03, Abbey Morris ’03 and Allison Korotkin ’06.

Winter Sports

5, 6 This year’s Alumni Basketball games were held Sunday, Dec. 21 at DCDS.

7 Alumni Hockey was held Saturday, Dec. 20 at Oak Park Ice Arena following the DCDS Varsity game. Families enjoyed an open skate between the Varsity and Alumni games.
Alumni mothers new and not-so-new reconnected May 13 for the annual Alumni Mothers’ Luncheon. For the first time ever, the event was held on campus so that returning moms could visit the school and check out recent updates. In fact, a tour of the Performing Arts Center made the day complete for some moms who remember the days of performances in the Learning Center.

The small group enjoyed a light lunch catered by Amaryllis Catering in Birmingham while catching up on memories of the days of shuttling kids to and from school, helping with homework and sitting in the stands cheering on the team.

Thanks to all of our alumni mothers who joined us this year at the luncheon!

Alumni Mothers’ Luncheon
“In the spring of 1975, my husband and I made the decision to enroll our three-year-old son, and eventually his then five-month-old brother, in a private school. We had been looking for a school that would be an extension of home; one with challenging academics, a caring atmosphere and discipline. My husband’s colleague highly recommended Detroit Country Day School; his children were students there. So, we made an appointment to meet with the Headmaster, Dr. Richard Schlegel. When we arrived at the Thirteen Mile Campus, we were impressed with the well-manicured grounds. Entering the school with a toddler and one in-arms, we found ourselves in the midst of classes changing. These high school students looked impressive in their uniforms. Before we could inquire, a young man approached us and offered his assistance. My husband asked if he could direct us to the Headmaster’s Office. The young man’s response was… “Yes, Sir. I will show you.” As we followed the young man through the halls, my husband and I exchanged glances and smiled. We knew this was the school for us. We thanked the student and proceeded to our interview with Dr. Schlegel. To this day, I wish we had asked the name of that young man who had made such a positive impression. In the fall of 1975, my husband and I joined the ranks of proud Country Day parents. Two years later (in March 1977), I became a member of the Country Day faculty and as they say….the rest is history.

During my twenty-seven years at Country Day, I have experienced it all as a parent and faculty member: our sons Damon ’90 and Reuben ’94 became what we affectionately call ‘Lifers’ and I had the opportunity to teach every grade level from pre-kindergarten through grade 12.

I must say that music has always been my passion; therefore, I never had to work! My goal has always been to share this passion with my students. I viewed the fine and performing arts as a major part of the Country Day philosophy: academics, athletics, and arts. Because of this philosophy, students graduating from Country Day are thus “well-rounded individuals.”

Through the years, I have made many life-long friendships: colleagues, staff, parents, and students, all of whom I will miss. I am closing one chapter in my life while beginning another. I look forward to months of traveling with my husband, resuming my professional orchestra playing, performing volunteer work and enjoying my family. I will forever be a member of the Detroit Country Day School Family because as you can see, I have so many lasting memories.

The BeeHive also would like to express our appreciation and well-wishes to long-time Upper School Fine Arts Department Head and former Middle and Upper School Assistant Director of Admission, Marilee Suomela, who left us this spring after 20 years to continue her teaching in Traverse City, Mich. Through her contributions and her artistic talent, Marilee helped shape our fine arts curriculum into the impressive program it is today. Good luck, Marilee!
Katharina Ksoll

JOINED DCDS IN 1988
Middle School foreign language department head, French, German and Latin teacher

"Retirement is a bittersweet event for me. I still remember the feeling of happiness I felt when Jerry Hansen called me to tell me that I was hired to teach Latin, the subject that was dearest to my heart, in a school where foreign language was a mandatory subject. I had taught both on the college and high school levels but never in middle school; and facing a new age group left me apprehensive but excited. Within three months, I fell in love with the “Middlers.” I saw how excited they could get about new experiences, whether academic, athletic or artistic. They wanted to explore on their own, yet looked for guidance from their teachers. I remember the joy each of my students has brought to my classroom and to my life and how proud I was of all of them. I am sad to leave that part of my life behind.

As a teacher, I did not only get my strength from the success of my students. My days were also formed by the people with whom I worked every day. I have dealt with wonderfully supportive parents from the first day I entered the school. I am very grateful for all the help they gave to all endeavors the Student Council undertook for the past fourteen years. Being Student Council advisor was a matter of the heart for me because this organization is the link to the community and as such, worked to help the very needy within. In addition, the Parents’ Association was always most generous to the Foreign Language Department. Thanks to the Parents’ Association, we enjoyed state-of-the-art equipment, like a language lab, French interactive CD ROMs, Spanish and German CD programs, visiting French performers and many other tools which enhanced language learning for every student. It was a joy to work with them and I congratulate them on the fine work they are doing.

The faculty of the Middle School is second to none. From the first day on, my colleagues supported and helped me.

When I needed their help, they always came through. The cooperation among our faculty is unmatched. Even in our most busy times, they would stop their work to help a colleague. We work in teams by grade and through consistent communication, we were able to solve most problems for the good of the student almost instantly. I could not have done my job as well as I did without their understanding and support. I am impressed by their concern for their students’ progress and welfare. It was truly a pleasure to be part of this faculty.

It was a joy to work in an environment where students, parents, teachers, and administration contributed to the excellence of it. Cindy Goldberg modeled the high standards she set in the Middle School and supported the faculty every step of the way. She is driven by a vision for the Middle School to be on the cutting edge of technology, curriculum development and personal growth of our students. Her idea to serve the whole child was embraced by the faculty and she worked tirelessly with them to accomplish it. Since she is a French teacher herself, it was reassuring and enriching to discuss new approaches to teaching with her before implementing them. I am grateful to her for trusting me with the job of department chair, nominating me as Metro Parent Magazine’s “Outstanding Teacher of the Year” in 1996, for creating the “Heart and Ksoll” award for outstanding community service in our school, but most of all for supporting me in all my endeavors over the years. She had an open-door policy and made herself always available to the faculty and me. She is a very positive person and adding a lighter touch to some situations often helped end them on a positive note. It was a privilege to work with her.

It was a wonderful experience working in this school. I had a passion for teaching my subject and great affection for my students. They gave me lots of pleasure. My family understood why often I spent my time working long hours at home. But now I will be happy devoting all my time to my family and especially my grandchildren.
1969


1973

Don Gargaro is director of substance abuse after care with La Hacienda in Kerrville, Tx.

1974

Marty Gargaro works in Mackinaw, Mich. as the owner of Cecil Bay Appraisal Co. He has two children and resides in Cheboygan, Mich.

1975

Brian Gargaro has four daughters and works for Collier Commercial and Ind. Real Estate Co. He resides in Northville, Mich.

Kevin Butterfield has been married to Marian (Isbey) Butterfield for 25 years. She is a doctor of psychiatry affiliated with the Veterans Hospital and Duke University Hospital. They reside in North Carolina with their children Corrie (eight) and Jack (five).

1976

John Summerville reports that he is “loving life as a pathologist here in Richmond, Va. Good weather, good health and two great kids.”

1977

John Michael Gargaro is an orthopedist practicing in Denver. He is married to Kail (Tangalakis) Gargaro ’78. The couple has four children.

1979

Desiree Mehrabian writes, “we live in San Jose. I’m a RN Diabetes Educator at a local community hospital. We adopted a little boy from Russia in October, 2002 who is now two years old. We also do some local volunteering.”

1980

Ada Kusnetz writes, “We still live in Keego Harbor, Mich. Where I continue to work at Huron Valley Hospital as an anesthesiologist. The kids are getting big: Al is now eight, Claire is six and Ellie is two.”

1981


1982

Lisa (Mancini) Saunders resides in Florida with her husband Bart and three daughters, Alexis Grace (seven), Haley Elizabeth (five) and Sydney Faith (two). She is an attorney in Orlando, Fla.

Dawn Schluter was promoted to group leader of the Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone plc personal-services group, where she also remains a principal.

Michael Reilly is the Commander of Seal Team 3 in San Diego. He lives in Point Loma with his wife, Elizabeth, and 22-month-old daughter, Isabelle Claire. Michael was awarded his second Bronze Star this past year.

Abhilasha Prasad is a Wharton Business School graduate and currently is the assistant to the vice president of the University of Pennsylvania.

Lori (Padzensky) Champagne writes, “About a month ago, my staff of artists at the engraving shop and I stayed late many nights in a row in order to complete contest pieces for the International Awards and Recognition Association Creativity Competition. For the seventh year in a row (may be eight - I lost count), we won a blue ribbon. Actually, we won three blue ribbons, more first-place finishes than any other shop has ever achieved in one year. We also earned two second-place ribbons and one third. No shop has ever placed in all six categories. We were also featured on the cover of Graphics Pro, an industry magazine, in the January issue.”

Grace Marie was born to Dale Garrett and wife Nathalie on December 3. She is their first child.

1984

John Ivanko writes, “My wife Lisa Kivirist and I recently came out with our new book, Rural Renaissance: Renewing the Quest for the Good Life in May, 2004 (New Society Publishers). I’ll also have two new children’s photo books coming out in 2004, co-authored with Maya Ajmera, titled To Be an Artist and Be My Neighbor (both from Charlesbridge Publishing.” Visit John and Lisa online at www.innserendipity.com.

Marie (Lundkvist) Landfors writes, “I have been married to Johan since 1991 and we have two children, Sarah and Simon, already 11 and eight years old. I work as the investment manager of an investment company, acquiring and developing various companies. My husband says I must be in heaven, since I can shop professionally every day of the week! I’m also engaged in my children’s school activities as a board member of the parent’s association. If there’s any time left, I drive the kids back and forth to their piano and dance classes, as well as soccer games. My mail address is marie.landfors@stena.com.”
Keith Duncan writes, “I was recently married in a private ceremony in Wilmington, Delaware to my wife Ashlyn. We live in Wilmington, where she is a teacher and national educational consultant and I am a biologist for DuPont. I am also the goalkeeping coach for the University of Delaware men’s soccer team.”

1985

Ashish Prasad is a University of Chicago Law School graduate and currently is a partner at Meyer Brown Chicago.

Byron Pitts is very busy practicing law with his father, Cornelius Pitts.

1986

Bill Cunnington, his wife Dana and children Emily Rose, Tom and William live in Scottsdale, Ariz. Bill owns his own company.

Brian Willey reports that his third daughter was born in December 2003, joining sisters Alexandra (nine) and Jacqueline (three). He says “My wife, Laura, is still married to me after 11 years. I am running my own office in the financial services business. Life is great!”

Peter Hyman’s first book, a collection of non-fiction humor essays called The Reluctant Metrosexual: Dispatches from an Almost Hip Life (Random House), will be published in July 2004. Melding memoir and cultural reporting, the book offers humorous, poignant insights into the life and times of today’s urban man. In addition to the book Peter continues to write for The New York Times, the New York Observer and New York magazine. For more information (and, of course, to buy the book) you can visit www.pdhymans.com. The book’s acknowledgements feature shout-outs to Brad Gilman, Beverly Hannett-Price, Don Corwin, the late Harry Schwarzer and former DCD English teacher Gus Seeger.

Bill Passer married Jami Rozen Passer (also an alum of the Wharton School). They are the parents of Carly Beth (four) and Rachel Eri (two). He practices in real estate investment in Hollywood, Fla.

1987

John Honos is the Vice President of Marketing & PR for Federal Financial Inc., an Inc. 500 financial services company in Michigan.

Patrick Leahy and his wife Mimi have purchased a co-op unit in the Adams Morgan area of Washington, D.C. During the past year, Pat has worked with Fortune 500 companies to identify and evaluate economically viable renewable energy projects. He is starting a business to commercialize and develop clean energy technology. In the spring he enjoys playing defense on the Capitals lacrosse team in Washington, D.C.

Mara (Pudist) MacDonald became a member of the Local 4 (WDIV-TV) team in March, 2004 when she was hired as a news reporter.

1988

Anjali Prasad earned a Master’s degree in English at William & Mary College and a law degree at Emory Law School. She is an assistant district attorney in Philadelphia.

Pat Cunnington lives in Bloomfield Hills with his wife Dina and their children Patrick and Amelia. Pat is the owner of a mortgage company, First International.

Kristin (Sall) Henry lives in San Francisco with her husband, Andrew. She recently became the mother of a baby boy, Miles Alexander, who is now six months old. She frequently sees fellow classmate, Manda (Hakimi) Ederer ’88 who also lives in San Francisco and is expecting her first child in November.

Steve Mann and his wife Kira (Lewis) Mann ’89 welcomed their third child, Brandon, on November 20, 2003. Brandon joins big sister Brittany ’12 and brother Steve-o ’18.
Andrew Park recently enjoyed taking infant son Alex to his first baseball game.

Mark Tomyn has a gorgeous 10-month-old daughter named Kaylin Alexandra.

In conjunction with Surgical Eye Expeditions (SEE) International, Naveen Chandra successfully completed a philanthropic eye surgery clinic, April 12-14, 2004 in Harare, Zimbabwe. Naveen volunteered his time and expertise to perform corneal transplant operations and to conduct a cornea symposium for local ophthalmologists. Naveen is a cornea, cataract and refractive surgery specialist with Kaiser Permanente in Martinez and Walnut Creek, California and lives in San Francisco.

Jennifer (Passer) Stauber is married to Ron Stauber and lives in New York City. She and Ron are the new parents of Benjamin Aaron, born on March 29, 2004 and she is retired from the Lycée Français de New York.

Kira (Lewis) Mann and her husband Steve Mann ’88 welcomed their third child, Brandon, on November 20, 2003. Brandon joins big sister Brittany ’12 and brother Steve-o ’18.

Michael Leahy owns a co-op unit in the Adams Morgan area of Washington, D.C. He works as an attorney for the National Resources Counsel of Defenders of Wildlife. He has also qualified for Emergency Medical Technician Certification both in Maryland and in the District of Columbia, serving as an EMT with the Bethesda/Chevy Chase Rescue Squad and as a reserve police officer with the Washington, D.C. Police Department. He continues to enjoy kayaking on the Potomac and camping.

Kristin Nwokedi earned a Bachelor’s degree in French Studies at Smith College and a Master’s degree at Wayne State University in Secondary Foreign Language Acquisition. She currently is a French teacher, but speaks Spanish and is working on her Chinese and Japanese language skills. Kristin is a Hostelling International Michigan Board Member and Director of the club “HI-High” that connects urban youth with travel, volunteerism and intercultural exchange. Her hobbies include outdoor sports and adventures and art & writing and dance (ballet), but she is involved in tennis and figure skating competitively. She writes, “I got a Fulbright Scholarship to go to teach abroad but the war screwed it up. I applied again this year, but who knows what’ll happen.”

1991

Erika Butler-Akinyemi was named partner at Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss.

Ashoke Prasad attended University of Michigan Law School and earned a Master’s degree in tax law at Georgetown University. He currently works for the Huron Consulting Group in Chicago.

Dave Kuhn and his wife became the proud parents of a little baby boy, Andrew Jacob Kuhn on Nov 23, 2003. In May, Dave and family will move to Boston to attend a graduate program in Naval Engineering at MIT.

Amit Batra had a baby daughter on February 10.

Aaron Hamburger recently published a collection of stories set in post-Cold War Prague titled The View From Stalin’s Head. The Boston Globe called the book “a brilliant debut.”

1990

John Fish happily reported his family is growing in age and in size! John and Lizzy are expecting their third child, joining siblings Sara and Jack.
Paul Brodhead reports that the band he has managed for several years, “The Marginal Prophets” has been nominated for Outstanding Rap Album at the California Music Awards for its latest release, Bohemian Rap CD. Please sign up and vote for the band at www.californiamusicawards.com.

Will Jurkiewicz is in his seventh year of teaching high school English and creative writing. His first four years were at Brother Rice High School and his past three years were spent teaching at Lansing Catholic Central High School. He has completed his Master’s degree in humanities and has been married for two years.

Melissa and Jeremy Michaelson will celebrate their second anniversary and he finishes his endodontic residency in June this year.

Sarah (Musat) Furney writes, “I am still teaching first grade in Waterford and thoroughly loving it. Matt (my husband) works for the Red Cross doing computer/technology “stuff.” We live in Berkley, Mich. with three dogs and three cats - big surprise to those who know me well!”

Sean Rhyee writes, “I married my wife Diane on October 11, 2003. Will Jurkiewicz ’92 was the best man. We then spent a pleasant week in Costa Rica for our honeymoon. I’m still living in Chicago and working at Cook County Hospital.”

David “Andy” Cooper received his Master’s degree in environmental technologies from Humbolt State University in Dec. 2003. His company, Footprint Recycling, recently was awarded two 12th Annual Waste Reduction Awards for most appropriate use of waste material and closing the loop in community waste by the Humboldt County Department of Environmental Health Integrated Waste Management Board.

Seth Shilling and his wife Christa are busy parenting two beautiful children, Max (two) and Ainsley, born April 25, 2004.

1993

Alicia Kieninger is finishing up her third year of residency at Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital. She and her mother plan to visit Italy in the fall.

Chad Bailey was engaged last summer to a wonderful woman, just prior to a trip to Granada, Spain. He writes, “Fortunately, my fiancée speaks Spanish like a native, or I would have gone hungry! I was overwhelmed by the history of the place, with Muslim, Jewish, and Christian history fused into the rocks of an ancient city. At home, I continue to work on political issues, such as civil liberties, human rights, and peace. I’ve been assisting local groups with geographic and statistical analyses of voter preferences and behaviors.”

Susan Bihler recently completed her freshman year at Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business where she was inducted into the co-ed business fraternity, Delta Sigma Phi. She has met a close group of business “brothers” and looks forward to spending her next three years in Washington, D.C.

Michael Higuera is a real estate lawyer with Halm, Roberts and Owen in Denver. He plans to move to Boulder, Colo. soon.

1994

Laura Green will be leaving San Francisco this summer to return to the Midwest. She will be pursuing her MBA at the University of Michigan.

In addition to working in real estate, Berge Avesian continues to serve as a volunteer auxiliary police officer for Birmingham, Mich.

Arjun Mehra will be leaving investment banking this fall in order to pursue an MBA at the University of California at Berkeley.
Emily Jurkiewicz Gomez is attending graduate school at the University of Georgia and is working on her Master’s degree in photography. She is a graduate assistant this year and will be a teaching assistant next year. She’s been married for five years.

Philip Higuera is a Ph.D. student at the University of Washington. Last year he was diagnosed with cancer and underwent surgery and radiation. He is doing well and at his one-year check up, he was cancer free. He’s still loving Seattle and his research studies at the University of Washington.

Craig Stoller is a doctor of chiropractic medicine practicing in downtown Farmington. He was married on May 29, 2004 to Cari Aronoff.


Kathryn (Sobrero) Markgraf was married October 31, 2003 to Christopher Markgraf. She resides in Boston and is training for the 2004 Olympics where she will compete as a member of the women’s U.S. soccer team.

1995

Maura (Duggan) Sanders delivered a healthy daughter, Morgan Mary Duggan Sanders on February 19, 2004. With a full head of brown hair, Morgan weighed in at 8 lbs., 7 oz. and she was 21 inches long.

Andrea Lorey married Eric Lorey on June 20, 2003. They spent the summer in France and Nova Scotia.

Ian Leahy coached DCDS Middle School lacrosse last spring before moving to Marquette, Mich., where he has established a brick paving company called Writer’s Block - Brick Pavers & Pathways. He is also the editor of a quarterly newsletter for the Communities Committee of the Seventh American Forest Congress. This move allows him to pursue his interests in writing and music, and to enjoy the outdoors and activities of the area with his dog Sasha. He was pleased to discover that DCDS alum Chip Davis ’88 and his family is also living in Marquette.

1996

Jonathan Schack graduated from the University of Detroit Mercy in 2000 with a Bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. He writes, “I’m currently working for Intier Automotive as a seating design engineer. In October of 2003, I was married to fellow alum, Renu Mahajan ’96. We are expecting our first child this fall.”

Sara (Shilling) Garn and her husband Alex Garn ’96 are living in the beautiful historic district of Savannah, Georgia. Alex is a first lieutenant with the Army and is currently serving his country. They have been happily married for two years.

Helen Wojciechowski recently announced her engagement to Matthew Serhett. The wedding is planned for October 23, 2004. She writes, “I am enjoying West coast life and loving the general scene in Seattle.”

Stefanie Givens and her husband Jason Wilson celebrated their first wedding anniversary on June 7, 2004. They are both employed at DaimlerChrysler. Last year, Stephanie’s job as a buyer in international purchasing services resulted in a trip to Japan. The couple is building a home in Farmington Hills, Mich.

Amber Sadiq Hassan writes, “I am currently working as an accountant after graduating with a Master of Accountancy from the University of Michigan business school. My husband and I recently bought a house in a Cincinnati suburb.”

Rebecca McLennan is currently pursuing her teaching certificate at Oakland University and working both full time as an office manager and part time as a tutor in the Pontiac School District. She is engaged to her longtime best friend, Brian Barenf of Holly, Mich. Brian is a senior supervisor for Kelly Services.

Josh Collins has just taken the MCAT in preparation for applying to medical school.

John Witucki is studying for his MBA while working as a lease analyst in Denver. He enjoys skiing, biking and cheering for the Red Wings.

1997

Nicole Karchon is working in marketing and event planning at the Food Network and Fine Living in Manhattan.

Anne Strand enjoyed her recent four-week trip across India where she spent some quality time with her Dad’s relatives. She also switched jobs in Manhattan and now works for Google in their online media division. She looks forward to a happy reunion with her DCDS friends moving to New York this summer.

Jessica (Porada) Becker writes, “My husband, Jaramia, and I had our first Becker family addition, Beau J., on September 24, 2003. He was nine pounds, one ounce and 21.5 inches long. He’s just a blessing to us. We were trying for a quarterback, but got a lineman...he’s a big boy, weighing 20 pounds at six months!”
Heidi Ufer and Shane Battier ’97 were married in July 2003. Shane is in the NBA and plays basketball for the Memphis Grizzlies. Heidi teaches high school speech and communications. She is the girls’ varsity soccer coach and the assistant athletic director at Lausanne Collegiate School in Memphis, Tenn.

Mike Szumlinski has been working for over a year at Abercrombie & Fitch just outside of Columbus, Ohio as a Mac specialist supporting a team of 70 Mac developers. He bought a home there and is getting married to Melissa Miller (who also graduated from Michigan State University). Mike is a member of a new band called Lori, and has recently created a CD.

Rachel Weiss and Benjamin Berger were recently married on September 7, 2003 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Dearborn. Rachel is the donor relations coordinator for the University of Michigan’s Office of the Vice President for Development and Benjamin is the program director for the University of Michigan Hillel Foundation. They currently reside in Ann Arbor.

Eric Hyun is working on the Ph.D. portion of his MD,Ph.D. training at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas.

Raymond Wert works as Governor Jennifer Granholm’s director of operations.

1998

Jeremy Allen graduated Cornell University School of Hotel Administration in May 2002 with a B.S. degree. He interned at the Marriott headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland and now works in Ann Arbor, Mich. for Hospitality Advisors as a consultant in hotel valuation. He will visit Japan in August with his father to climb Mt. Fuji and surf the Pacific Ocean off the coast of the Shizuoka Prefecture.

Anne Bihler graduated from Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service in 2002 with a major in international politics and a minor in German and European studies. She has been working as the head paralegal for white-collar crime in a Washington, D.C. law office for the past year. She loves the D.C. work scene and has plans to attend graduate school for business or law.

Allison Green plans to marry fellow Yale alum Eric Klein on August 1, 2004. They have resided in Los Angeles for two years, but will be returning to the East coast where Eric will begin law school in the fall.

Wendy Walker “has had a busy year.” She is currently starting her third year at Wayne State University Law School and is serving as editor-in-chief of The Journal of Law in Society. She has been asked to return to a major law firm this year as a “summer associate.” She remains a strong advocate for children and volunteers for The American Red Cross.

Rachel Avesian graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in apparel and textile design. While a student, she was a member of Delta Gamma sorority. Currently, she is a sales associate at Neiman Marcus Somerset.

Jacqueline Tung earned her M.D. in May from the University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Medicine. She will be a first year surgery resident at Rush University Medical Center.

Amanda Boltwood writes, “I am currently in my second year of dental school at U of D Mercy. In my free time, I like to go up north, travel, and just hang out with friends. At the moment I’m visiting Allison Lewinski ’98, a fellow Country Day alum!”

1999

Jason Higganbotham graduated from Cornell University in 2003 with a degree in English. He was nominated for the John E. Rice writing seminar award as a freshman and was accepted into the honors seminar as a senior. He was also the layout editor of the Cornell Political Forum, a non-partisan political magazine. He is currently attending the George Washington University Law School.

Zachary Myers writes, “I graduated from Stanford University last summer, and I’m now attending the George Washington University School of Political Management. I’m learning how politics and campaigning really work, and it’s a great experience. I’m also working in the office of Congresswoman Julia Carson (IN-7) of Indianapolis. I love D.C. and I can’t wait to see old friends in Michigan soon.”

Zachary Walton graduated in May 2003 from Duke University with a double major in biomedical and electrical engineering. After graduation, he traveled throughout Europe for three months. He is currently a project analyst with Metier, Ltd. in Georgetown (Washington, D.C.)

After having spent a year at Mansfield College Oxford University, Albert Wang graduated from Boston College in May, 2003. He writes, “I’m currently working at a special education high school in Boston.”
Tom Boonsiri graduated from Carnegie Mellon University in May 2003 with a Bachelor's degree in electrical and computer engineering. He also completed graduate school at Carnegie Mellon and will finish with his Master's degree this month in the same course of study. Last year, Tom served as the president of his fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and still remains active in his chapter's social activities this year. While Tom isn't busy getting in trouble with his fraternity brothers, he is working on the launch of his network security firm, which is in the process of attracting many venture capitalists. Tom is also planning to visit Hawaii this summer to enjoy a little surfing before he relocates to California to work in Silicon Valley.

Alisha Vachhani graduated from the University of Michigan in 2003 with a degree in aerospace engineering. She is employed by GE Aircraft Engines and through a special program is completing her Master's degree and rotating through the company. This summer she will be in Seattle as a GE consultant to Boeing.

Andrew Deschere has a Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from MIT. He has worked for an MIT startup company and is doing graduate work at Tufts. DCDS college counselor Anne Sandoval visited Cambridge on April 23 and had dinner with Andrew, his roommate Kevin Sprague '99, Cristina Deschere '03 and other DCDS alumni.

### 2000

Barrett Anderson is a pre-med student at the University of Michigan with majors in molecular/cellular biology and Japanese. He is a member of Phi Sigma Theta National Honor Society, Delta Epsilon Iota National Honor Society, and the Philharmonia Orchestra, (violin) with whom he performed at the Hill Auditorium in a spring concert. He recently traveled to Ichikawa, Japan, Montreal and Quebec City and plans to visit the Dominican Republic in June.

Lindsay Jacobson graduated from Cornell University in May with a Bachelor's degree in economics and government. She writes, "I was very busy this school year as the Business Manager of The Cornell Daily Sun, the student newspaper. Next year, I will be working as a Financial Analyst for Citigroup in New York City."

Wes Kania writes, "I will be graduating in the spring of 2004 from Oberlin College with a Bachelor's degree in mathematics, computer science, and philosophy. I will be returning home to the Detroit area upon graduating to work for Ford Motor Co.

Rob Ufer graduated from the University of Michigan on May 1 with a degree in film and psychology. He's been offered a job at Paramount Studios in Los Angeles.

Christie Tung earned her B.A. in May from Wellesley College. She will be attending Case Western Reserve Medical School in the fall.

Jill Bihler will graduate from Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Communication this year with a major in advertising management and minors in fine arts and fashion design. She spent last summer in New York City with Harpers Bazaar and J. Wald Advertising and will be seeking employment in her field before going on to graduate school.

Elaine Barfield is graduating from Princeton University with an A.B. in Psychology in June 2004. She is excited about beginning her medical education this fall at New York University School of Medicine in New York City.

### 2001

Lauren Wolfe was elected senior class president at Smith College and will serve as the commencement speaker at its graduation. She is the 2004-2005 president of the Massachusetts student democrats and will attend the Democratic Convention in Boston.

Tommy Brown is a junior at the University of Arizona where he has been playing hockey. This summer Tommy and Eliot Weiner '01 will live in Granada, Spain with a family where their studies will be focused on the Spanish language and culture. They will also travel abroad as part of their experience.
Matt Collins is finishing his third year at the University of Michigan and will be spending the summer in England in an internship with Rolls-Royce.

Mason Duke is a junior at Indiana University in the honors business program and president of the business fraternity. His brother Trevor graduates from Walled Lake Western this spring and will attend Hillsdale College in the fall.

Stephanie Thibault is presently a junior at the University of Notre Dame. Stephanie studied in Angers, France and traveled throughout Europe this past fall semester. She will be teaching English in China and traveling throughout Asia this summer.

2002

Benjamin Hoefs is double majoring in international business and finance with a minor in German at George Washington University where he plays varsity squash and “decorates” the title page of the GW squash brochure.

Erik Wesslen has just completed his freshman year at Purdue University’s School of Engineering. He will be working at PLCC this summer and also doing an internship in the engineering field.

Katie Avesian completed her freshman year at Michigan State University on the dean’s list and is majoring in interior design.

In 2003, Ebon Hughes and his family were surprised at the Summer Engineering Academy (SEA) Closing Ceremony with an offer of a full-tuition scholarship to University of Michigan’s College of Engineering (CoE) for Fall 2003. Ebon, a top-performing student while at Country Day, participated in MEPO’s Summer College Engineering Exposure Program (SCEEP), part of the SEA family of initiatives designed to expose underrepresented students to the field of engineering. At SCEEP, Ebon participated in test-taking and study skills workshops and interacted with CoE staff, faculty, and students for a close look at the College and its offerings.

Andrew Hiller made the Dean’s list at Northwestern University for both fall and winter quarters. He joined Phi Delta Theta fraternity and was invited into the Eta Sigma Phi honor society for outstanding Latin and classics students.

Andrew Eagle is currently at the University of Colorado - Boulder completing his freshman year at the Leeds School of Business. During his freshman year, Andrew became a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. He is enjoying college life and will be spending the summer working in Michigan.

Matthew Oliphant earned first chair in the French horn with the Opera Falstaff at Northwestern University.
In Memoriam

David Newman ’59 reported that fellow DCDS classmate Dr. Charles Nathanson ’59 passed away of cancer on June 5, 2003. A civic entrepreneur, Nathanson was well known in Southern California for the contributions he made to U.S.-Mexico border policies through his role as Executive Director of the San Diego Dialogue for the University of California at San Diego. He attended Harvard University in the 1950s on a scholarship earned while at Detroit Country Day School for his role on the debate team, and later went on to earn a Ph.D. from Brandeis University. He is survived by his wife, Laura of Del Mar, Calif., and a daughter, Sara. He was 61.

Tim Castillo ’96 of San Francisco passed away in December, 2003. He was the son of Jesus and Linda Castillo and brother of Chris Castillo ’92, Nicole Castillo ’93 and Stephanie Castillo ’05.

Former Detroit Country Day School student Noah Lakin of West Bloomfield died as a result of injuries suffered in an automobile accident on December 13, 2003. He was the dear son of Sanford and Cecilia Lakin, and brother of Whitney Lakin ’96, Miles Lakin and Robyn Stein (Jonathan). Noah was 20 years old.

Former Detroit Country Day School dietician Martha E. Morris passed away on December 23, 2003 in Lima, Ohio. Ms. Morris was remembered fondly by Margot Schlegel, who said “her meals were a dinner at noon and were quite good. Her ladies in the kitchen were a ‘club.’” Morris was 92.

Kenny Binholtz ’98 died suddenly January 2, 2004. He was the beloved son of Sandy and Sue Binholtz and brother of Jeremy and Melanie Binholtz. Charitable contributions in memory of Kenny Binholtz may be made to The Camp Ramah Fund at 491 Lawrence Ave. West, Ste. 400, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5M1C7, (416) 789-2193.

Robert Zinkel ’72 died suddenly on March 8. He is survived by wife Pamela, children Erik and Kaitlin, his mother Barbara, brothers John (Carol) and Gregory (Debbie) Zinkel and sister Mary (Bob Ligon) Zinkel Ligon. He was 50.

Keith Albertie ’89 lost his father Roger Albertie, on March 21, 2004 in a tragic motorcycle accident.

Rivers Wall, III (“Tres”), the husband of Michelle (Girouard) Wall ’86, was killed in an automobile accident in Louisiana on May 15, 2004. Tres is survived by his wife and three children, Andrew (eight), Katie (five) and Maddie (four). Messages can be sent to Michelle at her home: 4637 White Chapel Lane, Belden, MS 38826.