Designing New York
Donald C. Richardson '56
FRIDAY, OCT. 16, 2009
6 - 8 p.m.
Homecoming Kick-Off Reception:
Shapiro Wing, Joseph Krauskopf Library
Enjoy light hors d’oeuvres and refreshments with the College community and alumni to jump start Homecoming weekend.

8 p.m.
Student Pep Rally:
Segal Quad. (Rain Location: Gymnasium)
Join the students as they show their spirit and cheer our athletes to victory. Meet the Homecoming 2009 king and queen candidates.

SATURDAY, OCT. 17, 2009
8:30 a.m.
Alumni Breakfast in the Moungis Auditorium
Alumni and friends of the College are welcome to join us for breakfast in the Moungis Auditorium (formerly the APR). Also witness the 99th Alumni Association annual business meeting to discuss the successes of the 2008/2009 academic year as well as the continued path for the future!

9 a.m.
Registration: Alumni Tent (Grass plot by Security)
Be sure to pick up your Homecoming goodies and register for your chance to win DelVal gear and prizes. We will have a caricature artist on hand from 11:00 - 2:00 p.m. as well as a schedule of activities and campus facility hours. The Homecoming parade starts at 10 a.m. from the Doylestown courthouse Parking Lot.

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Alumni Tailgate and Barbeque: Alumni Tent
Enjoy excellent food prepared by the students in Food Science and Management, drinks and entertainment. $10 per person (Children under 12 admitted free with an adult). The Alumni tent will be located on the grass plot near the Security Building. (Please note the tailgating policy.)

11 a.m.
Alumni Achievement Awards:
Shapiro Wing, Joseph Krauskopf Library
All are welcome to honor this year’s Alumni Achievement Award winners.

12 p.m.
Henry Schmieder Arboretum Tour
A guided walking tour of the campus-wide arboretum, lasting approximately 45 minutes; meet outside of the security office at 11:45 a.m.

1 p.m.
Field Hockey vs. FDU – Florham

1 p.m.
Football vs. Wilkes University
The mighty Aggie football team will fight for a victory against Wilkes University. At halftime, the 2009 Homecoming court and the winners of the Homecoming float competition will be announced.

Classes Celebrating Reunions in 2009
Class of 1959 50 Years
Class of 1964 45 Years
Class of 1979 30 Years
Class of 1984 25 Years
Class of 1999 10 Years
Class of 2004 5 Years
Dr. Joshua Feldstein ’42
Celebrating 70 years on campus

Goin’ to the Dogs
In this case it meant a trip to Alaska’s Iditarod for Ashley Cowan ’10

A Turf Life
Jim Roney ’96 kept it green for the U.S. Women’s Open

Cover Story
Alum Don Richardson’s landscape designs are on display throughout New York City
After a long journey, the tired freshman got off the 4 p.m. train at the National Farm School and was escorted to a nearly empty dormitory.

Before sunrise the next morning, Joshua Feldstein was awakened from a deep sleep. “Somebody got me up and said, ‘Let’s go!’ I said, ‘Go where?’ They said, ‘Go milk,’” Feldstein recalled in a recent interview.

Before he knew it, the boy raised in a city was inside a dairy barn shoveling cow droppings into a wheelbarrow and dumping it on a pile.

“That particular morning, I got a very good education on how to haul manure,” said Feldstein, remembering his first full day on campus on April 1, 1939.

This was the humble beginning of Feldstein’s association with Delaware Valley College, from a Lithuanian immigrant student two weeks shy of his 18th birthday to the president emeritus of today.

Feldstein, 88, was honored for his 70-year affiliation with DelVal at an April dinner attended by about 90 alumni, trustees, friends and family members in the Krauskopf Memorial Library.

Feldstein and his wife of 65 years, Miriam, still live on campus.

“Josh is a major part of this institution,” said DelVal President Joseph S. Brosnan. “He is a living legend here, a shepherd who watches over this place with great care and attention. His imprint can be found on almost every aspect of the college.”

Brosnan and Dr. James Trainer, chairman of the board of trustees, presented Feldstein with a plaque honoring his 70 years of “leadership, dedication and service.” The dinner raised over $25,000 for the Joshua Feldstein Scholarship Fund, bringing it to more than $250,000. Feldstein described his bond with the college as “bashert,” a Yiddish word meaning fated or predestined.

“It was meant to be. It was God’s will,” said Feldstein. He related how his father, Tsemach, the principal of a Jewish school in Kaunas, Lithuania, had toured the United States in 1928 to raise money to build a new school and met Edward Chase of New Hampshire, who was on the honorary national board of the National Farm School.

When Feldstein’s parents planned to send him to the United States in 1939, Chase recommended that he spend a year at the National Farm School, which had only 180 students, to get used to America and then continue his engineering studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Chase became Feldstein’s sponsor, which allowed him to get an immigration visa.
But the outbreak of World War II in September, 1939, and Chase’s sudden death in November of that year changed Feldstein’s plans. Feldstein did not find out until after the war that his parents and older brother had been killed in the Holocaust.

Despite his city upbringing, Feldstein said he soon took to farm life, although it was hard work. In those days, the 180 students at the all-male Farm School alternated between attending classes and working all areas of the farm, including orchards, fields, poultry, livestock and dairy.

The first time he milked a cow, Feldstein related, he wondered why students and the dairy superintendent were staring at him. He thought he had done something wrong, but the others told him this particular cow always kicked while being milked, but hadn’t done so with Feldstein at the udder.

“They expected me to get my baptism of fire by getting kicked,” Feldstein said. “Guess what? I had to milk that cow all week.”

While he had nothing against cows, Feldstein decided to major in horticulture. He said he enjoyed the subject, had professors who motivated him and felt it was a promising field for research.

Although he spoke only limited English when he arrived, Feldstein learned quickly and made a name for himself on campus.

The November 1940 issue of The Gleaner, a student publication, included a humorous description of Feldstein. “Hitting Farm School with a dash of Esquire came Josh Feldstein with spats, reversible topcoat and a sharp fedora, all the way from Lithuania (alias Russia). Right now, Josh is one of those intellectual Juniors, intellectual in the true sense of the word, in that he really brought along an armful of degrees (first, second and third) and is capable of solving everything from the present European crisis to finding out what makes a pig whistle.”

“Students are number one. Everything else is number two”

Dr. Joshua Feldstein

After graduating in 1942, Feldstein planned to enlist in the Army Air Corps, but the school’s president, Dr. Harold Allen, insisted that Feldstein remain as an instructor and had him reclassified as an essential war worker.

Feldstein moved up the academic ladder at the school, which became the National Agricultural College in 1948 and Delaware Valley College in 1960. He served as president from 1975 to 1987, and returned for two short stints as interim president in the 1990s.

He said one his proudest accomplishments came as chairman of the admissions committee, which decided to admit the first female students in the fall of 1966. President James Work, however, was not aware of this until he spotted three women among the freshmen marching into the gymnasium for the traditional ceremony to open the semester.

Work asked Feldstein what the women were doing there and Feldstein replied, “They’re Aggies,” a term he coined for female Aggiettes. Work demanded to see Feldstein in his office the next day and chewed him out for admitting women. But Feldstein told the president the women were very qualified, and it was time for DelVal to go coed.

At commencement three years later, one of the women graduated at the top of her class with a perfect 4.0 grade-point average. Work handed her a diploma and gave her a hug. The president then returned to his seat and quietly told the beaming Feldstein, “Not one word out of you,” Feldstein recalled.

Feldstein said students always have been his top priority, even when he was busy with research and administrative responsibilities. He continued to teach a class during his presidency.

“Students are number one. Everything else is number two,” he said.

He said he doesn’t plan to have an epitaph, but if he did the first line should read: “He was never sorry for anything he did. He was only sorry for the things he could not do;” followed by a second line: “He had elephantiasis – an outstanding memory and thick skin.”

- 1962: Earns Ph.D. in horticulture from Rutgers University.
- 1965-1987: Professor of horticulture.
- 1982: Receives L.M. Ware Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award from American Society of Horticultural Science.
- 1983: Dr. Joshua Feldstein Campus Court, in front of the new Student Center, dedicated in his honor.
- 1987-present: President emeritus.
- 2007: Bucks County commissioners present him with Distinguished Citizen Award.
- 2007: Joshua Feldstein Pavilion dedicated at Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center in Buckingham.
When he graduated from Haverford College, Tony Petitti felt he was on his way to a sure career path. He entered Harvard Law School, graduating in 1986, then joined a New York City law firm.

“Well, so much for knowing the script,” Petitti told Delaware Valley College’s Class of 2009 at the 110th commencement in May. “Within five years of graduating law school, my legal career was over—if you call copying documents and proofreading a legal career. I was working for ABC Sports in a job that I had no idea existed when I was in college.”

Petitti, president and chief executive officer of the Major League Baseball Network, said this year’s 419 graduates also are likely to find themselves changing course sometime in their career.

“I guarantee all of you — whether you have your next step figured out or if you are still searching — will face a similar series of unpredictable challenges, opportunities and decisions. Throughout your career you will move back and forth between having it figured out and wondering what’s next,” said Petitti, noting he has held 11 different positions at five companies during the past 23 years.

“While I know that times are more difficult now than anyone would have predicted four years ago, I would argue that the Class of 2009 is incredibly fortunate to be starting out in a world where change happens so quickly,” said Petitti, who was awarded an honorary doctor of letters degree to Delaware Valley College in 2006 presented Petitti the Lawrence Forman Award in recognition of his contributions to the betterment of society.

At commencement, DelVal awarded an honorary doctor of letters degree to Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Dennis Wolff, a Columbia County dairy farmer who attended DelVal in 1969.

“Delaware Valley College is very special to me. It’s very special to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,” said Wolff, who is a Penn State University trustee.

Hundreds of family members filled a cavernous tent on the Quad to watch the graduates receive their diplomas, overwhelmingly baccalaureates but also some master’s and associate’s degrees. The most popular majors by far were animal biotechnology and conservation, animal science and business administration.

Members of the Class of 1959, some of whom attended the ceremony, were recognized on the 50th anniversary of their graduation.

“The past is not much of a guide for the future,” President Joseph S. Brosnan noted in his remarks.

“Graduating students are likely to change jobs as many as six to eight times throughout their lives. In fact, you may end up in a career that doesn’t even exist yet,” he told the graduates.

After the graduates marched to the podium to receive their degrees, officers of the class of 2009 spoke briefly.

“The last four years will always be some of the most treasured years of our lives,” said class president Vincent Chianca.

Raymond Cupples, Jr., a 1964 graduate who is president of DelVal’s alumni association, welcomed the newest alumni and said they should continue to support the school as they embark on their careers.

“There is much to be proud of here. We have the right to brag about our alma mater,” said Cupples, whose daughter is a 1992 graduate.

The Distinguished Faculty Member Award was presented to Howard Eyre, assistant professor of ornamental horticulture and environmental design. The award recognizes teaching excellence, ability to relate to students and contributions to the college.

“I came here in 1991 and found my calling. I encourage you to do the same,” he told the graduates.
Working the Iditarod
Quest for vet school sends student to Alaska

BY ED KRACZ
Ashley Cowan '10 was seeking a unique opportunity, something to make her stand out in the highly competitive process to gain admission to veterinary school. One evening, while watching the Outdoor Channel, that opportunity knocked.

“There was something on about the Iditarod, so I went to Iditarod.com for more information,” said Cowan, a senior at Delaware Valley College who is pursuing a bachelor’s in Small Animal Science with a minor in Large Animal Science and Agribusiness.

She began telling others about her hopes of working with the Iditarod, then learned that she had worked with the owner of a veterinary clinic who, years previously, had been on one of the Iditarod’s vet teams. Everything came together rather quickly and, despite having to pay most of her own way — about $4,000 — Cowan found herself at the Iditarod for two weeks.

“I made a lot of connections in the industry,” she said. “With applying to vet school, that will help, but also learning and getting a hands-on experience should really be helpful. And it was so much fun I’m trying to make plans to go again.”

With just 28 colleges in 26 states that meet accreditation standards set by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association, every experience helps, particularly one as unparalleled as the Iditarod.

Called ‘The Last Great Race on Earth,’ the Iditarod is a race that pairs humans, or mushers, with their sled dogs as they make their way along the Iditarod Trail between Anchorage and Nome in Alaska, a trek that spans more than 1,100 miles of some of the roughest, coldest wilderness in North America.

Cowan, from Hershey PA, was in Alaska from Feb. 28 until March 12, helping with the dogs used in the race.

She attended a three-day sled dog veterinarian training seminar, gave pre-race physical examinations and worked at the start of the race in Anchorage and in Willow — one of the restart towns along the Iditarod Trail — where she read numbers on microchips that are implanted in all the dogs to prevent cheating among the mushers.

Cowan, 21, also brought sled dog teams to the starting lines and assisted in giving complete exams and further assessments on dogs that had been dropped from the race.

One of her biggest thrills, aside from the two days she spent sightseeing, was driving her own dog sled team for about an hour.

“To be able to feel the power of the dogs, it was amazing,” she said. “It was nice to see before the Iditarod started how the mushers would feel.”

It was during the Iditarod that she got to see how the dogs would feel.

“They wear booties to help, but we saw a lot of paw stuff,” said Cowan, “and there was some overall fatigue and muscle soreness.”

It all added up to an experience Cowan hopes will look good on veterinarian school applications she plans to send to the University of Pennsylvania, Cornell, Ohio State and Virginia Tech.
DelVal forms Economic Recovery Center to help the jobless

By Bill Keller

Delaware Valley College offered advice and support to the local community during a June 18 seminar entitled, "Reinvent Yourself, Reinvent Your Resume."

Designed for people hurt by the recent ongoing economic downturn, the seminar was the first event of the school's recently formed Economic Recovery Center. The program featured local entrepreneurs and business owners, including Robert Byers, Jr., of Byers Choice and Peter Bonacum of ActionCoach.

Byers encouraged his audience to seize the entrepreneurial spirit that has enabled so many Americans to excel in times of economic stress. Byers recounted the story of Byers' Choice, which began with his mother's hand-made holiday caroling dolls. Joyce Byers, an artist with a degree in fashion design, never expected her personal Christmas gifts to become a self-sustaining enterprise.

Within a few years, the Byers family found that what was once a holiday project had blossomed into a successful business. Byers' Choice, in Chalfont, PA, now employs approximately 180 artisans to satisfy national demand for a quality, hand-made product.

Peter Bonacum, a business coach with ActionCoach, next suggested that the seminar attendees use the valuable tools they may have learned in the corporate world as building blocks for personal success. He also advised his listeners that working for themselves, while attractive, is often much more challenging than working at an established company.

Bonacum should know. He spent more than 28 years at Merck & Co. in over 12 different positions.

"When I worked at Merck, if I needed something, I got it," said Bonacum, noting that the large drug company had accountants, marketing people, travel arrangers and experts in numerous other specialties. He pointed out that when you start your own business the support network is not there. The small business person, he said, has to do it all by him or herself.

Bryan Barts, assistant director of Career & Life Education at DelVal, then introduced the school's Business Resources Portal, a free service that highlights and promotes business resources for members of the community.

The portal can be accessed by clicking on the link displayed on the bottom left corner of Delaware Valley College's website, http://delval.edu.

Brosnan announced the college is setting up an Economic Recovery Center to help people cope with the recession and prepare for the changing economy.

"We need to plan for the future," he said.

Economic Summit held on campus in May

By Edward Levenson

Speakers at an economic summit in May at Delaware Valley College encouraged businesspeople not to be discouraged by the recession.

DelVal and the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce co-sponsored "Succeeding in the New Economy: An Economic Summit," which was financially supported by Wachovia Bank, Independence Blue Cross and Comcast. About 100 businesspeople heard ideas on how to survive the recession and to adapt to new economic trends.

"We can dig ourselves out of it. I do not fear for the future of this country," said M. Sheila Singer, president of CB Administrators, Inc., an insurance broker in Doylestown.

She was among 19 people - including business executives, educators, bankers, lawyers, state legislators, a Bucks County commissioner and DelVal President Joseph S. Brosnan - who participated in two separate panel discussions during the half-day forum. Lynn Doyle, host of the weekly talk show It's Your Call with Lynn Doyle on Comcast, acted as moderator.

"Businesses have assumed the turtle position. You can beat on their shells all you want, (but) all they want to do is survive,"

Joel Naroff, chief economist for TD Bank

The panelists generally agreed that the recession will end, although nobody could predict when, and businesses need to innovate to succeed in the future.

Brosnan announced the college is setting up an Economic Recovery Center to help people cope with the recession and prepare for the changing economy.

"We need to plan for the future," he said.
Loving reptiles and amphibians doesn’t come naturally to everyone. Owen McIntyre, ‘08 Small Animal Science, first fell for frogs at age five. Later, it was a python named Bertha. Throughout college, he put on the reptile shows each A-Day. Since 2007, he’s been reptile curator for the Bucks County Zoo in Warwick Township, Pa. He cares for about 40 reptiles – including crocodiles, alligators, pythons and other crawlies – at the indoor facility, where they live in temperature-controlled housing and eat special diets. They require vigilance, since they like to try to eat each other, too.

The other full-time staff member at the zoo, Assistant Curator Amy Kart, ‘08 Wildlife and Conservation Management works closely with zoo owner Joe Fortunato overseeing animals, volunteers and traveling shows. “It’s amazing to see the growth since I started in September, 2007,” Kart said.

She credits Delaware Valley College, about a 20-minute drive from the zoo, with her ability to cope with the job’s challenges. “DelVal preps you in so many ways. I did research in small animal labs and in the field, worked with livestock and gained lots of hands-on techniques. We also learned about animal reserves, how to increase animal populations in captivity and how humans affect these animals.”

The zoo depends on volunteers – mostly DelVal students and grads – to keep 80 animals fed, their cages cleaned and more.

Some animals joined the zoo as babies and needed cuddling and bottle-feeding like their human counterparts. It’s imperative, however, that attachments are minimal. “We don’t view these animals as pets,” said Jessica Freeman, ‘09 Conservation and Wildlife Management. “They’re being raised to help educate people. It’s easy to bond with them, but they are wild animals, and safety comes first. So we take the time to get them comfortable with us.”

Training and enrichment are important. “Giving the animals social time and other enriching activities, such as playing with different toys, adds to their physical, mental and psychological well-being,” explained Hannah Fullmer, ‘08 Animal Biotechnology and Conservation.

She worked for weeks with Zaboo, a young lemur who was getting “mouthy” as he grew older. Fullmer trained him using a clicker and treats, which helps the animals associate good behavior with the sound and food. “My class with Dr. (Gary) Fortier in training and enrichment taught me how this work helps the animals avoid frustration and stay healthier,” she said.

The animals’ training prepares them to go out “on tour” with the Animal Junction traveling programs that educate schoolchildren and adults alike. The animals wear harnesses and learn to respond to simple commands before an audience. The animals help Fortunato and his team teach their version of the 3 Rs—reduce, reuse and recycle—in order to help these and other beautiful animal specimens continue to survive.

“Every bit counts, and we all need to do our part,” Kart said. “We try to impress on the students that this is not a trend but a way of life.”

The only exotic animal facility in the county, Bucks County Zoo has expanded rapidly since it opened in April 2006. Fortunato realized he needed help as he added animals, and he reached out to DelVal, where he said word “snowballed.” He now has a crew of 15, all but one from the college. “We have a lot to offer students,” said Fortunato, who is also known as “Jungle Joe.” “They get to fulfill the 500-hour Employment Program requirement needed to graduate, they get hands-on experience with a large variety of baby and adult animals and they learn more than just cleaning and feeding. I get a lot of positive feedback.”

“We can always use more help,” he added. “We never say, ‘We’re done here.’ There is always something to do.”
Chelsea Killinger ’10 and Nicole Gardner ’10 stood hand-in-hand as they anxiously awaited word on where Killinger would place in her event at the Intercollegiate Dressage Association National Championships. Teammates on Delaware Valley College’s dressage team, Killinger and Gardner listened intently as an announcer slowly ticked down the place-winners in the introductory level event, starting with the 12th-place finisher.

“Every time a place was announced, we would look at each other,” said Killinger. “When they got to eighth place, we said, ‘Oh, I’m in seventh then.’ Then we’d hear seventh and say, ‘Oh, it must be sixth.’”

The announcer made it all the way down to second, and Killinger still hadn’t heard her name. That meant only one thing – she had won her event. By taking first, Killinger had helped the college earn a tie for second place with Virginia Intermont College. The University of New Hampshire won the title with 42 points, with DelVal and Virginia Intermont each collecting 32 points. Later, however, the tie was broken and DelVal was bumped to third, but only by 0.067 points.

“It was a surprise because, up to that point, we were sixth and some schools with a lot of points were already ahead of us,” said Angelo Telatin, DelVal’s coach and the school’s director of the equine studies program since 2004. “I knew Chelsea did a very good test, so I knew we would probably move up one or two spots, but I wasn’t expecting that much.”

The top 12 teams in the nation qualified for the IDA National Championship, which was held April 18-19 at the University of Findlay in Ohio. The Aggies qualified through the C region, which is home to dressage stalwarts Cazenovia (N.Y.) College and Centenary (N.J.) College.

Two years ago, DelVal placed third at nationals, so finishing tied for second this year touched off a celebration once Killinger’s place was announced.

“Everybody got real excited,” she said. “I started crying, and Nicole was just squeezing my hand. We kept saying, ‘Oh my gosh, I can’t believe it.’”

Dressage is a French term most commonly translated to mean training and often referred to as horse ballet. The key is to make it all look effortless, as the animal moves graciously with minimal direction from the rider.

Riders must take a horse around a ring demonstrating its three common gaits — walk, trot, and canter — in front of judges. The ring is marked in various places with letters, allowing riders to go from letter to letter in a pattern, such as a circle or straight line, with a horse showing 10 to 20 different movements.

There are four levels that make up a collegiate dressage event, and Delaware Valley riders were solid in all four at nationals.

In addition to Killinger’s first-place finish in Introductory Level, Nick Bleiler ’10 was second in Training Level, Nicole Telatin, Breann DePietro ’06, Janna Herrmann ’09 and Kate Fetterman ’10.
The team is very united,” said Telatin. “They work well together.” Unlike many schools that competed at nationals, there are no scholarships awarded for dressage at Delaware Valley, where it is a club activity. About 30 students comprise the club.

“It’s amazing, especially considering the teams we are up against,” said Delaware Valley assistant coach Breann DePietro ’06, who has been a teacher in the school’s equine studies program since 2007. “I think they [Virginia Intermont] won the nationals five of the eight years it’s been going on. We placed ahead of Mount Holyoke, which won last year, and there are a lot of huge universities and colleges there, so we’re really happy.”

Other schools at the championships included the University of Massachusetts (fourth), the University of Florida (ninth) and North Carolina State (12th).

Making matters more interesting at the IDA National Championship is that teams aren’t allowed to bring their own horses. There is a draw to determine the rider-horse pairings, then riders have 10 minutes to get to know the horses before taking their “test” aboard it.

“You have to be adaptable to a variety of horses and be even-tempered, with excitement and nerves, a less-experienced rider can be affected,” said DePietro.

“It’s nerve-wracking just to ride a strange horse as it is,” said Bleiler, who competed at his first nationals. “But it’s even more nerve-wracking when you get on a horse 10 minutes before you ride the test.”

Telatin and DePietro work hard on getting their riders accustomed to unfamiliar horses.

“We practice every Wednesday night at school switching horses, so you’re not trying to focus on improving the horse or schooling him, but riding the horse you are given to try and make it look as good as you can possibly make it look,” said Gardner.

Clearly, Delaware Valley College made their horses look very good.

HARNESS RACING EXPO COMES TO DELVAL

BY ED KRACZ

It didn’t take long for Marta Piotrow to dive into her job as an Equine Science and Management instructor for Delaware Valley College.

Hired in August of 2007, Piotrow hatched an idea to bring more awareness to the college’s Standardbred breeding program by hosting a Horse in Harness Expo on the Doylestown campus in early March. The program was designed to provide students with a hands-on education in managing a horse breeding facility and producing market yearling horses to the Standardbred racing industry.

“Horse education is not only important for top-notch drivers and trainers but for the novice, too,” said Piotrow. “This just provides that opportunity.”

Piotrow lined up a few heavyweight speakers and some thought-provoking topics during the expo, which coincided with the college’s opening of a new horse breeding facility.

The facility is actually an addition to the existing barn built in the early 1980s but now includes a state-of-the-art breeding laboratory, a stallion collection barn, three private foaling stalls and an additional seven stalls. DelVal is already home to 25 broodmares, two stallions and 12 weanlings, plus another 15 or so foals born in the spring.

“We had some very good speakers,” said Piotrow. “I have gotten a lot of positive feedback from both the people who attended and the speakers who said they would like to come back next year if we’ll have them. This was our first year doing this, but once word spreads and we get a reputation for doing it after a couple of years, it should really grow.”

Among the luminaries to speak was author and former Sports Illustrated executive editor Charles Leerhsen, who published “Crazy Good: the True Story of Dan Patch.”

The book chronicles the exploits of Dan Patch, one of the most famous, but long forgotten, Standardbreds.

Born crippled in 1896 (the same year the college was founded) and nearly euthanized at birth, Dan Patch went from pulling a grocery cart to one of harness racing’s all-time leading money winners. He made a million dollars the same year baseball player Ty Cobb was the highest paid human athlete at $12,000 per year.

The horse became so famous and such a celebrity that much of his earnings weren’t achieved on the race track but in endorsement deals, with his face appearing on pancake syrup and cereal boxes. Leerhsen said Dan Patch memorabilia can still be found as collector’s items on eBay.

“The talk went well,” said Leerhsen. “The crowd was very attentive, and it was a lot of fun. They were a very knowledgeable group. I angled my talk to the history of Standardbreds and why harness racing was so popular at the turn of last century.”

Topics at the expo included Standardbred ownership and industry trends, an overview of the Pennsylvania harness racing industry, challenges facing harness racing, horse nutrition, equine massage therapy, proper shoeing training and driving strategies, equipment overviews, conformation and yearling selection.

Other speakers included leading trainers George Teague, Jr., and Ron Burke, as well as leading harness drivers Eric Goodell and Corey Callahan.
For the first 15 years of his life, Jim Roney lived in a row home in South Philadelphia surrounded by concrete. Snow needed shoveling in the winter. Other than that, falls were a breeze without a single leaf to rake and summers were a snap with nary a blade of grass to mow. Now, at age 37, Roney is awash in grass and trees.

Thanks to a family move to the suburbs during his teenage years, a job at a local golf course cutting grass and a degree from Delaware Valley College in turf management, Roney is now the director of golf course and grounds at the renowned Saucon Valley Country Club in Bethlehem, Pa.

Just months after taking the job at Saucon in 2005, Roney learned that the club’s Old Course would be hosting the U.S. Women’s Open, an undertaking that went off smoothly and with countless compliments regarding the mint condition of the golf course.

“When people ask what do you do for a living and I tell them, they say, ‘Oh that must be the best job. You must love it; you’re outside; how hard can it be? You cut grass, man,’” Roney said.

Roney, a 20 handicap when he plays the game, is much more than a grass cutter. His job pays him handsomely and allows him to live with his wife of 10 years, Aimee, son Sean, 7, and daughter Laura, 4, in one of the handful of homes on the course.

Upon being hired, Roney needed to immediately roll up his sleeves and get to work. The hot, humid, rainy summer of 2005 led to several diseases that killed the Old Course’s greens.

While the course was closed for nearly a year, as the greens grew anew, he decided to make the bunkers deeper and lengthen the tee boxes. He installed a drainage system beneath the course, a vital improvement considering the course is built on a flood plain and, with the 2.3-mile Saucon Creek winding its way through the course, the grounds were always damp. Following heavy rain, it took forever to dry.

Jim Roney ’37 laid out the green carpet for the U.S. Women’s Open

BY ED KRACZ

F A L L  2 0 0 9

Jim Roney ’96 on the grounds of his beloved Saucon Valley Country Club in Bethlehem, Pa.
Roney didn’t stop there.
Last year, he won the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America/Golf Digest Environmental Leader in Golf Award after procuring a Growing Greener grant totaling $391,202 from the state. The grant was used to complete assessments of the stream, trout habitat and a streambank restoration and stabilization plan for the Saucon Creek.
Perhaps Roney could best be described as lawn doctor and Army general rolled into one.
Turn into the club on an early summer day and not a piece of grass appears out of place. It looks manicured and buffed bright green, the trees meticulously trimmed, no easy task for a property that stretches 360 acres with 60 holes, 37 buildings and 13 dining areas — all of it under Roney’s purview.
During golf season, he commands a small battalion of workers totaling nearly 100. For the Open, the number nearly doubled. Roney brought in more than half of DelVal’s turf program — 23 in all, most as volunteers.
Based on the number of those with Delaware Valley College connections, it is safe to say Roney hasn’t forgotten his roots.
This summer, he had five DelVal interns working for him. Three DelVal graduates are employed fulltime by Roney.
“Jim’s intense, but truthful,” said 2004 graduate Gabe Wochley, one of the course superintendents.
“I came up here on a field trip with the turf club,” said Scott Gingrich, Class of ’08 who works as a chemical sprayer for Roney. “It seemed like what was going on here was pretty exciting, especially with the Women’s Open coming here.”
Once or twice a year, he returns to the college as a guest speaker, and he allows as many field trips as possible for turf management students. He is generous with the private course, often allowing the Aggies golf team to practice there and, on Oct. 12, Saucon Valley will host a Delaware Valley College fundraising tournament.
“Jim’s DelVal roots run deep,” said fellow DelVal alum Doug Linde, who was hired as a professor in 1996 to put more muscle into the turf management program. “He believes in our philosophy and hands-on education, but also the required work experience the students need to graduate, which are required internships.”

Speeding on the road to an MBA

By Brenda Lange

2008 Legislation could have meant increased time and money for students in the accounting program. Instead, the MBA Department responded and began a new program it calls “4 + 1.”

“Our students can accomplish two things at one time,” said Tom Kennedy, director of the MBA department. “They can get their BS in accounting, then stay with us one more year and get their MBA with a concentration in accounting. This is very exciting, and we’ve had sophomores and juniors abuzz about it; the dynamics will really help their careers.”

PA Senate Bill 838, signed in July, 2008, requires anyone sitting for a CPA exam to have 150 credit hours of higher education (up from 120). The additional 30 hours is seen as a way to help students prepare to enter an increasingly complex business world.
The 4+1 program waives the application fee for the MBA program, waives the GMATs (Graduate Management Admissions Test), and reduces the number of credits needed to earn an MBA. The 2009 graduating class saw seven seniors participate in the fledgling program.
Kevin Gouldy has a job with a local CPA firm, but planned to return for his MBA.
Classmate Julie Perrine was looking for a job as a corporate accountant, and Michelle Oyer was also searching for an accounting position. All three were among last year’s graduates. All three took graduate level classes in auditing and finance as undergraduates.
“This option just makes sense,” said Gouldy. “If you’re serious about a career in accounting, and you’re going to be CPA certified, you will need more credit hours, meaning more time in school. This program lets you come out with an MBA, with the hours you need to sit for the exam in less time.”
Time saved in the classroom equates to money saved on a college education and a quicker entrance into the workforce. And successful completion of these courses gives undergraduates the confidence that they have what it takes to tackle the higher-level courses.
“When students do undergraduate and graduate work in the same concentration, there is a lot of duplication in coursework, and this program enables them to take the course only once,” explained Elizabeth Kolar, MBA, CPA and DelVal professor of the Business Administration Department.
As of January 1, 2012, candidates for a CPA will be required to hold a bachelor’s degree and at least 150 credit hours, including 36 credits of accounting related subjects in order to become certified. Students who earn their certification can expect higher salaries, Kolar said, and suggested that employers should encourage prospective employees without the certification to gain this first, or should offer paid internships to help their employees gain the required work experience.
“This obviously makes them more competitive in the workforce,” she said. Transfer students are accepted into the program and can earn their MBA in one year as a full-time student. The classes have been offered during the day, at night and online. Kolar expects to offer the fifth year to a large group of students within another year.
An A-Day to remember

BY BILL KELLER

Delaware Valley College was proud to host another successful A-Day from April 24-26. This year’s event brought in approximately 34,000 visitors to campus; coupled with the astoundingly warm spring weather, it was an A-Day to remember!

Every year the students at Delaware Valley College work tirelessly to prepare the campus for the festivities. The work doesn’t start a few weeks before, however – students are often in meetings planning out A-Day details a few short months after the previous year has ended.

When the weekend comes, the DelVal family opens our arms to students, faculty, staff and members of the community. Visitors enjoy agriculture demonstrations, delicious food, hand-made milkshakes and the unique culture that only DelVal can offer.

DelVal would like to commend the hard work of the students and their advisors, Joan Hock, associate director of financial aid; Dr. Thomas Slane, chair of the agribusiness department; Jennifer Rock, director of the annual fund; and Harry McGinnis, electrician for DelVal’s Physical Plant.

We all look forward to seeing you at next year’s A-Day weekend!
Trustee Richard Reif seeks major health care reform
Watson speaker serves both DelVal and Doylestown Hospital

BY EDWARD LEVENSON

Richard Reif, president and chief executive officer of Doylestown Hospital, called for a major reform of America’s health care system during a day spent at Delaware Valley College in April as the Thomas W. Watson Executive-in-Residence.

Reif, a member of the college’s board of trustees, concluded that the country’s future well-being is in jeopardy unless the $2.2 trillion health care system is overhauled to bring down costs that are spiraling out of control.

“We can get a man to the moon, but we can’t figure out the American health care system,” said Reif, who has been Doylestown Hospital’s top executive for 20 years. He said the goal of affordable health care deserves the same kind of commitment that the nation made to the moon landing 40 years ago.

Reif addressed students attending the two Watson lectures. The program was founded in 2005 by Thomas W. Watson, a 1957 DelVal graduate and former chief growth officer of Omnicom Group, Inc. Twice a year, executives from various businesses visit the college to share with students their personal career stories and to give their perspective on trends and issues influencing the world economy.

The 63-year-old Reif, who grew up in suburban Baltimore, said he and millions of other baby boomers are approaching retirement age and soon will be receiving Medicare benefits. He told the students that, once they start a career, they may not be able to afford a house or even a car because they will be paying so much in taxes to support elderly health care.

“Medicare should not bankrupt our children and grandchildren. People’s lives should not be totally disrupted by the lack of access or the cost of care,” said Reif, who graduated from the University of Maryland with a bachelor’s degree in zoology and holds a master’s degree in hospital administration from the Medical College of Virginia.

He noted that America landed a man on the moon in July 1969, slightly more than eight years after President John F. Kennedy proclaimed that goal in a May 1961 speech to Congress. But nearly 12 years after Congress passed a 1997 law intended to rein in health care costs, the system remains in disarray.

“Are we failing to have a moonshot in health care? I think we are,” said Reif, who formerly was an executive at Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore and Jeanes Hospital in Philadelphia.

The current system is poorly designed; insurance payments dictate the type of care, and the emphasis is on costly treatments rather than cost-effective preventative measures, he said.

Doylestown Hospital is one of about 15 hospitals in the country participating in a Medicare “demonstration” project, but the only one that has been successful in reducing emergency room admissions and Medicare expenses, while cutting overall costs by 10 percent, according to Reif.

Health care reform depends on making fundamental changes in hospital care and shifting the long-term emphasis from treatment to wellness and prevention, Reif said. Any solution also must address the enormous expense of caring for the terminally ill in hospitals.

Insurance companies will fight changes because they make more profit by denying care and delaying reimbursements to hospitals, Reif said. He said he doesn’t believe private insurers should have a role in reforms, although he acknowledged they will apply political pressure to try to head off a national health plan.

“I find no social value whatsoever in these companies. All they do is avoid risk,” he said.

Toyota has achieved a reputation for quality cars because of the way it works with suppliers to design parts that are well made and less costly, according to Reif.

“We know how to make a better car. We have to learn to provide health care in a better way,” he said.
Designing New York

BY JENNA PORTNOY

Don Richardson ’56, a renowned landscape architect, has made a great city greater.
It was 1963, and architect Phillip Johnson had a problem. The trees in the sculpture garden he designed a decade earlier at New York’s Museum of Modern Art were dying. So he called the firm of Zion Breen & Richardson. The “Richardson” in that name is Don Richardson, a member of DelVal’s Class of ’56 who went on to get a master’s degree in landscape architecture from Harvard University.

If you do much sightseeing in New York City, you’ve seen his work. He’s designed at MOMA, the Statue of Liberty and an assortment of parks and buildings around town.

When Johnson called, Richardson suggested he swap the large evergreens, called cryptomeria, for beech. “That was our in,” said Richardson, a college trustee since 2000, who prides himself on pleasing his clients. “They’ve got to be happy,” he said. “If they’re not happy, you’re not happy being there.”

Zion Breen & Richardson, which Richardson, 74, runs out of a studio next to his Doylestown, Pa., home, continues to serve as landscape architect to the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden at the museum. During its recent expansion, the one-acre garden was used for construction staging and had to be completely restored. Single stem birch trees, marble, bubbling fountains—everything was brought in new. Only the layout survived, though even it was in peril for a time.

At a MOMA meeting, Johnson—by then in his 90s with an ever-shortening attention span—argued for change. The soft-spoken Richardson dreaded the thought of reshaping a space flexible enough to host patrons, tented parties and musical performances.

“It works,” began his plea to guardians of the garden, including museum trustee Beth Straus. “There’s a balance between the trees and the sculpture. How could we make it any better?”

Museum architect Yoshio Taniguchi came to his defense. “The garden is the focus on the museum,” he said. “It worked before, so why recreate it?”

Common sense prevailed and, in 2004, The New York Times said the replanted garden “never ever looked better or felt more a part of the building,” and called it “the best place from which to appreciate the newly hatched museum.”

In addition to Manhattan treasures like the MOMA garden, Paley Park, the IBM building atrium and Liberty Island, Richardson’s firm counts among its international clientele Princeton, Yale and Rutgers universities, as well as various corporate headquarters and private residences. It has won more than 50 design awards. Richardson said DelVal professors Josh Feldstein, Henry Schmieder and Fred Blau gave him not only the fundamental knowledge of plant materials but also the support to pursue a graduate degree in design at Harvard.

“It’s really knowing the earth,” he said, framed by sun-dappled greenery beyond the windows of his studio. The chirping of birds mingles with classical music. “It’s art and science, and we have to make it work. It has to last. It has to be sustainable, which is the key word today.”

DelVal was committed to sustainability—design around nature, not vice versa—before the concept was in vogue, and this influenced Richardson’s philosophy. “We’ve been doing this for 50 years,” he said.

Richardson’s future in horticulture was predestined. His father, a “quiet, staid Englishman” and horticulturist who traveled the world cultivating orchids, met his mother, a “vivacious Scot ready to kill the English for all the wrongs they did,” while studying abroad.

They moved to West Orange, N.J., and raised their only child in Llewellyn Park. As the first planned residential community, it pre-dated Levittown by nearly a century and featured a common green known as the Ramble, which likely influenced Central Park designer Frederick Law Olmsted. Richardson’s father worked for George W. Merck, scientist and president of the pharmaceutical giant, to shorten the orchid’s seven-year flowering period.

“I was probably conceived under an orchid tree,” Richardson joked.

Although he relished the outdoors, the young Richardson shied away from his father’s encyclopedic knowledge of horticulture. “I knew I had to make my own

If you’ve visited the Big Apple, you’ve seen Don Richardson’s work

“I knew I had to make my own mark”

Don Richardson
Don Richardson faced a challenge fresh out of design school: create a public park in a 4,200-square-foot space on 53rd Street between Madison and Fifth avenues in Manhattan. The budget: unlimited. The client: CBS President William Paley.

Landscape architect Robert Zion’s vision for a “vest pocket park” on every block influenced Paley, who soon demolished the Stork Club and acquired the real estate on all sides. “Don’t fill it up with design. Don’t fill it up with things,” Richardson remembers Zion telling him. “Fill it up with people.”

The project hit a snag when Paley’s wife, fashion icon Barbara “Babe” Cushing Mortimer, caught her spike heel in the sand between the cobblestones where water was supposed to drain. They set the stone in concrete instead.

Richardson thought of the vacant lot as an “outdoor room” – a novel concept at the time – and erected a huge waterfall to muffle the street noise. He brought in movable bertoia chairs to foster a dynamic “social intercourse,” and, designing for all senses, added a concession stand.

While researching a street life project in the late ’70s, William Whyte, author of “The Organization Man,” told Richardson that Paley, for its size, was the most used park in the city. A recent user had this to say on a Web site about public spaces: “Paley Park is a place I go in my head when I need to escape.”

— JENNA PORTNOY

For its size, is the most used park in the city
William Whyte

mark,” he said. A poster commemorating the Greater New York Orchid Show hangs near a Matisse print in his jam-packed studio, but none of the sought-after blooms grow in the greenhouse.

For college, he considered Cornell and Rutgers before a guidance counselor suggested DelVal, then called the National Agricultural College, for its small classes and hands-on approach to agronomy. Plus, he could play football and live in the team house on campus, now the Alumni House. He and teammate Glen Wrigley of Perkasie remain close friends.

Both laugh recalling odd jobs Wrigley arranged, from the short-lived night shift at a stocking factory to a summer hauling hay bales. “He’s really a neat guy,” Wrigley said of Richardson. “We had a lot of good times together, and we really came from different backgrounds.”

Wrigley grew up on a farm in Bucks County and Richardson on the Merck estate, but all students at DelVal learned the basics early on, as they do today.

“The great thing about Delaware Valley College is you have to take all forms of agriculture,” Richardson said. “My first year it was chickens.”

Later, Blau, a landscape design professor and longtime chair of the ornamental horticulture department, encouraged him to apply to his alma mater, Harvard, just as he did for Peter Rolland four years earlier along with Pat Kelly ’51 and Marvin Adelman ’55.

Rolland, a trustee from 1991 to 2003, opened his landscape architecture firm after Richardson joined Zion & Breen, and the men competed for work.

“Don became a partner in what was probably the cutting edge firm when I got out of school,” said Rolland. “When you see what Don has done with regards to the Museum of Modern Art, Paley Park and the IBM building, you see really that plant materials are an important part but not the whole part. They compose the whole.”

Richardson’s work has taken him all over the country and world, from Atlanta to Los Angeles and Tokyo to Paris. Shortly after a trip to France in the

Paley Park:
A place to go to in your head

mark,” he said. A poster commemorating the Greater New York Orchid Show hangs near a Matisse print in his jam-packed studio, but none of the sought-after blooms grow in the greenhouse.

For college, he considered Cornell and Rutgers before a guidance counselor suggested DelVal, then called the National Agricultural College, for its small classes and hands-on approach to agronomy. Plus, he could play football and live in the team house on campus, now the Alumni House. He and teammate Glen Wrigley of Perkasie remain close friends.

Both laugh recalling odd jobs Wrigley arranged, from the short-lived night shift at a stocking factory to a summer hauling hay bales. “He’s really a neat guy,” Wrigley said of Richardson. “We had a lot of good times together, and we really came from different backgrounds.”

Wrigley grew up on a farm in Bucks County and Richardson on the Merck estate, but all students at DelVal learned the basics early on, as they do today.

“The great thing about Delaware Valley College is you have to take all forms of agriculture,” Richardson said. “My first year it was chickens.”

Later, Blau, a landscape design professor and longtime chair of the ornamental horticulture department, encouraged him to apply to his alma mater, Harvard, just as he did for Peter Rolland four years earlier along with Pat Kelly ’51 and Marvin Adelman ’55.

Rolland, a trustee from 1991 to 2003, opened his landscape architecture firm after Richardson joined Zion & Breen, and the men competed for work.

“Don became a partner in what was probably the cutting edge firm when I got out of school,” said Rolland. “When you see what Don has done with regards to the Museum of Modern Art, Paley Park and the IBM building, you see really that plant materials are an important part but not the whole part. They compose the whole.”

Richardson’s work has taken him all over the country and world, from Atlanta to Los Angeles and Tokyo to Paris. Shortly after a trip to France in the
"70s, he noticed some odd symptoms. He couldn’t feel his fingers.

“It’s a scary thing for a landscape architect,” he said, raising black frames to his forehead. Richardson, whose work doubles as a hobby, enjoyed a convenient view of the firm’s project on Roosevelt Island from his bed at New York Hospital, but otherwise there were few bright spots. He couldn’t grip small objects – not a pencil, not a razor.

It’s still unclear what caused the virus of the nerves, which may have been lead poisoning, yet all that remains is an occasional twinge – and a white beard. Nancy, his wife of 50 years with whom he has two children and five grandchildren, teases him not to cut it or he might lose his strength like the biblical Samson.

Richardson, the last living principal in Zion, Breen & Richardson, recently moved the firm out of a restored mill in Imalystown, N.J., where it was based for three decades. Alysse

"Don became a partner in what was probably the cutting edge firm when I got out of school,"

Peter Rolland ’52

Einbender joined as an associate a year later in 2006. She put the firm’s early use of sustainable features such as water and bamboo into greater use.

Richardson’s experience is part of what led Rolland to nominate him to the DelVal board. It had been 45 years since the college’s master plan was updated when Rolland overhauled it in the ’90s, and it was time for a revise.

“It was very important for me even when I was still on the board to get someone on there who would ultimately continue that direction of creative planning for the college,” Rolland said.

President Joseph S. Brosnan said Richardson wants today’s students to enjoy the same positive undergraduate experience he did.

“As an active member of the facilities committee, he knows all the issues and brings both his artistic eye and practical experience to the table,” Brosnan said. “He thinks big and also understands what the needs of the institution are going forward.”

Just as important, the president said: “I rely on him as a mentor and a friend. He’s a good man.”

Whether planning college campuses or urban spaces, Richardson said the test for successful landscape architecture is the same: “Are people using it?”

On a warm June afternoon in Manhattan, people filled the MOMA garden, Paley Park and the IBM atrium oblivious to the significance of the spaces where they chatted, read or ate lunch. Richardson
The Board of Trustees at Delaware Valley College is proud to announce the appointment of two additional members, entrepreneur Robert Lipinski ’80 and Arthur Hershey, a former member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

BY BILL KELLER

ROBERT LIPINSKI graduated from DelVal with a bachelor’s degree in Ornamental Horticulture and Environmental Design.

He is the founder of Lipinski Outdoor Services. Headquartered in Marlton, N.J., it specializes in landscaping, irrigation and snow removal.

By providing an umbrella of outdoor services, the Lipinski organization has grown by as much as 30 percent in a given year. His landscape and irrigation unit has been named a top 25 landscape company in the nation; Lipinski snow removal is ranked among the top five in snow and ice management.

Lipinski also owns Dynamic Defense Materials and is managing partner for Millennium Land Development.

Lipinski has been a member of the 1896 Society at Delaware Valley College since 2006. Through his generosity and support, the college was able to renovate the football stadium at James Work Memorial Field. In 2008, he agreed to serve as the alumni co-chair of the DelVal Fund Volunteer Council.

ARTHUR HERSHEY is the former Pennsylvania representative from the 13th Legislative District, which includes Chester County. He was elected to the House in 1982 and served until his retirement in 2008.

During his tenure, Hershey served as chair of the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, the House Veterans Affairs and Energy Preparedness Committee and the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee. He was a member of the House Consumer Affairs Committee.

Hershey authored the first Clean and Green bill, designed to preserve agricultural and forest land. A lifelong farmer, he is committed to preserving agriculture as one of Pennsylvania’s top industries.

Over the course of his career, Hershey has received the President’s Award from the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association; the Friend of Beginning Farmer Award from Pennsylvania Farm Link and the Pennsylvania Master Farmers Award by the Pennsylvania Farmers’ Magazine and the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service.

Hershey has served on the Pennsylvania Farm Show Commission from 1981 to 1985 and as chairman of the West Fallowfield Planning Committee from 1975 to 1982.

In addition to Delaware Valley College’s Board of Trustees, Hershey serves on the Pennsylvania Farm Link Board and the Pennsylvania Ag Awareness Foundation Board.
Mike Wilcox was on a mission, a mission that began on June 14, 2004. That was the day his older brother Ricky was killed in an automobile accident just one day before his high school graduation.

The mission: win a state or national wrestling championship. After all, both Mike and Ricky had wrestled since their youth and both had high aspirations on the mat (Ricky was all set to wrestle at West Virginia University before the tragedy).

After near misses as a senior in high school, at junior college and his first year at Delaware Valley College, Mike Wilcox finally accomplished his quest in March as he captured the 184-pound title at the NCAA Division III Championships. Not only did Wilcox stand atop the national podium, but he was also named the tournament's Most Outstanding Wrestler – the first Aggie to ever receive that honor.

“It was a dream come true,” Wilcox said shortly after the title. “I thought about the moment everyday, and the feeling was even greater than I thought it would be.”

Wilcox transferred to Delaware Valley prior to the 2007-08 school year and made an immediate impact for the Aggies. He won 28 of 31 matches and captured the regional crown to earn a spot at the NCAA tournament. As the second seed, Wilcox went all the way to the finals before suffering an 8-2 loss to undefeated Romeo Djoumessi of Wartburg College. Despite all the wins and accolades from a memorable year, all he could think about was the loss to Djoumessi. He also knew he had just one more year, one more chance to make his dream come true.

Wilcox opened the 2008-09 campaign ranked second in his weight class behind Djoumessi. He temporarily took over the number one spot when Djoumessi missed the beginning of the year with an injury, but he moved back to second upon Djoumessi’s return.

In late January, thanks to the team’s fundraising, Wilcox and the Aggies headed out to Iowa for three days to take on three of the top teams in the country in No. 19 Luther College, No. 4 Coe College and No. 2 Wartburg. Delaware Valley was ranked third at the time and the trip was designed to give the squad members some major tests and help prepare them for the NCAA Championships.

Wilcox knew what the trip meant for him personally. It was not only a rematch with his chief rival, it would also be on Djoumessi’s home mat in front of his home crowd. It couldn’t get any tougher – or better – than that and it was just how Wilcox wanted it.

“I knew I wasn’t going to lose,” Wilcox said.

Wilcox quickly took Djoumessi down and looked for back points, but he was too close to the out of bound marker to earn any. Wilcox continued to press on and he shocked Djoumessi and nearly everyone in the gym by turning him over and pinning him to the mat. It took just two minutes and 10 seconds to end Djoumessi’s 35-match winning streak and give Delaware Valley six points in what turned out to be a 19-19 tie with Wartburg. As a team, the Aggies moved into a tie for second in the rankings with Wartburg and, for Wilcox, it vaulted him into the number one spot in his weight class.

- continued next page
ATHLETICS

AGGIES PLACE FIFTH AT NATIONALS

Mike Wilcox was not the only story of the 2008-09 wrestling season. The Aggies went 21-1-2 during the year, ranked as high as second in the country and finished in fifth place in the team standings at the NCAA Division III Championships.

Among the squad’s accomplishments:

• A Division III team, it went a perfect 4-0 against Division I opponents and was 1-0-1 against Division II opponents.
• Nine of the wins were against nationally-ranked Division III teams, including triumphs over the number four (two wins over Coe) and five (Wisconsin-Lacrosse) squads.
• Earned a 19-19 tie with second-ranked and eventual national champion Wartburg.
• Captured the NCAA Midwest Regional title for the third straight year.
• Rocky Mantella was named the Midwest Regional’s Most Outstanding Wrestler.
• Head coach Brandon Totten was named the Midwest Regional’s Coach of the Year for the third straight season.
• Six Aggies qualified for the NCAA Division III Championships with a school-record five going on to earn All-American accolades (top eight finish in weight class at nationals).
• Mantella (31-1) reached the 174-pound national finals before dropping in a 1-0 decision.
• Kyle Bilquist (31-5) placed fourth at heavyweight for his second straight All-American accolade.
• Chris Sheetz (37-7) earned his second All-American honor with an eighth-place finish at 125 pounds.
• Brandon Clemmer (33-8) placed seventh at 133 pounds for his first All-American award.
• Dale Fava (20-9) was a national qualifier at 149 pounds.

Wilcox marched along the rest of the year and captured a second straight Midwest Regional crown. Meanwhile, his quest was starting to gain attention and he was profiled in a number of newspapers as well as on Comcast SportsNet, the premier sports station in the Philadelphia area (Wilcox was profiled nationally on CBS Sports’ NCAA Winter Championships Highlight Show the year before).

On March 6, Mike Wilcox’s final chance to win a national title for Ricky began in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He was the top seed at the NCAA Championships and, after earning a pin in the opening round, survived a scare with an overtime win over the eighth seed in the quarterfinals. Meanwhile, Djoumessi never seemed to recover from the loss to Wilcox in January, and he dropped his opening-round match to fall into the consolation bracket (he was then eliminated in the second round of consolations and did not even place in the top eight). With Djoumessi out of the picture, Wilcox knew he couldn’t get complacent and had to stay focused.

“There were a lot of upsets happening at the tournament and I just kept telling myself that that wasn’t going to happen to me and that I was going to be a national champion.”

The next day’s semifinals saw Wilcox earn an 11-5 decision over the fifth seed, and he was in the finals for a second straight year. And like Djoumessi last year, this opponent was undefeated. He’d face third-seeded Phil Moenkedick of Concordia Moorehead College, who had a 35-0 record. It would all come down to the next seven minutes.

It was never a contest. Wilcox notched a takedown and two, two-point near falls for a 6-0 lead at the end of the first period. He added an escape and a takedown in the second for a 9-0 advantage. Moenkedick escaped to start the third, but Wilcox came back with a takedown and a three-point near fall. His riding time added an extra point for a 15-1 major decision. It was Wilcox’s 37th win of the year in 39 tries and the ninth individual championship in the school’s storied wrestling history.

“He saved his best performance for last,” head coach and former two-time Aggie national champion Brandon Totten said. As the final buzzer sounded to end the championship match, Mike Wilcox raised both arms in the air and looked upward. There was no question who he was acknowledging. In the final match of his collegiate career, his mission was finally complete. He won a national title for his late brother.

And, undoubtedly, Ricky Wilcox was right there with Mike as an angel in his corner.
**TURNAROUND YEAR FOR MEN’S HOOPS**

It was a year full of firsts for the Aggie men’s basketball team with the biggest one being the first time it reached the conference playoffs in 40 years. Yes, 40 years.

First-year head coach Casey Stitzel brought a new attitude to a program that had gone 5-20, 5-20 and 3-22 in the previous three seasons. Stitzel and a group of mostly freshmen and newcomers matched those last three years in just one as they went 13-13 overall and 8-8 in the Freedom Conference (they were 0-14 in league play a season earlier).

It was the first winning record in the regular season (13-12) in 22 years and the conference mark was good enough for fifth place, which put them in the opening-round playoff game at Wilkes University. Earlier in the year, the Aggies had gone up to Wilkes-Barre and registered a win on the Colonels’ home court for the first time since 1977.

Delaware Valley nearly pulled off the feat again as it led for most of the contest before dropping a 64-60 decision. Sophomore transfer James Jones finished with 26 points in the playoff setback, and he finished the year as the conference’s leading scorer with an average of 20.5 points per game. He was named to both the all-conference and all-region teams after the season.

With just one senior – all-time assists leader Jason Seipt – lost to graduation, Stitzel and the Aggies will have their sight sets on not only a return trip to the playoffs but a Freedom Conference championship as well.

**SOFTBALL, BASEBALL RETURN TO POST-SEASON**

The spring campaign saw both the Aggie softball and baseball teams reach the postseason as the softball team qualified for the Freedom Conference playoffs for a third consecutive year while the baseball squad were selected again for the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) South Region Championships.

After graduating the core of the 2008 Freedom Conference runner-up team, 2009 was thought to be a rebuilding year for the softball squad, especially with the entire pitching staff comprised of freshmen. Instead, they posted a 14-16 overall record that included a 10-6 mark and a third-place finish in the Freedom. They dropped a playoff decision in the double-elimination tournament to defending champion DeSales and titlist Misericordia University.

The baseball team got off to a blazing start, before cooling off in the middle of the campaign. The Aggies turned it on at the end and were one of six teams selected for the ECAC tournament. They were the number three seed and hosted No. 6 Neumann for an opening-round game on campus. Delaware Valley fell to the Knights to end its season with a 21-13 record.
DONOVAN, PITTS SHINE ON THE TRACK

Freshmen Meghan Donovan and Travis Pitts made an immediate impact on the Aggie track and field teams and reached heights not seen in the program in years.

Donovan was the runner-up at the Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) Championships in the high jump and then went to the ECAC Championships where she cleared the bar at 5 feet, 5.75 inches. That not only set a school record, but also qualified her for the NCAAs. She then placed 10th at the national tournament, missing All-American accolades by just two spots.

Pitts became the first Delaware Valley male athlete to win a MAC track event in more than a decade. He crossed the 100-meter finish line in 11.14 seconds, just .01 ahead of Elizabethtown’s Wyatt Eaton (11.15). Pitts also earned points in the 200-meter dash (eighth) and was part of the 400-meter relay team that placed third.

WINTER/SPRING RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>OVERALL</th>
<th>CONFERENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WRESTLING</td>
<td>21-1-2</td>
<td>Midwest Regional Champions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>* 5th Place At NCAA Division III Championships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEN’S BASKETBALL</td>
<td>13-13</td>
<td>8-8 (5/9 teams)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>* Freedom Conference Playoff Qualifiers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOMEN’S BASKETBALL</td>
<td>11-14</td>
<td>5-11 (7/9 teams)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEN’S INDOOR TRACK</td>
<td>invitational</td>
<td>8/10 teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOMEN’S INDOOR TRACK</td>
<td>invitational</td>
<td>8/10 teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASEBALL</td>
<td>21-13</td>
<td>7-9 (7/9 teams)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>* ECAC South Region Playoff Qualifiers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOLF</td>
<td>2-5</td>
<td>7/9 teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOFTBALL</td>
<td>14-16</td>
<td>10-6 (3/9 teams)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>* Freedom Conference Playoff Qualifiers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEN’S OUTDOOR TRACK</td>
<td>invitational</td>
<td>7/10 teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOMEN’S OUTDOOR TRACK</td>
<td>invitational</td>
<td>8/10 teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2009 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

- Defending MAC Champions -
- Defending ECAC South Atlantic Bowl Champions -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>September 5</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins University (Hall of Fame Game)</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>2:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>Kean University</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>September 19</td>
<td>Wesley College</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>OFF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Lebanon Valley College*</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>October 10</td>
<td>FDU-Florham*</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Family Weekend)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>October 17</td>
<td>Wilkes University*</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Homecoming)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>Lycoming College*</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>King’s College*</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>Albright College*</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Senior Day)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Widener University*</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Keystone Cup)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Middle Atlantic Conference Game
ALL GAMES CAN BE HEARD LIVE OVER THE INTERNET AT www.delval.edu/athletics
Deer Resistant Plants Lecture and Garden Raffle
Jerry Fritz • Wednesday, Sept. 23
7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

Reception in Mandell lobby at 6:45 p.m. Book-signing and “Garden Passions” Raffle drawing follow the presentation. Purchase $1 Raffle tickets (or 6 tickets for $5) for a chance to win.

Plants That Stir the Minds of Many
Timothy Jennings • Wednesday, Oct. 14
7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

Mt. Cuba Center: A Gardener’s Lust for the Elusive Wildflower
Rick Lewandowski • Wednesday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

Hosta-ilities
Walter Cullerton • Wednesday, Dec. 9
7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

Elements of Creative Gardening: Experience, Observation and Imagination
Rick Darke • Wednesday, Feb 10
7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

FOUNDERS LECTURES
The Founders Lectures are FREE to Schmieder Arboretum members and current students. Non-members are invited to attend at a cost of $5 for each lecture. No registration is necessary.
1940s

William Weisberg ‘41 celebrated his 89th birthday on May 17, 2009. He wants to let DelVal alumni know he’s healthy and doing well. He’s pictured here by his prized Oleander plant that he propagated from a seedling. He also tends to his gardenia bush daily with loving care. William lives in Hallandale, FL, where he continues to garden and swim daily.

1950s

It has been 60 years since Leonard E. Crooke ‘51 began at DelVal, so he thought it time to update alums on his life so far. He reports that he and his wife have four boys, two girls, 13 grandsons, four granddaughters and one great-grandchild on the way. He has been a milk inspector, a milk plant quality control technician, a Dairy Herd Improvement Association supervisor and a dairy farm manager. He said his farm, Crooked Acres Dairy, is the last farmer-owned dairy herd in Buckingham, Pa.

1960s

Chef Fritz Blank ‘64 and a partner are building a Farm Villa located south of Pattaya in a remote area called Sattahip. They own about 12 acres that surround the “Farm House” and beyond that is a family of East Indians who look after a herd of about 30 Brahman Cattle and sheep. And in chef’s words: “Not particularly good husbandry as I recollect having been taught.”

In November Chef will return to Philadelphia to be honored at Penn Homecoming events.

He is also working on his first book full of recipes from the Deux. He says his biggest problem is trying to cut the recipes down to normal size. We all look forward to a wonderful addition to the culinary world.

Bill (Liam) Mitchell ’67 recently finished two independent films. “Everything is Ordinary” was scheduled for release this summer and “Passerine” should be released next year. He completed a spot on HBO’s “In Treatment- Private and Confidential” which aired through June on Demand. He remarried last year to Dr. Barbara Schlachet, an actor and singer. They reside in New York City in Greenwich Village.

Richard Scott ’68 retired in December with 40+ years of government service as a customs and border protection supervisor. He married Patricia Dey in 2008 and resides in Toms River, NJ.

1970s

M. Jeffery Bloom ’71 has been named executive vice president of the Dairy Practices Council (DPC). Since his graduation from DelVal, Jeff has held various management positions for Dairylea Cooperative Inc., Agri-Mark, Inc., Environmental Systems Service Ltd., The Häagen-Dazs Company Inc., Weber Scientific Inc. and JohnsonDiversey. He served as president of DPC from 2003 to 2006.

Garth H. Brown ’73 works for the State College Borough Water Authority as a supervisor. He and wife Linda are enjoying their first grandchild (a granddaughter, Addison). The couple spends their free time traveling and volunteering. Their youngest daughter is a senior chemical engineering major at Penn State.
David Wade ’74 recently formed the Princeton College of Medicine website. The website and online school has already attracted a small group of Ivy League educated professionals and potential students interested in helping it get off the ground. It will be the only private medical school in New Jersey, according to Dave, who hopes the venture will go international.

Rosario A. Licciardello ’74 announced the formation of his consulting firm in April 2008. After 35 years in agriculture and industry, he is offering services in sales, market and product development to the chemical and nano materials industry.

Steve Shelly ’74 was named to the Pennridge-Quakertown Area Hall of Fame in April 2009. A 1970 Quakertown alumnus, Shelly was a three-year letter winner in soccer and earned two letters in both basketball and baseball. He went on to become a 1,000-point scorer in basketball at Delaware Valley College and is a member of DelVal’s basketball Hall of Fame.

Pete Thomas ’77 and Kathy Rigolizzo Thomas ’76 became the proud grandparents of Danielle Jessica DiMattessa on Feb. 2, 2009. Danielle is their first grandchild. Pete completed his master’s degree in project management in October 2008 and is the director of project management for Elwyn, where he has worked for 30 years. Kathy is director of religious education at St. Joseph Parish in Downingtown. Their children are Becky (spouse of Brian DiMattessa and mother of Danielle), who is an engineer for Boeing in Ridley Park, and Abbey, who will complete her Ph.D. in Kinesiology at the University of Michigan in 2010.

Thomas Simpson ’77 is moving back to his native Lancaster after living in Italy for 23 years. He is working at Franklin and Marshall College as sustainability coordinator and liaison to the Millport Conservancy. He and his wife Daniela will celebrate 20 years of marriage this year. They have two children, Arianna, a student at Penn State, and Lorenzo, a middle-school student.

Laura Smith Owen ’79 and her husband Dave live outside of Kansas City. Their twin sons are 27 years old. Matthew recently returned from Iraq, where he served 15 months in the U.S. Army, and David is working as director of technology at ICOP Digital, Inc, headquartered in Lenexa, Kansas. Laura is president and COO of ICOP, a company that protects people, assets and profits through its surveillance and communications solutions for the public and private sectors.

1980s

Jeff and Linda Singletary ’80 celebrated the wedding of their daughter, LeeAnne, to Kristopher Looney at their home in August. Jeff was to perform the ceremony.

LeeAnne graduated from the University of Iowa with her master’s. She works at Ice-Miller, a law firm in Indianapolis as director of business development. Kris is a tennis pro and head tennis coach at Marian University in Indianapolis.

Richard Solomons ’81 turned the big five-0 (50!!) on Feb. 25, 2009. A party in his honor, celebrated in New York City, marked the event with many friends and family.

Todd Shafer ’81 and Annmarie Mclean Shafer ’82 celebrated their silver wedding anniversary in April 2009 with a trip to Aruba. They went without their two children, Ben, 20, and Max, 16. Todd turned 50 on July 26, 2009.

Dr. Gary Ulrich ’82, an orthopedic surgeon, is performing a revolutionary knee construction procedure to repair the ACL (anterior cruciate ligament). The procedure is called Anatomic Double Bundle Concept. Only a handful of surgeons are doing the procedure in the United States and Dr. Ulrich is the only surgeon offering the procedure in Indiana.

Tim Schuler ’82 has been 22 years with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture’s Division of Animal Health. In August 2007 he became a state apiarist with the NJDA Division of Plant Industry. He has also been a side line beekeeper in New Jersey for 20 years and is responsible for the health and well being of the New Jersey beekeeping industry. He lives in Richland, N.J., with his wife Patty Denmead Schuler ’85. Patty is a mom and substitute school teacher in the Buena Regional School District. They have two children Emily, 16 and Ben, 11.

Joe Radosky ’82 has been promoted from the Santa Fe Rocket Racing Team to a new role as the director of business development for the Rocket Razing League. He will coordinate interaction between the League and the Six Racing teams, as well as promote the new sport of Rocket Racing. Joe’s interest in aviation and racing started at age 14 by flying gliders and serving in the Civil Air Patrol. At 16 he started to race automobiles and fly powered aircraft. Joe holds a Master of Science Degree from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.

Timothy Ireland ’85 has moved his business, the Newtown Veterinary Hospital, into its new location at 107 Penns Trail in Newtown.
Jerry Fritz ‘88 offered his advice to Martha Stewart on her TV show “Martha.”

Fritz, owner of Linden Hill Gardens in Ottsville, PA, spoke on home gardens and how they can be protected from natural wildlife, particularly deer. On the April 17 program, Fritz spoke about the natural ways to persuade deer not to ravage your carefully-maintained flora through careful selection of garden plants.

According to Fritz, the list of plants deer avoid include hardy perennials, tender perennials and deer-resistant shrubs.

Linden Hill Gardens is a retail nursery. It specializes in rare, unusual and cutting-edge plants for collectors and connoisseurs.

Fritz will speak as a guest presenter at the Henry Schmieder Arboretum at Delaware Valley College at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 23. His topic, once again, will be “Deer-Resistant Plants” and will expand on the information provided during “Martha.”

To learn about this and other arboretum presentations, go to delval.edu/arboretum

1990s

Brad Bittner ’90 is in his 20th year in the landscaping business. He is the owner of Vir Terra Landscaping in DuBois, Pa. His local paper, the Courier-Express/Tri-County Sunday, did an article on him in May. Find it at: www.leader-vindicator.com/site/news.cfm?
newsid=20312768&BRD=2758&PAG=
461&dept_id=572984&refi=6

Alex McCraken ’91 and his wife own a business called The Turnip Truck. Located in Haycock, Pa., it helps local residents to design and maintain organic gardens. Each garden is customized to the client’s wishes of creating organic vegetable, herb and flower gardens.

Dawn Hofstetter ’92 and Robert Hofstetter ’91 report that Robert is an Entomologist for the State of Maryland, and the special program coordinator/specialist for endangered species/water quality. Dawn is working for LaMotte Company as the Director of Safety. They have two children, Matthew, 9, and Sarah, 6, and a bunch of animals.

Kim (Manserl) Gottshall ’96 and Ryan Gottshall ’95 were married in 2002 and celebrated the birth of their daughter Julia Raine, on April 3, 2008. Kim is working for Merck as a research biologist. Ryan is the used car manager at Fred Beans Ford in Doylestown.

Kelly (Barnes) Miller ’99 is employed at Chambersburg Hospital. She has been married since September 2002 to Jim Miller and has two children, James Charles, born April 15, 2003, and Alexandria Elizabeth, born May 26, 2008.

2000s

Terra Lutz ’00 has moved to Seattle, Wash., and has gotten engaged to Dr. Mark Smith of Birmingham, England. They are planning a 2010 wedding.

Amanda Parker ’00 was wed to John Jewel on June 10, 2009.

Adam Cramer ’00 and Lacy Morrone-Cramer were married in May 2007. They have started their own equine business in Pittstown, N.J. called Equi Sport LLC.

Jeff Lesoine ’01 is working as an assistant superintendent for Water Gap County Club. An article in The Pocono Record headlined, “Perfect Grass at Home, Harder Than a Hole in One," quoted Jeff’s advice on how to keep grass green: use a long-lasting fertilizer.
Renee M. Calhoun ‘04 graduated from LaSalle University in August 2007 with her master’s in clinical counseling/psychology, marriage and family therapy. Renee is working as a therapist at Family Focus in Hatboro, Pa., and the Lenape Valley Foundation in Doylestown. She became an adjunct faculty member at DelVal in 2008.

Julia Kroout ‘04 graduated from Drexel University’s College of Medicine in May with a master’s of laboratory animal science. She has found a position at Weill Cornell Medical School as laboratory animal resources center supervisor and will be relocating to New York City.

Melissa Voytershark ‘05 attended law school at Widener University School of Law - Delaware. He is a licensed attorney in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Eric V. Orr ‘05 proposed to Amber Spencer on May 25th 2009. No wedding date has been set.

Amanda (Amy) Hummel ‘05 graduated from Michigan State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine on May 8, 2009. She will be working as an intern veterinarian at Veterinary Medical and Surgical Group, a private emergency and referral hospital in Ventura, Calif.

Kate Decker ‘05 has been working as a park ranger and EMT in Somerset County, NJ. Kate and her mother, Martha Decker, both decided to enter nursing school and both graduated in May 21, 2009 from Middlesex County College Nursing School.

Matthew Zerby ‘05 announced his engagement to Ashley Evans.

Adam Knoblauch ‘06, former Aggie quarterback, will serve as an honorary captain for this year’s Schuylkill County Football Coaches Association All-Star Game.

Crystal Craig ‘07 has announced her engagement to Ryan Bechtold. They are planning an October wedding.

Jennifer Scire ‘08 was accepted to Louisiana State University’s School of Veterinary Medicine. She will be focusing on small animals.

Donna Miller McCarty ‘80 and her husband George has adopted a little girl from China named Ginger Hui-an (wise flower) McCarty. Ginger was born June 21, 2008 in Jiangsu province. She joins big sister, Heather Mei-hua (beautiful flower) McCarty who is 7. Heather was adopted from the Jiangxi province.


Kim (Douglass) Hemingway ‘92 and Brian Hemingway ‘95 announced the birth of a daughter, Samantha, on Feb. 11, 2009. Samantha joins brother Tom, 11, and sister Becca, 9.

Lisa Tomascik Cheeseman ‘95 and Matthew Cheeseman ‘94 announced the birth of daughter Zofia Adelina on Dec. 19, 2008, at the Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, N.C. Zofia was named after her maternal great-grandmother.

Jennifer Horin Coutlee ‘94 and Wyatt Coutlee ‘97 welcomed daughter Nora Evelyn on June 8, 2009. She joins big sister Analyse Elizabeth, 10, and big brother Donovan Wyatt, 6. Wyatt and Jenn live in Fort Wayne, Ind., where Wyatt is the store manager for the Denver Mattress Company. Jennifer is a middle school teacher working on getting back into training horses.

Jeff M. Hess ‘97 announced the birth of a son, Jeffrey Jamison Hess, last November. Jeff purchased a new home in Blooming Glen, Pa.

Meredith Fogg ‘99 and husband Timothy Hahn welcomed their third child, a girl, Delia Arabella Hahn, into the world on Jan. 21, 2009. Delia joins big brother Caleb, 4 and big sister Mercy, 2.

Matthew Kleinle ‘00 and Heather Kleinle announce the birth of a son, Griffin Albert Kleinle, on Jan. 20, 2009. Matthew is a marketing and business math teacher, as well as the head wrestling coach at Stroudsburg High School, Pa.

Stacy Purcaro Richenderfer ‘01 and Bryan Purcaro ‘99 are the proud parents of a baby boy, Benjamin Daniel, born on Jan. 20, 2009 at Doylestown Hospital.

Amy (Eckert) Thomas ‘04 and Jeffrey Thomas ‘03 announced the birth of a baby girl, Morgan Lynn Thomas, on July 11, 2008 in Bel Air, Md.

Kathleen (Noll) Brown ‘05 and her husband Philip Brown had their first child, Alyssa Paige Brown, on Feb. 20, 2009 at the Reading Hospital, Reading PA. Born three weeks early, she weighed 5 pounds 12 ounces.

Libby (Garner) Hunking ‘06 and her husband Josh are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Mallory Eileen Hunking. She was born on April 5, 2009 in Fairfax, VA. Mom and Dad are loving every minute of being new parents.

Births/Adoptions

Zofia Cheeseman
Griffin Kleinle
Benjamin Purcaro
The Thomas Family
Alyssa Brown
Mallory Hunking

Crystal and Ryan

Crystal Craig '07 announced her engagement to Ryan Bechtold. They are planning an October wedding.

Jennifer Scire '08 was accepted to Louisiana State University’s School of Veterinary Medicine. She will be focusing on small animals.

Donna Miller McCarty ‘80 and her husband George has adopted a little girl from China named Ginger Hui-an (wise flower) McCarty. Ginger was born June 21, 2008 in Jiangsu province. She joins big sister, Heather Mei-hua (beautiful flower) McCarty who is 7. Heather was adopted from the Jiangxi province.


Kim (Douglass) Hemingway ‘92 and Brian Hemingway ‘95 announced the birth of a daughter, Samantha, on Feb. 11, 2009. Samantha joins brother Tom, 11, and sister Becca, 9.

Lisa Tomascik Cheeseman ‘95 and Matthew Cheeseman ‘94 announced the birth of daughter Zofia Adelina on Dec. 19, 2008, at the Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, N.C. Zofia was named after her maternal great-grandmother.

Jennifer Horin Coutlee ‘94 and Wyatt Coutlee ‘97 welcomed daughter Nora Evelyn on June 8, 2009. She joins big sister Analyse Elizabeth, 10, and big brother Donovan Wyatt, 6. Wyatt and Jenn live in Fort Wayne, Ind., where Wyatt is the store manager for the Denver Mattress Company. Jennifer is a middle school teacher working on getting back into training horses.

Jeff M. Hess ‘97 announced the birth of a son, Jeffrey Jamison Hess, last November. Jeff purchased a new home in Blooming Glen, Pa.

Meredith Fogg ‘99 and husband Timothy Hahn welcomed their third child, a girl, Delia Arabella Hahn, into the world on Jan. 21, 2009. Delia joins big brother Caleb, 4 and big sister Mercy, 2.

Matthew Kleinle ‘00 and Heather Kleinle announce the birth of a son, Griffin Albert Kleinle, on Jan. 20, 2009. Matthew is a marketing and business math teacher, as well as the head wrestling coach at Stroudsburg High School, Pa.

Stacy Purcaro Richenderfer ‘01 and Bryan Purcaro ‘99 are the proud parents of a baby boy, Benjamin Daniel, born on Jan. 20, 2009 at Doylestown Hospital.

Amy (Eckert) Thomas ‘04 and Jeffrey Thomas ‘03 announced the birth of a baby girl, Morgan Lynn Thomas, on July 11, 2008 in Bel Air, Md.

Kathleen (Noll) Brown ‘05 and her husband Philip Brown had their first child, Alyssa Paige Brown, on Feb. 20, 2009 at the Reading Hospital, Reading PA. Born three weeks early, she weighed 5 pounds 12 ounces.

Libby (Garner) Hunking ‘06 and her husband Josh are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Mallory Eileen Hunking. She was born on April 5, 2009 in Fairfax, VA. Mom and Dad are loving every minute of being new parents.
Weddings

Jane (Smeallie) Roback ‘84 on April 4, 2009, married David Roback along with his 2 children Nathan, 14, and Victoria, 17, to complete the family. Jane moved to Massachusetts and after 10 years continues her massage therapy practice in Connecticut.

Lora Cherepy ’00 married Victor Oliveria on April 18th, 2009. The ceremony took place on the beach on Grand Bahama Island in the Bahamas.

John Rigolizzo, ’06 was married to Carla Chianese of Eastampton, NJ on December 27, 2008. The wedding was held at The Bradford Estate in Hainesport. John works as an Environmental Technician for Underwood Engineering, and also has a Wedding DJ company of his own. Carla is a Kindergarten teacher at Eastampton Community School.

Deaths

Carl Schiff ’27 on April 12, 2009. He was 101.

Benjamin Friedman ’36, on Jan. 4, 2009 at his home in Santa Rosa, Ca.


Wallace Edward “Wally” Holznagel, Jr. ’63, of Chattanooga, on Feb. 14, 2009. He earned a master’s degree and Ph.D. in evolutionary biology from the University of Alabama, where he taught. Wally was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and a member of the Audubon Society.

Carole Dunscombe, wife of Bill Dunscombe ’68 passed away on June 7, 2009. Bill was a former President of the Alumni Association, and a member of the College Board of Trustees.


Debra L. Hatton ’81 on May 21, 2009. She was an avid horticulturalist.

Coach Al Wilson passed away in the early morning hours of July 19 at the age of 71. He was the former football coach and director of athletics.

The rest of the story

In the last issue of Horizons, Jennifer Lowery ’07 wrote about getting trapped in South America while doing research on tropical birds in the Amazon rainforest. Here is her update on how she got home.

To make a long story short, I made it back from Bolivia in one piece.

My study site had gone under martial law after civil war broke out. I, however, was lucky enough to have been in Peru at the time, obtaining a visa extension. This transformed my two-week vacation into a one-month exodus. The grad student working with me contracted white leprosy and had already left for the States. Luckily, I met a bilingual Mexican girl who asked me to travel with her from Bolivia down to Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Since the U.S. Embassy in Bolivia was shutdown, and American Airlines stopped service in Bolivia, I figured why not.

It was an adventure. We saw the Salar de Uyuni in southwest Bolivia (the world’s largest salt flat), toured the wineries of Salta in Argentina, rode horses and then split up for a bit. I went camping at Argentina’s National Chaco Park and was invited to a family BBQ.

A highlight of Argentina was this zoo outside Buenos Aires, where you could actually hug full-grown tigers and lions. I, then, ran out of money and haggled with the airlines to fly me home.

Upon my return to the United States, I landed a paid eight-month internship in Alamo, Texas, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service. I am monitoring bobcat and ocelot populations to determine how they are affected by the great border fence with Mexico (that will most likely fall down from erosion and a meandering river).

— Jennifer Lowery ’07
The Delaware Valley College Founders Society honors alumni, parents and friends who have included Delaware Valley College in their estate plans, thereby helping to strengthen and preserve the College. At this time, we wish to recognize and thank the current members of the Founders Society.

Russell C. Albright ’67
Stanley E. Barber ’52 & Family
Robert & Marren Berthold
Doris Blau
John Mark Bloomfield ’78
Marvin ’62 & Arlene Brand
Martin ’54 & Rebecca Brooks
Joseph ’57 & Betty Lou Catino
Arthur ‘53 & Jean Collins
Harry ’55 & Christine Conover
Clifford H. Cortelyou ’68
Leonard ’51 & Elizabeth Crooke
Raymond, Jr. ’64 & Bonnie Cupples
Daniel ’74 & Joanne ’86 DaCunha
Dennis N. DeSimone ’72
James ’61 & Elizabeth Diamond
Glenn R. Fahnstock ’76
Joshua ’52 & Miriam Feldstein
Gery ’70 & Carol Fisher
Louis Goldenberg ’45*
Howard S. Hauser ’72
Thomas R. Hawk ’85
Patricia Hilton ’76
Ivar ’53 & Mary Holmberg
Wallace E. Holznagel, Jr. ’63*
Bret A. Hoover ’90
John ’66 & Nancy Howell
Thomas J. Johnson ’70
Jack Kamison ’31
Kevin ’68 & Jacquelyn Keim
Jean Work Kenneally
Joseph ’84 & Jeanette Kentos
Thomas M. Knadig
Theodore ’30 & Sarah Krause
Lora Smith-Lago ’60 & Family
Frank ’52 & Nancy LaRosa
Oskar ’52 & Ruby Larsson
Joseph G. Lerner ’39*
Gerard ’52 & Rita Marini
Paul P. McFarland ’62
Wayne R. Moreton
Robert M. Morgan ’70
Ira E. Mournis ’51*
Harold ’63 & Nancy Nightwine
Dennis M. O’Brien ’73
Nancy J. Ondra ’89
Edward ’60 & Marie Plotka
David L. Purdy
Peter G. Rolland ’52
David ’37 & Dorothy Rothbart
Mark Saunders ’74
John W. Segraves
Norman ’52 & Gail Shayer
Richard ’68 & Nancy Smith
Kurt ’55 & Martha Sonneborn
Ronald ’56 & Jean Stammel
Joseph R. Stroyewski ’73
Alex ’06 & Susan Szarka
Nikolas A. Urban ’02
Neil ’65 & Marie Vincent
Susan B. Ward ’80
Harry ’56 & Betty Weber
Robert G. Weber ’52
William Weisberg ’41
H. Thomas Wineman, II ’76
*Deceased

If you would like more information about the Founders Society contact Sue Blazer, Director of Major gifts, at 215-489-4801 or susan.blazer@delval.edu.