Chancellors Across Time
UWP looks back at its history of chancellors as it welcomes Dennis J. Shields
Dear Fellow Pioneer,

I am excited to take on the role of president of the Alumni Association this year. I am continually impressed by the care and leadership our board members exhibit as we seek new ways to keep UWP a leader in higher education. As alumni of this campus, you have a lot to be proud of. When other universities were cutting back, we were still growing and we have a number of new projects to show for it. The recent completion of the Forensic Investigation Crime Scene House makes it the only facility of its kind on a university campus. A recent agreement with Case IH, Ritchie Implement and UWP ensures that ag students will be able to work with state-of-the-art farm equipment at the Pioneer Farm. Along with ongoing improvements, Platteville is ever-evolving. We owe much of this to the great leadership our campus has experienced. Their visions for the campus and surrounding community has helped make UWP the university of choice for many in the tri-state region.

We will continue to need strong leadership as our campus continues to evolve. Both David Allen and Josh Saylor, past presidents, and the leaders before them deserve recognition for their guidance and direction. The UWP Alumni Association continues to grow because of its commitment to strengthening this organization for its members. I have some big shoes to fill as we go forward.

The role of the association continues to change as well. We are constantly looking for better ways to connect with you and other alumni. My focus this year will be to help bring clarity to the importance of the Alumni Association to all Pioneers: past, present and future. It is because of our alumni that we have a growing university. Since I graduated, it’s amazing to see how far we have come.

Where we are going is even more exciting! The Alumni Services staff has added an assistant director to help with our continued growth. We have a new chancellor who will also add to our strength in leadership. We will continue to need strong leadership as our campus continues to grow for decades to come.

Forever a Pioneer,

Dan Paulson, ’92
Alumni Association President

The Alumni Today has gone GREEN and INTERACTIVE! Look for the online version of Alumni Today at alumni.uwplatt.edu.

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Letters to the editor are welcome, as are suggestions for articles and events affecting the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and its alumni. Please send letters or suggestions to Alumni Today, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Executive Office, Box 380, Platteville, WI 53818-0380. IUnsigned.

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Alumni Today

To the Pioneer Family

I am honored and excited to be the chancellor of UW-Platteville. In many ways, my arrival here is like a homecoming. I have had the opportunity to meet with several Pioneer alumni during my first weeks at UWP. I know that more than 50,000 individuals have earned degrees from UWP and I look forward to the upcoming years and meeting more and more of you.

I thought I would take this opportunity to tell you a little bit about myself. I grew up in small communities in Iowa. I attended middle school and high school in Johnston, Iowa, on the outskirts of Des Moines. Like the K-12 schools from which many UWP students come, my high school was relatively small. Seventy-three students made up my graduating class in 1973.

The communities I grew up in were tight knit. I was immersed in an ethos where caring about one’s neighbors and attentiveness to core values were the norm. I attended and graduated from Graceland College (now Graceland University), a small liberal arts college in Lamoni, Iowa. After Graceland, I attended the University of Iowa College of Law. Upon graduation, I began my educational career, a career that spans over 28 years in various positions at schools including the University of Michigan, Duke and most recently the City College of New York.

What I have learned from these past experiences is this simple fact: Leadership makes a difference. Our university is in great shape, thanks to the strong leadership of Chancellor Emeritus Derald Markley, Provost Emerita Carol Sue Butts and the team that they assembled. Our university is positioned to be among the premier teaching universities in the Midwest. The faculty, staff and – most importantly – the students possess a unique and precious combination of qualities including energy, commitment, intelligence and hard work. In addition, our collective understanding of community values and the importance of each other as a valued member of not only the UWP family, but also the greater community, truly makes us unique.

Everyone whom Aundra and I have met during these past few months has been gracious and welcoming. We are looking forward to the beginning of the 2010-11 academic year. We are eager to meet our students. We are eager to work alongside our faculty and staff to provide quality learning experiences, in and out of the classroom. We are also looking forward to the many events that will bring alumni back to campus including the annual Homecoming activities which we have heard so much about. We are also looking forward to meeting you in your community, whether in Wisconsin, the Midwest or beyond as we move forward and write the next chapter of Our University.

by Tyler Wilson

Stacy Skemp, a 2006 UWP alumna, is one of 24 teachers in the nation to be selected as a 2010 National Agriscience Teacher Ambassador by the National Future Farmers of America Organization. The position was open to any agriculture teacher in the United States who applied.

Skemp graduated from UWP with a bachelor’s degree in agricultural education and has taught three years as an agriculture teacher at Craig High School in Janesville, Wis. She is also an advisor for the Janesville Craig FFA chapter.

“I really enjoy working with the students in FFA outside of the regular school day because you get to see the true side of the students outside of the classroom setting,” Skemp said. “During my short time at Craig, I have created three new agriculture courses and helped increase the number of students taking agriculture classes.”

According to the National FFA Organization, the selection for a National Agriscience Teacher Ambassador is based on the teacher’s commitment to agriscience, creative teaching methods and his or her desire to help students learn science.

Skemp attended the National Agriscience Teacher Ambassador Academy in Chesapeake Farms, Md., from July 11-16. According to the National FFA Organization, the NATAA focused on teaching Skemp and the other ambassadors how to incorporate inquiry-based instruction and higher level science principles into existing agriculture curriculum. The training emphasized the scientific side of agriculture, including physics, food safety issues and environmental issues such as biofuels and renewable energy resources.

Participants studied key agriscience issues and received many resources, ideas and techniques to integrate into their classrooms, including a variety of literacy strategies. They also toured the Delaware Biotechnology Institute and DuPont Labs. Upon completion of the academy, each participant will serve as part of a national network of Agriscience Teacher Ambassadors working with their peers to integrate science education into the agriculture classroom.

“After returning from the training this summer, I hope to place many of the resources into my existing curriculum,” Skemp said. “I will also have the opportunity to put on workshops at agriculture education conferences at the national and state level.”

Skemp will be a part of a national network of agriscience teaching ambassadors working with peers to integrate science education into the agriculture classrooms.

“I am very excited for the opportunity to network with agriculture teachers from all over the United States and to learn new and exciting science aspects to incorporate into my classes,” Skemp said.
REMEMBERING COACH E.

Fred Eberlein, the Pioneer men’s soccer coach from 1972-1997, passed away on June 16, in Madison, Wis. Coach Eberlein presided over the oldest men’s soccer program in the state, and in the process, his Pioneers defeated almost every team in Wisconsin, including teams from UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee and Marquette. When he retired in 1997, he had amassed 207 coaching victories, by far the most in Pioneer history.

More than numbers, however, Coach E. will be remembered for his calm demeanor, care for student-athletes, and of course, sitting in his blue and orange director’s chair on the sidelines.

In response to a web request, some of his past players and associates shared their thoughts.

I had the privilege and pleasure of meeting Coach Eberlein three years ago when I first took over as soccer head coach at UWP. He showed great support and pride for a program he had been a vital part of. Fred Eberlein is UWP soccer.

I am honored to have met such a caring and loving man. Rain or shine, he never missed a home game. He and his orange and blue chair will be greatly missed on the UWP soccer sidelines!

Enzo Fuschino
Head Soccer Coach, UW-Platteville

My sympathies go out to Coach E.’s family. Coach was always upbeat and motivated, whether a good day or bad. He would get on the field and actually walk players through the drill or set play to ensure we got it down. I remember him once seeing me in the weight room and he would come over and say (in jest) that if I got too big I wouldn’t be able to dive. I remember him making the trip to the Admissions Office to ensure we got it down. I remember him helping us co-captains in 1974 and 1975. This was an incredibly special relationship that continued long after my playing days were over. I feel blessed to have known him and will miss him dearly.

Jim Gianute
Leading Scorer, NCAA III history Class of 1985

When I served as interim athletic director, I remember that Fred was always willing to volunteer or help with tasks. I particularly remember that our official scorekeeper for women’s basketball had “retired” the year before. We had no resources to pay so we relied upon volunteers. I tried unsuccessfully to find a person who would take on this task. I had no idea what I would do as I did not know how to do this task myself. Just before the season started, Fred came up to me and indicated he would be glad to help by serving as the official scorekeeper. I am not sure what I would have done if Fred had not volunteered.

My thoughts are with the Eberlein family during this sad time.

Terry D. Hipenbecker
Pioneer Goalie 1981-1983

I have many memories of Coach E. making the trip to the Admissions Office in Birthing Hall to check on the applications for his student athletes. He checked on the progress of their applications as well as followup with registration. He wanted to make sure their transition to college life was a good experience.

When the UWP men’s basketball team won their first national title, Coach E. and Coach George Chryst were among the official scorekeepers for the championship squads, co-captaining the latter team. She then went on to play at UW-Stevens Point, where she was a member of the 2002 NCAA III national championship team. She captained both the 2001-02 and 2002-03 Pointer teams.

I’ve been very fortunate to have been a part of very successful programs, both in high school at Barneveld and as a student-athlete and an assistant coach at UWSP,” Wilson said. “Over the past 15 years, I’ve been lucky enough to be mentored by two of the top coaches in the state of Wisconsin – Jim Myers and Shirley Egner. I’m proud to say they have both been very strong influences making me the person and coach I am today, and for that I am grateful.”

Working under Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame member Shirley Egner, Wilson spent four years (2005-09) as the recruiting coordinator for UWSP. She helped bring in the talent that accumulated a four-year record of 86-24, including 47-17 in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. The Pointers won WIAC championships in 2007-08 and 2008-09, earning NCAA III national tournament appearances both years. The 2009 Pointer squad advanced to the Sweet Sixteen.

“She has been a winner in high school and college and had success as a coach in our league,” Molesworth said. “She had major responsibilities in recruiting players to UWSP who had success on the conference and national level.”

Wilson earned her Bachelor of Science degree in 2003, majoring in business administration and minoring in computer information systems. She also earned her master’s from UWSP in 2008 in general education. Wilson, who will also teach in the physical education department at UWP, was class valedictorian at Barneveld and a member of the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll at UWSP.

She moved to Lancaster, Wis., in 2009 with her husband, Josh, who is a chiropractor at Whitty Chiropractic. They have twin children, Aiden and Brody.

WILSON NAMED WOMEN’S BASKETBALL COACH

Megan Wilson, a member of two Wisconsin high school championship teams and an NCAA III national championship squad, is the new women’s basketball coach at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

“We are very excited to add Megan,” Mark Molesworth, Pioneer athletic director, said. “She brings enthusiasm and passion for the game. We feel she’s the person to lead us to a competitive level in the nation’s most competitive league, the WIAC.”

The new coach brings a wealth of winning experience to UWSP’s program. As Megan Hodson, she played on Coach Jim Myers’ Barneveld 1998 and 1999 WIAC Division IV state championship squads, co-captaining the latter team. She then went on to play at UW-Stevens Point, where she was a member of the 2002 NCAA III national championship team. She captained both the 2001-02 and 2002-03 Pointer teams.

“I’ve been very fortunate to have been a part of very successful programs, both in high school at Barneveld and as a student-athlete and an assistant coach at UWSP,” Wilson said. “Over the past 15 years, I’ve been lucky enough to be mentored by two of the top coaches in the state of Wisconsin – Jim Myers and Shirley Egner. I’m proud to say they have both been very strong influences making me the person and coach I am today, and for that I am grateful.”

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**ALUMNA CITED FOR STABILIZING LANDSLIDE**

by Barbara Weinbrener

Amy Dessner, a 2002 UWP civil engineering alumna, was one of 16 engineers recently nominated by the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers to be a member of the 2010 New Faces of Engineering.

Dessner was recognized for her leadership during a rare rain event in southeastern Minnesota in August 2007 that destroyed communities and caused widespread erosion. She used her engineering expertise to direct stabilization for the community project to fulfill her business junior business administration major engineering alumna, was one of 16 engineers to be a member of the 2010 Engineers to be a member of the 2010 can Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers recently nominated by the American Minnesota, providing assistance on projects that reduce erosion or improve water quality. She visits potential sites to determine if a project is feasible and eligible for the federal cost share program.

Once a project receives funding, she directs a field survey and collects hydrologic, soil and land use data, begins design and draft plans, and then oversees construction. Dessner said, “I take the project from start to finish – I see this as an advantage because observing how things are built provides insights as to how they should be designed. Surveying my own projects keeps me in touch with the latest equipment and software, and gives me intimate knowledge of the site.”

Dessner is currently working on a manure storage basin for a dairy farmer, compost facility plans for a hog farmer and rehabilitation of two dams that were built about 40 years ago by the NRCS.

“I am so grateful for my education and experience at UWP,” said Dessner. “The professors I had in the civil and environmental engineering department sincerely cared about my success and always had time to lend a helping hand to me and my peers – whether it was a question on homework, class schedules or big decisions like a career choice. My continued contact with the university and the lifelong friendships I established provided a network of support that I can rely on to this day.”

Dessner has been a member of ASABE since 2006 and was also recognized for her work in the book “Changing Our World – True Stories of Women Engineers.” She and her husband, Eric, who is an electrical lineman, live on a hobby farm east of Rochester, Minn. They have two sons: Jacob, who is 5, and Brady, who is 1.

Dessner works on an engineering staff of eight for the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service and focuses on the 11 counties in southeast Minnesota, providing assistance on projects that reduce erosion or improve water quality. She visits potential sites to determine if a project is feasible and eligible for the federal cost share program.

**SENIORS HAVE A BALL AT PROM**

by Lee Clark

UWP student Skye Dietzel, a junior business administration major from Platteville, Wis., was looking for a community project to fulfill her business SENIORS HAVE A BALL AT PROM

by Lee Clark

UWP student Skye Dietzel, a junior business administration major from Platteville, Wis., was looking for a community project to fulfill her business communication course’s service learning project. What she found was a group of individuals ready to dance and enjoy a good time.

Residents of Southwest Health Center Nursing Home, located in Cuba City, Wis., were treated to a senior prom complete with decorations, formal wear, refreshments and music. Dietzel, with the help of a Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement grant, was also able to afford a disc jockey for the event. At the end, two residents were even crowned king and queen.

“We had about 80 people attend when you include families; that room was full,” said Dietzel.

With the help of fellow UWP students Amber Langmeier of Cuba City and Tyler Sieber of Wauwatosa, Wis., as well as Dietzel’s family and friends, the group organized an event the residents are still talking about, according to Liz Delehanty, activities coordinator at SHC Nursing Home.

“Skye called and asked if she could do something with the residents, and since it was right around March and April, we planned something extra special for them. They are all still talking about the dance; the residents love her,” said Delehanty.

Dietzel returned to SHC Nursing Home during the week of final exams and helped organize a fashion show for the residents as well.

“It made me feel good to have done something that they really enjoyed,” said Dietzel.

Dietzel (top left) and Langmeier (top right) pose with the resident king and queen at the Southwest Health Center Nursing Home.

**SKY’S THE LIMIT**

by Lee Clark

The UWP Women in Engineering Program hosted a Sky’s the Limit program for the young women of the tri-state area and beyond in early May. This year’s theme, Expanding our Borders using Renewable Energy, had the 14 female participants, ranging from grades eight to 12, explore different energy sources like solar and wind.

Using what they learned, the participants built solar ovens that will be sent to Ghana, Africa. UWP’s chapter of Engineers Without Borders, an international nonprofit organization dedicated to partnering with communities worldwide to improve quality of life through sustainable means, has been working with six villages in Ghana. Partnered with the UWP Society of Women Engineers through their Expanding our Borders initiative, EWB provided the participants the chance to reach out to a community beyond Platteville.

“By providing the villages with solar ovens, they hope to help reduce deforestation and the corresponding soil erosion in the region. “You could see the excitement on their faces knowing that their contribution would make a difference in someone’s life,” said Brittany DuCharme, 2010 alumna from Prairie du Chien, Wis., and co-leader for the Sky’s the Limit program.

Acacia Myers, a junior industrial engineering major from Avon, Ill., added, “We think it made the program a lot more successful because the girls knew they would be helping people that don’t have the resources that they do.”

The participants also worked on smaller educational projects, including designing a container for an egg drop, understanding how paper airplanes are affected by design, constructing a sail car and wind chimes, and understanding how efficient product packaging plays a role in sustainability.

The projects, along with a guest speaker from the Department of Natural Resources, a tour of UWP, and instruction and leadership by UWP students and faculty members, were meant to provide youth the chance to discuss and explore options and career opportunities in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields.

This was the first year that Myers and DuCharme led and organized the program. They have been involved in the past as group leaders.

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**Students experiment with solar ovens built during the camp. Students also built wind chimes (middle) and participated in other projects.**
PIONEER PRIDE TO COMMANDANT’S OWN

by Sarah Miller

In March of this year, UWP alum–
nus James Foley was promoted to the
rank of warrant officer by presidential
appointment as the newest officer for the
U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps. During a special selection process at the
historic Marine Barracks in Washing-
ton, D.C., in 2009, Foley was selected to compete against other highly qualified
members of his unit and won.

According to the U.S. Marine Drum and
Bugle Corps, the list of Marine Corps
officers who have served in the unit, offi-
cially called The Commandant’s Own, is short and distinguished. The ensemble
chooses its officers from within its own
ranks, selecting only the most highly qualified individuals to become the
leaders and mentors of the unit for the
ensuing generation of Marines to follow.
Foley, who was promoted to warrant officer, is the newest member of
this group.

Foley graduated magna cum laude
with a bachelor’s in music from UWP in 2002. During his time on campus, he stud-
ied trumpet, wind and composition with
various professors, including bassoon and
wind conducting with Barry Ellis, UWP
director of bands. Foley won the 2001
Concerto Competition and interned under
director of bands. Foley was promoted to
the rank of warrant officer by presidential
promotion field for a local theatre, and then for
the Washington National Opera. Foley
enlisted in the Marine Corps in 2004, undergoing basic training at Marine
Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.,
and joined The Commandant’s Own as a
lead soprano bugler in 2005. His du-
ties expanded from there, until the Staff
Noncommissioned Officer Promotion
Selection Board chose him for promotion
to the rank of staff sergeant. That promo-
tion was superseded when a special board
named him the unit’s next warrant officer,
and President Barack Obama appointed
him in March.

“My experience in the Marine Corps has been
an amazing journey,” said Foley. “It didn’t take long for me to identi-
fy his special talent in music,” said Ellis. “Obviously the Drum and Bugle Corps
observed the same aptitude. He pursued and achieved a high level performance as a
soloist in one of the most outstanding musical organizations in the country.
But maybe even more important is the respect he has garnered from his drum
and bugle corps peers in becoming one of
their officers.”

After graduation, Foley moved to
D.C., working in the arts administra-
tion and as a writer, and professors like Stormy
Stipe, Kathleen Tigerman, Kory Wein,
Peter Hadorn and J. Keith Hale taught
him so much about writing. I thought it
was time to do it for myself,” said Gray.

When asked for any tips for future
writers, Gray said, “If you aren’t given an
editor, get one. It will make the book so
much better and it makes things easier
for you. Having the book finished when you submit it is also helpful.”

Gray has always been interested in
writing. “I learned so much about myself
and family, such as Nicole Eggebeen from
the UWP Writing Center. “She was a big
help encouraging me to finish,” said Gray.

The book is young-adult fiction and
tells the story of a young boy who wakes
up with powers. “Magick, mischief and
mayhem – that is what Alexander Adams
finds,” reads the description of the book.

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Gray is working on the next book in
the series and is also working on a retell-
ing of the frog prince, an adult fiction
novel called “Blood Prince.”

James Foley pictured here with the
ceremonial officer’s scarlet coat.
Distinguished Alumni

Established in 1960, the Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes distinguished professional and career achievement, and distinguishes those alumni for their contributions to the campus and community.

Alumni Today

John M. Silseth

Silseth is president of Antietam LLC, a private investment firm headquartered in Milwaukee, Wis. Founded by Silseth and others in 1986, the company’s basic philosophy is to make long-term investments oriented toward continued growth and development.

Silseth grew up in the Milwaukee area, graduating from Boys Technical High School. He entered UWP in the fall of 1973 and was active in campus organizations, serving in student government and as a resident assistant. Additionally, Silseth was enrolled in the ROTC program and was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve where he spent eight years. He earned his degree from UWP in 1978 graduating with majors in business, economics and accounting.

Continuing his education at UW-Madison, Silseth earned an M.B.A. in finance and international business in 1980. He was employed by PricewaterhouseCoopers as an auditor and audit manager from 1981 until 1986. He has been licensed as a CPA in Wisconsin since 1983.

Silseth has several further current business interests. He is a part owner of Prince Corporation, a wholesale distributor of building products, manufacturer of brass and producer of glass seeders located in Marshfield, Wis. Additionally, he is part owner of ESW LLC, a transportation services company also located in Marshfield. Other business interests include Prince Building Systems, Neillsville, Wis.; AGC Products, a manufacturer of livestock feed additives in Brookfield, Wis.; and Tranquil Ease LLC, a specialty seating company located in Milwaukee.

Pictured on facing page, from left to right are Jose “Pepe” Brausz (77); Richard Aide (54); Ronald Meissen (79); John M. Silseth; Provost Emeritus David Markee (54); Chancellor Emeritus and Joshaylor (702), Past Alumni Association president.

Silseth maintains close contact with UWP and his faculty mentors. He has made class presentations and has a keen interest in UWP’s developing program in entrepreneurship.

Ronald E. Meissen

Meissen is senior director of sustainability with Baxter Healthcare Corporation in Deerfield, Ill. In this role, Meissen initiates, leads and is involved with a number of cross-functional company-wide global sustainability programs aimed at using renewable energy and limited resources, such as water, in a responsible manner.

Growing up in Durand, Ill., he spent his early years on a farm. When his father died, Meissen’s mother, a teacher, moved her family to town, making clear her expectation that all of her children would pursue higher education. It was at the suggestion of his uncle that Meissen found himself at UWP in the fall of 1966, pursuing coursework in engineering.

He was active on campus, serving as layout editor for the Grinnelian newsletter for College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science alumni. He also participated in engineering organizations and served on the Homecoming committee. Meissen earned his undergraduate degree in civil engineering in 1971. Meissen earned his master’s in civil engineering from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; an M.B.A. from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management in Chicago; and his doctorate from UW-Madison.

Meissen was honored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, receiving the 2008 Spirit of America Summit Award for his leadership in advancing awareness and action in response to global climate change. He was recently elected chair of UWP’s newly established Renewable Energy Advisory Council, which serves an advisory role to the newly created renewable and sustainable energy academic program.

Richard F. Aide

Aide came to UWP in the fall of 1961. He grew up on a farm in Castle Rock Township, Grant County, and chose UWP based on the excellent reputation of the agriculture program and on the school’s proximity to the family farm, where he worked on weekends. Aide was active in the Collegiate Agricultural Association, serving as vice president. He earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in agricultural education from UWP in 1965 and 1973 respectively.

Since 1965, Aide has devoted himself to agricultural education, serving the Waupun Area School District for 32 years as the agriculture education instructor, FFA advisor, local vocational education coordinator and safety director. Aide took an active role on the state and national level, presenting workshops and serving on committees. The curriculum guide for Wisconsin agricultural education was published as the result of the work of a committee chaired by Aide. He also worked with others in agriculture to integrate science concepts into the agriculture curriculum. Aide served as executive secretary of the Wisconsin Future Farmers of America chapter for 19 years and was a member of the committee that created the Wisconsin FFA Center. From 1991 to 2008, Aide was the executive director of the Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators. He has also been active in professional organizations on the national level where he was honored in 2004 with the Region III National Association of Agricultural Educators Lifetime Achievement Award and in 2009, with the organization’s Outstanding Service Award.

Remaining active within his community, he served as assistant treasurer for the 2009 Wisconsin Farm Technology Days held at Case-Irons Brothers Farm in Dodge County. He also volunteers as a construction foreman with Habitat for Humanity and has built homes in Texas.
An apple for the teacher

by Barbara Wisniewski

This April, when a surprise all-school assembly was called at Darlington High School, Jalaine (Johnson) Ruegsegger, a 1984 and 1990 UWP alumna and DHS physical education teacher, sat with her students on the bleachers while she waited for the presentation to begin. Leigh Mills, news anchor at WMTV NBC 15 in Madison, Wis., walked onto the gym floor holding a Crystal Apple Teaching Award and said that five teachers had been chosen to receive the award. She added that one of the teachers was from DHS. Then, Mills called Ruegsegger’s name. “There’s no one that I know who deserves it more,” said Carrington of her sister, Jalaine. “Students just love her and she has a lot of ties to the kids and teachers. I’m just so proud of her.”

According to Patricia Collins, a UWP physical education and health faculty member, now retired, Ruegsegger was one of the most enthusiastic students she ever had. “She loved her field and worked as hard as she could,” said Collins. “It just tickles me to look back on students and see something like this.”

In addition to her teaching responsibilities at DHS, Ruegsegger has also coached track and field for 17 years, volleyball for 15, gymnastics for five, and served as cheerleading advisor for six years. She and her husband, Robert, reside near Darlington and have been married for 23 years.

Ruegsegger and Carrington said they were encouraged by their parents to find something that they enjoyed and liked doing for the long term. “We really found our passion in teaching,” said Ruegsegger. “Mom and Dad were a part of that.”

Carrington agreed, and said that she always knew she wanted to go to college. Following graduation from UWP, Carrington began her teaching career in Florida. “After four years, my husband and I missed the seasons and we also wanted to be closer to family,” she said. “There was an opening for a kindergarten teacher at Darlington and I applied.”

Kindergarten is really where my heart has always been.” Carrington was nominated by a student who volunteered in her classroom. “It was very thoughtful of her and humbling that she thought that much of me to write the letter to NBC 15,” Carrington said.

Carrington and her husband, Jonathan, have been married for 20 years. They currently keep a number of Arabian and American Warmblood horses on their four-acre property outside of Gratiot, Wis., and enjoy participating in trail rides in their free time.

“It was a great pleasure to have these two as students, but a greater pleasure to witness what they do for our youth,” said Walter Iselin, UWP director of Clinical Experience and Education Placement for the School of Education.

A video of the presentation can be viewed at www.nbcs15.com/crystalapple.

DISTANCE EDUCATION HOSTS FIRST PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

by Ian Clark

The UWP campus was host to more than 130 project managers, engineers and business professionals during the UWP Distance Education four-day Secrets of Success in Project Management Conference. Facilitators included some of the nation’s top thought leaders, as well as UWP project management faculty, all seeking to provide participants with the tools, techniques and motivation they could apply to new or ongoing projects.

“We have been talking about developing a project management conference for a few years,” said Dawn Drake, executive director of Alternative Delivery Systems at UWP, “and this year seemed like the opportune time to bring professionals, current students and alumni together in a conference format to help further the goals of the project management program.”

A Program Management Professional (PgMP) credential boot camp was held pre-conference to prepare attendees for the PgMP certification exam. The workshop was led by Ginger Levin, arguably UWP’s most experienced online project management instructor, according to Ron Walter, current UWP project management faculty member.

“Consider it was a first attempt, I thought it was exceptionally put together. I talked to a lot of people during the conference and they got a lot of value out of it, too.”

Heather McLean, a UWP graduate and current student in the project management master’s program at UWP, was able to take away some meaningful ideas during this professional development time, but wishes more people knew about the profession. “It’s still new in the program and coming from a nontraditional project management field, but when I was first examining the profession, you think that it’s all IT and engineers because that’s mainly where it’s come from. I think that there’s so much more out there in general business or marketing. It’s not just for engineers.”

Next year’s conference will be held July 25-28 – watch for information in 2011.

RELEVANT
Faculty with real-world experience

Master’s Degrees
Criminal Justice Engineering Project Management

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In the Jan. 5, 1876, edition of The Advocate, a newspaper in Lancaster, Wis., a history of the town of Platteville was written by the editor. It said, “In the winter of 1826-7 among the people of Southeastern Missouri and Southwestern Illinois, considerable excitement prevailed, caused by reports of the discovery of rich lead mines in the vicinity of Fever River, then called the ‘Upper Missouri Mines.’” It continued that the news led to a migration of “enterprising young men” into the area. As people poured in, lead ore was found on what is called the east ridge within the limits of the new village of Platteville. The lead was believed to have surfaced and become visible when a badger dug into the bluff to make its nest.

The article adds that a man with the last name of Metcalf sold his prospect to Maj. John Hawkins Routt and Maj. James B. Campbell. Several years later, in 1839, nine years before Wisconsin became a state, Platteville Academy, now the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, opened its doors.

Oct. 10, 1866
A letter from Jane Carkeet on the first Normal School stationery

1867
Baseball was the first sport to have a regular team.

Sept. 9, 1868
General Ulysses S. Grant attended the Normal School wing dedication.

Oct. 1889
Exponent founded by the Philadelphia Society

1903
Men’s and women’s basketball organized by athletic director Agnes O. Brigham

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1915
Student housing

1895
School of Music organized by Dixon Churchill

Oct. 9, 1916
Wisconsin Normal School’s jubilee

1866
Program from first male literary society, Philadelphia Society

1867
Program from first female literary society, Athenaeum Society

June 25, 1869
First class graduated this year.
Eight students, six men and two women, received the first Normal School diplomas in the state of Wisconsin.

1894-97
James Chauncey President
Platteville State Normal School

1904-09
John Livingston President
Platteville State Normal School

1920
Homecoming parade

The dedication to Livingston upon retirement in the 1909 Pioneer states, "He had an interest in the individual student, who satisfied only when each was making the best use of time and opportunity." During his service, Livingston partnered with McGregor (see above), then a member of the Board of Regents, to complete the new Main Building, at a cost of $150,000, which opened in doors for the fall 1897 classes. According to the Pioneer, Livingston’s interests in nature and art were reflected on campus and in the buildings.

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1866-59
Jotham Pickard Principal
Platteville Academy

1866-70
Charles H. Allen Principal/President Platteville State Normal School

1870-79
Edwin A. Charlotte Principal Platteville State Normal School

1879-94
1897-1904
Duncan McGregor President
Platteville State Normal School

1894-97
James Chauncey President
Platteville State Normal School

1846-59
Jotham Pickard Principal
Platteville Academy

Across Time

“During Pickard’s 13-year tenure, he transformed the struggling academy into one of the most respected teacher-training institutions of higher education in Wisconsin,” said James Hubbard, UW-Parkside archivist. “Pickard’s leadership led to a new, larger academy building, which opened in 1853, and to a greater extent, laid the groundwork for the Platteville Academy becoming the first State Normal School in 1866.”

Hibbard said that it is highly probable that when Edwin A. Charlotte assumed leadership of the Normal School in 1870, he arrived by railroad. The line had just opened service to Platteville on July 4 and Charlotte arrived in September. An article in the April 1960 issue of the Exponent described his accomplishments: “Departments were added and split to give more concise study; a museum was started, an addition to the academy building was made and the 40-week school year was split into three parts.” Charlotte also holds the distinction of having had the first telephone in Platteville in his office in May of 1878. The telephone line stretched from Charlotte’s office to J.H. Evans’ store.

Duncan McGregor was born in Forest of Clunie, Parish Clunie, in Perthshire, Scotland. He and his family came to America in June of 1857. In October of 1889, during his first period of service as president of the Normal School, the first issue of the ‘The Normal Exponent’ was published. He also justified enlarging the Normal School building because of the significantly increased student population. He is the only president to serve twice and he also served as a captain during the Civil War.

Chauncey, who came from Canada, not only served as president of the Normal School, but also served as pastor of the Congregational Church in Elgin, Ill., as well as in Freeburg, Mass. During his time in Platteville, the senior class issued the first yearbook named “The Bone of Contention,” and he implemented new Board of Regents curriculum changes and also established closer relations with the public university in Madison, now UW-Madison. Chauncey left Platteville to teach at Columbia University in New York and also for Boston University.

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1908 The Wisconsin Mining Trade School opened in 1908 with five faculty and 11 students.

1911 Arthur Butterworth, Walter Buss and Eugene Dvorak designed a sign for the Wisconsin Mining School. The sign was emblazoned in green, white and red on a field of blue. The sign was hoisted on top of the school and illuminated by gas lights. The sign was to be known as the "M".

1914 In cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Mines, mining rescue and first aid was offered to students.

1920-24 Hugo, a black and white bulldog, was the Mining School mascot.

1924 First social fraternity Beta Chapter of Sigma Delta Phi established.

1931 Lawrence Welk performed at the Mining School's spring prom for $600.

1949 To celebrate the "M" being featured in Life magazine, the "M" was lit using a 25-man relay team. President Melcher formally opened the festivities by lighting the first torch.

1950 Lawrence Welk performed at the Mining School's spring prom for $600.

1959 Schools merged to form Wisconsin State College and Institute of Technology.

1958 Bearded Miners Club members take part in a beard growing contest during the 50th anniversary of the Mining School.

1960-70 Riots took place in downtown Platteville. Chancellor Ullweck pictured trying to calm students down.

1971 Sculpture from the first ever Sno-Din.

1980 WSUP became an FM broadcasting station.

1983 First play performed in the newly completed CSA.

1984-49 Milton Melcher began his career at the Mining School in 1922 as a geology instructor before assuming the role of president in 1941. In 1952, the institution received permission to officially award bachelor's degrees. Melcher served for 18 years and was the final president of the Mining School. According to Hibbard, he played a pivotal role in the merger between the Wisconsin State College at Platteville and the Institute of Technology - a merger that formed the Wisconsin State College and Institute of Technology in 1959.

"Under Sather's leadership, the Normal School began to emphasized rural education," said Hibbard. "In 1914, Platteville began to offer one and two-year courses for future country school teachers. That same year, the Normal School purchased three acres of land for agricultural purposes and the department of agriculture was established."
1984
Home of the Chicago Bear’s summer camp from 1984 until 2001

1985

1987

1998-99

Under Coach Bo Ryan, the 1991, 1995, 1998 and 1999 men’s basketball teams were national champions.

MTV: The M makes history again
MTV with the “M”

2002
Pioneer Student Center opened.

2008
Conradus Institute opened.

1993-96
Robert Gutherson
Chancellor
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

1996-2009
David Markose
Chancellor
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

1943-58
Chester Neuland
President
Platteville State Teachers College
Wisconsin State College

1958-75
James Ulleke
Chancellor
Wisconsin State College and Institute of Technology
Wisconsin State University-Platteville
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

1975-82
Warren Carrier
Chancellor
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

1983-92
William Cushney
Chancellor
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

Chancellor Dennis J. Shields

Dennis J. Shields, who stepped into his newly appointed role as chancellor on July 1, and he plans to work very hard to carry the message of UW System’s appeal to prospective students from all over the world, bolster its high-quality academic programs and leverage the University of Wisconsin System’s great reputation to inspire coming generations of Pioneers.

“When I visited UW, I was struck by the great sense of camaraderie among the faculty, staff and students, and how they engaged one another.” Shields said. “It was once impressed by the pride people have in their institution and the humility with which they approach their work. They are comfortable with who they are, but they still aspire to be the best.”

Shields has had a long career in higher education and law. In his nine-year career at the University of Iowa, Shields was the director of Admissions and director of Opportunity at Iowa—a equity-based initiative to match the university’s aspirations for students of all backgrounds.

Shields was also the director of the University of Iowa’s Center for Community Engagement, which provides professional development opportunities for educators.

Shields has held a number of leadership roles in higher education and law. In his nine-year career at the University of Iowa, Shields was the director of Admissions.

During his tenure, he served as dean of admissions and director of financial aid.

Shields received his J.D. from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1993 and his B.A. in political science from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 1986.

Shields was born in Waukon, Iowa, where his parents were high school teachers.

Shields is married to Aundra N. Shields, and they have three sons.

Special thanks to James Hibbard and the Southwest Wisconsin Room staff for all their research assistance.
by Robert Callahan
A UWP alumnus, former faculty member and Distinguished Engineering Alumnus has established a fully endowed scholarship with the assistance of the UWP Foundation.

Gerald H. Anderson, a 1966 civil engineering graduate, has established the G. H. Anderson Structural Engineering Scholarship as a commitment to engineering education and to assist prospective structural engineering students. The scholarship is to be awarded for the first time during the 2010-11 academic year. UWP juniors and seniors who are civil or environmental engineering majors with an emphasis in structural engineering will be eligible for the scholarship. Applicants must have demonstrated interest in structural engineering through undergraduate coursework, relevant employment experiences and/or by advance application to graduate school.

An endowment is an established fund of a minimum amount with direction from the donor for its use. When the endowment level is reached, the funds are invested and only the earnings in interest are gifted, meaning the fund will never be completely depleted. As a fully endowed annual scholarship, the G. H. Anderson Structural Engineering Scholarship continues through perpetuity.

Anderson, who said he is grateful for the scholarship assistance he received as a student in engineering, indicates the practical engineering experiences and effective communication courses he took at UWP served him well in his work with others. “We were treated as professionals, expected to have a good work ethic and take up to 20 credits per semester,” Anderson said. “There are numerous educators who were both excellent teachers and great role models.”

Upon completing a master’s degree at the University of Iowa, Anderson returned to Platteville in 1968 as an instructor of civil engineering. In 1970, he began working for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation as a structural engineer. “Teaching provided a great experience in mentoring students and reviewing my undergraduate structures courses,” Anderson said. “It was the engineering education and teaching experience that provided the foundation for a great experience in mentoring students and reviewing my undergraduate structures courses,” Anderson said. “It was the engineering education and teaching experience that provided the foundation.”

Anderson supports UWP through endowed scholarship.

by Robert Callahan
Supporters of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville’s Ralph E. Davis Pioneer Stadium Step Project who sponsored a stadium step or seat prior to July 30 will be invited to an unveiling ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 11.

The ceremony will take place Saturday afternoon in Pioneer Stadium in conjunction with UWP’s “A Reunion of Champions,” an all-football reunion. UWP will play the University of Dubuque that evening in the Pioneers’ first home game of the season.

The Pioneer Stadium Step Project gives individuals an opportunity to sponsor one of the stadium’s 378 steps. With a $500 sponsorship, the sponsor’s name is sealed into an aluminum plate, which will be attached to a stadium step.

Those interested can also sponsor a seat for $250. As a seat sponsor, the sponsor’s name will be sealed into an aluminum plate that will be attached to the front of a bleacher at Pioneer Stadium. Each Meacher row includes 24 seats and it is possible to sponsor multiple seats or an entire row.

Funds raised through the Pioneer Stadium Step Project will aid in the construction of a facility southwest of Butch Leitl Field that will include locker room space, an area for officials, as well as a multi-purpose space for team meetings, film review, game preparation and special events.

Stadium step and seat sponsorships are still available. Further installations will take place as additional stadium steps and seats are sponsored. A second installation could take place later in the 2010 football season, according to Holly (Kaiser) Clendenen, director of development major gifts with the UWP Foundation.

Thomas Knoble, a 1973 UWP alumnus who now resides in Milton, Wis., sponsored a stadium step. Although he was offered a half-scholarship to Northwestern University, Sullivan chose to attend the Wisconsin State College and Institute of Technology, now UWP.

“I had a good run in football at Platteville. There were guys that I really liked and enjoyed playing with,” Sullivan said. “I got the letter about the step project and I started telling stories to my wife, and she encouraged me to help out. She said it is a good investment and it memorializes your memories; she really talked me into it.”

To learn more about the Pioneer Stadium Step Project contact Stacia Nemitz, pioneer development officer with the UWP Foundation, at 608.342.6122 or nemitz@uwplatt.edu.

SUPPORTERS TO BE RECOGNIZED AT UWP’S PIONEER STADIUM SEPT. 11

“it was one of the most beautiful stadiums I had ever been in. You look on in a fall afternoon and see the different colors of the trees — it’s just a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon,” Boll said. “It’s cozy, it’s comfortable and you are close enough to the action you can hear things.”

Robert Sullivan, Erie, Colo., also sponsored a stadium seat. Although he was offered a half-scholarship at Northwestern University, Sullivan chose to attend the Wisconsin State College and Institute of Technology, now UWP.

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The Wilderness Hotel and Golf resort, America’s largest waterpark resort in Wisconsin Dells, is offering for your weekend stay and receive one free kid’s breakfast buffet with one paid adult’s breakfast buffet at the Wild Canyon Café.

For just $109 per night, your family of four can reserve Oct. 22-24, 2010

Reservation Deadline: Sept. 22
Group Name: UW-Platteville #90245

Bring this flyer with you for your weekend stay and receive one free kid’s breakfast buffet with one paid adult’s breakfast buffet at the Wild Canyon Café.

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by Ian Clark

Last fall, UWP industrial technology management students Nathan Schlawin of Appleton, Wis., and Eric Moe of Holmen, Wis., were looking forward to graduating in the spring but wanted to leave something behind for their classmates. As members of the American Foundry Society, Schlawin and Moe had firsthand knowledge of the metals laboratory in Russell Hall and saw a need they could fill.

Built in the fall for their semester project in the Metalcasting Technology II class taught by Kyle Metzloff, UWP professor of metal technology, the seven-foot tall, 500-pound cupola furnace used to melt iron was the solution that Moe and Schlawin made reality. The idea for the furnace came from fellow UWP student Henry Frear of Potosi, Wis., who is an AF$ member and the student chapter president.

The furnace, which they were able to fire for the first time this spring, was built from two 10-gallon propane tanks and steel.

“This is just something that we had a passion for and it was our legacy project for the foundry, too. Platteville has never had a cupola furnace and now we have something they could fill.”

The student-built cupola furnace, the oldest method of melting iron, looks like a steel chimney and is 10 inches wide in diameter in its interior. Temperatures inside a cupola in operation can range from 1,000 to 3,200 degrees Fahrenheit. Iron melts at about 2,100 degrees, but is easily poured around 2,700 degrees.

The cupola reaches such high temperatures because of four tuyeres, high-pressure air blast holes used to superheat the iron near the base of the furnace. With the help of the air blast, iron directly above the tuyeres melts and drops down through the coke bed to the bottom of the furnace and pools until poured-out.

For fuel, cupolas use coke, a solid coal-like carbon material that produces little to no smoke. Coke is placed in the cupola and burned until a desirable temperature is reached and is then added in layers with a six-to-one weight ratio of iron to coke.

Sharp Refractories Inc., in Oak Creek, Wis., poured the cupola’s cement refractory, a heat-resistant liner that insulates the furnace’s chamber, at no charge. The iron and coke for the cupola’s first firing was donated by Neenah Foundry and the firing took place at Frear’s family farm near Potosi.

“We followed the same precautions we would on campus and had full protective gear while working with the cupola,” said Moe.

Phil Kubichka, 2007 UWP alumnus and steel supervisor at Neenah Foundry, was onsite to assist the group in their first firing, which “went a lot smoother with the knowledge and assistance of Phil,” said Schlawin.

Moe and Schlawin have been working on a comprehensive operations manual and plan to leave it with the furnace so that, if possible, it could be worked into the curriculum, giving other students the opportunity to run the cupola.

“It was really a great experience,” added Schlawin. “I’m a graduating senior and I learned so much from being out there and running it.”

The metals laboratory has two furnaces that use induction and electrical energy to melt metal. While the laboratory furnaces are more high-tech, cupolas can be more effective when pouring large amounts of metal because of the continuous process required to keep one running.

The student cupola produces about 35 pounds of molten iron in eight minutes once the cupola is at the appropriate temperature. The induction furnace in the lab produces about 200 pounds in an hour. Because of the wait time, the cupola can be more efficient if there are many molds or projects ready, according to Moe.

The Neenah Foundry has a 66-inch diameter cupola.

“The metals program at Platteville is really respected in industry. Our curriculum gets students out into the environment and you just can’t do that in some other majors. That hands-on learning can’t be replicated in a classroom,” added Schlawin.

Schlawin, who graduated this spring with a bachelor’s degree in industrial technology management and minors in metal processing technology and plastics processing technology and technical drafting, is now employed at Charter Steel in Saukville, Wis., as a technical services intern.

Moe, who graduated this spring with a bachelor's degree in industrial technology management and minors in metals processing technology, plastics processing technology and technical drafting, is now employed at Silgan Containers in Menomonee Falls, Wis.
Continued from page 15

Brousset is dedicated to the goal of reducing poverty and increasing education in Latin America. He, through Caterpillar’s operations in Latin America, has worked in the region for nearly 35 years. Brousset began his nearly 35-year career with Caterpillar in 1976 in the company’s Latin America region. Since then, he has worked in Latin America, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Bolivia.

David J. Markee

Markee is chancellor emeritus of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. He is also a member of the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents. Markee graduated from the University of Missouri in 1975 with degrees in industrial engineering and business administration.

Markee earned his undergraduate and master’s degrees from UWP and his doctorate from the University of Missouri in Columbia. His prior positions include 16 years at the University of Missouri, 11 years at the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents, and 10 years as chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

For the piece, Clay set up the lighting, filmed the interview and also edited the entire production. "Miracle on the Hudson" was entered into the transportation category of the Chicago/Midwest competition, competing against larger market stations from areas like Milwaukee and Chicago. Clay said, "The interview with Skiles and his contributions to the safety of the people on Flight 1549 fit perfectly into the transportation category, and it was national news with a local angle." While attending UWP, Clay worked for UWP Media Technology Services for four years and the experience led him to change his major from computer science to broadcasting. Clay also gained experience working for Wisconsin Badger Camp by assisting with video productions. "The classes at UWP taught me how to shoot and edit my own work, and working for media services provided a different aspect and a chance to apply what I learned," Clay said. "Being pushed to make a real product for Media Services provided valuable experience and helped me develop a more creative eye."
by Anne Killian

Shareholders from across the globe flocked to Omaha, Neb., on May 1 to listen to Berkshire Hathaway Inc. leaders, Warren Buffett and Charlie Munger, share their thoughts on the company, the economy and financial system at the annual Berkshire Hathaway meeting.

Joining the shareholders were four agricultural-business students from UWP, Lucas Schmitz, Scott Salwey, Joshua Schenk and Joseph Zingrone. Schmitz, Salwey, Schenk and Zingrone paid for their own transportation and hotel in Omaha.

“It was well worth it,” said Schmitz. “I can’t say enough about the experience. I know that I would like to become a shareholder myself just to have that opportunity to attend that meeting annually. We got to listen to the techniques that Warren and Charlie put into making their decisions and understand how and why Berkshire is so successful.”

Schenk agreed. He thought it was interesting to hear Buffet’s opinion, particularly on the Goldman Sachs issue and Berkshire’s strategy for successful investing.

The opportunity brought UWP students, faculty and an alumnus together. “I would never be where I am today without the education I received from UWP,” said Vale. “Giving the tickets away was my way of showing appreciation for the opportunities presented to me while I was at UWP.”

Collector continued from page 27
Magician,” performs tricks with two hats while playing music.

Steve said. “The students who attended were able to see the outcomes of long-term investing and rub shoulders with national business leaders.”

Chuck Steiner, UWP agricultural business professor, worked with Vale on this opportunity after Vale expressed interest in giving back to the university.

“It was exciting to see the interest level of these four students regarding this opportunity,” said Steiner. “The students really appreciated the fact that they could participate in an annual meeting and listen to Warren Buffett speak and answer questions regarding Berkshire Hathaway, the economy and investing. Attending the meeting with 40,000 shareholders gave each student a greater appreciation regarding the importance of investing,” Steiner added.

“If it was an amazing experience,” said Salwey. “Warren Buffet and Charlie Munger are some of the greatest investors who ever lived. Watching and listening to them gave me further insight as to what the world economy is experiencing now and what the future may hold for the United States and global economies.”

It was the education I received from UWP,” said Vale. “Giving the tickets away was my way of showing appreciation for the opportunities presented to me while I was at UWP.”

TUGGERS PULL FOR VICTORY

by Barbara Weinbrenner

The UWP Tuggers club women’s team took first place at the tug of war competition held on May 2 at Miner’s Field in Hartville, Wis. In total, three women’s teams and five men’s teams participated in the outdoor event.

The UWP Tuggers follow the International Tug of War Federation guidelines and compete in teams of eight, which are made up of four blockers and four drivers. Women and men compete either separately or as a combined team, and they pull against other United States Tug of War Association teams from Iowa, Illinois and Minnesota.

The club meets outdoors on Mondays from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. and every Wednesday from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. at Miner’s Field. During meetings, members work on techniques to improve teamwork, cadence, leverage and communication.

“ Ideally, the team should look like a centipede, all moving together in coordinated rhythm,” said Amber Langmeier, club president and coach. “There can be a dominant caller to give the team directions or the whole team can call together if they are really coordinated.”

Langmeier, who is a UWP senior pre-veterinary animal science and biology major from Cuba City, Wis., has been pulling for six years. In addition to the UWP club, she also drives an hour and a half to Brooklyn, Wis., on a regular basis to participate on that team as well. Langmeier was on the American team that took fourth place in the open 560 kilos weight class at the 2009 World Tug of War Championships in Assen, Netherlands.

“It’s an outright challenge physically, mentally and emotionally. It is a true team sport with no all-stars and no ‘go-to’ players. Everyone needs each other in tug of war,” said Langmeier.

All eight team members are weighed together to determine their total weight in kilos and that determines the weight class they compete in.

Team members wear special boots with two-inch steel plates at the heel. Gloves are not allowed, but resin or chalk can be used to keep the hands dry. Langmeier wears a belt around her waist to protect against rope burns and she also wears long sleeves when pulling.

According to Langmeier, pulls can last around three to four minutes. “I know that doesn’t seem like a long time, but when you are pulling, 30 seconds is a long time. You have your abs and core tight and every muscle in your body tensed and working. Actually, this is one of the most physically intense sports I’ve ever done.”

Langmeier added that tugging is a low injury sport, even for older competitors. “My coach from when I was in high school is still pulling competitively well into his 50s,” she said.

The UWP Tuggers have also been active in the community. Members assisted at the Special Olympics Basketball Tournament held in Williams Fieldhouse on the UWP campus.

Team members also arranged an end-of-the-year tug of war pull for the children from St. Rose School in Cuba City. “We talked to the kids about pulling and then we arranged pulls between the kids and teachers, which was a lot of fun,” said Langmeier. “At competitions, we also let the kids come out and pull.” She said anyone is welcome to pull following tugging competitions. “If someone wants to pull, we’ll get them in there.”

Langmeier will be participating with the Girls Love Dirt team from Brooklyn and the Oregon Tug of War Club at the 2010 Tug of War World Championships in Pretoria, South Africa, in September. “I would love to do this my whole life,” she said.

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1969

Sally Wilson Stead is retiring this year after 29 years of teaching. She began her career teaching third grade at Lancaster, Wis., and for the past 14 years has been the district reading specialist at Iowa-Grant School District in Livingston, Wis. She and husband, Guy Stead, ’69, a retired eighth grade science teacher and also a graduate of UWP, live in the Platteville area and will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary this summer. They are the parents of Adam, a fourth grade teacher with the Medford, Wis., school district, and daughter, Kelly, who is a senior at UW-Stevens Point.

1970

Jim Charlesworth, Bloomington, Ill., has been named chairman of the board for the Illinois Council for Food and Agricultural Research. He has served on the board for four years. C-FAR’s mission is to advance profitable, consumer-sensitive, environmentally sound food, agricultural and related systems by securing funding for relevant research and outreach, and fostering public participation in program guidance. Charlesworth is currently the marketing research director at GROWMARK, a regional agricultural supply cooperative.

1973

Dale Holmen, Madison, Wis., was elected in March as second vice president of the Shrine Directors Association of North America at a convention in Springfield, Mo. This will make him the national president for the 2012-13 year. The convention that year will be in Knoxville, Tenn.

1978

Verne Stuessy, Pueblo West, Colo., was recently promoted to vice president of US Cement Manufacturing and Coal Mining Operations and has relocated to the Denver, Colo., office.

1980

Mark E. Szolyga After retiring from the Milwaukee Police Department, Szolyga became involved in education as the department chairperson of criminal justice at Sanford-Brown College in Milwaukee, Wis. He was promoted and is director of education at Sanford-Brown. Furthermore, Szolyga has taken on a position of college accreditation evaluator for the Accrediting Council of Independent Colleges and Schools, and he visits colleges throughout the United States for accreditation purposes. He is also a recent graduate of the Mendoza College of Business at the University of Notre Dame. Szolyga still resides in Muskego, Wis. with his wife, Diane.

1985

Joel Cairy, Burnsville, Minn., learned that his company, Lodge Hotels and Resorts, was voted 90 out in the top 100 hotel management companies of the United States in 2010 by Hotel Business Magazine, in their June 2010 issue. Lodge Hotels and Resorts owns and operates hotels throughout the Midwest. Joel and his wife, Kathy (Kozer), graduated in 1985.

1987

Sharon (Korbech) Verbeten recently joined Brown County Library in Green Bay, Wis., as a part-time children’s librarian. She continues to run her freelance writing/editing business, All Write Creative Services, from her home in De Pere, Wis.

1990

Dan Zarzwik, an alumni of the 1987 graduating class, has been named a vice president of Westphal & Company. He is a state of Wisconsin registered professional engineer and has been working at the Westphal & Company offices since his graduation. Zarzwik, his wife Sherri and daughter Sydney. live in Oregon, Wis.

2003

Lorzaa (Laszlo) Duwe, Platteville, Wis., earned her Master of Science in integrated marketing communications from Roosevelt University in December 2009.

2005

Jessica Lund, Orfordville, Wis., graduated from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine with a doctor of veterinary medicine degree.

2006

Holly (Kaiser) Clendenen, Hazel Green, Wis., and Matt Clendenen were married on June 26. They celebrated in true UWP spirit with a reception at the Pioneer Student Center with many fellow Pioneers in attendance. She works at the UWP Foundation.

2009

Rochelle Ripp, Lodi, Wis., was hired as an associate marketing executive at Filament Marketing LLC.

Visit Alumniolation, our online community, at alumni.uwplatt.edu to update your address, submit class notes, purchase membership, clothing and find friends.
Travis (’94) and Anne (Rustemeier) (’03) Blackburn welcome Nora Ann to their family on July 12. She was 7 lbs. 14 oz. and 20 inches long. She joins big brother, Garrett (4), and big sister, Adelaide (2). The family lives in Brooklyn, Wis., and Travis works at Briggs and Stratton as a program manager for the home products division.

If you have a birth announcement or a photo of your little Pioneer, send it to us and we’ll use it in future issues of the Alumni Today, as space permits.

Tim (’99) and Janice (’00) Noble are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Matthew, on Sept. 9, 2009. He joins his big sister, Emily.

Derek (’97) and Ann (’98) (Trudell) Millar welcomed their third child, Andrew Bode Millar, on Feb. 28. Derek is a mechanical engineering graduate who continues to work for Pella Corp. Ann is an agronomy graduate who is a stay-at-home mom. Their older daughters are Olivia, age 9, and Valerie, age 7.

Correction: Gerald J. Scheppers was incorrectly listed as a faculty member who taught chemistry for 27 years. Scheppers is a faculty member who taught biology for 27 years.
Dear Marching Pioneers Alumni,

We at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville Music Department would like to cordially invite you to participate in the 2010 Marching Pioneers Alumni Day to be held during Homecoming on Oct. 9. It is our hope to continue to boost the number of participants in this performance from previous years and have a lot of people on the field for the halftime show this season!

This year’s Marching Pioneers will be joined by band members from years past during two numbers of the show as well as playing in the stands (pep tunes will be read over the shoulders of the current band members - prepare to get cozy!). There will be a mandatory rehearsal on Homecoming day for participating return ing band members a few hours prior to the game. All marching alumni will be entering the field for the last two tunes of our show and playing with us for Wicked Pt. 3 (no drill) as well as the UWP Pep Tune at the end of the show as we exit the field. We are currently trying to contact as many marching band alumni as possible, but sending everyone a copy of the music in advance is not feasible. All music will be provided for you upon your arrival and you may use a lyre during the performance (please try to bring your own lyres – there will be a very limited number available that day).

We will be rehearsing immediately after the parade on Saturday, Oct. 9 (approximately 11 a.m.-noon) at a field within the track facility directly adjacent to the stadium. After rehearsal, there will be a luncheon that will be free of charge to all MP alumni who are participating as well as the current band members. Kick-off is at 3 p.m. We will be meeting in front of Williams Fieldhouse at 2 p.m. in the parking lot for warm-up and marching to the stadium from there. All Marching Pioneers alumni are encouraged to march with us to the stadium and perform with us in the bleachers during the game.

Please e-mail/call Matthew Gregg A.S.A.P. if you intend to participate in this event at greggm@uwplatt.edu or 608.342.1019. The deadline for notification of your participation is Friday, Oct. 1.

We will be able to provide some instruments, but if you will need to use any such equipment you must inform us well in advance so that arrangements can be made. Don’t be shy – please join us for this exciting event. Thanks for your time and we look forward to seeing you on Oct. 9.

Sincerely,

Matthew Gregg,
Associate Director of Bands
Director - UWP Marching Pioneers

Barry Ellis,
Director of Bands

G. Dan Fairchild,
Chair of Fine Arts

P.S. Spread the word! Pass this information along to any MP alum that you know so we can host our biggest group ever!
Greek Reunion
Fill out your Greek profile for the alumni book online at alumni.uwplatt.edu or request hard copy 1.800.UWP.ALUM

Friday, Oct. 8
4 p.m. Registration at Pioneer Student Center (lower level)
Greek alumni book can be printed per request ($3)
Complementary CDs
4:30 p.m. Pioneer Farm tour
5:30 p.m. Campus tour
7 p.m. Social at Pioneer Haus, Pioneer Student Center

Industrial Engineering
Friday, Oct. 8
10:30 a.m. Industrial engineering will be hosting an open house of the UWP Industrial Engineering Department (Ottensman Hall)
11:15 a.m. BBQ pork lunch and project display in the industrial engineering wing
12:30 p.m. Leave for a social at the Potosi Brewery, return to campus by 3:30 p.m.

Mechanical Engineering
Friday, Oct. 8
10:30 a.m. Mechanical engineering will be hosting an open house in the mechanical engineering department in Ottensman and Engineering Hall

Reclamation Reunion
"Our roots run deep: 30 years of reclamation at UWP"
Friday, Oct. 8
3 p.m. Reclamation program overview by director Tom Hunt - 127 Russell Hall
Introductions and networking opportunities for current students and alumni
Campus tour to follow
6 p.m. Reclamation reunion social at Steve’s Pizza, 175 W. Main St.

Saturday, Oct. 9
2 p.m. Leave for tour of Potosi Brewery (transportation provided, meet in circle in front of Ullsvik Hall)
5:30-8:30 p.m. All Greek Hors d’oeuvres Social at Velzy Commons, Ullsvik Hall

College Banquets and Alumni Award Presentations
Friday, Oct. 8
College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture (BILSA)
Alumni Recognition Reception and Banquet
5:30 p.m. Velzy Commons, Ullsvik Hall • $15
Award recipients include: Sonja Peacock, 2001; Kari Apel, 1998; Daniel Laufenberg, 1969; Kim Brown Pokorny, 1994; Christopher Beckwith, 1993; and Roger Thimm

College of Liberal Arts and Education (LAE) Recognition Banquet
5:30 p.m. Nohr Gallery, Ullsvik Hall • $18.50
Award recipients include: Katie (Albrecht) Nesheim, 2000; John Beutel, 1965; Tom Hickey, and Nancy Olson
Reservations required. Contact Carolyn Fries, 608.342.1151 or friesc@uwplatt.edu.

College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science (EMS)
Annual Graduating Senior and Alumni Recognition Dinner
6 p.m. Velzy Commons, Ullsvik Hall • $15
Award recipients include: John L. White, 1947; Carol Weber, 1989; Bart Nies, 1996; Scott Chyko, 1996; Dan Dreessens, 1997; Scott Seely, 1995; and Dwight Klaassen

Annual Alumni Hospitality Tent
9 a.m. 405 W. Main Street
Join us for hot chocolate, cider, coffee and donuts!
Donuts are sponsored by Kwik Trip and coffee is sponsored by Liberty Mutual

Family Fun
11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Games, temporary tattoos and much more!

Homecoming Parade
10 a.m. Main Street
Stay on campus and feed the whole family while catching up with former professors and friends! Join us as we reveal the Custard Creation winner. The announcement will take place at noon, followed by free custard for all. Sponsored by Culver’s and the UWP Alumni Association.

For lodging information visit www.uwplatt.edu/contact/lodging.html

Reclamation Reunion Program
30 years of reclamation at UWP
Friday, Oct. 8
3 p.m. Program overview by director Tom Hunt - 127 Russell Hall
Introductions and networking opportunities for current students and alumni
Campus tour to follow
6 p.m. Reclamation reunion social at Steve’s Pizza, 175 W. Main St.

Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Reunion (ME/IE)
Thursday, Oct. 7
6 p.m. Alumni Networking Social
7 p.m. Dinner - Velzy Commons, Ullsvik Hall
7:45 p.m. Speaker, Michelle (Schleusener) Rogers ’91, senior manager in-store merchandising, Kraft Foods

Saturday, Oct. 9
Noon Reclamation program overview and director retrospective by director Tom Hunt and invited guests Roger Higgs and Ed Nuhfer
Alumni showcase of projects - Ullsvik Hall
2:30 p.m. Field trip to Big Spring Branch near Highland, Wis. This remarkable project includes habitat structures to benefit reptiles, amphibians, non-game fish species but also includes three acres of shallow wetland scrape restoration and a 30-acre prairie planting. Big Spring Branch was appointed one of the 10 National Waters to Watch in the nation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Joe Schmelz (’02) provided technical assistance on the project and will present to the group.
Optional campus tour
6 p.m. Reunion BBQ dinner at Cooper Living and Learning Center, Pioneer Farm
Commemorative T-shirt will be given to all that attend.
Events subject to change. Check "Reclamation 30-Year Reunion" on AluMnation at http://alumni.uwplatt.edu

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The UWP Office of Alumni Services introduced the Culver’s Custard Creation Challenge in early April as an opportunity for UWP alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends to submit custard flavor suggestions for a contest sponsored by Culver’s Butter Burgers and Frozen Custard in Platteville, Wis. Over 150 flavors were submitted and three were selected for a final vote. The winning flavor will be announced and samples will be served during the Homecoming lunch at noon in Velzy Commons of Ullsvik Hall on the UWP campus after the Homecoming parade. The top three creations are:

Rendezvous Goo is made up of chocolate custard with snicker pieces topped with hot fudge, marshmallow and caramel. Reminisce about your days in the Vous as you enjoy this tasty concoction.

Campus Squirrel has a base of vanilla custard with hot fudge and caramel sauce along with Spanish peanuts, pecans, cashews and almonds. The squirrels on campus are nutty about this custard creation!

Pioneer Explosion is a concoction made of vanilla custard with oreo cookie pieces topped off with hot fudge and caramel sauce. This old mining town is sure to love this flavor explosion!

The individual who submitted the winning flavor will receive a free pint of custard each week for one year and will get to scoop the first dish during the Homecoming lunch.

VOTE TODAY ALUMNI.UWPLATT.EDU/SURVEYS/?ID=CUSTAD_FINALISTS