The power of partnerships to transform lives runs throughout this issue of Community; and it’s a theme rooted in the founding of Wright State. Over 40 years ago, citizens of the Miami Valley came together—from the factory worker to the corporate CEO—to raise the seed money to build a state-assisted university in the area. They could see that having the expertise and resources of a vibrant research university nearby could improve their quality of life.

Today, that same collaborative spirit still resonates at Wright State. For example, as reported in our cover story, Patricia Martin, Wright State’s nursing dean, has worked to bring together nursing professionals from 16 area counties in a regional effort to recruit and retain nurses, a profession facing shortages just as America’s aging population is growing rapidly.

And thanks to a $5 million commitment from Premier Health Partners and a partnership with the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center, our School of Medicine will be among only a handful in the country to have a Department of Geriatrics to help fill a critical shortage of physicians with advanced geriatrics training. Clearly, innovations abound.

The Wright Center of Innovation for Advanced Data Management and Analysis also represents an unprecedented level of collaboration between universities, government, and business. The economic aspects of this are significant, representing a $50 billion industry. Its impact in the community and the world will be felt in biology, medicine, manufacturing, defense, and homeland security, to name just a few.

Our community success in Wright State’s first major fundraising campaign, which to date exceeds its $40 million target by over $13 million, is proof of how people can come together to provide scholarships to deserving students, and elevate academic programs, faculty development, and facilities of an institution that is making a difference in their lives and in the communities where they live. And, with the WSU Family Phase in full swing, our faculty and staff are raising the bar of community spirit to new levels.

On behalf of all those who will benefit from these groundbreaking initiatives, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our partners who help make them possible.

Kim Belknap
President, Wright State University
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26 I LOVE TO TEACH
Alumna Kathy Rank is the fourth WSU grad to be named Ohio Teacher of the Year.
Habitat for Humanity International student chapter held an awareness day to advocate the need to eliminate poverty housing. Students spent one night outside on the campus quad in sleeping bags, with only box houses for protection from the weather.

“Sharing the Asian American Heritage Experience” was the theme for the 12th annual Asian Heritage Month celebration sponsored by the Asian/Hispanic/Native American Center. Special activities included a photography exhibit, lectures, films, cooking demonstrations, a flower show, and traditional folk dances.

President and Mrs. Goldenberg attended the popular International Friendship Affair, which celebrated its 20th anniversary this year. The event included a colorful Flag Parade, performances from local dance groups, ethnic food, music, and booths highlighting various cultures.

“Four Women From Birmingham: Remembering the Little Girls Killed in the 1963 Birmingham Church Bombing” featured one survivor of the bombing and three other Birmingham women in a panel discussion addressing issues that linger four decades after the bombing. WSU dance students performed an original piece choreographed in dedication to the women.

“We Wear the Mask” a poem by Paul Laurence Dunbar, was among the topics discussed by LaVerne Ski, site manager of the Paul Laurence Dunbar House, as part of Black History Month events, sponsored by the Bolinga Black Cultural Resources Center.
Graphic Displays for Battlefield Planning

Kevin Bennett, professor of psychology whose expertise includes designing graphic displays and interfaces, is working with the Army to improve the display of information needed for successful battlefield planning. He has received more than $87,000 in recent years from the Army for the research project he is directing with Col. Larry Shattuck, engineering psychology program manager at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

“Battlefield commanders need to consider a large amount of critical information, including combat resources such as fuel, personnel, ammunition, and equipment to make effective tactical decisions. We are developing sophisticated prototype interfaces containing graphic displays that make it easier to reach these decisions,” explained Bennett. The project has been identified as a major program in the Army Research Laboratory’s Advanced Decision Architecture Collaborative Technology Alliance.

“In war situations, battlefield commanders frequently have to operate under trying conditions and with very little sleep. Our goal is to help them make better decisions by allowing them to ‘see’ the answer, instead of ‘mentally calculating’ the answer.”

Other applications include the design of process controls at power plants and for fighter cockpit interfaces.

Five Rivers Poetry Project

Mary Beth Pringle, professor of English, along with Adrienne Cassel, an instructional designer in the university’s Center for Teaching and Learning, received a Literacy Grant from the Phi Kappa Phi honor society to launch The Five Rivers Poetry Project, a community initiative to increase appreciation of poetry.

“These projects will cultivate awareness of the power of the poem,” said Pringle. “We want to highlight the importance of literacy by bringing poetry to life through programs for children and adults.”

The projects include Memory Circles, monthly meetings where participants recite favorite poems and discuss the poems’ meaning in their lives; “Miami Valley’s Favorite Poems,” in which poetry lovers from the area were videotaped reading and discussing their favorite poems for distribution to local television stations during National Poetry Month in April; “Poetry Around Town,” which provided free poetry books to the community in April; “Student Poets in the Community,” a WSU honor course that trains students to teach poetry-writing workshops in area schools and community centers; and “Poetry Rides the Bus,” where poems by student-led poetry writing workshops are displayed on RTA buses throughout the community.

Natural Born Killers

The National Institutes of Health awarded Julian Gomez-Cambronero in WSU’s School of Medicine $1.4 million to examine how healthy tissue is damaged by our immune system. The four-year project places the School of Medicine at the forefront of a promising new biomedical research field.

Gomez-Cambronero, associate professor of physiology and biophysics, says white blood cells of the innate immune system are natural born killers. “Their rapid deployment and toxicity defending us against pathogens and infection on a daily basis. But, too often this defense system goes awry, attacking healthy tissue or lingering too long at the site of injury. The inflammation caused by the immune system’s response is just beginning to be recognized as a possible cause for heart disease and cancer as well as for the well-known autoimmune diseases.”

Gomez-Cambronero’s research team works with neutrophils, the main white blood cell that destroys foreign material, debris, and bacteria. This cell is on the front line of our defense system and produces active chemicals derived from oxygen, some of which are similar to peroxide and household bleach. “It is interesting,” says Gomez-Cambronero, “that we use similar compounds to get rid of microbes in our clothes and inside our bodies.”

“Harvey” Joins Nursing “Staff”

“Harvey,” a 725-pound mannequin that simulates 27 cardiac diseases, has joined Wright State University–Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health, making Wright State the first university in Ohio and only the second nursing college in the United States to add the elaborate teaching device to its “staff.”

Wright State, one of the few nursing colleges in the nation with a cardiology specialty, will use Harvey to help acute care nurse practitioner students learn bedside diagnoses. The mannequin aids learning by simulating the findings of a normal heart and a variety of cardiac diseases, including hypertension, mitral valve prolapse, aortic stenosis, and acute inferior myocardial infarction.

A $768,934 three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services funded the college’s purchase of Harvey, as well as UMedic, a computer-assisted interactive instruction system.
Miami Valley’s Premier Arts Celebration

Wright State’s ARTSGALA, the premier arts celebration in the Miami Valley, was a resounding success this April, netting over $155,000 for scholarships. This annual arts showcase and fundraiser featured a Broadway revue; music; students drawing, painting, and sculpting on the spot; student films; and gourmet dining.

The sold out event drew 600 revelers who could bid on such items as lunch with actor Martin Sheen and a tour of The West Wing set, dinner parties featuring local chefs, a travel package to a Boston Pops concert, musical instruments from Hauer Music, local dining and entertainment packages, and student and faculty artwork.

Prototype Allows Blind to “See”

In a cooperative venture with Arizona State University, researchers at Wright State University have developed a prototype device to help blind individuals “see.”

Principal investigator Nikolaos Bourbakis, Ohio Board of Regents Distinguished Professor of Information Technology at Wright State’s College of Engineering and Computer Science, has been involved in computer engineering eye research for 20 years.

A tiny camera is mounted to glasses and connected by a thin wire to a modified laptop computer the individual carries on his or her back. The system operates by identifying the images “seen” by the camera and converting this to audio information the subject hears from small wires connected from the backpack to the ear. A small microphone is attached for receiving commands or requests from the user.

Bourbakis, who started on this project in 1995, plans to work with the WSU Office of Disability Services to test the device’s capabilities on visually impaired students.

Funding for the project includes a four-year $1.1 million National Science Foundation grant to ASU and Wright State.

A Little Birdie Told Me

Thomas Van’t Hof, assistant professor of biological sciences, is studying rhythmic cycles in birds to learn if we have a physiological clock in our stomach that determines when we get hungry. He’s presented lectures and conducted research on circadian (24-hour) rhythms in birds in Japan at Okayama University of Science, a sister university of Wright State, the University of Tokyo, and Nagoya University.

“We often think of our stomachs as having a clock,” he said. “We anticipate food, and our gastrointestinal tract is prepared for food when it arrives. We want to understand how the clock in the gut is sustained, the role of food and nutrition in sustaining the gut’s rhythm, and the role of melatonin, a chemical in the brain, in organizing the activity of the gut.”

Van’t Hof, who comes to Wright State from the internationally recognized Max-Planck Institute in Germany, said biological clocks in the brain, and maybe in the gut, may guide other daily activities in mammals and birds.

Our goal, he says is “to increase understanding of these clocks in the gut with respect to metabolic conditions, and also to shed light on why we get hungry when we do and why we often eat more than we should.”

Jellyfish or Worm?

Wright State University Lake Campus geology professor Chuck Ciampaglio tapped the Mercer County Community Hospital’s new LightSpeed CT scanner to study sea life fossils he uncovered that are estimated to be 530 million years old. The hospital is burning a DVD with the results of the scans for further analysis and research to answer a 40-year mystery surrounding the star cobble fossil: are they fossilized jellyfish or trace fossils made by worms burrowing in the ground.
Happy Workers Crucial

Happy workers are key to a healthy work environment, according to John Rudisill, dean of the Wright State School of Professional Psychology. He was honored by the Ohio Psychological Association for his contributions toward establishing Ohio’s first annual psychologically healthy workplace award.

“A healthy workplace is characterized by an environment that allows an organization to fulfill its mission while attending to the needs of its most important resource: its employees,” said Rudisill.

While making a profit is key to most business success, it’s not likely to be sustained unless the workforce is appropriately considered by leadership/management.

A healthy workplace includes allowing employees to have a sense of meaning in their work, participation in decision making, empowerment to share ideas, respect for diversity, appropriate safeguards for health and safety, autonomy for decisional latitude, and support based on caring and thoughtful relationships with superiors, peers, and subordinates.

WSU Students Stand Out

The Guardian Award

The Guardian, WSU’s student newspaper, earned “All-American” ranking from the Associated Collegiate Press, the highest rating possible. This is the 12th time in the last 13 years that The Guardian has earned this ranking. A sample of issues of The Guardian from the winter and spring quarters of 2003 earned citations for coverage and content, writing and editing, photography and graphics, and campus leadership. The paper can be viewed at www.theguardianonline.com

Ethics Winners

A team of Wright State University undergraduate students, primarily from the Raj Soin College of Business, placed second in the nationwide Ethics Bowl competition in Cincinnati. WSU placed second to Indiana University among the 40 college and university teams. This marked the fourth consecutive year for the Wright State team to finish in the top 10, and they won the event in 2002.

Goldwater Scholar

Micah Fuerst, a junior majoring in mathematics at Wright State University, has been selected for a prestigious Goldwater Scholarship. Fuerst is one of 310 nationwide recipients from among 1,100 nominees for the honor that is worth up to $7,500. The award, named after the Arizona senator and statesman Barry Goldwater, is presented annually to undergraduate sophomores and juniors who excel in mathematics, natural science, or engineering.

Aerospace Human Factors Award

Michael Stephens, an emergency medicine physician at Southwest Hospital in Cleveland, owner of Human Systems Engineering Corp., and a 2003 graduate of Wright State University, is the 2004 Stanley N. Roscoe Award winner for best dissertation in Aerospace Human Factors. As a doctoral student in Wright’s State human factors and systems engineering program, Stephens researched spatial disorientation in airplane pilots. Stephens is the third Wright State student in the last four years to win the award.

Helping Townview Neighborhood

Townview, a neighborhood empowerment area designated by Montgomery County, is a beneficiary of a $150,000 New Directions grant awarded to Wright State’s Center for Urban and Public Affairs. A continuation of a 1998 HUD Community Outreach Partnership Center grant, the two-year grant will allow faculty, staff, and students to work with Dayton and Townview community leaders to implement two youth leadership programs, home ownership programs, and execution of the Townview housing work plan. The home ownership programs include training in financial literacy, mortgage counseling, and predatory lending education.

In addition to educating and expanding the Townview Community Development Corporation board, a tool library for home maintenance and landscaping will be created, along with other programs that will promote community pride.
NURSES DON’T WAIT FOR AN EMERGENCY BEFORE GOING INTO ACTION. As the health of their own profession is weakened by a lack of new blood, local bedside nurses, administrators, educators, and employers are joining forces to keep the growing nursing shortage from crippling regional health care.

The Nursing Institute of West Central Ohio brings together nursing professionals from 16 area counties (see map on page 8) in a regional effort to recruit and retain nurses. Just as Ohio represents a microcosm of national trends, the Nursing Institute will pilot a national model for a phased, regional, scientific approach to developing sound solutions to today’s nursing crisis.

The brainchild of Patricia Martin, dean of the Wright State–Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health, the institute has received $725,000 in federal appropriations towards its six-year, multimillion dollar goal. Headquartered at Wright State, the institute will seek funding from the federal government, the State of Ohio, foundations, and other partners.
"The Nursing Institute presents an opportunity to look at all activities occurring in the workplace and in education to attract and maintain a strong nursing workforce," said Jan Labbe (’83 B.S.N., ’89 M.S.), director of public affairs for Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association. “Reviewing these programs through research will further strengthen these initiatives and consequently strengthen the nursing care provided throughout the region.”

The Need Is Critical

In February, registered nursing topped the U.S. Department of Labor’s list of occupations that will grow the fastest in the years 2002–2012. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics report projected that the need for nurses will surpass one million by 2012.

At the same time, nearly half of current nurses will reach retirement age within 10 years. While the supply of nurses dwindles, the demand increases. Just as the average age of Ohio nurses reaches 47, well above the national norm, the aging baby boomer population will put added demands on a profession already stretched to the breaking point. According to the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the proportion of Ohioans over age 65 will grow 34 percent by 2020.

The Ohio Board of Nursing reported a 59 percent decrease in the number of new nursing licenses issued between 1995–2001. And during the same period, enrollment in Ohio’s baccalaureate nursing programs decreased 62 percent.

Working Together

“The good news regarding the supply and demand for nurses is that west central Ohio has become known as a place where people work well together to develop solutions to regional challenges,” said Martin, who was honored last year by the Ohio Nurses Association for her efforts to promote the ideals of professional nursing. “After two years of planning, a team of leaders in nursing, education, and business has developed the Nursing Institute, which is just such a solution. The Nursing Institute will identify ground-breaking strategies to attract and retain a high-quality nursing workforce that can serve as a model for the nation.”

There are several reasons why this area, in particular, desperately needs the Nursing Institute, including:

■ To recruit and retain businesses, quality health care is a requirement. Without an adequate supply of qualified nurses, the level of health care is threatened.

■ The nursing workforce suffers from a lack of diversity. The institute will focus recruitment efforts on groups not traditionally represented—minorities, men, first-generation college attendees, those seeking career changes, and others.
The costs associated with the nursing shortage hurt regional health care providers. High recruitment costs buy short-term gains and divert dollars that could be used for long-term returns.

The region’s organizations that provide health care to medically underserved people depend heavily on nurses and are currently hurt by the nurse shortage, affecting care for those in greatest need.

The regional need for nurses is so great that hospitals, unable to meet their staffing needs, have recruited nurses from other countries—a measure that brings its own set of challenges.

The fastest growing population group is 85 and older. Health care needs are known to be greater as citizens age.

The shortage of qualified nursing school faculty is a key factor in restricting regional nursing program enrollments.

By 2009, the Nursing Institute expects to provide programs directed at the recruitment of nurses, improvement in education, retention in education programs and the profession, and the professional development of the R.N. workforce. Its focus will encompass nurses in hospitals, schools, community health, case management, and outpatient centers. It will include educators, health planners and administrators, as well as nurses on the front lines of health care.

The institute will include three centers. The Nursing Education Center will address the appropriate preparation of nurses and the recruitment of new nurses. The Professional Practice Center will deal with issues faced by nurses on the front lines. The Research Evaluation Center will focus on disseminating new knowledge of nursing and evaluating innovations of the other two centers.

“Nurses are health care’s true lifeline, providing direct patient care and education, as well as being the connecting point between health care, patients, and their families,” said Martin. “The work of the Nursing Institute is critical to the health of everyone in the region, as well as to the health of the profession.”

Serving 16 counties in West Central Ohio:

1. **Auglaize** (Joint Township Memorial Hospital)
2. **Butler** (McCullough Hyde Memorial Hospital, Mercy Hospital of Fairfield, Mercy Hospital of Hamilton, Miami University-Middletown, Middletown Regional Hospital)
3. **Champaign** (Mercy Memorial Hospital)
4. **Clark** (Cedarville University, Clark State Community College, Community Hospital, Mercy Medical Center)
5. **Clinton** (Clinton Memorial Hospital)
6. **Darke** (Wayne Hospital)
7. **Fayette** (Fayette County Memorial Hospital)
8. **Greene** (Greene Memorial Hospital, Nursing Institute of West Central Ohio, Wright State University)
9. **Highland** (Greenfield Area Medical Center, Highland District Hospital, Southern State Community College)
10. **Logan** (Mary Rutan Hospital)
11. **Mercer** (Joint Township District Memorial Hospital, Mercer County Joint Township Community Hospital, Wright State University-Lake Campus)
12. **Miami** (Edison State Community College, Upper Valley Medical Center)
13. **Montgomery** (Children’s Medical Center, Dayton Heart Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital, Grandview Hospital, Kettering College of Medical Arts, Kettering Medical Center, Miami Valley Hospital, Sinclair Community College, Southview Hospital, Sycamore Hospital, Veterans Affairs Medical Center)
14. **Preble** (Preble County Medical Center)
15. **Shelby** (Wilson Memorial Hospital)
16. **Warren County** (Bethesda-Warren County Hospital)
A Partnership to Address the Graying of America

Thanks to a $5 million commitment from Premier Health Partners and a partnership with the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Wright State’s School of Medicine will be among only a handful in the country to have a Department of Geriatrics. The department will help fill a critical shortage of physicians with advanced geriatrics training to care for America’s fastest growing segment of the population.

As a community-based medical school, Wright State is well positioned to lead in marshalling community resources, infrastructure, and expertise to address this critical need. The School of Medicine works with seven major teaching hospitals and more than 20 other health care organizations in the Miami Valley. It also ranks as a national leader in preparing primary care physicians, a cornerstone in America’s evolving health care system.

“We have had a long association with the School of Medicine and being a partner in the creation of this program is a natural fit for us,” said Fred Weber, chairman of the board of trustees for Premier Health Partners, which operates Miami Valley and Good Samaritan Hospitals.

The new program will also expand geriatrics research, collaborate with other health professions and community agencies serving older adults, and make the community more competitive for state, foundation, and federal funds, ultimately preparing the region to provide the best possible care for its older population.

The Genetics of Disease

Since the completion of the Human Genome Project, the potential for discovery in biomedical research has skyrocketed.

Capitalizing on the scientific expertise and infrastructure of the School of Medicine’s state-of-the-art Gene Expression Laboratory, and with recent additional support from the Kettering Fund, the school has established a new Center for Genomics Research.

The center will support faculty engaged in basic and clinical research as well as facilitate research collaboration through its affiliation with the Genome Research Infrastructure Partnership (GRIP), a regional consortium of academic and commercial research centers in southwestern Ohio.

Collaborative projects under way include brain and ovarian cancers, light damage to the retina, HIV infections, and toxicology studies.

“The goal is to expedite our understanding of the genetic basis of human diseases,” says Steven J. Berberich, CGR director. “All diseases involve genetic variations, whether inherited or resulting from stressors like viruses or toxins.”

The new center comes at a time when the development of ever-more sophisticated technological tools help scientists identify genetic propensities and disorders with greater accuracy and speed than ever before.

The Gene Expression Laboratory was established in 2000 in collaboration with Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and with major support from the Department of Defense and the Kettering Fund.
Some might say the scandals that rocked corporate giants like Enron, Worldcom, and Arthur Andersen were examples of a few bad apples spoiling the entire barrel. But according to Joseph Petrick, professor of management and director of WSU’s Institute for Business Integrity (IBI), the barrel may also be rotten. “It is not only the bad apple but the rotten barrel that contributes to the problem,” he says.

As IBI director, Petrick draws upon his 30 years of ethics research to help businesses create the “good barrel”—a corporate structure that encourages and supports moral decision making and principled conduct. It’s part of what Petrick calls “integrity capacity.”

“Integrity capacity is an intangible key strategic asset of any organization,” he says.

In the case of Arthur Andersen, Petrick said a pattern of bad apple decisions over time eroded a corporate culture barrel into one that preferred lucrative consulting contracts over accurate audits that might risk losing rich clients.

A Case Study

Petrick cites a case scenario in which a customer enters a well-known appliance store to buy a washer/dryer combo. He is approached by a salesperson known for aggressive and high-pressure sales tactics. She shows him a set, telling him that it is this year’s model, when actually, it’s four years old. Another salesperson overhears the sales transaction and thinks it’s dishonest—that the customer relationship is more important; that lying to the customer can ultimately hurt the reputation of the company.

Petrick asks, is the integrity capacity of the company such that salesperson number two has a recourse? Can she tell management or is the company only concerned about sales figures? What criteria are used to promote employees? Is there a system in place to protect the whistleblower? Is there a required ethics training program? Does the manager of the store serve as a role model for the honest approach to customer rela-
The Institute for Business Integrity was founded to support responsible ethical and legal compliance practices in the business community.

Initiatives include community roundtables featuring business ethics leaders, an electronic newsletter, and a business integrity award. In addition, the institute offers ethics training and research to help businesses and organizations implement sound ethics programs.

The institute also plays a role in enriching the Raj Soin College of Business’s curriculum with comprehensive, stand alone undergraduate and graduate courses addressing business ethics topics.

“As a public institution, Wright State has the responsibility to our students, the business community, and the public to take a proactive approach in providing principled business education,” says Joseph Petrick, IBI director and WSU professor of management. “Business educators nationwide are being held accountable for developing our current and future successful, ethical business leaders.”

Petrick also coaches the highly successful WSU Ethics Bowl Team, which has a winning record at annual national competitions.

Selecting the Good Apple

The IBI uses a reliable and valuable survey instrument that focuses on the traits of ethical business leaders to ensure that integrity capacity is part of the leadership selection process.

“If two people are up for a leadership position and both are equal in professional competency, experience, and education, how do you decide which will provide the integrity advantage? Is one candidate an aggressive self-promoter and manipulator who has achieved results by abusing peers and subordinates? Or has she or he climbed the corporate ladder through competitive but principled leadership?

“Good apples retain their wholesomeness in a good barrel and even bad apples can be constrained from immoral behavior by the principled work culture of a good barrel,” explained Petrick.
When the unmanned robot *Opportunity* landed on the red planet in January, Valerie Shalin, associate professor of psychology, had a ringside seat to the pictures and data coming back from the NASA Mars mission.

A cognitive psychologist who specializes in human problem solving and reasoning, Shalin traveled to Southern California in January to begin a six-month sabbatical at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena. She has been working with NASA on the Mars project for almost three years, lending her expertise on communication issues as it relates to human workplace expertise.

“The Mars project for NASA involves a scientific team and an instrument specialist team,” explained Shalin. “My work with a group from the NASA Ames Research Center is designing processes so the two teams can work together in the most productive way to help the rovers explore Mars.”

She said the most dramatic times are when the voluminous new material comes back from the rovers on Mars, and she is able to see things several days before they are released to the public by NASA. “This makes you really appreciate being at JPL and is particularly exciting when the rover has driven some distance, and we get a new view. Sometimes new imagery comes down while we are preparing the uplink plan, and the team is torn between looking up at the fascinating images and finishing up the details of the next uplink.”

Shalin said one of her biggest adjustments was living and working on Mars time, where the day is 24 hours and 40 minutes, plus the three-hour time zone difference in California. “Living on Mars time was harder than I expected. For a while it was lovely to go to work 40 minutes later every day and then return home to other tasks and sleep. But eventually you end up sleeping in daylight hours, so you have to adjust your sleep from after work to before work.”

Shalin explained that when the stories appeared regarding signs of water on Mars, there were no “Eureka” moments because this had been developing for some time.

“The scientists had the motto of ‘follow the water,’ because they were hoping to find signs of this. They know water increases the probability of life.” The research scientist said she is staying in touch with a group of her Wright State graduate students via e-mail and telephone to share her experiences and observations.

Psychology graduate student Pam Dowling was able to spend two days with Shalin in Pasadena. “This was an amazing opportunity,” Dowling said. “It is rare to see the practical applications and share work experiences with your advisor. In that spirit, my thesis is directly related to a practical problem she has seen at JPL—the understanding and development of jargon words.”
Four undergraduates from Spain, Germany, and Sweden returned home at the end of fall quarter with a broader understanding of how their respective cultures compare with American higher education and community development.

The students were part of a new international education program coordinated through WSU’s University Center for International Education—the Regional Educational Network between the European Union and the United States (RENEUUS)—which combines classes with internships.

Wright State, a major national recipient of federal funding for international education, is the lead institution in the three-year $600,000 U.S. Department of Education grant, and one of only 10 selected annually nationwide to participate in the international program.

“The goal is to foster closer cooperation and a support network between comparable universities in regions of Europe and the U.S. that are experiencing significant social, economic, and technological change,” explained Doug Nord, executive director.

Marcel Hein from the University of Applied Sciences in Jena, Germany, assisted the Miami Valley International Trade Association, using his business/management skills to prepare handouts on German distributors and sales agents to help association members.

“He had firsthand knowledge about business in Germany and was able to identify some of the factors companies here need to be aware of in dealing with business representatives from Germany,” said Kathy Marshalek, executive director of the trade association.

With the European students now home, spring quarter finds three students from Wright State learning overseas. Matthew McDowell, a senior from Kettering, is studying local government in Sweden. “I hope to gain more respect for different cultures and see how the rest of the world works,” he said.

L–R: Lucia Carballeda (Spain), Marcel Hein (Germany), Urko Lapedriza (Spain)
Want to know what it’s like to fly a F-16 at Mach 2 speed? Or meander inside the matrix-like substructure of a protein molecule? If so, step inside the darkened 10 x 10 x 10 foot cube, put on the 3-D glasses and stereophonic headphones, and the CAVE®’s high-resolution, 360° three-dimensional video and audio displays can put you there.

The CAVE® is a virtual environment generator located in the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, where associate professor of psychology Robert Gilkey is leading a team of scientists conducting leading-edge research in the sensory, motor, and cognitive underpinnings of human performance in synthetic environments. The research has the potential to change the way pilots are trained, military missions are planned, surgery is performed, global business is conducted, and even how war is fought.

“Often, basic research findings discovered in a laboratory don’t translate directly into real-world settings,” explains Gilkey, director of the Virtual Environment Research, Interactive Technology, And Simulation (VERITAS) facility, which houses the CAVE®. “The goal is to create a virtual presence where you feel as if you’re actually in the environment, interacting with it and manipulating it, rather than just watching. It’s the ultimate prototyping environment.”

**Changing Reality Itself**

Innovations like “forced-feedback controls” let the operator “feel” the texture and weight of an object. Such technology helps recreate real-life scenarios to test new cockpit displays, plan and practice military missions, design and test ground controls for uninhabited aerial vehicles, and develop telerobotic technology to repair satellites in space, to name just a few.

“If you’re designing new safety features for a car, you can get inside the car and take it on a virtual test drive,” explains Gilkey.

The research can even change the nature of the battlefield itself. “The battlespace is being revolutionized by advances in information technology. Future war fighters will engage in ‘network centric’ warfare, where they can obtain information at will from sources all over the world. We need to design new interface strategies to make this workable.”

In the private sector, the applications cover a broad spectrum, from developing a new model of teleconferencing to transforming computer-aided manufacturing to developing and practicing new surgical techniques.

Wright State is the lead research partner in the VERITAS facility,
created in 1995 with a $1.6 million award from the Ohio Board of Regents (OBR) to study human-computer interaction. Current research partners are The Ohio State University, the Air Force Institute of Technology, and the Ohio Supercomputer Center.

Exploring Internet 2

In 2002, Wright State was again named the lead institution in an OBR $800,000 Hayes Investment Award to upgrade the VERITAS facility, modernize its equipment, and add seven new virtual work environments in Dayton and Columbus. The project will also explore the potential of Internet 2—an advanced, high-speed network linking research universities, government, and industry—to promote and enhance scientific research and collaboration.

Gilkey has a longstanding research relationship with WPAFB. An expert on how the brain processes auditory information, Gilkey centers his research at the base on designing displays that help pilots more accurately process auditory cues in the cockpit. He conducts this research in AFRL’s Auditory Localization Facility, which features a 14-foot geodesic sphere with 277 high-fidelity speakers.

Robert Gilkey and WSU's CAVE®, a virtual environment generator

Photo illustration: AGI Photographic Imaging, Inc.
In an unparalleled collaboration between business, universities, and government to create the high-value jobs and businesses of the future, Wright State is at the helm of securing the region’s place as a center for information technology analysis and development in many fields.

Wright State is a lead partner in an $11 million state grant to establish a Wright Center of Innovation for Advanced Data Management and Analysis on the university’s campus. The award is matched by $32 million from industry, university, and other community partners.

Wright Centers of Innovation (WCI) are a major component of Ohio Governor Taft’s Third Frontier Project, which aims to accelerate the pace of world-class research in Ohio and its movement into the marketplace.

“Research and innovation reflect the most basic goals of a university,” says WSU President Kim Goldenberg. “This project shows a commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration, commercialization of research, and the creation of high-value jobs.”

The center will focus on developing methods to sort through large amounts of information and turn it into useful knowledge. The need is especially acute in an age when technology like
electronic product tags, genetic analysis, digitized public records, and battle space intelligence is generating data at exponential rates. Estimates are that it represents a $50 billion a year industry.

Expected to be completed in early 2006, the center will be located in a 50,000-square-foot addition to the Russ Engineering Center. “The design will support the very high-technology activities taking place inside by WSU faculty, students, and industry partners,” says Jay Thomas, WSU vice president for research.

Adding to the momentum, the Ohio Board of Regents awarded Wright State a $731,000 Ohio Eminent Scholar award, which was matched by LexisNexis. The funds will endow a professorship in Advanced Data Management and Analysis to build on WSU’s nationally competitive computer science and engineering programs.

Executive Team Named

Although the facility is still in the blueprint stage, board members didn’t delay in laying the administrative foundation to start exploring business opportunities. In March, Charles Walsh was named the center’s president. A winner of the 1997 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award in the emerging growth category, Walsh comes with a successful track record in entrepreneurial ventures, including those involved with early-stage technology development. He is joined by Ken Berta, director of commercialization, a WSU bioengineering grad who has an extensive business background in product development for medical equipment companies. Until the center is completed, the two are working out of an office in Washington Township.

“We’re coming from mainly a business perspective,” said Walsh. “Universities provide the intellectual capital and knowledge. We’re looking at how to speed this to the marketplace. We’re connecting the dots.”

In the classic push/pull approach to marketing, the two will take the cutting-edge technologies being developed in the laboratory out to the business place as well as bring the needs of the marketplace into the lab. “Businesses will be coming to us and we’ll be going out to businesses,” he said. “The aim is to shorten the cycle of innovation, getting the technology to market faster as well as help leverage more research dollars as the economic benefits are realized.”

Positioned to Succeed

Thomas explained that the proposal to create a WCI at Wright State was successful due to the coordinated effort by university, community, and corporate partners.

“In addition to WSU’s expertise in IT and data management, it was the fact that we have a very powerful center of gravity of IT companies in the Dayton area. With the assistance of the Dayton Development Coalition acting to bring all these parties together, we were well positioned to put this together and succeed.”

That collaborative spirit was echoed by WCI board chair, Lloyd “Buzz” Waterhouse. “We have 26 world-class companies, colleges, and universities on the collaborative team,” explains the chairman, president, and CEO of Reynolds and Reynolds. “We’ve each made serious commitments to working together and capitalizing on this opportunity. It’s truly a unique and groundbreaking partnership.”

Added Walsh, “It’s awesome that WSU is at the forefront of this. It’s a real vote of confidence by the state and business community.”
A GIFT OF MUSIC

According to Nelson Faerber, music has always been the focus of his life. And at 90 years old, he continues to delight audiences with his talent.

Faerber began his music career as a professional singer. After graduating from the City College of New York in 1941 and New York University in 1945, he joined Robert Shaw’s Victor Chorale and made several recordings for RCA Victor. His talent also earned him a place in the famous Fred Waring Chorus under Robert Shaw.

Throughout his career, Faerber was a violinist with the Kansas City Symphony, the Milwaukee Symphony, the Dayton Opera and Philharmonic, and several chamber music groups and ensembles.

Although never having had any formal training in piano, Faerber was a piano accompanist to various vocal and ballet artists, and taught piano. He also taught violin, string bass, accordion, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, and organ to thousands of students.

Faerber moved to Dayton, Ohio, in 1976 when he retired from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, where he had been teaching music on Navajo reservations. Soon after moving to the area, he became involved with WSU’s Community Orchestra.

To help give the gift of education to more students, recently Faerber made a planned gift to Wright State endowing a scholarship for students with financial need.

OLD TIME CHARM GRACES WSU’S LIBRARY

In a world where new technologies are pushing the boundaries of our universe, it’s difficult to imagine that only a century ago, the Wright brothers had just unlocked the mysteries of powered flight, the first World Series had captured the heart of America, and silent films made their world debut.

In October, the Dayton community stepped back in time to celebrate the innovations and accomplishments of the century at “An Evening in 1903,” a Heritage Societies event. Hosted in the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, the event attracted nearly 350 people and raised more than $20,000 for the University Libraries.

Among the guests were 82 individuals and community partners who were inducted into the university’s prestigious Heritage Societies. Cumulative gifts of the Heritage Societies’ 750 members currently exceed $88 million.
NEW TRUSTEES ELECTED TO WSU FOUNDATION

Ron Amos (‘76 B.S.B.; ‘84 M.B.A.) currently serves as president of U.S. Bank’s Dayton Region. In addition to his involvement in the community as a board member of the Children’s Medical Center and the Dayton Metropolitan YMCA, Amos has played key volunteer roles at WSU. He currently chairs WSU’s National Alumni Challenge, is past president of the Alumni Association, and has chaired the university’s Corporate Appeal effort.

Oscar Boonshoft worked for more than 20 years as a project engineer, first with the Army Corps at Wright Field and then with Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Since retiring in 1970, he has enjoyed much success in speculative trading. Boonshoft has been a long-time supporter of the university, providing the momentum for several initiatives including the establishment of a Health Systems Management program.

Maria Castleman is vice president of DMG Realty Ltd. Partnership. An active community volunteer, she is a current board member of the Philoptochos Society of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, and Church Women United in Greater Dayton. Formerly, she served on the board at Blue Bird Baking Company and as a faculty member of the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts.

Don Graber is chairman, president, and CEO of Huffy Corporation. Prior to joining Huffy in 1996, Graber served as president of Black & Decker’s worldwide household products group. He serves on the boards of directors of Precision Castparts Corporation, Aerospace Casting and Forging Corporation, Amcast Industrial Corporation, and the Alliance Community Schools. He will be serving on the board as the University Board of Trustees representative.

Glenn Hamilton, chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine, first joined Wright State in 1981. With 24 years’ experience in emergency medicine, Hamilton is a recognized expert in his field and has presented at conferences nationwide. He has authored numerous chapters in books and manuals, and has had his work published in professional journals. Hamilton will be serving on the board as the Academy of Medicine representative.

William Hann is president of the KeyBank’s Dayton District. With 33 years of experience with KeyBank, Hann previously served as president of the Michigan District, executive vice president of Key Management Company, president of the Akron District, and president of the Society Bank of Eastern Ohio. He is a noted volunteer, serving on countless education, arts, community development, and philanthropic boards.

Gary LeRoy (‘82 B.S.; ‘88 M.D.) serves as an assistant professor of family medicine at WSU and medical director of the East Dayton Health Center. A respected physician, he recently was elected president of the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians and received the Physician of the Year Award from the Miami Valley Academy of Family Physicians. LeRoy currently serves as president of WSU’s Alumni Association.

Christine Wallace (‘77 B.A., ‘81 M.B.A.) serves as senior vice president of Human Resources at NCR. She has worked at NCR for 25 years in numerous managerial roles including vice president and treasurer of NCR Corporation. Prior to her current position, she was responsible for the Teradata Division’s global customer services organization, leading a team of nearly 700 with a presence in more than 100 countries.

CAMPAIGN COMMITMENTS SOAR

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* Includes only gifts made between April 1, when the campaign started, and June 30, the end of the fiscal year.
** As of May 1, 2004
Alumni Association’s Legacy Scholarship Golf Outing

Golf Anyone?

It’s not too early to mark your calendars for Monday, August 30, 2004, when the WSU Alumni Association presents its 28th Annual Legacy Scholarship Golf Outing at Beavercreek Golf Club.

At last year’s golf outing, golfers enjoyed lunch and some friendly competition on the links. A great time was had by all, but the biggest winners are the students who receive scholarships through the Alumni Association’s Legacy Scholarship Program. For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (937) 775-2620.

Our very special THANKS to the following who made our 2003 event possible.

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Paul Biancardi
Basketball Camp Among Summer Offerings

WSU’s Department of Athletics will be presenting its summer basketball camp for grades 4–12 led by WSU men’s basketball coach and 2003–04 Horizon League Coach of the Year Paul Biancardi. Two one-week sessions are planned: June 21–25 and July 26–30, in WSU’s Ervin J. Nutter Center. Fundamental skills improvement and aspects of team play will be stressed. For more information, contact the Basketball Office at (937) 775-2835. To learn about all the other summer sports camps offered, contact the Athletics Office at (937) 775-2771.

A “Who’s Who” of WSU Alumni

The Office of Alumni Relations is compiling information in order to produce a 2005 Wright State University Alumni Directory. To ensure its success, we need your input! Look for a questionnaire coming soon to your mailbox that will require only a few minutes to complete. Your response is vital to help us verify your current records or make any needed changes to your profile.

Visit http://www.alumniconnections.com/update/ to access the online version of your questionnaire. But you will need the ID number printed at the bottom of the mailed questionnaire form to access the online version.

Have questions? Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (937) 775-2620 or alumni@wright.edu
Alumni Merchandise

With warm weather finally here, add a few new items to your wardrobe or purchase one for a new graduate, friend, or family member! The Alumni Association has two full pages of clothing and accessory items waiting for you to check out. To see all that we have to offer, just go to www.wright.edu/alumni

Mark Your Calendars!

For more information, call the Office of Alumni Relations at (937) 775-2620 or go the Alumni Web site at www.wright.edu/alumni.

July 23: Alumni Association Dragons Baseball Game

Cost is only $6 per person (what a bargain) and includes a lawn ticket to the game AND a $5 food voucher. This is a great opportunity for a family outing! Join us at Fifth Third Field to see the Dayton Dragons in action! Only 100 tickets available, so act fast!

Complete Web Survey and Win Prizes

The Office of Alumni Relations and WSU’s Alumni Association’s Communications and Marketing Committee are currently updating e-mail addresses so that we may seek your input on programming and events representing your interests. Please go to www.wright.edu/alumni and complete a short survey. As an incentive for those participating, you’ll also be eligible to win $100 in alumni merchandise.
MEET WRIGHT STATE’S 2004 OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

On Saturday, February 14, Wright State colleges and schools recognized outstanding alumni from their respective programs at an awards dinner and dance sponsored by WSU’s Office of Alumni Relations. The evening also included Raider basketball action where the awardees were honored during halftime. Other special guests included basketball and spirit alumni, who helped cheer on the Raiders to a 66-64 victory over IP-Ft. Wayne.

James G. Baldridge (‘83 B.A.)
College of Liberal Arts

James G. Baldridge is a co-anchor for Newscenter 7 on WHIO-TV in Dayton. Since joining WHIO-TV in 1972 as a general assignment reporter, Baldridge has covered local stories and traveled the world covering stories important to the Dayton area. Special assignments have taken him to China, Vietnam, El Salvador, Japan, Columbia, and throughout Europe.

Baldridge has received numerous awards for his work in broadcast journalism. He has been honored by the Society of Professional Journalists, the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, the Aviation and Space Writers Association, the National Association of Television Program Executives, and various other local organizations. He is a recipient of the Alumni Association Service Award from Sinclair Community College and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Shawnee High School.

Baldridge has anchored Dayton Air Show broadcasts since 1975. Hundreds of stations in the United States and several foreign countries have broadcast WHIO-TV’s air show coverage. He has served on the College of Liberal Arts Advisory Committee and hosted the college’s RECONNECT event for alumni, faculty, and staff. Baldridge also hosted WSU Arts at the Schuster.

Favorite WSU Memory: Spanish class with Dr. Emilie Cannon. Her lessons came in very handy in El Salvador and Nicaragua in the ’80s and Panama and Costa Rica in the ’90s.

Future Plans: I’d like to keep doing what I’m doing for many more years. I love anchoring the news in Dayton and reporting on special projects.

What I Do for R&R: Run and lift weights. I always have and I always will. I’m not a body builder. I just need to let off steam.

Brian G. Cooper (‘81 B.S.B.; ’86 M.B.A.)
School of Graduate Studies


Previously, Cooper served as senior vice president of Cox Newspapers, Inc., a subsidiary of Cox Enterprises, Inc., in Atlanta. Cooper was responsible for overseeing Cox’s nine community newspapers, the newspapers’ financial operations, as well as the company’s interest in Cox Custom Media and PAGAS Mailing Services. Cooper also served as a representative on the boards of Trader Publishing Company and Agora Holdings, corporate parent of Poland’s largest daily newspaper.

Active in civic organizations, Cooper has been a board member for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Atlanta and the Center for the Visually Impaired Foundation. He is currently treasurer of Inspired Practices in Early Education, Inc., a nonprofit organization working to improve the quality of early care and education in Georgia.

Favorite WSU Memory: My undergraduate years spent working off-campus pubs and going to school. I enjoyed taking some time off in the afternoons and working in a game or two of racquetball in the Physical Education complex.

What I Do for R&R: I’m not very good at rest and relaxation. I always seem to be in motion.

Favorite Quote: Having just returned to Dayton, I’ve been thinking about one of Yogi Berra’s famous quotes: “It’s déjà vu all over again.”
Anthony D’Souza (’94 Psy.D.)  
School of Professional Psychology 

Anthony D’Souza is a psychologist who upon graduation from Wright State, co-founded a specially arranged postdoctoral fellowship in India. D’Souza devotes much of his time to helping destitute children and families in Bombay. He supported a school that fed children and gave support to families in order to get the children off the streets, away from exploitation, and into the classroom. In addition, he spent much of his time serving poor people in one of the country’s largest slums in Bombay. 

D’Souza is one of the few doctoral-trained psychologists in India. He has conducted training and workshops with other professionals in India, and has lectured throughout the country. 

D’Souza takes part in national delegations addressing mental health issues in India. He trains groups in India on psychology and spirituality and has conducted training sessions throughout the United States and Canada. D’Souza has also conducted a one-week workshop for the School of Professional Psychology on psychology and spirituality. 

Favorite WSU Memory: Dealing with a client at Ellis-Wellman while I was a student. I was so fresh and new to the field that I felt the need to take this client. But when I met this person, I was able to connect with her soul. She was so beautiful, despite her negative background, that was the last possible one can imagine. 

Best Advice: There is nothing so sacred that cannot be questioned. 

What I Do for R&R: Spend time with nature, cooking (doing it rarely these days), reading, talking to friends, doing puzzles, conscious daydreaming (consciously letting my imagination travel beyond boundaries). 

David S. Guttridge (’69 B.S.B.; ’71 M.B.A.)  
Raj Soin College of Business 

David S. Guttridge is CEO of MTC Technologies, Inc. (MTC), a $200 million provider of engineering and information technology services to the Department of Defense and various intelligence agencies. 

Before joining MTC, Guttridge spent 10 years at Dayco Corporation (later renamed Day International) that is based in his serving as president and chief operating officer. After the company was sold to M.A. Hanna in 1987, he served as president and COO for the bulk of the company’s operations. After joining MTC, Guttridge assumed responsibility for all manufacturing operations including directing the start-up of a new technology plastics business, and the financing, acquisition, and disposition activities for the seven businesses affiliated with the company. In June 2002, MTC became a public company after only 79 days, a virtually unheard of feat. Barron’s listed the initial public offering as one of the top 10 IPOs of 2002. 

Guttridge was a founding chair of the Prem ier Health Partners Board of Trustees and has chaired the boards of Good Samarian Hospital, the Wright State University Foundation, and the advisory board for the Raj Soin College of Business. 

Favorite WSU Memory: Helping to establish the first student government. 

Future Plans and Goals: My immediate plans and goals are centered around making MTC Technologies a great investment for our shareholders. Longer-term goals are centered around sustaining and enjoying our grandchildren. 

Best Advice: Always have a back-up plan. 

Terrance R. Liette, P.E., (’83 A.A.S.; ’91 B.S.M.E.)  
Lake Campus 

Terrance R. Liette is executive director of Fanning/Howey Associates, Inc. in Celina. He has 23 years of experience in educational facility planning, design, and management. Liette led the “Steps for Success” process for 61 Ohio school districts. He has managed over 40 Ohio School Facilities Commission-funded school design projects. 

In addition to his award-winning design and management skills, Liette’s expertise includes the facilitation of community input into the planning and design process. Educational trade magazines and national mainstream media recognize Liette as an expert on educational issues. 

In his career, he has successfully completed over 400 educational facilities. 

Liette began his employment with Fanning/Howey Associates, Inc. in 1980. He held positions including senior associate, mechanical department coordinator, and executive director before becoming president and COO of the firm in 1998. His professional affiliations include the Ohio Association of School Business Officials International, the Council of Educational Facility Planners International, the National Society of Professional Engineers, and the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying. 

Favorite WSU Memory: My final walk through the university on the last Saturday of the last quarter of my senior year. 

Best Advice: From my father: Do not be satisfied with satisfactory results, you can do better than satisfactory. 

Favorite Quote: “Try not to be a man of success, but rather a man of value.” (Albert Einstein)
Deborah A. Loewer, Ph.D., ('76 B.S.)
College of Science and Mathematics

Deborah A. Loewer, rear admiral (select), vice commander for Military Sealift Command, U.S. Navy, graduated from Officer Candidate School and received her commission in the United States Navy in 1976. Loewer also earned a Ph.D. in international law from the University of Kiel in Germany. Following her selection as an Olinstead Scholar, she attended the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, and the Goethe Institute in Stuttgart, Germany.

As one of the first women assigned to shipboard duty, she attended Surface Warfare Officer Basic Course, graduating first in her class. She has served as the Commanding Officer of the USS Mount Baker and the USS Camden, as well as military assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Defense. Loewer also served as director of the White House Situation Room and Technical Planning Staff. On September 11, 2001, Loewer was the first person to inform President Bush of an attack on the World Trade Center.


Favorite WSU Memory: Playing on WSU's first softball team. I was never that good, but I loved getting out and being part of the team.

Future Plans: Right now, it's doing my best as vice commander of the Navy's Military Sealift Command and it's a trimendous opportunity to mentor and be a coach.

Guiding Motto: Don't let fear stand in your way. Live your life, love your family, believe in your government and in yourself.

Susan A. Newton ('90 B.S.N.)
WSU-Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health

Susan A. Newton is field manager of oncology nursing at Ortho Biotech Oncology. Newton earned her M.S. in oncology nursing from the University of South Florida in 1995. Her position provides the education that oncology nurses need to help patients diagnosed with cancer.

Newton is board chair of the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation, and she publishes a regular column on the benefits of nursing certification. She has written a chapter for a medical-surgical textbook and is a co-editor of an oncology telephone triage book in publication. Newton has served as a preceptor for graduate students attending WSU in the Clinical Nurse Specialist Program. She is a past president of the West Central Ohio Oncology Nursing Society, the current Scholarship Committee Chair, and a past member of the American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer Task Force.

Newton spoke in Washington, D.C., at the Day on the Hill with the Oncology Nursing Society and was the recipient of the Fatigue Initiative through Research and Education Excellence, a national award.

Favorite WSU Memory: A group of us nursing students parking that big rock outside of the university the night before our pinning ceremony.

Future Plans: Running for a national office with the Oncology Nursing Society. They are an organization that I've always been involved with and there are over 32,000 nurses who are members.

Favorite Quote: Give a person a fish and they'll eat for a day. Teach a person to fish and they'll eat for a lifetime. (Author unknown).

David L. Roer ('84 M.D.)
School of Medicine

David L. Roer is a pediatrician and founder and co-owner of Pediatric Associates of Dayton, Inc. He is also a voluntary faculty member, serving as a clinical assistant professor with the School of Medicine's Department of Pediatrics. He has served on the Centerville City School Board since 1994, serving as president in 1997 and 2001.

Out of concern for high rates of child obesity, he spearheaded the effort to remove soda from the Centerville schools.

Roer has also served on the Dayton Board of D Days, the special needs Foundation Board, and the Dayton Art Institute Association Board. He has also been co-chair of the Dayton Holiday Festival and has served on multiple committees at Children's Medical Center.

Roer's professional affiliations include the American Academy of Pediatrics, Children's Medical Center, Good Samaritan Hospital, Kettering Medical Center, and Miami Valley Hospital. In addition to being an annual supporter of the School of Medicine, Roer has participated in multiple alumni events.
David A. Strobhar, P.E., ('80 B.S.)
College of Engineering and Computer Science

David A. Strobhar is founder and president of Beville Engineering, Inc., a leading supplier of human factors engineering services to the oil and chemical processing industry around the world. Having completed projects at both the southern tip of Australia and the North Slope of Alaska, north of the Arctic Circle, Strobhar has literally worked from one end of the globe to the other.

Beville Engineering specializes in the analysis of operator performance issues and has contracted with nearly all the major petrochemical companies. From workload studies to the review and design of control room displays, Beville Engineering stays busy with fast-paced, hands-on projects. Based on the knowledge and skills that he acquired at WSU, Strobhar has developed many new methodologies that have become industry standards.

Karen M. Wolf
('72 B.S.Ed.; '81 M.Ed.)
College of Education and Human Services

Karen M. Wolf is chair of the business department at West Carrollton High School. Throughout her career at West Carrollton, she has received numerous honors, including the Dickson T. Guiler Award for Excellence in Education and 20 Significant Teacher Awards from the West Carrollton Educational Recognition Association. She is certified with the National Board of Professional Teachers (NBPTS) and is an Ohio SchoolNET Trainer.

Wolf is a trained mentor and evaluator in NBPTS, a member of the VDLP Pioneer Team in distance learning, and a North Central subcommittee chair. She is a past presidnet and a current member of the Wright State University Alumni Association Board of Directors and an emeritus trustee of the Wright State University Foundation. Wolf's volunteer activities include working with the Student Council and Science Olympiad at West Carrollton High School.

Wolf's professional affiliations include the West Carrollton Education Association, Ohio Education Association, Ohio Business and Technology Association, National Education Association, and National Business Education Association.

Favorite WSU Memory: The people. I am not from the Dayton area, a "new kid on the block" at a time when most people were natives. Many of the professors and students I met during my years at WSU still remain friends.

Favorite Quote: In the end, happiness is a choice... the frame through which we choose to see. The larger the frame, the more vivid the picture. The more we remember that life is a gift—what everything changes, we're not in control—the stronger our sense of well-being becomes.
You can see it her student-centered, hands-on teaching style; the respect she shows to each of her students; and the admiration students have for her.

It’s this dedication to teaching that earned Kathy Rank (’97 M.Ed.) an A+ by being named 2004 Ohio Teacher of the Year by the Ohio Department of Education. The fourth grade teacher from Bennett Intermediate School in Piqua was selected from nominations submitted by schools across the state to honor and promote excellence in teaching.

“Math can be fun if she’s teaching it,” says Shianne Graves. “We play games with math. She shows you tricks that help you remember how to do the problems.”

“She’s my favorite teacher,” adds Maddie Miller. “She doesn’t let anyone feel left out. She gives you a second chance.”

Rank’s participatory lesson plans often can involve everyday objects like dice, blocks, spinners, and coins (“why do you think these are called quarters?” she asks). Although the projects may be messy, noisy, and time consuming, in the long run, she says it’s a way to make math relevant to their everyday lives.

“Abstract things don’t make sense at this age. Kids have to see it to believe it. It’s not just about giving the right answers. It’s figuring out how to get the answer.”

Rank, who also teaches reading and language arts, has been with Piqua Schools for 10 years. In 2002, she was named Piqua City Schools’ Teacher of the Year as well as an Ohio nominee and national recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching. She has written three successful Ohio Reads grants, netting over $100,000 to set up a computer lab at the school.

“I’d rather not have to spend my time writing grants, I’d rather be in the classroom,” she says. “But in these tough fiscal times, it’s part of the job.”

Among her duties as Teacher of the Year will be presenting speeches and workshops across the state to education groups, civic organizations, and other education stakeholders.

“Ever since the third grade, I’ve wanted to be a teacher,” she says. “If I’m not having fun, then the kids aren’t having fun. I love kids. And I love to teach!”

By Connie Steele

“I LOVE to Teach”

WSU Ohio Teachers of the Year
- 1994, Jackie Collier (’77 M.Ed.) Centerville High School
- 1998, Bill Richey (’84 B.S.; ’86 M.Ed.) Xenia High School
- 2001, Doug Cooper (’89 B.S.Ed.; ’94 M.Ed.) Wilmington High School
- 2004, Kathy Rank (’97 M.Ed.) Bennett Intermediate School
CLASS OF 1973
Ronald Reigelsperger (B.A.) won the Brother Fitz Community Award and the Montgomery County Employee of the Year in Juvenile Court. Reigelsperger is the juvenile court probation supervisor for Montgomery County.

Stephen Wal (B.S.B.) has enjoyed a successful 29-year career as a financial manager for the comptroller of the Aeronautical Systems Center at Wright-Patt Air Force Base. Currently, Wal is serving as the senior business advisor to the Air Force’s newest fighter program, the F/A-22 Raptor. Wal and his wife of 32 years, Pat, have three children and three grandchildren.

CLASS OF 1975
William D. Duncan (B.S.B.) was elected to Oakwood City Council in November 2003. He is a partner with Thorn, Lewis & Duncan, Inc., in Dayton.

Mary Tripp Gaier (B.S.Ed.) has been appointed assistant to the president for college operations at Sinclair Community College, where she is responsible for the organization and management of the president’s office including supervision of the office’s support staff. Previously, Gaier was as an academic program director and administrator of the learning support center at the Clearwater campus of St. Petersburg College in Florida, where she had been employed since 1986. She also has taught at St. Patrick’s School in Troy, Piqua City Schools, and St. Boniface School in Piqua and Cardinal Pacelli and St. Augustine schools in Cincinnati.

CLASS OF 1976
Oscar Reagan, Jr. (B.S.B.) has published his first novel entitled REACT, which follows the adventures of Air Force Captain Tony Kirkland and his teammate, Sergeant Darren Parker. Reagan, an Air Force retiree and a retired bank executive, lives in Plano, Texas, with his wife, Evelyn, where he writes, builds custom furniture, and enjoys visiting his children and grandchildren.

Jeff Schmitt (B.S.B.), president of Jeff Schmitt Autogroup, Inc., recently purchased another dealership, the former Stapleton Buick-GMC Truck in New Carlisle. In addition a new facility is under construction in Beavercreek for Schmitt’s Nissan dealership, which will be relocating to this site.

CLASS OF 1977
Christine W. Wallace (B.A., ’81 M.B.A.) has been promoted to senior vice president at NCR Corporation. Wallace previously was vice president of Teradata’s global customer services division. This position is temporarily being filled by interim replacement Don McCauley (’97 M.B.A.). Wallace is also a member of the Raj Soin College of Business board of advisors and the Wright State University Foundation board.

CLASS OF 1978
Mark Owens (B.A.) was reelected to a third term as clerk of Dayton Municipal Court.

CLASS OF 1979
Randy McCaslin (B.S.B.) recently retired from a 23-year career at ITW Food Equipment Group in Troy. Randy and his wife are now franchise owners of the Goddard School in Beavercreek. In addition, he serves as a management consultant for a variety of companies.

Rosemary P. Ramsey (B.A., ’80 M.B.A.) is the new associate dean in Raj Soin College of Business. Previously, Ramsey obtained her Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati and had worked for NCR Corp. and NCR-Sales.

C. Elizabeth Wallace (B.S.Ed.) was promoted to associate director – educational technology at Ohio SchoolNet.

Steven Winteregg (M.M.), adjunct associate professor of music at Wittenberg University, has been inducted into Marquis Who’s Who in America for 2004. Winteregg, a Wittenberg professor since 1981, focuses in the area of composition and symphonic literature, in addition to euphonium and tuba performance. His accomplishments range from having compositions performed by the Czech Radio Symphony and the Milwaukee Symphony to composing three ballets all performed by the Dayton Ballet.

CLASS OF 1980
Barry Duncan (B.S., ’84 Psy.D.) has edited a book with Mark Hubble and Scott Miller, The Heart and Soul of Change: What Works in Therapy, published by APA Press. The first edition was APA’s bestseller for the first two years it was out and it is scheduled for a second edition.

Linda Easterly (B.S.N.) was named state Nurse of the Year for the Georgia Nurses Association. Easterly was a vital component to the developing, implementing, and constructing of the Houston Healthcare Complex, where she serves as the director of occupational health and wellness. She also volunteers with the American Heart Association, the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, and the Perry Area Chamber of Commerce.

Willie A. Terrell, Jr. (M.Ed.) is in his fourth year as president of the Dayton Education Association, the 1,575 member union for Dayton Public School teachers.
CLASS OF 1981

Gary McCullough (B.S.B.) has been named senior vice president, Ross Products Division of Abbott Laboratories. McCullough is joining Abbott from Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company, where he served as senior vice president, Americas.

CLASS OF 1982

Robert J. Karl (B.A.) was recently named a new partner at the Columbus office of Ulmer & Berne LLP. Karl is chairing the firm’s environmental law group and practices in the real estate, business law, and business litigation groups. Prior to joining Ulmer and Berne, Karl was the assistant Ohio attorney general in the environmental enforcement section. He is also a member of the American, Ohio State, and Columbus bar association.

Gary L. LeRoy (B.S., ’88 M.D.), a physician at Miami Valley Hospital, was recently elected as president-elect of the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians. LeRoy also received the Physician of the Year award from the Miami Valley Academy of Family Physicians.

CLASS OF 1984

John C. Shoemaker (B.A.) recently received a special act award as well as a unit citation in his position as System Administrator at DOD.

CLASS OF 1985

Elisabeth Righter (B.S., ’89 M.D.) is the associate director of Dayton Community Family Physicians Residency at Alliance Physicians, Inc. In addition, Righter serves as vice-president Ohio Academy of Family Physicians for 2003–2004 and editor of Journal of Phi Rho Sigma Medical Society.

CLASS OF 1986

Vanessa K. Jensen (Psy.D.) received the OPA Distinguished Service Award reserved for the very rare member who has provided distinguished service to the Ohio Psychological Association over an extended period of time.

Tim Waggoner (B.S.Ed., ’89 M.A.) is the author of eight current and forthcoming novels. Waggoner has published over 70 short stories in various magazines and anthologies, and his articles of writing have appeared in Writer’s Digest, Writer’s Journal, New Writer’s Magazine, Ohio Writer, Speculations, and Teaching English in the Two-Year College. Waggoner is an associate professor of English and also serves as the English department’s coordinator of creative activities at Sinclair Community College.

CLASS OF 1987

David Vesely (B.A.) is one of two Latin teachers at Kettering Fairmont High School. The Latin program at the high school has recently received the Hildesheim Vase Award from the Ohio Classical Conference, constituting the program as the best in the state.

CLASS OF 1988

Kurt Jensen (Psy.D.) received the Award of Excellence, reserved for those who have served their communities with distinction, for his dedication to Ohio’s Disaster Response Network.

Robert E. Wysong (B.S.) is a physicist for Camden Engineering.

CLASS OF 1990

Holly R. Counts (B.S.) started her private practice as a clinical psychologist in April 2002. Counts specialties include holistic approach to mental health, relationships, trauma and abuse, adolescent issues, and general practices.

James Purvis (B.S.B., ’97 M.B.A.) was promoted to vice president, financial reporting, at Ohio National Financial Services.

Brand Receives NASA Fellowship

Brittany Brand, ('02 B.S.) a graduate student in geology at Boise State University and a geological sciences graduate of Wright State University, is conducting geologic studies of an extinct volcano in southwestern Idaho after receiving a prestigious fellowship from the NASA Idaho Space Grant Consortium. Brand received a one-year $6,000 fellowship as part of a statewide program to fund research programs involving space, aeronautics, or other areas of research interest for NASA.

Brand’s project involves studying an extinct volcano called Sinker Butte near Swan Falls Dam in southwestern Idaho. One million years ago, Sinker Butte was an active “hydrovolcano” that erupted with terrific force from beneath a shallow lake. The lake eventually disappeared and the Snake River eroded the layers of rock from the eruptions until a near-perfect cross-section was exposed. Brand is studying the rock layers in order to document the volcano’s eruptive sequences.

Brand’s project has the potential for cosmic applications. “The Sinker Butte volcano is very similar to volcanism on Mars, which may have also involved interactions with water,” said Brand, who plans to pursue a Ph.D. in volcanology. “By using remote sensing, it should be possible to correlate the data we’ve collected here with similar locations on Mars.”

Downloadable photos are available online at http://news.boisestate.edu
A Win-Win Situation

Workplace disputes can result in lost productivity, morale problems, and ultimately protracted litigation—a no-win situation for the organization and employee involved. David Livingston (’79 B.S.B.), a trained and certified federal mediator for the Department of Defense-Office of Complaint Investigations in Dayton, works to create a scenario where both parties can be winners. For his efforts, Livingston was presented the Master Mediator award by his organization at their annual conference last May.

Livingston’s role is to facilitate the mediation process to help both parties develop and explore solutions. Issues can cover a broad range of topics, such as disciplinary actions, harassment, non-selection for promotion, and disability, to name just a few.

Livingston begins the mediation by establishing rapport and building trust between himself and the disputing parties, typically a civilian employee complainant and a military or civilian manager respondent. Some of the other techniques Livingston may use include reality checking—to bring one or both of the parties back from “pie in the sky expectations” to the reality of the situation—and reframing to restate negative comments into more positive and productive statements.

He says the communication and human resource management classes he took while pursing his business administration degree at Wright State gave him the skills to mediate most of the disputes that arise in the workplace, which are often a result of lack of communication, miscommunication, or personnel management actions.

“I see behavior transformation occurring from the onset of the mediation when the disputants can barely look at each other, to the point in which they are smiling, conversing, and shaking hands at the end. I know my efforts have made a difference in bringing harmony back to a broken working relationship.”

CLASS OF 1991
Paul T. Saba (B.S.B.) was named a shareholder at Finney, Stagnaro, Saba & Klusmeier, Co., L.P.A. Saba is an accomplished commercial and real estate litigator who has practiced with the firm since 1997. Saba recently pursued conclusion to litigation for 18 homeowner couples in Butler County who learned after they purchased their new homes that their yards were contaminated with lead and arsenic, among other toxic metals.

CLASS OF 1992
Shannon Manns (B.S.B.) is the owner and president of Access Staffing, Inc., an office/accounting placement service located in Beavercreek since 1997.

CLASS OF 1994
Mark M. Black (B.S.B.) in June will be celebrating 10 years as a certified financial planner practitioner at Smith, Griesmer & Moses.

Sherlyee Swartz (M.Ed., ’96 B.A.) started her own business, I Do Veils, which specializes in selling wedding veils.

CLASS OF 1995
Don Green (B.S.B.) was promoted to assistant vice president of policy agency services overseeing marketing and underwriting at Buckeye Insurance Group, where he has been employed for three years.

Kurt Weddington (B.S.B.) was promoted to the rank of lieutenant firefighter at the City of Carmel Fire Department in Indiana.

CLASS OF 1996
Jeff Lightner (B.S.B.), a partner in the Roselleus Insurance Agency, is also an Ohio Business Week Foundation Board member, a chair of the United Way Outcome Team, and a Westfield Group’s TAPP Board member.

Judith Sigmund (M.D.), a psychiatrist at the VA Medical Center, recently graduated from the United Theological Seminary with her master of arts in specialized ministry, which has provided her with the education on the spiritual aspects of health and illness. She now qualifies for credentialing as a certified pastoral counselor in addition to her current board certification in adult psychiatry.

CLASS OF 1997
Don McCauley (M.B.A.) has been appointed as the interim vice president of Teradata’s global services division.

CLASS OF 1998
Katherine Lewis (B.S.B.) is in her second year of residency training at Ohio State University Medical Center and Children’s Hospital of Columbus. She is doing a combined residency program of internal medicine and pediatrics.

CLASS OF 1999
Brian Anderson (A.S.) is a full-time firefighter/paramedic in Celina, Ohio. He is also the newest member of the elite Life flight 3 emergency helicopter crew based out of a small airport in Bluffton, Ohio. The Bluffton hangar is one of four Life Flight bases in Ohio and Michigan.

Jeffrey S. Gardner (B.S.M.E., ’01 M.S.E.G.) was hired by the College of Engineering at The Ohio State University as an academic advisor of undecided engineering students.

Chris Haines (B.S.B.) was promoted to assistant vice president of technical operations at Buckeye Insurance Group where he has worked since 1998.

Terri A. Mazur (B.A.) is seeking re-election as Greene County Clerk of Courts, to serve a third term.

Anthony Plummer (B.S.) is employed with the Cincinnati Police Department as a police officer in District 3. Plummer also specializes as a mental health response team member.

CLASS OF 2000
Keith Beard (Psy.D.) has been named the director of the Marshall University Psychology Clinic. He was also the special editor for the Journal of Rural Community Psychology special issue: “Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Rural Residents.”

Ed E. Stewart, Jr. (B.A.), a navy seaman, recently graduated from Operations Specialist School at the Fleet Combat Training Center Dam Neck at Virginia Beach, Va.

Heather Bishara (B.A., ’02 M.A.) works at Bowling Green State University as a program coordinator of major events. She assists with CampusFest, coordinates Family Weekend and Sibs ‘n Kids Weekend, advises the Homecoming Student Steering Committee and Dance Marathon, which is the largest student-run philanthropy in Ohio.
Unseating Saddam

The stories that Major Mike W. Dunfee (’93 B.A.) could tell from his 15 years as a full-time member of the United States Air Force and the Missouri Air National Guard could fill a book. He’s weathered deployments to Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. But his latest deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom to Baghdad should warrant its own chapter. It was there that the former Wright State ROTC Cadet Corp Commander stayed at one of Saddam Hussein’s palaces and sat on the very “throne” where the ousted leader had worked his day-to-day duties.

In an article published in his local base publication, THE WAI, Dunfee is quoted as saying, “It definitely was a once in a lifetime experience. I had seen the palace on television but never imagined that I would get the opportunity to see it in person. We had word that Saddam was in his bedroom at the palace and sent aircraft in to destroy the target, so when I eventually got into Baghdad, it was really something to see the destruction firsthand. I have some amazing stories to share with my family. Everyone should be very proud of the young Americans doing their jobs over there. Very proud.”

Dunfee was in Iraq from June until September, but is still working contingency operations with the 157th Air Operations Group in St. Louis. As a Master Air Attack Planner, he is responsible for scheduling missions that support the contingency. Since returning to St Louis, he deployed to Quantico Marine Base to assist in training U.S. Marines being deployed to both Haiti and Iraq.

With another deployment to some yet unknown part of the world eminent, no doubt Dunfee will have more stories to tell.
n recognition of his outstanding contributions to Wright State baseball over a 30-year career, Head Baseball Coach Ron Nischwitz will become coach emeritus at the end of the 2004 baseball season, according to WSU Athletics Director Michael Cusack. The search for Nischwitz’s successor is under way.

“Ron’s influence has gone far beyond the fine baseball program he built,” Cusack said. “He has been an integral part of our entire athletic program for many years. His name in the community has always been associated with nothing but class and he has been a role model for generations of Raider athletes.”

At the conclusion of the season Nischwitz’s number 29 will become only the second Raider baseball number to be retired, joining former All American and current Kansas City Royals pitcher Brian Anderson, whose number was the first to be retired.

Coming into the current season, Nischwitz had collected 845 wins, four regular-season conference titles, two conference tournament championships, a runner-up finish in the NCAA Division II College World Series, and a trip to the NCAA Division I Regionals. He received the 1987 NCAA Division II District Coach of the Year Award.

Along with an impressive number of credits, Nischwitz has presided over the baseball program’s evolution. In his first season, he secured Wright State’s first winning season in its five years of varsity competition and a trip to the NCAA Division II Tournament in 1975. The following three seasons, the Raiders returned to tournament play and claimed second place in the 1976 NCAA Division II Mideast Regional.

ON THE WEB www.wsuraiders.com

Spring Sports Wrap-Up

Men’s and Women’s Tennis

The Wright State women’s tennis team concluded the season on a winning note with a win over Wisconsin-Green Bay, 4-1, for fifth place during the Horizon League Championships. The Raiders finished the season 7-21 with a 5-4 record over Horizon League teams and wins in five of the last seven matches.

On the men’s side, Wright State’s Scott Hayden and Kevin Teufel were named to the Men’s Tennis Horizon League second team. Hayden, a junior from Wilmington, Ohio, is now a two-time second team honoree after going 20-20 at No. 3 singles and 2-3 in Horizon League Play. He has been the Raider leader in wins all season and has been consistent at the No. 3 spot.

Horizon League Golf Champions

For the second straight year, Butler and Wright State played to a 54-hole tie. But this year, all five WSU players went back on the course to win the playoff 20 to 21 after the first hole. The tournament title is the fifth for Raiders in the Horizon League with the others coming in 1996, 1997, 2000, and 2003. Wright State will now wait for the NCAA selection committee to decide where the Raiders go with its automatic berth in May.

Named to the All League was Marty Miller and Brandon Knutson, who also named Newcomer of the Year.

Other Spring Sports

Want to know how track, cross country, baseball, and softball are faring this spring? Go to: http://www.wsuraiders.com/
Three Raiders and Biancardi Honored

WSU men’s basketball season ended with first-year Raider head coach Paul Biancardi being voted Coach of the Year, the first Raider men’s basketball coach to receive the honor. Seniors Seth Doliboa and Vernard Hollins were named to the All-Horizon League first and second teams respectively, and freshman DaShaun Wood was selected to the league’s All-Newcomer Team.

Doliboa, a first-team selection last year, averaged 15.0 points and 7.4 rebounds. The Springboro native was also honored as a second-team recipient in 2002 as well as being named to that year’s All-Newcomer Team.

Since WSU started playing in a conference in 1992, the Raiders have placed 13 players on first teams, six on second teams, and nine on all-newcomer teams.

Biancardi, a native of Boston, posted a 14-14 overall record while going 10-6 in Horizon League play, leading the Raiders to a fourth-place tie in 2004. He is the former assistant coach at The Ohio State University under Jim O’Brien.

Six Inducted into WSU Hall of Fame

WSU’s athletics department inducted six former student-athletes into the Al and Mary Schwarz Athletic Hall of Fame.

Mike Mathile (1988–90, baseball) played professionally in the Montreal Expos and Cincinnati Reds organizations.

Mark Myton (1980–84, men’s soccer) is the school’s first All-American for soccer.

Chris Hawker (1987–91, women’s soccer/softball). She was the team MVP in 1990 in soccer and recipient of the squad’s Raider Award in 1989 and 1990.

Rick Hayhow (1984–88, men’s swimming) earned 12 All-American honors, second most in school history.

Tim O’Neal (1975–79, golf) is the first WSU athlete to compete in a Division I national tournament.

Mark Woods (1989–93, men’s basketball) is the school’s 16th all-time scorer and all-time steals and assists leader.

There are now 48 members in the WSU Athletics Hall of Fame.

Swimming Sweeps Horizon League

The Wright State swimming and diving teams completed their season with Horizon League championships for both the men and the women. Head coach Matt Liddy was named both Horizon League Men and Women’s Coach of the Year, giving him 11 such awards in his 15 years as the Raider coach. Jackie Dexter was named Horizon League Women’s Swimming and Diving Athlete of the Year.

The Raider women clinched the title by setting a new league record in the final event, the 400 free relay, beating Wisconsin-Green Bay by .72 of a second. Senior Julie Coghlan was named Female Swimmer of the Meet. The WSU women now have won nine league championships overall, six in the Horizon League, and became the third women’s squad to win three consecutive titles in the league.

The men easily won their championships, their sixth overall title, and five in the Horizon League. Sophomore Elvis Cirikovic set a new meet record and became a NCAA provisional candidate with his win in the 100-yard freestyle. It was Cirikovic’s second title of the championship along with the 50-yard freestyle title. Sophomore Rafael Candido was named the Men’s Newcomer of the Year. The men’s 400-yard freestyle relay team of Elvis Cirikovic, John Matzen, Alex Dolgov, and Dejan Antolic also won a league title.
I chose Wright State not only because it has a great athletics program, but also because academics are first priority here.

I’ve played baseball since I was four years old. And while I sometimes dreamed of playing professional ball, I knew that a solid education was the key to my future success. At WSU I’ve been able to challenge myself both physically and intellectually. The skills and experience I’ve gained in my courses helped me to land a great internship and a job upon graduation at one of the nation’s top four accounting firms.

I think it’s the faculty and coaches that make the difference. They really understand what it means to be a student-athlete. In fact, WSU has been recognized by USA Today and the NCAA as having one of the highest student-athlete graduation rates above the student-body average.

I wouldn’t have been able to take advantage of the excellent opportunities I’ve had without the scholarships I received. I hope you’ll make a gift this year to the Annual Fund and help provide other students an opportunity to succeed.

Kofi Gyimah

Four-Year Athletic Scholarship Recipient
Bolina Black Cultural Resource Center Scholar
Ohio Baseball Hall of Fame Moses Fleetwood Walker Memorial Award Recipient
Black Issues in Higher Education Arthur Ashe, Jr. Sports-Scholar Award Recipient
WSU Raj Soin College of Business, Class of 2004
Show Your WSU Pride!

Collegiate license plates not only show your pride in Wright State, they support the general WSU Scholarship Fund. A plate may be purchased through any deputy registrar for an additional $35, with $25 going to the Collegiate Licensing Scholarship Fund here at WSU. Remember, affinity plates, which display a personalized word or phrase, are not part of the collegiate program and do not generate funds for WSU. For more information, call the Bureau of Registration at 1-888-752-8373 or the Office of Alumni Relations at (937) 775-2620.