calling it A GAME
on the cover
Marcy Weston’s 42-year career at CMU made an impact at CMU and beyond. She’s leaving a legendary mark on women’s athletics nationally.
PHOTO BY STEVE JESSMORE ’81

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Chippewas everywhere are making an impact

By Marcie Otteman Grawburg, ’87
Executive director of alumni relations

While I believe all the stories we share in Centralight are impactful, this issue features someone who has made a difference in so many lives in so many ways for so many years, that we decided to put her on our cover.

Marcy Weston retires this month from CMU, concluding her incredible four-decade career here. The former women’s basketball and volleyball coach crashed through ceilings in women’s athletics as a leader on and off the court in Mount Pleasant, in Michigan and on the national stage.

She was, quite literally, a game changer as she coached and was an influential advocate for Title IX, the historic legislation guaranteeing equal access for women. Marcy, for your time, effort, leadership and energy, I applaud you. Thank you for all you have done for me and countless others.

Some time ago, I got a nice email from CMU alumnus Steven Smith regarding a story we wrote about young alumni. He recalled a series of stories we published a decade ago about four new grads, and he wondered what they were doing now. Steven, I’m happy to tell you that 10 years later, we’ve caught up with those Chippewas, and we’ve got the update for you!

In Hidden Central, we visit the CMU Greenhouse on the southwest corner of Brooks Hall. Hundreds of people pass by it every day, but few venture inside this lush public green space. For years, it was said that an alligator lived there – kept as a pet by students. While only a myth, it still makes for a great story, and the greenhouse is a warm spot on a cold winter day and place of great promise in the spring when seedlings are finding their way into the world.

As we wait for the thaw and the warmth of spring on campus, I challenge you to be inspired by Marcy Weston and make an impact on the world around you!

Happy almost spring,

Marcie

P.S. I received several calls from alumni about the organ donation story in our December issue. Ron Windgaston called me on his 25th “heart-iversary” to share his story about his life-saving transplant. Ron worked for CMU for many years, and his children both went to Central. Every day, ordinary people become extraordinary heroes and save lives. Register today at giftoflifemichigan.org/go/cmu or, if you live in another state, at donatelifeline.net/register-now.

Calendar

April
12 “Phantom of the Opera,” Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, East Lansing

May
9 Commencement, Mount Pleasant campus

June
5 Great Lakes Loons Game, Midland
6 Mount Pleasant Craft Beer Festival
8 White Sox vs. Tigers, Chicago
11 Founders Event, Grand Rapids
13 CMU at the Detroit Zoo
14 NASCAR VIP Event
24-26 Grandparents U, Mount Pleasant campus
26 CMU Night at Comerica Park, Detroit
U.S. News ranks CMU online among the best in the nation

Program also tops the list for state of Michigan

U.S. News & World Report’s 2015 rankings once again place Central Michigan University’s online education programs among the best in the nation and the highest of all Michigan universities.

“These standings are a tremendous recognition of the quality of our programs, the faculty who teach them and the student support services provided by our staff,” says Peter Ross, vice president of CMU’s Global Campus, which oversees the university’s online programs.

Nationally, CMU ranked No. 5 in best online graduate education programs for teachers and administrators, No. 13 in best online bachelor’s programs and No. 25 in best graduate MBA programs.

Learn more about CMU’s online programs at global.cmich.edu/CMUOnline.

CMU faculty member creates simulator tool to get drivers back on the road

Brain injury, stroke, neurodegenerative diseases and natural aging often affect driving skills, and for those who have lost their ability to drive, getting to and from rehab appointments can be quite a daunting task.

A new tool designed by researchers at CMU will deliver targeted rehabilitation to patients in their homes.

“People who live in rural areas or depend on others for transportation may not have the option of going into a clinic,” says Rick Backs, director of CMU’s Driving Evaluation, Education and Research Center. “Our system eliminates this issue by bringing rehabilitation right to their homes.”

Backs and DEER Center technology manager Nick Cassavaugh developed a portable simulation tool, which is very much like a video game. The cost-effective tool will enable health care professionals to test a patient’s ability to drive and customize rehabilitation programs for the patient to complete at home.

“This essentially means clinics don’t have to spend $80,000 on large simulators, and they can enable the treatment to happen remotely.”

Global Campus students Michael and Carla Van Horn traveled from Maryland to receive their degrees during commencement ceremonies at Central Michigan University in December.

President Ross to remain at Central

Withdraws from University of Nebraska presidential search

CMU President George E. Ross released a statement in early January regarding his intentions to remain at CMU and withdraw as a presidential candidate at the University of Nebraska.

Here’s a portion of his announcement:

“To the students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends and community of Central Michigan University:

“Today I informed the University of Nebraska Board of Regents that I am withdrawing from its search for a new president.

“It was a tremendous honor to be asked to interview for the role, and it was rewarding to spend four days experiencing all that is NU.

“However, after much soul-searching … Elizabeth and I have determined that our place is here at Central Michigan University. We talked about CMU’s expanding academic leadership. We also spoke of CMU being a first-choice university for those who seek not just a large, respected campus, but one where we inspire each other to pursue excellence in a collaborative, caring and encouraging way.”

The full text of the president’s statement can be read here: media.cmich.edu/news/president-ross-to-remain-at-cmu.
**Last-second ‘Hail Mary’ play in bowl game named No. 1 by ESPN’s ‘SportsCenter’**

Cooper Rush’s Hail Mary pass vs. Western Kentucky tops ESPN’s list of best plays of the 2014 bowl season

The Chippewas’ comeback effort against Western Kentucky in December’s inaugural Popeyes Bahamas Bowl was impressive. CMU was down by five touchdowns when the team went to work chipping away at the lead headed into the fourth quarter.

With just one second on the clock and still down by seven points, quarterback Cooper Rush let fly a Hail Mary pass, connecting with wideout Jesse Kroll who started a string of laterals that led to an improbable touchdown.

While the team’s attempt at a two-point conversion to win didn’t work, ESPN’s “SportsCenter” put the play at the top of its list of best plays of the 2014 bowl season.


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**CMU welcomes home John Bonamego as the school’s newest football head coach**

CMU announced today that Detroit Lions special teams coordinator John Bonamego, who played at CMU during the mid 1980s, is the 28th football head coach in Central Michigan history. He is the first CMU alum to lead the football program since Bill Kelly in 1951-66.

Bonamego has spent the past two seasons as the special teams coordinator of the Detroit Lions. Last season, he helped the Lions win 11 games for the first time since 1991 as they qualified for the playoffs.

“Since I left CMU in 1987, my dream job was to be the head coach of the Central Michigan football program. That dream came true,” Bonamego says. “During my time here, I had some of the best experiences of my life, and I expect to make many, many more in the coming years. The Mount Pleasant community is a very special place, and my family and I are excited to be a part of it.”

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**Third College of Medicine class attracts 4,603 applicants**

Applications to the CMU College of Medicine are up 53 percent from a year ago, driven in part by a spike from out-of-state students.

A record 4,603 people applied to be part of the third class, a jump from the 3,008 last year and well above the 2,765 students who applied to be part of the inaugural class. Students from Michigan made up 90 percent of the first two classes, a reflection of the founding mission for the College of Medicine to provide highly trained physicians to rural and underserved areas in Michigan and the region.

For the third class, 3,297 out-of-state applications make up 71 percent of the pool.

“Not only are we seeing more out-of-state applicants, but it’s obvious many of them fully understand why CMU launched a medical school and are excited to be part of the mission,” says Chris Austin, director of admissions for the college.

The class roster of 104 students – full capacity – will be final after April 30.
Marcy Weston’s 42-year career at CMU made a national impact

leaving a LEGEND

TEXT BY ANDY SNEDDON
PHOTO BY STEVE JESSMORE, ’81
When Marcy Weston arrived at Central Michigan University as a phys ed instructor and field hockey coach in 1972, her plan was to move on in five years.

“Forty-two years later, I’m still here,” Weston says with characteristic frankness, wit and disarming charm. “Five years? My math was a little off.”

Now an iconic figure in CMU and women’s collegiate athletics nationally, Weston has announced she will retire this month as senior associate athletics director. All of her career was spent here in Mount Pleasant, where she has left an indelible mark on the university, the NCAA and women’s athletics.

“Marcy Weston is a giant in intercollegiate athletics,” says MAC Commissioner Jon Steinbrecher. “Forget Central Michigan and the Mid-American Conference. She is one of the giants of this enterprise.”

Making a mark nationally

Weston’s arrival at CMU coincided with the debut of Title IX, the historic legislation that guaranteed: “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of gender, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”

From the very beginning, Weston became a staunch advocate for women’s athletics.

As an athlete herself, she saw the benefits athletics provide, and she witnessed the acceptance, growth and maturation of women’s programs and student-athletes in her four-plus decades at CMU. At times she was at the forefront; many times in the background doing the heavy lifting.

“She’s a big reason some of what has evolved in terms of opportunities for female student-athletes is available now. And she was an advocate for all student-athletes, not just women,” Steinbrecher says.

Weston coached three women’s sports at CMU – basketball, volleyball and field hockey. She served as the university’s senior associate athletics director and, since 2012, as the executive associate director of Athletics/Sport Administration.

In 1979, she granted the first full-ride scholarship to a female athlete in CMU history.

“When you talk about the late ’70s, that was the turning point for women’s athletics,” said Terri (Phillion) Dulude, ’83, who received that scholarship and played volleyball for Weston for four years. “I never felt with her at the helm that we were any less than the men.

“She went to bat for us, and she got us what we deserved,” says Dulude, who is still close with Weston. “Sometimes when I leave her after a visit, I think, ‘That is one special woman. How did I get so lucky to have played for her?’”

In 2004, Weston was inducted into the CMU Athletics Hall of Fame, which is named in her honor.

Always a teacher, always a coach

Weston is passionate about education and athletics and giving every woman and man a fair shake. She was highly respected and highly sought after during her career, as evidenced by the number of accolades she has received.

Marcy Weston stands with the legendary Pat Summitt during Summitt’s visit to CMU in the 1990s. Summitt is the all-time winningest coach in college basketball history and an iconic figure in the game.

“She is recognized nationally as one of the outstanding leaders in college athletics and has been instrumental in the expansion of opportunities for student-athletes across the board.”

– CMU Director of Athletics Dave Heeke

“Marcy Weston is a giant in intercollegiate athletics,” says MAC Commissioner Jon Steinbrecher. “Forget Central Michigan and the Mid-American Conference. She is one of the giants of this enterprise.”
“Marcy Weston has been a cornerstone of CMU athletics for over 40 years, and her legacy will guide this program as we go forward,” CMU Director of Athletics Dave Heeke says. “She is recognized nationally as one of the outstanding leaders in college athletics and has been instrumental in the expansion of opportunities for student-athletes across the board.

“Marcy has done so many incredible things here at CMU, but what will be missed most is her unwavering commitment and dedication to the success of student-athletes, coaches and staff. She truly makes all those around her better.”

It was that day-to-day contact with student-athletes that was most enjoyable, Weston says.

“I don’t coach kids anymore, but I kind of look at it like I coach coaches. … I mentor them a little bit. That’s really what I like best.”

That’s the way it has always been with Weston, who possesses a visceral feel for people that has served her, and others, well.

“The glass is always half-full,” says June Courteau, the NCAA coordinator of officials for women’s basketball and a longtime colleague. “In fact, with Marcy, it was three-quarters.

“I think she looked at challenges, or life itself, as, ‘How can we make it better?’ She’s an outstanding listener. That’s a lost art, and I believe that’s what makes her so good. She’s great at managing situations and great at bringing a group together where they all feel that they have input.

“She creates an environment, an aura, a feeling,” Courteau says. “It’s intangible, and there’s no pretense.”

Because of that, Weston’s influence is unrivaled.

“Think of the scores of student-athletes whose lives Marcy has influenced,” the MAC’s Steinbrecher says. “And the coaches, not only at Central, but across the league and the country. What a spectacular career, and she did it all, quite frankly, with a quiet grace and integrity that really belied her passion and intensity.”

Her next game plan

Weston, who speaks with an energy and an enthusiasm of a woman half her 70 years, says she’s not quite sure what’s next for her, but there will be some travel involved.

“I’m not going to do anything calculated for six months. I don’t even know what’s out there.”

Write a book? Maybe. She was an English major at Dayton before switching to physical education. Draw? Art has always been in her blood.

One thing is sure: Weston’s suitcase has logged tens of thousands of miles in her career as a coach, administrator and basketball official.

Now, she can go at her own pace.

“I’m excited about what I don’t know is out there,” she says. “You know the people you meet and they say, ‘You gotta come and visit me sometime?’ I’m going to go on about a six-week driving tour of the U.S. I’ve always wanted to just look at the countryside a little bit.”

Weston’s heart will always be in Michigan, at CMU and with women’s sports. She will always be involved in something important – no matter the venue, arena or endeavor. She’s hardly a sit-still person.

“There’ll be something,” she says. “I just don’t know what it is.”

Among Marcy Weston’s most prestigious honors:

- The NCAA recognized Weston in 1991 as one of the nine major contributors to the first decade of NCAA women’s basketball.
- She was named National Collegiate Women Administrators Region V Administrator of the Year in 1994.
- In 2008, she was honored by the National Association of Sport Officials as the first woman to earn the organization’s Gold Whistle Award.
- In 2012, she earned the Michigan Distinguished Woman in Higher Education Leadership Award.
- She has received special recognition awards from the University of Dayton National Alumni Association, the Michigan High School Athletic Association and the CMU Leadership Institute.
- She was twice named the NCAA Regional Gymnastics Administrator of the Year.
Cristy Freese to succeed Weston

Cristy Freese, a veteran of intercollegiate athletics, will succeed Marcy Weston as CMU’s senior associate athletics director.

Freese, CMU’s field hockey head coach for the past 29 seasons, is the all-time winningest coach in CMU field hockey history, finishing her career with 226 victories. She led CMU to four Mid-American Conference championships and was named the league coach of the year four times.

But that’s not all: In 2012, her Chippewas boasted the highest team grade-point average nationally in Division I – an impressive 3.61.

CMU finished second nationally last year and has ranked in the top five the past four years.

“Cristy’s ability to build a successful program is a big reason she will be a terrific addition to our senior leadership team,” Director of Athletics Dave Heeke says.

He says Freese understands what it takes to create an outstanding experience for student-athletes, which is at the core of CMU’s mission.

“Her ability to provide strong leadership and maintain the high standards associated with our championship culture will keep us all focused on excellence in the future.”

Freese is excited and thankful that Heeke knows she can do the job.

“I would like to thank Marcy Weston for being such a great mentor to me,” Freese says. “Athletic administration has been a professional goal of mine and to have this opportunity here at Central Michigan is very special.” •
Weston officiates a 1984 game between Southern California and Tennessee. The player pictured is USC’s Cheryl Miller, one of the all-time greats of women’s college basketball.
Marcy Weston always has been a whistle-blower at heart.

Her first foray into officiating came when she was an undergrad at the University of Dayton in the mid-1960s.

“Five bucks a game,” Weston recalls of her fledgling days in stripes, calling rec league and high school basketball games. “I’d make 20, 25 bucks a week. That was a lot of money. Of course, tuition was $17 a credit hour.”

Fifty years later, in 2008, she became the first woman to receive the Gold Whistle Award from the National Association of Sports Officials. The award is one of the most coveted in the world of sports officiating. It recognizes outstanding contributions of sports officials, referees and umpires beyond their officiating.

While making her way in the education and coaching world, Weston continued to officiate, an arrangement made possible by the fact that she coached volleyball – a fall sport at CMU – and had the time for basketball in the winter.

“Girls’ high school volleyball in Michigan was in the winter back then,” Weston says. “I would referee college basketball on a Friday somewhere in Michigan; I’d go to a high school volleyball tournament on Saturday and recruit; and referee basketball on Sunday. Big Ten women played Friday and Sunday, so it was perfect.”

Perfectly busy. For years, Weston rarely had a day off from late August until the Final Four in March.

“You could only do it when you’re young,” Weston says. “It was great, and I loved every minute of it.”

Weston rose to prominence as an official, working the Division III Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women national championship game and the Division II national semifinals in the late 1970s. In 1982, she officiated the first NCAA Division I Women’s National Championship game, a feat she repeated in 1984. She was scheduled to call the ’83 title game, but appendicitis kept her from it.

That 1984 game was the last she officiated. She moved on to become the Big Ten supervisor of officials and NCAA secretary-rules editor/national coordinator of officials, posts she held until 1988 and 2006, respectively.

PHOTO BY STEVE JESSMORE, ’81
The Making of an Alum
Graduating to Today's World

10 years later

BY CYNTHIA J. DRAKE, M.A. '08

Want to catch up on the series? Read the four previous installments of “Making of an Alum” from Spring 2004 to Spring 2005 in the Centralight archives at go.cmualum.com/CentralightSpring2004.
Tristen (Case) Smith

In 2003, Tristen (Case) Smith was busy planning her dream wedding and heading off to physician assistant graduate school at Virginia’s Shenandoah University.

She married her fiancé, Alex, and completed grad school but was derailed for six years by debilitating chronic pancreatitis. She’s endured multiple surgeries, including the removal of her inflamed pancreas and spleen, leaving her diabetic.

Despite her health struggles, Smith works today as a physician assistant and clinic manager in the wound centers at northern Virginia’s Inova Mount Vernon Hospital. She helps patients with their nonhealing surgical wounds and treats people with carbon monoxide poisoning.

Tristen says her own challenges have helped her become a better PA.

“My husband kept telling me we’d have faith that everything would work out.” – Tristen (Case) Smith

“I understand pain and what it does to a person,” she says. “Now that I’m a diabetic, I can relate to my patients in a different way. I didn’t realize how difficult it was.”

Working with patients with nonhealing wounds can be a months-long and even years-long process that is not for the faint of heart.

“We’re all kind of weird people,” she explains of her coworkers.

When a patient reaches recovery, Smith says there’s a little bell they get to ring to signal that they’re healed.

Smith’s bells have been ringing a lot lately.

Her husband, Alex, and her baby daughter, born last July, have been bright spots in a tough journey.

“My husband kept telling me we’d have faith that everything would work out,” she says. “That’s why we named her Faith.”

Ten years ago,

Centralight wrapped up a yearlong project following four CMU graduates through the first months in their very real new worlds.

After their December 2003 graduation, Centralight randomly selected Dara Anchors of Lowell, Jim Bowering of Clawson, Isaiah Oliver of Flint and Tristen Case of Flushing to be profiled.

We found them busily navigating unfamiliar terrain – trying to land that first job, assemble a social life, find a place to live and begin to make their mark on the world.

“Thinking about graduation is both exciting and frightening,” Bowering wrote two weeks before he was handed his degree in education. “The job market is so bad right now that I feel unsure of when I may get a job.”

By 2003, 11 percent fewer new grads found jobs than in the previous five years. Student debt was starting to become a real thing; 60 percent of Central grads owed an average of $16,000. More than half of new graduates nationwide planned to move back home with Mom and Dad for fiscal security.

Yet as we checked in on our alumni, we discovered they all overcame challenges and embarked on rewarding journeys with careers and families and a commitment to bettering their communities.

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Isaiah Oliver

When we left Isaiah Oliver, the soft-spoken graphic design major was teaching one course at Mott Community College and living with fraternity brothers in Flint. He had hoped to move to Florida that year, but connection to his parents and three younger brothers kept him in the Mitten. Oliver worked his way up at the community college, gradually taking on greater responsibilities, including managing grants, and he was able to learn and grow there for a decade. He has a new job today, and it’s a big one – vice president for community impact for the Community Foundation of Greater Flint. He helps oversee the foundation’s $164 million in assets. The nonprofit has helped the residents and families of Flint by doling out more than $90 million in community grants.

The former frat boy also was elected president of the Flint School District’s Board of Education in 2011.

“I’m 33 years old. There’s so much room for growth,” he says. “I live by this: I think everyone has this thing inside of them, and everyone has to showcase the gifts they’ve been given. The world is at its best when everyone has that opportunity to provide that unique thing to the world.”

He’s polished and professional today. Oliver exudes enthusiasm for the challenges of an embattled school district and a community grappling with crime and poverty. It’s hard to believe he was once a shy graphic designer working at the Student Book Exchange.

One key to his transformation: Baby Zaiah Oliver came into the world in 2010. Oliver and his wife, Shay, welcomed another girl, Carrington, three years later.

“When Zaiah was born, in that moment, it was bigger than me. But I also realized it was up to me,” Oliver says. “There was no more selfish Isaiah. I had to create a home. I had to create an infrastructure for her to grow. I had to put cushy things on the corner of the dining room table and put on someone else’s shoes.”

“I had a responsibility to do something for someone. And it changed my life.”

Oliver ran for school board the following year after raising $15,000 as a no-name candidate. He says his duty extends to all children in Flint.

“There was no way I could raise my daughter without being affected, with 11,000 students not being provided with the resources they deserved.”

“...
When asked about regrets over the past 10 years, Jim Bowering laughs and starts talking about his haircut back in ’03. “One of my students asked if I was in the Beatles,” he says about his ‘do, featured prominently in Centralight all those years ago.

The education grad is in his 11th year as a teacher at Myers Elementary in the Grand Blanc school district, where he was hired fresh out of CMU. He teaches fourth grade.

Jim divorced in 2008 and later married Amy, with whom he has a 9-year-old stepdaughter and 3-year-old daughter.

He says his moment of clarity was marrying Amy “and having a whole new family and becoming a stepfather. That was a huge step – so different from when I was 25 years old. The things that I thought were important at the time … it changes your whole perspective on life.”

Bowering considers himself lucky to have remained in his career despite a tough job market for teachers in Michigan. It’s not the most financially rewarding field, and his pay has been frozen for four years now.

Another challenge: Every year, more kids arrive in his classroom with special educational needs, including students with the autism spectrum disorder known as Asperger’s Syndrome.

“But I also kind of love the diversity,” Bowering says. “I love how different the kids are.”

When he looks ahead to the next 10 years, Bowering says he knows he wants to continue to help kids.

“Even though many days are frustrating, it still just feels good to be doing what I’m doing, to make connections with the kids,” he says. “It’s not necessarily teaching them the math, or whatever it may be – it’s making those personal connections with them.”

With a decade of professional and life experiences, Jim says he is a bit more relaxed in his approach to life’s challenges.

“I wish I could go back in time, and I would probably tell 10-years-ago Jim, ‘Take a deep breath. It’s going to get easier.’” – Jim Bowering

PHOTO BY STEVE JESSMORE
Dara (Anchors) Sundberg

Dara (Anchors) Sundberg may have been one of a select few women with a penchant for professional wrestling at CMU. Pro wrestlers were her obsession, and she knew a “five-star frog splash” from a “reverse frankensteiner.”

So perhaps it’s only fitting that she is a mother to four boys and takes a ringside seat at several amateur matches in her Cedar Springs living room daily.

Sundberg, a recreation, parks and leisure services administration graduate, struggled for a few months to find a job after she left Mount Pleasant. She moved in with her parents in Lowell for a time and eventually got a job working in the accounting department at Van Andel Arena, then at the Douglas J Aveda Institute in Grand Rapids.

That’s when she bought her first house – an achievement she’s still proud of.

But life had other plans. Sundberg was bored and on the social media site MySpace a few months after buying her new home when she met Chris Sundberg. She offered to foster some kittens he found in his yard. He fixed some leaky pipes in her basement, and they were engaged six months later.

They married, sold Dara’s house and brought four boys into the world.

“When we started, I was thinking two – maybe three,” she says. “Life just happens. I wanted them kind of close together. I was convinced it would condense the crazy years.”

Now an at-home mom, Sundberg has embraced a new reality – one that requires plenty of patience and a good sense of humor.

“It’s everything everybody writes poems about – it’s wonderful and glorious and beautiful. It’s also crazy and maddening and you want to tear your hair out.”

Sundberg, a Type 1 diabetic who worried primarily about finding a job with good health insurance after graduation, has not only managed her disease through four pregnancies, she’s happy to have had standard deliveries and healthy children.

Actually, make that five pregnancies.

In November, the Sundbergs went in for the 20-week anatomy ultrasound. Friends and family placed friendly bets on whether their fifth would be another boy or break the streak.

“The tech asked if we wanted to know the gender, and I was like, ‘Yes, please,’” she says. “They freeze-framed it a bit, and Chris is like, ‘Oh my God.’ And I’m like, ‘Five for five.’”
Coach Jerry Reighard has built Central Michigan gymnastics into the premier program in the Mid-American Conference, and the Chippewas will attempt in mid-March to extend their record league title streak to six.

The next step is qualifying for the NCAA Championships, a feat that to this point has eluded the Reighard-led program. The quest begins with the NCAA Regional on April 4. If CMU finishes in the top two, it advances to the April 18 NCAA Championships.

PHOTO BY STEVE JESSMORE, ’81

Preslee Harrald
Senior, Owasso, Oklahoma
DON SHAY
Where he lives:
Cape Town, South Africa

Ask Don Shay, ’79, what he’s doing for a living, and you better put your feet up. Maybe grab a snack.

He’s building libraries and sports complexes, creating programs for young people, finding jobs for the unemployed, training teachers, helping abused women, and building youngsters up through basketball.

“Rebuilding hope,” he says with a smile, wearing a CMU basketball T-shirt as he chats via Skype.

Don is a project manager for Violence Prevention Through Urban Upgrading, an innovative project to reduce crime and increase safety in the struggling townships around Cape Town.

He only planned to stay two years when he arrived in South Africa with his wife, Suellen, in 1988. He’s been there ever since.

“The ugliness of apartheid was an incredible motivator to work for change,” Don says. “Now that a peaceful democracy emerged, there is much work to do to realize the fruits of democracy – justice, education, health, employment.

“What motivates me is my understanding that I am not whole unless the society around me is whole.”

That passion started way back at Central, he says.

“CMU unlocked me,” Don says. “Walking onto the basketball team, being involved in student organizations, being a resident assistant – I learned what’s possible. I gained confidence. I discovered I could do things.”

He’s starting a nonprofit, “Sporting Skills for Life,” and he welcomes fellow CMU alumni interested in supporting the cause.

He envisions cultural and athletic student exchanges between the United States and South Africa. He’s a guy with a lot of ideas.

“I get my hands in so many interesting challenges every day.”

DON’S TRAVEL TIP:
Hungry in Cape Town? Visit Africa Cafe.

“You get 20 starters of African food from around the continent and you ask for more of what you like,” Don says. Another must-try eatery: Mzoli’s Place in Gugulethu for local barbecue, called “braaid,” cooked over an open fire and coals.
Joshua Finn
Where he lived: Ashbod, Israel
Joshua Finn, ’13, was in Israel teaching English to elementary school kids when, on a whim, he taught them how to sing the Miley Cyrus hit “Party in the USA” in sign language.
In a flash, he felt like he had found his purpose.
“I was suddenly teaching them two languages,” Joshua says. “It was so cool. I realized that day, “This is what I want to do.’”
He had minored in American Sign Language at CMU. To take his interpreting skills further, he enrolled at Oakland Community College when he returned from Israel and is pursuing a degree in interpreting.
For a year starting in August 2013, Finn lived in an apartment overlooking the Mediterranean Sea while he taught English with the Israeli Teaching Fellows program.
“Everyone needs to get out of their comfort zone and travel,” Joshua says. When he says out of his comfort zone, he means it. He and his young students had to take cover in a shelter one day, as rockets launched by terrorists from the Gaza Strip hit near the school.
There were all kinds of adjustments.
“No one spoke English in my town,” he says. “When I went to the doctor, I had to point to my body parts that hurt. I had to really immerse myself.”
Joshua can’t wait to launch his new career.
“You have to be happy and do what you love,” he says. “Make the world a better place – not just using your degree, but using your life experiences to shape what you want to do.
“Take your experiences and do great things.”

Amber Kasic
Where she lived: Spain, Chile, Peru and Ghana, Africa
These days, Amber Kasic, ’03, M.A. ’09, is a Spanish teacher at Holland High School in West Michigan, but her students get so much more than lessons in conjugating verbs.
Amber’s time at CMU opened up the world to her, beginning with a study abroad trip. Now she broadens the world for her students, literally taking them around the globe.
“Tomorrow, we’re doing a video conference with some indigenous people in Peru,” she says, as casually as if she were talking about a pop quiz.
Amber regularly plans two-year projects with her students that culminate with service trips to Peru.
Some of her students raised $4,000 over two years to build a kitchen for hungry children. They also wrote bilingual books for kids and illustrated them.
She then took the students to that country, where they met the kids they helped. They saw their books in the library.
“It was so eye-opening for them,” she says.
That seed was planted when Amber did her first study abroad – 10 weeks in Spain, in 2001, as a CMU sophomore.
“I barely spoke Spanish,” she recalls. “I was 19, and I went all by myself.” Other study abroad trips would follow – a summer in Chile, which included time in Peru. Then another summer in Spain.
“I started forming more intimate relationships with people,” Amber says. “I started to notice, ‘I am these people. I’m human, they’re human.’ I realized I wanted to bring this to my students.”
She traveled last year to Ghana, teaching in a school for girls and leading workshops for their teachers.
“I’m so grateful to CMU,” Amber says. “My study abroad experiences really changed the trajectory of my life. They shaped who I am as a person, who I am as a teacher. Those programs at CMU that inspired me have ultimately impacted thousands of lives.”

Amber’s Travel Tip:
Don’t miss Machu Picchu in Peru, the 15th-century marvel of mortar-free limestone architecture perched on a high plateau deep in the Amazonian jungle.
“There’s a foot path through the Andes Mountains to get there,” Amber says. “When you get to the highest peak, there are 100 vertical steps up. It’s nothing less than a spiritual experience. If you can hike up there for the sunrise, you’ll be standing in the clouds.”

JOSHUA’S TRAVEL TIP:
“Go to the nearest chicken shwarma stand or get some authentic falafel. It will be the best thing you do in your day.”
Pardon Joshua while he swoons. “Oh, the hummus,” he says dreamily. “It’s addictive.”
If you visit Ashdod, a peaceful beach community, buy a kite, and fly it on the beach.
“But watch out for jellyfish. I got stung 19 times.”
Maria Dodick
Where she lived: Istanbul, Turkey

When you think of Istanbul, Victoria’s Secret probably doesn’t come to mind.

But that’s where Maria Dodick, ’03, spent a few months last year, selling lacy undergarments while traditional Muslim prayers regularly blared from outdoor loudspeakers.

Maria, who earned a degree in apparel merchandising and design, has worked in retail since graduation, most recently as assistant manager at Victoria’s Secret stores in Florida.

Impressed with her creative store displays, the company asked if she would go to Istanbul to help get a new store up and running.

After a quick gulp, she said, “Sure, why not?”

“It’s a little scary for Americans, with all the things going on in bordering countries,” Maria says. But the people she met were warm and friendly, and she felt safe.

“It was my first time living in another country,” she says. “Everything was different.”

Five times a day, traditional Muslim prayers were recited over loudspeakers throughout the city.

The three-month experience was a continuation of what she learned at CMU, she says. “At CMU, I found out who I was,” Maria says. “There were only 100 kids in my high school graduating class in Midland – white farm kids. Then I went to Central and was suddenly meeting people from different cultures and of different ethnicities. You go in blind, knowing nobody, and you start building relationships. That’s what you need in life.”

MARIA’S TRAVEL TIP:
Don’t miss Istanbul’s Grand Bazaar. Encompassing 60 streets with 5,000 shops, it’s the world’s oldest flea market, opening in 1461.

Shop for stained glass lanterns, prayer beads, delectable loose-leaf tea and Turkish delight, the famous gel candy packed with chopped dates and pistachios.

Plan on several hours to shop, she says. And don’t be afraid to bargain. Walk away, and merchants will call after you with a lower price.
MARK KAEMINGK
Where he lives: New Zealand

A word of warning about Mark Kaemingk, M.S. ’09: if you’re out fishing and you see him approaching, he’ll probably ask you to hand over one of your fish.

Fish fascinate him. As a graduate student in conservation biology at CMU, he studied smallmouth bass while stationed at CMU’s Biological Station on Beaver Island.

Now he’s in New Zealand for two years working on a postdoctoral project, studying New Zealand’s iconic whitebait fish.

His work is painstaking and challenging. He’s studying the habits of tiny whitebait larvae after they head from freshwater out to sea.

“Sampling larvae in the ocean is much like finding a needle in a haystack or even worse,” Mark points out.

Funded by a National Science Foundation grant, Mark is working to figure out how far out to sea the larvae go and what happens to them while they’re out there. It involves microchemistry and stable isotope techniques and other sciencey stuff that makes a layman’s eyes glaze over.

“I realize every day how CMU prepared me for a career in science,” Mark says – much of it from “the best master of science mentor a person could ask for, Tracy Galarowicz. She gave me an excellent example of how I should treat my students and conduct science.”

MARK’S TRAVEL TIP:
While New Zealand’s South Island is more popular, don’t ignore the North Island, Mark says. There’s scenery for everybody.

“One minute we feel we’re in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, the next it feels like Florida, and in some locations the plains of the Dakotas,” he says.

Mark and his wife, Amy, live in Wellington, a cosmopolitan city with a global feel and an obsession for coffee. Don’t miss the “flat white,” he says – a popular coffee Wellington boasts as the best in the country.

One last note: “If you’re a ‘Lord of the Rings’ fan, this is a must-see destination,” he says, as the popular movies were filmed there.
SERGEY SHISHLENIN
Where he lives: Moscow, Russia

Sergey Shishlenin, M.A. ’13, misses the rabbits at CMU. It seems Moscow doesn’t have any.

“Moscow is a busy city, and I really prefer small towns,” he says in a Skype interview from his home in Moscow. “That’s what I liked about Mount Pleasant. You might see rabbits walking around or maybe even a deer. I loved all the trees and nature. It helped me study. Here, school is going from one skyscraper to another.”

Sergey and his wife, Victoria Shishlenina, traveled together from Russia to Mount Pleasant in 2011, each to pursue a master’s degree in economics.

“We got off the bus and said, ‘Where are all the people?’” Victoria recalls with a smile.

Sergey works as a senior analyst and SAS developer at an information technology consulting firm in Moscow. Victoria is a marketing analyst at a pharmaceutical company.

He says he landed his good job because of his CMU education.

“A master’s degree in Moscow doesn’t give you as many communication skills as the one from CMU,” he says. “It’s just the technical information. I can communicate with people from different cultures. It’s helped me to understand people. Going to CMU changed me, made me better.”

SERGEY’S TRAVEL TIP:

“Drive yourself around the Golden Ring of Russia,” Sergey says.

The Golden Ring is a collection of historic Russian cities northeast of Moscow. These ancient towns are like open-air museums, featuring unique monuments of Russian architecture. You’ll see lots of those cool Russian “onion domes.”

When you’re hungry in Moscow, head for the Mumi Cafe, Sergey suggests. From just north of the Mendeleyevskaya metro you can follow the hippo footprints to this quirky place where you can eat, watch a movie and play board games.

MIKE TYLE
Where he lives: Brussels, Belgium

Mike Tyle, ’09, has been waiting for a month and a half for the buttons to arrive for the new shirt he designed for C&A’s Angelo Litrico menswear collection.

Waiting for buttons: it’s one of the not-so-glamorous parts of being a fashion designer in Belgium.

Mike sketches designs, shops for trims, researches fabrics, sketches some more.

“Every month we do a new collection, so there’s always something new,” he says. “And I love that.”

After graduation, he moved to Paris to teach English and landed an internship, then a job at a trend forecasting firm.

It was back to the United States for a two-year stint at Carhartt in Detroit before Germany lured him for a job designing at Esprit. He’s been in Belgium since December, as a designer for European fashion retailer, C&A.

“Europe is so big and so small at the same time,” Mike says. He loves that he can be in Paris, London or Amsterdam in less than two hours. He loves his quirky house key – a monster of an antique key that looks like it unlocks a bank vault.

He misses driving, Thanksgiving and lime Tostitos.

Last year, Mike traveled back to CMU as a guest lecturer for apparel merchandising and design classes. He told students about designer life in the real world and how it’s both exciting and well, waiting for your buttons to arrive.

“I’d love to go back again in five years,” he says. “I know I’ll have even more to offer.”

If you’re headed for a new life overseas and you’re anxious you won’t meet anybody, don’t worry, he says – you will. You might even see a fellow Chippewa. He ran into one of his college roommates at the Paris airport.

MIKE’S TRAVEL TIP:

An accomplished photographer, (see his work on his website, miketyle.com) Mike suggests photographing the stunning architectural details in Europe’s old cities. He has a whole collection of photos of intriguing European doors on his website.

Don’t miss the french fries in Belgium – they were invented there, Mike says, and you can buy them on just about every street. But don’t look for ketchup. In Belgium, they dip their fries in mayonnaise.
Enter the magical gates of Walt Disney World, and chances are you’ll soon see an employee – or “cast member,” as they’re called – who hails from another country.

Look closely at their name tag – it might also say Central Michigan University.

Each year, about 200 students from all over the world enroll at CMU to take part in the Disney International College Program. They enroll, obtain student visas, then head to the Magic Kingdom for a combination of course work and a paid internship at the Walt Disney World Resort.

“Call them temporary Chippewas. CMU considers them “guest students,” but they happily walk around Orlando wearing CMU shirts and toting maroon and gold backpacks. CMU was one of the first universities Disney partnered with as a way to find ambitious student employees from around the globe, says Dean Wallin, director of CMU’s Center for Leisure Services.

“We have a huge presence down there,” Wallin says. “There are 200 CMU students walking around every semester.”

CMU has been sending its U.S. students to the Disney College Program since it started in 1981. More than 2,200 U.S. CMU students have taken part – more than from any other university in the country.

Eight years ago, Central partnered with Disney to send international students as well.

These students, from England, Scotland, the Netherlands, Mexico, Costa Rica and Guatemala, attend universities that have partnership agreements with CMU and Disney. They work at concession stands and gift shops, as custodians, in ticket booths, and parking lots. Lucky ones might slip into costume and greet guests as Goofy or Winnie the Pooh.

Wallin travels to the countries with Disney recruiters to interview candidates. He’s there at Disney when the students arrive, helping them complete paperwork and get oriented. Staff from Central’s Office of International Affairs assist, too.

The students work 30 to 37.5 hours a week and also study, taking classes offered by Disney as well as classes from visiting CMU professors. They write papers, take tests, attend lectures and do homework, earning 12 CMU credits over a six-month period.

Meanwhile, they learn customer service skills from a company famous for making people happy.

“They learn to solve problems, make decisions,” Wallin says, “whether it’s to replace a kid’s spilled popcorn that his parents just paid for or to give a child a plush animal to make his day.”

Everybody recognizes Disney as the best when it comes to customer service, Wallin says. “Those skills can transfer to any job. These students learn to be the magic. They know they can get a job anywhere, because they were trained by the best.”

Lizeth Alejandra Constance traveled from El Salvador to participate in the program from August 2012 to January 2013.
She worked as a park greeter and sold merchandise in Disney’s Animal Kingdom. She happily tells of the day a little girl approached her and asked her to sign her autograph book, putting her on par with Cinderella and Tigger.

“It felt so nice, knowing even though you’re not dressed up as a Disney character, you can truly impact a kid just because of the way you talk to her,” she says.

But the true highlight of her Disney experience was meeting a guy named George on a Disney bus, who would become her husband. They now live in the Detroit area, where Constance works at Quicken Loans.

She never set foot in Mount Pleasant, but Constance says she felt like a Chippewa.

“CMU was constantly communicating and inviting us to do things,” she says. “They involved us. Even though we were down in Florida, they made us feel like a CMU student.”

Maurits Geesink of the Netherlands took part in the program from the fall of 2010 through January 2011, working in guest services at Disney’s Caribbean Beach Resort.

“One day a family from overseas checked in for a three-week stay during Christmas, but they hadn’t made any meal arrangements. Most of the Disney restaurants were booked.

Geesink asked them for their itinerary and food preferences and worked out a dining schedule for them.

“I think those guests will always remember their Christmas of 2010, like I do,” says Geesink, who now works in event planning at a resort in the Netherlands.

“It was already my passion to work in the hospitality industry,” he says. “The Disney College Program made my passion even stronger.”

“Working at the happiest place on earth is something I’ll never forget,” he says. “It was always great to see families coming to the front desk wearing their own designed T-shirts for their special Disney trip.”

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations to receive regular updates.

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Good to grow

The promise of balmy summer evenings is in the wings, and while Michigan won’t offer it up for weeks to come, the sub tropics do exist at CMU.

The university’s greenhouse at Brooks Hall is a winter and springtime oasis of sorts – an 8,000-square-foot sanctuary of all things green.

Inside the glass walls lives a vast collection of plants including a four-foot blue agave and – in the spring – an assortment of sprouting annuals that will be transplanted later in CMU’s botanical garden, says greenhouse manager Patti Travioli.

The temperature inside ranges from 65 to a toasty 100 degrees, depending on the season and cloud cover. And, good news: it’s open and free to visitors 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

“It’s a warm place to visit,” Travioli says. “First-time visitors typically stop in their tracks once they enter the conservatory. They’re initially surprised to see so many large, lush green plants growing there.”

The greenhouse is used by a number of classes including biology, art, geology, photography and more.
A Chippewa led ESPN’s coverage of the most-watched event in cable TV history

January’s inaugural college football national championship game delivered the highest overnight rating of any live event in the history of ESPN. Ohio State’s 42-20 victory over Oregon averaged more than 33.4 million viewers, making it the highest-rated and most-watched event in cable television history.

It turns out Chippewa John LaChance, ’86, took care of the eye-popping technical coverage as director of remote operations for ESPN, based in Hartford, Connecticut.

LaChance, who cut his broadcasting teeth at Moore Hall TV sports, orchestrated it all, delivering a ‘megacast’ experience for the fans inside AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, and the millions of TV viewers.

“I have been on Super Bowls, World Series, Olympics,” LaChance tells Sports Video Group. “This is by far the largest-magnitude event that I’ve had the privilege of overseeing.”

LaChance has worked on every college football championship game ESPN has covered.

“The pure scale and the magnitude of the technical presence is huge,” he says. “I was very proud to be a part of the BCS history.”

Kulhavi to serve second term on forestry nonprofit board

John Kulhavi was re-elected to a second three-year term on the board of directors for the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities. The Endowment is a not-for-profit corporation established in 2006 at the request of the governments of the United States and Canada in accordance with the terms of the Softwood Lumber Agreement between the two countries. It is one of three entities designated to share in a one-time infusion of funds to support “meritorious initiatives” in the United States. It has been endowed with $200 million under the terms of the SLA.

Show us your plate

Are you a proud CMU alum? Have you taken your Chippewa pride to the next level by adding the CMU alumni license plate to your vehicle?

We’re looking for alumni with CMU vanity plates to possibly include in an upcoming Centralight story. Send us an email with a quick explanation about how you chose your personalized plate and a high-resolution, close-up photo of your clean plate, to ilovecmu@cmich.edu. We’ll need your email by April 1 to be considered for our story.

Alumni award nominations due April 1

Each year, CMU recognizes alumni and friends who have made significant contributions of their time, talent or financial resources to help advance and bring positive recognition to Central Michigan University. These individuals are honored each year at the annual alumni awards banquet.

Help us celebrate those who make us all proud to call ourselves Chippewas. Nominations for the 2015 awards are due April 1. Find the form online at cmich.edu/alumni/engage/Awards/alumniawards/Pages/Alumni-Award-Nomination-Forms.aspx
Central grads take to the seas for inaugural alumni cruise

Chippewas set sail last October for the first-ever CMU alumni cruise. The travelers enjoyed three nights at sea aboard Royal Caribbean’s Enchantment of the Seas ship, traveling from Port Canaveral, Florida, to the Bahamian ports of Nassau and Coco Cay.

Central grads attended two exclusive alumni socials and gathered each night for dinner. Of the 2,500 people on the ship, 25 CMU alums represented their alma mater by winning the famous belly flop contest and participating in the ship’s “Love and Marriage” game show.

Mount Pleasant Craft Beer Festival • June 6
Sample some of the finest brews crafted in the great state of Michigan!

CMU at the Zoo • June 13
Bring the whole family for a day of fun at the Detroit Zoo.

MIS NASCAR VIP Event • June 14
This discounted ticket gets you a full day of NASCAR, including access to the famous Acceleration Club!

CMU Night at Comerica • June 26
Come out for a fun-filled night as the Detroit Tigers take on the Chicago White Sox.

CMU at Michigan’s Adventure • July 24
From breathtaking roller coasters to enjoyable family rides, fun never stops at this amusement and water park.

Detroit Tigers vs. Chicago Cubs in Chicago • August 18
Cap off your summer with a trip to Chicago and the historic Wrigley Field as the Tigers go head-to-head with the Cubs.

We have a limited number of tickets to these events. Make your purchase soon - they will go FAST!

For tickets, visit cmich.edu/alumni/events or call 800-358-6903.

Be a leader for your alma mater

The Central Michigan University Alumni Association Board of Directors represents the interests of all CMU alumni by providing meaningful opportunities and connections for maintaining involvement with and commitment to CMU. The board is currently accepting applications for new board members. To apply, please visit go.cmualum.com/CMUAlumniBoardApp or call the Alumni Relations office at (800) 358-6903 for more information.
In Memory

Ray W. Richardson, ’42, Marion, died Oct. 29, 2014, age 93.
Patricia A. (Mulrooney) Sanders, ’44, Midland, died Nov. 6, 2014, age 91.
Harold Kaczynski, ’47, Cheboygan, died Jan. 8, 2015, age 94.
Dale A. Bywater, ’50, Midland, died Nov. 5, 2014, age 89.
Harold Kaczynski, ’51, Cheboygan, died Jan. 8, 2015, age 94.
Gerald F. Nuechterlein, ’52, Frankenmuth, died Jan. 9, 2015, age 84.
Jerry A. Slaski, ’52, Brooklyn Heights, N.Y., died in November, age 84.
Beverly A. Earle, ’58, Hemlock, died Nov. 28, 2014, age 82.
Jack Harrigan, ’58, Interlochen, died Nov. 4, 2014, age 87.
Robert H. Weichert, ’58, Punta Gorda, Fla., died Nov. 16, 2014, age 84.


Bruce R. Dumaw, '62, Birch Run, died Jan. 5, 2015, age 75.


Adolf M. Preuss, M.B.A. '77, Midland, died Dec. 9, 2014, age 69.

Ivan Parkins, B.A. '82, Fort Worth, Texas, died Jan. 2, 2015, age 60.

Mary E. (Host) Clark, '75, Traverse City, died Nov. 9, 2014, age 62.


Allan V. Olson, M.B.A. '77, Midland, died Nov. 20, 2014, age 69.


Tiffany A. (Eckler) Ferguson, '96, Kalkaska, died Nov. 18, 2014, age 42.


Mary E. (Strohmier) Ward, '89, West Branch, died Nov. 8, 2014, age 51.


Lillian A. Armstrong, M.A. '01, Atlanta, Ga., died Dec. 15, 2014, age 71.

Sharon Y. (Brown) Rhodes, M.S.A. '03, San Antonio, Texas, died Nov. 6, 2014, age 51.

Gary E. Womack, M.S.A. '09, Columbus, Ohio, died Oct. 29, 2014, age 72.

Kelly E. Gratkowski, M.A. '06, Mount Pleasant, died Dec. 25, 2014, age 64.

Terry L. (Fuller) Gratkowski, M.A. '06, Mount Pleasant, died Dec. 25, 2014, age 64.


Jeffrey H. Klop, M.S.A. '09, Bismarck, N.D., died Nov. 29, 2014, age 33.


Bruce R. Dumaw, '62, Jonesville, died Nov. 9, 2014, age 78.


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Do you remember?

In August 1975, Central Michigan University hosted the fourth Special Olympics World Games, welcoming more than 3,200 athletes from 10 countries to Mount Pleasant. The games were broadcast nationwide on CBS-TV’s “Sports Spectacular” program.

Special Olympics World Games

The World Games are the flagship event for Special Olympics, taking place every two years. Eunice Kennedy Shriver, founder of the Special Olympics, attended the 1975 games.

In addition to the actual competition, athletes and their friends and families had the chance to explore a bit of Michigan during their visit.

Today, Michigan has more than 20,000 Special Olympians. They are part of the more than 3.7 million Special Olympic athletes who train year-round in all 50 states and more than 180 countries.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver
Making a difference

Scholarship supports transfer students

Recognizing the financial needs and burdens of today’s students is what motivated Robert, ‘73, and Diane (Carstens), ’74, ‘75, ‘84, Tomczak to develop the Robert and Diane Tomczak Endowed Scholarship.

“CMU provided us with a sense of direction about what we wanted to do with our careers and lives,” Robert says. “It will be nice to know that through this scholarship, future students will have the same opportunities we had.”

The scholarship will be funded through a bequest with CMU as the beneficiary and will be available for Delta Community College transfer students interested in studying applied sciences or business. Robert received an associate degree from Delta before transferring to CMU and studying in the College of Business. Diane taught writing at Delta College for several years.

“I saw many hardworking students stop short of receiving a college education due to financial constraints,” Diane says. “Both of us see the need for good students to have the opportunity to go beyond a two-year school and complete their education.”

Give today for the future

Like Diane and Robert, you, too, can help students in an incredibly special way. To learn more about this and additional ways you can give to Central Michigan University, contact:

Ted Tolcher, Associate Vice President
Development and External Relations
989-774-1441
ted.tolcher@cmich.edu
giftplanning.cmich.edu

Robert, ’73, and Diane (Carstens), ’74, ’75, ’84, Tomczak

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