THE ESSENCE OF LEADERSHIP
Executives share their toughest struggles and what it takes to succeed at the top.
Features

3 Achieving greatness in difficult times: Words from our president

4 The essence of leadership

12 For the love of geography: CMU professor named top in the state

On the cover

Company executives face issues in leadership, economy, relationships, challenge, and risk every day. Here are 10 of the thousands of CMU alumni who lead companies worldwide. See Page 4 for their thoughts on the essence of business leadership.
LARZELERE HALL PHOTO BRINGS BACK MEMORIES

Editor:
When I viewed the photo of Larzelere Hall in the Spring 2003 edition of Centralight, it brought back to me many fond memories of my freshman year as I entered the doors of that facility for the first time in late August 1971.

During my senior year at Lakeview High School in Montcalm County, I was accepted into the honors program for the 1971-72 academic year. My two older brothers had attended CMU, so I was very familiar with the campus and the city of Mount Pleasant. I knew I wanted to attend CMU even as a fifth-grader – a goal I worked toward and achieved.

I appreciate the many programs offered at Central which allow incoming students to learn of various programs and to care for children in El Salvador. I admire Dr. Gondring and wish him great credit to yourselves, your families, and your alma mater, which, in some measure, has helped shape your life.

The ROC article was also outstanding. Having been an assistant professor of military service at Central from 1960 to 1964, I have great pride in the current and past performance of the department.

Lt. Col. Michael L. Chirio Jr., MA ’77

Write to Centralight:
Central Michigan University faces ongoing decisions that significantly affect the life of the university and those it serves. As we prepare for major reductions in state appropriations, we are seizing the moment to more firmly shape CMU and further strengthen the university’s rigorous and distinguished academic programs.

My role, now and in the future, is to keep the vision of a strong and focused learning organization alive and to help lead members of the university community to excel as accomplished critical thinkers, problem solvers, and communicators in a changing and diverse world. CMU, with emerging national recognition for its innovative community of learners and scholars, is committed to improving the quality of life for the people of the region, the state of Michigan, and beyond.

This is a momentous task – a challenge that we are not approaching lightly. At CMU I have discovered a campuswide willingness among many students, faculty, and staff to engage in teaching, learning, and service at a level that meets and exceeds increasingly heightened expectations. I applaud this spirit all the more in this time of continually diminishing resources.

That is not to say that all agree with these budget reduction decisions. In fact, contrary views voiced in an environment of civility are welcome. Resistance to change is inherent, not only at CMU, but within any organization of its size and complexity. The university’s potential for greatness cannot be realized through unguided growth, particularly when resources are declining. Priorities must be set, and decisions that support those priorities must be made. We will stay the course and advance the university through this challenging transition.

Engaged student learning continues to be our top priority, and we are doing all we can to protect the integrity of CMU’s academic programs. I recognize that virtually every university service – and thereby every budgetary reduction – is connected somehow to our students. I know well from occasional reductions that I have made during the last 10 years, here and elsewhere, that there will be ways to find fault with any reduction, but we will continue to focus budget cuts on areas that are not fundamental to CMU’s educational mission.

We are proud of you, our graduates. Your successes, your achievements, and your service to others bring great credit to yourselves, your families, and your alma mater, which, in some measure, has helped shape your life.

You, as a valued member of the university, also can be proud of your university’s storied heritage and its promising future. CMU will meet these economic challenges, rise to new levels, and be all the stronger for it.

Sincerely,

Mike Rao
President
THE ESSENCE OF LEADERSHIP

By Barbara Schwindt Chovanec

When company president JoAnn Hinds faced an economic slowdown at Diamond Die and Mold, her employees banded together with a solution. They voted to work 32-hour weeks instead of facing layoffs, maintaining that schedule for nine months.

Hinds is one of the many CMU alumni who tackle economic, personnel, and strategic planning issues every day as an executive, making decisions that shape a company’s future. They are the men and women who have emerged from an era of economic slumps and corporate scandals to navigate their companies toward success.

Centrallight talked with 10 alumni about leadership, the economy, the relationships they foster, and the challenges they face.

Leadership

Throughout his career at Dow Corning Corp., CEO Gary Anderson has seen changes in what people need from company leaders.

“Leadership evolves every decade,” he says, depending on economic conditions and the backgrounds of new people coming into the company. For instance in the 1960s, new employees were children of people who grew up during the bleak depression era. They were just happy to have a job. “Now, young people have higher needs for achievement and recognition,” Anderson says.

Anderson, who has worked for Dow Corning since 1967 and has been CEO since 1999, calls himself a “servant leader” who coaches and guides employees but steps back and lets them do their jobs.

“I think there’s a huge difference between management and leadership,” he says.

Plochocki, who has been the company’s CEO for three years, says he manages by example, a technique he has found gains respect.

“You’ve got to be able to jump in the foxhole,” he says. “You have to help develop the plans, help execute the plans, and help deliver the plans. It’s a different way to work. I’m more operationally involved than probably most CEOs of a $250 million company.”

Fabiano Brothers Inc. CEO and President James Fabiano Sr. also leads by example.

“Ever have to do everything you would expect someone else to do, or you have to have done it in the past?” he says. “If you’ve been there, done that, then you can relate to your employees.

“In a family business, you have to be there and be available. You can’t be an absentee owner.”

Economy

The recession has wounded many companies nationwide. Others have held steady or even flourished in the down economy.

At Diamond Die and Mold, a company that makes equipment to produce electrical wire harnesses, Hinds is proud of her employees’ innovative solution to the slow economy.

“We have definitely seen a turn,” she says. “We took the steps necessary to keep going.”

At Approved Mortgages, Shahnaz Broucek knows she’s one of the lucky ones to weather the slump with ease.

“We are one of the few industries that does well in a down market,” Broucek says. “We’ve had an onslaught of refinancing for the last three years.”

The mortgage company is located in Canton – an area of new construction and growth.

“We’ve been fortunate in this economy,” says Broucek, who began the company in 1996 with her husband, Bill. “And it’s a great opportunity for the community at large to be able to have low interest rates.”
JEFFREY CAPONIGRO
Title: President and CEO
Company: Caponigro Public Relations Inc., Southfield.
CMU degree: Bachelor’s degree in English, 1979.
Quotable quote: “It’s hard to be a leader if you haven’t earned the respect of the people you’re attempting to lead.”

The classes I took made me well-rounded in a liberal arts education. When I left there I had a good grounding in a lot of different subjects.

GAIL DUNCAN
Title: President
CMU degree: Bachelor’s degree in sociology, 1973.
Quotable quote: “Sometimes you’re in a good economy or sometimes you’re in a softer economy, but if you’re an entrepreneur or business owner, you’re gambling every day.”

CMU education: “Central was absolutely the right school for me. I felt comfortable enough in the environment to take classes I really enjoyed.”

ED CHRISTIAN
Title: President and CEO
Company: Saga Communications Inc., Grosse Pointe Farms.
CMU degree: Master’s degree in management, 1981.
Quotable quote: “I’m successful because I have great people who work with me.”

The classes I took made me learn to think in different directions.

JAMES FABIANO SR.
Title: President and CEO
CMU degree: Bachelor’s degree in finance, 1965.
Quotable quote: “In a family business, you have to be there and be available. You can’t be an absentee owner.”

CMU education: “It was a great experience. It helped me tremendously in my career.”

BROOKE, as president, handles the marketing and financial management of the company. Her husband at CEO oversees the operations. They have 55 employees at Around Mortgages and 15 more at another company, Greatland Title.

JEFFREY CAPONIGRO, president and CEO of Caponigro Public Relations Inc. in Southfield, says his company has grown every year since he began it in 1995. In the depressed economy, routine business has slowed, but large clients have helped fill the gap.

“We have achieved so many positive things in an economy that’s in its fourth year of a depressed state,” he says.

The company provides diagnostic and therapeutic services such as magnetic resonance imaging, mammography, and radiation therapy through permanent locations and mobile facilities in 30 states.

Insight Health Services has added 700 jobs in the last few years and doubled revenue from $130 million to $260 million.

Dominic Iocco, chief financial officer and general manager of Cartridges Are Us Inc. in St. Johns, says his business is recession resistant.

The company, which his parents began in 1997, recycles about 80,000 inkjet cartridges a month. Employees collect used cartridges, clean and inspect them, re-fill them with ink, and ship them to dealers around the world.

“We offer a product that people look at when times are tight,” Iocco says. “Generally a downturn in the economy doesn’t affect us, and in some ways it’s good for our business.”

The company employs 44 people and is building a new operation in Ithaca that will open this summer, nearly doubling the company’s current space. After the move, the company’s retail business will remain in St. Johns.

Fabiano says Fabiano Brothers Inc. operates steadily during economic slowdowns.

The wholesale beverage service company sells beer, wine, and spirits, and Fabiano says that even if people don’t go out on the town during a slow economy, they will still consume alcohol at home.

“Our business really doesn’t have peaks and valleys,” he says. “It’s a very steady industry – a mature industry.”

Fabiano Brothers employs several hundred people, and in the last 20 years the company has acquired seven other businesses and formed divisions of the company in Saginaw and Petoskey.

“As opportunities have availed themselves, if they make sense for your business, you take them,” Fabiano says.

Torreano says the telecommunications industry has suffered in the down economy.

SBC has cut jobs and has lost phone lines and wireline revenue. In response, company officials have slashed expenses and capital expenditures, and they’re working to boost revenues.

“We have been hit hard,” Torreano says. “We’re dealing as best we can.”

SBC seeks approval to offer long distance service and the company has filed a request to increase wholesale rates that are set by the Michigan Public Service Commission. Torreano says the current wholesale rates are below SBC cost.

“We’re trying to bring some parity to our business,” Torreano says. “SBC is the only telecommunications company in the state that can’t be a full service provider. And we need to have telecommunications competition in Michigan that provides for sustainable competition.”

Ed Christian is optimistic about the outlook for Saga Communications Inc., a broadcast company that owns 71 radio stations and seven television stations across the country.

“We’ve probably weathered the economy better than a lot of other companies in the industry,” he says. “After Sept. 11, a lot of people pulled back and stopped their advertising, waiting for the other shoe to drop. But in tough economic times, there’s a flight to quality, and we’ve always positioned ourselves in the top tier.”

Christian says he doesn’t see the economy improving much in the near future.

“The economy that doesn’t have a huge engine driving the train won’t go far,” he says. “We don’t have a catalyst. There’s nothing on the horizon that mitigates rapid growth. We’re not exuberant about a return to the economy like in the 1990s. That’s just not going to happen anytime soon.”

Each year, employees form task forces to examine eight to 10 areas in the company and then make recommendations for improvement at their annual retreat.

“Because of this, our retreats are really action-oriented, based on a couple of months of work before the retreat,” Caponigro says.
When her staff voted to work 32-hour weeks in line,” Hinds says.

"As a woman and as a mother, I wanted to give employees flexibility so they can do it all. When you have that flexibility with people, you earn their respect and gratitude,” she says.

Another way Broucek shows her appreciation is through a recognition committee that gives monthly awards: And when the staff meets quarterly goals, rewards include company outings to dinner and events like concerts and comedy nights.

"You can never really rest on your laurels,” Broucek says. “We’re inspired by our staff. They make us excited and want to do more. We have extremely low turnover, and that’s what we want.”

At Insight Health Services Corp., employees share in what Plochocki calls their “win system.”

"Some challenges are to try to meld together the multiple personalities in a company toward a corporate goal, to really understand what people want – what drives them – and then to put them in roles where they’re best suited,” he says.

"You put people in roles that they’re naturally wired for this story what advice they would give to aspiring company leaders. Here is what they said:

**JoAnn Hinds**
Title: President
Company: Diamond Die and Mold, Clinton Township.
Quotable quote: “A leader must have honesty, fairness, and caring. The fact that I care about my people makes me a better manager. I’m not just looking at the bottom line.”

**Dominic Iocco**
Title: CFO and general manager
CMU degree: Bachelor’s degree in outdoor and environmental recreation, 1999.
Quotable quote: “There are always things that can be improved. The challenge is to find the areas that can have the biggest impact.”

**CMU education:** “It was great. There’s not a place I would have rather gone. Even though I’m not in the field I studied, the education I got was quite good.”

— Gail Torreano, president, SBC Michigan

*“You have to have integrity. If people trust you and believe in you, they’ll follow you.”*  
— Jo Ann Hinds, president, Diamond Die and Mold

**Shahnaz Broucek**
Title: President
Company: Approved Mortgages
Quotable quote: “As a leader, whether you know it or not, you’re visible all the time,” he says. “I always try to convey a positive attitude as much as possible.”

— Steven Plochocki, president and CEO, Insight Health Services Corp.

*“Rtain your dreams. Maybe they don’t work out the first time, but be patient.”*  
— Gail Duncan, president, Jerome-Duncan Inc.

**Name:** Dominic Iocco  
**Title:** CFO and general manager  
**Company:** Cartridges Are Us Inc., St. Johns.  
**CMU degree:** Bachelor’s degree in outdoor and environmental recreation, 1999.  

**Tips from the top**

*“You really have to have a clear vision up front of what you want to do. There’s a big difference between a dream and a goal.”*  
— Shahnaz Broucek, president, Approved Mortgages

*“Get all kinds of diverse experience. Be willing to roll up your sleeves and do the work. And find role models.”*  
— Gail Torreano, president, SBC Michigan

*“Be fair and consistent, logical and open.”*  
— Jo Ann Hinds, president, Diamond Die and Mold

*“Be strong enough to allow yourself to develop the collaborative efforts necessary to achieve a goal. It’s harder and requires more strength to lead people down a path collaboratively. But if you don’t have the ability to develop a collaborative effort, you will not succeed. You will fail.”*  
— Steven Plochocki, president and CEO, Insight Health Services Corp.

*“You have to have integrity. If people trust you and believe in you, they’ll follow you.”*  
— James Fabiano Sr., president and CEO, Fabiano Brothers Inc.

*“Persistence and enthusiasm and preparation. A determined person cannot be denied.”*  
— Ed Christian, president and CEO, Saga Communications Inc.

*“Have a general business education, understand your industry, work hard, and be willing to put forward your ideas.”*  
— Dominic Iocco, general manager and CFO, Cartridges Are Us Inc.

*“Really think about the type of leader who you think is effective, and try to emulate that. And always try to improve.”*  
— Jeffrey Caponigrro, president and CEO, Caponigrro Public Relations Inc.

*“Try to get as broad a background in the company as you can. Also, you must always be customer-driven.”*  
— Gary Anderson, CEO and chairman of the board of directors, Dow Corning Corp.
Andersen says challenges facing Dow Corning Corp. include the economies in the United States and across the world.

Rises and falls in foreign economies affect exchange rates and the company's business decisions. Other challenges are recruiting, training, and retaining employees in other countries.

“Our global marketplace really forces us to be constantly adjusting our business,” Andersen says. “You can't be fixed or rigid on anything you do anymore. You must reevaluate decisions and adjust to ever-changing market conditions.”

For Iocco, the challenge lies in his company's raw material — empty inkjet cartridges.

“Our rate of growth has been astounding,” he says. “The demand is skyrocketing, but everything hinges on those empty cartridges. We’re in an industry that has a limited raw material, which is challenging.”

Risk

Every executive has a different idea of how much risk is acceptable and what “risk” really means.

In the broadcast business, Christian says his company is cautious, methodical, and disciplined.

“We’ve always had a turtle mentality,” he says. “We believe in slow, measured action. We take the very long view of the company. We don’t look quarter to quarter.”

He says the 1990s was “the era of conspicuous consumption,” but Saga Communications never fell into that routine.

“We as a country got carried away with the growth of everything and then watched a lot of companies hit the wall. Everything was good, and suddenly 2000 came, and the door was shut.

“Our philosophy is that trees don’t grow to the sky,” Christian says. “We never compromised the financial position of the company for growth.”

Caponigro says risk in any business is necessary.

“A company always has to take a certain number of risks — calculated risks,” he says. Caponigro says one risk his company has undertaken has been to pursue the ISO 9000 quality certification.

“We’re not sure it’s worth the payroll, but we’re hoping it is,” he says. “We know we have to be aggressive.”

Duncan says taking on the new franchises was a risk, and she agrees that risk is essential to growth.

“If you want to retain employees, you need to continue to grow and take risks,” she says. “It's part of the formula.”

But in the end, simply running a business is often a risk in itself.

“Sometimes you’re in a good economy or sometimes you’re in a softer economy, but if you’re an entrepreneur or business owner, you're gambling every day,” Duncan says.
I was a psychology major for my undergraduate years, but I always enjoyed biking,” he says. He has cycled across the United States twice so far. “I was just so alerted to the beauty of nature, the diversity. I knew I wanted to be involved in the classroom and into the essence of the subject they’re studying. And it’s part of the reason why he was named Michigan’s Professor of the Year.

Perhaps it’s fitting that Mark Francek didn’t fall in love with geography until he was pedaling mountainous terrain and gazing up at breathtaking glaciers. That’s the way the CMU professor believes learning happens — when students get out of the classroom and into the essence of the subject they’re studying. And it’s part of the reason why he was named Michigan’s Professor of the Year.

Mark Francek, a CMU geography professor who won Professor of the Year in 2002, discusses a class project with students Luke May, John Nelson, and Steve Seiler.

For the love of geography

By Cynthia J. Drake

Francek formed his teaching philosophy in some extraordinary situations. He has taught in a maximum-security prison, an Army base in South Carolina, a barrio school in Texas, and in inner city New York.

“In prison, you were the highlight of their week,” he says. “Talk about motivated learners. They had a variety of backgrounds. Some were very well traveled, and a lot of them were very articulate.”

He learned to have patience with the middle schoolers in Texas. And in inner city New York, where he had 10 square feet of grass to work with, he learned to make the most of what he had.

“I know how challenging it is to sit still for two hours and listen to someone talk,” he says. “I try to break it up into periods, 10- to 15-minute sections. I try not to lecture for more than 15 minutes. I try not to teach class the same way twice.”

Francek also has his own focus group at home that benefits from Francek’s enthusiasm for geography.

“Sometimes I’m a bit of a mother hen,” Francek admits. “Sometimes we’re separated for miles. And there are folks who basically have never been on a bike tour. We’ve had some real raw recruits. But at the end, all the students feel a sense of accomplishment. What I really enjoy is when my kids say, ‘I can do it.’ They look up at that hill and they end up conquering it. I was teaching kids about landforms, and they were pedaling, sweating, and breathing them.”

Steinberg is one of the students who has accompanied Francek on his bike trips. The professor has taken students with him to the Keweenaw Peninsula, Finger Lakes in New York, and Shenandoah National Park in Virginia. His dream is to take students on a future bike trip across America.

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But students don’t have to go on a bike tour to benefit from Francek’s enthusiasm for geography. In fact, almost every day in the classroom turns into a field trip on CMU’s campus.

“It’s such a living discipline that needs to be taught also shows itself in quieter moments. Francek’s gift is not only apparent when he is with a grin. “When they were younger, they jumped 20,000 feet up.” Francek also has his own focus group at home that benefits from Francek’s enthusiasm for geography.

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“It’s such a living discipline that needs to be taught in every class.” Francek says. “As cliché as it sounds, you learn by doing. You’ve got to get out there. If you want people to retain material, you have to involve them, you have to involve their senses.”

Often the professor is known to get students to smell and even taste the edible features of the CMU landscape, which always elicits a few chuckles and “eww.”

Francek’s gift is not only apparent when he is with his students in class, but when he is with his children at home.

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“It’s such a living discipline that needs to be taught
Kevin Corbett in Little Palaces, Big Memories

The smell of fresh popcorn wafting through the air, creating floorboards underfoot, the crackle of film in the projector.

The sensations of a small-town movie theater are so vivid, they linger in the minds of those who have watched films in them as “little palaces” in a recent interview with Kevin Corbett. The little palaces, as Corbett refers to them, are magical places where memories of quaint, single-screen theaters have been so strong that they have emerged as a countermovement to preserve, and in some cases save, small town theaters. The Broadway, built in 1919, now functions as a community performing space, while the Ward, built in 1937, is owned by a local group of friends.

In his research, Corbett found that single-screen theaters were more than just places to watch films. They were part of the total experience, a place that you watch movies is an important part of the community.

“Small-town theaters also helped promote a sense of community. A town where there’s one theater with one screen, that’s usually the only one and only form of entertainment, and everyone goes there,” Corbett says. “As one historian told me, for good or for ill, it was the place where everyone went, from the mayor to the town drunk.”

In small towns, Corbett says people sit in the same seats every week at the theater, and everyone keeps tabs on each other that way. To this day, some local theater owners refuse to show R-rated movies out of a sense of moral duty to protect young children. Even some of the more undesirable aspects of small theaters - the sticky floors and bad sound - are now fond memories.

“People laughed, crying, and being afraid of the megaplexes built like long cardboard boxes can’t,” Corbett says. “At one theater, I watched my entire town grow up from his post at the ticket booth. Small-town theaters also helped promote a sense of community.

Kevin Corbett, a broadcasting and cinematic arts professor, stands outside the Broadway theater in downtown Mount Pleasant. The theater is one of many he’s researched over the course of his Michigan small-town theaters project. Corbett is applying for additional grant funding to research small-town theaters at the national level.

“The Broadway, built in 1919, now functions as a community performing space, while the Ward, built in 1937, is owned by a local group of friends. In 1989, the theater went through a renovation after being open 50 years,” he recalls. In 1939, the film “Gone With the Wind” was first released in that theater, and in 1989, it featured an anniversary showing of the re-release.

“I watched the movie, and I thought, ‘I’m sitting here, in the exact seat someone else sat in 50 years ago watching ‘Gone With the Wind’ when it was first released,'” he says. “These places are near.”
A legacy of women’s leadership

Centuries before any mainstream discourse about women’s rights, Native American women in the Great Lakes region were leaders in their communities.

Carol Green-Ramirez, a history professor at CMU, is researching the roles of those women from 1700 to 1980, both before and after missionaries and European settlers came to the region.

“I found all these materials hinting at women’s leadership,” she says. “Women were signers on treaties – I found about 30 treaties that women had signed with the U.S. government. That really piqued my curiosity.”

Green-Ramirez’s research for her earlier book, “Countering Colonization: Native American Women and Great Lakes Missions, 1630-1900,” which looked at the different ways men and women responded to colonization, gave her preliminary evidence that women had key roles in policy making and decisions within their communities.

“I found that women, in general, tended to be less receptive to the changes that the missionaries wanted to make. For example, they refused to send their kids to the missionary schools,” she says. By allowing their communities to be influenced by the mainstream in the 19th century, Native American women stood to lose a lot of their authority.

“Like mainstream American women, they could not vote, they lost their political and economic voice,” Green-Ramirez says. “They saw it as a negative thing to be receptive to.”

In Great Lakes Native American communities there was a history of equality between the sexes that often puzzled the European settlers, she says.

“I guess I would describe them as being egalitarian. Women and men each had their own roles, which I guess might not seem that different than what was happening in the white middle class. The difference is that both of those roles were valued in the Ojibwe and Odawa cultures that I’ve written about.”

“What you see in the Indian communities around here is policy and community decision making by women and men. Decisions were made by a consensus, with all adults talking things out. Women also could be leaders in terms of spirituality, healers, bead working, basketry, and such.”

Green-Ramirez says there were also multiple instances of Native American women chiefs in Great Lakes Indian nations. There also are records for a few bands whose chiefs and members were all women; these women were married to non-Indians who weren’t members.

After a period of researching documents and written first-person accounts, Green-Ramirez will do oral interviews with the people who have inherited the stories of Native American women’s history. She has studied the Ojibwe language in an effort to better understand Great Lakes cultures.

She hopes to write a book 2005 that will be a public history, a series of stories of Ojibwe and Odawa women’s community leadership. When she approaches her research, she says she will keep in mind what will be useful to the communities she studies.

“Historians have a tradition of using information from Native Americans and not giving back,” Green-Ramirez says. “I think it’s very important to give back, and hope the book will be interesting and accessible to community members.”

Her research also will contribute to a broader discussion of women’s history.

“It isn’t something that historians have addressed before,” she says. “Until the last 10 to 15 years, most people doing women’s history primarily focused on white women’s history. This research opens some people’s minds to the fact that Native American women played a role in what was happening in their communities, and that subordinate domestic women’s roles really only applied to white, middle-class women.”

Life on Mars?

Even though the country’s space program suffered a tragedy this year, one CMU student worked to help the program thrive.

Geology major and May graduate Deidre LaClair of Standish was chosen to help determine where the next twin Mars Exploration Rovers will land – a key exploration in determining whether life could exist on the planet.

She was asked to attend the final decision workshop in Pasadena, Calif., in January because of a previous presentation she made for the Geological Society of America.

LaClair’s research is considered by geologists to be “truly significant and innovative work,” says CMU geology professor Kathleen Benson.

LaClair was on a science panel that chose two sites for the twin rovers to land on the planet’s surface, and both sites were ultimately selected. The rovers were due to launch May 30 and June 25 and are expected to arrive on Mars in January 2004.

After the Columbia explosion, there was concern that the mission might not have enough funding to go through as planned.

“You always are worried when you’re going to spend $800 million for anything,” LaClair says. But she was reassured that the rovers would land on the sites she selected.

Now that she has graduated, LaClair says she hopes to further her education or do science reporting. And she says she’ll never forget her experience.

“I’ve met some amazing people, some real pioneers in planetary geology who’ve kind of taken me under their wing,” she says.

Beyond the map

With the new geographic technology, that information is already stored in a database. When a zoning change comes up, GIS can be used to create a mailing list instantly of property owners affected by the zoning.

“You can really reduce the time it takes,” Bunch says. Another useful application of GIS is in predictive modeling – using multiple pieces of data that wouldn’t normally be considered together before, and using the resulting information to make educated decisions about things like infrastructure and development.

“I just because you’re rural or have a small population doesn’t mean you don’t have GIS needs,” Curry says.

In times of heightened national security, GIS also is useful in identifying potential threats to a municipality’s water supply. Information about hospitals and schools also can be used in constructing an emergency plan.

While the center is relatively young, many municipalities and governmental units are seeking out its services. Bunch says CMU students and faculty often use the center for assistance with research. He hopes that in the future the center can employ geography students as research assistants or as interns with local governments so they can become more familiar with the technology they are sure to use for most of their careers. • CJD
The 2002-03 CMU men’s basketball season was a hoop lover’s dream, complete with half-court buzzer-beaters, high-flying slams, championship trophies, records, awards, and Dick Enberg’s signature “oh my” exclamations.

CMU fans were treated to the most wins in school history (25-7) and a run into the second round of the “big dance,” the 65-team NCAA tournament. Following a nonconference schedule that included an 85-78 win at Michigan, the Chippewas won the Mid-American Conference regular season title with a 14-4 record. CMU added a convincing run in the MAC tournament, defeating two-time defending tournament champion Kent State, 77-67, in the final game.

Jay Smith’s charges waited until the last team was announced on Selection Sunday to find out that their date for the dance was No. 15-ranked Creighton in Salt Lake City. The Chippewas raced out to a 26-point lead and held on to a 79-73 win versus the Bluejays with CMU alumnus Enberg calling the game for CBS television. The dream run came to an end with an 86-60 loss to perennial national power Duke.

Smith was honored with MAC Coach of the Year honors for the second time in the last three years, and the awards didn’t end there. Junior center Chris Kaman was tabbed MAC Player of the Year, MAC Defensive Player of the Year, and honorable mention All-America by the Associated Press. He posted one of the most dominating seasons in CMU history with averages of 22.4 points, 12.0 rebounds, and 3.2 blocks per game. His 373 rebounds and 98 blocks set CMU season records and the seven-footer’s 25 double-doubles led the country.

Seniors Mike Manciel (second team) and J.R. Wallace (honorable mention) earned All-MAC honors while fellow senior Whitney Robinson was the MAC’s Sixth Man of the Year. Manciel capped off quite a year by finishing sixth on CMU’s career scoring chart with 1,399 points. Wallace made key baskets all season long, hitting 59 three-pointers for the sixth-best total in school history. His banked-in, half-court buzzer-beater to defeat Ohio 87-84 was one of the lasting images from the year. Robinson’s tenacious defense and long-range shooting threat made him the league’s most valuable reserve after he started most of the previous season.

Starters T.J. Meerman and Tony Bowne played unsung roles much of the season, but both came up big when CMU needed them most. Meerman averaged double figures in the MAC tournament and posted career highs in the semifinals and finals. Bowne had 14 points and five assists in the NCAA win over Creighton.

The successful season put CMU in the national spotlight and helped the Chippewas earn an invitation to the EA SPORTS Maui Invitational, a three-game tournament in Lahaina, Hawaii, that will kick off the 2003-04 season Nov. 24 through 26.
A season to remember

Gymnastics

By Andrea Wieczorek, '97 MA '02

CMU gymnasts broke records, scored perfect 10s, and went 12-0 in the Mid-American Conference during their stellar 2003 season.

The team won the MAC Championship with a school record of 197.425, the first 197 score in CMU history.

The Chippewas sent three individuals – the most to qualify in a single season - to compete in the NCAA Championship in Lincoln, Neb. Sarah Dame, Kara Reighard, and Katie Teft were eliminated in the first round of competition.

The team had its best finish in school history at the NCAA Central Regional competition, tying for second place with a 196.350 team score. It was the fourth time a team qualified to compete at the regional level. CMU upset No. 7 Oklahoma and tied with No. 17 Auburn. The gymnasts also set a beam record with a 49.300.

The team had its best finish in school history at the Mid-American Conference this season by winning its fifth straight regular season title and fifth tournament title in six years.

One of the many highlights for the wrestling team was winning the MAC tournament in front of its home fans, dubbed the “Haroon Platoon.” CMU had three individuals win titles in the tournament: freshman Kyle Stoffer at 125, junior Jason Mester at 141, and senior Brett Faustman at 197. All 10 CMU wrestlers placed in the top three in the competition, the second straight year the Chippewas have accomplished this.

Michele Orloski (right) and Katie Teft scored perfect 10s during their championship season.

Wrestling

By Bob James

The CMU wrestling team continued its domination of the Mid-American Conference this season by winning its fifth straight regular season title and fifth tournament title in six years.

One of the many highlights for the wrestling team was winning the MAC tournament in front of its home fans, dubbed the “Haroon Platoon.” CMU had three individuals win titles in the tournament: freshman Kyle Stoffer at 125, junior Jason Mester at 141, and senior Brett Faustman at 197. All 10 CMU wrestlers placed in the top three in the competition, the second straight year the Chippewas have accomplished this.

Head coach Tom Borrelli, in his 12th year as head coach, was named MAC Coach of the Year. Stoffer used his title win to earn MAC Freshman of the Year honors, the sixth time a CMU wrestler has won that award. Named to the All-MAC first team were Stoffer, Mester, and Faustman, while junior Kevin Cart, sophomore David Boylard, and junior Ty Morgan were named to the honorable mention All-MAC team.

At the NCAA Championships, 141-pounder Mester became the first wrestler since 2000 to win All-America honors. He took fifth at the 141-pound weight class after falling in double overtime during the championship semifinals to eventual champion Teyon Ware of Oklahoma. Mester’s .897 win-percentage (26-3) is the fifth best win-percentage ever in CMU history.

CMU went 4-1 in MAC duals this season to capture a share of the regular season title for the fifth straight season. The Chippewas tied with Northern Illinois and Kent State for the title. CMU has a record of 27-2 in MAC duals over the past six years, including a streak of 24 straight victories.

Wrestler Jason Mester won All-America honors at the NCAA Championships, finishing fifth in his weight class.
New provost joins CMU in July

A new executive vice president and provost will begin his position in July, replacing Richard Davenport, who assumed the presidency of Minnesota State University at Mankato in 2002.

CMU selected Thomas Storch, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Montana, from a nationwide pool of more than 50 applicants. He will begin his CMU appointment July 31.

Robert Kohrman will continue to serve as CMU’s interim executive vice president until Storch begins.

“Thomas Storch is an accomplished zoologist who brings 13 years of combined experience as an academic dean and associate dean at four public universities,” says CMU President Mike Rao. “He promotes student learning and teaching excellence, encourages research, and advocates service learning.”

The executive vice president and provost serves as the senior officer responsible for the academic and senior-level internal leadership.

Storch will lead an academic division comprising eight colleges, 36 departments, and more than 600 regular faculty who offer more than 170 academic programs, including 10 doctoral programs.

CMU station named best in the state

CMU Public Radio was named Public Station of the Year for 2003, beating out all public radio and television stations in the state.

Alumnus David Nicholas, ’87, CMU Public Radio news director, says he’s proud that the station is starting to build the resources to be able to focus on news stories and features that impact 53 counties in central and lower Michigan.

“We’re now being recognized as a station for news,” he says. “People who are looking for developing stories, they are now turning to us.”

Nicholas, also host of the program “Morning Edition,” won an award for best breaking news story for his work on the Isabella County courthouse shootings in March 2002, and three additional awards, including best feature/use of medium, best hard news, and best mini documentary.

Sara Bingham, ’03, was the first CMU undergraduate student to win a public radio award. Her story on Michigan’s Civilian Conservation Corps won a merit award.

A night with Dave

The annual Griffin Forum, hosted by CMU’s Robert and Marjorie Griffin Endowed Chair in American Government, examined the issue of “Women in Power in Lansing.” Alumna Sandy Petrykiewicz, ’76, publisher of the Jackson Citizen Patriot, moderated the forum, asking questions about women in power and if the panelists believed women have a different approach to policy issues than men.

Shown here are (from left) Petrykiewicz; Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land; Patricia Boyle, former justice of the state Supreme Court; and Genna Gent, director of communications for Gov. Jennifer Granholm. Other participants included state Sen. Beverly Hammerstrom, the Republican majority floor leader; Maura Corrigan, chief justice of the state Supreme Court; and Teresa Takai, director of the state’s information technology department.

Dave Matthews and Tim Reynolds performed April 1 for a packed crowd inside Rynearson Arena. The acoustic show was one of the largest concert events in CMU history— even with a ticket price of nearly $50.

An original Black Panther

Bobby Seale, a 1966 founding chairman and national organizer of what was originally called the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, discussed the party’s origins and the Civil Rights Era during Black History Month events in February at CMU.
An easy decision

Beverly Benne is shown here with Pazi, one of her Border collies that help with the sheep at Benne Farms Inc. in Sturgis. She and her husband, Max, raise sheep and hogs on their farm in Sturgis, which they operate with Max’s brother and another business partner. Each spring the Bennes take their 170 ewes to their farm in Rudyard in the Upper Peninsula, and they return them to Sturgis each fall to have their lambs. They also have about 2,000 hogs at Benne Farms Inc.

Beverly grew up in Unionville and attended CMU through State Board of Education Scholarships and the Ford Foundation Program, a special teacher training program.

She says she wants to ensure future CMU students have scholarships available to them like she did.

“I really enjoyed Central,” Benne says. “It was a very pleasant experience. Educationally, it was a very broadening experience. In my career I used motivation techniques I learned from my excellent teachers at Central. It was wonderful to have teachers totally devoted to teaching. I felt they were interested in my progress even if I was not a major or minor student in their subject.

“Today’s students are really going to need scholarship help. Making sure our estate goes somewhere it makes a difference is important.”

The Bennes have designated their gift to The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow College of Health Professions and the College of Education and Human Services. Ted Tolcher, director of planned giving at CMU, says it’s comforting for people to be able to choose where their money goes.

“I find that people want to designate their money to the areas they’re most interested in,” he says. And designating an estate gift to CMU through a will, insurance policy, or retirement plan is a comforting way for people to give to CMU.

“When people’s circumstances don’t allow them to make a substantial gift during their lifetime, an estate gift can often provide the comfort and protection of the assets that have been set aside for future living expenses or medical emergencies,” Tolcher says.

“People can provide a legacy, through a scholarship fund or by naming a building or a training program.”

The point here, without tooting around a lot of numbers, is to impress upon you the importance of financially supporting CMU. Any gift, no matter the amount, is important. If you are a current or previous contributor, thank you. If you have yet to offer financial support, then you need to get into the game.

I believe it was Woody Allen who said, “Eighty percent of success is just showing up.” We want you to show up and become a financial partner with the university. Financial support from alumni is important, and I ask that you take time to respond to solicitations you receive from the university. Or you can take a proactive approach and contact the development office at (800) 358-6903 or visit the Web site at www.cmich.edu/development.

As a graduate you are important to this university. You should note the ever-increasing expansion of our Michigan alumni chapters, now at nine, our 10 national chapters, our five constituent chapters, and our seven national alumni clubs. This expansion started under the able leadership of my predecessor, Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Fred Mester, and is continuing with the hard work and efforts of Mary Lu Fleming, executive director of alumni relations, and her staff.

The national exposure of CMU is rapidly growing each year. Your financial support will help to continue the mission of CMU as well as our ever-expanding national presence.

Thank you for the opportunity to lead, and I look forward to your continued support.

“Eighty percent of success is just showing up”

Many of us watched the men’s basketball team initially crush and then hang in there to defeatCreighton University and then take on the Blue Devils of Duke. Those were proud moments for CMU alumni across the country.

Of course we should be proud of our university not only for its accomplishments in athletics, but in all aspects of our university, including our president, administration, faculty, staff, and students.

This is my third year as president of the CMU Alumni Association, and it has been a privilege to serve you. I have enjoyed it so much that I have agreed to continue on as president through 2005.

During my tenure as president we have dealt with many alumni-related issues confronting the university. The most recent issue that the university faces is budget related.

The state of Michigan has a severe budgeting crisis, and significant cuts to higher education funding are likely. With many universities statewide already struggling, any cut in funding, coupled with cuts in scholarships to students throughout the state, presents financial problems for universities.

As I meet alumni, I am often asked about favorite professors. It is a reminder that we have always had outstanding faculty on this campus who have a caring attitude toward our students.

We would like to hear from you about your favorite professor. Who was your mentor? Who had a profound influence on your years here at Central? We are very proud of our standard of academic excellence at CMU and believe our faculty are the foundation.

Write us at: Centralight, Public Relations and Marketing, West Hall, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859. Or send an e-mail message to alumni@cmich.edu.

We would like to use some of your letters in the next Centralight, so please include a contact phone number or e-mail address.

We congratulate our athletes on winning the MAC Institutional Academic Achievement Award for the fifth year in a row. Another example of faculty support came at the basketball awards dinner when senior Whitney Robinson thanked professor Karen Radel for the influence she had on his academic career.

Congratulations to all our athletes for an outstanding athletic year. We are proud of the national recognition they bring to our campus and the MAC and NCAA championships and awards they have received both in women’s and men’s programs. Go to the official athletic Web site, www.cmuchippewas.com for all the details.

I hope to see you this summer at one of the golf outings we host in Grand Rapids, Saginaw, metro Detroit, and Traverse City. Check our Web site for details, www.cmualum.com, or call our office at (800) 358-6903. Show your mason and gold pride!
One spring evening at CMU, nine alumni, one honorary alumnus, and their families and friends gathered in an elegantly decorated Finch Fieldhouse to be honored during the CMU Alumni Awards Dinner and Dance.

Subir Chowdhury, MS '93, a Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, is chairman and CEO of ASI Consulting Group in Livonia and has written engineering and management books that are used in undergraduate and graduate programs worldwide.

“This country really teaches you how to dream, and if you can dream, you can achieve,” says the Bangladesh native.

Amy Courter, an Honorary Alumni Award recipient, graduated from Kalamazoo College and is vice president of information technology at Valassis Inc. She is a charter member of CMU’s College of Business Administration’s management information systems advisory board, with which she got involved after visiting CMU on recruiting trips for her company.

“This award is a great honor,” Courter says. “I really enjoy working with the people at CMU. In my wildest dreams, all I ever expected back was perhaps a permanent parking pass.”

Roger Kesseler, ’58, a recipient of the Alumni Commitment Award, has left his expertise to the CMU Board of Trustees for more than a decade. He also serves on the CMU Development Board, the College of Business Administration business advisory committee. Kesseler’s senior vice president and financial consultant for Merrill Lynch, Pierce Fennier and Smith Inc. in Farmington Hills.

Ray Lawson, ’40, has taught English for nearly six decades at Rochester High School. He received the Alumni Recognition Alumni Award, serves as judge in the Mid-American Conference athletic affiliations.

“I appreciate this award so very much, probably more than anyone can understand,” he says. “It’s really just icing on the cake.”

Fans of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons can see their favorite performers in concert while supporting the CMU athletics program.

One Alumni trip to Ireland.

The concert is at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 2 at the Freedom Hill Amphitheater in Sterling Heights. An Italian Festival takes place on the front grounds of Freedom Hill throughout the weekend.

For concert tickets, call the athletics ticket office at (888) 347-3872 or the Chipewa Club office at (800) 358-6903, extension 6800.

Honoring alumni

Kjolehede was instrumental in the construction of Kelly/Shorts and Theunissen stadiums, and during his years as athletics director, he led the women’s basketball program as it grew from an AIAW program to an NCAA program and helped pave the way for CMU’s entry into Division I and the Mid-American Conference athletic affiliations.

Kelly/Shorts and Theunissen stadiums.

Ted Kjolehede, ’48 MA ’52, coached basketball, football, and tennis, taught physical education, and served as athletics director at CMU. He received the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Kelly/Shorts and Theunissen stadiums.
Michigan Chapters

Ann Arbor
Bob Balicki, ’79, and Gail Stilke, ’74
home: (313) 859-0877
b_balicki@compuserve.com
gstilke@compuserve.com

Battle Creek
T.R. Shaw, ’62
work: (616) 979-3838
home: (616) 960-2979
trôsran@ad.com

Detroit
Bill Pickth, ’75
work: (248) 624-7300
home: (248) 608-0455
allanlpickth@mi-employmentlaw.com

Flint
Ted Bunker, ’69
home: (810) 694-7359
ted.bunker@kmich.edu

Grand Rapids
Pam Murray, ’77 Wa ’83
work: (616) 249-2370
home: (810) 249-2378
pam.murray@ru.com

Lansing
Lisa Pratt, ’99
work: (517) 334-8500
pratt1@michigan.gov

Mount Pleasant
Tony Klos, ’84 WA ’88
veasil@crec.edu

Traverse City
Call the alumni office at (800) 358-6903 for information.

Tri-city
Dan Hersey, ’91
home: (906) 789-2517
dan.hersey@alumni.cmich.edu

Great Lakes Chapters

Cleveland
Peter J. Rakovalis, ’95
home: (440) 466-2411
tbroka@hotmail.com

Detroit
T.R. Shaw, ’82
home: (989) 684-0462
work: (989) 662-4481
Bay City
Ron Reinke, ’71 MA ’77
home: (734) 466-2979
work: (734) 465-2979

Ann Arbor
Daniel Herzog, ’91
Tri-cities
info@rotc.org

Chicago
Dr. Bill G. Green, ’49
home: (312) 507-6300
work: (810) 249-0898

Cincinnati
Ed Schroll, ’79 MA ’88
home: (989) 662-4456
prattl1@michigan.gov

Columbus
Karen and Gary Aalbregtse
Florida’s Gulf Coast area
Sunchip7294@aol.com

Florida’s East Central
Paula Saltsman
Alumni clubs

Fort Lauderdale
Jeff Rivard, ’66
home: (412) 826-2180
Pittsburgh, Penn.

Great Lakes Area
Michigan

Kalamazoo
Stephanie Kujat, ’97
home: (269) 302-5762
skujat@kc.rr.com

Livingston County
Kathy Banfield Shaw, ’74
home: (269) 979-3838
work: (269) 979-3838

Loyola University

Kalamazoo: Alumni and friends gathered prior to each game and cheered the team all the way to the MAC Championship. Nearly 300 alumni were on hand at the reception prior to the championship game.

Kline Masarra
St. Petersburg
Kim Masarra

Lakeshore: Among the alumni who attended the grand opening dinner were John and Norma Bos, Dave and Pam Mc Daniel, and Steve and Pam Buzzell. The program included a speech by President Mike Rao, who thanked the group for their support and highlighted the university’s endeavors and areas in which alumni expertise can be utilized. If alumni are new to the area, it’s a great way for them to get to know the lay of the land and get professional referrals for doctors, dentists, insurance agents, bankers, and other service providers. It could even provide a new job opportunity.

If you have yet to get involved with your local chapter, I hope this will prompt you to contact the alumni office to find out what is happening in your area. And if there isn’t a chapter in your area, volunteer to start one. You might want to get those golf clubs ready!

Alumni board

For a list of the CMU Alumni Association Board of Directors, see www.cmich.edu/alumni/activities/board.htm.

Constituent Chapters

African-American
Joseph Smith, ’96
Detroit
Tom Brink, ’72
Ray City
Kris McDonald

Bay County
Don P. Case
Bloomfield Hills

Basketball
Recreation, parks and leisure services
Ron Knowles, ’79 MA ’79
Livonia
work: (734) 446-2411
recolin@livonia.mi.us

Call the alumni office at 800-358-6903 for other service providers. It could even provide a new job opportunity.

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Words from West Michigan

By Pam Murray, ’77 Wa ’83
Grand Rapids: Grand Rapids alumni chapter was born at the tee. A few years ago, several golfers got together to golf and raise funds for scholarships for CMU students from Grand Rapids. Since then, we have planned and organized various activities and events to reunit Reunion and reconnect them to the university. These activities range from an evening reception at the Van Andel Public Museum to monthly after-work gatherings at a local establishment to spur-off-the-moment gatherings to watch the Chippewas in the NCAA tournament.

Recently, we began planning a special event involving alumni from CMU and our rival, Western Michigan University. It will be called the “CMU/WMU Crying Towel,” and the event will take place Thursday, Nov. 13 before the big football game in Kalamazoo. November 15. We’ll invite the pep bands and cheerleaders from both the university’s and it will include good old-fashioned rivalry. Proceeds from the event will go to the Grand Rapids Chapter Scholarship Fund, just like our golf fund-raisers. For more information, contact the alumni office and ask to be added into the local Grand Rapids Chapter e-mail address list.

Participating in a chapter has many benefits. It can provide unique opportunities for alumni to network with community leaders and other professionals in their field. It can keep alumni up-to-date on the university’s endeavors and areas in which alumni expertise can be utilized. If alumni are new to the area, it’s a great way for them to get to know the lay of the land and get professional referrals for doctors, dentists, insurance agents, bankers, and other service providers. It could even provide a new job opportunity.

If you have yet to get involved with your local chapter, I hope this will prompt you to contact the alumni office to find out what is happening in your area. And if there isn’t a chapter in your area, volunteer to start one. You might want to get those golf clubs ready!

Ann Arbor: The Ann Arbor Alumni Chapter hosted alumni reception in Chelsea prior to the performance of “Hipe for Coppa” at the Purple Rose Theatre, a product of Jeff Daniels’ theater group. Nearly 40 alumni attended the reception and play.

Cincinnati: Cincinnati alumni gathered for the first time as local hosts Jeff and Diane Brase welcomed more than 30 alumni from the Cincinnati/Dayton area at a reception at the Wyoming Golf Club. The event allowed alumni to socialize, as well as catch up with current events on campus.

Cleveland: The 2003 MAC Men’s Basketball Tournament at Gund Arena in Cleveland was a pretty exciting venue to be in at mid-March. Hundreds of alumni gathered prior to each game and cheered the team all the way to the MAC Championship. Nearly 300 alumni were on hand at the reception prior to the championship game.

Dallas: The Dallas Area Alumni Chapter hosted two pre-game receptions for the NCAA tournament. The first game-watching party when CMU played Creighton was held at the Fox and Hounds sports bar in Richardson, Texas. The second party for the CMU vs. Duke game was held at the Fox and Hound Sports Bar in far north Dallas.

Cleveland Alumni: students and other CMU fans gathered at pre-game receptions before CMU’s games in the Mid-American Conference men’s basketball tournament.

Chapter and club events

Florida: East Central area
The East Central Florida CMU Alumni Club hosted an evening event at the Citrus Club in Orlando for more than 30 area alumni and friends. All shared stories about themselves and listened to President Mike Rao discuss the importance of alumni and their relationship to the university. The president was accompanied by Ambassador Monica Rao and her son, Miguel.

Florida: Gulf Coast area
On March 2, the First Annual CMU Gulf Coast Family Picnic was held at Fort De Soto Park in Tierra Verde, Fla. In spite of the damp weather, 30 alumni from the Tampa Bay Area enjoyed a great barbecue between the raindrops. President Mike Rao, Ambassador Monica Rao, and their son, Miguel, joined in the activities.

Florida: Naples area
More than 80 alumni and friends from the Naples area enjoyed an evening of socializing and listening to the music of alumni Jack Grady on the piano. Remarks about the university were given by President Mike Rao and Mary Lu Fleming, executive director of alumni relations. Also in attendance were Ambassador Monica Rao and her son, Miguel.

Lansing: The Third Annual “Posters at the Capitol” event was April 2. More than 30 students from the College of Science and Technology traveled to Lansing to present research projects at the Capitol. Alumni and friends were able to view firsthand the talent exhibited by CMU undergraduate students. CMU President Mike Rao and other university officials attended to support and thank these students for their hard work and dedication to undergraduate research.

Mount Pleasant: The Mount Pleasant Alumni Chapter hosted a Murder Mystery Dinner on March 7 at the Mount Pleasant Country Club. More than 200 alumni attended to watch the Gratiot County Players perform the dinner theater “Murder Country Style.”

Traverse City: Traverse City alumni area hosted a biology faculty lecture series presenting work on cougars, wolves, and bobcats at the Park Place Hotel in Traverse City April 2.

Images of Ann Arbor, Traverse City, and Lansing alumni chapter events.
1940s

J James Briscois Sr., ’43, was recently honored by the State Bar Association for 50 years of service in the law profession. He lives in Saginaw.

1950s

Wells Franklin Cook, ’50, has been a professor in CMU’s business information systems department since 1967. He lives in Mount Pleasant.

1970s

Gail Makinen, ’71, was recently honored by the chamber of commerce.

1990s

Don Richards, MA ’67, retired as business manager of Harrison Community Schools after 37 years of employment in the district.

Stephen A. Boyd, ’75, is a professor of plant and soil sciences at Michigan State University. He lives in East Lansing.

John A. Gebhardt, ’75, is a veteran advocate and service officer for Santa Fe Community College and the University of Florida. He lives in Gainesville, Fla.

Don Udovich, ’75, is vice president of corporate reorganizations in the United States securities operations division of J.P. Morgan. He and his wife, Nancy, live in Frisco, Texas.

James D. Westphal, ’75, is a corporate interior designer and buyer for Le-Z-B-Y Furnishings Galleries.

1980s

Bernette “Peppy” Huffman, MA ’69, was presented with the Raymond B. Bauer Humanitarian Award from the Michigan Parkinson Foundation. She has three sons and is retired in Tusin.

Hal Van Sumeren, ’57, was awarded the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Service Award. He recently retired as president of the chamber of commerce.

1960s


J ohn Venney, ’62, and his wife, Barb, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 5, 2003. They live in Mount Pleasant.

J anne Van Ochten, ’64, retired after 24 years teaching high school history and Spanish, and eight years as a guidance counselor in Seattle. She and her husband now reside in Ann Arbor.

Charles Kenyon, ’65, retired from the city of Saginaw’s Office of Contract Compliance and Accounting after 30 years of service. Prior to his employment there he taught high school business subjects in Midland, Kake, Alaska, and Bathurst, New South Wales, Australia. He lives near Freeland.

Terence F. Moore, ’65, is president and chief executive officer of MidMichigan Health in Midland, which operates three hospitals, two nursing homes, and eight other subsidiaries. He lives in Midland.

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1990s

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Terence F. Moore, ’65, is president and chief executive officer of MidMichigan Health in Midland, which operates three hospitals, two nursing homes, and eight other subsidiaries. He lives in Midland.

Don Richards, MA ’67, retired as business manager of Harrison Community Schools after 37 years of employment in the district.

Stephen A. Boyd, ’75, is a professor of plant and soil sciences at Michigan State University. He lives in East Lansing.

John A. Gebhardt, ’75, is a veteran advocate and service officer for Santa Fe Community College and the University of Florida. He lives in Gainesville, Fla.

Don Udovich, ’75, is vice president of corporate reorganizations in the United States securities operations division of J.P. Morgan. He and his wife, Nancy, live in Frisco, Texas.

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The presence of CMU alumni serving in the military in Iraq became clear this spring as their images popped up on television and in newspapers in a media-centered war. Army 1st Lt. Adam Prosser’s brother-in-law was leafing through the pages of Time magazine in his doctor’s office one day when he saw Prosser’s face in a photo of soldiers training in Kuwait.

Prosser, ‘01, was deployed to Kuwait last October along with many other CMU alumni and graduates stationed in the Middle East. "They all went by the fact that he is serving alongside people he knows. His family and his wife, Tiffany, say they are well trained for.”• CJD


Raymond J. Karle, ‘99, joined the Make-A-Wish Foundation as manager of volunteer services. He lives in Exhibit.

Raymond J. Karle, ‘99, is a multimedia producer and photographer for S.C. Johnson Wax Home Storage in Bay City. Anne E. Veltema, ‘02, is working in the communications department of Metropolitan Hospital in Grand Rapids, where she writes newsletter articles and public service announcements and works on special events. •
SEND US YOUR NEWS

We want to hear from alumni near and far to include your news in the Alumni In Action section of Centralight. Please write to us about recent job promotions, awards, marriages, births, and other noteworthy recent accomplishments or changes. Send your news to Centralight by e-mail to alumni@cmich.edu, by fax to (989) 774-1098, or by mail to Centralight, Public Relations and Marketing, West Hall, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859. Be sure to include your graduation year and contact numbers.

A Jones and a smile
Jennifer Reihl, ’01, poses with a bottle of Jones Soda. The label features an old photo of her and her three cousins, Aaron Andres, ’00, Alicia Andres, ’96, and Brynae Opalewski caught in the act of climbing a wooden fence in their grandmother’s backyard trying to get a better look at a neighbor’s horse.

The cousins, who all grew up together in Mount Pleasant, are part of a close knit family of CMU alumni, which also includes two other cousins, Brook Schumacher, ’98, David Schumacher, ’92, and an aunt, Paulette Green, ’68. “I think the whole thing is funny,” says Reihl, who now works as a campaign coordinator for CMU’s development and alumni relations. “It’s just neat. It’s something we’ll remember.”


Grace L. Noble, ’28, age 94, Aug. 7, 2002. She taught in Flint, Gaylord, and Clare public schools and at Mott Community College. She lived in Flint.


Max Lyon Lawler, 30, age 91, March 27, 2003. She taught in various Isabella County schools and in Mount Pleasant Schools for 15 years. She also worked for the state’s social services department and Long and Wetzel Co. She lived in Mount Pleasant.

Pauline Boerner, ’32, age 95, Aug. 3, 2002. She taught in Traverse City, Meckle, Bellaire, Honor, Williamsburg, and Johannesburg. She lived in MI.

Richard Kennedy, ’39, age 87, Oct. 27, 2002. He worked for many years for The Dow Chemical Co. He lived in Lansing.

Esther Mae (Deemer) Miller, ’39, age 91, Oct. 11, 2002. She taught school for 10 years in the Traverse City area and taught music in Portage Public Schools for 25 years. She lived in Interlochen.

Clara Ellen Hyatt, ’40, age 99, Aug. 12, 2002. She was a teacher, retiring in 1963. She lived in Alma.

Sarah Consaul Bruder, ’41, age 83, Nov. 10, 2002. She taught elementary school in Chelsea and was a student counselor at Saginaw Valley College. She lived in Traverse City.

Marie Marcella Hardy, ’41, age 84, Aug. 13, 2002. She taught in Traverse City, retiring in 1979. She lived in Kalkaska.

Elsa Shull Higinbotham, ’41, April 19, 2002. She taught in Saginaw and Phoenix elementary schools. She was appointed to the Arizona Governor’s Council for Children, Youth, and Families. She lived in Tempe, Ariz.

Bessie L. Behnke, ’42, age 86, Nov. 12, 2002. She taught at Doyle School, Oscoda Consolidated School, and Cass Tech. She lived in Lake City.

Phyllis Ann Gettel, ’43, age 78, Nov. 27, 2002. She was a bookkeeper for Gettel Implement Co. for 20 years, retiring in 1982. She lived in Sand Point.

Edward M. Kujawski, ’43, age 84, Aug. 30, 2002. He served as superintendent of local school districts for more than 29 years. He lived in Boyne Falls.


J ohn Hector MacMaster, ’52, age 85, Nov. 21, 2002. He taught in Greenbush, Oscoda, Alcona, and Harrisville, where he became a high school principal. He lived in Harrisville.

Louise Joan Brastrom, ’53, age 72, Nov. 6, 2002. She was an elementary teacher for 30 years in Rose City and Manistee Area Public Schools, retiring in 1986. She lived in Manistee.

A lice Alice (Buzez) Hoag, ’53, age 69, Aug. 18, 2002. She taught for 38 years -- at Suttons Bay Public Schools for five years, Overseas for the Department of Defense, and in Mount Pleasant Public Schools for 23 years. She lived in Mount Pleasant.

Stella Adamski Daniels, ’54, age 86, May 23, 2002. She was a teacher in the Standish area for 40 years.

Ted L. Harbourne, ’54, age 74, Aug. 21, 2002. He was a teacher at Vassar, Phoenix Union, All Saints, and a special education and industrial arts instructor at Bay City Central, retiring in 1986 after 32 years. He lived in Bay City.

Zetta A. Bedore, ’58, age 82, Nov. 15, 2002. She taught in Mackinaw City, Cheboygan, Dearborn, and Saginaw, where she served one year as principal. She lived in Cheboygan.


Cassie C. Schafer, ’61, age 96, Dec. 10, 2002. She taught for 16 years in rural schools in Clinton County and for 15 years in Lansing Public Schools, retiring in 1971. She lived in Lansing.

Marion J. Thorsen, ’62, age 90, Dec. 31, 2002. She was a retired elementary teacher for Vanderbilt and Waverly schools. She lived in Mount Pleasant.

Donald Forrest Perrin, ’65, age 84, Aug. 27, 2002. He was a teacher for 35 years. He lived in Fife Lake.

Mary Lu Raymond, ’65, MA ’73 and ’91, age 59, Aug. 28, 2002. She was a teacher in Caro Community Schools. She lived in Caro.


Eugene “Butch” Attaman, ’68, age 55, Dec. 13, 2001. He was a junior high teacher and administrator for alternative and adult education for Utica Community Schools. He coached track and baseball in Clarkson, where he lived.

Carol Jean Crawford, ’68, age 75, Dec. 23, 2002. She was a retired teacher for Thaya Public Schools. She lived in Thaya.
Danny Rose

One of the legends in CMU athletics, Daniel P. “Danny” Rose, died April 23, 2003, at age 95. Rose spent more than 35 years in service to CMU, coming to Mount Pleasant in 1937 as a professor, assistant football coach, and head baseball and basketball coach. He became the athletics director in 1942 and served in that capacity until 1972.

“Danny was a courageous fighter and a tough guy,” says former Chippewa basketball coach and athletics director Ted Kyhede. “He was raised during an austere era and learned to be successful without too much.”

Rose Arena, home of CMU basketball, was named after Danny in 1973.

Rose was 61-45 in 14 years as the baseball coach, while his 14 basketball teams were 186-64. His 1948-49 team was 15-1 and ranked No. 1 in the country.

A product of Rogers City High School, Danny played basketball at the University of Michigan and was president of the senior class. He graduated in 1930.

Rose, who served as a lieutenant commander in the United States Navy from December 1942 through January 1946, coached for eight years at Grand Rapids South High before coming to CMU.

At Grand Rapids South High, he was a basketball coach for Gerald Ford, who would later become the 38th president of the United States. Rose and Ford were lifelong friends.

Rose was a member of CMU’s inaugural Athletics Hall of Fame class in 1984 and was inducted into the Michigan Amateur Hall of Fame in 1975.

He lived in Mount Pleasant until his death. His wife, Bobbie, died in 1984.

*IN MEMORIAM*


Faculty and staff:

John Edward Beltinck, age 49, Dec. 16, 2002. He worked as an electronics engineer at CMU for 28 years. He lived in Rosebush.

Margaret Olive (Koopman) Joy, ’26, age 102, Aug. 13, 2002. She was associate professor of social science at CMU from 1926 to 1942 and professor from 1944 to 1950. She lived in Lincoln, Neb.

Edward Warren Lehnen, age 74, Sept. 9, 2002. He was a journeyman locksmith for CMU from 1974 to 1990. He lived in Mount Pleasant.

Lorena M. “Ming” Mongeau, age 87, Aug. 27, 2002. She was an executive secretary for 18 years in the guidance counselor’s office at CMU. She lived in Mount Pleasant.

Olaf Steg, age 88, Dec. 5, 2002. He was a chair of the School of Music from 1974 to 1990. He lived in Mount Pleasant.

Lora Louise Humble, MA ’78, age 82, Dec. 17, 2002. She lived in San Pablo, Calif.

Jonathan Herald Acker, ’79, age 47, Aug. 17, 2002. He worked as a project manager for computer-based companies. He lived in Royal Oak.

Marla B. (DeVos) Walley, MA ’79 and 84, age 54, Feb. 23, 2003. She worked at Ludington Area Schools for 32 years and recently was a media center specialist for the high school and junior high. She lived in Ludington.

Roy G. Raney Jr., ’90, age 34, Nov. 5, 2002. He was a collegiate wrestler and wrestling coach. He lived in Ashland, Ore.

Bradley V. Pohl, ’93, age 31, July 23, 2002. He worked for the Cypress Corp. in Rochester Hills, most recently as a software engineer. He lived in Auburn Hills.

Brenda Lee Bonham-Maecker, ’98, age 40, Aug. 29, 2002. She was a substitute teacher for Midland Public Schools. She lived in Midland.

Daniel P. Rose, D.P.E., M.A., age 95, 2003. He was a chair of the School of Music from 1974 to 1990. He lived in Mount Pleasant.

Charles Louis Wozniak, ’69, age 59, Sept. 17, 2002. A U.S. Marine Corps veteran, he was assistant manager of the Firestone store in Ann Arbor for many years. He lived in Jackson.

Wava A. Boonstra, ’70, age 86, Nov. 19, 2002. She was a teacher at a country school near Harrison, Grandon School, and Marion Public Schools. She also taught at McBain Public Schools, retiring in 1976. She lived in McBain.


Deborah Sue Cerny, ’74, age 50, Dec. 2, 2002. She was a substitute teacher for Ovid-Elsie Public Schools. She lived in Elsie.

Larry S. Key, ’75, age 51, Sept. 8, 2002. He worked in emergency medicine, family medicine, ambulatory and urgent care, and as director of medical education. He lived in Carney.

Gail Ruth Jozwiak, MA ’76, age 63, Nov. 20, 2002. She was a retired teacher. She lived in Caswell Beach, Long Island, N.C.

Thelma Joyce Belhing, ’77, age 81, Aug. 22, 2002. She served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was a nurse in the First Field Hospital in Okinawa. She was a school nurse for Boyne City Schools for more than 40 years. She lived in Boyne City.

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