On a Drum Roll

Musical Sport Comes Alive in Western New York
**President’s View**

**GRADUATION WEEKEND** is always a time for reflection and celebration and 2008 was no exception. This edition of *Hilbert Connections* includes graduation photographs that capture the joyful moments shared by those in attendance. The commencement speaker, Mr. Robert Rich, Jr., discussed the importance of finding your passion, becoming part of a great team, retaining your curiosity, and sharing your humanity with others. Our student speaker, Bill Haas, urged his fellow graduates to seek out the people who had made a difference during their journey of success at Hilbert College to thank them for making the day a reality.

Hilbert has a fantastic team supporting its Catholic Franciscan mission and make meaningful contributions to the college’s accomplishments. First, there are the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph who continue to support the college with their prayers as well as their leadership on the Hilbert Board of Trustees. I know you will enjoy the story about the long-term service of Sister Joanette Rutkowski, Hilbert’s archivist.

Our faculty and staff are key team players who nurture daily the educational transformation of our students. Their engagement in meaningful intellectual and civic pursuits is remarkable.

Our alumni so generously share within the community their positive experiences at Hilbert, something which is having a significant impact on enrollment. In a marketing survey conducted last fall by the college, two out of three applicants heard about the college from a member of the Hilbert family.

Finally, we are grateful for the generosity of our special donors who have supported the college’s fund-raising efforts. As Hilbert prepares to wrap up its largest fund-raising campaign in the college’s history, the momentum continues toward reaching the $3.5 million First 50 Campaign goal and in successfully meeting the challenge grant from the prestigious Kresge Foundation. Gifts from our donors will have an enduring impact on the quality of a Hilbert education and continue the legacy of our founders, the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph.

Thank you for being an active and engaged member of the Hilbert team. You are vital to our ongoing success, and, through your support, Hilbert will thrive far into the future.

*Cynthia Zane, Ed.D.
President*
Contents

Cover Story

On a Drum Roll ..................... 6
Proponent of drum corps reveals how a lifelong fervor for the musical sport sparked a world-class competition

Features

History in the Making ............... 4
Years of chronicling treasures of college’s past earns archivist special honor

Happy Endings Lead to New Beginnings ........ 12
See a snapshot of commencement ’08 as new graduates bid farewell to Hilbert

In Every Issue

President’s View 2
Around Hilbert 4
Faculty and Staff File 13
In the Sports Zone 14
Alumni News & Notes 18
Remember When 20
History in the Making

It’s a timeless preservation of history. Tracing the life of an institution is meticulous work.

For more than 20 years, Hilbert College archivist Sister Joanette Rutkowski has been collecting and managing an enduring, irreplaceable record of college history. Today the college archival records include photographs, publications, significant college documents, newspaper clippings and an extensive collection of other materials.

Sister Joanette’s dedication to preserving the gateway to Hilbert’s past was recognized this spring with the college’s historical collection named in her honor. A special dedication ceremony to name the Sister Joanette Rutkowski, FSSJ, Archives and Historical Collection held in McGrath Library brought together the Hilbert community, members of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph, and friends to pay tribute to the college’s first and only archivist since its founding in 1957. It also brought together family, including Sister Joanette’s nephew from Ohio and also her niece, Sister Colette Rutkowski ’70.

Sister Joanette, who at 87 is believed to be the oldest individual to hold an archivist position at an area college, took on preserving and documenting Hilbert’s history in 1986 after having served as assistant to the college registrar for the previous 13 years. Before this, she was a teacher for more than three decades at schools in Buffalo, Auburn, Milwaukee, and Baltimore, among other cities.

A native of the small rural town of Shamokin, Pa., Sister Joanette was the the youngest of 12 children. At age 16, she came to Hamburg and attended Immaculata Academy. She entered the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph congregation and later received a bachelor’s degree in education from Nazareth College and then a master’s degree in education at Villanova University. She’s a member of the Western New York Archivists organization.

Sister Joanette’s dedication to preserving the gateway to Hilbert’s past was recognized this spring with the college’s historical collection named in her honor.
Some of the best and brightest high school students from across Western New York came to Hilbert College’s campus this spring to compete in the academic quiz show “It’s Academic,” which, as educational sponsor of the show, was taped in the college’s William E. Swan Auditorium. Popular during its first run locally in the 1970s and ’80s, the half-hour show has been brought back by Buffalo’s WGRZ-TV.

Student teams from area public and private high schools competed on the weekly quiz show that covered topics from history to science to current events, with the grand champion team named this month.

Pope Benedict XVI addressed a private audience of about 400 presidents of Catholic colleges and universities, including Hilbert College President Cynthia Zane, Ed.D., and other Catholic education leaders during his six-day visit to the United States in April. In his address at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., Pope Benedict expressed his profound gratitude to Catholic educators and emphasized the significance of continuing their work, adding that “young people will surely relish the discovery that the question of what they can know opens up the vast adventure of what they ought to do.”
Inspiration comes in many forms. For Jack Gaylord, it’s the power and precision of drum corps, a musical sport that led to the creation of a Western New York-based organization known for its premier summer competition and international events featuring some of the best youth corps in the world.

by Grace A. Lazzara
Jack Gaylord, Jr. ’79 receives the call minutes before some of the world’s most elite drums and bugle corps are to perform at Drums Along the Waterfront, a huge musical-sports competition Gaylord produces. The corps all travel in tractor trailers, and a line of semis is backed up on a one-way street behind one driver. He’s refusing to drive through what he believes is a too-low underpass.

“Our shows are timed to a T,” Gaylord explains, “and the Drum Corps International event coordinator is barking through the radio that the corps are supposed to be on the field.” Gaylord arrives at the scene of the traffic jam and helps the lone Buffalo police officer in attendance shepherd the vehicles through the underpass. He returns to the show’s site, Dunn Tire Park in downtown Buffalo, in time to see Drums Along the Waterfront start just 10 minutes behind schedule.

So goes another day in the life of Gaylord, president of Drums Along the Waterfront, Inc. Gaylord also runs his own firm, Grace Events, which produces sporting competitions, parades, festivals and other events. But his passion for Drums Along the Waterfront is nearly all consuming. Really, it’s Gaylord’s baby. He’s the guy who does everything except get out on the field and dance.
During DATW, participating corps perform routines on a stadium field. At some point in the show, you might hear jazz, pop, swing, classical, Broadway, symphonic and—surprise!—even march music. Most performances run around 10 minutes and involve complex marching formations that physically task corps members. (Tests have revealed that the cardio ability of top corps members is on par with that of marathon runners.) Lines of players weave in and around one another. Color guards spin flags and execute moves worthy of gymnasts. An expert panel judges the performances for overall execution and excellence. The high score determines the event’s winner.

“These are the best musical marching units in the world,” Gaylord asserts. “I’ve been a percussionist since second grade and consider myself an athlete, but I couldn’t do what these kids do.”

**Passions are the driving force**

That Gaylord is the driving force behind Drums Along the Waterfront is no surprise, given his dual passions for music and sports. The Gaylord family is quite musical: his brother holds a master’s degree in music composition and is an Emmy Award winner; his sister is a professional opera singer.

Gaylord’s parents brought him to drum and bugle corps shows when he was a youngster and “impressionable,” he says, with a smile. Many fire departments and VFWs had corps then, though the marching was in block formation, the instrumentation less complex than today’s. Still, Gaylord developed a love for the competitive musical sport. He was in marching band in high school but didn’t participate in drum and bugle corps because he played other sports. He never stopped being a fan and always stayed involved in a network of people who helped corps find lodging or coordinated shows.
Gaylord has also pursued his athletic side. He attended Hilbert “to play basketball, but I ended up with an education. And anyone who saw me play would know why,” he says, laughing. He calls the talent level of Hilbert’s team when he was a student “incredible,” with team captain Dwight Hollins ’79, who went on to play at basketball powerhouse Xavier College and tried out for professional teams. “Then there I was, maybe scoring two points a game. You often hear stories of the person who has a perfect body and is gifted as an athlete. I had the opposite—the heart and the desire.”

His sports-oriented career began after he earned a bachelor’s degree in health, physical education and social psychology from Heidelberg College in Ohio. He taught K-12 in Little Valley, Gowanda and Avon, N.Y., also serving as coach for the basketball, lacrosse, football and track teams. After that, he became a tight end and tackle coach for the Bowling Green State University football team. Knowing the vagaries of big-time college ball, Gaylord got out of coaching. He returned to college, got a master’s degree in sports administration with an emphasis in event management and jumped into a career in event planning in Ohio.

**Conceiving a “beast”**

Drums Along the Waterfront wasn’t the first drums and bugle corps event to take place in Western New York. In fact, the sanctioning body for the sport, Drum Corps International (DCI), held its prestigious, and for the host city, lucrative, world championships in Buffalo in 1995. Shortly afterward, however, Gaylord heard through his well-established corps grapevine that, for various reasons, DCI had decided not to hold the world championships again in Buffalo. When family issues brought him back to his home base of Western New York in 1996, Gaylord took the opportunity to repair a somewhat strained relationship between the region and DCI. He conceived Drums Along the Waterfront as a way to keep drums and bugle corps alive in the area and as a chance to “keep our hand in the cookie jar for another chance at the world championships.”

Most important, he explains, is that “drums and bugle corps is truly a piece of Americana. There’s no longer a corps in every community, and we wanted to keep that art form operating.”

DATW today runs as smoothly as any such massive undertaking can. But Gaylord describes equally massive difficulties in starting the event from scratch: Lining up media and other sponsors. Securing a performance venue. Finding 10 area high schools to house 10 150-person corps. Negotiating contracts. “It’s a monster,” he admits. “Coming out of the block, if I knew then what I know now, I don’t know if I could have done it. I’m not necessarily naïve, but I didn’t realize the scope of the beast.”

Gaylord credits his time on Hilbert’s basketball team as one of the best preparations for the challenges he faced in jump-starting DATW. “At the time, I might not have liked sitting on the end of the bench, even though that’s where I belonged,” he said. “But that also helped me. I learned back then that persistence is so important. You take what you’ve got and roll with it.”

**What’s a Drums and Bugle Corps?**

Drums and bugle corps are not marching bands, which tend to add to an event like a football game or parade. Indeed, drum and bugle corps are their own main attraction and usually draw the audience into the performance. Each corps is an independent, not-for-profit youth group made up of around 150 14- to 21-year-old “musical-athletes” who play brass and percussion and who dance (the color guard).

In the old days, players used actual bugles, and players carried all the percussion, even timpani. Today, the brass is b-flat horns and corps percussion players perform in a pit, like the orchestra for a musical. These groups tour the country throughout the summer, sleeping in school gyms and competing against other youth corps. Active participants in U.S.-based drum and bugle corps hail from more than 15 countries. World-class corps can run on yearly budgets of $1 million.

The sanctioning organization for corps worldwide is Drum Corps International. Through its auspices, drum and bugle corps has become a global youth activity with far-reaching artistic, educational and organizational influence. DCI holds an annual Summer Music Games Tour and more than 35 world championships in 16 North American cities, some of which are nationally televised.
He also has learned to adapt and “roll with the punches. It’s not how many times you get knocked down, but how often you get up, especially in the event business.”

Stress also plays into the fact that, even though Drums Along the Waterfront is a rain-or-shine event, bad weather dramatically affects attendance. “The die-hard fans will be there,” Gaylord says, “but the general public shies away.”

Gaylord praises DATW’s volunteer team with helping him deal with the challenges of the “beast” as he calls it. “I’m blessed to have some right-hand people without whom I couldn’t have done anything.”

Interestingly, two of Gaylord’s closest Hilbert friends, Pedro Hernandez ’79 and Anthony Amarel, are on the organization’s board. “They are my brothers through deaths, births, graduations, all life’s experiences,” he says.

Ask Gaylord about the benefits of DATW to the Buffalo region, and he brings up something that obviously excites him. It’s a sidelight to the main event called Prelude (or Finale) to Drums Along the Waterfront, held either before or after the main competition. These free events feature showcase performances by younger drums and bugle corps. They’ve played to packed houses in their first two years at the Johnnie B. Wiley Sports Pavilion on Buffalo’s East Side. After each Prelude/Finale, kids in the stands come down to the field for a jam session. The corps’ drum lines play a rhythm, then the kids play.

One year, recalls Gaylord, “When the corps left, they left in formation. The kids followed them in formation. The adults had tears in their eyes.”

One of Prelude/Finale’s goals is to expose drums and bugle corps to people who might never have seen them. Another, arguably closest to Gaylord’s heart, is to generate enough enthusiasm to start Buffalo’s very own community-based drum corps. “Every year, people who come to Drums
Along the Waterfront ask, ‘Where’s the hometown team?’,” Gaylord says. “Right now, we have the talent and the instructional ability—everything but the funding.”

Another benefit of DATW is financial. The event attracts overnight visitors who spend money on local hotels, restaurants, etc. More important, says Gaylord, is the way DATW reflects on the region. “This is the major leagues of drums and bugle corps,” he says. “To have this type of event here is a credit to the area.”

Since he’s so passionate about DATW, Gaylord naturally accrues some emotional benefits from his involvement. He’s most proud of attracting DCI’s world championships back to the area in 2001, of being able to continue operating, of constantly facing hurdles yet moving forward.

“There’s nothing greater,” he adds, “than being in a stadium and feeling the buzz and the connection of the performers with the people being entertained. Knowing that’s taking place while you’re in service to these kids and providing them a platform; pulling that together and making it happen, because there are so many hurdles leading up to that point—if I can get that moment during the event, that’s all I need.”

Good weather doesn’t hurt either. The week before Drums Along the Waterfront 2004, Western New York was experiencing record rains. On the day of the event, Gaylord swears it rained everywhere in the area except on Dunn Tire Park. The competition went off without a hitch. As he reconnoitered the parking lot after the show, he recalls, “the clouds just opened up. I wanted to get on my knees like the guy in the movie ‘The Shawshank Redemption.’ I just stood there arms raised and enjoyed it!”

Grace Lazzara is a freelance writer and public relations consultant residing in Buffalo, N.Y.
As the melodious sounds of the Trinity Episcopal Pipes and Drums filled the air, it heralded in Hilbert College’s Class of 2008 donned in traditional academic regalia as they processed before proud family and friends to receive their degrees and begin the next journey in their lives.

“The time has come for you to sail forth in the world to broaden your horizons, to increase your knowledge and experience life, whether you’re off to grad school or on to work, home or away, your journey of self awareness is just beginning,” commencement speaker Robert E. Rich, Jr. told the more than 255 graduates at Hilbert’s 47th annual commencement exercises held May 10.

Hilbert President Cynthia Zane presents a degree as Vincent O. Hanley, chairperson of the college’s board of trustees, looks on.
Rich, chairman of Rich Products, Inc., an international frozen foods company headquartered in Buffalo, also urged Hilbert’s newest graduates to discover their driving passion and that it will be the greatest motivator for success and happiness in their careers. “Bring youthful curiosity to your job and never lose your thirst for knowledge.”

Apply what you learn to what you do,” he added. As part of Hilbert’s commencement ceremony, Rich received an honorary doctorate of humane letters in recognition of his service to the community and the Hilbert Students in Free Enterprise organization.

Orthopedic surgeon Anthony Cappuccino, M.D., and Bud Carpenter, head trainer for the Buffalo Bills, two from the medical team involved with Bills player Kevin Everett’s life-saving treatment following a paralyzing spinal injury early in the 2007 season, each received the Hilbert College Medal.

In addition, the Hilbert President’s Medal was presented to James Sturm, vice president for student life, who had taken on the role of overseeing enrollment management functions at Hilbert while still effectively leading student life areas at the college.

The student address at commencement was given by William Haas, a summa cum laude graduate who earned a bachelor’s degree in digital media and communication and received the Kimberly Bruch Raczkowski Memorial Alumni Association Award.

Additional top student awards went to Jacob Bickelman, the John Kissel Man of the Year Award; Deborah Crawford, the Lambert and Margaret Graham Award; and Katrina Galofaro, the Sister Mary Edwina Bogel Award.

In other honors, the first Hilbert Outstanding Community Service...
A Life of Special Moments

When nearly 4-years-old, James Parsell was diagnosed with Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD), a genetic, degenerative muscle disease that primarily affects voluntary muscles, like those in the arms and legs. He was expected to be in a wheelchair by age 9.

Despite this life-changing disease and the challenges that come with it, a particularly miraculous moment occurred when Parsell walked across the stage to receive his college degree at Hilbert College’s commencement ceremony.

Parsell’s family and friends were in attendance in support of this accomplishment as the 2008 graduate received an associate’s degree in criminal justice.

“This is unbelievable,” says Parsell. “When I was young, my family was told I would eventually not be able to walk so for me to actually walk on stage to accept my degree after working hard on my studies was very exciting to me.”

Having seen the affects of DMD on her son, Lela Parsell is keenly aware of what a remarkable undertaking it was for James to pursue a college degree.

“With the typical progression of the disease, we didn’t expect James to still be walking or driving at this age and yet he continues to do so. And now he received his degree. The level of his achievement is truly amazing.”

Parsell, 21, was already familiar with Hilbert from his older brother, who had studied criminal justice at the college. Hilbert’s small college environment lent itself as the right fit for Parsell.

“The professors at Hilbert were able to work more one-on-one with me and the smaller classes were great with helping me learn the material,” he says.

Lela Parsell points to some challenges along that way that, for some, could have prevented or even ended going to college.

“While attending Hilbert, James broke his knee three times and went through surgery for each of those injuries. In fact, with one injury James had only one more day of physical therapy when he broke his knee again,” she recalls.

“My husband and I took turns driving James from our home in Silver Creek to Hilbert’s campus in Hamburg. In addition to the knee surgeries, he had two eye surgeries. Despite all this, James missed only a small number of class days. He was committed to his studies and getting a degree.”

Just as many other new college graduates are looking ahead, Parsell is excited at the prospect of continuing on with more college studies. “I feel really good about things,” he says.

Lela Parsell notes that “being at Hilbert has matured James. He’s a great example of what a person can achieve even though there are obstacles. Our entire family is proud of him.”

(Above) Hilbert College Medal recipients Anthony Cappuccino, M.D., and Bud Carpenter, and President’s Medal recipient James Sturm.

Awards for graduating seniors were presented at the baccalaureate Mass held the morning of commencement. Recipients were Bickelman, Kerrie Bloom, Eric Drabinski, Alicia Dubel, Haas, Colleen Hanrahan, Amanda McClure, and Matthew Reale.

Fittingly, Rich challenged graduates to remain socially active and to make a difference in their community. “People all around you have needs and you can help,” he stressed. “Our community has needs and it is right to give back.”
Michael deGnan, Ph.D., director of the Center for Excellence in Learning and professor of English, is serving as a re-accreditation external reviewer of a graduate English program for the New York State Board of Regents for Regents Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Wendy Edson, chairperson/associate professor of legal studies, was a reviewer for the textbook Law Office Management for Paralegals.

Hathryn Eskew, chairperson/assistant professor of human services and rehabilitation services, is serving on the board of directors of the New York State Rehabilitation Research and Training Institute.

Andrew Kolin, Ph.D., professor of political science, received a 2008 Hilbert scholarship award for publication of his book State Structure and Genocide, which will be reviewed by the Journal of Genocide Research.

Hathryn Maragiano, coordinator of library communications/humanities librarian at McGrath Library, received a creative grant from Hilbert’s Faculty Development Committee for a photography installation that will be exhibited on campus.

Sister Edmunette Paczesny, Ph.D., president emerita, served on the New York State evaluation team for Trocaire College’s application for branch-campus status for the institution’s new Russell J. Salvatore School of Hospitality & Business in Lancaster, N.Y.

Scott Patronik, adjunct instructor of economic crime investigation, received the Investigative Services Division Award from the Erie County Deputy Sheriffs Badge and Shield Club.

Amy Smith, Ph.D., director of the Honors/Elder Scholars programs and professor of English, will attend a faculty institute on “W.B. Yeats: A Reassessment,” sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, being held this summer in Ireland.

Hilbert President Cynthia Zane, Ed.D., served on a panel of area leaders for “Resurrecting Buffalo,” a regional public forum and conversation featuring Harvard University Professor Edward Glaeser, author of the article “Can Buffalo Ever Come Back?” Also, President Zane has been elected vice chairperson of the Catholic Health System’s Acute Care Board.

Making an Impact

As Hilbert College prepares to wrap up its largest fund-raising campaign in the college’s history, the momentum continues toward reaching the $3.5 million First 50 Campaign goal and in successfully meeting the challenge grant from the prestigious Kresge Foundation.

The collective impact of gifts from our generous donors will have a lasting impact on the quality of a Hilbert education by improving the college’s learning facilities and educational opportunities for students while perpetuating the legacy of our founders, the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph.

With your help, we can meet this ambitious challenge. Every gift counts. Join the celebration of this historic opportunity at Hilbert by contacting Fran Vaughan, vice president for institutional advancement, at 716-926-8790, fvaughan@hilbert.edu.

7th Annual Hilbert College Day at Dunn Tire Park

Buffalo Bisons vs. Rochester Red Wings
Friday, August 15
7:35 p.m. game time
Post-game fireworks

6 p.m. pre-game party
Music, food, drink specials

Catch Hilbert President Cynthia Zane throw out the first pitch!

$10 game tickets include
$5 voucher for food, drinks or souvenirs
Free for children age 3 and under

Tickets and info:
Craig Harris
Alumni Relations Director
716-926-8888
charris@hilbert.edu
Superior Selections

Hilbert College softball player Rachel Parker ’10 has been named a 2008 All-Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) selection. Parker landed on the first team after pacing the Hawks in seven different offensive categories, including batting average (.424), doubles (17), homeruns (3), runs batted in (31), total bases (78), slugging percentage (.661), and on base percentage (.465).

Parker, who ranks fourth nationally in doubles, led the AMCC statistically and finished seventh in both batting average and runs batted in. The second baseman ranked eighth in slugging percentage, and her 33 runs scored was eighth best in the conference.

Parker finished the 2008 season with 50 hits tying teammate Laura Stranc ’08 and Lake Erie College’s Katie Puda for eighth place in that category.

Parker, who ranks fourth nationally in doubles, led the AMCC statistically and finished seventh in both batting average and runs batted in.

In other AMCC honors, Hilbert’s Matt Schoepflin ’08 was named a 2008 Second Team All-AMCC baseball selection. Selected as a designated hitter, Schoepflin is the first Hilbert baseball player to earn All-AMCC honors after helping the Hawks to an improved 6-25 campaign.

All-Time Leading Scorer Takes Honors

DIII News, the monthly newsletter of NCAA Division III men’s basketball, has named Dallas Reinard ’08 a 2008 Honorable Mention All-American.

A fifth team All-American and 2007 Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) Player of the year, Reinard (featured in the Winter 2008 Hilbert Connections) followed up his junior campaign with first-team All-AMCC honors last winter.

The 6’4 guard averaged 21.4 ppg this past season and was a two-time AMCC Player of the Week en route to becoming...
The college’s all-time leader in doubles with 18 over a two-year career, Schoepflin completed his senior season having led the Hawks with 10 to his credit. The second baseman and nine-game pitcher led Hilbert with 24 runs batted in while his 33 hits and .398 on-base percentage tied for first on the team. A .330 hitter, Schoepflin was the Hawks top pitcher with two wins and 26 strikeouts to go with a 7.28 ERA. The right-hander’s 55.2 innings on the mound ranked eighth in the AMCC for innings pitched.

Schoepflin is the college’s all-time leader in doubles with 18 over a two-year career.

The college’s all-time leading scorer with 1,810 career points. Reinard also finished his career as the program’s all-time leader in three-point field goals made with 240 to his credit.

With numerous accolades added to his resume, including being named a 2008 second team All-ECAC South Region selection, Reinard finished his collegiate career ranked in the top five of 13 different Hilbert offensive categories.

The four-time AMCC All-Academic selection and 2007 ESPN the Magazine Academic All-American graduated this spring with a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice.

Send us your news & photos!

Traveled across the country? Published a book? Been promoted? Let us know what’s new with you (awards, marriage, births, promotions/job changes, change of address, advanced degrees, etc.). Just fill out this form and mail it with your photo, if available, to: Hilbert College, Office of Alumni Relations, 5200 South Park Ave., Hamburg, NY 14075 or fax it to (716) 558-6381. You can also e-mail your latest news to charris@hilbert.edu.

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We are very excited to have the Hilbert Class of 2008 guest speakers following the 2008 commencement ceremony. We have sponsored a reception for the newest Hilbert graduates and a night out at a Buffalo Bandits game (kudos to Hilbert alum Kyle Schmelzle ’07 for the Bandits winning this year’s NLL Championship). The Hilbert Alumni Association also sponsored a reception for the newest Hilbert graduates and guests following the 2008 commencement ceremony. We are very excited to have the Hilbert Class of 2008 join our distinguished group of alumni. We sincerely hope you stay connected to Hilbert and look forward to your participation in our upcoming events! The Hilbert Alumni Association has been very busy planning some enjoyable upcoming events. We will be hosting the seventh annual Hilbert Day at Dunn Tire Park on Aug. 15, which includes a Buffalo Bisons game and other benefits at an affordable price (see page 15 for more details).

Our third Alumni Reconnection event will take place on Oct. 18 during our Reunion Weekend. Please watch for mailers with important information about these events or check out our Web site at www.hilbertcollegealumni.org for further details.

Amy M. Bartz
Alumni President
alumnipresident@hilbert.edu

To contact the Hilbert Office of Alumni Relations: e-mail charris@hilbert.edu

Although the Hilbert College Alumni Association has made many strides through the years, there are many more achievements ahead of us in order to “raise the bar.” As president of the college’s alumni association, I feel honored to be a part of the successful growth and progress we have made over the past year. We have hosted several successful events, including the annual Professional Success Program and a night out at a Buffalo Bandits game. (kudos to Hilbert alum Kyle Schmelzle ’07 for the Bandits winning this year’s NLL Championship). The Hilbert Alumni Association also sponsored a reception for the newest Hilbert graduates and guests following the 2008 commencement ceremony.

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The Hilbert Alumni Association strives to continue a sense of family and encourages you to “come home to Hilbert.” I look forward to seeing you at our next event.

Amy M. Bartz
Alumni President
alumnipresident@hilbert.edu

From the Alumni President

‘70s
BARBARA DWYER-ANDERSON AA ’74 received a master’s degree in social work from Adelphi University in Garden City, N.Y.

DEBRA (SMITH) KACZMAREK AAS ’78 has been elected Pro Bono Committee chair for the Western New York Paralegal Association Board of Directors.

‘80s
RUTH LOVELACE AA ’89 was named the 2007 Brooklyn Sports Person of the Year for her dedication to her players on and off the court as coach of the Bedford & Stuyvesant Boys and Girls High School varsity boys basketball team. Lovelace and the team are also being filmed for an ESPN documentary.

KATHERINE (ALEXANDER) MANNS AAS ’86 has been elected Chinese Auction Committee chair for the Western New York Paralegal Association Board of Directors.

MARK MARONSKI AA ’86 is employed with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Customs and Border Protection.

‘90s
JEANIE (NOTO) GUSTAFSON AAS ’97 has been elected first vice president & programming and ESAPA secondary representative on the Western New York Paralegal Association Board of Directors.

DIANE (HOTALING) KOZAK BA ’96 is Assistant Dean of Students at Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y.

THOMAS KOZAK, JR. AA ’95 is lasting families education coordinator at Seaway Valley Prevention Council in Canton, N.Y.

SCOTT MARSHALL AA ’92 has been appointed to the BOCES I Criminal Justice Advisory Board.

DAVID OLDAY AAS ’89 has been recognized by the Erie County Stop DWI Program for his outstanding work with DWI arrest and prevention measures.

SHANE WAITE BS ’96 was featured on national television on A&E Television Network’s new program “Crime 360.”

BARBARA WEIBEL BS ’96 has been elected job bank director on the Western New York Paralegal Association Board of Directors.

‘00s
KATIE AHEARN BS ’05 is a police officer in the Atlanta Police Department in Georgia.

NICOLE BECKER BS ’01 is a new business developer at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

JACOB BICKELMAN BS ’08 is a sales representative at Kraft Foods in Keane, N.H.

AMANDA CALIB ’08 has been accepted in the graduate program in criminal justice at Buffalo State College.

NICHOLAS COPPOLA BS ’07 is a mental health specialist at Baker Victory Services in Lackawanna, N.Y.

THOMAS CZORA BS ’07 is a financial representative at Northwestern Mutual Financial Network in Williamsville, N.Y.

KELLY EASTON AA ’07 is a case processing specialist/assistant courtroom deputy in U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York.

BROOKE FALCONE BS ’07 is a litigation legal assistant at Northen Mutual Financial Network in Williamsville, N.Y.

JENNIFER FERRARA BS ’02 is a social worker at Absolut Care of Orchard Park in Orchard Park, N.Y.
News & Notes

RYAN GRAHAM BS ’08 is an account manager at Bank of America.

MATT GUNNARSON BS ’01 is a U.S. Secret Service agent assigned to presidential candidate Barack Obama.

COLBY HALL BS ’07 is working at Cyveillance, Inc., a world leader in cyber intelligence, in Arlington, Va.

DAVID HERATY BS ’03 has been admitted to the New York State Bar and is an assistant district attorney in Erie County.

KEVIN KLEIN BS ’04 is a New York State trooper assigned to Troop “A” during his field training.

ANTHONY LEO BS ’06 is employed with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol.

JOHN MARCHESE BS ’04 is employed with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol.

JEANNA MARRANO BS ’04 is working at the Monroe County Medical Examiner’s Office.

COREY MCLENNAN BS ’07 is a senior account manager with Bank of America.

JACOB OPALA BS ’05 is an assistant director of alumni relations at the University of Rochester.

LAURIN PEREZ BS ’06 is a mortgage counselor at HSBC in Depew, N.Y.

DAVID PLAZA BS ’08 is working for U.S. Customs and Border Patrol as a border protection officer.

NICHOLE RASHLEY BS ’07 is a hospital aide at ECMC Hospital in Buffalo, N.Y.

COREY RICCA BS ’07 is a probation officer assistant in the U.S. Probation Rochester Office.

STEVEN ROGERS BS ’07 is a legal assistant at Meritain Health in Amherst, N.Y.

JANE ROSS AAS ’08 was included in The Buffalo News Honor Roll for her work at the U.S. attorney’s office for helping victims obtain restitution in investment fraud cases.

GREGORY SAWICKI BS ’07 is a social studies and AP math teacher at Southtowns Catholic School in Lake View, N.Y., and working on a master’s degree in special education and social studies at D’Youville College.

JULIE SMITH BS ’03 is an investigator at BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York.

JEFFRY SOJA BS ’06 has been promoted to loss prevention officer at Sears, Roebuck & Co.

MATTHEW STONITSCHELL BS ’06 is a police officer in the Evans Police Department in Angola, N.Y.

RENEE STONITSCHELL AAS ’06 is accounts receivable manager at Hydro-Air Components in Buffalo, N.Y.

CHERIE (THOMPSON) TAN BA ’01 is a youth advocate at Child and Family Services in Tennessee.

The late DOMINIQUE (GIBSON) THOMPSON ’04 received posthumously the Nellie J. Golston Award recognizing dedication to education in Buffalo’s central city and a citation from Erie County Executive Chris Collins at the 2008 Scholars Awards Banquet supporting the St. Monica and St. Augustine Scholars.

JUSTIN WEIGEL BS ’05 is a user support specialist in the University at Buffalo Office of University Development.

Births

ELIZABETH (HEPPNER) BAKHTIN BS ’95 and PAUL BAKHTIN BS ’95 welcomed a boy, Alexander Paul.

TRACY (ROGERS) CARROW BS ’02 welcomed a boy, Thomas John Rogers III.

HEATHER (BRADO) COLLING AAS BS ’02 welcomed a boy, Christopher Harvey, who joins his big brother, Parker, and older sister, Ballie.

KRISTEN (BURKE) GRIFFIN BS ’98 welcomed a boy, Braeden Matthew, who joins his brother, Quinn, and sister, Fallon.

GARY LESSER BS ’98 welcomed a girl, Raelyn.

LISA (WOLF) LOGRASSO AA ’87 welcomed a boy, Dinado Gabriel, who joins his brother, Carl, and sister, Angeleah.

JULIE SMITH BS ’03 welcomed a boy, Nathan.

SHANNON (BRUNDIGE) SPRATT BS ’02 welcomed a girl, Norah Jane Spratt, on Leap Day (Feb. 29).

In Memoriam

MARY LOU WEINAR AAS ’80

Weddings

NICOLE PETERSON BS ’01 to Jeff Mattison

AMY POLIKOWSKI BS ’03 to Brian Langer

JEREMY ENQUIST ’02 to Amy Crawford

ADAM BLANAR BS ’02 to Barbara Czaplicki

THOMAS DOODY BS ’97 to Tracy Fish

News & Notes

Drop Us an E-mail

We are collecting alumni e-mail addresses as another way of keeping you connected to Hilbert College. To be included, send your e-mail address to charris@hilbert.edu along with your current name and name you were known as while a Hilbert student (if applicable) and your graduation year. The e-mail list will not be sold or used for any purpose other than official use by Hilbert. Thanks for your participation!
Remember When

the ’90s

Students relax in Hilbert College’s original residence hall, which at the time was the only on-campus housing facility for resident students. The year the photo was taken the national average for a gallon of gas peaked at about $1.21, former Buffalo mayor Jimmy Griffin entered the Democratic presidential primary, and the Buffalo Bills finished first in the AFC East Division. In recent years, the residence hall has been refurbished and undergone various improvements, such as wireless and Internet access made available in all rooms and other updates and amenities. On-campus living accommodations also have been expanded with apartment-style student housing and the addition of a new residence hall slated to open in Fall 2009.

To share some of your favorite memories as a student during the ’90s, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 716-926-8888, or e-mail charris@hilbert.edu.

Hilbert College

5200 South Park Avenue
Hamburg, NY 14075
Return Service Requested

Parents: If newsletter is addressed to a graduated son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please clip the address label and return it with correct address to the address shown above.