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calendar

january

2 Cyprus trip

14 Spring semester begins

19 Gold and White Athletic Day

31 J.G. Vos Memorial Lecture

february

7 Colloquia Series

14-16, Geneva Theatre presents

21-23 Androcles and the Lion

15-16 Family Weekend

18 Spring open house

29 Spring break begins

march

4 New York City bus trip

12 Classes resume

TBA Pirates spring training alumni event

april

1 Dinner and opera bus trip to Aida

2 Scholarship reception

11 Geneva Connections

18-19 Alumni Weekend

save the date

May 17 Undergraduate Commencement

May 21 Mancini Musical Theatre Awards

Aug. 8 Kennywood Day

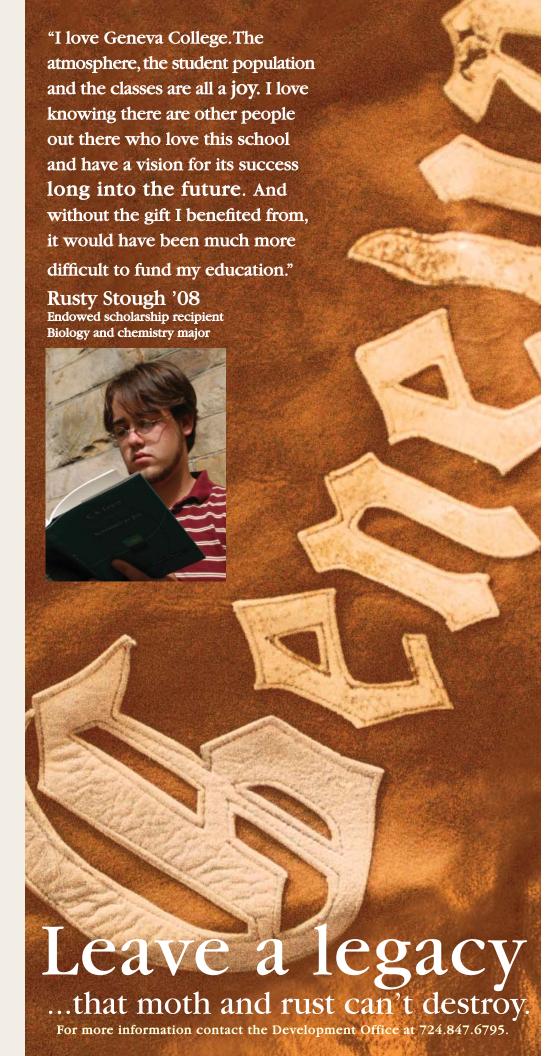
Oct. 4 Homecoming

Check the calendar at

www.geneva.edu

for more event listings, or call 724.847.6520.

ON THE COVER: Chemistry professor Rodney Austin holds the hand of his daughter Jasmine



GENEVA MAGAZINE



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Geneva Magazine is published two times per year for Geneva College alumni, friends, students and parents. It showcases the college and its constituencies as they strive to fulfill the college's mission. Opinions expressed in Geneva Magazine are those of the signed contributors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the editorial review board or the official position of the college.

GENEVA COLLEGE

Your feedback is greatly appreciated. Please send your correspondence to editor@geneva.edu or *Geneva Magazine*, Geneva College, 3200 College Avenue, Beaver Falls, PA 15010.

WINTER 2007-2008

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from the president

Rejoice with me!

That's the call clearly issued across the pages of this *Geneva Magazine*. It is about things excellent and praiseworthy, things in keeping with those the Apostle Paul urges us to dwell on (Philippians 4:8). It gives a glimpse of God's grace among people connected to Geneva College. And it is a call to you, dear reader, to join us and rejoice in His presence.

We rejoice over news of recent and not-so-recent Geneva graduates going places — with a zeal for God's glory, not their own. We celebrate the published fruit of great minds speaking cogent, timely words to a world gone awry. We are filled with joy for the precious gifts our heavenly Father gives, including a welcome abundance of adopted children in our midst (see "Blessings beyond belief," page 6).

In my own life, the experience of human adoption has made me more sensitive to recurring scriptural reminders of God's adoption of us as His children. In Zechariah 2, we hear the promise that "many nations will be joined with the Lord and will become [His] people." God calls us by name, never to disown us.

Whenever I think about my trip with Becky to Russia seven years ago to bring our son Sasha home to stay, the joyful finality of our secure hope in Christ comes freshly to mind. It is indeed a lavish love He has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are (1 John 3:1).

Sasha came home to us just five days before Christmas that year. We smiled as we watched him, seven years old at the time, help his new sister Maddy distribute the presents piled under the tree. His eyes would grow big with surprise each time we indicated a present was for him. "Eta moi? (It's mine?)" he would ask us, elated.

May each of us echo that childlike joy when we remember God's good gifts to us, at this season and throughout the year. For what do we have that we did not receive (1 Corinthians 4:7)? Listen for that perspective inside this magazine, praise God for His grace, and continue to run the race in front of you. And as you rejoice in Him, remember that He too rejoices over you, with singing (Zephaniah 3:17).

In His service,

Kenneth A. Smith



in brief

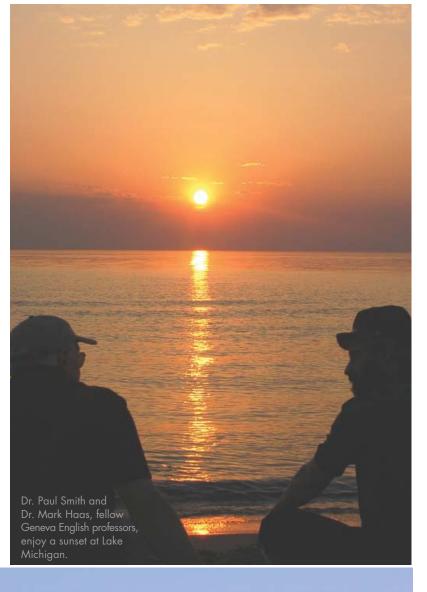
BEYOND INTEGRATION

A dozen Geneva faculty members from across the disciplines gathered in late May to take "integration of faith and learning" talk to the next level.

Made possible through the college's Lilly grant funds, the week-long event took place at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich., where participants discussed what scripture-attentive scholarship and pedagogy looks like. Dr. James K.A. Smith, professor of philosophy at Calvin, led four morning sessions exploring topics such as "The *Imago Dei* in the Disciplines" and "Reading as Disciples/Reading as Interpretation."

The one-of-a-kind faculty development workshop also left room throughout the afternoons and evenings for reading assignments and group excursions. Faculty members returned home with much to ponder, according to their response papers. And they appreciated the insights of their fellows working in fields as diverse as English and engineering, philosophy and physics.

"Talking through interpretation and related issues with colleagues from across the disciplines was a wonderful experience for me in this regard," wrote Dr. Shirley Kilpatrick, professor of English and humanities. "It challenged me to think about our role, not just as classroom teachers who deliver particular content, but as a community of scholars who plan, govern, advise — and profess. To my mind, this seminar helped us make progress in this pursuit."



SIGHTS ON CYPRUS

A handful of students, alumni, parents and friends will wrap up winter break with a unique Mediterranean tour Jan. 2-14.

New Song, a music ministry group composed of nine Geneva students, will participate in the centennial celebration of Larnaca's American Academy, a Christian institution founded by Reformed Presbyterian missionaries in 1908. Members of New Song will stay in host homes, and other trip participants will stay in hotels. The itinerary includes nine nights in Larnaca, two in Athens and a day trip to Corinth. Ginny Caldwell, director of alumni relations, said that in addition to visiting a region critical to the Apostle Paul's missionary journeys and to history, the trip offers a unique opportunity to get to know fellow members of the Geneva community.

"The trip is beneficial to both students and alumni," Caldwell says. "The region will expose us to an entirely different worldview and mindset, and we'll also be getting to know people on a deeper level. So many strong friendships result from these trips." For more information about the Cyprus trip, go to www.geneva.edu and click on "Alumni."



The 2007-2008 opening academic convocation honored Drs. Byron Curtis and Mark Haas with the annual Excellence in Scholarship Award and Excellence in Teaching Award, respectively.

Curtis is a 1976 Geneva graduate who returned to Geneva to teach in the biblical studies department in 1991. His doctoral dissertation, *Up the Steep and Stony Road: The Book of Zechariah in Social Location Trajectory Analysis*, was the driving force behind his receiving the award.

"I had hoped I would be nominated for [the award] and was pleased to receive it," says Curtis. "It's very gratifying to be recognized by one's colleagues."

Dr. Dean Smith '65, chair of Geneva's Bible department, described Curtis as "a scholar from the moment he hit campus."

"He's an incredibly reliable, knowledgeable source and a real stimulus to my own scholarship," Smith says. Curtis calls his book "a minority report," and while he anticipates some backlash from the larger academic community, he hopes the book will make the view of singular authorship of Zechariah respectable once again.

Haas, a professor in the English department since 2000, was described by his colleagues during the presentation of his award as "intense." Teaching classes ranging from freshman composition to advanced writing and rhetoric, Haas' approach in the classroom has influenced students from a variety of years and majors.

"I've never written papers that personally affect my life more than in Dr. Haas' classes," says senior English education major Emily Green. Haas' fellow English professor, Dr. Suhail Hanna, affirms his colleague's contributions at Geneva.

"Dr. Haas has been a wonderful addition to the department," he says, "and he's brought a real spark to the writing program. His enthusiasm for writing and rhetoric is contagious." Haas came to Geneva from Dakota State University and brings a background in science and computer technology as well as English.

"To receive this award is humbling," Haas says. "And yet, it encourages me that what I am doing is not in vain, that I have indeed found my calling."



After an extended search, the Geneva community welcomed Kevin Jean this fall as the college's vice president for development.

Jean is tasked with overseeing and boosting the college's fundraising efforts among alumni and friends. At an institution where student tuition doesn't cover the full cost of the education provided, development is a crucial piece and has been identified as a key priority for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Jean, who served most recently as a minister and brings with him 12 years of executive-level management experience including seven years with Prison Fellowship, is joined in his efforts by Geneva's new planned-giving director, Chuck Knox, and Jean's administrative assistant, Becky Phillips. Ben Becze also recently joined Geneva as academic-fundraising director.

Several development positions still await the right people. In addition to seeking charitable resources for Geneva, Jean and his team are recruiting a director of development and a director of annual fund and special gifts.





For more than 75 years, McCartney Library's Deal Carillon of 14 bells has consistently tolled every 15 minutes, marking time with the familiar sound of Westminster Chimes. Like the library itself, the bells celebrated their 75th anniversary last year. And in 2008, their solemn yet bright tones will help to ring in Geneva's 160th year of existence.

"What a sense of collegiate warmth one feels walking across campus on a fall or crisp winter day while listening to the great and small bells ring forth — it is the Geneva sound," says College Librarian Emeritus Gerald Moran. "Over the years alums have told me how wonderful it is to be back on campus and to hear the chimes. Also, I recall the playing of the bells by David Rhoades '77 over the years for high celebrations and solemn occasions."

McCartney Library, perhaps more than any other building on campus, reflects both the Christian and academic goals of the college, which was founded in 1848 and moved from Northwood, Ohio, to Beaver Falls, Pa., in 1880. The quiet, wholesome air of the library stands in stark contrast to the noise and bustle of everyday campus life and the Route 18 project. With the accumulated learning of previous generations surrounding them, students in the library can be found studying, quietly milling about or stopping to have a cup of coffee, to read the paper and to review the new books in the library. Even as time passes and changes occur, McCartney and its chimes serve as a reminder that the fundamental aims of Geneva still ring out.

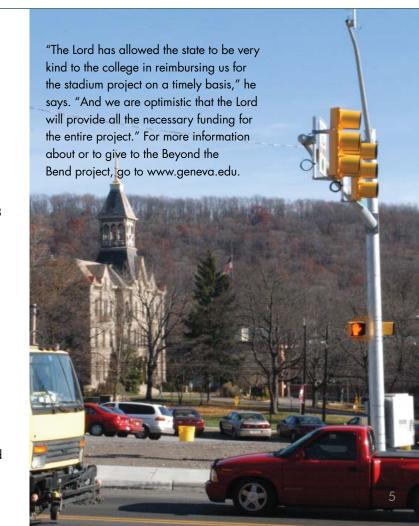
CHANGING LANES AND YARD LINES

The end of months of road construction came in November with the opening of a new, straightened-out State Route 18, and now the major phase of Geneva's coinciding \$7.5 million Beyond the Bend project can begin.

Following this year's installation of state-of-the-art turf at Reeves Field and re-routing of the busy roadway that for decades cut through the heart of campus, additional dramatic changes are scheduled for the 2008 calendar year. Students, employees and visitors to campus will see improvements including a pedestrian mall, arched entrance to campus and new landscaping along with new stadium bleachers, restrooms, concession stands and press box at Reeves.

"God has been moving in tremendous ways with this project," says Jim Prince, vice president for operations. "The most visible sign has been with His answer to prayers with regard to PennDOT being able to complete paving prior to the end of October. Had this not happened, the Route 18 project would have been delayed until spring of 2008, which would have delayed the college being granted final ownership of the old roadbed."

That, in turn, would have pushed the pedestrian mall project and related campus construction into 2009 and caused construction costs to go up, Prince says.



Pictured left to right are Chris Carson '06 and his sister, Kate; Will Copeland; and the Perrine family.

"I would say ... that Will has far out-blessed me, more than anything I've ever done for him." Dr. Gayle Copeland '78, education department chair

The timing could not have been more right.

BY EVIE HEMPHILL '05

Assistant Dean Paul Perrine and his wife of 13 years, Kim, answered the phone one morning last spring and had to make a weighty decision. Would they agree to become the parents of a newborn — and pick him up within 24 hours?

lassings

"We got the phone call from our social worker on Easter Sunday," Perrine recalls. "Talk about new life!"

Although the immediacy of the request caught them off guard, the Perrines didn't take long to respond to it. Even before marriage they had talked about their desire to adopt, and, having dealt with chronic illness and fertility issues, were already pursuing domestic adoption through Bethany Christian Services in Wexford, Pa.

They scrambled to round up necessary baby items and then picked up their new son, Deacon Robert, now about six months old. When the Perrines think about how different things might have been (Deacon's birth mother sought an abortion but was told it was too late in the pregnancy to perform one), they can hardly imagine it. And they acknowledge God's hand at work — in the big and the small details.

"Sometimes we don't see God interact that directly," Paul Perrine says. "It's been such a great blessing to see how God has worked things out."

Just a day after Deacon's arrival, chemistry professor Rodney Austin and his wife, Kathleen, brought home their then-10month-old daughter, Jasmine. Born more than three months premature, she has already undergone heart surgery, brain surgery and a complete blood transfusion. Yet Jasmine grins and toddles around without a care in the world.

"It's been wonderful," Kathleen Austin says of their experience thus far. "Everybody says children are such a blessing, but you just don't know until you experience it. She's just so precious."

Not surprisingly, other adoptive parents among the Geneva community echo that sentiment.

"I would say, and I think everybody would say about their adopted children, that Will has far out-blessed me, more than anything I've ever done for him," says Dr. Gayle Copeland '78, head of Geneva's education department and mother to three-year-old Will, who she adopted from Russia in 2004. "The first time I met Will, before I ever touched him, I had a sense of love for this boy that I never thought possible."

The Austins, Copelands and Perrines are among the most recent adoption stories celebrated within the Geneva community, but there are many more. Sandra McLaughlin, executive director of Bethany Christian Services of Western Pennsylvania, can attest to this.

"A lot of Bethany families I know are somehow connected to Geneva with Bethany being a Christian agency and locally governed by a board of directors," she says. "I think it really is a blessing for Geneva to have so many people to come together and take a stand."

The number of Geneva-associated adoptions only makes sense, given the college's focus and aims, says Dr. Ken Carson '79, vice president for academic affairs and the father of three internationally adopted and two biological children.

"It fits so well with our fundamental Christian belief that all believers are adopted into God's family," Carson says. "As faculty and staff model the 'taking care of widows and orphans' command, I have to think that students will see it and consider how they might also be involved in this ministry."

One concrete way Geneva has shown itself to be an institution that fosters adoption is through financial assistance to employees who choose to adopt a child. Whether domestic or international, Geneva provides up to \$3,000 to help defray the costs.

"The belief is backed up financially," says Rodney Austin. And indeed, the costs associated with adoption aren't small. But thanks to that assistance and to gifts from family and friends, the money hasn't been the burden it might have been for some.

The ages of their children, the countries of birth and the challenges vary, but in each family's case there is a hard-to-miss spirit of celebration about the adoption and all it implies. So many of Geneva's adoptive parents and siblings — and adoptees themselves — readily share what they've learned.

"I think we've just celebrated it as a family and treated it as a natural thing," says President Ken Smith '80, who, together with his wife, Becky, adopted a seven-year-old boy, Sasha, from Russia in 2000.

"Natural" is also how Geneva graduate student Christopher Carson '06 describes his parents' adoption of his younger sister, Kate, when he was about ten years old.

"I remember when they told us, and I remember us thinking it was a good thing," Carson says, adding that the arrival of a younger sister seemed normal albeit new. And there's never been anything different, in his mind, about their relationship as compared to that of biological siblings.

"Unless I think about it, it really doesn't even dawn on me," Carson says.

Head Baseball Coach Alan Sumner '85 and his wife, Head Women's Soccer Coach Linda (Nienhuis '91) Sumner, say they "really do not see any distinction" between the two beautiful girls God has given them — their biological 12year-old daughter, Jamie, and their ten-year-old, Erica.

"Erica has blessed us in a way that we could not have imagined. From the moment we saw her we knew she was our daughter," says Alan Sumner, recalling the June 2000 trip to Kazakhstan when they first met her. "She always smiles when I say that God has a great sense of humor by placing our daughter halfway around the world and then leading us to find her."

That embracing sense of adoption as a normal and accepted reality across campus is a healthy thing, according to the Austins, the Smiths and others. But normal and accepted in no way equal ordinary. Many of those impacted by human adoption say it has deepened their understanding of God and sensitivity to scripture.

"I think of us sitting in our sin in a wasteland," says Becky Smith, "and God just reaches down and says, 'I'll take that one.' And He gives us a new home and a new family."

Smith kept a journal of her first trip to the Russian orphanage where she and Sasha first met seven years ago. She prayed for wisdom about the decision at hand — and that seeing Sasha would be "all I'd need to decide to adopt him." That prayer was soon answered. While she can't say she felt a strong emotion from the start, Smith couldn't think of a single reason not to make Sasha part of the family.

"Tears came to my eyes — and Elena's and Maria's [the adoption facilitators] — when I told them (with Sasha sitting next to me), 'I will happily take this child home with me,'" she writes. "On the ride back into the city, Elena wanted to make sure I had decided on this boy. 'Do you want to see the other boy tomorrow?' No. 'Do you want to come back another day to decide?' No. 'Do the diagnoses make a difference in your decision to adopt him?' NYET!

She laughed and said it was her job to make sure that I was very sure."

For Copeland, meditating on "the reality of what scripture says about Christ making me His child" helped prepare her for her adoption of Will. As she thought about what it means to be part of God's family and to be loved unconditionally, she understood more fully that this boy would become as much her son as a biological child would and that he would be called by name and called her own.

"He is my child," Copeland says. "That's the end of the story. He's my son."

For those adoptees who have some knowledge of their birth parents, there's another aspect of the story to explore. Junior Amanda Raver spoke to the campus community during a chapel last year, giving thanks to God, to her adoptive parents — and to her birth mother, who had to make a tough decision at age 16. Would she become a single mother and drop out of school, have an abortion or put her baby up for adoption?

"I don't really know a lot about my birth mother," Raver told her fellow students.



Adoptive families at Geneva reflect God's brilliant Grace

"I don't know her name, what she looks like or even her medical history ... but I do know one thing. She made a hard decision. She let me go ... I wouldn't be where I am today without her choosing the family I have now."

Earlier this year Ken and Jean Carson took two of their adopted children — Molly and Beth — back to Vietnam where they were able to meet members of Beth's birth family and a friend's birth family. Describing that experience as "emotionally wrenching at times," Ken Carson says it was also an incredible blessing.

"It was so good to see the love and concern of the birth families for the girls who we have had the privilege of calling our own," he says.

The experience of adoption — what McLaughlin succinctly defines as "unconditional love for someone

who wasn't born to you" — is full of challenge as well as joy and blessing, but it's more than worth the investment, McLaughlin says. An adoptee herself, the processes she oversees day by day are about more than just a career. She's quick to remind people that it's never too late to consider adoption.

"More couples are facing infertility and more women are facing unplanned pregnancies who never expected to find themselves in that position," she says.

For folks like the Perrines, adoption is a real-life way to put their faith into action, to seek justice, to follow God's commands.

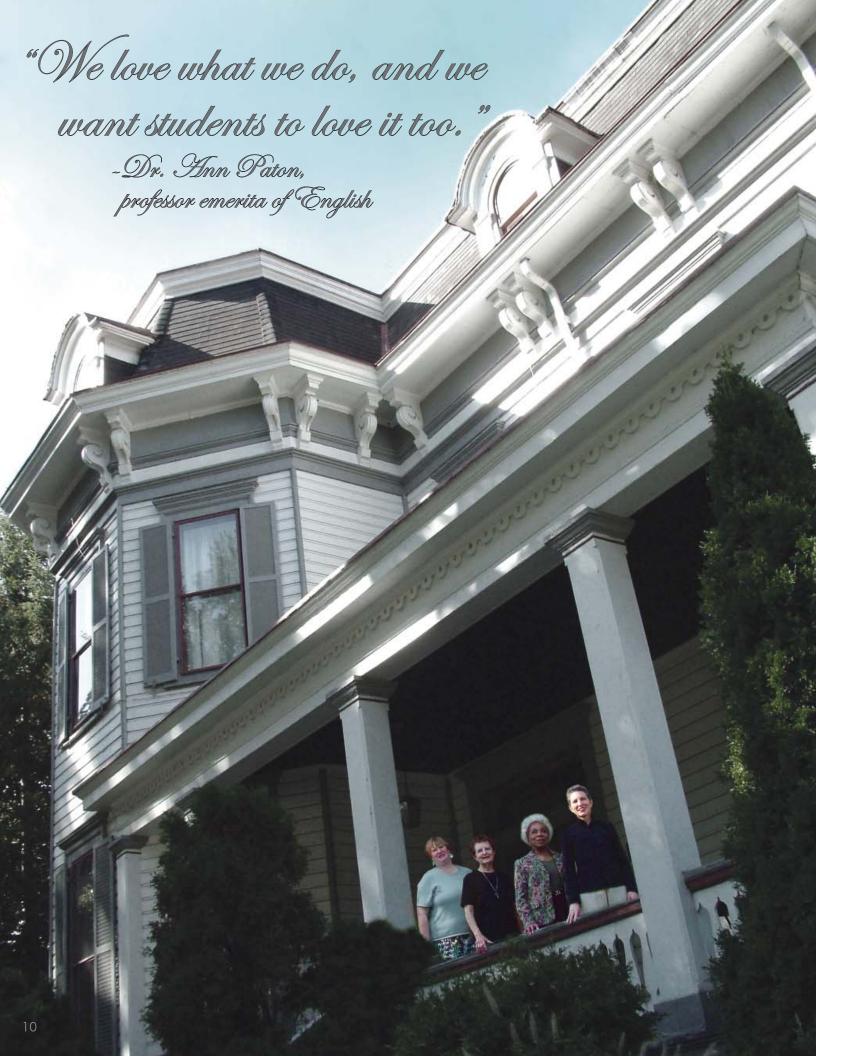
"If you're really going to be against abortion, adoption is the ultimate tangible thing to do," says Kim Perrine. "I think a lot more people should look into it."



"[Erica] always smiles when I say that God has a great sense of humor by placing our daughter halfway around the world and then leading us to find her."

-Head Baseball Coach Alan Sumner '85

Pictured left to right are Beth Carson and members of her biological family in Vietnam; Jasmine Austin; the Smiths; and the Sumners.



Those remarkable women of Fern Cliffe

BY JASON PANELLA '04

"Fern Cliffe is more than a building. It's a collection of people. A collective. A character." That's how Dr. Lynda Szabo '85, professor of English, describes one of Geneva's most beloved buildings — Fern Cliffe.

"Character" is a fitting word for the Victorian-era house.

Tucked between two residence halls, it lends Geneva's campus a healthy dose of charm, with its distinguished three floors bordered by a copse of trees. And the hardwood floors and cozy offices are as much part of the community as are the staff and faculty within.

Given enough time, professors can identify each other's footfalls on the stairs. And it's in this house that several generations of dedicated women have found fellowship, learned from one another and forged an excellent teaching tradition in service to the Creator.

Since its construction in 1880, Fern Cliffe has been a key location on Geneva College's campus. While often cited as the home of noted pastor and author Dr. Clarence Macartney, the house has sheltered many people since the college purchased the property in 1923: home to Dr. M.M. Pearce, former Geneva president; student dormitory for much of the 20th century; and — upon its renovation in 1986 — office and meeting space for many of Geneva's liberal-arts-oriented faculty members.

"Fern Cliffe is a home with a long heritage, a heritage deeply associated with Dr. Macartney and all he stood for," says Dr. Shirley Kilpatrick '74, professor of English. "Working in this home has a salutary effect, I think, in helping to keep us connected to our kingdom mission. Moreover, because it is a home, it's a place where conversation happens

easily and where relationships can flourish."

Szabo points out that prior to Fern Cliffe the humanities and history types would meet at George Manor. It was the renovation of the Fern Cliffe building — and the demolition of George Manor and the surrounding buildings to clear space for Northwood Hall — that prompted the move. But the tradition of extraordinary female professors had already been set in place long before.

Dr. Ann Paton '50, professor emerita of English, says the tradition was started by her mentor and friend Margaret "Peg" Cowmeadow. Students were enthralled by her teaching when she was in front of the classroom; she carried an unparalleled joy for teaching and was blessed with "a way of teaching that excited people," Paton recalls.

Cowmeadow passed the torch on to Paton and to Betty Douglas, who joined Geneva's faculty fulltime in 1966, using her focus in art history to bolster the humanities curriculum.

"Betty Douglas was the heart and soul of the humanities department," says Szabo. "She held the standards high and was a driving and motivating force behind the entire program."

While Douglas likens Geneva's humanities course offerings at the time of her employment to a cafeteria, she says the new program — which lasted for decades — was a team effort: "That's why it worked."

Dr. Paul Smith, professor emeritus of English, had started teaching the same year as Douglas. He recounts watching her give a humanities lecture about Greek sculpture when suddenly the slides stopped working. What she



did next was characteristic of Douglas, according to Smith: "She continued to lecture and assumed all of the poses without pause."

The torch was eventually passed once more to the next generation of women, many of them students of either Paton, Douglas or Cowmeadow: Kilpatrick, Szabo and humanities professor Lynda Lambert. The impact of the "daughters of Ann [Paton]," as they are informally known, extends to others on campus as well including, of course, students.

"The women of Fern Cliffe are incredible models for what Christian women are doing in the world of academia," says senior English major Bekah Guthrie. "By combining curriculum and Christian faith in the classroom, they demonstrate wisdom and intellect to their students every day."

The women have also been an important source of support and encouragement to new Fern Cliffe dwellers, such as Dr. Andrea Smidt-Sittema, professor of history.

"From my first visit to Fern Cliffe and meeting those that dwell within it, I noticed that the affinities between them and this place resemble more closely familial bonds than a mere work relationship," she says. "From weekly prayer meetings to discussions in the parlor, there are always opportunities to get in touch with each other as human beings rather than just professors."

Smith points to the shared sense of mission among the women as that which makes them remarkable. Paton points to several defining characteristics: love for the arts, love for the students and love for Christ. She's quick to add that the male Fern Cliffe dwellers demonstrate similar traits.

"We pay tribute to the guys of Fern Cliffe," she says. "They're quite egalitarian, and very encouraging and supporting."

Both Paton and Douglas are still active at Geneva, with Paton currently teaching a course on Chaucer and Douglas giving frequent guest lectures and discussions.

"We love what we do," says Paton, "and we want students to love it too."



a vision to equip

What began as a conversation between a Geneva College president and two Pittsburgh-based seminary presidents has developed into one of the college's most relevant adult-education options in the 10 years since its inception.

The option of earning a bachelor's degree in community ministry (CMN) — one of four majors offered to busy adult students through Geneva's regional Degree Completion Program (DCP) — has proved attractive to a variety of people. Since DCP's first set of CMN courses in 1997, the major has found ready hearts and minds among urban pastors, people working with faith-based social services and those seeking the training to serve in churches and other ministries in their retirement years.

"There were many urban pastors in Pittsburgh who had the desire to go on to seminary but did not have their bachelor's degree. This new DCP major in ministry would fill that need," says Dr. C. Scott Shidemantle, associate professor of biblical studies and program director for the community ministry major. "What became interesting as the cohorts got started is that we tapped into a niche that was much broader than what was originally intended."

Described as a generalist ministry leadership major, the CMN option prepares graduates to directly apply leadership principles to every area of life and to help churches and parachurch ministries thrive. As the lone Bible- and ministry-oriented program geared for adults in western Pennsylvania, Shidemantle says, the CMN major extends "what is particularly unique about Geneva's mission beyond Beaver County and [into] the inner city, where the transformational reality of the gospel is also needed."

"Students indicate that they have been transformed as a result of the program and feel equipped to serve," Shidemantle says. "Our Reformed understanding of culture is particularly transforming."

Graduates of the program gathered on Geneva's campus this fall to celebrate CMN's 10-year history. Among the attendees was 2005 graduate Susan LeCornu, who looks back on the 18 months she spent in the program as a spiritual, academic and professional workout.

"Just the discipline of being in school is excellent, and it's such a rigorous program," LeCornu says. "That was definitely a character-sharpening experience."

Now working as the director of women's ministry for Christ Church at Grove Farm in the North Hills of

DCP community ministry program celebrates a decade of growth



Pittsburgh, LeCornu completed an internship that morphed into her current position. She still uses what she learned in the DCP program on a daily basis, keeping the books from her classes handy for reference. And she points to the community ministry instruction as exactly what she was looking for having left college many years ago, worked in airline management and then home-schooled her children. She felt a call to a different role at that point in her life, and Geneva's community ministry option proved to be just the thing.

Rev. Richard Wingfield, a member of the first community ministry class in the fall of 1997, says his time in the DCP program catapulted him into "a new dimension" of ministry. Since then, he has helped merge two churches in his community and established several new, accompanying ministries, in addition to going on to earn his master's degree and doctorate. Rewarding relationships with the CMN professors, combined with the challenging coursework, have served him well.

"Each professor challenged me and stretched me to no end," Wingfield says. "I like to be stretched. The interaction with the professors has carried on to this very day."

The support of the Teagle Foundation and partnership with the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary have been keys to the program's development, says Dr. John H. White, Geneva president emeritus.

"It is a program that fits our mission as an institution," White says, "and enables us to cooperate with theological seminaries, preparing students to enter graduate theological education."

The color photo shows a group of 2005 DCP community ministry graduates, including Susan LeCornu (second from the left in the top row), posing beside Old Main in similar fashion to Geneva's graduating class of 1931, which included LeCornu's grandfather, Robert Harold Greenlee (second from right in bottom row)

WRESTLING WITH TERROR AND FAITH

Teachers and students struggle together

BY DR. TOM COPELAND '91

As a sophomore political science major at Geneva in 1988, I took an international relations course with Dr. James Sterrett. I felt God's call to serve Him in Washington, D.C., for a number of years and then return to teaching, preferably at Geneva. I did go to Washington in 1993 and went back to grad school at the University of Pittsburgh in 1998.

After two years of classes, I was ready to start cooking up the big enchilada of all academic writing assignments — the dissertation. There is a kind of recipe for writing a dissertation in my field. The author takes some area of existing theory about a subject, applies it to some new or interesting case studies and draws some logical conclusions.

It is not necessarily meant to generate fascinating new insights, grand theories or interest beyond the author's narrow field. It is meant to show that the author knows the theories in his field and can do some basic research and writing. And it has to be long — one professor told me that "if it's not at least 200 pages, you're not really trying very hard."

So I launched into my dissertation without a great deal of excitement. I found an area of international relations theory that was interesting to me (how and why intelligence failures happen) and a set of incidents that had not been studied much (major terrorist incidents of the 1990s). My wife, Ava, and I moved back to Washington, D.C., in 2000, and I made very slow progress at first on writing.

And then one morning when I was working from our home office, Ava called and told me to turn on the news. An airplane had crashed into the World Trade Center. Within an hour we could see smoke drifting downriver from the Pentagon. With the city shut down, my colleague and friend Gary walked 12 miles to get home.

I almost gave up on my dissertation topic that morning, thinking that it had been overtaken by events in the worst possible way. Yet I stuck with the topic and continued writing my dissertation after God graciously opened up a teaching position at Geneva in 2004. I finished it and defended it before my advisory committee in 2006, just one year short of the "drop-dead" date for completing it.

My overall conclusion after studying the major attacks of the 1990s is that intelligence failures that lead to mass-casualty terrorist incidents are *inevitable*. Many factors lead to failure. Policymakers make bad choices, leaders fail to do their duty, organizations fail to accomplish

their missions, information about serious threats is often confusing or hard to get, and humans tend to misinterpret information anyway. It may not matter greatly how much money we spend or how we reorganize intelligence and homeland security. The "next big one" will always be just around the corner — not a very cheerful topic for conversation across the backyard fence.

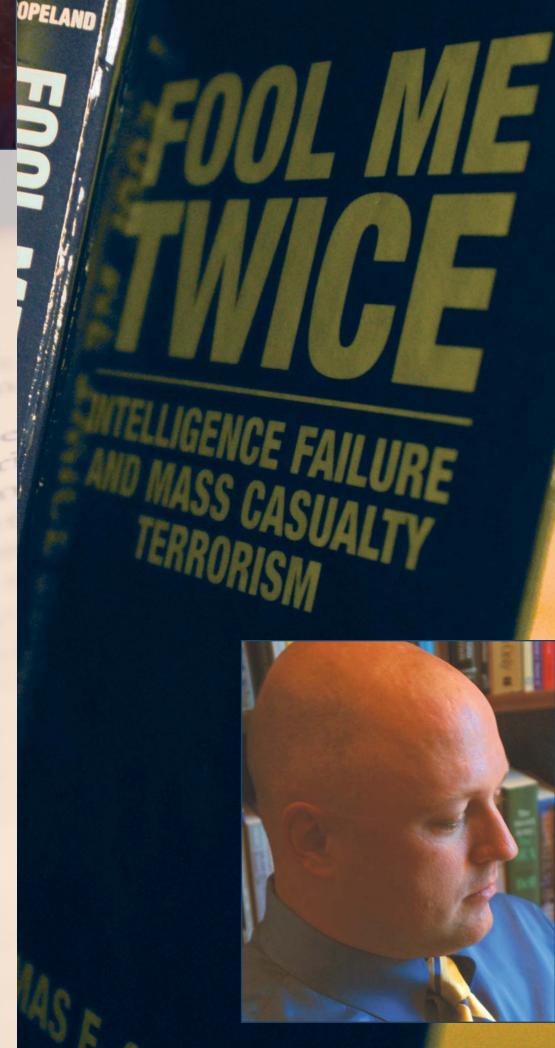
Ultimately I have to conclude that intelligence failures are inevitable because human beings are sinful by nature. We desire evil rather than good, seek darkness rather than light. Our reason, abilities and desires are infected with sin. Until the Lord returns, some will seek to destroy others with terrorist violence, and we will remain unable to predict accurately when and where such things will occur.

But it was impossible to assert this kind of Christian worldview in a dissertation that had to be approved at a secular university. I do get a chance to discuss this in classes at Geneva. I teach a course on global terrorism and another on strategic intelligence, along with several other international relations courses. I frequently make reference to my dissertation in class as a way to help students address important and complex issues in international politics.

It is important that Christian scholars and practitioners actively integrate their faith with their work in government or academia. The students understand this. They have vigorous debates over questions like: Under what conditions might a Christian support or oppose the use of torture on terrorist suspects? Should a Christian work for an intelligence organization that must operate in great secrecy? Does Christian pacifism preclude fighting terrorism? Does "preemptive" war fit with Christian just-war theory? Should Christians be realists or idealists?

It is really something special to see students engaging in thoughtful conversation at the intersection of real-world issues, intellectual rigor and Christian faith. But don't just take my word for it — sit in on a class anytime.





THE BASIC GIST OF COPELAND'S BOOK

During the 1990s the world entered a new era of political and religious terrorism. It began with the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center in New York and reached perhaps its pinnacle in the suicide hijackings of Sept. 11, 2001. The terrorists have deeper roots, better resources and greater readiness to commit violence indiscriminately than in the past. We expect intelligence and law-enforcement agencies to anticipate, prevent and deter such incidents.

Fool Me Twice explores the extent to which the most widely recognized factors in intelligence failure (analytical challenges, organizational obstacles and inherent problems of interpreting warning information) — as well as lesser-known failures of public-policy leadership — contribute to governments' surprise when terrorism occurs.

The picture that emerges is not reassuring: problems identified early in the 1990s persisted and in some cases became worse up to and through the Sept. 11 attacks. Although many factors were involved in these failures, two particular problems are important. First, the Clinton administration had a mistaken and misguided understanding of the threats faced by the United States after the Cold War. Second, Congress and the presidency provided inadequate funding, guidance and oversight of the intelligence community. Neither the public nor the media has held either branch of government accountable for these problems. G

Dr. Tom Copeland '91 is an assistant professor of political science and humanities at Geneva. He is married to Ava (Horn '92) Copeland and the father of Maggie, age 5, and Ian, age 2. His book Fool Me Twice: Intelligence Failure and Mass Casualty Terrorism (Martinus/Nijhoff, 2007) is available on amazon.com.

in service

FROM CLASSROOM TO CAPITOL

Among the many opportunities that came her way as a White House intern last spring, Linnea Eriksson '06 remembers one April afternoon in the East Wing especially well.

The elementary education major, one of 93 students selected to complete internships with the George W. Bush administration, found herself and her peers face to face with the President for 45 minutes. Here was their chance to ask him anything they wished. Eriksson had come prepared to ask a question about No Child Left Behind, but she remained quiet as questioners fired away.

"All I wanted to do was listen," Eriksson says.

Then Bush addressed a question to the interns, Eriksson recalls. He asked which one of them had lost a friend earlier that day in the Virginia Tech shootings. The tragedy had occurred only hours before, and one of the interns had just learned of the death of a good friend.

"She slipped up her hand," Eriksson says, "and President Bush said 'I'm sorry,' and his eyes filled with tears."

That's just one of the moments that Eriksson says opened her eyes to the real people behind the immense operation that is the U.S. government. In addition to the few and far between interactions with Bush, Eriksson's close work with those overseeing the President's Commission on White House Fellowships gave her an inside, day-to-day view of the work lives of some "really intelligent but very humble" people.

"All you see sometimes is the negative, the negative, the negative," Eriksson says. "But I couldn't have asked for a





more ideal place to work." That doesn't mean she found the much-sought-after internship by any means an easy one. It was overwhelming at first.

"They just threw me in," she says. "The internship stretched me in entirely new ways. At first I was very nervous, for instance, on the phone. I'm not just calling someone. I'm calling on behalf of the President."

Of course there were the once-in-a-lifetime perks here and there, like touching the door of the Oval Office, petting Barney, the President's pooch, and randomly seeing Tony Snow and Brian Williams walk by. Eriksson also saw the Queen of England and First Lady Laura Bush and witnessed President Bush exiting the Marine One helicopter.

One question Eriksson found herself asking often as she encountered different challenges and new situations was, "Lord, why are you doing this? Why are you blessing me with all these wonderful opportunities?" After coming back to Geneva to walk with her fellow graduating seniors in May, the December 2006 graduate embraced another opportunity, heading to Switzerland to teach English and drama classes to elementary-age students over the summer. Now in Sweden studying the language for a year, Eriksson is enjoying it but is ready to be back in the classroom as a teacher.

"It has simply confirmed, even more, my decision to graduate with an education degree," she says.

30 YEARS AND COUNTING

History has come and gone quietly across the desk of longtime Geneva employee Lois Hogue during countless hours spent tucked away typing in the lower level of Alexander Hall.

Moving from typewriters and addressographs to PCs and printers, change is something that Hogue, a records specialist for the college, has come to expect — and to appreciate over the years.

"Things are more efficient all the way around, in all kinds of ways," says the Beaver Falls native, who celebrated her 75th birthday earlier this year. "I'm not aware of all that's changed, but it's been such an improvement every time."

Through all those changes, Hogue has remained a familiar presence. Although she technically retired in 1997, she couldn't stay away and found herself back on the job — albeit part-time — within a year. Currently working to transfer the college's alumni records of "everyone who ever attended Geneva" during its 160-year history onto digital systems, Hogue also served as a supervisor of the Phonathon fund-raising efforts, compiled information for Geneva Magazine and the annual report, sent letters to parents of prospective students and continues to assist with special events.

"I like working here because of the Christian atmosphere," Hogue says. "And I live a mile away from here. It's close to home ... I like to be out and about around people. It's been a real blessing for me to be a part of this."

One of the greatest joys of her work, she says, is knowing the impact Geneva has had in the lives of those who attend the college.

"For me, one of the greatest things that says it all is when I've gone to the senior breakfast [before commencement each spring] and students share that when they came to Geneva they didn't know Christ but now they do," Hogue says. "To me that is one of the most awesome things - the good education and knowing Christ as their savior."

Her behind-the-scenes work may go unnoticed at times, but her supervisor, Betty Iben, director of donor services, can attest to what Hogue's contributions have meant.



"Her godly spirit is portrayed in her work ethic, helping her family members and continually finding a good word to share," Iben says. "Throughout her many years of service to Geneva, Lois could always be counted on to go above and beyond whatever task was asked of her. Geneva has been blessed with her works just as Lois has been blessed by God's grace."

In service stories continue on page 21

THE SPIRIT FOR SPORT

How might the world of sports look different if Christian athletes and coaches pursued their passions with God's glory as their goal?

Six years ago, questions like that drove Nate Hartman '95 to begin the National Christian School Athletic Association (NCSAA), an organization that seeks to encourage Christ-centered excellence in athletics, to meet the athletic needs of Christian schools and to impact communities with the love of Christ. Now comprising 200 member schools across the United States, NCSAA has steadily grown, offering a variety of tournament events, recognition programs and other resources.

Hartman's desire is for schools and individuals to catch the vision for sports as far more than simply opportunities for fun and competition - to see involvement in such activities in light of Colossians 3:23-24: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men ... It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

"I have a desire to see others experience sports in the life-changing ways in which I have, and I long to see athletes engage in sports excellently, in such a way as to glorify



Continued on page 17

God with the gifts they've been given," says Hartman, for whom sports played a crucial role growing up. "God has been challenging me in this arena of athletics for many, many years."

That call became louder following graduation from Geneva, where Hartman says he developed an understanding of God's sovereignty over all areas of life, including sports. Hartman and his wife, Kara (Martin '95), moved to Colorado, where he put his English education and writing majors to use teaching in a Christian school. While there, and in subsequent roles as athletic director and coach at Beaver County Christian School just blocks away from Geneva, Hartman grew more passionate about the idea of an organization that could challenge and assist Christian schools in their athletic endeavors.

"Then came Sept. 11, 2001," Hartman says, "and the events surrounding that tragic day had a profound impact upon my calling and career path." A deeper grasp of the Church's responsibility to impact society and an "intense reshuffling of priorities" led Hartman out of what had become an all-too-cozy comfort zone.

"I recognized that I wasn't actively involved in trying to provide an answer to anyone's questions ... God challenged me to 'take the risk' and begin the work of NCSAA," says Hartman, who is father to Esther, seven, Jenna, four, and Kaelyn, two. "God has been good, and those of us who have watched NCSAA's growth from its infant stages are excited to see what He will do with us next."



Karen Aiken

Five years after an introductory course at Geneva first sparked her passion for psychology, Karen Aiken '06 is passing it along to undergrads at the University of Akron, where she is in the middle of her second year in a nationally acclaimed PhD program in industrial/organizational psychology.

"I was given the special job this

year of teaching the distance-learning class," Aiken says.
"I have 25 University of Akron students in my classroom, and the class is transmitted live to eight local high schools that are equipped so that the students can still participate in my class."

Aiken points to the personal aspect of psychology as that which drew her into the field — and into her chosen focus of gerontology, the study of the aging workforce.

"I chose to study this because work is a huge part of our lives," she says. "The vast majority of people spend at least 33-percent of their day at work."

Understanding and relating to others figured prominently into Aiken's varied experiences at Geneva, and she's putting those interpersonal skills to use in her current endeavors.

"Geneva prepared me to deal with worldview issues from a faith perspective," Aiken says. "I was amazed when I first came to Akron how strong the lens was through which I viewed everything. What came naturally to me to think and say and was previously commonplace at Geneva now was different enough at Akron to spur questions and conversations from people with different backgrounds."

Luke Bartolomeo and Justin McGeary

Two local 2006 graduates have put their heads together and their English degrees to work to create *The Monongabela Review*, an electronic literary publication aimed at bringing differing voices into interaction.



Somewhere in their busy post-college schedules, Luke Bartolomeo and Justin McGeary are finding time to recruit contributors, edit submissions and develop the publication's Web site (www.monreview.com).

"We are hoping that *The Mon Review* will be a place where both Christians and non-Christians speak, try to



understand and express what life is about," says McGeary, a technical writer and part-time seminary student.

"Part of this endeavor is also to continue to read and think about life after college, so there is that selfish element of wanting to keep up with reading, discussions and ideas that we loved and enjoyed at Geneva."

Completion of the maiden issue is expected very soon, according to Bartolomeo, who paints houses by day and writes novels by night. He credits several Geneva professors — as well as the time he spent heading up the college's literary magazine, *The Chimes* — with inspiring him to start a literary magazine of his own (he adds that "the library and its free cookies" were also a help).

A love for the written word on the part of both Bartolomeo and McGeary is at the heart of the project. McGeary, a literature major at Geneva, says he loves literature, in a nutshell, because "it is about life." Bartolomeo, who has recently completed drafts of two novels, thrives on the challenge of evocation through writing.

"That great labor — that frustration — keeps me writing," Bartolomeo says. "It's like a math problem I can't solve. I can never express myself to the fullest on the page, but I keep doing it anyway hoping the answer will come out."

Andy Brown

"I've always said that Geneva, like life, is what you want to make of it." That's the perspective that Andy Brown '07 brought



with him to campus four years ago — and continues to bring to life in general.

As one of only a handful of students able to complete the rigorous aviation dual major offered by Geneva in coordination with a local community college, Brown's success against the odds continued this summer as he completed a strenuous training program with U.S. Airways Express in Charlotte, N.C., and is now getting settled in Roanoke, Va., where he is a first officer for the airline.

"The training lasted about three months and was, by far, the hardest experience of my life," Brown says. "Only about half of the training class I started with was able to make it through to completion." But Brown has no illusions about the basis of his new career and success in school. He's quick to acknowledge God's grace, and he also understands that his success or failure in his training "is not what defines [his] value as a human." He credits this perspective to his alma mater.

"Geneva was the place and time where I fell in love with God and learning," he says, "and where I developed a passion to change the world for Christ." Brown hopes to be a light for Christ in his current position, but his long-term plans make room for other pursuits as well.

"Through my studies in history and the liberal arts at Geneva, I became attuned to a calling to higher education," he says. "I hope to attend law school or grad school within the next ten years."

Brandy (Chess) Brown

For Brandy Brown, every workday is serious business in the cardiac catheterization labs of INOVA Fairfax Hospital in Virginia. But some days are more dramatic than others, including one last spring.



"A gentleman was having
a cup of coffee in the lobby," says the Geneva alum. "He
suddenly went into cardiac arrest, and I was walking by as
he collapsed in his chair." Brown pulled him to the floor
and began CPR. The man survived —though with a few
broken ribs from Brown's compressions — and was soon
brought into the catheterization lab where the technologists
discovered a blockage in one of the vessels feeding his heart.

"We opened the vessel," she recalls, "and he then recovered just fine from the whole ordeal."

Brown provides timely medical care during the more typical days at the hospital, too. Having completed the Geneva-sponsored Cardiovascular Technology program at INOVA a year ago and now a regular employee there, she stents arteries, balloons closed valves and closes holes in hearts on a daily basis.

"I see my work as my ministry," she says. "I know that most of my patients — from the two-hour-old baby whose heart is malfunctioning to the 100 year old with peripheral vascular disease — are scared. It's important to our patients that we fix their hearts, but almost as important is fixing their anxiety and worries and remembering that they are people before they are patients."

Brown attributes this approach to several Geneva faculty and staff who deeply impacted her, including

Dr. Daryl Sas, professor of biology, Mary and Jim Mason and Tom Magnone.

They taught me how to work hard and do my job to the best of my abilities," Brown says, "while also loving people

and helping others whenever and however possible."

Johnathan Neiswinger

While many Geneva graduates go immediately into the workforce, some opt for additional years of classes, assignments and research known as graduate school. One of these brave souls is Johnathan Neiswinger.



After graduating with a degree in chemistry last spring and marrying Lauren McBurney '07 in July, Neiswinger moved to Baltimore, Md., where he is enrolled in the pharmacology and molecular sciences PhD program at John Hopkins University. In addition to classes, first-year students in the program perform lab rotations with faculty whose areas of research they find most interesting.

"In my first lab rotation I am studying the possible enzymes that repair a specific type of DNA mutation caused by y-radiation," Neiswinger says. "If an enzyme can be found for this type of mutation, it could be used to develop some treatments to skin cancer."

After receiving his doctorate from Hopkins, Neiswinger hopes to pursue a fellowship at a major university to gain teaching experience. He plans to work in a laboratory and eventually teach at the college level, and his Geneva education has prepared him well for this track—both academically and spiritually.

"While most of the faculty and students see the complexity of proteins and cellular function as a feat of evolution, I daily am increasingly amazed at the incredible, intelligently designed creation that our bodies are," he says. "As a future pharmacologist, I am excited to be able

to potentially find new treatments for the many diseases that plague this fallen world."

Jeff Robinson

Learning Greek is a lot easier the second time around, according to Christian ministries major Jeffrey Robinson '06.



nativestile

Now in his first year of seminary at Westminster Theological Seminary in Glenside, Pa., Robinson really "could go on and on about professors and how important certain classes have been," including Dr. Jonathan Watt's challenging Greek course that has made seminary-level study of the language a lot less stressful, he says.

"All the biblical studies, philosophy and sociology classes I took have been important in preparing me for seminary and the ministries I help out with at the church," says Robinson, who is also an intern at Faith Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Del. "In so many ways my classes were like launching pads — they may not have taught me everything there was to know about a subject, but they got me started in thinking about all kinds of things."

Pursuing a master of divinity degree with a concentration in general studies, Robinson is exploring options in Westminster's missions, urban missions and counseling programs as well as the traditional pastoral ministry program.

"I think, most simply stated, my passion is for understanding God and His world and how to make His love more known to His world," Robinson says. "I don't know where the Lord is leading me, but I'm glad He has brought me to where I am right now."

Juliann Spencer



"God's Word is the most precious gift we can give to anyone, and there are still over 2,500 language groups who do not have a single word of scripture in their own language." Juliann Spencer '05 writes these words from Papua, New Guinea (PNG), where she is now a language surveyor for Wycliffe Bible Translators.

"It was Dr. Paul Kilpatrick who opened the door into the world of linguistics and invited me inside," says Spencer. "I am so thankful that Geneva gave me the flexibility to design a major that was specifically tailored to my calling. I was able to study linguistics, Hebrew, Greek and even a Native American language in Arizona as part of my major."

While a student at Geneva, she decided to pursue an independent major in linguistics, a minor in Spanish and a

life dedicated to transforming lives by translating words. After graduating, Spencer taught English as a second language at a public elementary school in Texas for two years, helping children in grades K-4 to develop their oral and written proficiency. In August, Spencer moved to PNG, where she and the other members of the survey team are seeking to identify the most strategic location and language to begin a new Bible translation project.

"Often there are several closely related language groups," Spencer says, "so the survey team tries to determine how many different languages are spoken, how closely they're related, which language can be understood by the most people and whether children are learning the language."

Her enthusiasm for her work is evident: "Frederick Buechner wrote, 'The place where God calls you is the place where your deepest gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.' His words express the way I feel about my calling to further the work of Bible translation."

Emily Stains

Just a month before graduating last May, English education major Emily Stains '07 accepted what she describes as an "amazing" teaching position at a top-ranked high school in Richmond, Va., where she instructs both ninth graders and Advanced Placement English 12 students.



"To teach at a high school of this caliber and be given the opportunity to teach elevated levels of English is certainly the answer to my prayers," Stains says. "God revealed to me very early on that I would be a teacher and that teaching is my spiritual gift."

Stains follows in the footsteps of her mother, an adjunct English professor at Penn State Altoona who instilled early in her a passion for English and a love of learning. As Stains puts it, teaching is in her genes.

Leadership opportunities at Geneva that have helped Stains stretch her mind, hone organization skills and practice her "teacher voice" included spearheading the English Club and Sigma Tau Delta and also working as a teaching assistant, tutor and junior admissions counselor. She also points to her adviser and professor, Dr. Lynda Szabo '85, as key to her growth.

"She was an excellent role model who demonstrated how to really teach the content and show compassion to all students," Stains says.

TO LIVE IS GAIN

"Lord, if You can be best honored by taking my life, it's Yours. But if You have a plan for me, wake me up, and I can't wait to serve You."

That brief prayer is the last thing Jim Traficant '84 remembers thinking before his second liver transplant two years ago. The doctors had explained that he might die during the procedure. But the next thing Traficant remembers is waking up alive and hearing the voice of his wife, Gwen (Richards '84). It was Thanksgiving Day.

"It is humbling and thrilling to be back. The doctors are astounded at my recovery," Traficant wrote to his coworkers at Harris Corporation in Washington, D.C., on his first day back at the office. "The tests affirm I'm healthier than any time in the last fifteen years."

Now the former Geneva ballplayer and engineering major, who came to know Christ during his years on campus, is focused on fulfilling the plans God still has for him here on earth. He wants to help others facing their darkest hours to "find the grace and blessing in Christ" in those moments. He is also an advocate for organ donation



and is drawing on his experience as a patient and as an informationmanagement professional in order to apply his company's expertise to the realm of healthcare.

Traficant is quick to give thanks for the gifts he's been given, whether he's talking about a longer stay on earth, sweet time with Gwen and their teenage children (Ashley and Jeremy), supportive coworkers, the decision of a neighbor who saved his life by becoming a living organ donor—or the most incredible gift of all, the Lord Jesus Christ.

"I came to Geneva to play basketball and baseball and to get an engineering degree," Traficant says. "The transforming thing was that I came to Christ while I was there." He points to the required Bible courses and several of his Golden Tornado teammates as instrumental in his conversion. Through them, he says, he began to understand the nature of God's grace as a free gift.

Since graduating from Geneva 23 years ago, Traficant's ties with his alma mater have continued. When he helped begin a small business dealing mostly with aerospace work in the intelligence community, the company found itself in need of talented engineers and computer science wizards. Did anyone know where to find some?

"I said, 'Well, I do,' so I would go back to Geneva, and we hired at least 27 Geneva graduates over the course of the years," Traficant says. "They've had a great impact. Not only were they great engineers, but we really did change the company." Ask him, and he'll share how Bible studies occurred in research labs and how people came to Christ.

TALL ORDERS

To say that Jeremy Kirk '00 has been reaching high since attending Geneva may be something of an understatement.

One of his first
assignments as a structural
engineer for Chicagobased Skidmore, Owings
& Merrill (after receiving
his master's degree from
the Massachusetts Institute
of Technology in 2005)
was to complete



engineering design for beams and columns inside United Arab Emirates' Burj Dubai, soon to be the world's tallest skyscraper when it is finished in 2009. And now Kirk is involved in the engineering design and construction administration of the Trump International Hotel and Tower project in Chicago.

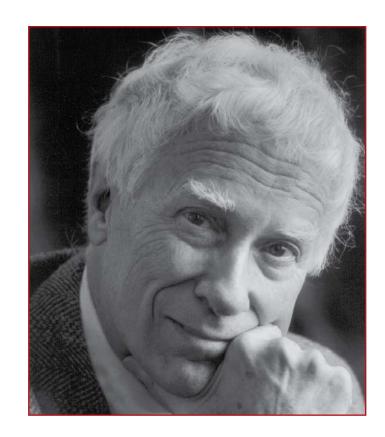
"It is a 90-story, all-concrete building that will be the second-tallest building in Chicago, after the Sears Tower," Kirk says. "I've also recently been doing structural design for a hospital in New York and an office building near Philadelphia."

His work as a structural engineer first led him to Lancaster, Pa., where he focused on smaller projects such as schools, churches, warehouses and homes. In 2003 Kirk traveled to Honduras with Engineering Ministries International to donate engineering services for the design of a school for orphans. As he pursues his field, Kirk is thankful for the instruction he received at Geneva.

"I feel that the engineering program at Geneva prepared me well for grad school and employment," he says. "The broad base of the program gave me a solid intellectual foundation for further study as well as professional achievement. I am also grateful for the liberal arts exposure I received at Geneva, which I feel has helped me to appreciate life in fuller ways."

For Kirk, structural engineering allows him to use his gifts in practical ways for the benefit of society and to employ both analytical and creative skills. When he's not helping to create some of the highest architectural points on the globe, he also enjoys spending time with his fiancé, Rebecca Mowery ('00), who is a physical therapist at Weiss Joint University in Chicago. The pair is planning an April 2008 wedding.





OF LOVE & OF LOVE & JA conversation with Christian philosopher Nicholas Wolterstorff

The campus community heard from Dr. Nicholas Wolterstorff in late April when he visited Geneva as a guest lecturer for the annual Dr. Byron I. Bitar Memorial Lecture in Philosophy. Wolterstorff, a past president of the American Philosophical Association who has taught at Calvin College and Yale University and Divinity School, gave three lectures on love and justice, titled "Agape in Contemporary Christian Ethics," "Agapism's Difficulty with Justice" and "Justice-alert Love." He also joined his friend Dr. Esther L. Meek (one of Geneva's philosophy professors), philosophy major John Buchmann '07 and publications manager Evie Hemphill '05 at a local café to answer some questions.

Meek: What do your lectures say that people need to know about love and justice?

Wolterstorff: "Agapism" cut a wide swath among Christian thinkers in the 20th century. This movement says that love, the love that Jesus enjoins on us and attributes to God, must be understood as benevolence — sheer, gratuitous benevolence — the prime example of which is God's forgiveness of the sinner.

Now if you think of love as pure, gratuitous benevolence and your prime example thereof is forgiveness, then it's deeply perplexing how love relates to justice. For if I do something because justice requires it, this is scarcely gratuitous benevolence. When you think of love that way — biblical love, agape — you can only think of justice and of love in polarity. And so I probe the Agapist movement's understanding of love as benevolence, the best example of which is the Swedish Lutheran bishop Anders Nygren who wrote *Eros and Agape* in the early 1930s. I talk about agapism's understanding of love as gratuitous benevolence and the polarity with justice that arises. Nygren forthrightly maintains that in the New Testament love supplants justice. Justice is Old Testament stuff; love is New Testament.

My argument against that is that it cannot possibly be true, if you read the New Testament carefully, that love has supplanted justice. Here's one example: Jesus's most in-your-face self-identification identifies himself as the one who is anointed to bring God's reign of justice prophesied in Isaiah (Luke 4:17-21). So this can't possibly be correct. So this indicates that we need to rethink justice, but particularly rethink what constitutes love in the New Testament.

In the two great love commandments as Matthew records them, Jesus says that the second is "like unto the first" (Matthew 22:36-40). Now if you think of love of neighbor as benevolence, then it is highly problematic that the second is like the first, because none of the Agapists were willing to say that our attitude towards God should be construed as benevolence. So Nygren said that Jesus was talking loosely when he said that we should love God — that what He really meant is that we should have faith in God. And the other problem is that the second love command says to love your neighbor as you love yourself, and it's clear He is taking for granted that love of yourself is OK. Nobody would take that to be benevolence; that's self-interest. So that shows that one's got to rethink love, plus

the polarity between love and justice.
That's a one-minute-long — two-minute-long — summation of the core of my argument in the Bitar Lectures.

Meek: Interesting. Well C.S. Lewis has a book on love. How does your approach compare?

Wolterstorff: I distinguish in the course of the argument four phenomena that the English word covers. One is benevolence; that's surely a case of love. Another is attraction: "I just love this piece of music." What we mean in this case is that you're gripped by it. A third would be the love of attachment. The connection between attachment and the recognition of worth is pretty thin. I mean, you can be attached to a cat for whatever reason; it wandered in one day and so forth. It's not going to win any prizes in cat shows; your neighbor's is a much better cat, but this is the one you love, that you're attached to mysteriously. And then there's the love of self interest. That corresponds roughly to Lewis' four loves.

But the one I'm speaking of differs from those four. The best English word for what I take the Bible to mean by love most of the time is care, or caring love. I think justice is bounded in rights, and

rights are what worth requires. I think when you care about someone, you care about their well-being — that's benevolence — but you also care that their worth and dignity be respected. So I think that's what the biblical writers mean. Hence it incorporates justice, because to care that their worth and dignity are respected is doing justice to them. So I think biblical love is a fifth one — it's caring love. And you can care about yourself. I think that's the point of the second commandment — we do care about ourselves. Maybe poorly, but we care about ourselves.

Meek: And it's legitimate to care about ourselves.

Wolterstorff: You care about your well-being; you care that your worth be respected. If someone demeans you, you rightly feel angry and so forth. Or if you don't, there's some disorder at work ... So biblical love, I think, is caring about. One can care about God. The Lord's Prayer opens with "hallowed be Thy name." That's to care about the hallowing of God's name in society. So if you think of it as caring about, it satisfies two basic considerations. One, we can now see that justice is incorporated within it, and secondly you can care about yourself and about your neighbor and about God.

Meek: What would you say is the street importance of this distinction? Is the current evangelical church out of kilter because of this prevailing disconnect between love and justice?

Wolterstorff: My sense is that the evangelical church — I'm wary of overgeneralizing — is happy to talk of retributive justice — punishment — but apart from that does not like to talk about justice. I have a Canadian friend at Edmonton who chairs one of the international children's rights organizations; she says they get

the most flak from evangelical Christians who simply do not want to talk about children's rights. They don't want to hear anything about it. So I think there's a lot of skittishness

At Cornell University last week I was talking to the InterVarsity people and to the heads of Christian studies groups. I told the head of the one at Yale what I was doing, and he and I got in a big argument about it. He doesn't like this talk about justice. Why is that?

It's misunderstandings of justice, misunderstandings of love. I'm going to talk in the third lecture about mistranslations of the New Testament. The issue here is how you translate the Greek *dikaiosune* and *dikaios*. In Plato's *Republic* you've got *dikaiosune* and *dikaios* all over the place, and everybody translates that as *justice* and *just*. You get to the New Testament, and there are some 300 occurrences of these *dik*- stem words. Almost always they're translated as *righteousness*, not as *justice*.

Meek: For example--?

Wolterstorff: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of *dikaiosune*" is translated as "for the sake of *righteousness*". So then I say, OK, now let's put our heads to this. We've got to settle it contextually, I think. How many upright people that you know are persecuted? My impression of upright people is that they're either ignored or admired. They're not persecuted. It's people who seek justice who get under the skin of other people and get them hopping mad.

So one reason for the prevailing disconnect regarding love and justice is the English translations of the New Testament. I think a second reason evangelicals don't like it is that the great reform movements of the 20th century were all conducted in terms of rights ... evangelicals don't like many of those movements. I mean,

they're very selective about it. So I think it's the translations, and the fact that the great liberation movements of the 20th century have been couched usually in terms of *rights* annoys them. They hear rights as loaded with a hostile agenda.

Meek: What word would be more accessible than *rights?*

Wolterstorff: I'm not going to give up the word rights. There's a common narrative nowadays that says the notion of natural rights was an invention of the Enlightenment. Those who like the idea say that, and it's assumed by those who don't like the idea of rights. But there's indisputable evidence now that ... it's not an Enlightenment invention. It's part of your and my heritage. John Chrysostom gives seven sermons on the parable of Lazarus; he says in the second or the third that the extra shoes of the wealthy person belong to the poor person. That's rights; belonging-to is rights. So it's part of your and my heritage. I don't think we should surrender it to secularism.

Meek: So it's not fundamentally idolatrous to talk about rights?

Wolterstorff: No. It fundamentally recognizes the dignity and worth of human beings and of God. God has rights, correct? He has the right to be worshiped in obedience.

Meek: So for us to talk about human rights reflects, rather than denies, God's character.

Wolterstorff: I think the recognition of the idea of natural inherent rights comes from the Old Testament. It's the gift of the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures to humankind, or at least Westerners, and so we should not surrender it. Buchmann: I wonder how your understanding of love and justice influences your understanding of your role as an academic. And would you have some advice for an aspiring academic as to how we ought to understand our mission in light of love and justice?

Wolterstorff: I think one sign of the Christian scholar, apart from the content of what he or she does and so forth, is how you treat your fellows. They should all be treated with dignity. That should be a mark. They have a right to be treated with dignity. That's justice; treat them justly. That's got implications for what profession you choose and so forth.

In seminars I taught at Yale, I found that people can be mighty dismissive sometimes. I remember one student making some utterly dismissive remark during discussion of a passage in Augustine. So I said to her, "Would you have said that same thing if Augustine was sitting right across from you at this table?" She said, "No way." Why not? See the point. She was demeaning. I wanted to say — but I didn't say, because justice forbad it — "Would you have said that *dumb* thing you just said?" (Chuckles)

Buchmann: Does it influence the way you choose topics, too? Pursuits?

Wolterstorff: It influenced me in choosing this topic! There's a stereotype that there are two kinds of professors...one is the classic professor who at age 25 has a vision of 13 volumes, and he hopes that his death and the completion of the 13th volume will roughly coincide. (*Laughter*) The other is the one who responds to what happens. I'm much more like the second than like the first.

My thinking about justice was provoked by visiting South Africa in September 1976 and by going to a Christian conference of Palestinians in May 1978.

"If you think of love as pure, gratuitous benevolence and your prime example thereof is forgiveness, then it's deeply perplexing how love relates to justice."

It was not teaching duties — I've never taught political theory or ethics — nor following a system in which, when I got to volume 11, I should really talk about justice. Rather, being confronted by injustice has provoked me to think hard about justice. And you can't be a Christian and think about justice without thinking about love and justice, and so one thing leads on to another.

Meek: You said in the discussion earlier today that it was not reading a text but seeing faces.

Wolterstorff: Yes. Seeing faces and hearing voices. Actual faces and actual voices, rather than newsprint. I mean, I had read about South Africa, and I'd read about the Middle East. But for me at least, and I think for most human beings, it does not have the same effect.

Hemphill: What might love and justice look like at Geneva? And what role do Christian colleges have to play right now?

Wolterstorff: One has to think in two directions. One, the academic situation itself. What is it to teach justly, and what is it for the academic institution to act justly? That's one topic, The other is what to teach about. But I think the first is exceedingly important — that one teach justly and that the institution act justly. I think in great measure human beings are shaped in what they do by models... when a model talks one way and acts a different way, either the acting speaks

louder than the words, or, more often, the "modelee" talks the way the model did and acts the way the model did. So discrepancy models itself, if professors talk one way and act another way. That produces a strong inclination in students to talk that way and act that way.

So you have to think, "Am I teaching justly, and is this institution acting justly?"

And then when it comes to curriculum—curriculum and programs—ask what you can teach for justice. So it's really teaching justly for justice.

What the Christian in the academy should seek is to think with a Christian mind and speak with a Christian voice in his or her discipline. Now at a big state university Christian students and professors are going to get no assistance in that from the university itself. So it depends heavily on this ancillary Christian studies institute or center, whatever they opt to call it. And they can do some of that, but it's very difficult in that situation to avoid a sort of side-by-side picture, or to think of Christianity as an add-on - you do your regular computer studies and then you add on Bible study maybe on Wednesday and church on Sunday and maybe a twice-a-year camp out for Christian students.

So I think Christian colleges play an indispensable role. Here you can genuinely, for four years in a community, work out what it is to think with a Christian mind and speak with a Christian voice in philosophy and psychology and so forth. I think that cannot happen at most universities; it happens only limpingly.









in review by Brooke Prokopchak '08 and Evie HEMPHILL '05 GREAT READS FROM GENEVA AUTHORS



The Outrageous Idea of Academic Faithfulness
By Donald Opitz (professor of sociology at
Geneva) and Derek Melleby
Brazos Press: Grand Rapids, MI 2007

In this new guide for students, Opitz and Melleby help to ground the concept of integrating faith with learning. Don't underestimate the content of this paperback; its pages are packed with bold statements, tough questions and deep challenges.

While it is directed at Christian students attending college (whether small or large, Christian or secular), the book is useful for anyone associated with the world of higher education. The authors' tone invites students to let down their academic guard and enjoy comical stories while seriously evaluating the role of scholarship in their worldviews and contributing to the discussion by responding to questions at the end of each chapter.

"We cannot simply conform to dominant cultural assumptions about college," write Opitz and Melleby. "We need to develop a view of higher



education that has been deconstructed ... and redeveloped — prayerfully, thoughtfully, graciously. In this we will be swimming against the strong current of a well-established collegiate culture."

Written with a narrative generation in mind, *The Outrageous Idea of Academic Faithfulness* draws on the book of Daniel, *The Lord of the Rings* and the experiences of real students in its compelling, eight-chapter-long argument for the importance of academic discipleship and taking studies seriously.



The Miner's Daughter

By Gretchen Moran Laskas (daughter of Dr.

Gerald Moran, retired college librarian)

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers:

New York, NY 2007

In this coming-of-age tale, Laskas captures the heart of 16-year-old Willa Lowell, a young girl forced to trade the trappings of childhood for the responsibilities of adulthood far too early, hardly a rarity in the midst of the Great Depression.

The book's protagonist feels
hopelessly trapped in the small coal
camp of the Riley Mines in West Virginia,
where work is far from steady and
money is scarce. Forced to quit school
and care for her family, Willa finds
solace in reading the books at the town
mission, run by the proper yet nurturing
Miss Grace, whose name rings of allegory. It is
Miss Grace who introduces Willa to poetry and

the power of written language to stir her very existence.

This beautiful story of family ties, first loves and friendships may be described as musical in

both tone and telling. The plot as well as the words on the page flow with a lyrical quality that is quickly addictive and instantly engaging.

Laskas reveals the heart behind her story in the first chapter when she writes, "As Willa pulled dresses from the line, gathering them against her so they wouldn't drop in the dust, her ear still remembered her mother's touch. Perhaps, she thought, there is always a mark, when another person touches you, an invisible thread connecting you to them."

Perhaps it is not only people who leave marks, but books as well.



James Reformed Expository Commentary: Portrait of a Living Faith By Dr. Daniel M. Doriani '75 P&R Publishing: Phillipsburg, NJ 2007

They say you shouldn't judge a book by its cover. You also shouldn't judge it by its title. James is an installment in the Reformed Expository Commentary Series, a series designed to educate and inspire clergy and lay teachers and disciples alike.

It is not, by any stretch of the imagination, an academic treatise. "Our intent is to be faithful, clear and helpful to Christians who possess various levels of biblical and theological training," write the editors in the introduction.

Doriani takes a thematic approach to the book of James, expounding it passage by passage and paragraph by paragraph using simple, clear diction. Though the work is not a commentary in the technical tradition, it does rest on scholarly research. Doriani analyzes the structure of James as a whole and the structure of each particular passage, engages the Greek text, and considers sociohistorical context as he addresses issues commonly debated by scholars.



James is practical — something like a devotional, in a sense. Doriani uses metaphors, illustrations and even examples from his own life to adapt the content for today's culture and understanding. Simultaneously he confirms the authenticity and canonical merit of James by shining light on the seemingly obscure connections between James and other

New Testament authors.

An easy read, *James* is a useful resource for any Christian seeking to better understand the Word that gives meaning, purpose and direction to this life. Also released recently was Doriani's *The Sermon on the Mount: The Character of a Disciple.*



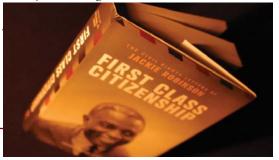
First Class Citizenship:
The Civil Rights Letters of Jackie Robinson
By Michael G. Long '85
Times Books/Henry Holt, Inc: New York, NY 2007

While conducting research on Billy Graham and Richard Nixon at the national archives in California two years ago, Elizabethtown College religious studies professor Michael Long came across a file that left him spellbound: letters addressed to Nixon from baseball star Jackie Robinson.

"I was hooked, because this was a Jackie Robinson I did not know," says the Geneva alum in a recording on the Henry Holt Web site. "Growing up in central Pennsylvania in the 1970s, I was exposed only to benign biographies that depicted him as a smiling second baseman — a nice young man who turned the other cheek when facing those who were furious about Branch Rickey's noble experiment of breaking the color barrier in Major League Baseball.

"The letters changed my whole perspective on Jackie Robinson, and they were so compelling that I shelved the Billy Graham project without a moment of hesitation." "Long's book reveals a different side of Robinson. Penning hundreds of compelling letters to politicians and public figures following his baseball career, he emerges as a passionate and eloquent advocate for racial justice — and a model U.S. citizen and athletic hero. That's a portrait Long decided the world should see.

"After copying the file at the archives,"
Long recalls, "I returned to my hotel room ... and watched yet another ESPN segment on 'athletes gone bad.' The contrast between these athletes and Jackie could not have been more striking — or more depressing. And it was then that I decided to share my findings with the wider world. We deserve a much better model from professional sports, I thought, and no one can match the example of the real Jackie Robinson I was just starting to discover."



in motion ATHLETIC NEWS

RIVALRIES RENEWED

A new era and new facilities for Geneva athletics

BY VAN ZANIC '93

Every season brings change on a college campus, but the 2007-2008 school year marks a new era for the Golden Tornadoes.

After competing for 66 years in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), Geneva has transitioned to become a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III. The college's teams entered a four-year provisional period starting this fall, taking on new — and old — opponents within Division III's Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC).

While the switch in athletic affiliation is a major one after six decades with NAIA, the college's athletic department is experiencing

significant facility improvements as well, giving the GTs a fresh look and a more suitable home. Most notably, the first phase of Geneva's Beyond the Bend project centered on renovating Reeves Field by installing state-of-the-art synthetic turf this summer, as well as new visitor-side bleachers.

"I don't remember as much excitement ever surrounding our athletic department as what we are currently experiencing," says Geno DeMarco, head football coach and athletic director. "With the transition to Division III and to the PAC, not to mention that upgrade in facilities all taking place simultaneously, it is somewhat overwhelming."

DeMarco should know, since the 15-year head coach began his playing career at Geneva in the mid-1980s. He remembers special times while he played at Geneva, and now some of his current players describe a similar experience on College Hill.

"We are pretty pumped up about the new conference and our new home," says senior quarterback Bobby Bondi. "It is incredible to hear everyone talk about old rivalries being renewed and what that means for us."



The GTs square off against LaSalle University during the 2007 homecoming game.

Along with the opportunity to play against opponents that have been a big part of Geneva history since the late 1800s, the new synthetic playing surface — complete with a redesigned athletic logo that features a tornado behind the word "Geneva"— is also a welcome change according to current players.

"What a difference it makes to have a great playing surface," says junior linebacker Zach Feltrop. "It has been great working out on the turf and having complete confidence in the ground under your feet."

Additional improvements will follow the 2007 football season, with renovations including a new press box, new restrooms, new concession stands and new home bleachers. But aging Reeves — built in 1925 — isn't the only facility seeing construction crews on campus. What has long been the site of Geneva's practice football field will become home to Geneva's softball program. That field is the final piece of the puzzle of major changes to the college's athletic facilities.



When a young person enters his or her college years, it is supposed to be the start of one of the most memorable times in life. For some, heading off to school also means continuing something they love — like playing football.

Such hopes and plans have worked out differently for Geneva sophomore Brandon Lewis, a spirited student-athlete from Irwin, Pa., who has had to deal with more adversity in the past three years than most people encounter over the course of a lifetime.

Longtime teammate and fellow Geneva football player Adam Mueller remembers vividly a specific day back in high school — a day that held sweeping impact for the life of his athletically and academically gifted friend.

"One afternoon the [high-school] football team was working out in the weight room," Mueller recalls. "We all thought Brandon didn't look himself. In fact, he looked quite pale and thought maybe he should go home."

A routine trip to the doctor's office then quickly turned into a life-altering experience for Lewis, who was diagnosed with leukemia.

"The amazing thing about this whole process was Brandon's attitude," says Mueller. "The entire community was shaken, but Brandon was rock solid and was always vigilant and ready for the next step."

The next step for Lewis was to begin chemotherapy and get on the road to recovery, which is exactly what he did. When it came time to search for a college, Lewis visited Geneva College along with several teammates. Assistant football coach Mike Pinchotti met Lewis and his father, Howard "Bucky" Lewis, during the campus visit where they discussed the possibility of Brandon Lewis playing football at Geneva. Ironically, Pinchotti's father and Lewis' father coached the New Brighton Pop Warner football team together thirty years ago.

This past spring, as Brandon Lewis continued the chemotherapy process as a Geneva freshman, Howard Lewis died after a bout with cancer himself. And one week after losing his father, Brandon Lewis's grandmother passed away.

Just four years earlier, as a high-school freshman, Lewis lost his mother — also to cancer. Despite incredible losses, Lewis has remained upbeat through his own ordeal. The leukemia made a comeback this summer, requiring a bone-marrow transplant and delaying his return to campus and his fellow GTs.

In the meantime, Lewis has become a model of courage for his teammates. Earlier this fall, many of them pitched in to help with a community-organized "Extreme Home Makeover" for Lewis and his sister in preparation for Lewis' return from the hospital. Led by the fire and police departments, the voluntary crew completed a variety of repairs and home improvements.

"We were cleaning, pulling fixtures off the wall and cutting mold out of the walls," Mueller says. "What would have taken a normal crew several days to accomplish, we were able to finish in only a few hours."

Lewis remains hopeful about returning to College Hill and one day suiting up in the black and gold jersey to again play the game he loves most. He just may be on the path that will take him there. In September the results of a bone-marrow biopsy showed that the transplant was working and that no leukemia cells were detected.



in conclusion Remembering Dr. Lee

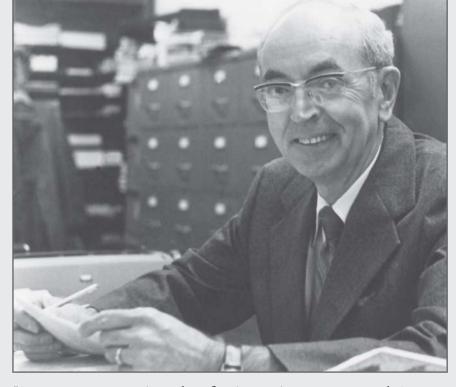
A longtime Geneva economics professor whose joy and integrity were hard to miss passed away July 31. Loved for his intellectual excellence and warm humanity, Dr. Stewart M. Lee retired in 1991 after 42 years on the faculty. Friends and colleagues enjoyed bis deep interests ranging from his area of expertise, consumer economics, to his love of Colorado, his cherished wife's native state. During his tenure at Geneva, Lee authored a well-regarded textbook on consumer economics, was appointed to several governmental panels, chaired President Gerald Ford's Consumer Advisory Council and served as president of the American Council of Consumer Interests.

"Any time you thought you could pigeonhole Dr. Lee, you were reminded to think again. Dr. Lee was a quiet, winsome, conservative R.P. elder who profoundly challenged and shaped my thinking. He was a friend and supporter of Ralph Nader and consumerism and a friend and supporter of Charles Reich and environmentalism. Both men came to Geneva to speak on his invitation. He was also a staunch supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment and Civil Rights. His legacy for me is that he was able to interact with differences of position in an engaging way. No anger, no fear, no personal attacks. He wanted us to talk about ideas like justice and love and equality in ways that respected differences of ideas but demanded responsibility for actions. His ilk is much missed in today's evangelical conversation. Thank you, Dr. Lee, for a life well lived."

-Dr. Paul Kilpatrick, professor of linguistics

"Dr. Lee was truly a 'son of Geneva.' It was his life and his love along with his wonderful wife, Ann, and his daughter, Kathy. He embodied all the good that Geneva College is. I usually called him 'Dr. Lee,' although he preferred to be called 'Stew' at home. He found everything to be 'interesting' and took joy in simple household chores. He loved to travel. His thirst for knowledge seemed insatiable. He loved his family and all the brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews. He was a man of God and took joy in being a member of the Reformed Presbyterian church across from the library. He and his family enjoyed the simple pleasures in life like singing Christmas carols and Ann's macaroni and cheese that he said had just the right ratio of cheese to macaroni. He would explain things to me on the back porch in ordinary language. I would sometimes read his letters to the Post-Gazette and marvel at his intellect and knowledge."

-McCartney Library Technician Bob Triance, 32 former tenant at the Lees'



"Stew Lee was my cousin, and my first impressions were not good. Our grandmother Stewart lived alternatively with his family and my family. While living with us she would say things like, 'Why don't you do things like Stewart does?' It didn't endear me to him. As we got older and compared notes, we found that she applied the same approach when living at the Lees'. Our initial impressions were soon forgotten. Stew was a well-rounded person. You could feel comfortable with him in the classroom (where he was both profound and entertaining), at his dining-room table (where he enjoyed telling or listening to a good story), in his car (which he had researched extensively before buying), at a football or basketball game (which he greatly enjoyed and where he may have made remarks about the referee) and at church (where he gave evidence of his deep faith in Christ). You can see that he was not only my cousin, but my good friend. I really miss him."

-Dr. Bruce Stewart '45

Dr. Lee is survived by his wife of 60 years, Ann (Gilchrist '47), and daughter, Dr. Kathryn Lee; two sisters, Margaret (Lee '42) Boyce and Ellen (Lee '46) Smith; 24 nieces and nephews; and many great-nieces and great-nephews.

