It's almost spring and the season for my favorite time of the year again – Founders Day, A-Day Weekend, and Commencement on May 16. And this year, we have two special events, the Spirit of Philadelphia cruise on the Delaware, and the Dr. Josh Feldstein benefit dinner in early April. We have much to celebrate over the next few weeks!

The college continues its good work with students, bringing them the best in practical experience much needed in these difficult economic times. At press time, the Office of Career Life & Education had scheduled to host more than 75 businesses from across the region for initial employment conversations and interviews with our students at this year’s Career Day event.

What a wonderful fall athletic season the Aggies had. The best year for football since 2004, the best year for women's volleyball and, once again, our wrestling team was consistently in the top three throughout the whole season.

Alumni have been busy over the past few months, traveling to the Pennsylvania Farm Show in January, the Mid-Atlantic Nursery Trade Association show in Hershey, and the Philadelphia Flower Show in early March. And I know Jackie Neil in Alumni Relations is planning on several great events over the summer and fall.

Recent changes across campus look to bring the college to the next level of success. New leadership in student affairs, advancement and in the business offices combined with the new faculty and wealth of talent and experience already on board is planting seeds for new ideas and continued achievement in all areas.

As you may know, it's more important now to remember your alma mater with a gift to the DeVal Fund. When joined by your classmates, your participation sends a strong signal to corporations, federal and state grant-authorizing departments and private funding organizations that can be so helpful to the future of our college.

When was the last time you were here? Mark your calendar today to join us for the alumni events throughout the spring and summer.

As always, I'm proud to say I'm a graduate of Delaware Valley College.

Ray Cupples, Jr. '64
President of the Alumni Association

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Superheroes of Homecoming
Spirited students celebrate a super weekend!

Witnessing History
Reporting on the Presidential Inauguration

Champions
Aggie athletic teams sport best records in years.

Cover Story
DelVal alumni, faculty and students live, study and work throughout the world. Some shared their stories with us.
Superheroes of Homecoming

*What a Homecoming celebration this year with fun under the big top while alumni gathered for good food with good friends.*

“Superheroes of Homecoming” Weekend kicked off with a gathering at the President’s Reception on the front lawn of the President’s residence. Alumni traded tales about yesteryear, faculty shared stories of what’s been happening on campus with students and classes, and staff members spoke to the many improvements and upgrades for student facilities and residence halls.

The weekend continued the next morning with the parade through Doylestown. Parade units were judged in two separate categories, Float and Spirit car. In the Spirit category, top finishers included third place, Food Science; second place, Omega Chi; and first place, Halloween Haunting. In the Float category, top finishers included third place, Dairy Society; second place, Rho Epsilon Kappa; and first place, Sigma Alpha. The overall winner of the 2008 Homecoming parade was Animal Science Society.

Banner winners included third place, PAWZ; second place, Biology Club; and first place, Lion’s Club.

Congratulations to Vin Chianca and Samantha Bremer, the 2009 Homecoming King and Queen. The final Homecoming court also included candidates Jonathan Sanders, Kery Swope, Ernst T. Haberland, Kathy Mahon, Lacy Miles, and Cacie Borr.

Prior to homecoming friends and alumni gathered for the annual 1896 Society dinner at the Aldie Mansion in Doylestown in October to thank the members for their unwavering support of the college. While enjoying the music provided by the DelVal Jazz Band, guests had the opportunity to hear from students about new programs and on-campus happenings.

Founded in 1994, the 1896 Society honors those who demonstrate an outstanding financial commitment to the college and brings together individuals with leadership, ability, experience, and influence to support the college with their financial gifts. The 1896 collectively accounts for more than 85% of the college’s total gifts each year.

-Sean Dallas
1. Superheroes attend the annual homecoming parade.  
2. Crowds gather at the homecoming game.  
3. Tailgating is a great time for family and friends.  
4. The annual golf outing at Doylestown Country Club.  
5. A quick family photo by Lake Archer.  
6. Grab a bite and enjoy old friends in the alumni tent.  
7. The library entry dedication kicks off Homecoming weekend.  
8. The 1896 Gala at nearby Aldie Mansion.  
9. Spirits are high with sports fans.

For more homecoming photos, please view the slideshow at delval.edu/homecoming or join us on facebook.
**Doylestown Hospital CEO named to college Board of Trustees**

The college recently appointed Doylestown Hospital president and chief executive officer, Richard A. Reif, to its Board of Trustees.

Reif, of Furlong, Pa., has been head of Doylestown Hospital since 1989. Prior to that, Reif was president and chief executive officer of Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore. He also served as an executive vice president for Jeanes Hospital in Philadelphia from 1978 to 1984, as well as the associate director of Friends Hospital in Philadelphia and assistant director of South Nassau Communities Hospital in Oceanside, N.Y.

Since early 2008, Reif has been participating in DeVal’s strategic planning process and serves as a key member of that advisory group.

Founded in 1923, Doylestown Hospital is a regional health care resource with 207 beds in central Bucks County. Under Reif’s leadership, Doylestown Hospital is growing to meet record demand for inpatient and outpatient services.

**Business chair named educator of the year**

Elizabeth Kolar, assistant professor of business and chair of DeVal’s business department, was named Outstanding Educator of the Year by the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The Outstanding Accounting Educator program recognizes full-time Pennsylvania college and university accounting educators who have distinguished themselves in the classroom and are actively involved in the accounting profession. The Pennsylvania accounting group sponsoring the award is an association of more than 19,000 CPAs working together to improve the profession and better serve the public interest.

Additionally, Professor Kolar and MBA director Tom Kennedy have been working to address changes in certification guidelines for CPA’s. DeVal’s new 4+1 undergraduate accounting degree and a master’s of business administration enables a student to begin coursework for an MBA as a third-year undergraduate. Following graduation, students are immediately eligible to take the CPA exam and may be licensed within just one year of graduation.

Kolar joined the DeVal faculty in 2004. Prior to her time at DeVal, she taught beginning, intermediate and advanced accounting classes at Bucks County Community College in Newtown, Pa. She also taught at Seton Hall University and Pace University. In all of her faculty posts, Kolar has helped prepare students for the auditing section of the CPA exam.

**Dr. Brosnan named Vice President to Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce Board**

Dr. Brosnan was recently named a director of the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce. His three-year term began when he was officially welcomed to the board during the Chamber’s annual meeting and luncheon.

Directors of the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce are selected by the Nominating Committee for their vision, energy and differing perspectives that will help shape the constantly-evolving Chamber and its policies.

Since beginning at DeVal in the summer of 2007, Dr. Brosnan has reached out to the community through his involvement with several organizations, including serving on the board of directors for Bucks Beautiful and as a vice president of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center of Bucks County.

In addition to his service to the local community, Dr. Brosnan has been a leader in national organizations focused on education, serving on the American Council of Education’s Commission on Lifelong Learning and as a board member of Learning Matters, Inc.

Since 2005, he has served on the board of the national “I Have a Dream” Foundation, which serves to motivate and empower children from low-income communities to achieve their educational and career goals.

**During his tenure, the hospital received national 5-star recognition from HealthGrades in a variety of clinical services. In addition, the cardiac services have been designated as a Blue Distinction Center for Cardiac Care from the region’s largest health insurer, Independence Blue Cross. The cardiac unit also has been awarded the highest honors for cardiac surgery by the International Society for Thoracic Surgery. Reif earned his bachelor’s degree in zoology from the University of Maryland and his master’s of hospital administration from the Medical College of Virginia.**

**Doylestown Hospital CEO named to college Board of Trustees**

**Dr. Brosnan and John Soffronoff, Chamber president.**

**Dr. Brosnan**

**Richard A. Reif**

**Elizabth Kolar**

**Dr. Brosnan named Vice President to Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce Board**

**Business chair named educator of the year**

**Dr. Brosnan and John Soffronoff, Chamber president.**

**Dr. Brosnan**

**Richard A. Reif**

**Elizabeth Kolar**
I was beginning to feel a little disappointed, because I didn’t think we would be able to get onto the Mall. We made a stop at the African-American Institute and while there, we learned of an underground walkway that led to the Mall. That definitely lifted my spirits, because I once again had hopes to witness history firsthand.

We walked through a crowd of several hundred people to get onto the Mall from the underground walkway. When I walked onto the Mall, I saw a sea of people that looked like it stretched on forever. I then realized the excitement of everyone around me, despite the freezing temperature, despite the enormous crowd and despite the fact we couldn’t see: President Obama.

As a young black man, this day meant so much to me: to know that I stood on the ground where my ancestors were once bought and sold on the slave market. Today, I watched the first African-American president take his oath.

It was a feeling of great pride and dignity. At that moment, in that spot, I felt as if I could do anything. I observed the older African-American citizens watch in awe and saw the pride in their faces. It was very overwhelming.

That day, I met people from all over this great nation; some came from as far away as California. The city was incredibly crowded, but the crowds were happy and orderly. The hard part was trying to get back on the Metro to return to Maryland. We stood in line for an hour outside in the cold trying to get inside of the tunnel to get on the Metro – it was freezing, but in the end, it was all worth it!

— Hakim Singleton

“\nIt was a feeling of hope and promise. I looked around and saw the faces of the elderly, the youth and even the brightness of the young children who had all come out to witness history.”

- Hakim Singleton ’11

I went to the inauguration of President Barack Obama as a chaperon for a middle school. Our group left Philadelphia at 4 a.m. and set out for Maryland. We caught the Metro from Maryland into Washington, D.C., and arrived at approximately 10 a.m. Then we began our difficult trek to the National Mall, where we hoped to watch the ceremony. As we walked up Constitution Boulevard, every entrance onto the Mall began to close.

Hakim Singleton & Iayia Gilliam

\nHakim is a junior enrolled in the accounting 4+1 undergraduate to MBA program.
They were down 16-0 at halftime against the third-ranked team in the nation in Division III just a week after a disappointing loss in the season opener. They hosted the defending conference champions after back-to-back losses and were going to play the first half without a number of their starters. They needed to win their last two games for the chance at a share of the Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) title.

The Aggie football team faced adversity and uncertainty many times this season. However, with each success, the team grew closer – overcoming challenges many thought impossible.

The result was an 8-3 record, the conference title and the right to host the ECAC South Atlantic Bowl, which they won with a 16-7 triumph over Kean University. And there were also many highlights and performances that will be long remembered.

- Matthew Levy
Butch Whiteside’s one-yard touchdown run on fourth-and-goal in the closing seconds to give the Aggies the 25-22 victory over No. 3 Wesley.

Rob Shedlosky’s effort on that last drive and then pumping his fist in the air while coming off the field on a stretcher.

Earlier in that game, Brandon Fox breaking a host of tackles for a 38-yard touchdown catch and the lead.

The team following up that win with 487 yards of total offense in a 41-27 win over sixth-ranked Salisbury.

Fox catching a pair of long touchdown passes, including a 53-yard bomb with 7.5 seconds remaining in the first half.

The Isgro scramble on Fox’s first score that bought him a few extra seconds — how many times did we see that — and the perfectly-thrown ball that went close to 65 yards in the air.

Isgro throwing four touchdowns in back-to-back games against Salisbury and King’s.

Matt Cook rushing for 233 yards (second-highest single-game total in school history) and a record-tying four touchdowns in the 26-14 win over Lebanon Valley.

Despite the loss at FDU-Florham, Kyle Gesswein racking up 17 tackles, 3.5 sacks and a blocked punt.

The team regaining the Keystone Cup with a 34-28 win over Widener.

The interception by freshman linebacker Chris James (in his first start) in the first half that turned the tide of the Widener game.

Rallying from a 13-0 deficit to win at Wilkes for the first time since 1991.

The two fourth-quarter interceptions by Charles Squitiere that set up scores in the Wilkes game.

Hearing the news that Lycoming lost to last-place King’s, giving the Aggies a shot at the MAC title.

The defense’s dominating effort in shutting down a potent Albright team for a 34-9 victory and a share of the conference crown.

Dan Heiland somehow keeping one foot inbounds for the touchdown catch late in the first half of the Albright game.

Chad Peterman’s 72-yard interception return for a touchdown on an Albright fake field goal attempt to seal that victory.

Gesswein having another 3.5-sack day (he finished the year with a record-tying 11.5).

Anthony Byers tying a school record with three interceptions and receiving the Most Outstanding Player Award in the ECAC South Atlantic Bowl.

Cook’s 154 yards and two touchdowns in the game — marking the eighth time during the year that he went over the 100-yard rushing plateau.

Isgro being named the MAC Offensive Player of the Year with Cook, Gesswein, Squitiere and Ralph Stambaugh joining him on the first team and Derek Porter being named to the second team.

Gesswein, Isgro, Squitiere and Stambaugh earning spots on the D3football.com All-East Region and ECAC Southeast All-Star Teams.

Stambaugh being named an honorable mention All-American by D3football.com.

Stambaugh earning a number of academic honors including the MAC Football Scholar Athlete and the Philadelphia Inquirer Academic All-Area Performer of the Year.

The seniors, who began their collegiate careers as MAC champions, ending it the same way. And their last seconds on the gridiron were spent holding up the ECAC South Atlantic Bowl Championship plaque.
New faces join Delaware Valley College

Art Glass

Art Glass of Greencastle, Pa, was named vice president for finance and administration.

Art joined DelVal from La Salle University, where he served as assistant vice president for finance and administration since early 2007. Glass managed the $135 million operating and $55 million capital budgets and oversaw a large administrative division. He was responsible for university finance and the administration of business, procurement, budget, auxiliaries, capital, cash, treasury and debt management.

In his role at DelVal, Glass is responsible for the college’s overall financial operation, budgeting and facilities management, as well as capital projects, risk management and regulatory compliance. He will manage the college’s security, facility planning, physical plant and human resources departments.

Joseph Erckert

If you have been to A-Day, Farm Show or an alumni event recently, you may have met Joseph Erckert of Newtown, Pa., DelVal’s new vice president of institutional advancement.

Erckert joined the college in July from Haverford College, where he served as director of development from 2004 until 2008, when he was named director of individual gifts. As a senior advancement officer, Erckert managed major fundraising and built relationships with leadership gift prospects for endowed scholarships and athletic facility projects.

In his role at DelVal, Erckert leads the operation of institutional advancement and its programs, including the DelVal Fund, the 1896 Society and planned giving. He also serves as primary supervisor for development, alumni affairs and the communications and public relations office.

John Brown

John Brown of Doylestown, Pa., was named vice president for student affairs.

Brown had been serving as the interim dean of students since July. Prior to joining DelVal, he was head of the Solebury School in New Hope, Pa., where he worked for 19 years. He was responsible for the overall leadership of the academic program, institutional advancement, staff supervision, student life and athletics for the co-educational day and boarding school for grades 7 through 12.

In his role at DelVal, Brown manages all areas within student affairs, including residential life, student activities and the first-year experience. He will also advise student government.

Lanny Morgnanesi

Lanny Morgnanesi, also of Doylestown, Pa., was named executive director of college communications. Former director Sean Dallas takes over the reins of the college’s website as director of web communications.

Morgnanesi previously served for more than 15 years as the executive editor of the Intelligencer, a daily newspaper in Doylestown.

In his new role, Lanny will manage all facets of communications and public relations, including serving as editor of Horizons and as college spokesperson and will oversee the website and publications.
Globalization
International Presence
Worldwide point of view
Overseas Opportunities

Understanding a company's advantages and an individual's strength as they compete in a global business environment has always been important, but in recent years has grown to be critical to success.

For college students, delivery of these essentials comes in unlimited forms. A classroom component is mixed with faculty experience, a research element, and DelVal's hands-on practicum — providing students with a global perspective and broad understanding of opportunities, strengths, and weaknesses internationally.

Alumni and students of Delaware Valley College show up in the most curious places around the world, in the most unusual professions, employed by multinationals of all kinds. They're involved in small businesses of every type, driven by their own sense of entrepreneurial spirit.

DelVal counts alumni in every state of the union, Washington D.C., and Puerto Rico. Faculty from Asia and Europe, faculty with experiences in Great Britain, Ireland, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Mexico — all provide rich perspectives and a seasoned context for sharing ideas and theories.

Think of the experiences of former Dean of Agriculture Jim Diamond '61. He and wife Betty have visited 50 countries over the past 40 years. Imagine the stories from faculty members and China-natives Ming Wang Liu and Yun Li, and Taiwan-native Shih-chieh (Jay) Su. Dr. Li received his undergraduate degree in biology from Beijing University. Professor Liu studied at Shanxi Agricultural University and Beijing Forestry University, and continues to lead excursions there in cooperation with horticultural societies in the U.S. and in Asia. Professor Su received his bachelor's degree from the National Cheng-Kung University in Tainan, Taiwan, and completed one of his master's degrees at the National Tsing-Hua University in Hsin-Tsu, Taiwan.

Consider Dr. Ruth Trubnik, who received her Ph.D. in mathematics from the Academy of Sciences in Baku, Azerbaijan, in the former Soviet Union or Dr. Imad Benjelloun who finished his undergraduate studies at Ecole Mohamadia d'Ingenieurs in Rabat, Morocco. Consider John Cassel '76 and Tim Manning '75, both involved with missionary work in Africa.

DelVal's partnerships and cooperative programs with Hartpury College in England, Ross University on St. Kitts in the West Indies, Beijing Forestry University in China, and the University of Podlasie in Poland bring an international perspective to our students. MBA director Tom Kennedy is a visiting professor with the University of Ulster in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

All contribute to bringing a more multicultural and more universal approach to the educational experience of Delaware Valley College students.

We've gathered stories from some of our alumni, faculty, and students to share with you their perspectives and their experiences from countries around the world.

- Sean Dallas
Africa
Looking into the ‘window of vulnerability’

The data is clear and sobering. Although a small-but-growing number of countries are beginning to contain the spread of the AIDS virus, the epidemic is expanding in all areas of the world, outpacing the response.

Globally, 32 million people are living with HIV/AIDS, and 85 percent of new cases are the result of sexual transmission from men to women. But the answer to this international crisis might be found in the New Hampshire laboratory of Charles Wira ’62.

For Wira, a DeVal alumnus and current professor of physiology at Dartmouth Medical School, one solution lies in the connection between a woman’s sex hormones and her immune system.

Last year, Wira began studying how HIV evades the immune system and establishes itself in the female reproductive tract. His central insight is that sex hormones temporarily suppress several components of immunity just after ovulation. This process results in what Wira calls a “window of vulnerability,” a seven- to 10-day phase in the middle of the menstrual cycle during which women might be more likely to contract HIV.

Heading HIV research might seem a distant connection to Wira’s animal husbandry degree, but he has found important connections that led him to this point. After DeVal, he went on to graduate school at Michigan State University, receiving his master’s degree in animal science, focusing on endocrinology and reproductive biology. He was awarded his Ph.D. in physiology at Dartmouth, then went on to a two-year postdoctoral position at the University of Paris.

While there, he studied the effects of estrogen on the reproductive tract of female rats.

Returning to Dartmouth in 1973, Wira spent the next 20 years examining the relationship between sex hormones and innate immunity. In the late 1990s, his research expanded into HIV.

“When you work in this area, you always look for the relevance of your findings,” he said. “A number of years ago, it became clear with the spread of AIDS that this was an area that continued to grow and explode with no real answers. I realized early on that HIV is a sexually transmitted disease. It was on a collision course with understanding the immune system in women that intercepted with this terrible disease.”

The tipping point for Wira’s study of HIV/AIDS came during a trip to Tanzania in 2002. He delivered a lecture to medical students at the Muhimbili University of Health Sciences in Dar es Salam. As he entered the university’s main gates, Wira noticed the many shops on both sides of the street selling caskets.

“Fifty percent of the people who went to that hospital went there to die from AIDS,” he said. “You see children, as well as adults, and it really touches you. Whatever years I have left as a scientist, I’ve made a commitment to try and make a difference.”

Wira has made three trips to Tanzania. From these efforts, he has attracted to his lab African Ph.D. students. They will obtain their degrees from Dartmouth and return to Africa to continue work as researchers.

“These people are so hard working – so dedicated – and I think success will happen, in part, because it takes people in their home country to understand the problem and address it in unique ways,” he said.

Wira also works in Kenya, where he is collaborating with researchers at the Institute for Primate Research and the University of Nairobi. The team is tracking reproductive health issues in Nairobi, particularly those involving HIV/AIDS.

Wira’s research has also taken him to Australia six times. He served as a visiting scientist at the University of Newcastle and has collaborated for many years with Ken Beagley, a professor at Queensland University of Technology, on a project to develop vaccines to prevent genital and respiratory chlamydia infections. Chlamydia affects animals as well, and koalas are on the verge of extinction because of the disease. Last fall, Wira and Beagley vaccinated six female koalas. The vaccine is a result of their work on the development of human chlamydia vaccines, and Australian scientists are trialing vaccines to protect koalas as well.

At 69, Wira said he has no intention of retiring. He is increasingly more involved with international AIDS-prevention activities and still travels abroad.

“I love what I’m doing,” he said. “Delaware Valley gave me some great roots. I think there is an opportunity to make a difference.”

Robert Nichols
Colombia
A City of Apples, Salt, Cars & Dreams
Alejandro Montana ’93, horticulture graduate who has had his hand in all of these ventures

Born in Bogota, Colombia, Montana came to DelVal by way of Boston. Friends there helped him locate a college with agricultural programs. He hoped to return to Colombia after graduation to run his family fruit business. Today, he does.

The father of two small children, ages 4 and 2, Montana oversees an orchard and fruit operation was a freight agency that specialized in perishables. He handled quality control and logistics there until 2000. That’s when he became interested in car advertising on websites. Similar to autotrader.com in the states, Montana’s business www.clasificar.com was bought last September by Casa Editorial El Tiempo, a major media company in Colombia. His newest project – running a salt mine – now takes up his time, as do his plans for a major expansion of the orchard and diversification into additional fruits.

Although he sometimes misses America and DelVal, Montana misses his friends most. He bonded with international students the most – friends from Mexico, Bolivia, Brazil and Colombia – all of whom he still remains in contact.

“I have been in America about eight times since graduating,” he said in a recent interview. “But it’s more on business trips or on vacation. I haven’t been back to DelVal since 1993… but I am looking forward to it.”

—Lina Barbieri

Jamaica
A legacy endures

In the mid-1980s, John “Jack” Purdy came down with a case of wanderlust. So fascinated he was with Jamaica and its culture, he joined the Peace Corps, packed his bags and spent the next two years on the island.

His experiences would shape his teaching philosophy and affect the future of Jamaica’s agricultural education.

Purdy taught briefly at DelVal from 1988 to 1990, but the impact of his Peace Corps experience and his days in Doylestown continue. Purdy, who was trained as a veterinarian, worked in the Caribbean nation from 1985 to 1987 as part of an effort to improve animal production. Agriculture is the island’s third largest export industry and the second largest employer. But the country needed help, particularly in the field of veterinary medicine.

After leaving the Corps, Purdy came to DelVal to teach large animal science. His experiences overseas translated seamlessly in the classroom.

“Jack was an easy going, laid-back kind of person,” recalled Gordon Eaton, a retired associate professor of animal science. “He was the kind of person who considered the well-being of others. He didn’t like to put himself out in front, but he was a tremendous leader. He had a special bond with his students. They liked him very much.”

Purdy had been battling leukemia for several years before joining the college, and though it had been in remission, the disease returned in 1989. Purdy died the following year at age 34. His family created the Jack Purdy Memorial Fund, which supports an exchange program between DelVal and the College of Agriculture, Science and Education in Port Antonio, Jamaica.

Developed and implemented by Eaton, the program supports student and faculty exchanges. The Purdy family wanted to establish a program to bring degree-less Jamaican college teachers to DelVal to spend up to two years completing their education. The program attracted 10 teachers who have returned to Jamaica and continue to work in agricultural education.

“Jack was interested in people; he always wanted to help,” said Purdy’s father, David Purdy. “By helping the people of Jamaica, he developed a tremendous bond to the culture. He was a self-made person who loved being a veterinarian and loved teaching. The fund continues his vision and supports the college as it helps strengthen Jamaican agriculture.”

Robert Nichols

Barbados
DelVal Field Hockey goes on tour

Every three years, the NCAA gives student athletes the opportunity to participate in a foreign tour and compete with some of the world’s best athletes in their sport. The experience allows those athletes to not only learn more about their sport but also to travel and see new cultures.

In early January, the Delaware Valley field hockey team left the cold winter of Doylestown to compete in sunny Barbados. Head coach Carol Di Girolamo, along with 15 of her players and five parents, participated in this unique experience.

The team fundraised and booked the trip through US Athletes International, a non-profit group which gives athletes the opportunity to compete in Olympic-style tournaments in seven sports and in more than 14 countries.

Coach Di Girolamo’s players competed in four games against some of the Barbados club and national teams. Though the DelVal team was defeated in each of its games, the team was happy to score a few goals and enjoy the competition.

While in Barbados, the women were able to experience some of the sights and culture of the island. US Athletes International works with tour groups in the host country to highlight unique pieces of heritage. The team participated in an educational tour, a safari trip and even snorkeling and the exploration of a shipwreck. The women who participated in snorkeling are on the first step towards becoming certified snorkelers!

In the end, the experience in Barbados provided both the team and Coach Di Girolamo some new insight into their sport. Team members learned new techniques to plan to incorporate into practices and games. Coach Di Girolamo said, “The most rewarding experience was seeing my team travel to a different place, compete against some of the best players and do well.”

—Lina Barbieri
Colombia

From Stocks & Suits to Harvesting Hectares

One Man’s Journey to Fulfill His Destiny in the Family Business

While working for a major agribusiness corporation in Colombia, South America, a young Alberto Bernal began buying up land in the Cauca Valley. Today, at 94, Bernal works side-by-side with his grandson, 1990 Delaware Valley College agronomy graduate Jorge Vallejo, on the family’s three large farms that make up Casangal, Ltd. The company grows and harvests 50,000 tons of sugar cane annually.

The journey to sugar cane mogul started for Vallejo when he was sent to Beaver College (now Arcadia University) to study English. While there, he learned about Delaware Valley College through several Venezuelan friends, who told him about DelVal’s agricultural programs. During a time when his father was in the U.S., the two visited the school and, for the next four years, Vallejo learned all he could about crops, soils, seeds and water, while also minoring in business.

Some of Vallejo’s fondest memories of DelVal include working on a nearby farm owned by one of his teachers, Dr. Dan Seik, a former member of the ornamental horticulture department. Vallejo enjoyed the real life experiences – and the money to live on!

But despite the hands-on learning and business courses that fully prepared him for working at his family’s business, Vallejo moved to Colombia after graduation and, like his grandfather decades before, went to work for the large firm of Inversiones Manuelita. Then, Vallejo took a detour to the stock market after one of his uncles invited him to work for his company. He moved to Bogota and then Miami and, for several years, was quite content in the world of high finance.

But, in 2001, he felt the call to come home. A relative had died, and Vallejo’s mother felt strongly that the family business should stay in the family. Armed with his background and degree from DelVal, Vallejo heeded his birthright and headed back to Colombia.

“It is such a delight and my great pleasure to work with my grandpa,” said Vallejo. “My grandfather is a giant in the sugar cane industry. The proud grandson himself serves on the boards of several influential industry groups.

Casangal is a highly regarded name in Colombian sugar cane production. “There are 2000 hectares of cane being harvested in the region,” Vallejo said. “We harvest our own 400 hectares – about 140 tons per hectare. In fact, we have had contracts with Manuelita, the second largest mill in Colombia, for the past several decades. They produce white and raw sugar as well as ethanol.”

In addition to the farm operations, Vallejo runs a research center, Cenincana, which is working on developing new varieties of cane and developing better irrigation programs.

The modest Vallejo is raising two sons in the city, works in his office in Cali every day and visits the farms two or three times a week. He continues to help his grandfather maintain a family home on one of the farms. It’s a South American farming picture, complete with cattle, horses and a swimming pool to relax in during the constant 75 degree, sunny weather – the perfect temperature for growing and harvesting cane in 14-month cycles.

“I can’t imagine being anywhere else or doing any other work.”

Jorge Vallejo ‘90

Overseas Opportunities

- Lina Barbieri
Over many years and across thousands of miles, the memories foremost in Mwangi Maganjo’s mind are of those friends he made while a student at Delaware Valley College. Hanging out in Cooke, Ulman and Work, Maganjo, a horticulture major, recalls times with his class of 1967 buddies, Ed Funkhouser, William Mitchell, Fred Hofsaess, the late Alan Marans, and he recalls with special fondness, his roommate from the class of 1966, Woo Bong Lee. He met the unlikely bunch while attending DelVal after having moved with his family as a teenager from Kenya to Long Island. Following graduation, he returned to Kenya and spent his career working in the Kenyan government in the Ministry of Agriculture. There, he served as a horticulturalist whose primary responsibility was the Seed Certification Program where he monitored, maintained and distributed those seeds which were safe to plant for statewide crops.

Today, Maganjo lives in the Kenyan city of Thika – population about 200,000 – located 25 miles northeast of Nairobi. This up-and-coming pineapple-growing region is home to the Thika River and the Chania and Thika falls, not far from where Maganjo was born. With wife Rosemary, he enjoys retirement with his daughters Peris and Ruth and son, Bernard, nearby.

Left to right: Eric Nelsen, James Diamond, Helen Nelsen, Bill Piszek and Dr. Brosnan.
Chuck Alpuche ’81

After twenty seven years and ninety one countries, Chuck Alpuche ’81 happily found himself back on campus at Delaware Valley College. Alpuche is senior vice president, supply chain operations for Pepsi Cola, North America and returned to DelVal through the Thomas W. Watson Executive-in-Residence Program.

“It’s wonderful to be back,” said Alpuche. “I am delighted. It’s rewarding to tour the campus and see all the positive changes and exciting to learn where the college is going.”

Alpuche earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from DelVal and then played one year of professional football with the Detroit Lions before a knee injury ended his career. At this time, he joined Pepsi Cola in Philadelphia as a production supervisor trainee. He held a number of operational manager positions before moving to Newport News, Virginia as a production manager and then plant operations manager. He then moved to headquarters in Somers, New York as manager, Operations Training and then director, Process Improvement.

In 1992, Alpuche moved to the Pepsi Cola International Division of PepsiCo where he was vice president Concentrate Operations focusing on the Americas and Asian markets. Alpuche considers all his travels a rewarding experience. “It was exciting to learn about other cultures, customs and foods. There’s true value in learning how to adapt to other cultures and developing cultural sensitivity.”

Once he learned about the executive program, Alpuche knew he must take part in it. He wanted to deliver his message to today’s students. “Delaware Valley College is a special place,” he explained. “This school absolutely prepares you for the business world. Never doubt that.”

The alumni believes that the work program and overall atmosphere at DelVal helped to make him flexible, willing to learn and work hard. This was the basis for his own success.

“Take what you learn here and build upon that,” Alpuche told students. “No matter what business you work in, you have to think differently and be open to continuous learning. Status quo is not acceptable.”

After his overview of PepsiCo and a lecture about sustainability and innovation, Alpuche opened the floor to many, as he described, insightful and in-depth questions from the students. “There was excellent interaction,” he remarked. “I could see in the students’ body language and engagement that they were excited.”

Alpuche also found that the students were well in-tune to the environment and community. Combined with the work ethic and experience DelVal provides, this will give these students a competitive advantage in a tough job market.

How should students prepare to graduate into a time of recession? “Take advantage of the work programs and internships made available through the college,” Alpuche responded. “Then emphasize this experience and cultivate entrepreneurial skills.”

He pointed to his own company as an example. “There are opportunities for interns at PepsiCo,” he said. “We hire across all departments.”

As a point of interest, Alpuche added that there are 52 DelVal graduates currently working at PepsiCo in research and development, sales and management.

In fact, his first boss was a senior on campus when he was a freshman. You never know how far DelVal networking can take you.

Alpuche currently resides in Danbury, CT with his wife of 25 years and two children.

Jennifer Suskie

Scholarship Granted

Kristianna Cornell, of Dublin, PA, received a $2,000 Watson Executive in Residence scholarship in honor of Charles J. Alpuche, to recognize his participation in the Watson Executive-in-Residence program.

Cornell is a junior majoring in accounting. She has earned Dean’s List status during all of her semesters at Delaware Valley College and earns a faculty scholarship annually for academic achievement.
Netherlands
DelVal Equestrians Represent the U.S.

Equine Studies professor Angelo Telatin took four students over 3,000 miles to the Netherlands to compete in the annual Intercollegiate World Equestrian Cup at VanHall-Larenstein, a university of applied sciences.

Equine students were invited from all over the world to compete in this three-day event. Delaware Valley College was selected to represent the United States.

The students competed in three main areas: dressage, show jumping and a written test in equine theory. In both dressage and show jumping, the students had to ride an unfamiliar horse while being judged on their overall form and precision. The written test consisted of questions about equine anatomy, management and health. All three areas were judged and scored individually for each event and combined for an overall score.

Professor Telatin who has been an instructor at DelVal since 2003, was pleased with his students' second-place finish in show jumping and fourth-place finish in the overall competition.

While in the Netherlands, the students were given a tour around Amsterdam, including a visit to VDL-Stud, one of the world's leading breeding centers. This unique experience allowed for interaction with fellow equine students from around the world. It was a chance to learn more about other cultures and techniques.

Delaware Valley had the pleasure of hosting the event during the summer of 2007. Professor Telatin plans to participate each year and hopes next year's competition will be hosted in his native country, Italy.

- Donna Palmen '08

Thailand
Chef Blank is cooking

Chef Blank enjoys visiting the local market for its interesting animals and unique food.

Scotland
Erica Campbell ‘07

Erica Campbell ‘07 was looking for something different. Campbell chose the University of Edinburgh in Scotland for veterinary school. For a young woman who had never lived in a large city, the experience has been challenging and enlightening.

The spark to travel was ignited while a DelVal Equine major. She participated in the Hartpury exchange program and found the time spent in England triggered a desire to see the world.

Edinburgh's Royal Dick School of Veterinary Studies was perfect. The university ranks in the top 25 internationally and the vet school routinely ranks second. It is also accredited by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges. The Dick vet degree also allows her to practice anywhere in the world, so Campbell can travel before she decides where to settle.

- Robert Nichols

Dear Alums,

Since graduating from DelVal in 1964, my life has proceeded down many avenues. Some of the paths I took were formal graduate level schooling that led me down some interesting, exciting and diverse avenues — all of which broadened my outlook on life. Eventually, in 1979, I chose to fulfill my dream of owning, operating and cooking in a restaurant. The venue was an historically-certified Frank Furness building in Center City Philadelphia. We christened it “Deux Cheminées.”

By luck and hard work, the restaurant quickly became revered as one of the best in the Delaware Valley and beyond. I was able to travel, meet and befriend many fellow culinarians — some well-known, some world-famous — included cooking stars Julia Child, The Two Fat Ladies and internationally-renowned chefs from all over the world.

About two years ago, I decided to fully retire and move to a resort city on the Bight of Siam (pronounced “see-ahm” in Thai). During my Deux Cheminées years, I managed to amass a huge library of cookery books and ephemeral and archival files, many rare and of historical significance. Searching for a deserving repository for 17,000 rare books was not easy, but The Annenberg Rare Book and Manuscript Library of The University of Pennsylvania beckoned to me, and I chose it as a final home for my collection.

In Thailand, I still cook, edit and organize my recipes, hopefully to publish a cookbook or two — or 10! Editing is tedious work, and publishers require reports of endless recipe testing. In between, I explore the countryside and pay attention to farming methods and livestock breeds, especially the various, often exotic products found here in Thailand. I also, on occasion, practice the interesting pastime of being a Beach Bum … after all, I am retired.

- Chef Fritz Blank ’64
The work parallels Lowry’s career goal of tropical bird research. From the time she was a little girl, birds have held a special place in her heart. At DelVal her interests led to a B.S. in Animal Biotechnology, Conservation and Wildlife Management.

Though the work was hard, the terrain unforgiving and the accommodations sparse, Lowry was excited to spend six months as a field assistant to a University of Florida graduate student helping identify bird species, follow migratory patterns, track members of a particular flock and take on other assignments as needed.

That is until civil war broke out in Bolivia, and Lowry’s six-month journey was cut short. She is safe now on American soil and tells the story of her harrowing journey in words and pictures.

As a child, I was a high-functioning autistic. I found a connection to animals when I attended an alternative school. The school used wildlife rehabilitation and animals to help kids. There was even an owl in the classroom, and I formed a special bond with that bird.

I met Ari Martinez while pursuing a graduate school slot at the University of Florida. Ari, a grad student himself, was looking for an assistant to help him with his studies on flocks in the Amazon rainforests of Bolivia. He wanted to study the mechanisms of flock cohesion, the relationships between flock members and the role of the sentinel (guard) bird. It was two days before finals when I finally got the e-mail that said, “Welcome to work in South America!”

During the next two weeks, I finished finals, graduated from DelVal, moved out of my apartment, secured my visa, purchased a truckload of camping equipment and got my yellow fever vaccine and special pills for the resistant strain of cerebral malaria I might come in contact with.

This was my first trip to South America. I was excited when we landed in Santa Cruz. The streets were filled with llamas and cattle (and potholes). Beat-up old Toyotas were all over the road. A big, multi-story building was in the midst of construction. Its foundation looked like it was make from sticks and logs found alongside the road. The people were obviously in desperate poverty. I saw many living in cardboard boxes.

First, we spent a week getting our gear ready and meeting with scientists from various nongovernmental organizations. Then it was off to Cobija, a small town bordering Brazil and Peru. Our taxi-driver helped us machete our way to our base camp, an old castana (brazil nut) camp next to an old chaco farm, where we found some delicious fruit and mango trees.

We found a few elderly monterros (machete men who knew the forest) to help us. In multiple trips, I loaded up my giant pack with the generator, food and other supplies. We stopped once to remove a large yellow snake poised in strike mode from the trail and once to take in the sight of 50 rare white-lipped peccaries (pigs).

Since there was no contact with whom once inside camp, we had our new friend, the taxi driver, promise to pick us up at the exact same spot at a predetermined future time.

We dug our toilet, chopped logs for our shelter and worked hard for many days alongside the tired montero.

Next, I started constructing mist nets that would help me trap birds without hurting them. Once caught, we would place an identifying tag, or band, around their legs and then release them. I was up at 4 a.m. bird banding, entering data, preparing meals, taking ice-cold showers and washing clothes in the river. I even had a scare one day while setting up mist nets on a fresh trail. A jaguar came out of the forest and frightened the Spanish man I was with. I had my back to the creature and didn’t realize what had happened – but apparently, after looking me over and letting out a silent growl, it decided to move on.

Bolivia
Rainforest Adventures, a dream come true for Jennifer Lowry ’07
"The screwworm," he said, "is the larval stage of the fly Cochlyomia hominivorax that feed on tissues and fluids of living animals, including man."

It is this unlovable creature that Lou Vanechanos, DelVal class of ’81, helps oversee for the United States Department of Agriculture. He is also charged with eradicating the Mediterranean Fruit Fly, among others.

"These nasty insects lay their eggs in the flesh of live animals, in their wounds, or any orifice they can find," he said. "The eggs grow eating the live flesh of the animal. It's an insidious, disgusting creature whose attacks, if left untreated, will kill the animal within weeks."

Following the success of the program in eradicating this pest from the United States in the 1960’s, the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services, in coordination with partners in Mexico and Central America, have eradicated this fly south all the way to the Darien Gap between Panama and Colombia.

The fight is part of an ongoing international campaign to combat this pest and the economic losses associated with the damage caused by the fly. The object is to destroy its mating cycle. USDA researchers found that screwworm pupae, just before emerging as flies, could be sexually sterilized by exposure to radiation using Cobalt-60 or x-rays as the radioactive source.

Researchers determined that if large numbers of male screwworm flies could be sexually sterilized and dispersed over infested areas, natural reproduction could be stopped.

"This methodology is called Sterile Insect Technique, and we currently use it to maintain a barrier at the Darian Gap to prevent re-infestation of Central America and ultimately the United States. Right now, we’re building a state of the art facility in Pacoura, Panama, outside Panama City, to furnish the sterile flies needed.

"It’s basically the same thing we do with the Medfly. We’ve been working to push those fruit flies south out of Mexico and want to eliminate it throughout Central America as well. We have a sterile Medfly production facility in El Pino, Guatemala, and the program also uses the Sterile Insect Technique."

Vanechanos said he spent 4½ years at the U.S. Embassy in Santiago, Chile, and 3½ years in Taiwan as a foreign service officer for USDA. He is currently an associate deputy administrator with the USDA’s Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service in Washington, DC.

He started 28 years ago as a plant protection and quarantine officer at Kennedy Airport in New York.

Vanechanos credits the horticulture faculty at DelVal for making his first years successful.

"I learned a lot from those professors," he said. "Drs. Berthold and Vincent were very good to me. They taught me the importance of what a hands-on education is all about. I brought so much more experience than the others I started with."

Vanechanos now resides in Bethesda, Md., with wife Alicia and sons Peter, 10, and Christopher, 7.
Puerto Rico

Morales creates educational voyages for students

Dr. Anabelle Morales approaches teaching from a student’s point-of-view. Maybe it’s because she hasn’t felt the need to stop learning herself.

Morales, born and raised in Puerto Rico, traces the beginning of her story to a 7th-grade biology class with an inspirational teacher, Mr. Arroyo. “I was simply fascinated with the study of life (biology), learning about how all living things work,” she said. Her parents bought her first microscope when she was still in middle school. “Seeing signs of life at the microscopic level – in ponds, on everyday surfaces – amazed me,” she said.

“My parents gave me a lot of support – letting me turn some of the kitchen cabinets and the guest bathroom into germinating chambers/laboratories where I could germinate the seeds used in my early scientific experiments. My younger sister was my first research assistant.” Her parents supported the young budding scientist’s passion by driving her around to science fairs and competitions and later taking her to work at the University of Puerto Rico for her senior-year science fair project.

It was there that Morales met Dr. David Web, the first of several mentors. The combination of support and hard work gave her the drive to continue her education non-stop after high school. Morales attained her undergraduate degree, her first graduate degree (Master’s degree in microbiology) and her doctorate in biology all from the University of South Florida — becoming the first non-U.S. mainland-born Hispanic female NASA astronaut.

In 1999, Morales accepted a position in Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania, with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as a postdoctoral research associate/microbiologist. Soon after, she became a Senior scientist and microbiologist in the Food Safety and Intervention Technologies research unit. Her work on microbiological food safety with the USDA took her throughout the United States and around the world, including Canada, The Netherlands, Japan and Mexico — where her bilingualism in Spanish and English was a major asset to her American coworkers.

While working in private industry with Rohm and Haas as a Senior Scientist/Microbiologist, Morales experimented with a part-time teaching crop for long-duration space missions. She received several fellowships, including the NASA Spaceflight & Life Sciences Training Program, NASA Planetary Biology Internship, NASA Graduate Student Researchers Program and the Florida Space Grant Consortium, and continues scientific research collaborations with her NASA colleagues today. Her work with NASA has spanned 17 years and may someday lead to her becoming the first non-U.S. mainland-born Hispanic female NASA astronaut.

In 1999, Morales accepted a position in Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania, with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as a postdoctoral research associate/microbiologist. Soon after, she became a Senior scientist and microbiologist in the Food Safety and Intervention Technologies research unit. Her work on microbiological food safety with the USDA took her throughout the United States and around the world, including Canada, The Netherlands, Japan and Mexico — where her bilingualism in Spanish and English was a major asset to her American coworkers.

While working in private industry with Rohm and Haas as a Senior Scientist/Microbiologist, Morales experimented with a part-time teaching position at Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pa. “I never intended to go into teaching,” she said, “but I taught a few classes and thought, ‘maybe this is for me.’ I also taught at Kutztown University and at two local community colleges before I found the right fit at DeVAl.”

Morales started as an adjunct professor in the biology department at DeVAl before accepting a tenure-track position in the Food Science and Management Department in Fall 2008. She teaches Nutrition, Food Chemistry, Sanitation Management, Food Microbiology, Quality Assurance and Regulations and various other food science courses.

Morales’ current projects include a research grant proposal with Dr. Jay Garland (NASA Chief Scientist, Kennedy Space Center) and DeVAl students to study biological control of foodborne pathogens in sprouts and vegetables with easily-damageable surfaces. If accepted, the grant will allow DeVAl students to conduct research that will be directly used in NASA studies.

In addition to her academic work, Morales is an accomplished long-distance competitive runner and will compete in the 113th Boston Marathon on April 20th. She qualified to run the Boston Marathon with a 3-hr:13-min finish time (that is, 7-min:23-sec per mile for 26.2 miles) in the Mohawk-Hudson River Marathon (Albany, New York), finishing first in her age group.

Morales exemplifies the duality of the scholar-athlete. She will undoubtedly make significant contributions to DeVAl as a professor, food research scientist and provide inspiration-guidance to DeVAl student-runners. “I am excited beyond belief about being at DeVAl. I absolutely love it here!”

- William Keller
Russia
Professor Shkitko Shares Her Experiences

Svetlana Shkitko joined the Delaware Valley College Physics and Mathematics department in 2006. Professor Shkitko, a native of Russia, earned her degree in physics and education at Petrozavodsk State University, one of the oldest in Russia. She later pursued her passion for physics and teaching at the Severodvinsk Technical College in Severodvinsk, where she taught for several years.

Growing up in northern Russia, Professor Shkitko’s experiences were much the same as most students today. There was, however, one major difference. While attending school under Soviet control, studying abroad was not an option.

She feels that students should take every opportunity to travel outside of the United States. “It can be a very rewarding experience in terms of academics and experiencing cultures unlike their own,” Professor Shkitko said.

Since coming to the United States, Professor Shkitko has been teaching Physics I and II along with College Algebra and Elementary Functions. Whether she has taught in Russia or in the United States, she has noticed one common thing among all of her students: they share the same passion, goals and enthusiasm for their education, she said.

- Donna Palmen ’08

Ukraine
DelVal Hosts Economic Tour

This October, Delaware Valley College proudly hosted several Ukrainian greenhouse associates as part of a tour to learn how American producers operate in a free-market system.

Natural Resources and Biosystems Management department faculty conducted a presentation explaining DelVal’s unique approach to agriculture education and talked about topics in transgenic research and the development of plant-based vaccinations for humans.

The day continued with a trip off campus to visit with Ugly Fruit, the largest tomato developer east of the Mississippi River, to learn different methods and techniques for producing adequate amounts of quality tomatoes. Tom Kennedy, director of DelVal’s MBA program, accompanied the Ukrainian team to a food distribution center to provide the visitors with a better understanding of how food is distributed to retail operations in the states. The meeting concluded with vegetable vendors in Philadelphia and a tour of a mushroom plant.

- Lina Barbieri

Richard Cowhig, assistant professor of Floriculture and Nursery Management, reflecting on the day’s events, said, “The Ukrainian agricultural industry has the same needs, wants and desires as our domestic producers.”

Professor Cowhig is looking forward to hosting another group, and hopes to facilitate an exchange in the Ukrainian capital city, Kiev, with Delaware Valley College students and faculty.

- Lina Barbieri

The group toured campus as well as local businesses.
When the Freedom Conference women’s soccer preseason coaches’ poll was released in August, Delaware Valley was picked to finish sixth out of nine teams. The addition of three schools into the league, including powerhouse Eastern University, had the group believing that the Aggies would not make a return trip to the conference playoffs despite several key players returning for head coach Kevin Doherty.

Doherty and the Aggies proved all the skeptics wrong as they produced the greatest season in the 15-year history of the program and nearly became the first women’s team in school history to reach the NCAA Championships.

Delaware Valley finished with a 14-4-2 overall record for the most wins in a single year. Six of the victories came in conference play, and its 6-2 mark had them tied for second place in the Freedom. The Aggies held the tiebreaker with defending champion Manhattanville College, and the result was the team’s first-ever home playoff game and a conference semifinal showdown with the Valiants.

With a large crowd on hand, including a spirited group of students who painted themselves in green and gold for the occasion, the Aggies found themselves down 2-1 as the clock ticked under eight minutes remaining. However, they were awarded a penalty kick on a handball, and senior Emily Perryman drilled the shot past the Manhattanville goalkeeper to tie the game and send it to overtime.

The teams played a scoreless 10 minutes and moved into a second session. If neither team found the net after another 10 minutes, the game would come down to penalty kicks. Perryman would not let that happen as she raced to a ball that was sent into the box by Johann Lova. The Manhattanville goalkeeper got there a split second before Perryman, but her sliding attempt to clear the ball deflected off of Perryman and slowly rolled into the net to set off a wild celebration by Delaware Valley. The win was the first in four playoff tries and it sent the Aggies to the championship game for the first time in program history.

Delaware Valley had to hit the road for the title contest, and its opponent was Eastern, which went a perfect 8-0 in the Freedom during the regular season, including a 2-0 victory over the Aggies. The two teams battled to a scoreless tie for the first 80 minutes of regulation, before the Eagles executed a perfect corner kick for the lone goal of the game, the conference title and the trip to the NCAA Championships. (Eastern eventually reached the Elite Eight of the tournament.)

The accolades came pouring in for Delaware Valley after the season. Senior Elise Dauber, who moved into second place on the school’s all-time list in both goals (53) and points (127), earned first-team all-Freedom accolades for the third year in a row. She was also selected to the all-Mid Atlantic Region third team for the second straight year.

Perryman and fellow senior Christine Del Turco joined Dauber on the all-conference team. It was Perryman’s third such award while Del Turco, whose dominant play on defense helped the Aggies tie a school record with eight shutouts, received the honor for the second year in a row.

The longest-tenured coach in the conference (13 years), Doherty picked up his first Coach of the Year Award. He was also named the Southeast Pennsylvania Soccer Coaches Association Women’s Soccer Coach of the Year and was recognized in December.
The following Delaware Valley student-athletes were named to the Middle Atlantic States Collegiate Athletic Corporation (MASCAC) Fall All-Academic Team (to qualify a student must be at least a sophomore in class standing and maintain a 3.20 or higher cumulative GPA):

Amanda Barr Women’s Cross Country
Cortney Bower Women’s Soccer
Sara Brown Women’s Cross Country
Pat Brozina Football
Kevin Carlock Football
Elise Carpenter Women’s Soccer
Elise Dauber Women’s Soccer
Tom Drummond Men’s Soccer
Dan Fenstermacher Men’s Cross Country
Kellen Jarrett Football
Kate Klish Volleyball
Lauren Lansberry Field Hockey
Sam Loeber Women’s Soccer
Ashley Majewski Volleyball
Nicki Martini Women’s Soccer
Joe Mastrine Men’s Soccer
Ashley Mikulsky Volleyball
Josh Oman Men’s Soccer
Bethany Pavlik Field Hockey
Emily Perryman Women’s Soccer
Melissa Plourde Men’s Cross Country
Katy Provenzale Field Hockey
Holly Rich Field Hockey
Greg Rissinger Football
Brittany Schwartz Women’s Cross Country
Rob Shedlosky Football
Adam Smith Football
Ralph Stambaugh Women’s Cross Country
Meghan Tyman Women’s Cross Country

Delaware Valley senior standouts Cortney Bower (women’s soccer) and Ralph Stambaugh (football) were recognized for their work both on the field and in the classroom by numerous organizations, including the Philadelphia Inquirer where they were named the Academic All-Area Performers of the Year for their respective sports.

Bower started every game in net for the Aggies and notched 14 wins, seven shutouts and a 0.84 goals against average. She is a small animal science major and maintains a perfect 4.0 cumulative grade point average.

In addition to the Philadelphia Inquirer honor, Bower was named to the College Sports Information Directors of America/ESPN The Magazine Women’s Soccer Academic All-District II Second Team as well as the Middle Atlantic States College Athletic Corporation (MASCAC) Fall All-Academic Team. Bower, a 4.0 student who also serves as a resident advisor, was recently accepted to both the Ohio State University and the University of Pennsylvania’s veterinary school. She will be attending Penn in the fall.

Stambaugh was a four-year starter on the offensive line and earned All-American honors for the 2008 season. He did not allow a sack in ’08 and spearheaded an offensive line that helped the Aggies lead the Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) in scoring (25.3 avg) while averaging 333.5 yards per game. He is a criminal justice major who maintains a 3.52 cumulative grade point average.

Stambaugh was also named the MAC Football Scholar-Athlete and earned a spot on both College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA)/ESPN The Magazine Football Academic All-District II Second Ream and the MASCAC Fall All-Academic Team.

MAC ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM

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Dan Fenstermacher Men’s Cross Country
Kellen Jarrett Football
Kate Klish Volleyball
Lauren Lansberry Field Hockey
Sam Loeber Women’s Soccer
Ashley Majewski Volleyball
Nicki Martini Women’s Soccer
Joe Mastrine Men’s Soccer
Ashley Mikulsky Volleyball
Josh Oman Men’s Soccer
Bethany Pavlik Field Hockey
Emily Perryman Women’s Soccer
Melissa Plourde Men’s Cross Country
Katy Provenzale Field Hockey
Holly Rich Field Hockey
Greg Rissinger Football
Brittany Schwartz Women’s Cross Country
Rob Shedlosky Football
Adam Smith Football
Ralph Stambaugh Women’s Cross Country
Meghan Tyman Women’s Cross Country

Athlete Awards

Scholar-athlete Cortney Bower punts her team forward as goalkeeper.

SEASON RECORDS

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<td>FOOTBALL</td>
<td>8-2</td>
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<td>* MAC &amp; ECAC South Atlantic Bowl Champion</td>
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<td>CROSS COUNTRY MEN</td>
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<td>VOLLEYBALL</td>
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<td>1-7 (Tied 8th/9 teams)</td>
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Rob Shedlosky Football
Adam Smith Football
Ralph Stambaugh Women’s Cross Country
Meghan Tyman Women’s Cross Country

ALL-CONFERENCE HONORS

WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
Caitlin Dorgan First Team All-Conference
Brittany Schwartz Second Team All-Conference

FIELD HOCKEY
Michelle Cernobyl Second Team All-Conference
Delaware Valley College’s farm market reopened March 20, with Yardley-based Shady Brook Farm managing day-to-day operations. The Market by Shady Brook Farm at Delaware Valley College will continue to offer local produce, prepared foods, made-to-order sandwiches, dinner entrees and baked goods in addition to plants, garden supplies and greenhouse items.

Paul and Dave Fleming, of Shady Brook Farm, will serve as co-general managers. “My dad, Dave Fleming was class of 1963 here at DelVal and my uncle was class of 1953. And Karen Campellone and Rob Arcidiacono, both assistant managers at The Market, are also alumni of the college,” said Paul. “It’s been a real homecoming for everyone, our whole family. We are truly thrilled about this partnership.”

The Market will feature a redesigned interior and will continue to offer internal and external seating areas. Said Dave, “We’d like to invite you to stop in, grab a cup of coffee and bring your laptop with you.” The Market will offer free WiFi access for guests.

The Market will hold a grand opening celebration on Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5. Admission is free, and activities will include pony rides and inflatable toys for children and product samples for all visitors. For more information, please call The Market at 215-230-7170 or visit delval.edu/themarket for updates.
Top Ten states alumni live in...

Our alumni live in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

PA 6893  NY 448  FL 353  CA 164  DE 132
NJ 2073  MD 432  NC 168  CT 145  MA 100
Benjamin Kancepolsky ’36
Submitted by Rachele Katz

Attached is a photo of my father Benjamin Kancepolsky taken when he attended the National Farm School as he sits under a tree with the carved initials "J.S. M.L." framed in a box above his head. I think my father (born Dec. 1912) to be about 21+ years old in the photo. He attended the Farm School for 3 years, graduating in 1936. In the late 1930’s, he changed his surname to Pearlson, and after marrying my mother, bought a farm in western New York, where he was a successful dairy farmer for over 25 years, raised 8 children, and taught us by example values that Delaware Valley College continues to instill in its students today.

We very much enjoyed our visit to Delaware Valley College, and now with our return to Haifa (Israel) and have been matching up photos of the old campus with the new ones we took.

I did come across a letter written by my father (age 20+) on May 1, 1933 to a close friend of his, describing first impressions of the school in which he wrote:

“All the time I spent in Davis, I hardly saw any practical agriculture. Now I am reminded of the fact that at the end of the semester, 4 months into my stay there, I suddenly realized that I had not yet seen a barn, sheep, cattle, or any horses.

And the same goes for the fields. Whereas [at DelVal] here from my first day, I have been immersing myself to the fullest in the scent of the earth, the smell of the fields, and the spring. In short, this is a place for practical agriculture, a place that educates us to be productive workers....”
1940'S

Al Danenberg '45 and his wife, Joan, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary recently. "Being a dialysis patient I cannot travel at will, but DelVal will remain solidly implanted in my heart."

Merritt J. Schultheis '42 has spent over 60 years in the landscape business in the Los Angeles region. His back yard, which he planted about 25 years ago has many side gardens including semi-dwarf fruit trees, a couple dozen citrus varieties, apples, plums, peaches, apricot, etc. Additionally, he has a little Italian garden, sunken English gardens, jungle run, raised vegetable gardens and redwood tree area. The backyard is about a quarter acre.

CLASS OF 1959

The class will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary of Commencement on May 16th and will also be holding a 50th reunion at Homecoming on Saturday October 17th. For information, please contact the alumni office at 215-489-2917.

1960'S

Frederick O. Cope '69 joined Neoprobe Corporation as its Vice President of Pharmaceutical Research and Clinical Development.

Dr. Cope has most recently served as the Assistant Director for Research and Head of Program Research Development for The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, The James Cancer Hospital and The Richard J. Solove Research Institute. Dr. Cope also served for a number of years as the Ernest W. Volwiler Fellow and Head, Cancer and AIDS Research Effort for Abbot Laboratories-Ross Division. Dr. Cope is active in a number of professional and scientific organizations such as serving as a current Ad Hoc Candidate of the FDA Scientific Advisory Panel, a member of Emory University’s Informatics Advisory Board, and as a full member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. Dr. Cope received his BSc from the Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture, his MS from Millersville University of Pennsylvania and his Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut.

Fred Cope said, "I look forward to becoming part of the Neoprobe team and to the approval of the initial applications of Lymphoseek. This successful program will provide a unique and remarkably valuable tool for the benefit of patients."

1970'S

Tim Manning '75 My wife and I have been working with Wycliffe Bible Translators since 1992. We spent 20 months learning French to work in Senegal, West Africa. I used my DelVal education and training to help me as a Community Development (CD) worker in Senegal from 1997 – 2002. Community Development included training and working in agriculture and animals, water wells, maintenance, solar panel work and many other kinds of hands-on activities alongside the Bible Translation and Literacy teams.

For our last year there, we were 12 hours from the capital city, Dakar, in a small village working with nationals and aiding the other workers there with all kinds of community projects with gardens and animal health. We miss Africa very much.

1980'S

David S. Daehnke '84 has been named executive director of The Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens Society, Inc. Most recently, Daehnke held the position of executive director of The Montclair Foundation and Van Vleck House and Gardens in Montclair, New Jersey. He directed successful restoration efforts, fundraising campaigns and educational programs. Daehnke is widely known from his weekly radio show "The Gardening Guru" on WGHT 1500 AM, on Martha Stewart's Sirius Radio Show "Morning Living". He is also horticultural consultant on www.thegardeningguru.com and a staff writer for The Gardener News, New Jersey's only monthly gardening newspaper.

Deborah Pomroy Moyer '87 of The Posey Peddler Flower Shop in Easton, PA, received the 2008 ATHENA Award from the Two Rivers Area Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Council. She was recognized for her professional achievements and community service, as well as for her activity and generosity in assisting others in their attainment of professional excellence and leadership skills. Deborah has been involved in initiating a scholarship fund for high school students and adults that are interested in a career in floriculture through the Lehigh Valley Association. She teaches students in high school and is very involved in the New Jersey FFA, Warren County Farmers Fair, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, and the Lehigh Valley Floral Association. Lehigh Valley Style and other local magazines have recognized Deborah’s floral designs. She is
well known for her bridal designs. She has received the Honorary American FFA Degree Award, the Honorary State FFA Degree Award, and the NJ Junior Grange Leadership Award. She also served on the National Grange Community Service Committee.

William “Bill” Madara ’86 received a promotion to the position of Officer-in-Charge of the USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fresh Products Branch Inspection Office in Philadelphia, PA. Bill supervises a team of 12 inspectors (including 2 other DelVal grads), whose primary responsibility is inspecting the Chilean fruit that enters the US through the Philly area.

1990’S

Bob Deemer ’90 (HT) recently accepted the position of Senior Buyer-Apples with Dr Pepper/Snapple Group (DPSG, the makers of Mott’s brand applesauce and juice). Bob has worked for 18 years in raw product supply in positions for brands such as Libby’s, Seneca, Birdseye and Allens as well as with numerous industrial accounts and private label vegetables, both canned and frozen. Bob lives with his wife Pamela and daughter Nicole in Palmyra NY. Bob also currently serves as the president of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wayne County.

W. Brad Sennett ’92 has four children, the youngest 2½ years old. He works at Fresh Blooms which is a division of the Delaware Valley Floral Group. He is in charge of the purchasing team. He has been re-connecting with some old college friends via Facebook, and it is nice to be back in touch!

Ken Petersen ’92 was recently promoted to the position of Audit Program Coordinator of the USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fresh Products Branch in Washington, DC. Ken is the lead contact for the USDA Fruit and Vegetable Program’s Good Agricultural Practices & Good Handling Practices Audit Verification program which provides auditing services nationwide.

Tammy (Mulutzie) Hilberg ’94 and Cliff Hilberg announce the birth of a daughter, Kaitlyn Ann Hilberg, on December 17, 2008. Tammy is a vaccine representative with Merck, with whom she has been employed for 14 years.

CLASS OF 1996

The class will be meeting at A-Day – for more information on the event, contact Marla on the Delaware Valley College Class of ’96 facebook space or call 215-489-2917.

Christine (Beschler) Zeppenfeld ’94 was awarded the Richard Rotter Award for Excellence in Environmental Education by the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association (Hopewell Township, NJ). The annual award is given to an area teacher who “demonstrates a high level of enthusiasm and commitment to environmental education in their classroom.” Ms. Zeppenfield is director of the Learning Through Landscapes program at the Princeton Junior School.

2000’S

Lisa Munniksmma ’00 recently accepted the position of managing editor with Hobby Farms and Hobby Farm Home magazines. She’s also owner of Communication Simplified, providing freelance writing, editing and media relations services to small businesses, nonprofit organizations, magazines and newspapers.


Meghan McTamney ’08 announces her engagement to Matthew Gruver. Meghan is currently employed at Williams & Hand P.C. in Doylestown. Matt, is a division mechanic at PSE&G in Elizabeth, NJ. Matt proposed to Meghan the day she graduated from Delaware Valley College. A March, 2009 wedding is planned.

Michael R. Stocker ’02 is a commercial sales executive for Hampson Mowrer Kreitz insurance agency. He is responsible for introducing HMK’s group benefits to area employers.

Hank Majeski ’04 recently released a debut album, Snake Oil with his band, Two Tone Tony and The Carburator Cats. The band is based in Frederick, MD, and plays a unique blend of American rock and roll while delivering a stage show that is not to be missed. To date they have played with several well known regional and national acts, including Big Sandy and His Fly-Rite Boys, while gigging throughout the mid-Atlantic and upper South regions. Their music can be found at www.cdbaby.com/ttatcc.
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Smith

WEDDING

Mark Smith ’04 married Nicole Hofgesang on July 26, 2008, in Washington, NJ. The couple honeymooned on a cruise to the Caribbean. Nicole is working on her Master’s degree in speech language pathology at Loyola College, MD, and Mark is an agriscience teacher at North Carroll High School in Hampstead, MD. The couple reside in New Windsor, MD.

BIRTHS

Dr. Doug Linde ’91 and his wife Jess announce the arrival of their son Karl Douglas Linde on Feb 20, 2009.

Stephanie (Razze) Tartaglia ’97 and her husband Tony are pleased to announce the birth of their second son, Ryan Lee, on February 15, 2008. He was 9 lb., 8 oz, and 19 ½ inches long. Big Brother Harry anxiously awaited the arrival of his little brother and is so excited he is finally here!

Anna Laden Thomas ’99 (ES) and Scott Thomas ’98 (OH) announce the birth of Peter Scott Thomas on August 5, 2008 at Doylestown Hospital. Peter joins big sister Ella and big brother John.

Betsy (Fetter) Coyne ’02 gave birth to identical boy twins on April 24, 2008. Gavin Jacob Coyne weighed 5 pounds, 8 ounces, and Dylan Thomas Coyne weighed 5 pounds, 13 ounces. Husband Bill and Betsy are enjoying parenthood and still smiling despite the lack of sleep.

Kevin Bittorie ‘00 and Kayte (Denslow) Bittorie ‘01 welcomed their daughter, Madelyn Anne Bittorie, into the world on April 22, 2008, in Nashville, Tennessee. She weighed 8 lbs., 1 oz., and was 21 inches long. Kevin is currently the Director of Marketing at the Nashville Technology Council and Kayte is the Visitor Services Manager at the Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum. “Life is good!”

David ’00 and Susan Johnson ’00 introduce their son, Cameron Michael Johnson, born July 30, 2008. Cameron is welcomed by big brother Zachary, age 6 and twin sisters Celia and Rosa, age 5.

Heidi P. Deem ’98 and husband Nathan are pleased to announce the birth of a daughter, Madisyn Dana Deem, who was born on September 26, 2007.

Melissa (Miller) Frank ’96 (Animal Science) and husband Robert announce the birth of a son, Ryan Martin, on December 28, 2008.

Jules Abercauph ’00 (Hort) and wife Laura welcomed son Liam Clarke Alan Abercauph on April 11, 2008. Liam was 7lbs-15oz. Liam joins big sister Leila Rose, 2 years old.
Reconciling Ornamental Plant Choices for the Cultivated Landscape: Breeding Breakthroughs, Solid Garden Standards, and Plants with Untapped Potential

Robert E. Lyons
Wednesday, April 1, 2009
7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

Each year the number of new plants arriving in the marketplace outpaces that of the previous year. This presentation attempts to sift through the plethora of choices to expose “rising stars,” highlight historic performers, and discuss the yet to be heralded.

Longwood Gardens: Five Seasons with a Lifetime of Inspiration!

Karl Gercens
Wednesday, April 29, 2009
7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

Most of our gardens experience only four seasons, but at Longwood Gardens there is an extra season of extravagant horticulture. Join Karl Gercens, Conservatory Horticulturist, as he takes us “behind the scenes” of Longwood’s world renowned displays!

Members Plant Swap

Wednesday, May 13, 2009
5:00 p.m. • OH Greenhouse

Always a favorite, this is the opportunity for members to exchange their favorite or most unusual perennials, trees, shrubs or groundcovers with those of other gardeners. Even if you come to the swap plant-less, you’ll get a chance to go home with some new plants! This is a juried event, so please remember that weedy, rampant-growing, or invasive species will not be accepted, but the more unusual or choice plants that you bring, the more opportunities you gain to select plants!

DEATHS

John W. Reed ’50 passed away on Jan. 20, 2009.

Arthur C. Force ’55 passed away on April 28, 2007. Art was employed by the former Ford New Holland in sales and marketing, retiring in 1991 after 33 years of service. He held a private pilot license, enjoyed bowling, traveling, and Hawaiian music. He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Thelma J. (Hillard) Force, three children, a stepson, four grandchildren, a great grandson and a sister.

George Weaver ’55 born on March 26, 1932 in New Jersey. Passed away on June 6, 2008 in Sacramento, CA. Survived by his loving wife Donna. He is also survived by his sons Marty (Arlene), John (Andrea), Edward and daughter Mary. Also his sister Annette. Preceded in death by son George.

William Eugene Haller ’58 passed away peacefully on October 13, 2008, after a courageous battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS/Lou Gehrig’s Disease).

Peter G. Blodgett ’63 passed away on December 8, 2008. He was employed by Browns Feed Co., Holstein USA, Genetics INC and Carnation Genetics, in addition to serving as president and general manager for Landmark Genetics, Alta Genetics and was recently employed as an independent consultant. He was the past president of NAAB and a member of Dairy Shrine. He was 2004 person of the year for World Dairy Expo. He resided in Bensalem, PA.

Peter R. Bard ’65 died on November 14, 2008. He was retired from Gerhart Coffee. He is survived by his wife, Patty, and two daughters.

Karen Kutchey ’78 (Agronomy) died in August, 2007, at her home in Baltimore, MD.

Bob Noble remembers George Weaver

In the mid 50’s I was working for the Soil Conservation Service USDA and had just been transferred from Perry to York County, PA. Christine and I went to church on Sunday, and we looked up to see George Weaver and his wife Donna. George was a food inspector with the USDA.

After a few years we were both transferred out of the area. Our son was born with a congenital heart disorder and our family decided to move to California for the warmer climate. I sent George and Donna a note to their New Jersey address. Two weeks later we got a note saying they were living in California.
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Delaware Valley College encourages qualified persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact the Office of the President at 215-489-2203, in advance of your participation or visit. This publication is available in alternative media on request.