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### Suffolk Alumni Magazine, vol. 6, no. 3, 2011

Suffolk University

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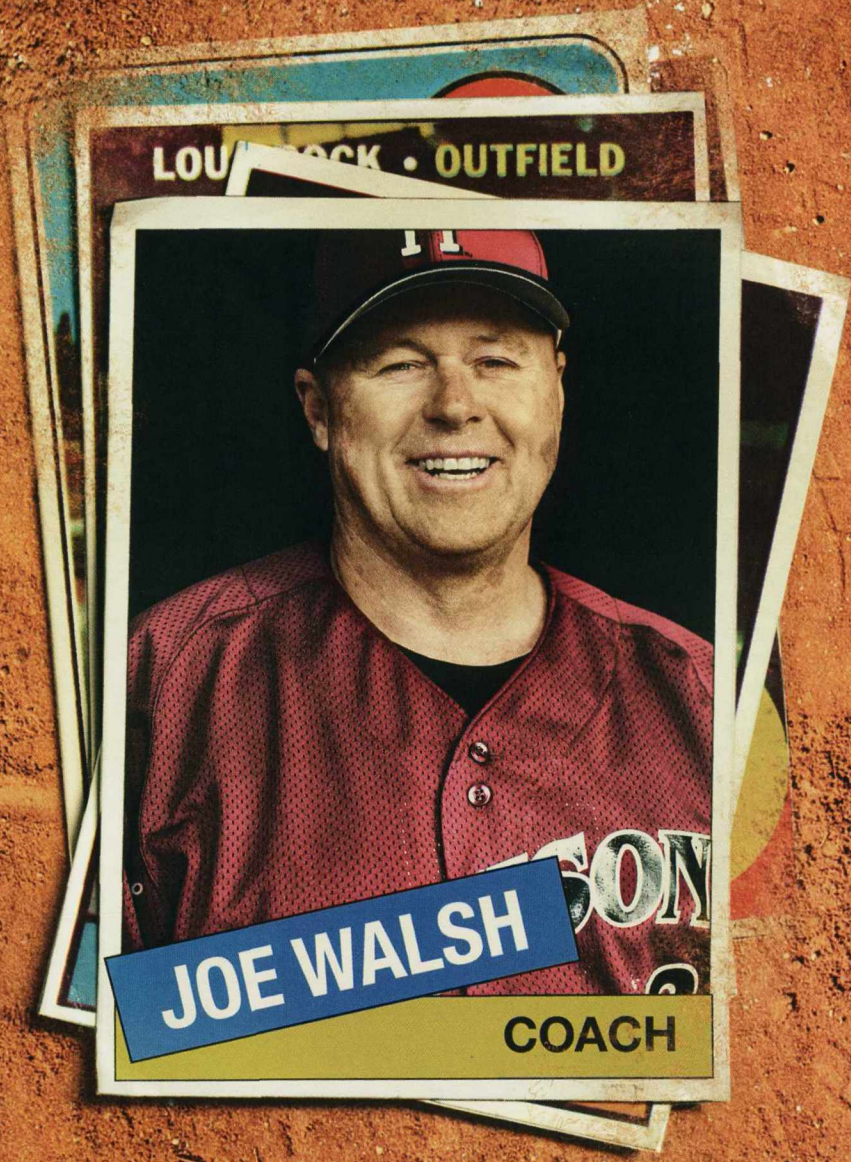
Suffolk University, "Suffolk Alumni Magazine, vol. 6, no. 3, 2011" (2011). *Suffolk University Magazine*. 41.  
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# Streak

Alumni Magazine



## PLAYING HARDBALL

WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T TELL JOE WALSH IT'S ONLY A GAME



# some FOLLOW





# Others lead



## Thank you for leading.

You know who you are: the members of the Suffolk community who lend professional expertise to faculty, guidance to students, and support to your fellow alumni.

With the challenges of changing demographics, shrinking resources, increased expectations, and growing competition in higher education, you help fill the gaps and inspire generosity in others.

Whether serving for a day, a semester, or a lifetime, you are an integral, active partner in the life of your University.

On October 15, 2011, we celebrate some of Suffolk University's most dedicated, effective leaders, our alumni volunteers. If you are already part of this indispensable group, please save the date.

You will be receiving details shortly. If you would like to learn more about the numerous ways you can take the lead as a volunteer, please call 617-573-8443.

**Alumni Leadership Day**  
**October 15, 2011**

RECOGNIZING THE DIFFERENCE YOU MAKE





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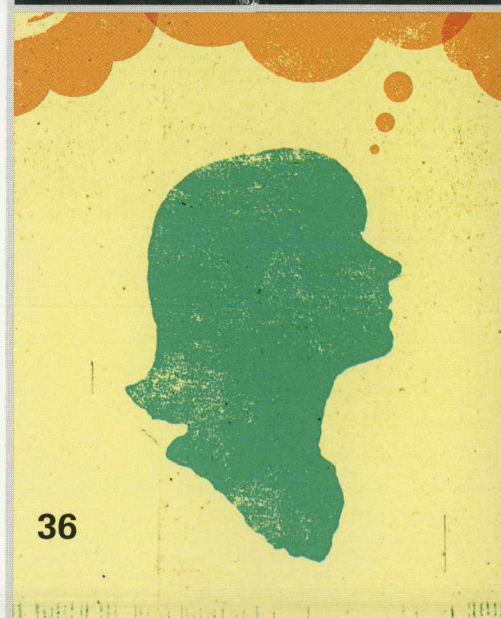
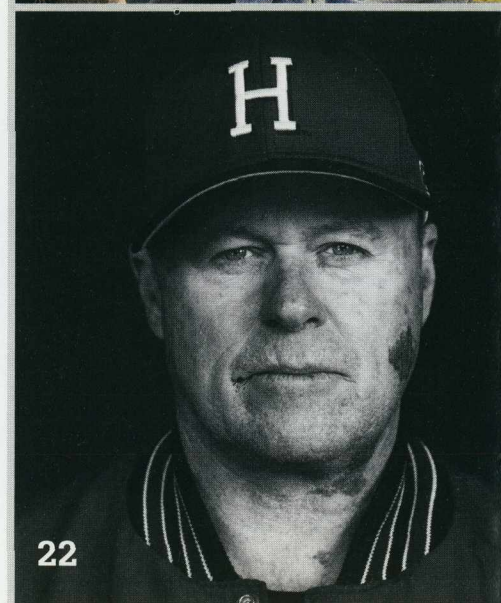
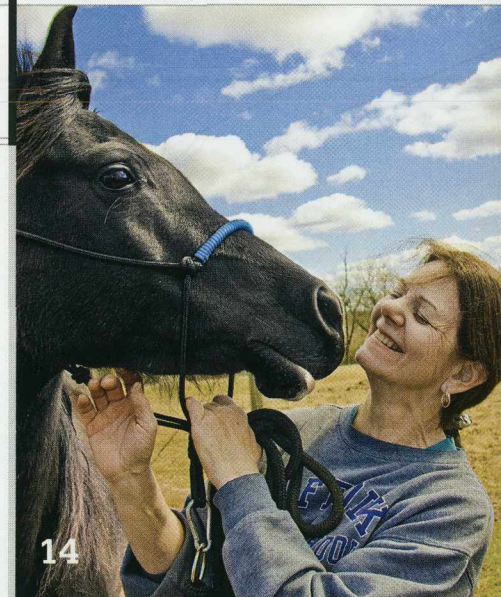
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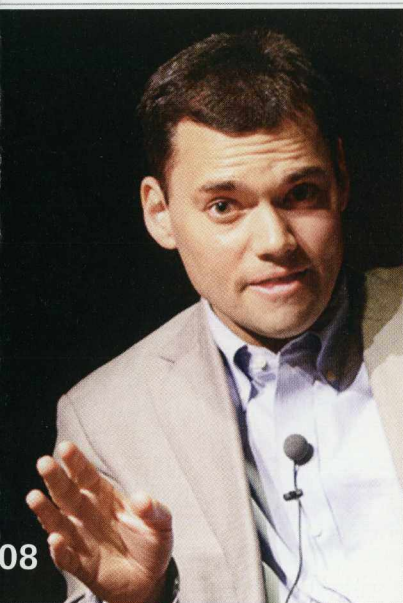
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## Connecting the Dots

**A**LTHOUGH SHE HAS PLENTY of memories from working as a Habitat for Humanity volunteer throughout her college experience, the moment that stands out for senior Delia Mooney goes back to her freshman year. Back then, Mooney decided to participate in Alternative Spring Break (ASB), which offers public service options in place of more traditional hedonistic vacations, because she felt it would be “the perfect opportunity for me to meet new friends at Suffolk University and volunteer in a community other than my own.” Mooney and her fellow students were assigned to a project in Waveland, Mississippi.

“I was at the Lowe’s hardware store with one of the residents we were building a home for,” Mooney recalls. “She and I were sitting outside, waiting for the other volunteers to buy supplies, when she turned to me and said, ‘If it wasn’t for you, if it wasn’t for your generosity and willingness to come volunteer during your spring break, I would be homeless. If students didn’t volunteer during spring break, there would be no one else to help us. Thank you for everything you are doing.’ I couldn’t hold myself back. She made me feel like what I was doing really mattered.”

When Mooney first joined the program, Suffolk offered three ASB trips. This year, 140 students volunteered for one of eight projects, from planting trees in Abingdon, Virginia, on the oldest continuously operating ranch in the United States to building houses for Habitat in Commerce City, Colorado. To Mooney, the variety of opportunities gives students “the chance to volunteer for something that they are passionate about.”

More than 1,500 miles away from Colorado at another Habitat construction site, Suffolk Director of Service Learning Carolina Garcia wrote, “Despite the excitement of learning new skills, what struck many of us here in Athens, Georgia, was the revelation that

**“Every nail we  
hit into a board, every  
piece of insulation  
we staple into the  
ceiling, and  
every piece of wood  
we cut makes a  
difference.”**

nearly 100 percent of the children in three elementary schools here receive free breakfast and lunch under a federal program based on income. However, the kids were in rough shape when they got to school on Monday mornings, until someone figured out that their families couldn’t afford to feed them on the weekends. Now food is sent home with them on Fridays. One only wonders what the summers are like!”


The stories in *Suffolk Alumni Magazine* (SAM) often draw a dotted line between alumni and students. Nowhere is the connection more clear than in the passion to serve the greater good. Every issue of SAM is filled

with the stories of graduates whose careers include public service: lawyers performing pro bono work, businesspeople working in (or launching) socially responsible ventures, humanities professionals applying academic principles to real-world problems.

Consider a field like philosophy: The common perception is of a high-minded, impressive, but ultimately remote discipline perhaps disconnected from here-and-now concerns. The reality, judging from recent graduates of Suffolk’s undergraduate philosophy department and graduate program in Ethics and Public Policy, is markedly different. It’s difficult to imagine a more engaged, altruistic individual than Nicole Burton BS ’09. Her story (“Applied Philosophy,” page 36) might seem unexpected if it didn’t include numerous other examples of graduates with similar career tracks, from the Peace Corps to a charitable startup.

And the good work of alumni is not confined to careers. Even a quick scan through Class Notes reveals an impressive number of graduates for whom giving back is simply a part of their everyday lives.

This continuum of social consciousness from student to alumni may well be the tie that binds, the “essence,” if you will, of a Suffolk education. On the cusp between student and alumna, Delia Mooney could easily be speaking about either when she writes:

“I believe that students don’t realize how big of an impact they are making. Every layer of paint we put on a wall, every nail we hit into a board, every piece of insulation we staple into the ceiling, and every piece of wood we cut makes a difference. It’s important for students to step outside their comfort zone and take a chance. You are not only benefiting others, but you are gaining an unforgettable experience that is going to last you a lifetime.” 



“When I look at all the decisions I've made in my life, this was clearly one of the best.”

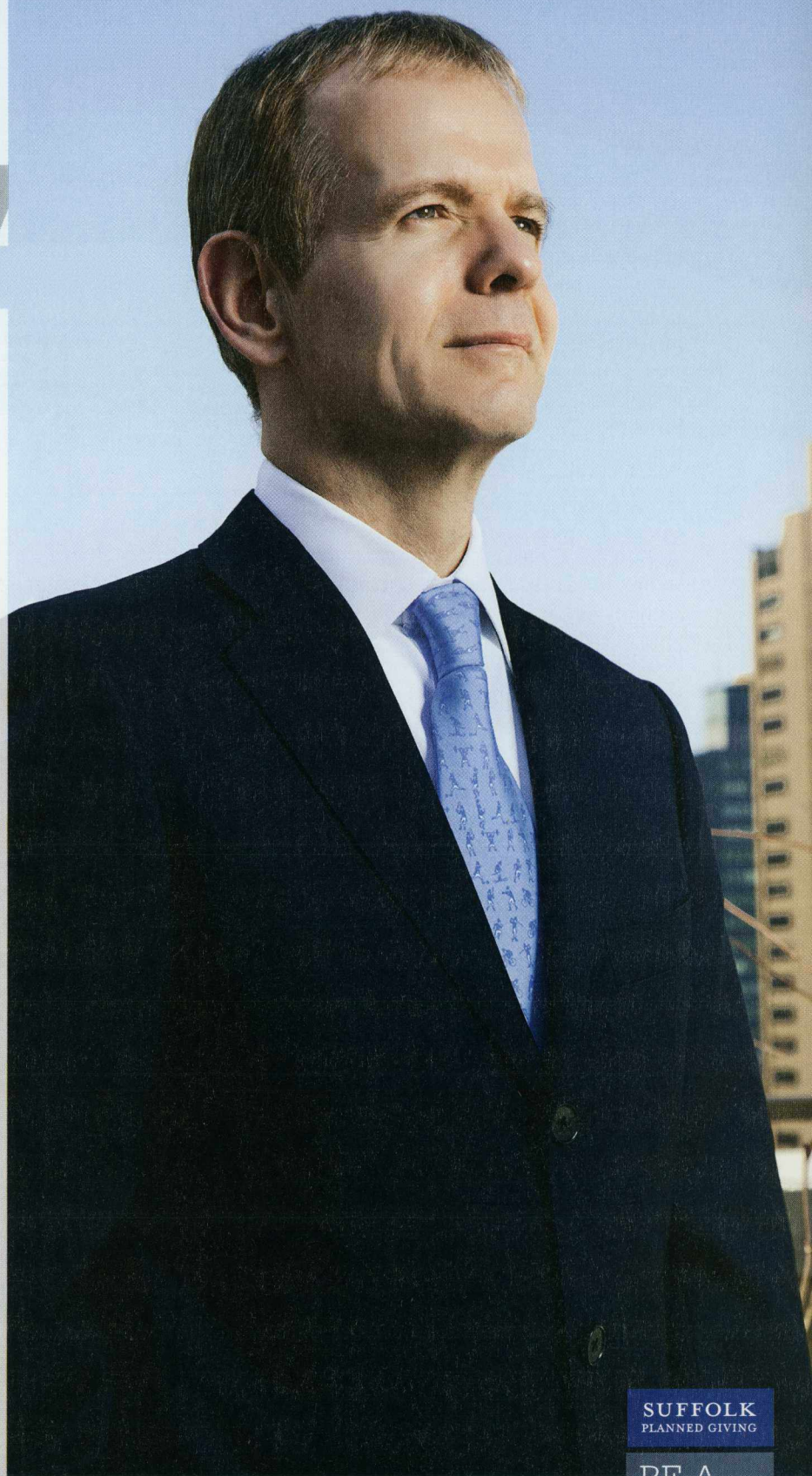
My whole career has been about opportunity. After 9/11, I shifted priorities and pursued an entrepreneurial path, launching my own boutique consulting firm. Ten years down the road, I see this decision as the same type of life-altering choice I made when I enrolled full time at Suffolk University. I was always passionate about global business. Through the MBA program, I was able to study in Barcelona and Taiwan, providing the kind of invaluable experiences that shaped who I am today.

As an active alum, I've held leadership positions for both the Sawyer Business School and the University Alumni Council that have allowed me to develop relationships and opportunities I never dreamed of. One of the most memorable experiences during my tenure was the chance to speak as president of the Sawyer Business School Alumni Board and welcome the new graduates at commencement into the Suffolk alumni family. For many of them, I knew this achievement would not have been possible without financial aid. While pursuing my degree, I was awarded a full fellowship that helped me complete my education and build a successful, rewarding career.

As my life evolves, I passionately want other people to benefit from both my personal business career and my experiences at Suffolk. I feel confident that a planned gift from my estate is the best way to give back and create new opportunities for future graduates of Suffolk.

**WILLIAM POPELESKI MBA '87**

BP Global Solutions, Inc.  
Former president, Sawyer Business School Alumni Board  
Former president, University Alumni Council (UAC)



To receive a confidential outline showing the benefits of planned giving based on your particular situation, or to learn more, please contact Associate Vice President Peter J. Mollo MED '77, at [plannedgiving@suffolk.edu](mailto:plannedgiving@suffolk.edu) or 617-573-8443.

**SUFFOLK**  
PLANNED GIVING

**BE A  
PART  
OF THE  
PLAN**



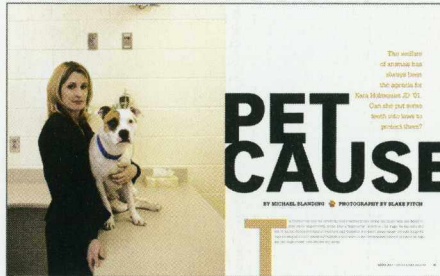
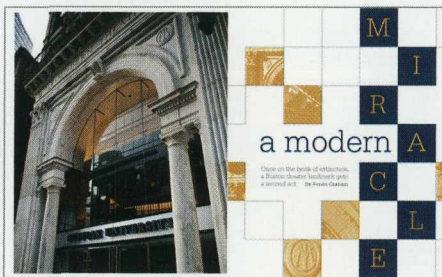
## A MODERN MIRACLE A Boston Theater Landmark Gets a Second Act

I was delighted to read the article on Suffolk's acquisition of the Modern Theatre in the heart of downtown Boston. We are so fortunate in Massachusetts to have such a rich cultural history and magnificent architecture. Unfortunately, once these properties no longer serve a useful purpose, the magnificence can quickly turn to blight, making a reuse of the property difficult, if not impossible. I am very proud that Suffolk has played such an instrumental role in the renaissance of the Modern Theatre. The renovation of the once-distinguished cultural center has provided not only much-needed dormitory space, but also honored the history and purpose of the building by providing theater space that will impact not only the university, but also the vibrant arts community as well as the City of Boston.

I want to extend my congratulations and appreciation to Suffolk for its vision and leadership in this project that enhances the University and is a solid partnership with the cultural community.

Senator Eileen M. Donoghue JD '79

MA Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts & Cultural Development



## PET CAUSE Kara Holmquist JD '01

Thank you for your article on Kara Holmquist's animal advocacy efforts in the state of Massachusetts. While I commend Kara for her strides, I wish our lawmakers cared half as much. Maybe then puppy mills would cease to exist, seedy mall pet stores would go out of business, and breeders would be forced to register with their municipality and be regulated with the same scrutiny as veterinarians or day-

care workers. Maybe then spaying/neutering a pet could bring a small tax deduction, maybe then hitting an animal (with a car) and leaving the scene would be a misdemeanor moving violation instead of a slap on the wrist. I hope this article winds up on the desks of all those lawmakers who have ignored their pet-owning constituents for so many years.

Amanda Harrison MPA '04

The animal law course at Suffolk Law has had its ups and downs but is now back in full swing, thanks to the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund and Kara Holmquist. I really hope that having the course back will help to get things moving more in this area at Suffolk Law! I personally worked with Kara at MSPCA and I learned so much from her and met so many wonderful people in the animal law community through my work with her. I can only hope to be able to achieve something as great as she has in my legal career for animals!

Lynsey M. Leigier JD '11

## RESPOND



Now, in addition to e-mail (sam@suffolk.edu), you can share feedback with your magazine and your fellow graduates online. Connect through reader forums, review past issues in our archives, and discover additional multimedia content to enhance your reading experience.



You'll find it all at  
[suffolk.edu/samonline](http://suffolk.edu/samonline)

It is so wonderful to see Kara recognized for all of her hard work. She has done some amazing things for animals in Massachusetts! As hard as she works for the MSPCA, she still finds time to help out whenever she can with Suffolk's Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, from providing advice and guidance to taking her own personal time to appear as a guest speaker. Her generosity and caring for both human and non-human animals alike is inspiring, and Suffolk's SALDF chapter is delighted to see her being recognized. We all look forward to see what she accomplishes in the future.

Callen LaBarge, JD '11

When [Kara] Holmquist graduated law school in 2001, there were a couple dozen Student Animal Legal Defense Fund chapters in law



schools around the country; today, there are 165 chapters and counting.

Many students who, like Kara, explain that they have always had a love of animals have decided that the best way to create lasting and widespread protections for them is through our courtrooms and legislatures. It is to the benefit of countless animals, and all of us who value a more compassionate society, when bright legal minds devote themselves to forging this exciting new path in law.

**Stephen Wells**

Executive Director, Animal Legal Defense Fund

Kara's passion for animal protection, savvy advocacy, and determined work ethic are truly inspiring. Kara is well known for her work in the Massachusetts State House, and I have been fortunate to work with her on Beacon Hill. It's important to note that Kara not only spends her working hours championing animal protection, but also devotes a great deal of her free time to helping other animal welfare organizations such as the Massachusetts Animal Coalition, the Massachusetts Bar Association's Animal Law Practice Group, and the Humane Massachusetts PAC. Animals in Massachusetts are certainly better off because Kara's love for them took her to Suffolk Law School and the State House. I hope other Suffolk alumni who care about animals will follow Kara's lead.

**Alexis Fox**

Massachusetts State Director,  
The Humane Society of the United States

## CRIME SEEN

**Jennifer Chute BS '06**

Thank you for the illuminating profile of Boston Police criminalist Jennifer Chute. As a forensic scientist, Ms. Chute is on the cutting edge of 21st-century law enforcement. She and her colleagues are doing work on a daily basis that I never imagined when I was a student at



Suffolk Law School. Her vocation is a reminder that public service takes many forms and has room for every interest, skill, and background.

As a prosecutor, I know all too well the "CSI effect" Ms. Chute mentions in the article. I hope readers will take note of just how divergent television is from real life in that respect. Just the same, I hope readers will also recognize the tremendous value in what she does every day on behalf of the people of Boston. The professionalism that she demonstrates, and that her superiors demand, is part of the reason that the Boston Police Crime Laboratory Unit is fully accredited and nationally recognized.

Whether in the lab or on the stand, Ms. Chute is an example of just how valuable a Suffolk education can be—both for the students and the world around them.

**Daniel F. Conley JD '83**

Suffolk County District Attorney

## GIVING THEM THE BUSINESS

**Linda Samuels EMBA '03**

I am glad to see how Linda is reaching out to others to teach them entrepreneurship. I'm honored that she selected *Your First Business Plan* as a textbook for the courses she is teaching. Linda is doing very good work in helping inmates learn the key principles of entrepreneurship to provide them with a solid skill set they will use the rest of their lives.

**Brian Hazelgren**

Co-author, *Your First Business Plan*



Atlanta Magazine contributing editor

**Charles Bethea** ("A Different Breed," pg. 14) has written for such publications as *Outside*, *Rolling Stone*, and *The New Yorker*.

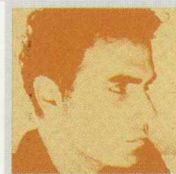


Illustrations by London-based **Trina Daiziel**

("Upside Down, Down Under," pg. 64) have appeared on products from greeting cards to children's pajamas and in publications from *The Boston Globe* to *Time Asia*.



B.B. King, Buddy Guy, and Pat Metheny have all been photographed by **Mark Wilson** ("The Natural Inquirer," pg. 44, "Class Report," pg. 54), whose work has appeared in magazines from *DownBeat* to *Wired*.



**Richard Mia** ("Applied Philosophy," pg. 34)

describes his philosophy as "Draw less, think more." His past work in publications from *Forbes* to *The New York Times* illustrates a portfolio of hyper-thoughtful work.



# RAMblings

News on Campus and Beyond

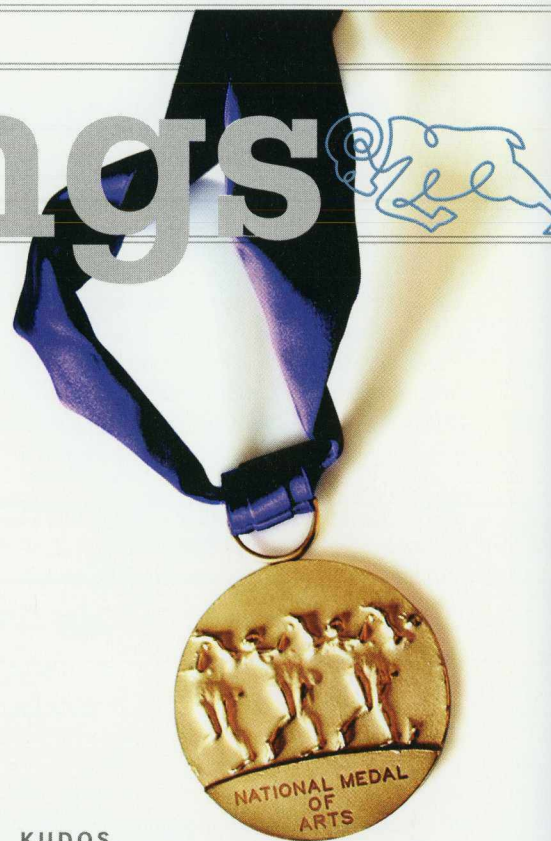


## POP CULTURE

### Little Shop of Hondas

Theater professor Wes Savick sets public radio's *Car Talk* to music

**CAR TALK: THE MUSICAL!!!** made its world premiere at Suffolk University's Modern Theatre in March, the first new production created for the renovated performance space. Written and directed by the award-winning Suffolk theatre professor Wes Savick, the musical is based on Ray and Tom Magliozzi's popular, long-running NPR show *Car Talk*, which merges mechanics and merriment. In turn, Savick's musical is, as he describes it, "an unlikely marriage between Broadway musicals and automotive advice," with such whimsical characters as Rusty Fenders and Miata C. LaChassis negotiating love among oil pans, fan belts, and spark plugs. The Magliozzi brothers, better known to their fans as "Click and Clack," are also Visiting Distinguished Scholars at Suffolk.



## KUDOS

### The Play's the Thing

American Theatre "force" Robert Brustein earns his White House rep

**R**obert Brustein, Distinguished Scholar in Residence at Suffolk University, was awarded the National Medal of Arts by President Barack Obama for his contributions to American theater. In a March White House ceremony, Brustein, founder of the Yale Repertory Theatre and the American Repertory Theatre and Institute, was cited as "a leading force in the development of theater and theater artists in the United States." Brustein has been a full-time Suffolk faculty member since 2007. Of Brustein's recognition, Barry Brown, Suffolk's acting president and provost, says, "He has changed the face of American theater, and he brings vitality to the University's Theatre Department as he imparts his vast reservoir of knowledge to new generations of students."



## ON CAMPUS

# Patent Pending

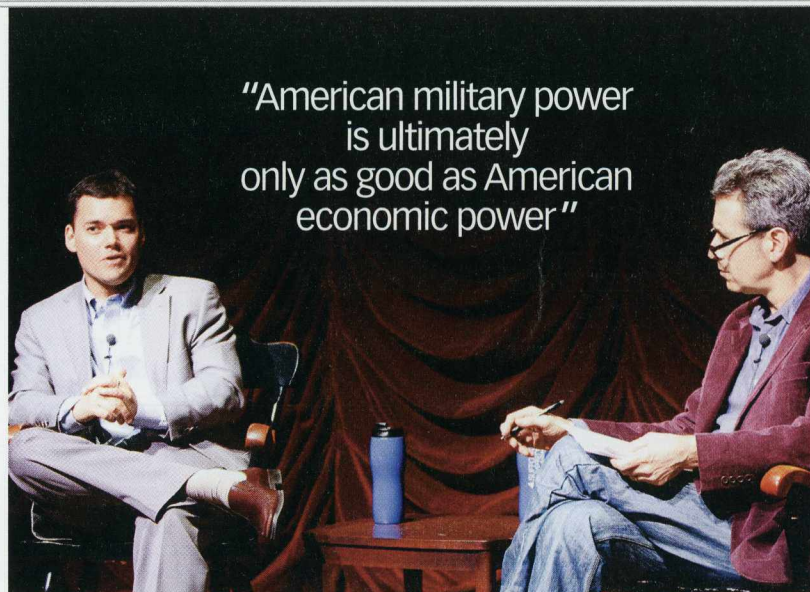
Will the next Segway, Snuggie, or iPad come from Suffolk?

FROM MORE THAN 300 entries submitted by alumni and students in Sawyer Business School, Suffolk University Law School, and The College of Arts & Sciences, 24 finalists have been selected for Sawyer Business School's fifth annual New Product Innovation Competition. On September 30, this elite group will vie for \$50,000 in cash and services.

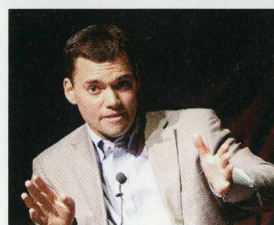
## QUOTE/UNQUOTE

**"I don't make movies because of ideas. I make movies about people. You're always surprised by the journey you take with the characters."**

Academy Award-winning filmmaker **MICHAEL CIMINO**, speaking at the close of a three-night retrospective of his work at the Modern Theatre



"American military power is ultimately only as good as American economic power"



## SOUND BITE

# Modern World View

Political writer Peter Beinart takes on America's role in the Middle East

## "IS U.S. POLICY ON THE ROPES?"

Answering this provocative question from public radio host Marco Werman (*The World*), noted commentator Peter Beinart (*The Daily Beast*, *Time*) launched into a wide-ranging conversation about one of the globe's diplomatic hot spots.

The Government Department of the College of Arts & Sciences presented the free public event on March 3 at Suffolk's Modern Theatre. Titled "Is There an Obama Doctrine? America's Role in the Middle East," the evening began ominously with Beinart's observation that "America's power is probably on the wane." He attributed this "uncomfortable reality" to the growing influence of nations like China and Brazil, and prior missteps in U.S. foreign policy, including a budget that sapped our strength.

"American military power is ultimately only as good as American economic power," Beinart observed. His take was that "an exaggerated threat of jihadist terrorism" post-9/11 pushed the United States into military spending it didn't need and couldn't afford. Beinart concluded, "We have to balance the threat against the expenditure of resources."



SINGULARLY SUFFOLK

## First Responder

Applying lessons learned from performing triage on New Orleans post-Katrina, Dr. Karen DeSalvo BA '88 becomes an architect of the city's future

Since the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Dr. Karen DeSalvo has been one of New Orleans' most outspoken voices championing healthcare reform and reorganizing health services. Last December, DeSalvo, vice dean of community affairs and health policy at the Tulane University School of Medicine, was named the city's new health commissioner and Mayor Mitch Landrieu's senior advisor for health policy. DeSalvo, the subject of a 2007 cover profile in this magazine and a 2010 Suffolk commencement speaker, shared with SAM the big issues facing New Orleans and the challenges she faces rebuilding its healthcare system.

**SAM:** Could you please explain your responsibilities as New Orleans' health commissioner and the mayor's senior advisor for health policy?

**KAREN DESALVO:** In thinking about where the city is going in developing a 21st-century health department, we really need to be much more focused on big-picture policies to improve the whole population's health. It was time to not just transform the department, but to transform the role. As a result, the mayor suggested we create a title of health commissioner that would give people a sense of the elevated status of health in his portfolio. In that role, I sit with his cabinet and have a chance to weigh in on the health impact of decisions being made in other sectors such as housing, safety, and environment. The health policy role is one that is so critically needed in this area because we're still, five and a half years since Katrina, rebuilding our infrastructure.

**SAM:** You've already had such an active role in healthcare reform since Hurricane Katrina. What convinced you that accepting this position was the next logical step?

**DESALVO:** Mitch Landrieu. I had the joy of co-chairing his healthcare transition team, and I had the chance to get to know him and work with him and the people on his transition. I got to see his vision that healthcare is not just about healthcare. There's a much bigger opportunity for him in his role as mayor to really tackle health from the public health and population health standpoint—meaning, how do we use all of the tools at his disposal,

whether that's economic development, influence on education, et cetera, to improve the health of our population and become known as a healthy city? In working with him and learning more about what we could do with the city and the health department, it just became clear to me that this was a logical step. One of the things that's really necessary for health in the 21st century, healthcare planning, is meta-leadership—that's the idea that as health commissioner, I'm not going to run all the primary care in the city. I'm going to work to bring all those primary care providers together at a table and work on shared quality improvement, shared access to care for the population, and the same thing for mental health efforts and criminal justice. It's honestly a lot like what I was doing at Tulane where I was bringing people to the table, but this is a chance to do that in a structured way through city government on behalf of a visionary leader.

**SAM:** What do you see as the biggest healthcare challenges in New Orleans, and how have they been exacerbated by the lingering effects of Katrina?

**DESALVO:** There are two major issues—one is more acute, and one is more smoldering, long-term. At the top of my list is addressing mental health. Part of this is a lingering effect of Katrina, but there is also a population not just affected by Katrina, but [Hurricane]

Gustave, the BP oil spill, and the economic downturn. We've had a lot of hits in this community, and there are a lot of people who feel unsettled and, as a result, have anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress. There are also individuals who have more significant mental illness and substance abuse problems, and there are not sufficient resources to address their needs. When you look at what the system can offer those individuals, there are some good pieces in place, but they aren't strung together. So I'm spending a lot of time working with federal, state, and local officials to put some structure into that.

The "smoldering" issue of great importance to New Orleans, and the nation, is obesity.

We are a "Let's Move" city, which is one of Michelle Obama's signature initiatives

to improve the tools to increase activity and access to nutritious food from birth all the way through life. We're starting with breast feeding, getting kids more active, and working on school lunch programs, and working with getting retailers to introduce fresh food into low-income communities.

Before I took this job, I was on the board of Broad Community Connections, which is a neighborhood association trying to bring fresh food to a neighborhood that is a food desert, so it's very personal to me.

**SAM:** You've taken a one-year leave from Tulane to be health commissioner. Do you plan to return to Tulane when that year is up?

**DESALVO:** Yes. Tulane, and my team there, was willing to let me step out for a year, and one of the nice things about knowing you have 12 months is there's the real sense of urgency that I have a lot to get done. There's no time to waste; it feels a lot like an internship. There's no time to sleep, you just have to keep rolling. We've got to get this health department turned around. We want to make this government functional to make it do the work the people expect of it. We have this window, and we can't afford to waste any more time in this city. ☺





## PERSONAL BEST

# A Stroke of Inspiration

ROWING BEGAN AS PHYSICAL THERAPY FOR ATHLETE FABRICE KABORE BSE '11. IT BECAME A WAY TO STAY IN THE GAME

**F**ABRICE KABORE had always enjoyed playing sports, especially basketball. But after a December 2007 car accident left the electrical engineering major paralyzed below the waist, his doctor at Boston's Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital prescribed an unfamiliar activity as part of his physical therapy: rowing. In February he placed second in the CRASH-B indoor rowing championship in Boston. "I was pushed a little bit by my therapist at Spaulding. They are the ones who registered me for it. I said why not, went for it, and did well." Kabore, who hails from Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta) in West Africa, was competing against more than 60 adaptive rowers, participants with a disability. Also cheering Kabore's achievements was Suffolk electrical engineering professor Craig Christensen, who has known Kabore for more than five years. Christensen is a longtime rower who does volunteer electrical work at Spaulding Hospital. "I'm athletic so, to me, athletics is one of those escapes, and Fabrice was an athlete before his accident. I thought it would be great because he has a nice muscular build and it would be a good activity for him," Christensen says. Though he had been rowing as part of his physical therapy, Kabore only began training seriously six weeks before the competition. "The best thing," he says, "was proving to myself that I can still compete in something physical, and regarding the relative short time of practice I had, that I was able to accomplish something."



Kabore (right), Christensen (left) at rowing championships

## THE GREATER GOOD

# A New World View

Experiencing the United Nations firsthand gave Michelle Pomerleau MAWH '11 a unique perspective on the status of women

**LAST FEBRUARY**, Michelle Pomerleau visited the United Nations – not as a tourist, but as a delegate. Pomerleau, a student in the Master of Arts in Women's Health program at Suffolk, was one of 23 women selected nationwide to participate in the Practicum in Advocacy at the UN. "I was fortunate to be there for the opening session of the Commission on the Status of Women," Pomerleau said. "Michelle Bachelet, the executive director of UN Women, spoke, so it was very exciting to be part of that because it has been such an ongoing campaign to get that agency established."

While visiting the United Nations, Pomerleau's temporary delegate status allowed her to attend UN and nongovernment organization sessions. The experience made a lasting impression. Says Pomerleau, "This was a great opportunity to see how the international community is working together to identify and address issues specific to women."

Social activism has long been a part of Pomerleau's life. A native of suburban Chicago, she spent six months in India during her senior year at Loyola University. Her experiences overseas, she says, "definitely gave me a different world view and I started to wonder about how my life might have been different if I had been born in a different country. The extremes I saw in India—people very Westernized and people very traditional, people very wealthy and people very poor — all that was very powerful. I knew going to graduate school I wanted to focus on global issues."

Not long after returning from the UN, Pomerleau, a graduate assistant for service learning with Suffolk's Organization for Uplifting Lives Through Service (S.O.U.L.S.) left for Alternative Spring Break in Detroit. There she worked with Equality Michigan, a statewide advocacy organization that deals with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues.

sam@  
large

➔ **AT YOUR SERVICE:** Suffolk University Law School has been cited by *National Jurist* magazine for its commitment to public service. SULS is one of a few law schools nationwide to adopt a formal policy encouraging faculty pro bono service.

➔ **GREEN GIANT:** Suffolk University has again been recognized as one of the nation's most environmentally responsible colleges by the Princeton Review's *Guide to 311 Green Colleges* which cited the University's "green-minded education" and its sound sustainable practices.





## OFF CAMPUS

### Big Break

Alternative community service program more popular than ever

**HEN SUFFOLK'S** Organization for Uplifting Lives Through Service (S.O.U.L.S.) launched Alternative Spring Break (ASB) at Suffolk 13 years ago, it attracted about a dozen students interested in devoting their midterm vacations to public service. This year, 140 Suffolk students signed up for service programs across the country, ranging from planting trees to building affordable housing. "The number of applicants was so high that the University administration agreed to fund eight projects, double the number we had last year," said Carolina Garcia, director of the S.O.U.L.S. Community Service and Service Learning Center. "We also presented the challenge to students to raise funds for the trips." Suffolk students met the challenge, raising \$16,000. Lina Rodriguez, a Suffolk ASB Service Scholar, was one of the organizers of ASB 2011, helping to choose the locations, screening applications, and selecting student leaders for each group.

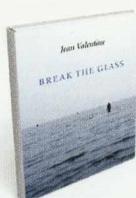
"Two of the sites were environmental trips in Virginia, one working with a state park, the other at a nature conservancy," she says. "There was a trip to Detroit for LGBT rights and legislative advocacy, and the rest were for Habitat for Humanity in Alabama, Colorado, Georgia, Texas, and Mississippi."

Rodriguez has participated in ASB through Habitat for Humanity projects, last year in Denver and this year in Wichita Falls, Texas. "We worked on three houses and one was almost done, it just needed to be painted," said the criminal justice sophomore. "So we basically finished one, and sped up the process on the other two. Each year, Habitat does this really nice thing in that they take pictures while you're there and once the project is complete, they send you a picture of it. So you get to see the finished version of the house you worked on, which is really great."

Last year, Rodriguez volunteered for Alternative Winter Break in El Salvador. Her trip, she said, was inspired in part by the late Massachusetts congressman Joe Moakley JD '56, DPA '77, who worked to expose corruption, injustice, and human rights violations in El Salvador.

"I think everyone should be giving back in some way. It should just be a part of daily life," says Rodriguez, who was born in Colombia. "I really want to go out of my way to help communities because I've had a lot of help getting to where I am."

## SOUND BITE



**A VALENTINE TO POETRY FANS >** A late February visit by Jean Valentine drew an overflow audience to the Suffolk University Poetry Center upon the release of *Break the Glass*, Valentine's 11th book of poetry. Valentine, who has taught at Sarah Lawrence College, Columbia University, and New York University, burst onto the scene with the Yale Younger Poets Award for her first book, *Dream Barker*, in 1965. At Suffolk, she rewarded students, faculty, and staff with a generous reading that included "Lucy," a multi-part poem about the three-million-year-old skeleton of the earliest known hominid, and 10 new works.



## ASK A PRO

## Watch and Learn

For broadcast journalism major Kati Casoli BS '11, Boston TV news anchor Heather Unruh provided a career inspiration

**O**N BOSTON TELEVISION newscasts in the 1970's, '80's, and '90's, it was Liz and Jack, Chet and Nat. Today, local TV anchors and reporters seem increasingly interchangeable, yet a few have become real fixtures. One example is Heather Unruh who joined WCVB-TV, ABC's Boston affiliate, in 2001 and is now co-anchor for the station's evening newscasts.

"I grew up watching Heather," recalls senior Kathleen (Kati) Casoli, a broadcast journalism major from Saugus, Massachusetts. "Her story delivery and poise has always inspired me to pursue broadcast journalism."

If Kati, who interned at WHDH-TV, Boston's NBC affiliate, follows Unruh's career trajectory, we may see her as an anchor and role model herself one day. After all, Unruh got her start at WCVB as an intern.

To get the full story, SAM invited Kati to go to the source:

**KATI CASOLI:** Do you recall an experience that first triggered your interest in journalism?

**HEATHER UNRUH:** My earliest interest in journalism came from watching the CBS program *60 Minutes* on Sundays. As a teenager, this was truly appointment television for my family. I couldn't turn away from the compelling storytelling, which always sparked dynamic family conversations and debates. Three big news events probably sealed my fate: the shooting of President Reagan, the downing of Pan Am Flight 103, and the Challenger disaster. I was glued to the television, hungry for details



Kati Casoli



Heather Unruh

as those stories evolved. Day turned to night and night to day, but while others went about their business, I just couldn't turn away.

**KC:** How do you deal with, or prepare for, reporting on often devastating world news stories?

**HU:** The Internet has completely changed the way we research news and prepare for coverage of important stories. Nearly everything you need to cover a story is at your fingertips. You have to be savvy enough to know which sources are reputable and

which are unreliable. We certainly see graphic and heartbreaking details that the public will never see, but 20-plus years of experience has given me the skill to be able to feel compassion and "check" painful emotion until after my job is done.

**KC:** What is the most valuable advice you can give to an aspiring broadcast journalist?

**HU:** The first thing I always tell aspiring journalists is you must learn to write exceptionally well. For me, success comes from great storytelling—period. Writing for broadcast news is completely different than writing for print. It must be sharp and to the point, free from almost all prepositional phrases. You have a very short window in television news to capture viewers' interest in a story, and if you can't tell them why it's relevant to their lives in less than 30 seconds, then you have lost them to the multitasking they're also engaged in or to the remote.

## ON CAMPUS

## Dream On

A family vows to fulfill a daughter's heroic legacy

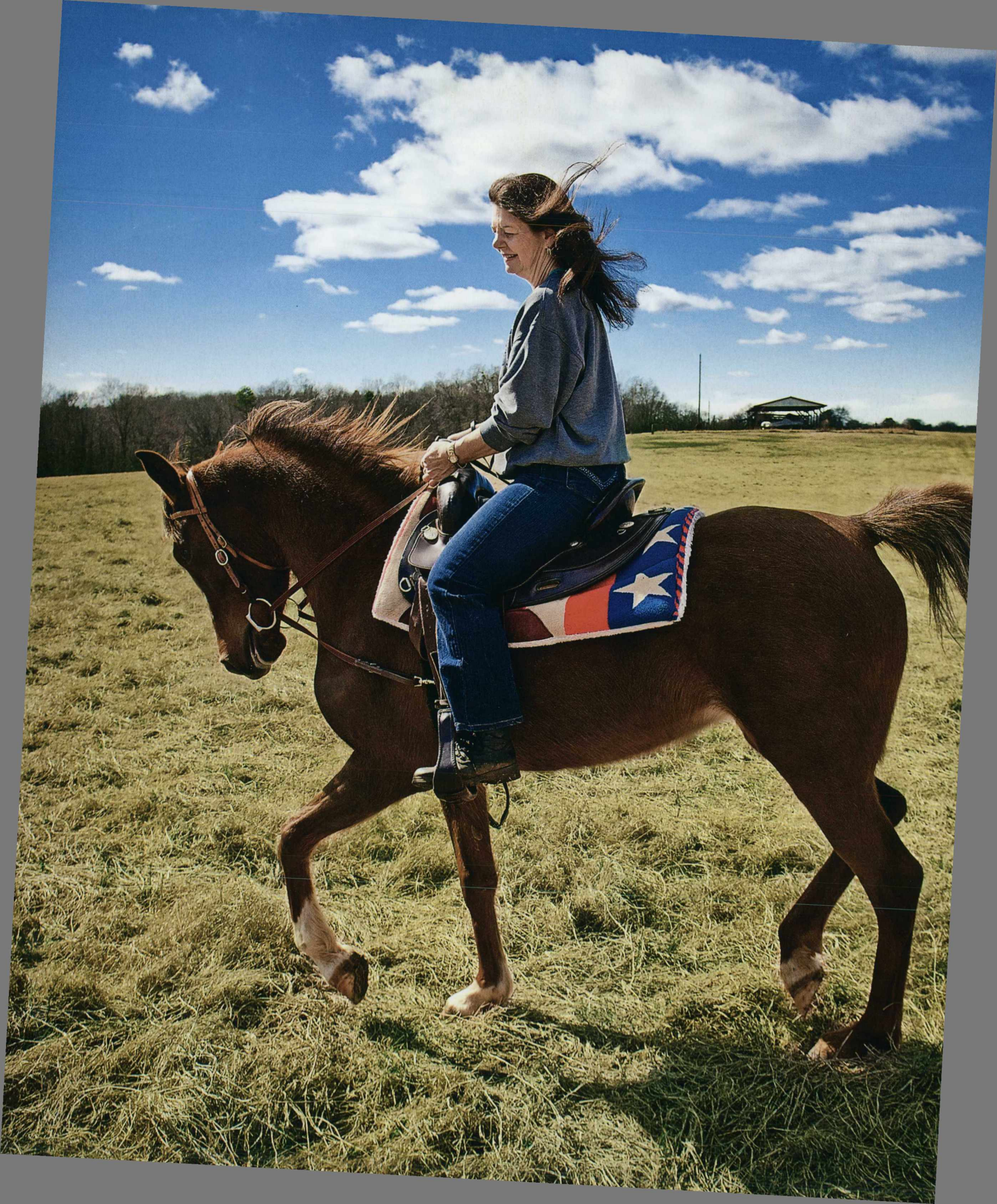
In one of her last text messages to her family, Britney Gengel wrote from Haiti of her desire to move to the country and open an orphanage for the children in that poverty-stricken nation. Gengel, a 19-year-old college student, never got to fulfill her dream: She was among the 230,000 people killed when Haiti endured a massive earthquake in January 2010. After her death, her parents, Len and Cherylann Gengel,



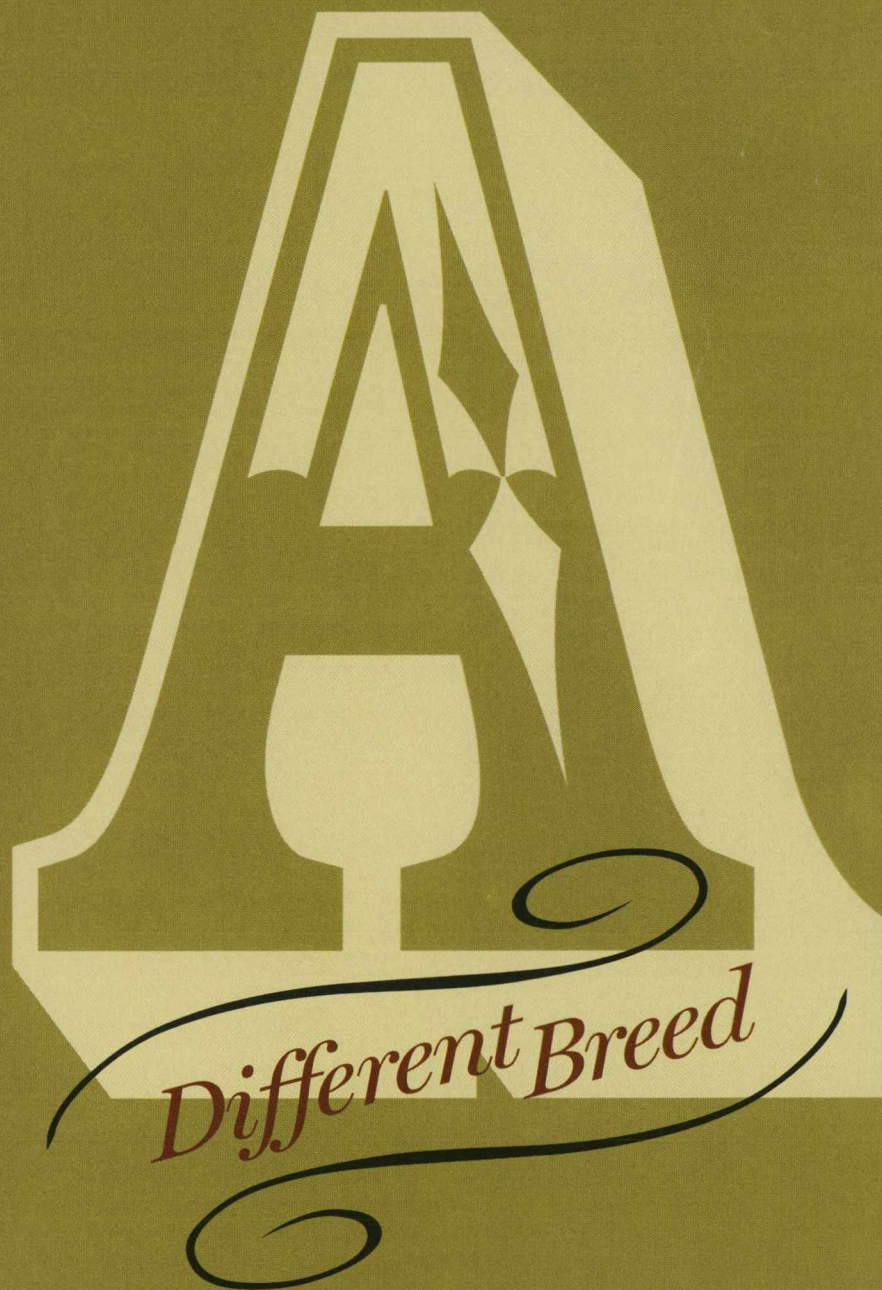
**THE DREAM LIVES ON:** Len and Cherylann Gengel share the poignant story of their daughter Britney, one of the victims of the earthquake in Haiti, and the legacy their family is working to build.

launched the nonprofit organization Be Like Brit to realize their daughter's dreams for Haiti. The Gengels, of Rutland, Massachusetts, whose son Bernie is a freshman at Sawyer Business School, visited Suffolk at the invitation of the University's Center for International Education to talk about their daughter and the creation of a 19,000-square-foot orphanage in Grand Goave, Haiti. The "B"-shaped, earthquake-proof building will house 66 children and is expected to open next year. "Yes, we're building a memorial to our daughter, but we are doing this to support the children of Haiti," Len Gengel said. "We are not walking away from Haiti."









# A *Different Breed*

*Whether raising pedigree livestock  
or protecting the next life-saving medicine,  
Patrea Pabst JD '85 is patently original*



**BY CHARLES BETHEA**

*Photographs by Stan Kaady*





LEVEN MILES NORTH of Elberton, Georgia, roams a three-year-old bull named Vern. He weighs 1,800 pounds, still growing. He has a harem of 33 cows, give or take a heifer. He is not in the employ of Chick-fil-A Restaurant, like those illiterate and insistent Herefords that shout from billboards to “Eat Mor Chikin.” Italy is his ancestral home. Vern is a rarefied Piedmontese bull, thank you very much and, as Patrea Pabst JD ’85 will tell you, he’s “the meat of the future.” He’s also as close as you’ll come to an intersection of Pabst’s dual lives.

You see, Vern is named after Vern Liebman, one of her patent clients. “I believe she did it because I’m direct in dealing with people, decisive, and generally take no bull,” says Vern the Man. “But, whatever the reason, I’m honored.”

Apart from Vern the Bull, Farmer Pabst’s 455-acre spread offers no hint that she’s also Lawyer Pabst, one of the top biotechnology patent attorneys in the United States—one whom the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s renowned professor of chemical and biomedical engineering Robert Langer, who has more than 760 patents issued or pending worldwide, called “the most innovative I’ve ever worked with.” This was a fair surprise to the moonshiners who in 1998 sold their land to a tough-talking city lady who said that she wanted to learn to farm. Thirteen years later, Beaver Creek Farms is Pabst’s stress outlet, “like running a marathon,” she says. This is an idea that would only occur to Pabst, of course, who gets in six hours of sleep a night. She needs the energy to manage her menagerie before heading to the polished, manure-free, but also occasionally zoo-like offices of Pabst Patent Group LLP, two hours away in midtown Atlanta.

In addition to her prize-winning Piedmontese cattle, she has 13 horses—mostly Arabians, including the Straight Egyptian stallion GR Maatin, imported from the Rothenberg Stud of Germany, which will compete under the Pabst banner—four pet canines

with mythological names like Artemis, and a litter of hypoallergenic American Eskimo dogs for sale: Puppies are \$800; show dogs, \$1,000. Pabst has bred or trained a number of Westminster Dog Show entrants, including the legendary Misty the American Eskimo. Animal husbandry accounts for a small percentage of her income, but a large portion of her love and labor is devoted to the farm. Fortunately, she’s bred a helper.

Charlie Pabst, her 17-year-old son, is a senior in high school, and he plans to one day take over the farm, which played host to cockfighting before she bought it. But his mother will have to relinquish it first, and that isn’t likely to happen anytime soon. “I’d like to think I’ve succeeded because I’m especially smart, but I’m also obnoxious, difficult, and determined,” Pabst says, driving me around her land. (Pabst has a second son, 19-year-old Edward, who is studying chemistry at Emory University.) Charlie, in the back seat, nods quietly at the “difficult” part. Soon, we’re wading through brambles. She wants to show me a beaver pond and a blue heron rookery on her property. “It’s everyone for himself,” she says, pushing through thick thorns.

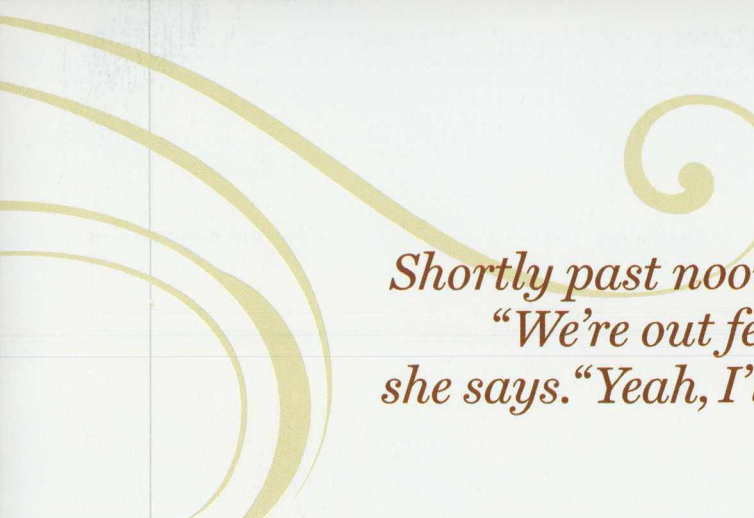
“Two weeks ago,” she continues, “we were dehorning and tattooing calves and breeding cows with semen imported from Italy.” She notices my face change. “You can get good semen for \$30 to \$40 a straw. Gets 50 percent of the cows pregnant.” Vern is only responsible for inseminating a dozen the old-fashioned way. “If you think that’s fun, I can





SUFFOLK  
LAW SCHOOL





*Shortly past noon, Patrea's cell phone rings.  
"We're out feeding cows right now,"  
she says. "Yeah, I'll be in the office tomorrow."*

always take you around and let you feed the cattle, tag a baby, maybe round up calves on horseback." Fun? Perhaps, after I extricate myself from the brambles.

Back in the truck, Pabst is driving fast over a particularly bumpy stretch of road. Charlie is white-knuckling his granny handle. "Mom, can you please slow down?" he says. She either doesn't hear him or ignores the request. "Charlie and his brother ruined the transmission," she tells me. Charlie protests this claim as we arrive at a gate and walk over to a group of two-year-old Piedmontese, but his mother is too good an attorney to take the bait. We feed the cattle some hay and then get back in the big truck. Shortly past noon, Patrea's cell phone rings. "We're out feeding cows right now," she says. "Yeah, I'll be in the office tomorrow."

## FOREST THROUGH THE TREES

**P**abst's first task on the farm each morning is to feed the dogs and let them out. Then she makes coffee for herself and her son: "Charlie gets his in bed so he will start to wake up," she says. "It's easier than yelling." Next, she feeds the horses, turns out and cleans stalls, and checks to see if the cows are calving. She puts on a sweater and slacks and heads to work by 7:30 if she's going to Atlanta to be a patent attorney. If not, she does errands and cleans the Victorian-style house she built, turning on her computer around 9:00 a.m., when the rest of us sit down to work without the faint scent of manure under our fingernails.

"Patrea" is from the Greek "patria," meaning "fatherland." Patrea Pabst grew up in Houston, Texas, "in a very Texan family." Her mother was the sort of woman who wore a mink vest and high heels to a cattle show, where she gave out cookies to the bemused cattlemen. Her father was an electrical engineer and inventor who specialized in machines that tested food properties. He made the Redi Chef meat thermometers that people used to stick into meat to check for readiness. "The chef's hat popped off the face when it was done to your liking. All a function of temperature," says Pabst. "That was back in the dark ages when we didn't have electronic thermometers!"

Pabst first considered patent law while working at a water and process technologies firm in Watertown, Massachusetts, where in-house counsel suggested that the field provided an opportunity to combine science and law. At the time she chose Suffolk, it offered the only

evening law school option in the area. "I quickly learned—and continue to believe—that the students who went to the evening law school were among the brightest, hardest-working, and most accomplished law students anywhere," she recalls. "Most of us had jobs and were successful in our other careers. Typically, we were older than the average law school student, and had more experience. Made for more challenging discussions and interesting perspectives. Many of the best patent attorneys in the Northeast (and even one in the South) are graduates of Suffolk's evening law school and proud of it."

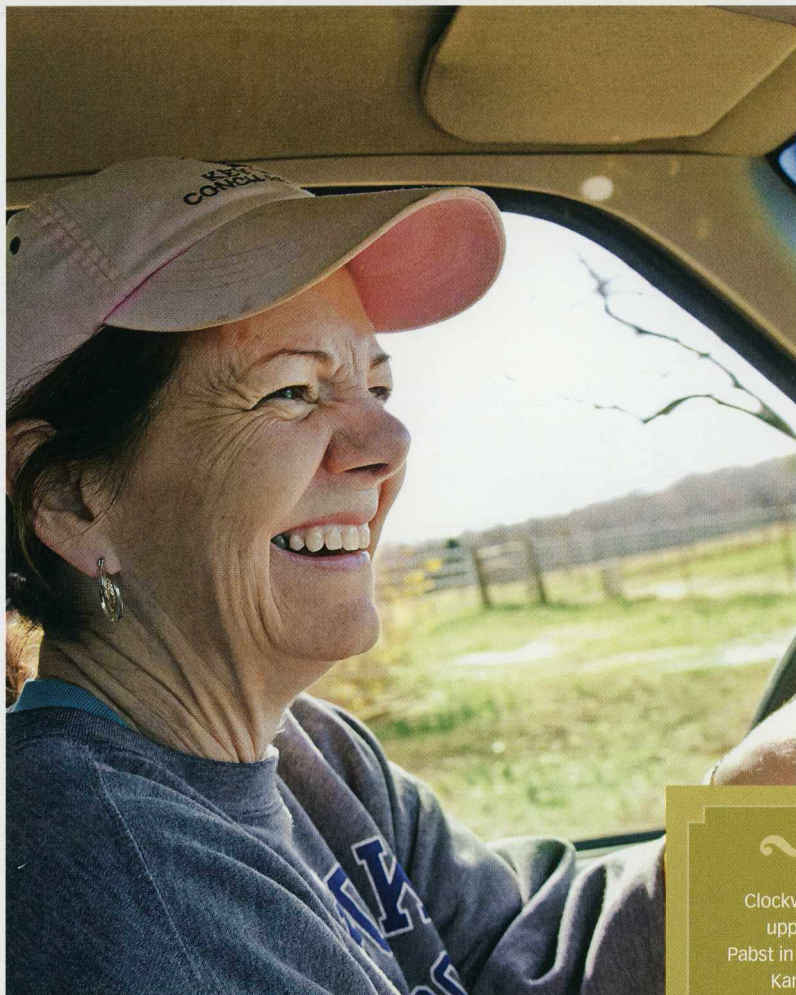
Throughout her first two years of law school, Pabst supported herself doing medical research at Ionics, Inc. in Watertown, Massachusetts, which paid for her tuition and books. Kenway & Jenney, an intellectual property firm in Boston where she began working in 1983, paid her way thereafter. Before that, she'd been an investigator at the Center for Blood Research in Boston, where she'd pack lunch and dinner for a long day of work followed by classes. "More than once," says her former roommate Ina Resnikoff JD '85, "as she sat down for a quick supper break to enjoy leftovers or a salad made at home, Patrea would pull out a vial of blood or a bag of frozen cells. So much for sharing a refrigerator with the lab specimens!"

In the early 1970s, not long before Pabst moved to Boston, the world changed, altering the course of her life as well as untold others. The discovery of restriction enzymes—for which Werner Arber, Daniel Nathans, and Hamilton O. Smith were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1978—allowed scientists to manipulate DNA. This was biotechnology's big bang. Genentech Inc. reported the production of the first human protein manufactured in a bacteria—somatostatin, a human growth hormone factor. Shortly thereafter, Allan Maxam and Walter Gilbert devised a method for sequencing DNA using chemicals. The biotechnology sector was born with a tiny laboratory bang. And Pabst wouldn't be the kind of lawyer she is today without it. "Like the Internet," she says, "people don't realize it wasn't always this way."

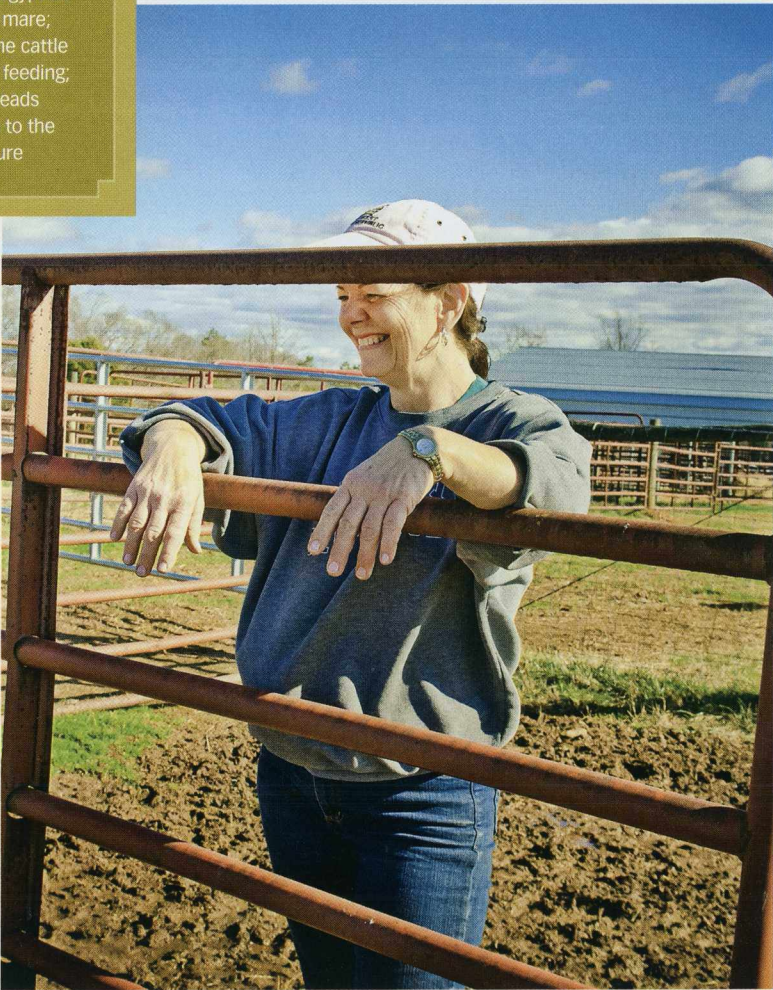
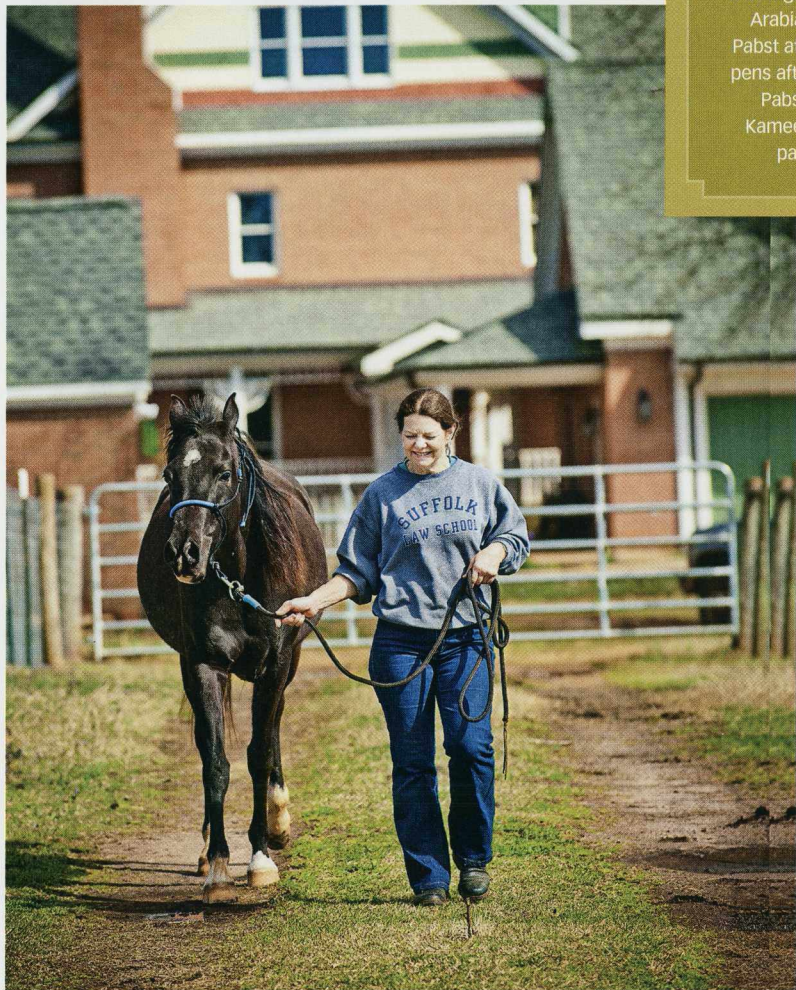
Pabst has a couple of biotech patents—including one involving blood coagulation—but she emphasizes that she's not an inventor. There are attorneys who play inventor, she says, "but I enjoy working with people on inventions. We ask the questions that lead to invention. People typically come to us with a tree—an invented product—"and they say, 'I've got this tree.' Our job is to figure out the scope of the forest. If you just protect that one tree, you won't have nearly the value you'd have if you realized that it's part of a much bigger forest."

Last fall, Pabst gave a two-hour talk at Brown University titled "What Is Intellectual Property and Who Cares?" In it, she explained

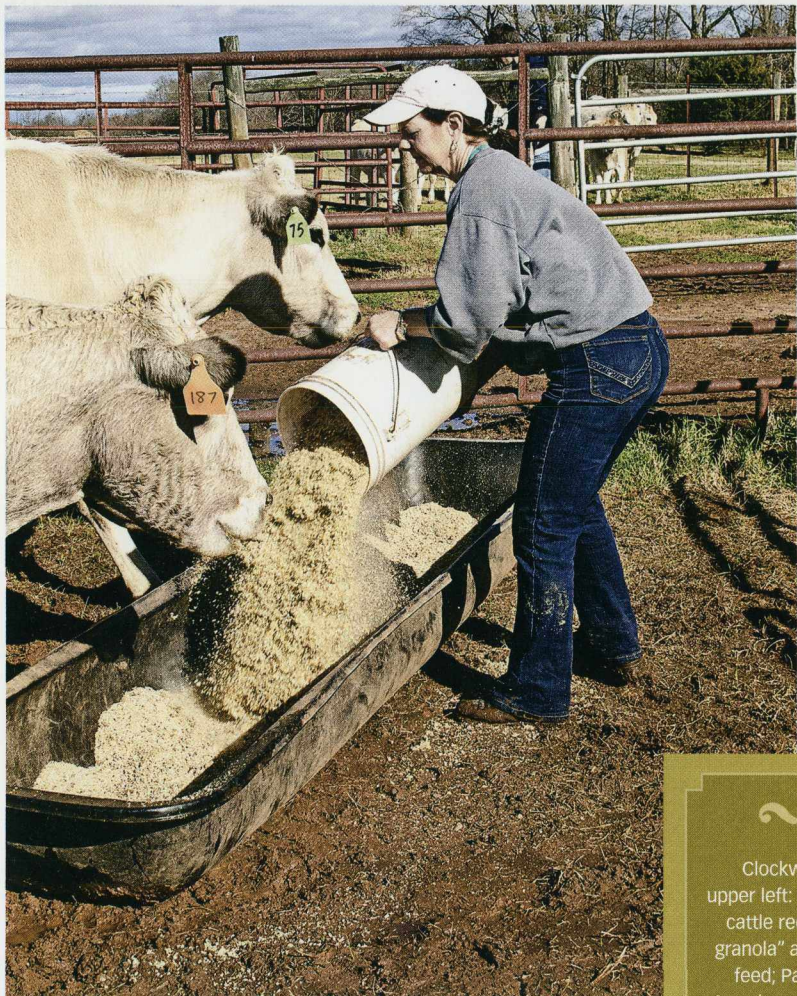





  
 Clockwise from  
 upper left:  
 Pabst in her pickup,  
 Kameela,  
 a Straight Egyptian  
 Arabian mare;  
 Pabst at the cattle  
 pens after feeding;  
 Pabst leads  
 Kameela to the  
 pasture



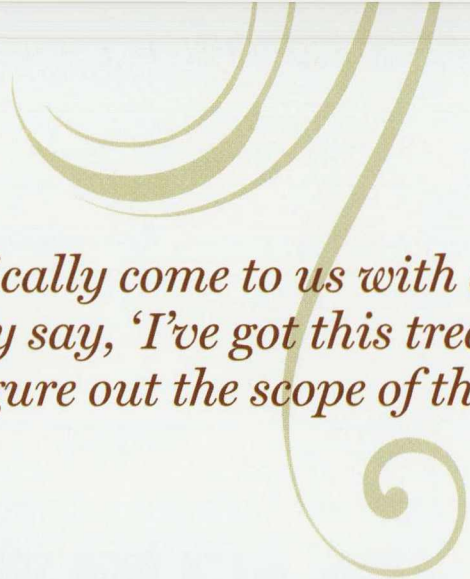




  
 Clockwise from  
 upper left: Piedmontese  
 cattle receive "cow  
 granola" an all-natural  
 feed; Pabst walks  
 American eskimo dogs  
 Artemis, Galadrial,  
 and Gryffindor;  
 fillies  
 Baz (l), Misty (m),  
 and  
 Binti (foreground);  
 Pabst with Kameela







*“People typically come to us with a tree  
and they say, ‘I’ve got this tree.’  
Our job is to figure out the scope of the forest.”*

that a patent is an exchange: The government gives you a grant to exclude competitors for a certain number of years in exchange for telling the world how to do something better. “The more competitors you can exclude,” she told the students, “the more money you can make within that space. If you’re going to create a biotech start-up, you’ll need to exclude competitors in order to make back the immense amount of money it cost to develop that new drug.” Arguing for the legal exclusion of competition—by proving that a long-standing but unmet need exists for a product—is what Pabst does.

“The U.S. has the strongest medical patent system in the world,” says Pabst. “The patent office is very willing to work with you if something really might make a difference, if it might change the way people live or die. If it truly affects quality of life.” She’s worked on an insulin patent that would reduce the number of shots a diabetic has to take from five to four a day, and one for a drug that slows the onset and development of Lou Gehrig’s disease in unprecedented ways.

About 10 years ago, Tufts University transferred some patent applications to Pabst on a treatment for hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS), which causes a low red blood cell count and results in, among other things, low urine output and bloody stools.

“It took me a decade and many battles”—in the patent office, at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, an appeal to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and then back to the U.S. Patent Office—“but we just got three patents allowed,” says Pabst of the HUS patent. “And within one day of notifying Tufts, the licensee announced it was ordering material to complete the clinical trials to make this product available.” If all goes well, people will have a much better chance of not dying or losing their kidneys from eating meat or produce contaminated with a specific strain of *E. coli*. Pabst’s paperwork continues to save lives.

## PROBLEM SOLVER

**T**he family of Michael Cianchette JD ’10, MBA ’10 has farmland in southern Maine that they hope to return to its original purpose. “We originally thought we’d raise Hereford cattle,” Cianchette says, “but we realized it would be an uphill battle to be successful as yet another Hereford ranch.” That’s when they stumbled across the Piedmontese. With their impressive nutritional profile coupled with their reputation for quality beef, they were exactly the type of breed

his family wanted: a high-quality product that breaks out of the Hereford mold. “They’re remarkable animals,” Cianchette continues, “and Patrea has some of the best bloodlines in North America. It was also funny to find out that a fellow [Suffolk graduate] was already in the Piedmontese business.”

Piedmontese cattle have a single gene mutation, which Pabst says naturally arose in the 1800s, resulting in cattle with about 15 percent more meat compared to Angus and Herefords on the same amount of feed. They’re high in protein and low in calories, with 1/26th the amount of fat as regular cattle, one-third the fat of skinless chicken breast, and half the cholesterol of chicken, fish, pork, and other types of beef. “They’re incredibly tender, unlike bison,” says Pabst with a hint of scorn for the buffalo, “which requires a chainsaw to cut, and isn’t nearly as low in fat or cholesterol.” Pause. “And do you know what Angus beef is? It just has to come from a black cow.” Best not to stir up a beef with the patent farmer.

“Come on,” she says, “I’ll feed you some Piedmontese.”

Now she’s cooking hamburgers and frying onion rings in lard. A woman comes in to look at the American Eskimo dogs Pabst is raising, which are playing in a big cage in a side room. Pabst explains the lack of dander that makes the dogs hypoallergenic—she knows the finer points of dog dander, too—and then returns to pull out the rings. Charlie, roused by the smell, comes downstairs. His mom may be occasionally difficult, and drive a little fast, but she makes damn good onion rings, a process she likens to patent work in that “it’s just problem solving, and that’s what I love.”

Pabst uses problem solving daily on her farm. Her horse-breeding program is designed to cross the beauty of the modern halter-winning bloodlines with the boldness, size, and performance of the classic imported bloodlines of the 1940s to early 1970s. “I am concerned,” writes Pabst on her website, “that many of the current halter horses have too much emphasis on head and not on intelligence and performance.” Pabst’s beef tastes the best, her dogs won’t make you sneeze, and her horses will one day be the most intelligent.

When Beaver Creek Farms is paid off, the goal is to put a permanent conservation easement on it so that it can never be turned into a parking lot or subdivision. Instead, Pabst says, it will remain a section of intact Georgia piedmont, “which everyone can enjoy and benefit from if my kids decide not to farm it.” So Charlie has a decision after all—one that his mother has carefully considered, like all of her life’s best work. 5



# PLAYING HARDBALL

WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T TELL COLLEGE BASEBALL COACH JOE WALSH BS '76 IT'S ONLY A GAME.



His head slightly bowed, Joe Walsh unhooks his thumbs from his belt and makes the slow walk from the dugout to the pitcher's mound. On a cloudless spring day, it's the Harvard University baseball coach's second trip there, and with a wave of his right arm, he signals the end of starting pitcher Eric Eadington's day. Three outs away from a win against Ivy League division rival Princeton University, Harvard's 3-0 lead has evaporated into a 3-3 tie, and Walsh isn't taking any chances. Coming off a staggering 24-game road trip—and 3-21 record—Walsh is eager for a win back home at O'Donnell Field in Cambridge which, he hopes, can “get things rolling a little bit.”

By Renée Graham ♦ *Photography by Jarrod McCabe*



**UNFORTUNATELY, THINGS ROLL OFF THE** rails in rapid succession: two pitching changes, a squib of a hit to load the bases, and then an otherwise catchable fly ball lost in the blinding midday sun. Just like that, Princeton has a 5-3 lead, and the Harvard Crimson soon endures another crushing defeat. As the Princeton players exchange congratulatory high-fives (and the PA system inexplicably blasts Hootie and the Blowfish's sappy song "Let Her Cry"), Walsh rallies his players for the second game of the day's doubleheader.

"There's different ways of doing it," says Walsh of coaching his team through a losing streak. "Sometimes you've got to get in their faces a little bit, sometimes you have to hug them. We've been trying everything. We've had our injuries, but everybody else has, too. We've just got to start playing some baseball."

Harvard will wait another day for its first home victory of the season, captured in dramatic fashion with a walk-off grand slam against Cornell University. More than many, Walsh understands the capricious nature of the game, and the ways it can humble even the most seasoned players.

### "A Recipe for Winning"

For most of his 57 years, Walsh has lived a life between the lines, buoyed by an evergreen love for the national pastime. To watch him now on a baseball diamond is to see the working-class Dorchester kid who inherited his father's love of sports and spent endless weekends shagging flies and peppering line drives across Boston's sandlots. "In my neighborhood, either you got in trouble or you played ball," recalls Walsh.

"And, for the most part, I played ball."

As he gives constant, steady instruction to his players, one understands his successes first as a pitcher at Suffolk, and later as the New England Division III Coach of the Year who revived the Rams' baseball program when he took over in 1982, leading his teams to a 218-167-1 record. He's in his 16th season at Harvard, where he earned his 500th win as a collegiate head coach in 2007, a testament to both his ability and longevity. In 2009, he was inducted into Suffolk's Athletic Hall of Fame.

After 14 seasons at Suffolk, Walsh became Harvard's first full-time baseball coach in 1995. His formal title is the Joseph J. O'Donnell '67 Head Coach for Harvard Baseball; it is an endowed position, like that of a professor. Before Walsh's arrival in Cambridge, the team had gone 82-102-1 in the previous five years and was coming off a losing season. Two years later, Harvard won the Ivy League title, a feat the Crimson repeated four more times, along with five appearances in the NCAA Tournament.

Though the 2011 campaign has seen more heartbreak than wins, Walsh hasn't allowed the final score to affect his spirit. "The great thing about Coach Walsh is that he's honestly never down," says Harvard center fielder Dillon O'Neill. "Whether or not we play well... he's supportive in all the right ways." It was O'Neill who lost that fly ball in the sun, allowing Princeton to score the game-winning runs. When O'Neill returned to the dugout, Walsh's reaction was characteristic. "He didn't say anything. It's not his style to get on you," says the senior, who has played for Walsh for four years. "Coach Walsh would never do anything like that unless you were really out of line."

Standing in the third base coach's box during the game, Walsh keeps his eyes focused on the batter at the plate. He periodically claps his hands, encouraging his team: "Let's go, let's go!" When designated hitter Marcus Way blasts a two-run homer over the right field wall, Walsh quickly shakes Way's hand as he rounds the bases, but he never does anything more demonstrative. He respects the game too much to show up his opponents, and knows that until the final pitch is thrown, there is little room for premature celebrations. Yet beneath his understated on-field demeanor is a wealth of passion.

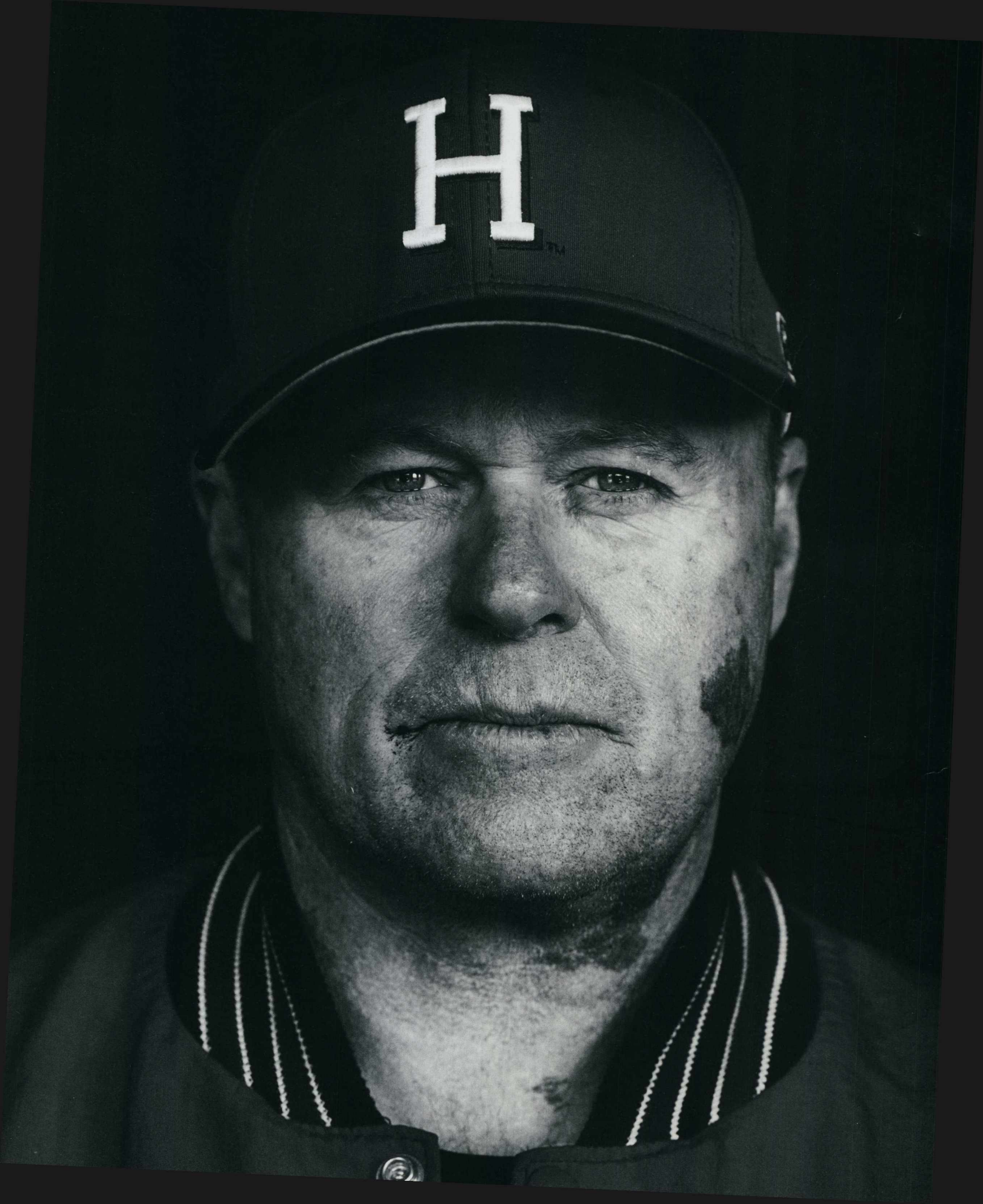


"The intensity he brings to his job everyday is contagious," says Brendan Byrne, a former Harvard second baseman. "It makes his players have fun and enjoy playing, and usually that's a recipe for winning."

### No Excuses

A week before the start of the 2011 season, Walsh strolls into "The Bubble," Harvard's inflatable indoor practice facility. With his barrel-chested build, closely buzzed hair, and thick forearms sculpted by decades of gripping and swinging a bat, Walsh looks like a baseball coach straight out of Hollywood central casting, and he inhabits the part to perfection. He's on the field working his team through run-downs (when an offensive player is caught between bases), pick-off moves (when a pitcher tries to catch an opposing player off the base), and fielding bunts—the kinds of plays that rarely make highlight reels. It's Walsh laying down the bunts, just as it's the coach in the cage pitching as his players take their cuts. As his pitch count inches beyond 100, the wily southpaw keeps winding up and tossing 'em. When one of his players barely makes contact with his pitch, a fastball that breaks as it ap-



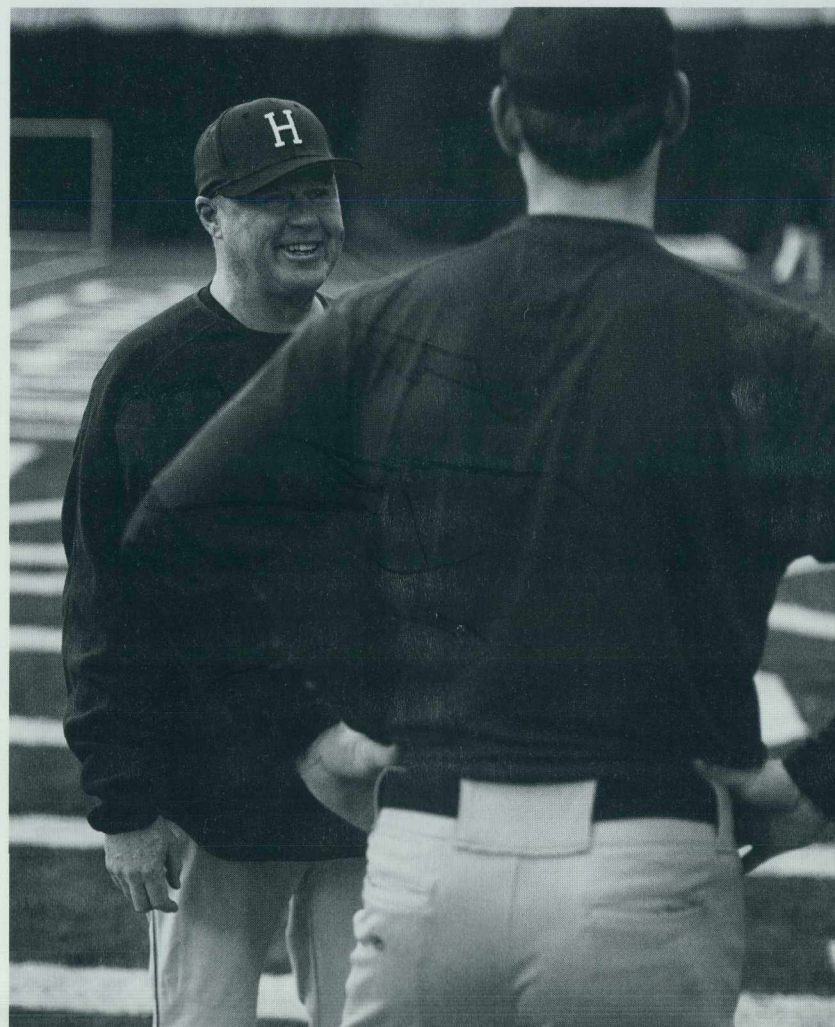








**"Sometimes  
you have  
to get in  
their faces  
a little bit,  
sometimes  
you have  
to hug  
them. We've  
been trying  
everything."**





proaches the plate, Walsh grins and bellows, "The cutter's still working!"

Though the ground outside is still spackled with the remnants of winter's snowstorms, in the crack of the back, the velvety *thwack* of a tossed ball kissing the well-worn pocket of a leather mitt, Walsh hears the symphony of spring, the promise of a fresh start. The Crimson had a 17-26 season in 2010, and though the team was riddled with injuries, Walsh isn't making excuses. He still wants to face the toughest teams.

"I'll see a coach from a big school at a convention, and I'll say something like, 'When are we gonna play you guys? Have you been ducking us?'" Walsh says. "I like to play hard-nosed ball clubs, teams that have that reputation of playing the game aggressively. I think that's one of the goals I've established here, of having an aggressive, offensive team—stealing bases, running, diving, just taking the field with enthusiasm. Once you get off that bus, it's game time. I want guys who'll play until you have to tear the uniform off their backs."

Along with his passion for the game, Walsh also brought to Harvard a swagger forged during his 20 years as a player, then coach at Suffolk. As a Division III team, Walsh says Suffolk always played "up," meaning his players often rose to the level of the competition when matched against favored Division I and II teams. It wasn't always easy. Unlike some of its well-heeled neighbors on either side of the Charles River, Suffolk's baseball team didn't have a field to call home, or its own practice facility. Finding places for the team to practice required perseverance and ingenuity.

"At that time, we were real gypsies," recalls longtime Suffolk Athletic Director Jim Nelson of the effort to find playing fields. "For us, even home games were away games. Joe thought nothing of going to another Suffolk for practice sessions: he took our team to Suffolk Downs (a horseracing track in East Boston). We'd get the rubber baseballs and go over and have a simulated infield in the parking lot. He was quite creative."

Suffolk's baseball team even had T-shirts made with the slogan, "No Field. No Cage. No Problem." Walsh groomed his team to use the lack of facilities as a rallying cry, rather than a setback. "We nicknamed ourselves 'The Mutts' and that really brought the team together.



When I got to Harvard, and they had all these facilities, it was like I had died and gone to heaven." Yet despite the plush amenities, Walsh has instilled in his Harvard players the same no-excuses attitude that propelled Suffolk baseball teams to great success during his tenure.

"It's easy to make excuses when you're playing in a cold-weather environment and playing a Division I schedule at an academically challenging school. But for him, excellence breeds excellence," says Christopher Mackey, a former Harvard outfielder whom Walsh coached for four years. "He's not going to make excuses for his teams, and they respond to that. I think that's why his teams have been successful."

### Philosopher/Coach

Byrne, who played for Walsh for four years, first met the coach when Walsh was hosting a summer baseball clinic at Harvard for kids. Like Walsh, Byrne grew up in Dorchester, and felt "an immediate connection" to the coach. "I went to his camp when I was 10, and from that point on I always wanted to play for the guy," he recalls. "You could put Coach Walsh in an equipment room with bats and balls, and he'd still have fun so long as it had anything to do with baseball."

It's always been that way for Walsh, the oldest child of a Boston police officer and a secretary. When he was a boy, Walsh was befriended by a local man named Jake who would show up at the park with "a bat bag over his back and a bunch of brand new balls, looking for any kids who wanted to play. He was just a guy who loved to play, and that was a big motivation for me," Walsh says. "We would play every Saturday

**"Once you get off that bus, it's game time. I want guys who'll play until you have to tear the uniform off their backs."**



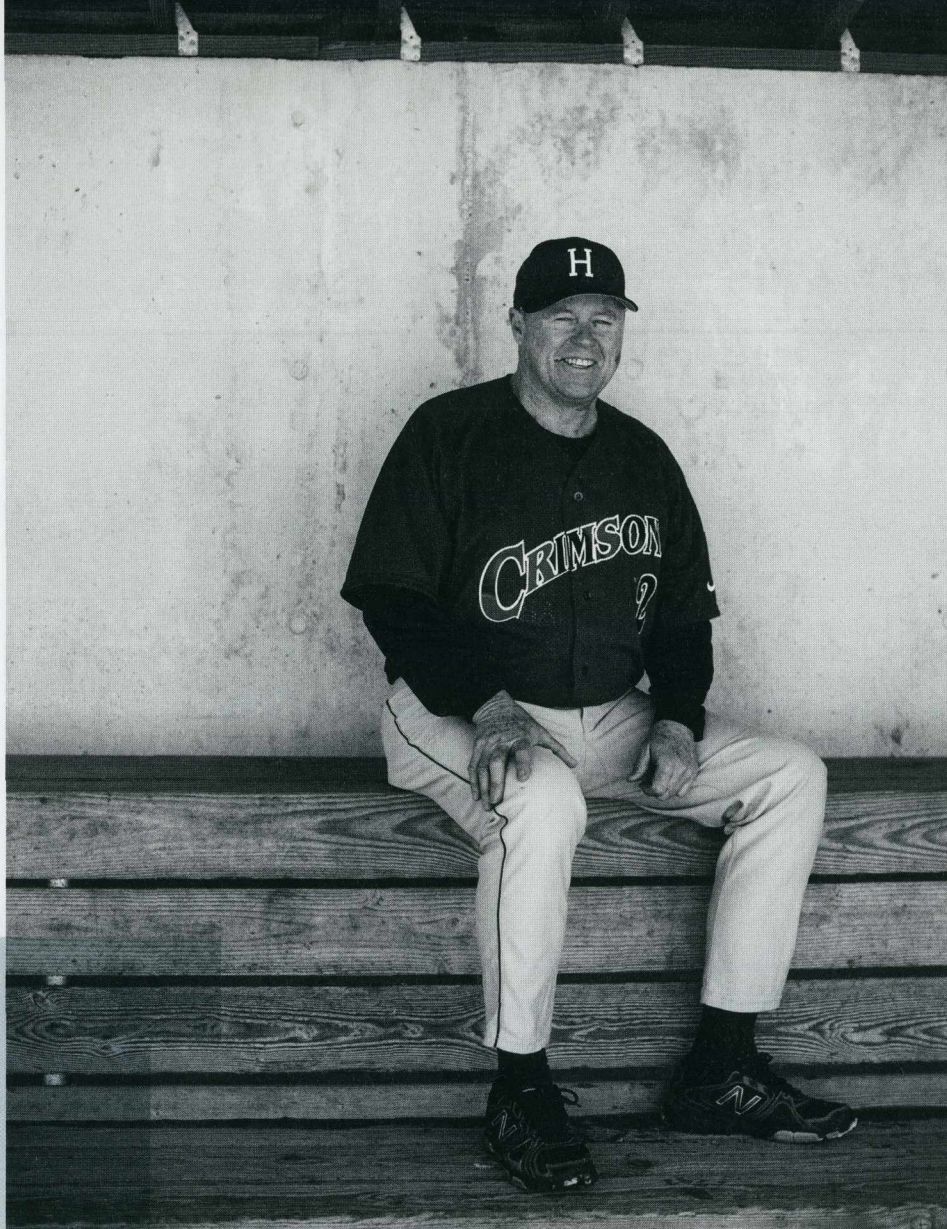
and Sunday, as soon as the fields were cleared [of snow] right up to the end of October. I can remember with Jake, he was like 60 years old, and after four hours of chasing up and down behind balls, I always had to be the first one to say, 'Hey, let's wrap it up today.' I was really lucky to have a guy like that. We'd sit and talk baseball for hours."

After high school, Walsh became the first in his family to attend college, and Suffolk offered him a small baseball scholarship. He thought about majoring in math, but soon made a surprising choice. "I met someone, when I was being pushed to make a decision about a major, who was in counseling, and they had a philosophy degree. In a conversation, she told me it was a good background for counseling. And I started thinking ahead, thinking about counseling, sports, and working with kids. So I majored in philosophy."

He also immersed himself in Suffolk sports. "From the time I met him, I was struck by his enthusiasm for life, which certainly translated to how he behaved as a competitor," Nelson says. "He was best known as a baseball player for us, but he also competed in cross-country, played some basketball, and was also team manager in basketball. He had a great passion for whatever activity he was involved in."

When he wasn't competing or attending class, Walsh was juggling jobs, including working for the late Lou Connelly, then Suffolk's director of sports information and public relations. After graduating from Suffolk, Walsh knew he wanted a career in sports. He traveled around the country, landing in San Diego, where he became an office equipment salesman. Then came the call from an old mentor that changed his life.

"I had wonderful respect for him as a student athlete, and he had values I wanted to see represented here at the University by our student athletes. I also thought he could play that role as mentor to students here," says Nelson, who had stayed in touch with Walsh after he graduated. "When I offered him the coaching position here, he refused it. He was talking about taking another position with a program that worked with handicapped and mentally disabled individuals. What I said to him was 'I think what you want to do is noble, and I won't discourage you from doing that, but I think here at your alma mater, you have a role to play as well.' I gave him a weekend to



**"In my neighborhood, either you got in trouble or you played ball," recalls Walsh. "And, for the most part, I played ball."**

think about it—and I'm sure that as a philosopher he really thought about it—and he came back and said he wanted to return to Suffolk."

Walsh also coached women's basketball, both the men's and women's cross-country teams, and was the director of the intramural sports program. Walsh even planned his March 1,

1986 marriage to his wife, Sandra, with whom he now has four daughters in New Hampshire, around the Suffolk sports calendar. "Well, basketball ended [February] 28th, and I could take the next day off," he says with a hearty laugh. "We had a short honeymoon, then she dropped me off at the Cambridge Y for baseball practice."



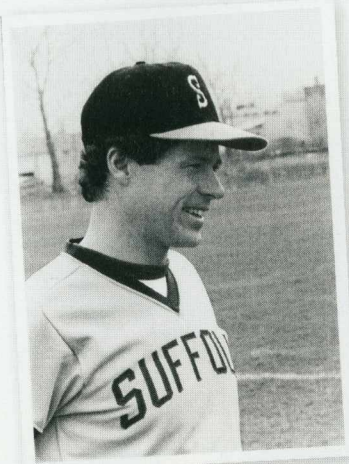
# A Southpaw Called "Southie"

Even in the majors, Joe Walsh can talk trash with the best of them

**I**T WAS 1990, and the Boston Red Sox were struggling against left-handed pitchers. In a Boston Herald sports story, the team's third baseman, Wade Boggs, a five-time batting champion, diagnosed what was flummoxing his team: not enough left-handed pitching in batting practice.

Joe Walsh, Suffolk's baseball coach at the time, saw the article and happened to run into Bill Enos, then a longtime Sox scout, at a Boston Park League game. (The Boston Park League is the nation's oldest amateur baseball league.) Walsh, who was a left-handed pitcher at Suffolk, struck up a conversation with Enos about Boggs's comments. "I said, 'Bill, I'd do this,'" Walsh recalls, meaning he wanted a shot at pitching batting practice for the Sox. "So Bill told me, 'Call [then-Sox general manager] Lou Gorman up,' and he gave me his number. The next day, I got a call from Lou saying, 'Come on over,' and the next thing you know, I'm at Fenway Park throwing BP."

This was the stuff of dreams for Walsh, who'd grown up a loyal Sox fan—so much so, in fact, that he spent his high school graduation day sitting behind home plate at Fenway, watching Sox great Luis Tiant pitch against the Cleveland Indians. Now he was pitching to Boggs, a future Hall of Famer, and a lineup that included Dwight Evans, Ellis Burks, and Tony Peña. His first day coincided with a visit by a Hartford Courant photographer working on a newspaper feature about batting



**HOME TEAM:** JOE WALSH IN 1982 ON THE COACHING STAFF OF HIS ALMA MATER

practice. As Walsh took the mound, the photographer began shooting pictures. "I'm nervous as heck, and I've got this guy taking my photo as I'm throwing." Things took another unexpected turn when Walsh was asked to do a TV promo for a cable station. "I said, 'Sure,' and was reading cue cards: 'Join me and my friends, the Boston Red Sox...' It was a big thrill."

Soon Walsh was even engaging in one of baseball's time-honored traditions: trash-talking. "I remember one day throwing to [former Sox second baseman] Marty Barrett and he says, 'Hey, can you throw me a slider?'" Walsh says. Barrett ricocheted Walsh's pitch off the Green Monster and, Walsh recalls, "gives me one of those derisive laughs, and goes, 'You call that a slider?' So I dropped my

glove and said, 'You couldn't touch me.' We had to get separated; we were squared off. Richie Hebner was the batting practice coach at the time and he grabbed me and said, 'Don't let that bother you.'"

Still, Walsh has nothing but warm memories of his stint as a batting practice pitcher for the Sox during a season when the team ultimately won its division, making it to the American League Championship Series. "I was living in South Boston at the time, and [former Red Sox Manager] Joe Morgan was calling me 'Southie,' even though I tried to explain to him that I was from Dorchester," Walsh recalls. "It was a great experience. I met so many people, so many legendary figures, and I'm still like a kid when it comes to that stuff." —R.G.

## A "Bittersweet" Goodbye


After 14 seasons at Suffolk, Walsh was eager to be a single-sport coach and to test himself in Division I, the highest competitive level in college athletics, though leaving his alma mater wasn't an easy decision. In 1995, his final season at Suffolk, the team finished the season with a stellar 26-11 record and made it to the Eastern Conference Athletic Conference finals. To top it off, Walsh had been named New England Division III Coach of the Year. That summer, while Walsh was coaching in the Cape Cod League, he went to see Bill Cleary, Harvard's athletic director at the time. He knew the university was in need of a new baseball coach. "I said to him, 'Coach, nobody wants this job more than me. I want this job,'" Walsh says. "Next thing I know, my references were being called." One of those references was Suffolk's Nelson, a longtime friend of Cleary's.

"Bill was going out on a limb in selecting someone who was a Division III coach, regardless of how successful he had been," Nelson says. "He asked my thoughts on Joe and I said, 'You will not be disappointed. He will put his heart and soul into the job.' I knew [Walsh's] time had come. I knew he had achieved many of the goals he had established here and he wanted to do baseball full-time."

After a lengthy search, Walsh was hired, but the transition was also bittersweet. "I can still remember when I got in that room to say goodbye to that team," Walsh says about leaving Suffolk. "I had tears in my eyes, and when I left I walked all the way down to Park Street station, sat on a bench, and lost it. I was overwhelmed. I wasn't sure it was the right thing because I was such a fit [at Suffolk]."

Now he's not just a fit at Harvard; he's become a fixture. Though his team's 2011 season has been difficult, Walsh understands the va-

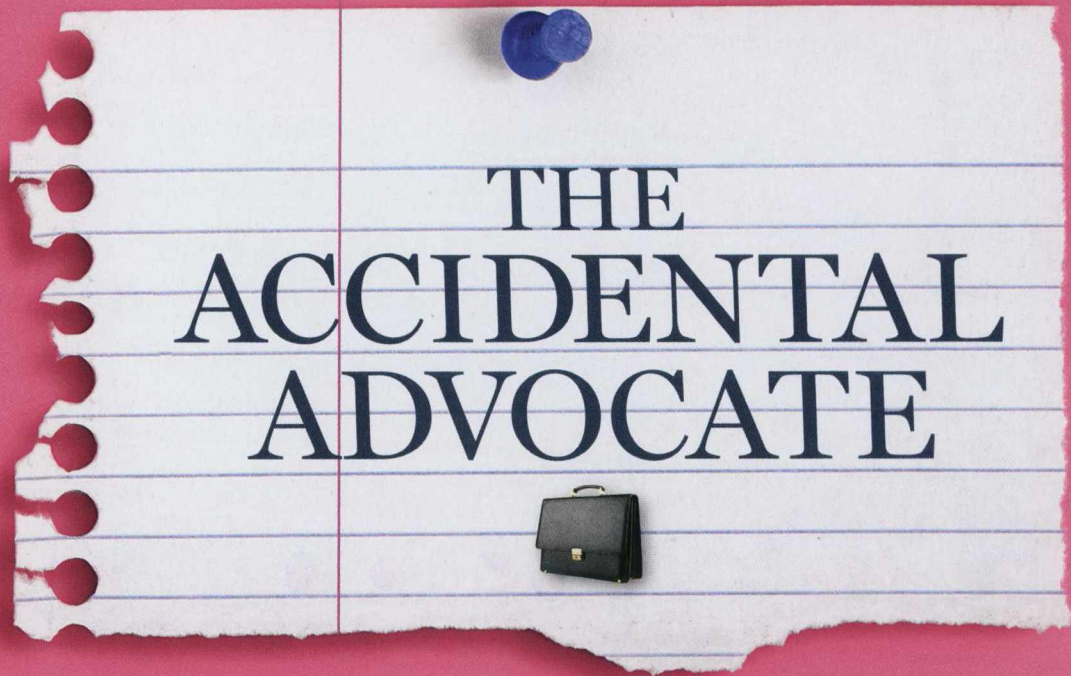
garies of the game, and how a well-timed rally or a pitch that paints a corner for a needed strikeout can turn a streak from cold to hot. What he never doubts is his team's desire to play hard. His players, in turn, recognize the same quality in him. "I think everyone on the team really appreciates his willingness to work through a tough season," O'Neill says. "It does incentivize us to work harder when we see him showing up every day with a positive, constructive attitude."

When he first started coaching at Suffolk, Walsh's mother needled him about finding "a real job." Later, his father-in-law posed the same question. "To them, it wasn't a real job; I was just out there playing." More than 30 years later, Walsh remains a man hard at play—and he wouldn't want it any other way. "The more you learn, the more you realize you still have to learn," he says. "After all these years, I'm still just a guy who loves the game." 









# THE ACCIDENTAL ADVOCATE

*Trained for a business career,  
Nancy Reddish BSBA '88  
never imagined representing children  
with special needs.*

*Then things got personal...*

By Renée Graham

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BLAKE FITCH



**N**ANCY REDDISH BSBA '88 stands in the hallway of an Andover, Massachusetts, middle school with a manila file the size of a cinderblock under her arm, preparation for what she wistfully calls "another journey." Every staff member who passes greets her by name and Reddish responds warmly; the atmosphere is one of mutual respect. She is here for a "team meeting" with her daughter

Ellie's teachers to discuss the academic progress of the 14-year-old, who has a learning disability. Sitting in a conference room, Reddish at first mostly listens to the nine educators talk about "goals" and "strategies" and how much they enjoy having Ellie in their class. When it's Reddish's turn, she is polite, blunt, amiable, and tenacious – often at the same time. What she is *not* intimidated as she gently but firmly interrogates each teacher about how the school is addressing various issues in her daughter's education:

"How many [assignments] has she handed in late in your class?"

"What are her test scores in your class so far?"

"Do you know what she's getting for Spanish grades?"

As the educators patiently answer her questions, Reddish is relentless with follow-up queries. Then comes a revealing comment: "I feel like there are things happening that I don't know about. That's a sticking point for me as a parent *and* an advocate."

### "NEVER ON MY RADAR"

**E**ven when dealing with her own daughter, Reddish is advocating for the educational rights of all children with disabilities. Fourteen years ago, she founded the Family Advocacy Group of New England, which works with parents of children with special needs to ensure that their academic goals are achieved. Each year, she guides dozens of families through the labyrinthine rules and obligations of the state's Department of Education, always emphasizing what is best for the child. During the 2010-11 school year, Reddish had about 30 clients throughout the greater Boston area, with another dozen on a waiting list.

"I let [parents] know right up front that I don't represent them -- the child is my client," says Reddish, who calls herself an educational advocate. "I'm here to represent the child, but I'm also here to teach parents how to move through this process because you can't hire someone like me all the time. Parents need to know how to read evaluations, how to speak to the school, and what their rights are."

Reddish is the first to admit that being an educational advocate was "never on my radar" when she

graduated from Suffolk with a degree in business administration. Still, rarely a day passes when she doesn't find ways to apply the lessons she learned as a student.

"The skills I acquired at Suffolk have helped me to execute a business approach to an emotionally charged business. Parents are angry, concerned, and dealing with family issues due to a child's learning disability. School districts are facing budget problems and feeling defensive against parents' accusations and inquiries. It is my job to remove the emotion and rely on a structured business plan," she says. "However, this business plan changes with each new case due to different disabilities, team personalities, parental expectations, et cetera. It is here where my Suffolk education comes in. It is here where I go back to my classroom instruction of how to build a plan and how to manage it to fit different business models."

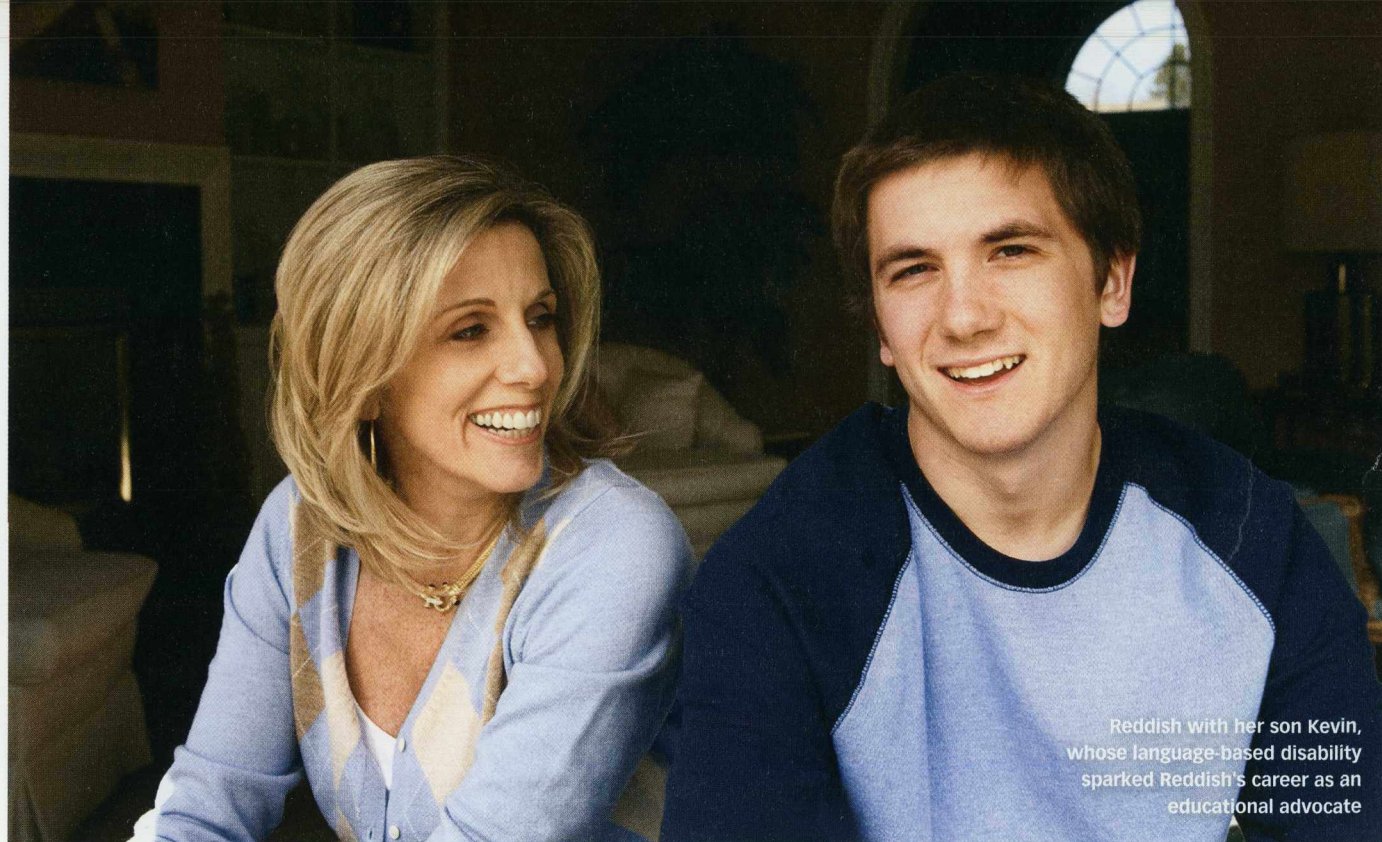
As is often the case in advocacy work, Reddish's professional career was sparked by a personal crusade. After the birth of her first child, Kevin, 20 years ago, Reddish could sense that something was wrong. "I was told by everyone that I was overbearing, that I should let it pass, and he was just delayed," she recalls. "Pediatricians would tell me that, well-meaning friends would tell me that. I had no idea about learning disabilities; I just knew in my heart something was amiss. I knew it when I held him, I knew it when we had eye contact."

When her son's school held him back for a second year of kindergarten, Reddish's concerns deepened. "When I walked into my son's [class] and I saw a teacher, hand over hand, cutting [paper] with him, taking him by the shoulders to another table, and my son just sitting there, I would just drive home and cry, 'How can that be enough? Is that what they were going to do for the rest of his education?'" Reddish says. "They offered me a wonderful special ed teacher, and I said, 'Is he going to have him all day?' And they said no, 'No, he'll have him for a half-hour.' That's where you get to the difference between whether or not your child can survive in the public school system."

Reddish sought guidance from the Federation for Children with Special Needs in Boston. With a better grasp of both her rights and the obligations of the school district, Reddish won placement for her son, who was eventually diagnosed

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Reddish with her son Kevin, whose language-based disability sparked Reddish's career as an educational advocate

with a language-based disability, at the Landmark School in Beverly, Massachusetts, which specializes in children with learning disabilities. Kevin attended the school from age 5 until his graduation last year. He is now at the University of Arizona, studying early childhood education.

The experiences Reddish had with her son's education convinced her that she could help other families facing similar situations. "Sometimes I'll watch a TV show about someone who has suffered a terrible loss and it becomes their mission. I think that's what happened with me," she says. "I turned it into something positive, but I know how hard I had to work to get there. I just don't want to see it happen to anyone else."

Since Reddish has personally lived through the trials and tribulations of seeking the best possible education for her learning-disabled son (and is now repeating the process with her younger daughter), her work as an educational advocate is that much more meaningful. "I trust Nancy 100 percent more because she's been through it," says a suburban Boston mother, whose son is one of Reddish's clients. (Because the child's case is still in litigation with the school district, his mother requested that she and her son remain anonymous.)

"For me, she has made such a difference, and we could never ever have gotten as far as we have without her," the woman says, who hired Reddish as soon as her son was diagnosed with a disability. "She's been my rock."

## 'A LITTLE BIT OF HOPE'

**I**n Massachusetts, the special education system is based on the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The law ensures that students with disabilities who are eligible for special education receive an Individualized Education Program (IEP) designed to meet their unique needs. Created by teachers and administrators at the child's school and district, an IEP defines goals for that student for the school year, and any support systems needed to help achieve them.

"As soon as a student is deemed eligible [for special education] or the school knows that child is eligible, [the school] must, by federal and state law, begin providing those services immediately," says Rich Robison, executive director of the Federation for Children with Special Needs. "[An IEP] has legal ramifications to it and most parents, at least initially, are unaware that that's the case."

As an educational advocate, Reddish helps families navigate the various options that are available to them. Sometimes it's a refinement of special needs services at the child's public school. Other times, if a parent rejects an IEP, outplacement – transferring the child to a private school better equipped for the student's needs – is a more logical solution, although it can be a longer process involving mediation and hearings to decide how tuition costs will be handled between the parents and the school district, among other issues. In representing the child's interests, Reddish attends team meetings with families (children under 14 are not present at the meetings), helps them draft letters to school districts, and also holds coaching sessions to teach parents to keep their emotions in check and conduct meetings in a "productive, businesslike manner."

Reddish also consults with what she calls a "circle of professional colleagues," including speech and language therapists, lawyers, and neuropsychologists. Attorney Jeffrey M. Sankey, of Dolan & Connly, P.C., counsels Reddish on legal issues related to children with special needs; she refers clients to Sankey when parents and school officials have reached an impasse about a child's academic progress and potential.

"I'll take up the case and take it through the Bureau of Special Education Appeals [a state agency that resolves disputes between parents and school districts regarding services for children with special needs]," Sankey says. "If the district isn't giving what they should be giving, then it's our job to step in to try and get it for [the child]. In my cases, I'm using what Nancy has built working as their educational advocate."





Reddish with her son  
Kevin and family dog, Buddy



But Reddish, he adds, also will tell parents if their requests are unrealistic. "Nancy is forceful in advocating for what these children need, but we both take the approach that if we don't think what the parent is seeking is justified, we'll tell them. That's a difficult discussion, but Nancy has the knowledge and background to substantiate what she's saying."

Being knowledgeable about the system and supportive of families is one thing, Reddish says. Yet she doesn't see herself as "a hired gun."

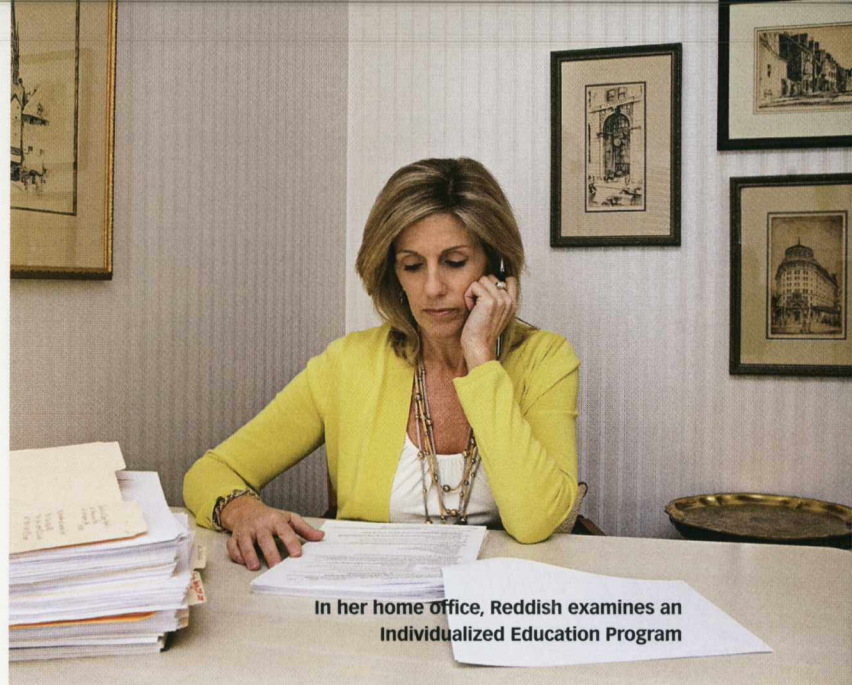
"Sometimes I have to tell them, 'You may not get what you need, they may not give it to you.' From the parents' perspective, they're into it emotionally, and they want the best, but you have to remember the public school system isn't legally obligated to provide the best nor can they," says Reddish, who is also a certified mediator. "I think the district's misconception is they want the parents to follow along with whatever they recommend. Typically, parents are programmed to do that – they trust their district, they trust their teachers, and they trust what's being offered. I have parents who come to me and say 'Well, they don't have that program,' and I'll say 'Well, let's see.' With the parents, they sometimes think the school's first answer is the end of the line. It's never the end of the line."

Bob Broudo, president and headmaster of the Landmark School, says Reddish "just has the type of encouraging personality that would certainly embrace any student and parent going through this process because it can be very discouraging and difficult. She's so positive and focused, she has attributes that would help a family feel a little bit of hope in the process."

## A CAREER CHANGE

A divorced mother of three, Reddish grew up "very middle class," as she puts it, in Needham, Massachusetts, a Boston suburb. Her father ran his own rubbish removal business, while her mother "did the books" for his company and tended to Reddish and her five siblings. After graduating from high school, she worked in various secretarial jobs before deciding, at 24, she was ready for college. "When I visited Suffolk, it just felt very comfortable. I liked the atmosphere, I liked that the students were all different ages, and that it was much more diversified."

Reddish valued the small, personalized classes. In one of her more memorable courses, the students had to develop a marketing plan for an assigned product. "It was one of the hardest things I had ever done because we all disliked the product and had no idea how to market it," she says. "But in the end, we were forced to develop a marketing plan to present to the class. It helped me to understand how to think outside the box, target your market, and be creative. I carry that with me in my professional and personal life to this day."



In her home office, Reddish examines an Individualized Education Program

With her degree and hopes of someday starting her own fashion business, Reddish began doing administrative work and assisting the designers at Susan Bristol Inc., a Boston-based women's apparel company. Shortly after she married, she left that job to do marketing for a furniture company owned by her husband and his family. When her son was born, Reddish's priorities changed, and she became a stay-at-home mother.

When her son's educational situation was resolved – it took nearly five years -- Reddish turned her concern to other families. She received parent consultant training at the Federation for Children with Special Needs, a parent information and training center for special education and disability issues that teaches parents how to advocate for their own children. Not every parent becomes a professional advocate – the Federation trains 250 people a year – but Reddish displayed an intuitive ability to connect with others in similar situations.


"She took the experiences in her own family and became an educated leader," the Federation's Robison says. "She does it very, very well – she's professional, she's a good listener, she's empathic, and she's really committed to making sure all kids have access to high-quality education."

Asked if she could do this work as effectively if she were not the parent of two children with special needs, Reddish offers an emphatic "No." Though she doesn't share her own experiences with every client, she believes they can sense that being an educational advocate is as much a calling for her as a career. "It can be tough, it can be frustrating because it can be a drawn-out process, and you still may not get what you want. Rather than saying to parents, 'I'm going to get you what you need,' I now say, 'I'm going to do the best I can for your child,' which is really what every parent wants."

"You know, I always tell myself at the end of every year, 'This is my last year, I am not going through this again.' But then I get the phone calls, and I know I have to help these kids," Reddish says. "It's a path I've walked and I know there are a lot of people going through what I went through, right behind me." ☺

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# Applied Philosophy

Think of Plato's profession  
as so much navel-gazing?

**Nicole Burton BS '09** is using  
abstract thinking to solve real world problems

**BY MICHAEL BLANDING**

ILLUSTRATIONS BY RICHARD MIA







## WHEN NICOLE BURTON ARRIVED IN

Ghana last summer to spend two months studying tuberculosis, she found a few surprises. Like a hospital with no running water and broken elevators, where doctors and nurses had to carry buckets of water up stairwells to treat their patients. And an office that flooded when it rained, providing only intermittent electricity. Unable to use a computer at work, Burton spent the days sifting through drawers of medical records, meticulously recording data on a makeshift form she'd created, and then going back to her apartment in the afternoon to enter the same statistics on a computer.

"There is definitely an easier way to do that," she says, "but not in a developing country where there is no reliable source of electricity." Complicating matters, doctors used a maddeningly inconsistent nomenclature of checks, Xs, squiggly lines, and even smiley faces to indicate all-important information such as whether a patient had tested positive for HIV. Sometimes Burton had to search the hospital for data to fill in the squares on her charts, relying on clues such as the patient's age and date of admission to cross-reference the data and make sure she was matching the right person.

Watching her mounting frustration, one of her colleagues proposed a simple solution: Why not include the patients' names on her sheet? "You don't know these people, and I don't know these people," he said. "Really, just write it down, it's fine." But Burton balked, telling him that it was illegal for her to record any identifying information of pa-

tients, including names, addresses, or even their state-issue TB number. The colleague persisted until Burton insisted apologetically that she'd get in trouble for doing it. "I left it at that, and he probably looked at me like I was crazy," she says.

But what she knew her colleague wouldn't understand was that her reluctance to use names had less to do with the law and more with the ethical issues she'd grappled with years earlier in her studies at Suffolk University. "These aren't just names," she explains, "these are people's lives. Especially in countries where TB and HIV are so taboo and people are very much ostracized [for having the diseases], it really makes a difference if I were to accidentally drop that piece of paper while I was in the library one day." Unlike many of her colleagues in the public

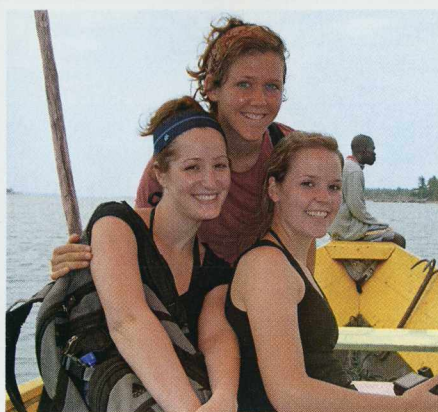
**Above: Burton with a child in Ghana; top right: Burton With Ernest, a colleague at Chest Clinic in Accra (Ghana's capital city); bottom: Burton with U. Michigan medical student Haley (center) and Ella (right), a public health graduate student**



health field who major in biology or communications, Burton graduated with a dual degree in sociology and philosophy—a fact she credits with her heightened awareness of ethical issues.

"When I'm dealing with public health, all I see are ethics and philosophical ideals. Who will benefit? Who won't? What are the long- and short-term implications? I don't think I would be comfortable doing my work every day without a solid background in philosophy. Philosophy is really about getting this





bigger picture on things," she says, "and no, it's really not ethically OK to have someone's whole life in your backpack and take that with you down the street."

## Philosophers Wanted

The word "philosophy" might conjure up images of bearded men navel-gazing on a mountaintop. "I will admit that there are few 'Philosophers wanted' signs out there," quips Thomas Busby BS '09, who majored in philosophy and now moonlights as a stand-up comic. At best, we might consider philosophy as useful for a career in academics or as one of those squishy, esoteric "luxuries" like the arts.

"It certainly can be those things," acknowledges Suffolk Philosophy Chair Greg Fried unapologetically. "It's not always useful, and I

don't think it should always be useful." Given that caveat, however, his department goes to extraordinary lengths to make the degree as practical as possible. "In all liberal arts there is an emphasis on critical thinking," he says, "but philosophy, of all the disciplines, is the one that foregrounds the ability to analyze and respond to arguments in all kinds of contexts."

Fried sees philosophy as applicable to all careers. "Even if you are working [in] marketing, you still have to make an argument for what kind of marketing campaign you are going to put together and how you are going to defend it against criticism." Students in the program are required to complete an internship or service learning project. Whether assisting in the office of a state legislator or tutoring at-risk youth, they keep a journal on the ethical and philosophical issues that arise.

**"WHEN I'M DEALING WITH PUBLIC HEALTH, ALL I SEE ARE ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHICAL IDEALS. NO, IT'S REALLY NOT ETHICALLY OK TO HAVE SOMEONE'S WHOLE LIFE IN YOUR BACKPACK AND TAKE THAT WITH YOU DOWN THE STREET."**



One recent philosophy graduate used his skills to put together a green consulting agency in Manhattan, advising companies on how to implement environmentally sustainable practices in construction. And Busby, who applied his education to a position teaching children with Asperger's syndrome in an alternative school on Cape Cod, Massachusetts—even introducing some philosophy into the curriculum—is now planning to enter the Peace Corps as a teacher.

"My degree has given me excellent reading, writing, and critical-thinking skills," he says. "A philosophy degree, despite the joke, is not a BS in BS."

## No Fear

Burton originally intended to major in biology, but she became fascinated with philosophy after doing a work-study in the department, intrigued by the human implications it could lend to her interest in public health.

Nir Eisikovits, assistant professor of philosophy and director of the Graduate Program in Ethics and Public Policy, isn't surprised by Burton's firm adherence to ethical principles in her refusal to use names in her TB study. Recalling Burton among his most conscientious students, Eisikovits finds her actions typical of her viewpoint in class. "There would be a utilitarian argument for doing it, if the benefits of using the names outweighed the harm to a specific individual," he says. The contrary viewpoint, idealism, expounded by German philosopher Immanuel Kant, is that since we can't predict the possible consequences of our decisions we need to adhere to principles regardless of the possible benefits of breaking them. "There's the idea that right is right regardless of world consequences," says Eisikovits. "In any given class, you can see students with utilitarian ethics and with [idealist] ethics." Nicole's idealism, he says, "is greatly honorable...it's very gratifying when idealists do well in the world."

Burton also places her views squarely in the idealist camp. "These rules are there for a reason," she says. "They are there to prevent abuses. It's not my place to release that information to the world." She says she's always seen the world through a Kantian lens. "When I became a philosophy student, I discovered there was a name for it—I wasn't just being a silly idealist. It validated the way I felt."

# A Smashing Success

Todd Finkelstone BS '07, MS '10 has a unique philosophy to eradicate poverty—bring down the hammer.

**A** SLEDGEHAMMER SLAMS DOWN ON A WINDSHIELD. A cheer goes up from the crowd—a motley assemblage of three dozen gathered in a sports bar parking lot on a chilly South Boston night. "Free drinks to anyone who makes the airbag pop!" someone screams. Then from the crowd comes an improbable chant: "Cameroon! Cameroon!

Cameroon!" Taking in the scene, Todd Finkelstone BS '07, MS '10 grins. "Anytime you can smash something to help people, it feels good."

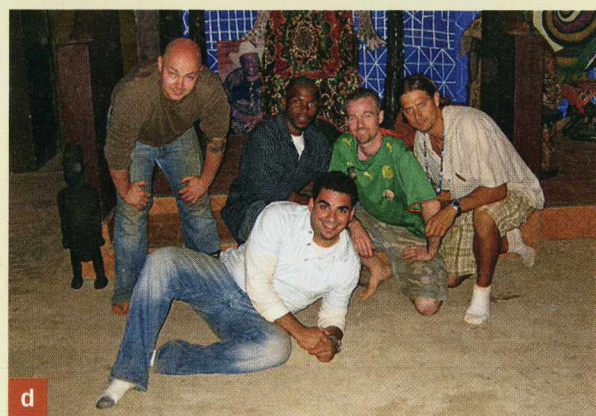
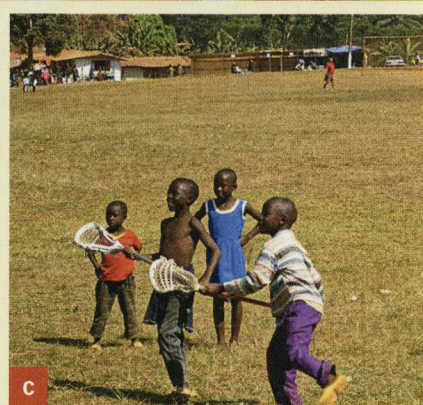
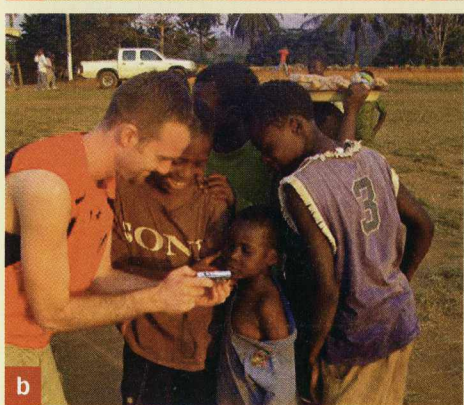
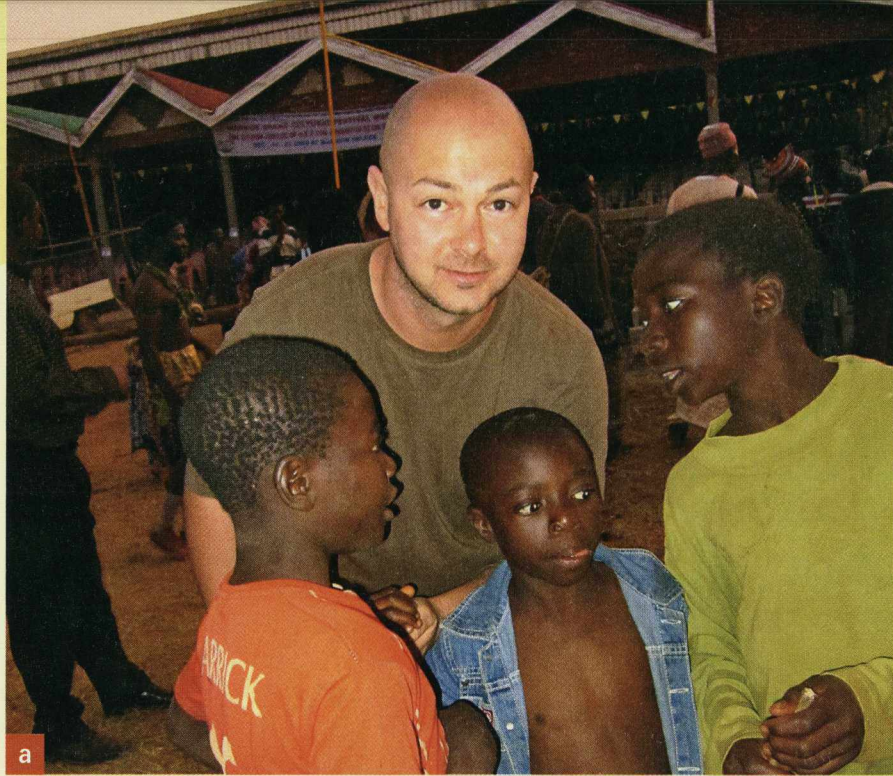
More than an exercise in destruction, the "car smash" is a fundraiser for CameroonONE, a nonprofit group that Finkelstone founded with several friends to support orphans in the West African country. Already the group has raised money to sponsor living and education expenses for 18 children orphaned after their parents died of AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, or other diseases. But with some 1.1 million children abandoned in Cameroon, the group has bigger goals in mind.

"The biggest tragedy is that there are living blood relatives who just don't have the funds to take their own family members into their households," says Finkelstone. He and his fellow directors will be visiting Cameroon this summer to recruit volunteers and identify children for a privately funded foster care system placing orphans with their relatives, who will then guarantee schooling for the children. "We'll be tackling short-term poverty by providing funds to these households at the same [time] we tackle long-term poverty by providing education to the community."

Finkelstone started the unlikely crusade along with several friends from high school, one of whom is originally from Cameroon. In 2009, the group traveled there to visit his family and was captivated by the outgoing children they met. By the time they reached the tarmac back in the United States, the idea for the organization was born. At the time, Finkelstone was studying in Suffolk's Masters in Ethics and Public Policy program. Run jointly by the philosophy and government departments, the program applies philosophical principles to current public policy debates, from abortion to terrorism.

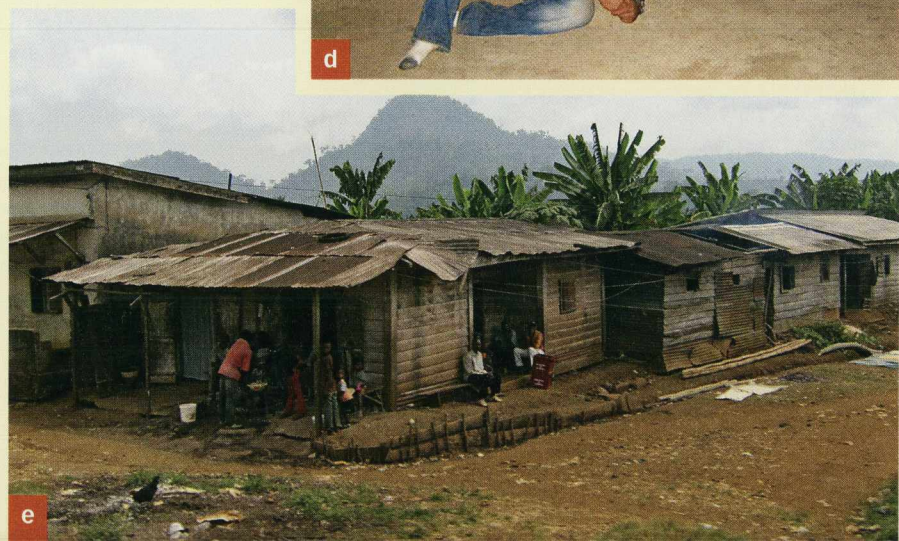
Through that program, Finkelstone completed an internship in London with a group working to keep armaments from conflict zones. There he saw firsthand how a small group could have an outsized impact. At the same time, he completed a master's project examining corruption in Cameroon, where most benefits and resources, including international aid, go directly into the pockets of the kleptocracy. Bypassing the government and finding partners through tribal leaders—who are more accountable to villagers—Finkelstone hopes that his group can avoid those pitfalls and one day smash poverty as effectively as it smashed an old car windshield. -M.B.





#### CAMEROON CALLING

(a. Finkelstone with kids  
(b. CameroonONE secretary  
Jon Montcrieff and kids in  
front court of Mankon Palace;  
(c. Cameroonian kids at play;  
(d. CameroonONE Board of  
Directors l to r: Finkelstone,  
Nick Angwafo, Jon Montcrieff,  
and Shaun Bamforth,  
foreground: David Shnitzer;  
homes in Cameroon



Burton grew up in Tewksbury, Massachusetts. After her father left the family when she was still young, she and her sister were raised by her mother, Vivian, an OB/GYN nurse. At the time, her mother was doing AIDS outreach work and often had materials about HIV and other diseases around the house. Burton developed an interest in epidemics at an early age.

"She had this huge bulletin board with cards and pictures of all these people she'd helped," Burton remembers from visits to her mother's office. "If I ever met a patient when I went to see her at work, they would tell me how much they loved my mother and how lucky I was. As a teenager, that wasn't always easy to take," she laughs. "But there was always that bulletin board."

#### A Collaborative Exchange of Ideas

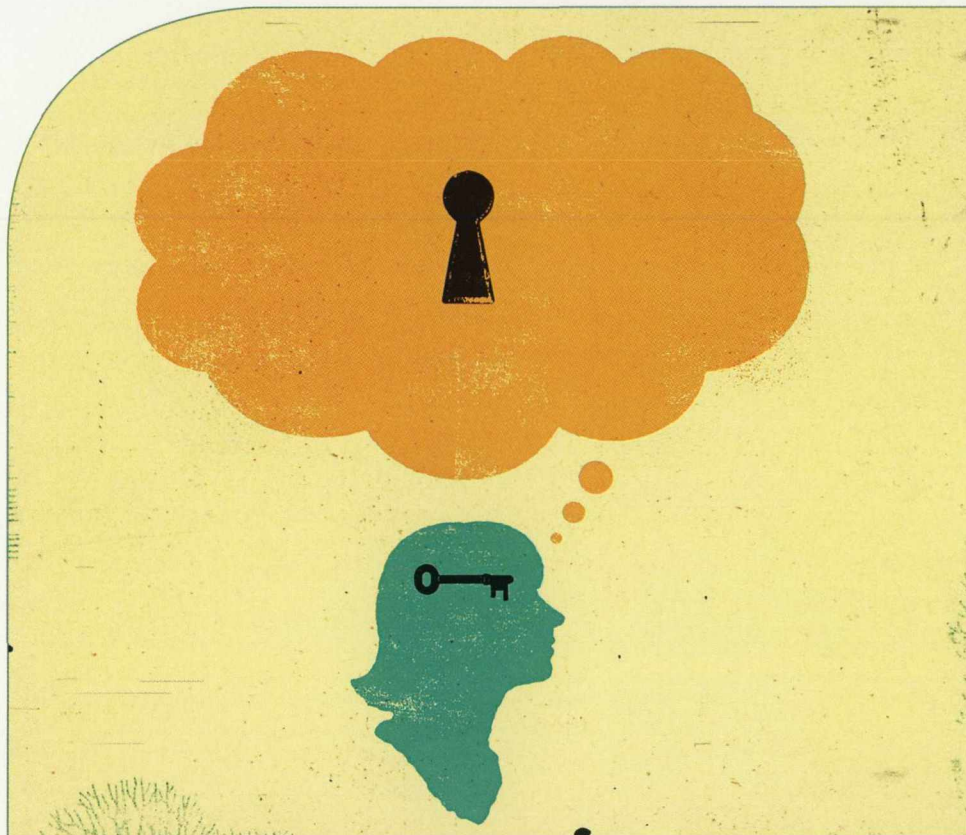
Despite her interest in health epidemics, the only thing contagious about Burton is her laugh, which she indulges in often. Sitting in a café in the College Hill neighborhood of Providence, Rhode Island, wearing a casual flannel shirt and minimal makeup, she looks as if she's ready to leave for an assignment in the developing world at any moment. Underneath there's a glimpse of the excitement of a young girl, tinged with a philosophical bent from her undergraduate education.

Along with the tools to respond to ethical dilemmas and practical problems, Burton's undergraduate education also provided a lasting personal relationship. It was in her History of Philosophy class that she met Servando Conde BS '09. The two traveled through Europe together for another class and now live together in Providence, where they frequently rehash philosophical debates at the dinner table.

"We like to argue and see who can come up with the best logical reason for why they are right," says Conde, who attends Brown in a master's program in Hispanic studies. "We know each other's little leaps [of logic], and we are always watching each other to make sure we are not jumping to a conclusion." On the whole, he says, he tends to be much more cynical about human nature than she does. "I tend to see human beings as more selfish," he explains, but "I am amazed at how noble she is."

Burton's trip to Ghana was part of her master's thesis at Brown University, where she is studying public health. A doctor at the





**"IN BIOLOGY THE ANSWER IS OFTEN  
RIGHT THERE IN FRONT OF YOU, BUT IN  
PHILOSOPHY YOU HAVE TO THINK  
CREATIVELY ABOUT HOW TO FIND IT."**

medical school who was also a TB specialist suggested she go to the West African country to help organize their medical records and try to discern patterns. From the moment she got off the plane it was culture shock. Like the hospital, her apartment also lacked running water, forcing her to drag buckets upstairs to take showers. "I felt like I almost got in over my head," she says. "It was overwhelming." She was won over, however, by the friendliness of the Ghanaians. "Coming from Boston, where people are not always the nicest, it made me uncomfortable at first," she deadpans, relating how strangers on the bus in Ghana would spontaneously offer her half their lunch, with "you're welcome" a typical phrase. "'You're welcome' was the beginning of a sentence there, not the response to one," she says.

Feeling more comfortable in the country, she set out to do the hard part of tabulating the records. Most of what she found in the data corroborated what was known about TB: that

the patients more apt to die during treatment were those who had TB in a location other than the chest (because it might be harder to detect or misdiagnosed) and those who were HIV positive, whose weakened immune systems were unable to fight off the disease. As she sifted through the data, however, she began to notice a disturbing pattern of missing HIV tests—a critical issue since drugs for HIV and TB can conflict, leading to complications if either disease isn't properly accounted for. Running some initial queries on her database, she found 20 percent of patients hadn't been tested. "That," she said, "was a really large number that jumped out at me."

As Burton talked to doctors and nurses, she found a communication gap, with each group counting on the other to perform the HIV test. In many cases, however, patients had come in with such a severe case of tuberculosis they had died before an HIV test could be

performed. "We wanted it to be written down somewhere," she explains.

Burton credits her philosophy education with giving her the insight she needed to attack the problem. "In biology the answer is often right there in front of you, but in philosophy you have to think creatively about how to find it. When a roadblock comes, you have to think of a way over or under it or use formal logic to figure out your argument around it. If there's no water or electricity, you have to roll with it. And then when you are doing your data analysis and find out 20 percent of your data is missing, you think why and try to figure out the answer to why things are happening."

After discussing the issue in the hospital, doctors and nurses agreed on a protocol to correct the problem. Even if staff members did not administer HIV tests more quickly, at least they would be more diligent in recording whether the test had been given—which could prove invaluable not only in patient treatment but also in future research.

After hashing out the new procedures to improve TB care in the hospital, Burton went so far as to include her colleagues there as co-authors on her upcoming paper on the topic, currently under review. "Even though I needed it for my thesis, they needed that information to improve the care," she explains. "I didn't want to just be the white girl who comes over to perpetuate this idea of colonialism or imperialism. I wanted it to be a collaborative exchange of ideas."

She is planning a trip to India this summer to participate in another clinical study on TB even as she applies to Ph.D. programs in epidemiology.

"Every time she tells me she is going somewhere exotic, I have a breakdown," confesses her mom, who now manages a child home-health program for the Visiting Nurse Associations of America. "Deep down I am really worried." At the same time, she is obviously proud of the work that her daughter is doing in public health—and knows that there's no dissuading her anyway. "She has these standards and values, and she doesn't budge from what she truly believes in," she says.

And if Burton ever returns to Ghana, she's been assured that the records will be a different story. "They told me if I come back sometime in the future, I will have all my HIV results," she says, an infectious smile flickering under her attempt at sternness. "I told them they better, I'm going to come back and check." ☺



# 1955



## Lending History a Hand

Contributors to the 1955 edition of "The Beacon." Launched in 1948, the yearbook got its name from pre-legal sophomore John Allen who submitted it for a contest. The Beacon continued to chronicle Suffolk history for the next sixty years. In 2009, seeking a new direction for the publication, students launched a photo book called "The Pulse."

### on campus in '55

- ➔ The legendary Catherine Judge JD '57, LLM '60 joins Suffolk University as registrar. Eleven years later, she would become Suffolk's first female law professor
- ➔ Acting Suffolk president Robert J. Munce named President, succeeding Walter M. Burse
- ➔ Seven Suffolk University seniors included in 1954-55 edition of *Who's Who among Students in American Colleges and Universities*.
- ➔ Suffolk University Trustee Emeriti Jeanne Hession LLB '56 elected as the first female class president of Suffolk University Law School. Her campaign was run by classmate John Joseph "Joe" Moakley JD '56, DPA '77 who went on to serve in Congress for 14 terms.

### off campus in '55

- ➔ John B. Hynes LL.B. '27 elected Mayor of Boston for an unprecedented third consecutive term
- ➔ Actor James Dean killed in auto accident at age 24
- ➔ First edition of *Guinness Book of Records* published in London
- ➔ 1955 babies: Steve Jobs, Maria Shriver, Whoopi Goldberg
- ➔ Television premieres: *Gunsmoke* (CBS), *Alfred Hitchcock Presents* (NBC), *The Mickey Mouse Club* (ABC)



**Last book read:** *Shutter Island*, by Dennis Lehane

**Last CD/MP3 downloaded/purchased:**

"Rope," by Foo Fighters

**Favorite "Only in Boston" experience:** The Freedom Trail.

I'm probably a little biased because I work on the Freedom Trail, but I don't think enough people recognize the history we have here.

**Role model:** Dave Grohl, lead singer/guitarist of the Foo Fighters. He was the drummer from Nirvana, and it was a gutsy move to go from behind the drum kit to the front and lead his own successful band. That's a great example of someone following their dreams and making things happen, and that's something I really admire.

**Words to live by:** "All things are ready if our minds be so," from William Shakespeare's *Henry V*.

**Where I want to be in five years:** As much as I love Boston, I think I'd like to go to California where the business is happening. I'd like to be acting.

STUDENT PROFILE





# The Natural Inquirer

Communications major Paul Davis Lyons '11 asks life's big (and not-so-big) questions

BY RENÉE GRAHAM

**FOR MOST PEOPLE**, talking to strangers is awkward enough: convincing them to answer a random question in front of a TV camera as they scurry to school or work would be downright intimidating.

Somehow, Paul Davis Lyons makes it look easy.

During a segment of *Suffolk in the City*, which airs on New England Cable Network's *The Morning Show*, Lyons asked passersby to name their perfect Valentine's Day gift. After an array of rote suggestions and unromantic curmudgeons, one woman said her amorous ideal would be "If my husband looks into my eyes and tells me he really loves me and I can tell that he really means it."

After thanking the woman, Lyons pretended to choke up and wipe away a tear: "Wow, that was a good one." The spontaneous moment highlighted Lyons's gently humorous affability and on-camera spontaneity, and remains one of the communications major's favorite segments.

"I definitely inserted my own personality at the end, and as we were editing it, I said 'Jerry [Glendye, Suffolk's TV studio manager], please put that in there,'" Lyons recalls. "The people backstage loved it and thought it was funny."

Through the University's partnership with NECN, the nation's largest regional cable news network, Suffolk communications students are garnering experience on the air and behind the scenes. Lyons and fellow seniors Sarah Murphy and Andrew Rogers comprise the trio of reporters conducting the question-of-the-day interviews that range from Academy Award predictions to knowledge about the history of "The Star-Spangled Banner." The student reporters come up with their own questions.

Glendye, who is also a lecturer in Suffolk's communication and journalism department, has worked with Lyons since 2010. That was when Glendye created *Freedom Trail TV* which, with a similar format, was the genesis of *Suffolk in the City*. Glendye, who auditioned 20 students before selecting the final three, calls Lyons's on-air presence "excellent. He's an awesome people person and a very easy guy to talk with. He's a joy to watch, and his personality definitely shines when he's on TV."

Or, as Lyons, 25, puts it: "I'm not just a ham. I'm the whole pig."

For as long as Lyons, a Boston native, can remember, he's been drawn to telling stories. His mother told him that even as a baby, "I used to take

people by the face and just talk." The only child of an accountant father and artist mother who divorced when their son was in his teens, he attended MassBay Community College after high school and majored in liberal arts. Yet his career plans—and life—were broadsided by a family tragedy. Lyons was very close to an older cousin, George Rull, a Boston police officer, who advised Lyons to always chase his dreams, even when circumstances got in the way. Six months after that conversation, when Lyons was 19, Rull was killed in a car accident.

"It knocked me from one world into another," Lyons says. "He was someone who lived what he preached about not being afraid, and being the things you want to be in life. But for me, instead of doing that, the world became so scary after someone so strong could be taken away in such a violent fashion. I just felt robbed of all power."

After receiving his associate's degree, Lyons experienced what he called "a brief standstill" until he was again inspired by his cousin's encouraging words. "I thought, 'If the curtain were to fall on me now, I don't want to look back and think I just let life go by me,'" he says. "I knew I had to go back to school and do the things I always wanted to do." While working as a tour guide at Boston's Old North Church, he became acquainted with a Suffolk student who was directing a short film. "So I took a tour of Suffolk, and decided that it was something I really wanted to pursue." He enrolled in The College of Arts & Sciences in 2009.

"I think Paul has a good head on his shoulders when it comes to knowing what he needs to do to succeed," Glendye says. "He's aces in my book."

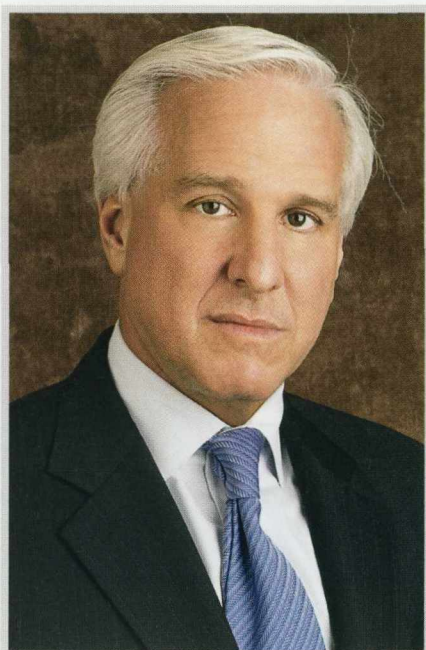
In addition to *Suffolk in the City*, Lyons, who has a concentration in film studies and wants to act, recently wrote, directed, and starred in his first short film, *String Theory*, which he dedicated to his late cousin. A lifelong comic book aficionado, he is also the host and creator of *We Got Issues*, a show about comic books and related subjects, produced and edited by Suffolk students in the University's Studio 73 and available on its own YouTube channel.

Lyons believes his Suffolk experiences have fulfilled everything he imagined when he first entered the University.

"I'm just glad I remembered George's advice and stopped worrying about not knowing what was going to happen, so I could make smarter choices and stop wasting my life." ☺



# Advancing Suffolk



**T**o My Fellow Alumni:  
Suffolk University is at a critical juncture in its history as we seek the innovative leadership of a new University president who will build upon the foundation established by David Sargent and his predecessors. One of my top priorities is to select a person with the appropriate experience and skills to lead the University to even greater heights, and to accomplish this I would like to ask for your guidance. I also want to take this opportunity to update you on the Presidential Search Committee's progress thus far.

The Presidential Search Committee has begun the process of identifying the best possible candidates. I have appointed a representative from each of the University's key constituencies to the Presidential Search Committee. They have met with and received advice from those constituencies, including alumni, Suffolk's deans, faculty, students, and board members, as well as from presidents of other colleges and universities, chairs of university boards, and business and community leaders.

The committee has already made significant progress. After interviewing consulting firms that specialize in executive searches for higher education, the committee selected Greenwood/Asher and Associates, Inc., to assist the University in its search. Greenwood/Asher will consult with alumni in a series of meetings in Boston and beyond to obtain a variety of perspectives. These meetings will allow alumni to convey their understanding of the University's opportunities and challenges to the search committee, which will help us as we evaluate nominees. You will be kept apprised of the Presidential Search Committee's progress as we move toward selecting nominees.

In an effort to create a mechanism for broader input in the search, I would like to give you the opportunity to communicate with me about the qualities and qualifications that you believe the University's next president should possess. For example, should our next president have expertise that extends beyond the academic arena? What other experience, knowledge, and talents

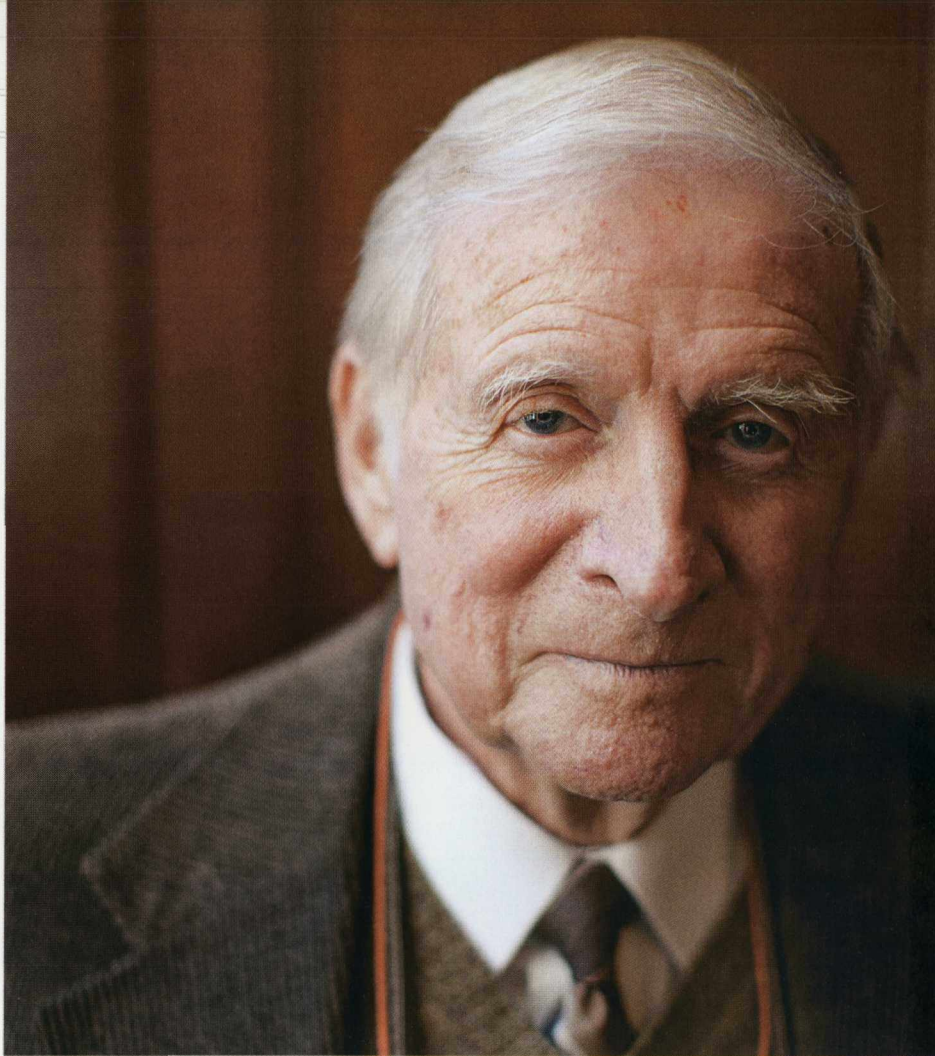
should he or she have acquired? In addition, I would also appreciate hearing your thoughts on those values and ideals that you feel are endemic to Suffolk University, its mission, and heritage. As we move forward into a new era, we will strive to ensure that our next president reflects our traditions while helping us realize the greatest potential of this University and those it serves. Please share your thoughts with me by sending them to [presidentialsearch@suffolk.edu](mailto:presidentialsearch@suffolk.edu) so that the broad geographic scope and diversity of ideas of the Suffolk community will be reflected in this process.

I look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your help in selecting the next president of Suffolk University.

Sincerely yours,

**Andrew C. Meyer JD '74**  
Chairman of the Board





## The Ride of a Lifetime

Telling his story (bumps, bruises and all), Jim Meikle BSBA '50 reflects a spirit of bravery and generosity **BY ANDREW CLARK JD '13**

**W**HILE HE WAS a student at Suffolk, Jim Meikle BSBA '50 spent 35 hours a week working at Harvard University's Psycho-Acoustic Laboratories. It was difficult not to compare.

"I was working at Harvard and studying at Suffolk, and at Suffolk you could really see the difference," Meikle recalls. "They were bringing real-life experiences into the classroom."

"There were these professors who not only had academic credentials, but they also had real practical experience as well."

One of the most important chapters of Meikle's life was when he came to Suffolk after a stint in the U.S. Navy, entering through the GI Bill and finishing his undergraduate degree in just three years. During his time on Beacon Hill, the Arlington native was part of the University's hockey and tennis teams.

After graduating with a degree in business administration, Meikle worked for American Airlines until his favorite uncle encouraged him to get into the energy business for the stability it offered. He took a position as assistant commercial manager for the New England Gas & Electric Association in 1952 and moved his way up the ranks, ultimately retiring as the vice president of administration services for Commonwealth Gas Company, which later merged to form NStar. In 1976, while working as manager of Commonwealth Gas, Meikle disarmed a gunman during an office shooting, earning an award for his bravery. Meikle declines to elaborate, but a commendation by the company noted "the extremely courageous action and presence of mind he displayed," adding, "with his coolness under extreme pressure and his extraordinary

bravery, he probably saved the lives of at least four of our employees."

The Jim Meikle of today is a Renaissance man of sorts, involving himself in a wide range of committees and activities, from boating to amateur genealogy. In fact, he has accumulated and donated an astounding 60,000 pages of personal family research to the New England Historic Genealogical Association.

Meikle's first wife Alice passed away from cancer in 1963, leaving him with a newborn baby and three children aged 6, 8, and 11. Three years later, Meikle wed Nancy Carter, and the pair have been married for almost 45 years.

In 2009, Meikle decided to put his life down on paper, self-publishing a memoir for his family entitled *The Ride of My Life With All Its Bumps and Bruises*. Among the more satisfying parts of the ride he chronicles: his Suffolk days.

Though he is 60 years removed from graduation, Meikle still keeps Suffolk close to his heart. He made annual donations to the University for over 30 years—contributions that were also matched by his former employers.

"I really feel indebted to Suffolk," he explains. "The school did a lot for me and I wanted to figure out a way that I could give back."


In recent years, Meikle found another way to give back. In 2007, he traveled from his home in Yarmouth, Maine, to deliver a guest lecture for Professor Jonathan Frank's management information systems class. According to Frank, having someone with Meikle's resume bring his experience to the classroom was incredibly enriching for students.

"He was able to come and talk about how systems have evolved over the years," says Frank. "Mr. Meikle really has a strong background and was able to offer a lot to the class."

Initially apprehensive, Meikle found it an invaluable experience.

"Personally, I was afraid all of the students would fall asleep," he quips. "But instead they were active and asked a lot of questions. I would encourage anyone to visit a class if they have the opportunity."

In his family, Meikle and one of his two older sisters were first-generation college graduates. And even though neither of his parents pursued a college degree, they always wanted the best for their children. Fortunately, Meikle said, he was able to find the best.

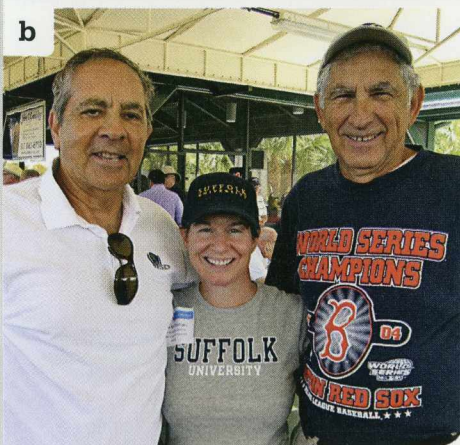
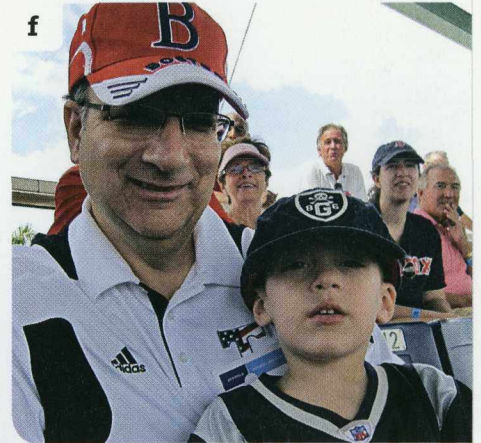
"I wanted to work so I went to Suffolk. It was one of the best decisions I have ever made." 



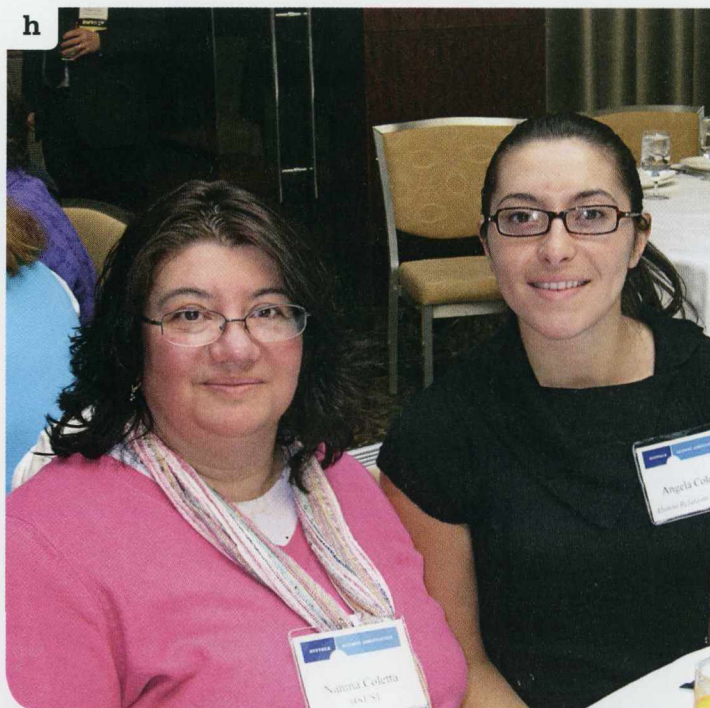


## Your Alumni Association at work (and play)

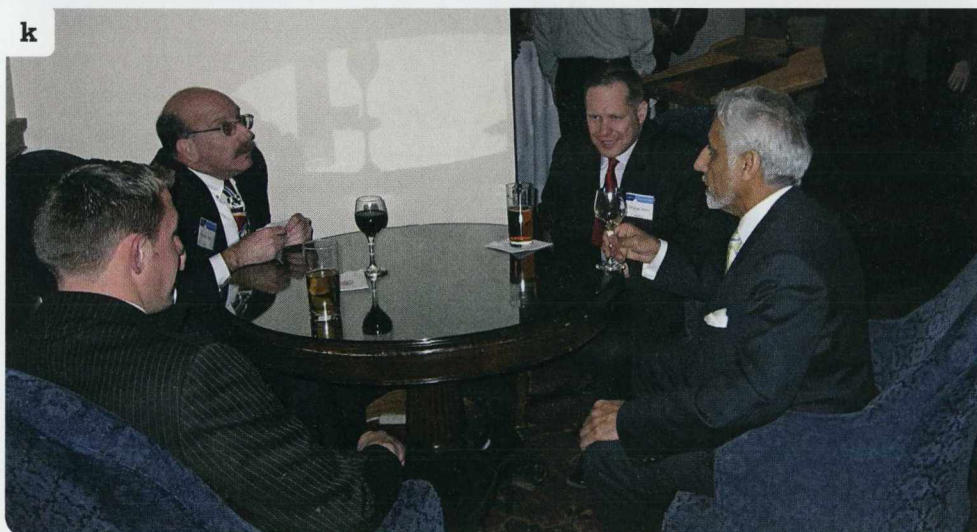
Winter events (from holiday celebrations to a healthcare panel) segued into spring (and the call to "Play ball!") For Florida alumni and snowbirds, the season got off to an early start with Grapefruit League games in Jupiter vs. the Marlins and Ft. Myers vs. the Cardinals.







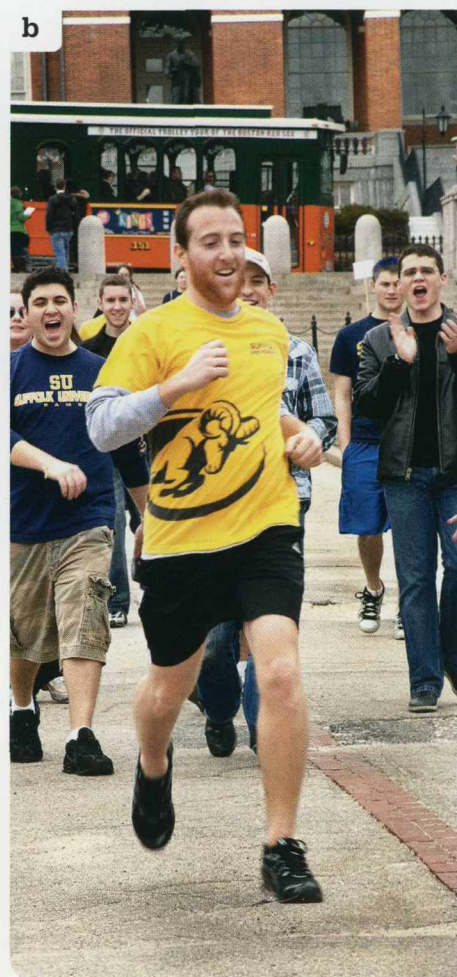
- a** > Margaret Wright JD '00 at Red Sox game in Jupiter, Florida
- b** > Michael Smith BSBA '61, Laura Piscopo BA '02, and Larry Smith BSBA '65 at Sox game in Jupiter
- c** > Robert Nelson BSBA '61 and guest Joan at Red Sox game in Ft. Myers, Florida
- d** > John Carr JD '74 and wife Tari at Red Sox game in Ft. Myers
- e** > William Cohen BSBA '60 and wife Eleanor at Red Sox game in Jupiter
- f** > Richard Ballo BSJ '86 and grandson Nolan at Red Sox game in Ft. Myers
- g** > Peter Barletta MPA '91 and Linda Tuttle Barletta JD '93 attend March lecture and luncheon "Religious Festivals in Historical Italy and Boston" at Fairmont Battery Wharf, Boston
- h** > Nanina Coletta BSJ '81 and Sawyer Business School's Angela Coletta
- i** > Paulette Renault-Caragianes MPA '05, Jeffrey Ronner MBA '82, and Michael Varadian JD '82 attend panel discussion on national healthcare reform in February
- j** > Jeffrey Ronner MBA '82 at the Healthcare Reform panel
- k** > Alumni members of the Boston Finance community confab at holiday party





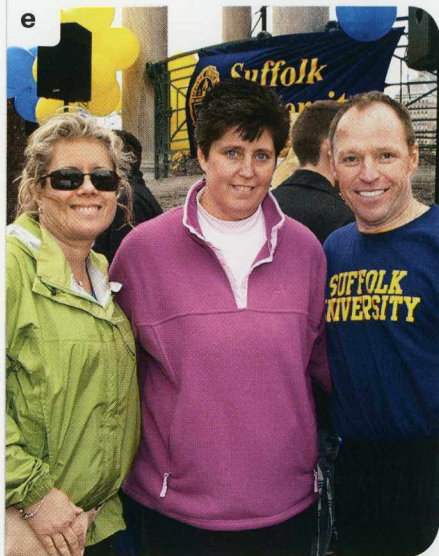
## Run for fun—and funds. Suffolk puts its best foot forward

Running, skipping, and walking their way across the Boston Common, Suffolk alumni and students kicked off the inaugural “Stampede into Spring Break Fun Run.” The March 6 fundraiser will help Boston’s Eliot School purchase supplies lost through budget cuts. “We were absolutely thrilled and completely thankful for the outpouring of support from the Suffolk University students, alumni and faculty/staff. Our school is fortunate to have such a powerful partnership with this amazing University,” said Eliot School principal Traci Walker Griffith. For Acting President and Provost Barry Brown, “The Run was a great opportunity to show the new spirit of Suffolk for an important community cause.”



- a** > Suffolk students set the pace
- b** > Let the Stampede begin!
- c** > Run for fun, jump for joy
- d** > Registration for Spring Break Fun Run





**e** > Cathy McDonnell BA '84, Eliot School Principal Traci Walker Griffith, and John McDonnell BSBA '83

**f** > Suffolk Adjunct Government Professor and ACCO Brands General Manager George Kokoros BA '85 and family with "Hiram."

**g** > ACCO Brands in partnership with Staples supported the Fun Run financially and with school supplies for the Eliot School.

**h** > Assistant Dean of Student Affairs John Silveria MED '97 with Acting President and Provost Barry Brown

**i** > Stampede Committee members John McDonnell, Jr., Odie Fakhouri, Kelsey Trenti, Russell Dukett, and Guy Zagami





**THE FAMILY PICTURE**

## Big City, Small Community

With their sons' education, Larry and Janet Furst find that opportunity breeds independence, support spawns success **BY PAMELA REYNOLDS**

**W**HEN LARRY FURST recalls his college years, some of his fondest memories come from having been part of a vibrant urban community. Furst attended Pace University, "a very similar type of school," he says, to the one both his sons chose, Sawyer Business School at Suffolk University. The principal

owner of a computer consulting company in Stamford, Connecticut, Furst sees other parallels, such as the practical experience that faculty possess.

"When you get into accounting, finance, marketing, if a professor doesn't have stories to tell and they're trying to teach by the textbook, it's going to be dry," he says. Furst knew

the advantage that his sons, both marketing majors, would have with professors who could expose them to real-world problems through their own experience. "In the business school, I think that's beneficial."

Yet for Furst and his wife Janet, a dentist in Tarrytown, New York, it was Suffolk's downtown Boston location that fostered their sons' autonomy and provided a range of opportunities that would not have been easy to come by at a small-town residential college. For example, their older son Andrew has had internships at a public relations firm in New York and at a small high-tech start-up company in Cambridge. He currently works part-time for a chain of Indian restaurants; he began at Boston-based New World Cuisine as an intern but was quickly promoted to the position of new media director. Now he oversees a team of three interns.

Although they were raised in the relatively bucolic setting of Greenwich, Connecticut, Michael, a sophomore, and Andrew, a senior, shared their dad's desire to attend college in an urban setting. "I didn't want to waste away on a campus in the middle of nowhere," Andrew says. "I have been able to have several internships and get a lot of working experience while going to school at the same time, and I really felt like that gave me a big advantage." "Academically both boys have just done very well there," adds Janet. She attributes her sons' success to the support of staff at the Ballotti Learning Center, class size, and access to professors.

Andrew concurs. "At Suffolk, most of my classes have been discussion-based, and I always felt that helped me much [more] than a traditional lecture." As an example, he cites classes he took with Jeremiah Mee, a marketing instructor, who poses questions to his students to encourage class discussion. "If you lecture, you look at the students' faces and you can feel that you're losing them," says Mee, adding that Andrew was especially responsive to a more dynamic learning environment.

Beyond the classroom, Andrew and Michael have taken advantage of all their college experience has to offer. Both



studied in Madrid for a semester, living with a local family and becoming more fluent in Spanish. "It was the best choice I had ever made in my life," says Andrew of his time abroad. "It was really a fantastic experience to learn about another culture, to learn how to adapt and to really be tossed off the deep end, sink or swim."

Now Andrew lives in the Back Bay while Michael lives in the North End.

"Andrew is very proud of the fact that he's

paid for a lot of his living expenses," says Larry. "Neither one of them want to be dependent on us. We love when they come home to visit and we like being able to support them, but we also like the fact that they want to be independent."

While Larry and Janet have kept a low profile, Suffolk Director of Retention Services Susan James Leyva points to numerous ways for parents to stay in the loop, including monthly e-mails from her office, videocasts,

a Web page ([suffolk.edu/parents](http://suffolk.edu/parents)), and a Facebook page, all aimed at Suffolk parents. The Facebook page, she says, is an outlet for parents to "build community amongst themselves. Prospective parents ask questions, and it is nice to see how helpful current parents are."

For Larry and Janet, it's enough to know that their sons are doing so well. "Our kids are very independent and we're very happy," says Janet. Of course, she quips, "we're still paying tuition." ☺

## SAM@work > The Skinny on Satisfying Fat Substitutes

"I did not start out planning to write a cookbook," writes Anna Quaraglia Tourkakis (MPA '87) in the introduction to *Delicious Simplicity: Recipes for Today's Busy Life*. Yet she confessed that throughout her life, "I struggled with food." Ultimately, she found herself asking "What could I cook that would control my weight, appeal to my husband and picky-eater son, and still be healthy," not to mention "quick and easy" to prepare? Tourkakis, who already had a master's degree in public administration/health administration and was working at a Boston hospital, returned to school, earned a degree in nutritional science and diet technology, and became an adjunct instructor in nutrition at a local community college. And with the publication of her new book last year, she added "author" to her increasingly eclectic resume. Here, she shares examples of how to replace fats without sacrificing taste.



### Favorite foods with ersatz "creamy" fats

By Anna Quaraglia Tourkakis MPA '87  
*delicioussimplicity.net*.

#### 1 FOR BLEU CHEESE/CREAMY SALAD DRESSINGS

substitute part-skim ricotta and nonfat buttermilk or nonfat yogurt and low-fat buttermilk for mayonnaise and sour cream

#### 2 FOR CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

use half Greek yogurt in place of all cream cheese

#### 3 FOR RICE PUDDING

replace half and half with milk and 1 tablespoon cornstarch diluted in ¼ cup water

#### 4 FOR LASAGNA

exchange all or part of the ricotta with whipped cottage cheese

#### 5 FOR CREAM SOUPS

pureed potatoes are a good thickener in place of cream

#### 6 FOR POLENTA

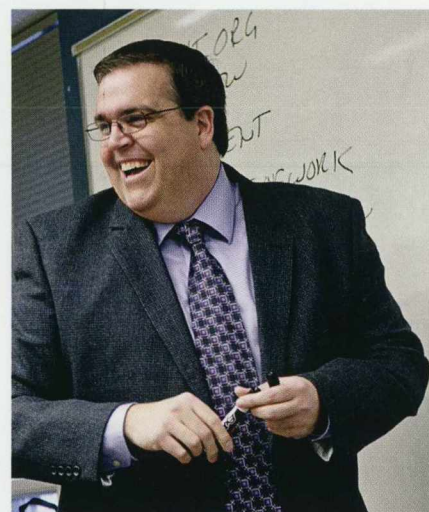
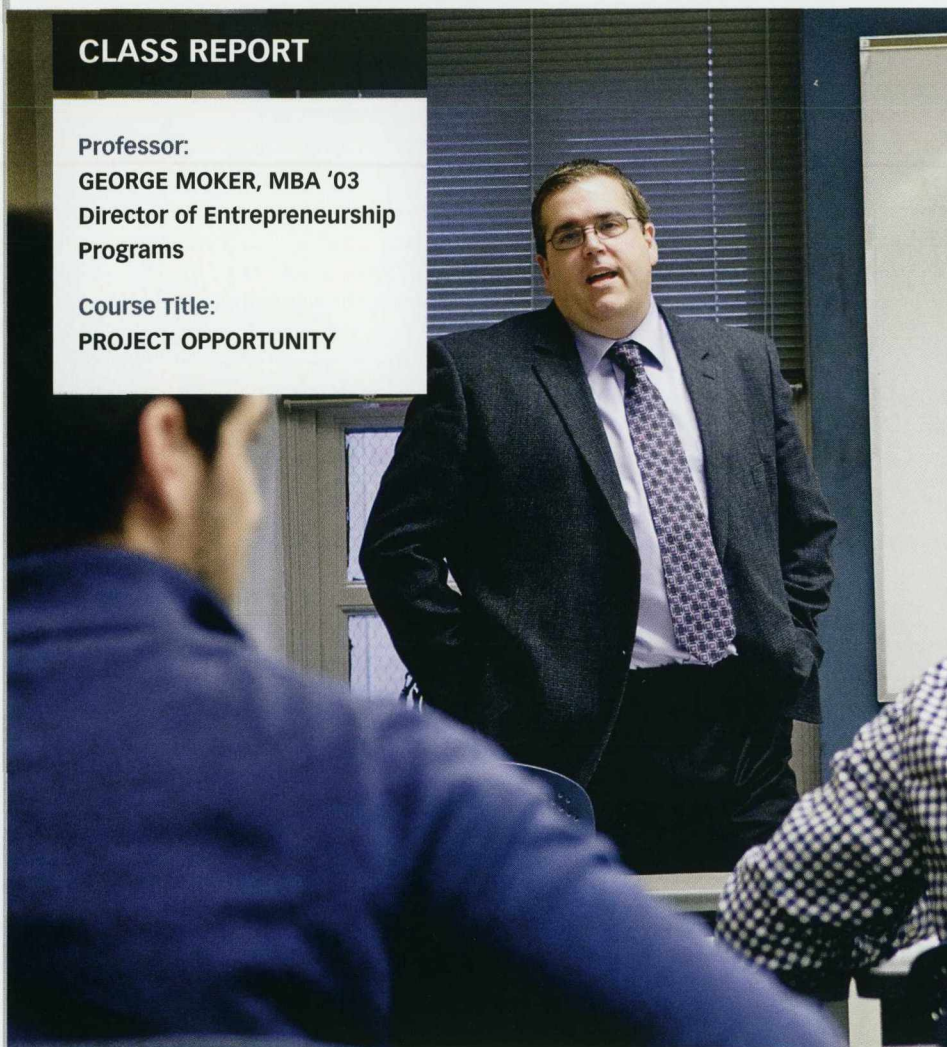
pureed or canned pumpkin is a good alternative to cream and butter



## CLASS REPORT

**Professor:**  
**GEORGE MOKER, MBA '03**  
**Director of Entrepreneurship**  
**Programs**

**Course Title:**  
**PROJECT OPPORTUNITY**



**B**EFORE THE START of class, George Moker takes a seat between two of his students. Strategically, the location will provide a client's-eye view for today's group presentations at the front of the room. Yet as he asks one student about her trip to Italy over spring break and jokes easily with others, a visitor might assume this is where he always sits. If Moker's attire (charcoal sports coat, violet dress shirt, and tie) says business,

his demeanor suggests business casual. The atmosphere is consistent with his goal of a "fun yet serious learning environment." Each group presents a thorough, fact-filled analysis, yet students seem largely devoid of the tension that often goes with public speaking—surprising, given the stakes. This is no abstract case study. Instead, every group must come up with a plan to address a specific challenge for a real-life client.

Early in the semester, Moker arranges for students to work with three companies. This

semester, 25 undergraduates were divided into six teams, two assigned to each business. Moker estimates that at least a quarter of the participating businesses implemented student recommendations. A number of students have come away with job offers.

Today, the first client is Candy.com, an online "corner candy store" with a focus on "nostalgic" brands, launched by Greg Balestrieri BSBA '09 and Joe Melville BSBA '09. One team tries to help the company define its target market. Another tackles

the product line. Following a PowerPoint introduction, the four presenters on one of the teams field questions.

"Why would you have more than \$10 gift cards for candy?" one student inquires.

"What if someone doesn't want to pay shipping?" asks another.

"That's a very good point," a team member responds, taking notes. "We'll have to look into it."

The feedback is challenging but often affirming. "It seems like you know your market given the presentation you just gave," a student on one team says, addressing another. *The Apprentice* this is not.

"Good job, by the way," Moker tells one group after a presentation. "You swatted those questions right back. Well, you were frazzled for like 30 or 45 seconds."

If his role is "more of a coach/advisor" as Moker maintains, it is about as peripheral





to the process as Bill Belichick's role on the New England Patriots. When every member of a class contributes unprompted, it's no accident.

"I always wanted to be a history teacher," Moker recalls. "At the same time, I knew I wanted to start my own business since I was 9 years old." His parents had other ideas, urging him to follow in the footsteps of a cousin who prospered as a CPA. He served as VP of Operations and Chief Financial Officer of a high-tech aerospace support firm. For more than 25 years, he specialized in start-ups and small businesses, including his own accounting firm focusing on government-funded start-ups. While it was successful, Moker never lost interest in teaching. Drawn to Suffolk as a student for its accelerated MBA program for CPAs, Moker joined Sawyer Business School as an adjunct professor in 2004. Two years later, he became a

full-time faculty member. In 2007, he was named assistant chair of the Management Department and the following year, director of Entrepreneurship Programs.

It's fitting that a professor of Moker's discipline would take an entrepreneurial approach to education.

"Believing that entrepreneurship is interdisciplinary, I helped organize and co-taught [with Suffolk Law School Professor Richard Perlmutter] a joint practicum course at the Law School bringing undergraduate [entrepreneurship] seniors, MBAs, and third-year JDs in the same classroom taught by business and law faculty."

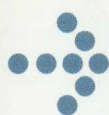
Trustee Ambassador Jack Paleczny '11, a global business and entrepreneurship major, believes that Moker's strongest contribution in the classroom is his history. "In addition to his real-world experience, which is one of the greatest strengths of most professors at Suffolk,

he has really dialed in on what motivates and what challenges students," he says. "Professor Moker's classes really allow you to apply the knowledge you have as an entrepreneur and a student into tangible projects."

Paleczny, who received a job offer before he graduated, adds, "It benefited me greatly to go into negotiations with a wealth of knowledge from [Professor Moker]. Additionally, [he] has taught us how to network properly to meet the right people when starting a business and [searching for] jobs. Most importantly, Professor Moker has taught us about fit, whether it be entrepreneurial fit or workplace fit—making sure before you go forward with a project that the people and the business are compatible with you."

Moker seems happy to have an opportunity to make an impact. "I never imagined that I would be a teacher when I became a CPA," he reflects. "I always say this is too much fun." ☺





# ClassNotes

## UNDERGRADUATE

### 1964

"I have retired to Florida as of September 1, 2010, but will be back at my home in New Hampshire for the summer," writes **Ron Libby (BSBA)**. "My son, Joseph Eli, is a freshman at U of Tampa but wants to transfer to Suffolk for the fall term of 2011. My oldest son, Steven, graduated from Suffolk, so he knows what a great education he will receive. My daughter will graduate from ASU [Arizona State University] this year."

### 1970

**1** **Stephen W. Young (BS)** writes, "My father, John J. Young, graduated from the Law School in the 1930s while working as a Boston police officer. So you might say I was a 'legacy student.' [Back then,] Suffolk was always considered a commuting university, no campus, and most students held full-time/part-time jobs while attending classes. My father died in 1963 while I was a junior in high school. My parents had divorced and my mother had remarried. My college days were actually pretty difficult. I had to commute by train from Wilmington, MA. Mrs. Mack, Dr. Hartman, Dr. Stan Vogel, Dr. Floyd, and others [were] great teachers, compassionate individuals. Suffolk University back then [as] now had a world-class faculty. The front office obtained a student defense loan for me so that I could complete my final semester.

"I needed a job/career obviously, so I had taken education courses and taught summer school in Lowell at the high school. Why teaching? My dad had taught briefly in the Quincy

Public Schools before entering law enforcement. I needed a way to support myself during my summers at Suffolk. I had to work with my brother, who was a roofing contractor in Boston. Roofing was not an attractive career so I sought out and obtained a teaching position in the Boston Public Schools at the Mary E. Curley Junior High School in Jamaica Plain, MA. It was a tough assignment for a young guy. You see, the city was in the midst of a turbulent period of racial unrest. The school itself was often under siege by various groups. Teachers were assaulted daily, the teachers' room was firebombed one night, some of the 'students' carried guns. Judge [W. Arthur] Garrity's order to bus students was just around the corner. The whole city was in turmoil.

"Well, with a solid background in education, liberal arts, and city survival skills I survived those years and continued on to teach and administrate in the Boston Public Schools for 33 years. It was a great career. I went on at night to obtain my master's degree in education, got married, and had a son, Stephen Jr., who is beginning to raise his own family. My grandson, Sebastian, was born Feb. 23. In 2003 I retired and went to work in the private sector and in postsecondary education. I have kept in touch with some of my Suffolk classmates who have had varied careers in law, education, [and] business. I always look back fondly on my years at Suffolk University. The campus was at that time just two buildings, but those buildings housed a world of dreams and aspirations. I am living in Florida, and life couldn't be greater. Thank you, Suffolk University!"

### 1977

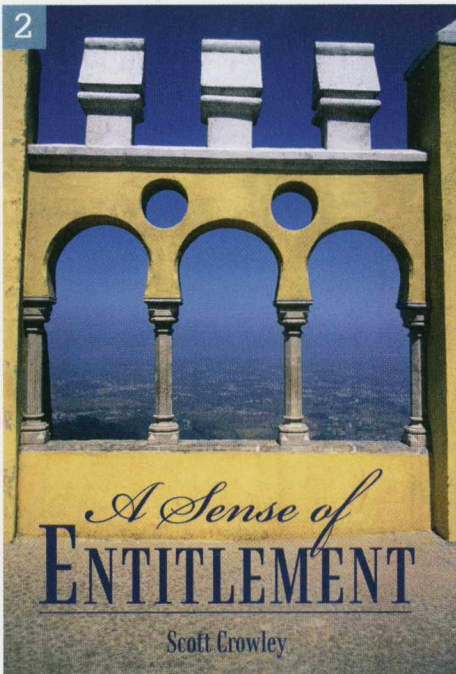
**Michael L. Kelly (BSBA)** was promoted to regional sales director for Midland National Life Insurance Company for Southern California and Nevada.

### 1978

"I am working in a sales capacity for Macy's Department Stores," writes **Rosemary Collamer (BSJ)**.

**Susan Kent (BS)** writes, "**William Spellman (BS)** and I, graduates of Suffolk in history, are contracted to write [the] two-volume *New History of Britain: Four Nations and an Empire* for Oxford University Press. We worked under David Robbins in the History Department and owe our passion for British history to him."

**Jim Citro (BSBA)** has been promoted to vice president of internal controls and systems, finance, responsible for spearheading the implementation of new and modified business systems for both Gulf Oil and its assured dealer divisions. His responsibilities include monitoring and enforcing internal controls and written policies. Jim will also serve as the



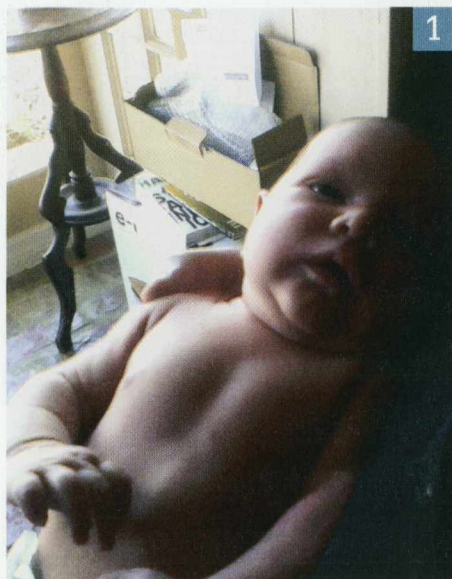
committee chairman of the Risk Committee for Gulf Oil, reporting any findings to the board on a quarterly basis. Prior to joining Gulf Oil, Jim held various chief financial officer and controller roles at several transportation-related companies, including Budget Rent a Car System Inc., Lily Truck Leasing Corporation, and Massachusetts Bay Commuter Railroad.

### 1982

"I'm a regulatory affairs specialist for Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics [in the] point-of-care business unit," writes **Steven Goldberg (BSBA)**.

"I would like to let you know that I had my first children's book published in December 2010," writes **Susan M. Pfeifer (BA)**. "*Starlight* will be the first in a series about a seven-year-old, Ashley, who loves to daydream and goes on adventures with her look-alike doll, Whitney. Their guide throughout is her own unicorn, Starlight, who not only guides her but teaches her lessons along the way. I wrote it so that children can actually pick up a book and read and let their imaginations take flight. There are a few illustrations (done by me), but it is the children's imagination of what the places should be."

Prior to Sept. 11, 2001, **Carl Macarrio (BSBA)** served the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Secretary of State's office as an investigator/auditor for the securities division. While employed there he was the coordinator for in-service training. As an investigator Carl conducted hundreds of field interviews and audits as well as numerous investigations





regarding possible securities fraud. Subsequent to 9/11, Carl left his employment with the state and began a career with Virgin Atlantic Airlines Security as a passenger profiler. An Israeli security firm hired by Virgin Atlantic trained Carl in behavior pattern recognition, document ID verification, deception detection, and eliciting responses. Shortly after Congress created the Department of Homeland Security, Carl began his career with the federal government, utilizing his knowledge and security experience to help design, develop, and implement the first behavior-screening program for a major international airport. This program is now being implemented in airports across the United States. During this development, Carl has trained hundreds of security and law enforcement professionals in suspicious behavior detection, detecting deception, and eliciting responses. Carl has attended the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center as a guest of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to participate in their detecting deception and eliciting responses training. He has consulted on Project Hostile Intent at the University of Buffalo and continues to work closely with some of the world's foremost scientists in the study of deception, emotion, and evaluating truthfulness. Carl's work has been recognized in *Time*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Travel & Leisure*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. He also has appeared on FOX News and CBS *Sunday Morning* with Charles Osgood and has made several other TV appearances to discuss the Transportation Security Administration's Screening Passengers by Observation Technique program.

### 1985

**Carmela Zezze (BSBA)** writes, "I have been in the mortgage industry for the last 18 years and living on Cape Cod, MA, with my husband and two boys. I am working for Prospect Mortgage LLC as a branch manager in our Osterville, MA, office. We are looking to grow and are looking to recruit seasoned loan officers."

### 1988

**Pete DelVecchio (BSBA)** was appointed Manager-After-sales for Chevrolet in New England.

### 1989

**Ken Maio (BSBA)** was recently promoted to business development manager for AIMCO, a global marketer of industrial tools. Ken is responsible for training on a worldwide scale and presents seminars on assembly using threaded fasteners in locations including China, Europe, and throughout the United States. In addition to training activities, Ken manages corporate marketing activities and trade shows and heads up the Tool University training programs. A Master Scuba Diver, Ken lives with his wife, Pam, in Portland, OR.

### 1993

**2 Scott Crowley (BSBA)** has released his second novel, *A Sense of Entitlement*.

### 1994

"I have been promoted to front-page editor at the *MetroWest Daily News* in Framingham, MA," writes **Paul Ring (BSJ)**.

### 1996

**3 Mark Grant (BS)** reports that on September 22, 2010, he and **Jaime Novack (BS '99)** were married at Castle Urquhart on Loch Ness in the Scottish Highlands. Jaime is currently the marketing manager at DiMella-Shaffer in Boston. Mark is a policy analyst for the National Marine Fisheries Service in Gloucester.

### 1997

"I'd like to update you on my life," writes **Robert Ricci (BSJ)**. "I'm working as a security concierge part-time. Looking for full-time employment at this time. I have one daughter, [who will] be nine. I reside in Everett, MA, and enjoy sports, movies, and music."

### 1999

**4 Yuliya Akselrod (BSBA)** writes, "I got married in Cancun, Mexico last November."

### 2002

**Laura Piscopo (BA)** and **John Rotondi (MSEPP '12)** recently announced their engagement. They have not selected a date yet but plan to have a destination wedding. The marriage will bring together a number of Suffolk alumni from both sides of the family.



### 2003

**Mary T. Zucks Hick (BSBA)** writes, "This past year, my husband and I welcomed our first grandchild, a boy named West Robert who, with his parents, lives in upstate New York. I am a member of the Franklin, MA, Council on Aging, and I'm a publicist for the Friends of the Franklin Library."





5



**2004**

**Lindsay Adams (BSBA)** reports, "On April 10, I got engaged to Peter Michaelian. We were at the [San Francisco] Giants baseball game, and it was their World Series ring ceremony. At the beginning of the third inning, these ushers [came] up to our seats and told us that we won a ride with Lou Seal (the mascot). They then proceeded to rush us down to the field. We got in the little golf cart car with the mascot for a ride around the bases. Then the announcer said, 'Peter has a question he would like to ask,' and I turned to look and [saw] him on his knee next to me and he asked me to marry him. I, of course, said yes."

**2005**

5

"I am a full-time travel agent and an owner of Moves & Vibes Latin Dance Company," writes **Inna Podshivalova (BSBA)**. "We teach samba, salsa, merengue, bachata, [and] other Latin dances in Cambridge and also host 200 people [at a] social dance night with [a] live band every Thursday night in Harvard Square in Cambridge."

**2006**

**Colleen Hennessy (BS)**, MHC, writes, "Although I've graduated (MS in mental health counseling), I'm back at Suffolk for my Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study! Although it's been the most challenging year of my educational career so far, it's also been the most rewarding. I love my classes, and my new job is showing me the applications for everything I learned at Suffolk. I work for Volunteers of America, doing therapy with two substance abuse populations: adolescent boys and adult women. I'm so thrilled to be starting my career and advancing it with my education at the same time."

This is the work I have dreamed of doing since my freshman year of college, so it's great to see my dreams come to life!"

**2007**

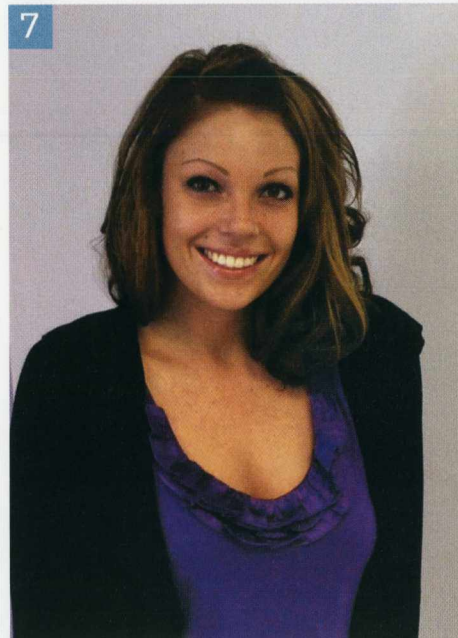
**Michele Quinones-Tallman (BS)** is now married to Alan Tallman, and they have a beautiful six-month-old daughter Milan. Michele has continued with her passion for volleyball and is the head girls' varsity coach at Milton Academy. She is also a school social worker in East Boston, MA.

**Jessie Schloss (BFA)** reports, "I have been making hand-made catnip cat toys for a couple of years now, and they were shown on Animal Planet's *Must Love Cats* show (episode 1) on Feb. 12. It was exciting to see them on TV, even if they weren't specifically featured on the show. The toys made it to most of the 'filler' clips (clips between each segment), so the shots were sprinkled throughout the show."

6

**Emily Purcell (BSBA)** writes, "On April 29 several alumni came together with current Suffolk University collegians to commemorate Theta Phi Alpha's 99th anniversary as well as celebrate the 5th year anniversary of the founding of the Gamma Lambda chapter at Suffolk. The Phi Alpha is a women's organization to provide close comradeship; to advance educational, social, and philanthropic interests and leadership training; to encourage spiritual development and adherence to the highest moral standards; to promote lifelong bonds of friendship; [and to create] a fraternity for college and university women and alumnae. The celebration was held at the Suffolk University Law School." Those alumni in attendance included: **Katherine Lowell (BS '06)**, **Danielle DiRuzza (BFA '07)**, **Kimberly Straub (BSBA '07)**, **Jessica Teta (BA '08)**, **Amber Walsh (BSBA '08)**, **Kelly Sheridan (BS '08)**, **Danielle O'Donnell (BS '08)**, **Amanda Gonzalez (BA '08)**, **Michelle Heaney (BS '08)**, **Ashley Spinos (BA '09)**, **Shannon O'Neill (BSBA '09)**, **Shea Jameel (BSE '10)**,

7



**Nicole Quigley (BSBA '10)**, **Rachel Betlinski**, **Alexandra Van Horne (BS '11)**, **Brianna Kingsley**, and **Mikayla Locke**.

**2008**

7

**Ania Zaroda (BS)** writes, "I have worked in the healthcare profession as a secretary for numerous years and wanted to go into the medical field. Shortly after graduation I decided to continue [my] education and take classes to become certified in permanent cosmetics, which is similar to the medical field. I have done my apprenticeship in Boston for over a year and completed all my courses as well as worked on hundreds of clients and decided to open my own business! I would like to thank Suffolk University for putting me on the correct path and giving me the proper education to pursue my dreams."

6





## 2010

**Gina Leone (BSBA)** is working as an analyst for Provident Healthcare Partners, a middle-market investment banking firm specializing in mergers and acquisitions, strategic advisory and capital formation services within the healthcare industry. "I have been working as a full-time employee at Provident since August 2010," she writes, "and I interned at Provident during my senior year at Suffolk and during the summer after I graduated. I was born and raised in Revere, MA, which is where I am currently living."

## GRADUATE

## 1974

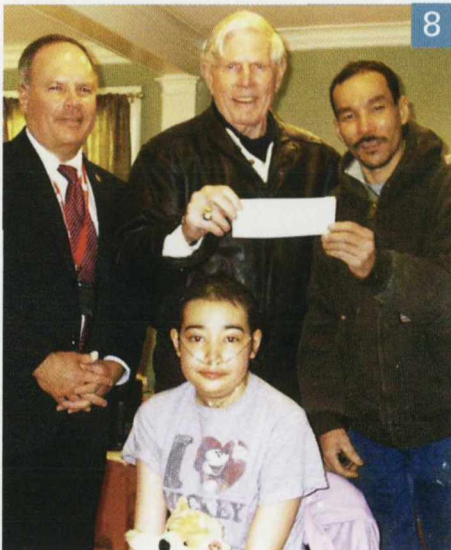
**Roland E. Chaput (AB '61, MBA '74)** recently retired from the Arlington Redevelopment Board after 13 years with the town's planning group. "At my age (77), it's time to step down so younger folks can become involved in worthwhile projects that improve the quality of life in our town." He still retains a role in the community as trustee of the Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum and the Friends of Robbins Farm Park.

## 1975

**Robert N. Lussier PhD (MAE '74, MBA '75)**, professor of management at Springfield College, is the author of 350 publications, including top-tier journal articles, conference proceedings, and bestselling textbooks. His latest book is *Publish Don't Perish: 100 Tips That Improve Your Ability to Get Published* (2010).

## 1977

**Marian Burns (BS '76, MED '77)** writes, "I am the principal at St. Catherine of Genoa School [in] Somerville, MA. I am always willing to accept student teachers from Suffolk University. Two of my teachers attended Suffolk University."



## 1981

**8 Robert Faherty (MPA)** was a Boston police officer for 40 years and retired in 2000 as the superintendent-in-chief of the department. "I am now the chairman and CEO of Cops for Kids with Cancer, a nonprofit 503(c)," he writes. "We raise money for families that have a child with cancer and are [having] dire financial difficulties. We give each family a \$5,000 donation to help them in their time of need. We also give \$10,000 to the Pediatric Oncology Unit at the Massachusetts General Hospital and \$10,000 to the Pediatric Oncology Unit of Tufts Medical Center. Last year we gave 36 families \$5,000 each for a total of \$180,000 and \$20,000 to the two hospitals." In photo (l to r): Lowell, MA Police Chief Kenneth Lavalley; Robert Faherty; Tai Vo and daughter Gina, a beneficiary.

**Peter Dragonas (BSBA '77, MBA '81)** writes, "After graduation I held a seat on the Boston Stock Exchange and left to join Bank of Boston's asset lending group in the factoring division. Following that I joined EG&G Inc. in Wellesley, MA, to start up [its] financial services division titled EG&G Financial Services. We were engaged in the tax benefit transfer business as a result of tax law legislation titled ERTA of 1981. Following that I went to work at Fleet Bank again in asset-based lending before finding my true passion as a financial advisor at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney. I have been at Morgan Stanley for 12 years and, as a senior vice president and wealth advisor, my team and I manage the financial assets of high net worth individuals and their families. Today we manage and advise on financial matters to approximately 40 families and provide comprehensive, fully integrated inter-generational wealth advice and provide sophisticated strategies on complex situations."

## 1984

"I recently formed LBventures, a part-time chief marketing officer consultancy focused on professional service firms," reports **Larry Buchsbaum (MBA)**. "On Feb. 21, *The Boston Globe* ran a front-page story on my company, highlighting what part-time executives are creatively doing to replace full-time salaries."

TD Bank has promoted **Patricia D. Urbano (MBA)** to regional vice president in the commercial lending division in Andover, MA. She is responsible for managing a team of commercial lenders and small-business lenders who serve customers throughout the Merrimack Valley region. Urbano has 30 years of experience in banking and lending. She joined TD Bank in 1992 and most recently served as a senior vice president and team leader in commercial lending. Urbano serves on the board of directors and chairs the finance committees for both Emmaus Inc. in Haverhill, MA, and Bellesini Academy in Lawrence, MA. She also serves on the board of Mental Health Resources Inc. in Lawrence and the Northern Essex Community College Foundation, and on the Advisory Council of the Merrimack Valley Chapter of the United Way. A Melrose, MA, resident, Urbano is a volunteer instructor and coordinator for Junior Achievement of Eastern Massachusetts.

## 9

*Kathryne Arnold*

## *The Resurrection Of Hannah*

*A novel inspired by true events*

## 1986

**9 Kathryne Arnold (MS)** is a practicing licensed mental health counselor and certified clinical hypnotherapist in the Tampa Bay, FL, area. More than 25 years in the mental health and social services fields are reflected in her recently published debut novel, *The Resurrection of Hannah*, which is inspired by true events. The second book in her psychological mystery series, *The Fear of Things to Come*, will be published in the coming year as she continues working on her third novel.

## 1987

**Angela Nunez (BSBA '82, MBA '87, APC '96)** has published *Poems from the After Hours Cafe*. This book was inspired by the writings of John LaPlaca, coauthor, and is a collaboration with him. Their mystical interpretations of observations made by us all evoke spirits of life and loss, love and heartbreak. Angela has three degrees from Suffolk University's Sawyer Business School, where she sits on the Sawyer Business School Alumni Board of Directors. She works in Boston as a senior compliance analyst for an investment management firm.

## 1988

"More than anything, I learned at Suffolk that adversity is a challenge, not a boundary," writes **Deborah A. Trombly (EMBA)**. Deborah is controller for the New Bedford, MA, Economic Development Council. "I continue to draw on my memories of Barcelona, professors, and the many incredible case studies," she continues. "Suffolk was a tremendous learning initiative and a great undertaking."



10



## 1990

**Brian MacArthur (MS)** writes, "Since graduating from Suffolk in 1990, I have been principal of the Cape Breton Business College in Sydney, Nova Scotia. I am married (to Leslie Ferris) and have two daughters (Moirra and Meghan). Both daughters attend boarding school in Connecticut (Pomfret School), where they [participate in] field hockey, ice hockey, and crew. My wife and I get back to the New England area regularly because the girls are [in Connecticut]. I'd like to say hi to Jen, Jenny, and Allison from 269 Commonwealth Ave. and classmates Mary, Jane, Jodi, etc., along with Professors Ash and Meggison! I absolutely loved my time at Suffolk and the city of Boston!"

## 1996

**Anunziata "Nancy" (Sodano) Varela (BA '94, MA '96)** was appointed to the Weston Children's Community Association Board of Directors for the 2011–12 term. Her duties will include serving as the media relations contact.

## 1998

**Kashif A. Ahmed (MSF)** is the founder and president of American Private Wealth, a fully independent wealth management firm in Woburn, MA. Prior to founding American Private Wealth, Kash enjoyed a very successful career as a financial advisor affiliated with a Wall Street-based financial services firm. He was a member of the elite Million Dollar Club and recipient of numerous achievement awards.

## 2005

**Matthew Grondin (MSPS)** and his wife, Jessica, welcomed a daughter, Charlotte Lily Grondin, on Nov. 28, 2010. Charlotte was born at 5 lbs., 8 oz. and 18 1/2 inches long. Charlotte, Matt, and Jessica are all doing very well and are looking forward to seeing their Suffolk University friends.

## 2007

**10** "I have been promoted at my job at the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office to deputy director of the Community Relations Department," writes **Fabiola Pierre (MSCJ)**. "I have been with the Suffolk District Attorney's Office for nearly seven years. I'm also a part-time student in my third year of law school [and] engaged to be married at St. Ignatius Church in Chestnut Hill, MA, on May 28, 2011, to Asha White. Asha is a criminal defense attorney and part-time teacher in the Sociology Department at Suffolk University. Asha and I met five years ago at the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office. At the time I was a victim witness advocate and he was an assistant district attorney. This picture was taken at Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, Brooklyn, NY, where Asha proposed to me [in] May 2010."

## 2008

**Leah West (MPA)** is the administrative director at Neponset Community Health Center in Dorchester, MA, in charge of the internal medicine, family medicine and interpreter departments. Leah also has been awarded the opportunity to write for *Womansday.com*, *Woman's Day's* online magazine. Her column, "Mom vs. Debt," appears three days per week and focuses on showing divorced mothers how to make sound financial decisions and eliminate debt. *Good Morning America* picked up the story and featured Leah and her family on its morning program. The crew spent a full day with Leah and her three kids, Katie, 14, Hannah Jane, 13, and Matthew, 10, and aired the six-minute feature in late November.

"I am working for Partners Research Management and was recently promoted to senior research financial specialist," writes **Steven T. Quinn (MPA)**. "I'm running the Boston Marathon and planning vacations to Aruba and Las Vegas."

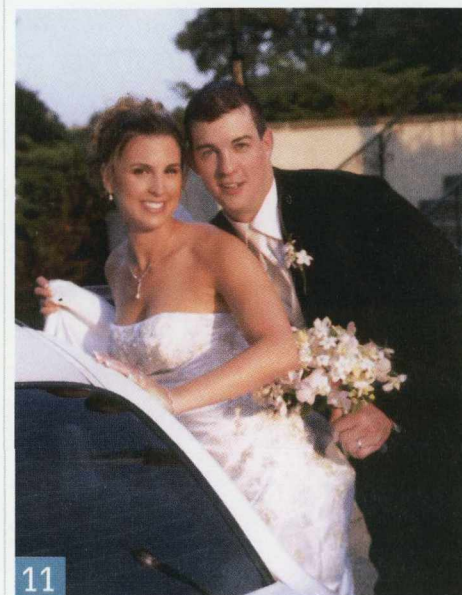
## 2009

**Allison (Brooks) Scott (EMBA)** married architect Benjamin Scott in Eureka Springs, AR, on Oct. 2, 2010. Allison recently took a new job as marketing manager for international construction company Skanska USA Building Inc. in Boston. She was hired to develop and implement national marketing initiatives for Skanska Integrated Solutions, a new consulting arm of the company.

**Walter Barys (MBA)** accepted a new position within Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. in Boston, working in network management as a regional analyst. Walter's coverage responsibilities include banks in the Far East, Middle East, and North Africa. He resides in Charlestown, MA.

**Candice Gartley (MPA)** recently was named public relations director of the Codman Square Health Center in Dorchester, MA. Prior to this appointment, she held the position of chief of staff of the center. She is also an adjunct professor in the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers/Suffolk University Certificate Program in Health Center Management.

"In the last three years after graduation, my life has been changing very rapidly," writes **Natalia Musatova (MA)**. "I have taught two guest lectures at the Department of Communication and Journalism at Suffolk University. I have enjoyed working with my former professor Gloria Boone, who has guided me throughout my short-term teaching career. More and more, I feel I [do] not need to get an MBA after earning a master's in communication from Suffolk as I plan to have a business of my own some day. I have also been taking jujitsu and acting classes for fun! On a personal note, my partner and I have recently celebrated our second wedding anniversary, have gotten a place of our own, and had an addition to our family—a Yorkie puppy. We named her Cookie."



11



## 2010

**11** "I am happy to report [that] upon graduating in May, I was promoted to senior accountant at Goodwin Procter LLP in Boston," writes **Jill Conrad Hughes (MBA)**. "Only a few months later, I married Dave Hughes on Sept. 24 in Tewksbury, MA, and enjoyed a wonderful two-week honeymoon in Hawaii. We are living in our new home in Melrose, MA."

**Krista Lannoni (MAID)** writes, "I have been working as a designer at Silverman Trykowski Associates. I have started the processes of becoming [certified by the] National Council for Interior Design Qualification and hope to receive that certification in Spring 2012."

**Joshua Bell (MSPS)** recently met all of the requirements to earn his second master's degree. Providence College will confer the degree, a Master of Arts in American history with a minor study in church history, later this year.

"After graduating, I took a few weeks off to travel/snowboard in Argentina," writes **Jennifer Fong (MAID)**. "I am now working full time at Perkins+Will, primarily focusing on corporate and science/technology spaces."

## LAW

## 1974

"My daughter **Gail Marie Ryan (JD '09)** and I both took the Rhode Island bar examination together in February 2010, and, miraculously for me, we both passed," writes **John P. Ryan (JD)**. "We were sworn in together in May 2010. The clerk for the Rhode Island Supreme Court commented that she did not believe she had ever seen a parent and child sit for the examination together. We both practice together at Sloane and Walsh, LLP, where I have been for slightly more than 30 years and where Gail has been for nearly two years."

## 1982

**Ed Sullivan (JD)** is managing director of the Wilmington Trust Wealth Advisory Services office in Boston. Ed and his wife, Eileen, live in Londonderry, NH.

## 1984

**Daniel Lemire (JD)** and his wife, Karen, of Brookfield, CT, are pleased to announce the birth of their first grandchild, Cullan Daniel Burns, who was born on Dec. 20, 2010, in Jacksonville, NC. Cullan and his parents, Kate Lemire Burns and Sean Burns, live in the Jacksonville area. The Lemires are also proud of their son-in-law who is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps.

## 1986

**Darrell J. Banks (JD)** has published a book titled *Characters Within the Screenplay: Beginnings, Revision, Editing*.

"I am the managing partner of Goldberg & Weigand LLP, a personal injury law firm in Hyannis on Cape Cod, MA," writes **Peter Goldberg (JD)**. "We also have offices in New Bedford, MA, and Boston. I have been married for 15 years, and my wife, Tracy, and I have a 13-year-old daughter and a 10-year-old son. My wife and I also manage a horse farm in Sandwich, MA, where, along with seven riding horses, we breed and raise racehorses."

## 1987

**Maxine Sushelsky (JD)** has a part-time law practice centered on criminal appeals. She is also a licensed mental

## Share Your News

Class notes are a great way to let your fellow alumni know what is happening in your post-college life, from career changes to family news. And now, with *Suffolk Alumni Magazine's* expanded class notes section, connecting (or reconnecting) with your classmates is simpler than ever.

**SAM** prefers class notes in your own words.

Here's a **SAMPLE**:

"Hi, SAM: My name is John Doe (BSBA in Finance, 2002), and I've been very busy since graduation. I'm now working at Smith & Brown Financial Services in Providence, RI where I have relocated with my family. We just returned from a family vacation in Disneyland. The West Coast was nice, but we'd never leave our New England roots!"

SAM class notes can run from a line to a paragraph. Longer submissions may be edited for space and content. We welcome photographs. Electronic submissions should be high resolution (300 dpi minimum).

**Via Web:**

[www.suffolk.edu/alumni](http://www.suffolk.edu/alumni)

**Via E-mail:**

[classnotes@suffolk.edu](mailto:classnotes@suffolk.edu)

**Via Post:**

Attn: Class Notes  
Suffolk Alumni Magazine  
8 Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108

**Congratulations to Steven Goldberg BSBA '82**

whose name was chosen in a random drawing from the scores of alumni who submitted their class notes for the Spring/Summer 2011 issue of SAM. Steven and his guest will join us for Suffolk Alumni Night at the Boston Red Sox on July 7, including a pre-game buffet get together and game vs. the Baltimore Orioles.

To enter the drawing for the Fall 2011 issue of SAM, submit your news via web or e-mail. From new (non-repeated) class notes submitted electronically by July 13, 2011, one name will be selected randomly. The winner and a guest will be invited to join us for Alumni Afternoon at Tanglewood, the famed summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra in Lenox, MA on July 24. The all-Ravel program will be followed by a dinner reception. (Out-of-state graduates may substitute a retail gift card.)

health counselor with a psychotherapy practice focusing on grief and other life transitions. She offers workshops and presentations on burnout, secondary trauma, and self-care for lawyers and legal professionals.

## 1988

On June 24, 2010, **Karen Lynch Bernard (JD)** was sworn in by then-Governor Donald Carcieri as an associate justice of the Rhode Island Family Court. Karen had been a member/partner in her family's law firm, then known as Lynch, Bernard & Lynch, in Warwick, RI, since graduating from Suffolk University Law School. Her father, **John D. Lynch Sr. (JD '64)**, is a partner in the firm, and her sister **Jennifer Lynch Buckley (JD '98)** is also a member of the firm. Karen is married to Robert F. Bernard Jr., and they have three children.

"On March 10, 2011, I was among the recipients of the Massachusetts Bar Association's 2011 Centennial Award at the House of Delegates meeting at the Dedham Hilton for services given to the profession," writes **Denise I. Murphy (JD)**.

## 1990

"I am working at MIT as a stewardship and donor relations officer," reports **Nancye Mims (JD)**. "In January, I trained in New Orleans as a Disaster Corps volunteer for Habitat for Humanity. In March, I [worked] in Lucedale, MS, with the local Habitat affiliate to write grants and improve fundraising and organizational capacity. Thanks to my current employer for letting me take time away from work for community service."

## 1996

"After graduation, I became an assistant district attorney for Norfolk County," writes **Paula Nedder (JD)**. "After seven years, I went into private general practice, with a focus on elder law, estate planning, and criminal law. I am a member of the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. I serve as a director on the Massachusetts Chapter Board of Directors and as chair for the chapter's newsletter. I am a member of the MetroWest Legal Services Board of Directors. MetroWest Legal Services provides free legal aid to low-income people who would be denied justice otherwise. I worked for MetroWest during law school and before joining the DA's office. I conduct a law clinic for elders in my community and speak at local senior centers, assisted living facilities, and on radio programs on matters of concern to our elders as well as basic estate planning issues. I love to travel and get overseas two times a year, with one trip per year dedicated to Italy (trying to figure out a way to make a living with a base in Rome!)."

## 1998

As he enters his fifth season working for the Pawtucket Red Sox Triple A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox, **Augusto Cookie Rojas (JD)** is responsible for corporate and group sales, marketing, human resources, and intern supervision. He hopes to have you all there enjoying a game at McCoy Stadium this season! Play ball!



12



**Debbie O'Connell (JD)** retired from General Dynamics effective March 1, to enjoy life as a stay-at-home mom.

## 2001

**Timothy Harrington (JD)** is an assistant general counsel with the Boston Public Health Commission. He graduated magna cum laude and completed a federal clerkship with Judge Robert Lovegreen in Rhode Island. He writes, "After working for a small firm for two years in Boston, I worked with Chris Petrini in Framingham, MA, for four years, reviewing contracts and handling construction disputes and labor arbitrations. A lifelong resident of West Roxbury, MA, I returned to work in Boston in January 2009 for the Public Health Commission. As an assistant general counsel, I review and approve all of the commission's contracts (over 1,000 contracts per year) and handle a significant caseload of civil litigation matters against the commission. In 2009, with our general counsel **Nakisha L. Skinner (BS '98, JD '03)**, I successfully tried a case in Superior Court against a manufacturer of a tobacco product that the commission had recently banned. I also write the Massachusetts Municipal Law Blog, and I [was] recently appointed as a council member of the Public Law Section of the Massachusetts Bar Association. My wife, Kelly, and I are the proud parents of three girls, Erin, Mary, and Grace."

## 2002

"My husband, Sean, and I welcomed our third daughter last July," notes **Lisa (Cormier) Parent (JD)**. "Eliza Sue Parent was born on July 6, 2010. Her sisters, Casadie and Makenna, welcomed her home. I am still working at Fidelity Investments in Merrimack, NH, as a risk manager in anti-money laundering and financial crimes."

## 2007

"I got engaged to Keith Bergin on March 24!" writes **Kelly B. Castriotta (JD)**. Kelly joined commercial insurer CNA as a claims specialist on Wall Street in New York City, handling directors' and officers' claims and employment practices claims in connection with publicly traded corporations.

"Last November, I finally decided to take the plunge and hang out my own shingle," reports **Engjellushe "Angel" Kozell (JD)**. "As luck would have it, my office is in a building right next to the Law School. My practice is still general in nature,

but down the road I will specialize by building on my previous work in housing, immigration, and family cases for legal aid organizations. I love going to my office every morning and being faced with a new challenge, whether it's a new area of law, a new client, or another business management/development skill I have to master. I can't wait to see what the future of this enterprise holds, but so far it's been a thrilling, exciting ride."

## 2009

**Cory Rhoades (JD)** and **Lisa Cahan (JD '09)**, who met during their first year, are happy to announce that they got engaged on Feb. 18 while on vacation in Manuel Antonio, Costa Rica. Their wedding will be in the Berkshires on June 16, 2012.

## Stay Connected



You can reach your classmates on these pages through the Suffolk University Alumni Association Online Community.



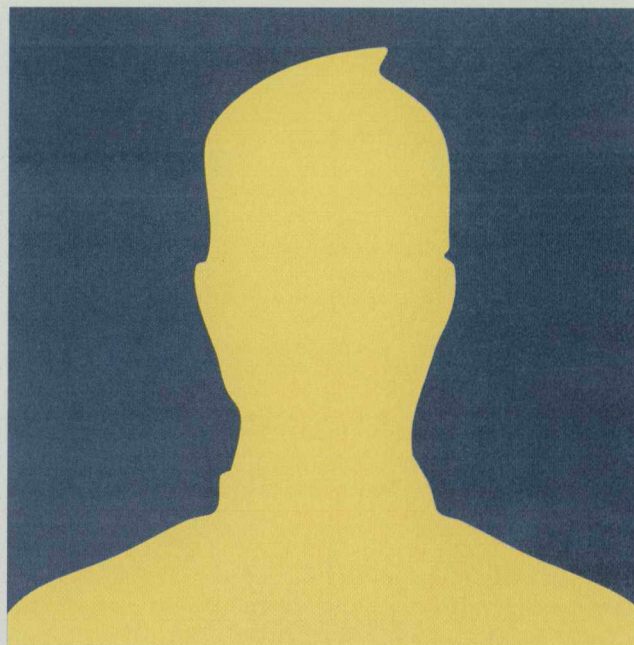
If you are not currently a member, please email [SuffAlum@Suffolk.edu](mailto:SuffAlum@Suffolk.edu) for your user ID number to register.

Registration is free and the easiest way to stay in touch with Suffolk University's 66,000 graduates worldwide. (Due to privacy concerns, we are unable to print or provide individual contact information.)

**12** "After graduating from Suffolk and [taking] the subsequent bar examinations, I enrolled at Stockholm University and moved there in August 2009," reports **Lester Cowden IV (JD)**. "**Andrea Rogefors (LLM '08)** and I were engaged in August 2010 while we were both living in Sweden in a cozy countryside cabin. We are very excited to plan our October wedding in Sweden, where several members of our law school class will attend. Andrea currently works at a small law firm in Katrineholm; however, my search for work in Sweden has proved too difficult, and I have since returned to my home state of Oklahoma. After the wedding in October, we hope to have our respective employment statuses settled so that we can finally live and work together on the same side of the ocean!"

**Jennifer Seich (JD)**, an attorney at Keches Law Group in Taunton, MA, is now practicing law in two states—Massachusetts and Rhode Island—and specializing in two practice areas: workers' compensation and employment law.





## If you don't fill in your profile, how will your friends see your best side?

As a Suffolk alumnus, you are automatically part of an online community 65,000 strong and growing every day. When your fellow graduates enter your name, make sure they see more than a blank page. Create your online profile and provide the information you choose for the results you desire:

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## Upside Down, Down Under

In a culture where 40 is the new 20 and pink is the new black, consider whether change is the new stability.

At age 35, I seemingly had it all: recently married, and growing a successful law practice. I was content and in control, an essential part of my being. Then it happened: My husband was offered a job with his international consulting firm in Perth, Australia. We immediately started to research the area and discovered:

- an unemployment rate of about 5 percent, compared with nearly 12% in Florida, where I was living

- a warm climate with 300 sunny days a year but also seasons; it has never snowed in Perth, although the temperature did reach zero shortly after we moved

- inexpensive real estate, or so we thought until we realized that rent gets paid weekly

- a system in which, with my credentials, it would not be that difficult to practice law

- the most amusing newspaper articles about randy kangaroos and chunky Lady Gaga impersonators.

After getting the offer package, the decision was not difficult. We were going.

Since that time, change has become my new steady. We changed planes: Three flights took us about 11,000 miles away from our families, and from everything familiar.

We changed our belongings. Well, not exactly. After we purged all but the most important items, our 200-cubic-foot container went missing. For four months, until it was located some 2,100 miles away in Melbourne, I prepared meals with two pans and one knife.

We changed jobs. I started work less than two months after we arrived. Although I get teased at the office for my lack of passive-tense phraseology, I also get the government-mandated four weeks of leave per year (plus sick days) and a 9 percent contribution into my retirement fund. There is a greater emphasis on work/life balance here. We work hard, but once a month we have an employer-sponsored "sundowner" (aka Happy Hour). For the Melbourne Cup, Australia's Kentucky Derby, I ran the office sweeps, which were paid out after a champagne lunch put on by the Social Club. Apt that the horse that won was named Americaine.

We changed cultures. Despite being an English-speaking nation, Australia is very much a foreign country, an amalgamation of immigrants. During one trip to the grocery store, you are bound to hear any or all of the following accents: Australian, British, Afrikaans, German, Indian, Middle Eastern, and Japanese. Americans are one of the smallest minority populations (around 0.3 percent), just ahead of indigenous Australians (0.2 percent in the Perth metropolitan area).

It took time to get used to seeing barefoot people in the grocery store, to cure my fear of neurotoxic spiders, and to adjust to the unavailability of certain foods such as poblano peppers. It was easier to grow accustomed to laughing kookaburras, kangaroos, and, yes, even that notoriously acquired taste known as Vegemite, a spread made from yeast extract. I can now swat a spider off my arm without a "girl shriek," I can sleep through kookaburras, and I actually enjoy Vegemite on my toast.

With only a four-year visa, I feel more open to whatever lies ahead, be it citizenship or another move. As I have struggled to acclimate myself to all the changes in my life, I have realized the experience has changed me, has given me the ability to experience without having to control. Having my world literally turned upside down has made me more resilient. Being in constant flux has become my new stability.



# “Without financial aid, I would not be able to come to Suffolk at all.”

Suffolk was on my radar because one of my closest friends goes here. She mentioned the class size and said her teachers are amazing. My math teacher is the reason I minor in math. He has a great attitude, always positive, and brings this energy to class which makes students want to learn. He is the best math teacher I have ever had in my life.

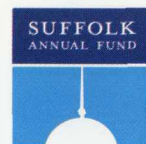
I am the first in my family to attend college. It was expected of me to go because my father wanted me to have a better life than he had, and he knew education would give me that path.

As a Student Ambassador for the Annual Fund, I talk about the Every Student campaign by making it personal. I have two outside scholarships which weighed heavily in my decision to go to Suffolk because my parents do not have the money to pay for college.

These are the best years of our lives where we get to explore who we are, meeting new people from different cultures. We find our purpose in life and what we want to do for the rest of our lives in college, but a huge part of that [depends on] financial aid.

## Sincerest thanks for your support from me and from every student, every day.

JAVIER MADRIGAL, Class of 2014  
College of Arts & Sciences



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