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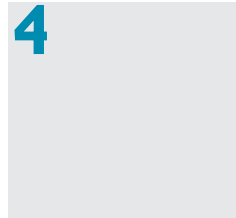
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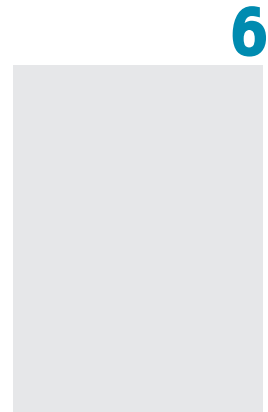
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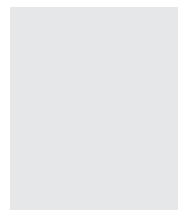
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On the cover...

West Chester University's marching band
embodies University spirit. See page 11.



West Chester University of Pennsylvania is an equal
opportunity/affirmative action institution.

WCU Designated a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education

West Chester University is among only 59 institutions nationwide to earn designation as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education. The announcement was made this spring jointly by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

WCU's designation covers the academic years 2004 through 2007.

Among other universities to earn designation are Boston University, the U.S. Military Academy/West Point and the universities of Pennsylvania, Texas and Pittsburgh.

NSA and DHS created the Center for

Excellence program to meet federal government directives to foster training and education programs to support the nation's cybersecurity needs, and to increase the efficiency of existing federal cybersecurity programs. Their goal in establishing and certifying these Centers is to reduce vulnerabilities in the national information infrastructure by promoting higher education in information assurance and to produce a growing number of professionals with information assurance expertise in various disciplines.

WCU's Center for Information Assurance was established in the fall of 2002. Last spring, the Committee on National Security Systems certified WCU's information assurance curriculum for Information Systems Security (INFOS-EC) Professionals, while this spring, it earned certification for its curriculum for systems security administrators.

Universities designated as Centers are eligible to apply for scholarships and grants through both the Federal and Department of Defense Information Assurance Scholarship Programs.

After 2007, WCU may reapply in order to retain the designation.



Daniel G. Wolf, Director, Information Assurance Directorate at the National Security Agency, presents the 2004 certification to Dr. James Fabrey for the University's curriculum for systems security administrators.

Theatre to Be Named in Honor of J.Peter Adler

Early this year, WCU alumnus and renowned Philadelphian Pat Croce issued a remarkable challenge to the University community. In honor of President Adler and her late son, J.Peter, Croce pledged a \$100,000 challenge grant to name the Studio Theatre in E.O. Bull Center in honor and memory of J.Peter Adler.

Croce's challenge has been met: More

than 100 other contributors generated matching gifts in excess of \$250,000 to exceed the goal. The J.Peter Adler Studio Theatre will be dedicated in late October 2004.

Croce decided to pursue this project because of his great respect for Dr. Adler, and her enthusiasm for building the region's finest performing arts facilities.

Pat Croce, pictured at a spring booksigning, celebrates success with Dr. Adler.

The West Chester University Magazine is published three times a year for the alumni, families, students and friends of West Chester University of Pennsylvania. We welcome letters concerning magazine content or issues pertaining to the University. Letters must be signed and kept to one typed page.

Please include address and daytime phone number. We reserve the right to edit. Send correspondence to: Editor, The West Chester University Magazine, West Chester University, West Chester PA 19383

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

For Class Notes, other alumni-related information, please send address changes to:
iac@wcupa.edu

Letters to the Editor can be sent to:
lmacalpine@wcupa.edu
Loretta MacAlpine, Interim Director of Public Relations and Marketing and Editor, The West Chester University Magazine

The Spirit of Frederick Douglass Lives on at WCU

Tiffany Flowers and Erica Bumpers are West Chester University's 2004 Frederick Douglass Teaching Scholars.

The program, in its eighth year, gives minority graduate students the opportunity to experience teaching first hand and to explore employment opportunities with the University. Each scholar teaches one class over the second summer session.

Flowers, who will teach Effective Classroom Management, completed a master's in early childhood education at Virginia Commonwealth University and a master's in social foundations in education at University of Iowa. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in language, literacy and cul-

ture at the University of Iowa.

Bumpers completed her master's degree in education administration at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and is currently pursuing a doctorate in education administration foundations at Illinois State University. Also vice president of the Black Graduate Student Association at Illinois State University, she will teach Social Studies in Elementary Education.

Douglass, a former slave and abolitionist, was the most respected African American orator of the 19th century. On Feb. 1, 1895, he gave his last public lecture at what was then the West Chester State Normal School.

WCU Recognizes Area Educator/Entrepreneurs

More area educators and educational partners became members of the Educator 500 network, part of the University's Institute for Educational Excellence and Entrepreneurship (3E Institute), this spring. The induction ceremony was part of the institute's "Forging Partnerships for Educational Innovation" Annual Business and Education Leadership Forum, held at Philadelphia's Union League May 13.

This year's leadership forum and networking breakfast included a panel discussion with WCU President Madeleine Wing Adler; Nicholas DeBenedictis, chairman, president, and chief executive of Aqua America Inc.; William J. Marrazzo, president and chief executive at WHY? Inc.; Charles P. Pizzi, president and chief executive of Tasty Baking Co., and Harry Gaffney, superintendent of southwest area Philadelphia School District.

WCU's 3E Institute is committed to identifying, supporting and mentoring entrepreneurial educators to prepare children to succeed in a learning environment through interest, passion, discovery and initiative. The institute builds relationships among University faculty, basic school partners, professional associations and the business community.

The Educator 500, inspired by the Fortune 500, rewards and supports entrepreneurial educators and teams who actively participate in the quest to teach students by incorporating collaborative solutions, busi-

ness partnerships, and parent and community involvement. The candidates for this honor have the opportunity to share their ideas and programs through the 3E Institute's seminars and online community. Among the honorees are two WCU faculty members, Richard Voss, social work; and Marlene Goss, professional and secondary education.

The other inductees are: Michelle Amalfitano*, Brandywine School District (Del.); Gregory Antonowich, Penn Delco School District; Bernadette Bartholomew, Lower Merion School District; Sharon Beyer, Garnet Valley School District; Linda Brook, Downingtown Area School District; Bernard Carrozza, Delaware County Community College; Dee Castorani*, Woodlynde School; Seamus Clune, Wissahickon School District; William DelCollo, Upper Dublin School District; Saki Dodelson, KidBiz3000; Joan Dukovic, Coatesville Area School District; Susan Farrelly, West Chester Area School District; Goshen Friends School*; Pamela Gray*, West Chester Area School District; Erik Hein*, West Chester Area School District; Bryant Horsley, School District of Philadelphia; David Jarvie*, Owen J. Roberts School District; Jean Kingan*, Parent; Rashmi Kumar*, Avon Grove School District; Jann Maclean, Upper Dublin School District; Arlene Miller*, Garnet Valley School District; Edwin Morris*,

Acclaimed poet and scholar Nikki Giovanni will keynote the Frederick Douglass Institute's fall academic conference "Frederick Douglass, Black Freedom and the American Experience," Oct. 29-30. The conference will also include discussion on multiculturalism and a panel on the 50th anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education.

Named the NAACP Image Award winner for Literature in 1998, 2000 and 2003, Giovanni is a Distinguished Professor at Virginia Tech, where she teaches English.

Giovanni's lecture, on Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m., is free and open to the public, but tickets are required; call 610-436-2266. For information on the conference, contact the Frederick Douglass Institute at 610-436-2766 or e-mail fdouglass@wcupa.edu.

School District of Philadelphia; Anita Peronace, School District of Philadelphia; James Peterson*, School District of Philadelphia; Cole Reilly, Downingtown Area School District; Lin Robbins, Colonial School District (DE); Lisa Rose-Bryant, School District of Philadelphia; Rona Schwartz, School District of Philadelphia; Andrew Skopp, School District of Philadelphia; Thomas Smith*, Waynesburg College; Cindy Snodgrass, Educational Consultant; The Philadelphia School*; Richard Thomas, Boyertown Area School District; Traci Tury*, Coatesville Area School District; Thomas Vizza*, Woodlynde School; Lynore Walsleben*, Downingtown Area School District; Walter Yakabosky, Delaware County Community College.

* Indicates a Distinguished Educator 500.

Two new awards were presented: the President's Award was given to Sally L. Smith, Founder/Director, The Lab School of Washington; and the Director's Award was presented to Velda Morris, Robotics Education Specialist, School District of Philadelphia.

\$52,000 in Nursing Scholarships Awarded to WCU Students

Thanks to a grant from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation, 53 nursing students at the University have a smaller financial burden to bear.

The Foundation awarded \$52,000 in Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation Nursing Grants to West Chester University during the Spring 2004 semester. Most of the awards to the nursing students were in the amount of \$1,000 each, with four \$500 awards.

The Honorable Elinor Z. Taylor '43 is responsible for securing the funding, which also benefited students at 99 other institutions.

WCU's Nursing Department has also been selected as one of the Commonwealth's universities eligible to submit a proposal for the 2004-05 Nursing Education Grant Program.



New Graduate Programs

Responsive to the needs of adult learners, West Chester University is always re-examining its graduate courses and certificate programs. Beginning this summer, several new programs will help teachers and business professionals advance their careers.

- **New English Master's Track in Writing, Teaching and Criticism.** Designed specifically for teachers, this master of arts is a flexible, year-round program oriented toward professionals. It stresses teaching application and uses of cultural and classroom diversity. In addition to traditional English classes, students will be engaged in classes through the renowned Pennsylvania Writing and Literature Project. Contact Dr. Bob Fletcher at 610-436-2745 or e-mail rfletcher@wcupa.edu.
- **Master's in Music Education.** Next summer, this program will begin delivery over four summers, while continuing year-round delivery. It's another way to accommodate teachers who find it difficult to pursue graduate-level credits during the academic year, which remains an option for them. Information: Dr. J. Bryan Burton at 610-436-2222 or 610-436-2489 or e-mail jburt3@wcupa.edu.
The next Graduate and Adult Studies open house is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 17. Representatives and graduate coordinators will be on hand in Sykes Student Union Ballrooms from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.. For more information, call the Graduate Office at 610-436-2943 or e-mail gradstudy@wcupa.edu.

Student Leadership Recognized



From left: Jacqueline Hodes, Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs; University President Dr. Madeleine Wing Adler, and Karen DiNardo.

Student leaders, faculty, and staff gathered for a Legacy of Leadership dinner in recognition of alumni who demonstrated student leadership while at the University and who continue to utilize those leadership skills today. The division of Student Affairs also recognized faculty and staff who demonstrate a commitment to student leadership through volunteer advisement or have provided exceptional leadership to students. WCU will hold the event again next year, April 30, 2005, and nominations will be accepted. For a nomination form contact Jacqueline Hodes, Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs at 610-436-3147 or jhodes@wcupa.edu.

Have You "Herd" the Moos? The Cows Are Coming Home

This spring, each of the State System institutions sponsored a cow — not a real one, but a life-sized fiberglass form that became a canvas for students. Part of the national Cow Parade fundraiser, this endeavor brought many campus constituents together to ensure success.

WCU selected Thomas Hitner (pictured), a senior art student and talented sculptor, to decorate our cow, for which his prize was a \$1,000 scholarship. Hitner chose to illustrate a concept based on man's relationship with the domesticated cow, and created a three-dimensional effect within the cow's body.

The cows were put out to pasture in Harrisburg on the lawns of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education headquarters and the State Capitol this spring. WCU's will return to campus later this summer, and a display location is being arranged.



Celebrating a Decade of Poetic Excellence

West Chester University celebrated a decade of poetic exploration with the 10th annual three-day poetry conference “Exploring Form and Narrative” June 9-12.

The West Chester University Poetry Conference has been noted as the nation’s most intellectually rigorous conference for poets. Dana Gioia, chair of the National Endowment for the Arts and co-founder of the conference, welcomed attendees with a reading and singing of his opera libretto as part of his keynote speech.

Gioia wrote two opera libretti, including *Nosferatu* which was premiered at the WCU Poetry Conference in 2001.

Gioia returned to campus only a month after receiving an honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, at West Chester University’s spring 2004 commencement.

The conference also featured the presentation of the Robert Fitzgerald Award to Timothy Steele. Steele has published several volumes of poetry, the first two of which are being re-issued as a volume titled *Sapphics and Uncertainties*.

This year, 14 exceptional poets, including Glyn Maxwell, conducted sessions on various topics. Returning faculty included

Rhina P. Espaillat, Mark Jarman and R.S. Gwynn, all award-winning poets.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the West Chester University of Pennsylvania Poetry Conference, organizers compiled a collection of essays into a 112-page book, *The West Chester University Poetry Conference: A History*. Edited by R. S. Gwynn and April Lindner and published by Kelly-Winterton Press in New York, it includes original poetry, an introduction by Richard Wilbur and essays by founders Gioia and Michael Peich, among others.

West Chester University is in the second year of a \$300,000 National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant that will support an endowment for the WCU Poetry Center, which organizes and oversees the conference. The endowment will allow for expansion of the program, providing resources to expand the schoolteacher segment of the seminar and also strengthen the criticism component of the annual event. For more information on this challenge grant or to contribute, call the Development Office: 610-436-2868.

— Kathy Oswald
Public Relations Intern

Cream of the Crop: WCU Professor and Press Honored

Curators at the New York Public Library’s Rare Books Division assembled the best in the realm of fine printing and design this spring, including works by WCU’s Michael Peich and the University’s Aralia Press. The display, *Ninety from the Nineties: A Decade of Printing*, is on exhibit in the Library’s Edna Barnes Salomon Room, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street in New York City, now through May 28, 2004.

This exhibit showcased books from select American, English and continental European presses that follow the traditions of the Private Press Movement. Rather than simply replicating texts, this movement, which started in the 19th century, sought to bring beauty and art back to printing.

The exhibit presents 90 works produced in the 1990s that best demonstrate excellence in one of the following categories: Binding, Paper, Illustration, Type and Inspiration. Works by Peich and Aralia Press are part of the latter two categories.

— Mandy Carpenter



West Chester Students Donate Their Time to Volunteering

This year, WCU students demonstrated their longstanding commitment to service and leadership, volunteering more than 151,000 hours and raising \$97,700 for charity.

Money raised for donations jumped an amazing 28 percent this year. The money raised in the spring semester alone surpassed last year's total by \$3,200.

In the annual holiday "Bear Fair," West Chester University students collected a record 3,036 teddy bears and stuffed animals to be given to children whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS. Students held other collection drives for canned goods, toys, holiday gifts, books, clothing, toiletries and Thanksgiving baskets.

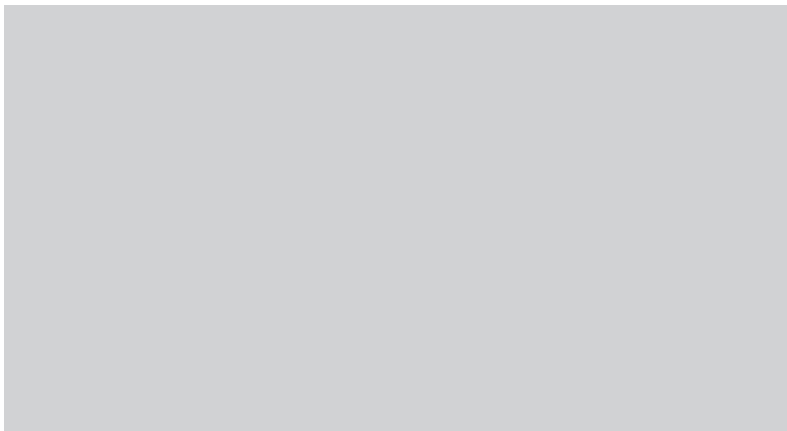
Students enrolled in service-learning courses volunteered more than 113,000 hours. Service-learning courses offered at the University include many disciplines, from philosophy to music. For example, communications students worked with teen athletes at Overbrook School for the Blind, while students enrolled in the Juvenile Justice Administration course mentored young offenders. A class called Instructional Communication placed 140 University students in 40 schools to help incorporate technology into the classroom, and students in Intermediate Spanish II assisted in English as a Second Language classes.

	2002-03	2003-04
Hours donated by student organizations	42,380	38,745
Hours from service-learning courses	87,292	113,147
Total hours	129,672	151,892
Money raised for donations	\$61,622	\$97,729

2004 Gala Raises \$61,000

Guests at this year's Presidential Scholarship Community Gala, held March 27, were transported to a retro train station, where their generosity helped to raise \$61,000 for scholarship funds. This year's theme, "An Evening on the Orient Express," began at the doors, where a mural depicting a steam locomotive welcomed attendees.

Over the 21 years since it was first established, the Presidential Scholarship Community Gala has raised more than \$400,000 and provided scholarships for 80 academically talented students. The 2003-2004 recipients are John P. Kirkner of Phoenixville, Pa., Christine A. Mulligan of Lewes, Del., Tanner J. Van Dell of Camp Hill, Pa., and Stephanie A. Vaughn of Red Hill, Pa.



Honors and Kudos

- Dr. Katherine Northrop, assistant professor of English, is one of 11 artists in the state to win a Pennsylvania Council on the Arts fellowship. Her \$5,000 award is for an Individual Artist in Literature. She teaches creative writing and poetry at WCU, and is faculty advisor to *Daedalus*, the WCU creative arts magazine.
- WCU forensics team members qualified for 23 events — the largest entry the University has qualified for in a decade — at the National Forensics Association National Championship this spring. The team moved from Division II to Division I. Students also set a record by qualifying for 10 events in the American Forensics Association National Invitational Tournament. Team President Jared Johnston reached the quarterfinals at the former event in both Persuasive Speaking and Rhetorical Criticism, and won two state championships in Persuasion and Rhetorical Criticism. The team closed the year with its 18 members earning 111 individual and team awards.
- When Jonathan Coul M'04 participated in a study abroad program to former Nazi prison camps in Germany, his guide on the tour was an Auschwitz survivor returning for the first time. That man inspired the question that would consume him the next two years of his life: "Where did people get the ideas to do these horrific things [extermination camps]?" In trying to answer that question, Coul earned his master's degree in Holocaust and Genocide Studies at WCU — and was lauded by the Pennsylvania Association for Graduate Students for his dedication and research efforts. He was awarded the 2004 Pennsylvania Graduate Thesis of the Year, given only once before to a WCU student. A "legacy" student, Coul was preceded at WCU by his late grandmother Vita Harmon '23 and his mother Kay Coul '80.

Alumna Coaches Her Way to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame



After 31 years and 560 wins as a women's basketball coach, Marion Washington '70 has earned her way into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

Her career after WCU took her first to Kansas City, and then to the Olympics. Washington went to Kansas City to train for the first-ever women's Olympic basketball team.

Unfortunately, the exhibition was cancelled in 1972 because the men's events had been "overscheduled."

Washington enrolled in the graduate program at the University of Kansas, and quickly became assistant coach of women's basketball. After Title IX legislation passed in 1972, the University of Kansas created a position for a women's athletics director. Washington applied on the last day applications were being accepted and was chosen for the job.

During her career as both assistant and head coach, Washington led the Jayhawks to 11 NCAA tournaments, two Sweet 16

appearances, seven regular season conference championships and six post-season championships. In 1996, Washington was an assistant coach on the USA Women's Basketball Team that won gold in Atlanta.

Washington, now retired, says she will be spending more time in the West Chester area, where her family still lives. She plans to continue making a difference working with children in basketball camps and clinics.

Marion Washington will be inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame this November.

— *Kathy Oswald*
Public Relations Intern

Deirdre Kane Keeps Eckman's Dream Alive

After years of winning basketball games, mentoring student-athletes and keeping the memory of legendary West Chester women's basketball coach Carol Eckman in the forefront of college hoops, WCU head coach Deirdre Kane was selected as the winner of the Carol Eckman Award for 2004. The award was presented this spring by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) at the WBCA National Convention held in conjunction with the NCAA Division I Women's Final Four in New Orleans.



Kane's 2003-04 club posted a 17-12 overall record while her budding superstar, junior Kiesha Mack, was named the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference East Player of the Year.

In 2002-03, Kane led the Golden Rams to a 24-8 overall record, a PSAC East crown, a berth in the PSAC Championship game for the first time in school history, and the program's first NCAA Division II Tournament triumph.

Kane has produced a 270-205 (128-75 PSAC East) record during her 20-year tenure at WCU and has the most wins in the program's history. She has won more conference games than any active coach in the PSAC East. Her overall mark is 312-239 as a collegiate head coach.

Kane was appointed part-time head coach in September 1987, and became the Golden Rams' first full-time head coach the following year. The first woman granted an athletic scholarship to the University of Dayton, she was inducted into the South Jersey Hall of Fame in 1992 to mark her career accomplishments on the court and from the sidelines. Kane was named PSAC Eastern Division Coach of the Year in 2002 and WBCA District II Coach of the Year in 2001.

The Carol Eckman Award is presented annually to an active WBCA coach who exemplifies Eckman's spirit, integrity and character through sportsmanship, commitment to the student-athlete, honesty, ethical behavior, courage and dedication to purpose.

The award is named in honor of the late Carol Eckman, the former West Chester coach who is considered the "Mother of the Women's Collegiate Basketball Championship." Eckman organized the first women's basketball championship at West Chester in 1969 and continued to garner recognition and support for the women's game until her death from cancer in 1985.

— *Kathy Oswald*
Public Relations Intern



Passings: Melvin M. Lorback

Melvin M. Lorback, men's varsity soccer coach at WCU from 1957-1991, died May 22; he was 76. He taught both graduate and undergraduate classes at WCU, mainly sports science and sports studies classes, and also coached baseball, basketball, gymnastics and tennis. He was the project leader and University representative for the development of the South Campus Physical Education and Athletic Department Complex in 1970. He also served as chair of the physical education department for 12 years. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Patricia, three children and five grandchildren. An endowment had been created in his name. Contributions may be made to the Mel Lorback Soccer Endowment, c/o Doug Kleintop, West Chester University Athletic Department, West Chester University, West Chester, PA 19383.

Sports Shorts

- Student-athletes made the grade this spring: 227 students were named to the spring 2004 WCU Athletic Director's Academic Honor Roll, attaining a cumulative GPA of 3.0. Four student-athletes earned at least a 3.0 while competing in two different sports: Tanya Novik and Beth Foster earned dual stripes by competing for the volleyball team and the indoor track/track and field squad. Freshman Christine Kane played lacrosse and field hockey, and Katey Kreider joined the softball team as a starting shortstop this spring after playing women's basketball for the University. Novik and Kane earned double stripes last fall as well.
- For the third time in four years, West Chester University women's lacrosse team reached the finals of the NCAA Division II National Championship Tournament. But in the last 90 seconds of the game, Adelphi scored, breaking an 11-11 tie and sending the Golden Rams to the runner-up spot in Division II. The Golden Rams — the 2002 champions — are the only team in the short history of the tournament to compete in the finals in three different years.



Kathleen Sheehan sets a new PSAC record with 315 all-time points.

West Chester scored the game's first four goals and six of the first seven to take a 6-1 lead. Danielle Roy finished with four goals, while Kathleen Sheehan scored three times and added four assists. She set the NCAA Division II Tournament mark for points

with 15, but her 315 all-time points makes her the new record-holder in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, surpassing WCU's Erika Baker (311 1990-93). Sheehan is second all-time in points to Baker at WCU since 65 of those came as a freshman at Shippensburg.

Christa Somits, Katelyn Martin and Sheehan all were selected to the All-Tournament Team. West Chester finished the season with a school record 18-3 mark.

- The board of U.S. Lacrosse approved the 47th class for the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame at its June 12 meeting. The class includes a group of 10 individuals, including two graduates of West Chester University, who have made significant contributions to the sport.

Jane Barbieri '75 was an outstanding player both at West Chester University and for the U.S. teams. She led West Chester to four consecutive undefeated seasons and served as captain of the 1975 team. She played on the U.S. team from 1973 to 1982, serving as captain for the 1982 team in the first World Cup, which the U.S. won. She coached at both the high school and collegiate levels and helped start the field hockey and lacrosse teams at Penn Charter when she served as their director of athlet-

ics. She has previously been inducted into the Pennsylvania Lacrosse and West Chester University halls of fame. Jackie Hufnell '66 worked the final four of the NCAA championships 12 times and was an umpire at the 1993 World Cup in Scotland and the 1997 World Cup in Japan. She was a past member of the United States Women's Lacrosse Association Executive Board. She was also inducted into the US Lacrosse Philadelphia Chapter Hall of Fame.

The 2004 class will be honored Nov. 20 at a formal induction ceremony at the Hunt Valley (Md.) Marriott. Their plaques will be located in the Lacrosse Museum and National Hall of Fame at the U.S. Lacrosse headquarters in Baltimore.

- West Chester University will make history in women's athletics in fall of 2004 by becoming the first NCAA II institution to grant varsity status to women's rugby. Dr. Edward Matejkovic, WCU Athletics Director, said, "Women's rugby was designated by the NCAA several years ago as an emerging sport. West Chester has had a successful women's club program for several years. It was a natural fit to bring the club program into the varsity fold and give these women a chance to compete on an NCAA level."
- The West Chester University field hockey team landed a dozen players on the 2003 National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division I Academic Squad, while the entire cumulative grade point average of the Golden Rams surged over 3.0 to earn National Academic Team accolades.
- Senior back Azure Yoder of Coopersburg, the 2003 Atlantic 10 Field Hockey Student-Athlete of the Year and two-year A-10 Academic All-Conference Team selection, headed the list of Golden Rams. In her four-year career, Yoder played in 77 games with 75 starts. This year she accumulated two goals, one assist, five points and one game-winner. A seven-time member of the West Chester University Athletic Director's Academic Honor Roll (Fall 2000-Fall 2004), Yoder earned a degree in elementary education with a 3.96 cumulative GPA. She is also a four-year letter-winner; a four-time NFHCA Division I National Academic Squad (2000-03) member; and a three-time PSAC Scholar-Athlete (2001-03).
- The WCU baseball team was selected to the NCAA Division II National Championship Tournament for the second straight year, making it the first time in Golden Rams history the program has earned a playoff berth in consecutive seasons.

The Golden Rams competed in the North Atlantic Regional, where they were defeated by Shippensburg and West Virginia Wesleyan in the double-elimination format, but the losses did not diminish a record-setting campaign that saw WCU win an all-time best 36 games. Senior outfielder Josh Wagner became the first Golden Rams athlete to represent West Chester University in 200 athletic contests in school history. The four-year starter played in 200 baseball games beginning as a freshman four years ago. His sister Tara started for the women's lacrosse team on defense at the 2004 National Championships in Orlando, the same week he was playing in the NCAAs in Shippensburg.

A Standing Ovation

The ground breaking for the new Swope School of Music Building and the Performing Arts Center took place April 13. April showers could not dampen the enthusiasm of architects, donors, borough and township officials, project managers, well-wishers, the University community, students and especially, Dr. Madeleine Wing Adler, whose interest in and support of the arts has made West Chester University a cultural beacon in Chester County. This project is perhaps the most anticipated academic building project in 30 years, since it will also benefit the community with the performances and exhibits staged there.

A row of purple and gold cones marked the footprint of the building, which will occupy part of the E.O. Bull parking lot. Despite a steady drizzle, the ceremonial first shovel of earth was turned, albeit under a tent.

The Building

(see sidebar for specifications)

When this project was conceived, the University suffered a space deficit of more than 300,000 square feet. The demand is not simply a result of increasing enrollments (the University will admit nearly 13,000 students this fall), but of aging facilities that require increasingly greater resources to update and retrofit. Prohibitive renovation costs and the impracticality of using a building too small for the University's needs influenced the decision not to expand the current Swope Hall, but to build a new facility and transfer the Swope name to it in honor and memory of the institution's former president.

The project is actually two buildings: The Swope School of Music, with a lyrical shape reminiscent of a grand piano, and the Performing Arts Center, a bright and airy structure surrounding a sculpture garden in an inviting courtyard. An art gallery will link the two structures, the main facade of which faces Bull Center, drawing people to that building's theatres as well.

Academic Divisions Renamed

In conjunction with the construction of the University's Swope School of Music and Performing Arts Center, several academic divisions are being realigned.

The School of Music will join with the department of Art and the Department of Theatre and Dance to create the new "College of Visual and Performing Arts." The School and these departments will eventually make their home in the new building, where they will be able to exhibit and perform in state-of-the-art facilities.

In order to remain consistent throughout the University, the remaining "Schools" became "Colleges" effective July 1. This change, however, is only cosmetic, as the faculty, programs and degrees remain the same within each of the areas.

The School of Music, which comprises four departments (Applied Music, Music Education, Music History and Literature, and Music Theory/Composition) will remain as a unit within the College of Visual and Performing Arts. The School of Business and Public Affairs becomes the College of Business and Public Affairs; the School of Education becomes the College of Education; and the School of Health Sciences becomes the College of Health Sciences.

Turning the ceremonial first shovels of earth are (left to right) Dean Tim Blair; Patricia McIlwaine, chairman, West Goshen Board of Supervisors; President Madeleine Wing Adler; Maria Maloney, musical theatre major; Nancy '77 and Keith '77 Beale, Campaign Committee



Designed to alleviate some of the pressure on existing academic buildings, the structure will comprise office, studio and classroom space as well as performance space.

The other unmet need this facility will satisfy is that of community groups, which are constantly looking for performance and practice space, as well as partnerships.

The numbers indicate the need for this facility: The School of Music produces, on average, 100 musical performances each year, most of them free. The Theatre Department attracts 10,000 each year to campus for its productions. Performers brought to campus through the Office of Cultural and Community Affairs draw 50,000 people annually.

The new building will meet several key goals:

- Increase the University's capacity to serve growing numbers of students in music, theatre, art and dance;
- Improve the quality of music and arts instruction and expand faculty access to instructional tools that enhance teaching;
- Broaden the array of performing arts programming in which WCU can engage

(theatre, opera, symphony, etc.);

- Provide community arts organizations with a home for performances and displays while avoiding the needless duplication of facilities;
- Dramatically increase regional access to the arts.

Responding to community needs is one tenet of this institution's success. Building fruitful partnerships is another. The new Performing Arts Center will advance the University's initiative to be a contributing partner in a lively and culturally aware community.

Costs

Through the efforts of legislators, the Board of Governors, WCU's Council of Trustees, University administrators and planners, and former governor Tom Ridge, the University received \$17 million toward the project's \$24 million pricetag. The remaining dollars must come from the University, through private fund-raising.

Donor support largely affects a construction project's size, the technology and equipment it contains and its completion date. Market fluctuations, such as the sharp increases in the price of steel, also bear on the cost and construction schedule.

As one of the initiatives in the University's Campaign for Excellence Capital Campaign, this project is of paramount importance to the future success of West Chester University. To date, the University has raised \$4.1 million. For more information on giving, contact the Development Office: 610-436-2868.

Construction Notes

Since the construction has begun, the High Street entrance to the Bull Center parking lot has been closed. Over the next two years, pedestrian and vehicular traffic patterns into and around this parking lot will be periodically modified to accommodate the work.

Of particular note is the construction of a new road connecting High Street to Matlack Street. Once completed, it will be used as both a construction entrance and a connecting roadway for University vehicles. Flag crews will be present as necessary to maintain two-way traffic flow on both High and Matlack Streets, although limited delays may take place.

Visitors will be pleased that, even during construction, the new parking structure adjacent to Bull Center parking lot, will be open.

SOMPAC High Notes

The new Swope Music Building and Performing Arts Center (SOMPAC), when it opens in 2007, will be one of the most unique facilities in the area, providing the University and outside organizations with performance space in a state-of-the-art venue. Here are relevant facts about the facility:

- 80,000 square feet of new space
- A lyrical shape evocative of a grand piano
- A main performance hall seating 375
- A 2,200-square-foot proscenium stage in the performance hall
- A recital hall with 120 seats
- An art gallery providing 700 square feet of display space
- A 3,000-square-foot music library
- Expanded classroom space including a choral/keyboard seminar room, two music education classrooms and eight general-purpose classrooms
- State-of-the-art music laboratories for the Center for Music Technology, the Music Education Lab and two keyboard labs
- Three dedicated rehearsal rooms for instrumental, percussion and choral ensembles
- 56 practice rooms with adjacent storage
- Separate studios for organ and percussion practice
- Expanded office space configured as 36 studio-style faculty offices and 15 traditional faculty offices
- A Dean's administrative suite with offices, a reception area and a conference room
- Designed by MGA of Philadelphia, lead architect Alan Greenberger, assisted by Catherine Broh, Paul Thompson and Bob Schuman.



— LM