

Alumni

Columbia Journalism

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Alumnus Appointed a Trustee

Michael B. Rothfeld ('71), theatrical producer, private equity investor and a former magazine editor, has been named a trustee of Columbia University.

According to the University Secretary's office, he is only the third Journalism School graduate to serve on that governing body. Others were **Joan Konner ('61)**, dean emerita of the J-School; and **John Curley ('63)**, retired chair, president and chief executive officer of the Gannett Co. Konner was a trustee from 1978 to 1988, and Curley, 1988 to 1994.

Rothfeld, a 1969 graduate of Columbia College, was an International Fellow at the School of International and Public Affairs, 1970-71, and received both an M.B.A. and his Journalism School M.S. in 1971. He is chair of the Board of Visitors of Columbia College, and he has served on the advisory board of the J-School's Knight-Bagehot program in business and financial journalism.

Rothfeld has been an associate editor of *Fortune* and assistant to the Chairman and CEO of Time, Inc. Also, he was a managing director in the investment banking division of The First Boston Corporation, a general partner of Bessemer Capital Partners, L.P. and Bessemer Holdings, L.P.

In the theater, he was co-producer of "The Search for Intelligent Life in the Universe," a Tony award nominee; and associate producer of the revival of Gore Vidal's "The Best Man."



Michael B. Rothfeld ('71)



Deborah Sontag in the flooded Ninth Ward of New Orleans.

Graduates Cover Katrina

Print and broadcast reporters from near and far converged on stricken areas

By Ed Silberfarb ('52)

It was the deadliest natural disaster in the U.S. since a Florida hurricane of 1928 killed more than 2,500. The Katrina death toll exceeded 1,300, displaced over one million people and caused damage estimated from \$70 billion to \$130 billion. The August hurricane, itself, and the flooding of New Orleans have been called the worst set of catastrophes in the nation's history.

J-School alumni were on the scene from Mississippi to Louisiana to tell the story. Many others had been in South Asia for the horrors of the tsunami, but Katrina was, in effect, "a local story."

Columbia graduates at the New Orleans Times-Picayune, station WSDU-TV and the Biloxi Sun Herald were in the midst of it. And they came from out of town, as well. **Deborah Sontag ('83)** and **Joseph Treaster ('96)** wrote lede stories for *The New York Times*. Sontag and **Jay Newton-Small ('01)** of Bloomberg News donned hip boots and sloshed through the flood waters of the New Orleans Ninth Ward. And Treaster drove alone from Gulfport, Miss., to New Orleans, outracing the hurricane so he could report the devastation and desperation when it arrived (see his Correspondent's Report, page 3).

The class of 2001 swarmed in. Besides Newton-Small, there were **Susan Seijas** for the BBC; **Daren Briscoe**, *Newsweek*; **Sara Miller**, *The Christian Science Monitor*; and **Jennifer Smith**, *Newsday*.

The local press corps showed a special kind of heroism. **Mason Granger ('75)**, manager of WSDU-TV in New Orleans, told of staff members who worked "diligently and courageously knowing they had no place to go home to. One night, several anchors on air watched a tape of the city and, as it rolled by, and realized that was their neighborhood that was gone.

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Debate on Sources

By Alexandra Haggiag ('05)

Judith Miller went to jail to protect the integrity of journalism, and now some journalists have turned on her because they'd rather see this administration go down than fight for their principles. That's what Miller's lawyer, Floyd Abrams, argued at the J-School Alumni Association's Fall Meeting panel discussion on confidential sources. About 100 attended the November 15 program in the School's lecture room.

"I read the blogs, it's the first time in my life I started to think maybe censorship would be a good idea!" said Abrams wryly.

His fellow panelist, *Newsweek* editor Mark Whitaker, suggested the situation is complex: whistleblowers are more important to protect than officials who go off the record to give you nothing but spin.

"The idea that the absolute same standards and the same commitment should apply to the second class as to the first class is absurd," he added.

Moderator **Tom Rosenstiel ('80)**, director of the Project for Excellence in Journalism, led the panelists through the debate over the guidelines that journalists should follow when granting anonymity.

In addition to Abrams, First Amendment lawyer who defended *The New York Times* during the publication of the Pentagon Papers, and Whitaker, who has been a top editor at *Newsweek* for the last decade, the

panel included Joel Gora, professor of law at Brooklyn School of Law, and Dan Janison, City Hall Bureau Chief at *Newsday*.

Rosenstiel began by reminding the audience that polls show the public does not like confidential sources but journalists still rely heavily upon them. Twenty percent of print pieces at national papers and over half of nationally broadcast nightly news stories rely on unnamed sources, he said.

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“The station transmitter was under nine or ten feet of water. We weren’t on the air, but there was virtually no one in New Orleans to watch television anyway. So the Web site became the path to distribute our coverage. We did get back on television within three days on another station and we put together a network of regional stations where we knew New Orleanians were evacuated.”

At the Times-Picayune, **James Varney** (’89) described “big greasy guys” walking around the French Quarter with baseball bats and pool cues, people coming out of smashed store windows with whatever they could carry and columns of smoke rising from various fires.

Stephanie Stokes (’83), assistant city editor, took her two children, three days worth of clothes and their pet turtle to a friend in Tuscaloosa, Ala., and two weeks later joined her husband, Times-Picayune Managing Editor Dan Shea, in Baton Rouge. The paper was in temporary offices with laptops on folding tables. They enrolled the kids in a Baton Rouge school, then commuted to New Orleans when the paper returned.

Stephanie Grace (’92) had a house that was spared flooding, so it became a Times-Picayune bureau for dispossessed staffers.

Through it all, the Times-Picayune



Jay Newton-Small in the Ninth Ward in late September.

continued to publish, though half the employees lost their homes. A relief fund has been established to help them by four former employees, including **Bridget O’Brian** (’81), a Wall Street Journal broadcast news editor. For information go to www.friendsofthetimespicayune.com

The disaster that befell New Orleans, both the destruction by the hurricane and the suffering of the population afterward, was examined by J-School Dean Nicholas Lemann in the Sept. 26, 2005, issue of *The New Yorker*. Lemann, a New Orleans native, appraised the role of the federal government and its reluctance to deploy troops. “Whatever its failings before

the hurricane hit, the federal government could have greatly lessened the disaster if it had acted immediately afterward as a direct enforcer of the law. People suffered and died because it did not.”

At the Biloxi Sun Herald, **Mike Keller** (’05) told of two rescuers who “pulled 14 people, one a pregnant woman, plus two dogs and two cockatiels from house to house and room to room. They fought against water and wind, finally breaking through a roof before the house disappeared under the Gulf of Mexico.” Keller also told of a Seatow boat captain who braved 60 plus knot winds and rising surge to pull eight live and five dead

from the jaws of Katrina while she was making landfall.

Joshua Norman (’05) of the Sun Herald, who, along with Keller, stayed in the newspaper’s building, said:

“The storm was terrifying. There was about an hour when no one was sure whether the concrete roof over our heads would be sucked off.” After the storm, Norman went into the small towns he covered. “They were isolated, ignored and badly hit,” he said. “I’ll never forget the call I got from a woman in tears who said she read a quote in one of my stories from her father-in-law. She would not have known if he had survived otherwise.”

Like the Times-Picayune, the Sun Herald employees suffered fearsome losses even as they continued to put out the paper. **Reginald Stuart** (’71) of the Knight Ridder Co. went down there to help them. The Black Alumni Newsletter carried his report: “In 12 days we found emergency temporary housing for about 40 people. We’re putting them in a flop house down the road that we’re cleaning up, an RV park, several residential units and the Travelodge down the Interstate.

“Everyone is having to compromise from what they had...People need clothes. They need gasoline. They need new tires. People need day care. Most of all, folks need someone to talk to. They don’t always admit it. You have to push them kindly, gently. First you have to win their trust, then assure them it’s okay to cry, to share what’s on their minds, and that you understand, really understand.”

Witnesses to a Storm’s Wreckage and the Trials That Followed

By Michael Keller (’05)

This is the fourth disaster for me, though only the first as a journalist. I lived through Hurricane Andrew in South Florida. I worked for New York City through 9-11 and I served as a peacekeeper in the aftermath of a very long and brutal civil war in East Africa. I have no problem saying that I have never seen any destruction that rivals that imposed by Hurricane Katrina.

Katrina, which I covered for the Biloxi Sun Herald, was only the second of my four disasters that was not created by people. It was the fourth of four that was made worse by humans.

The forgotten poor and old left to survive and then die, overpopulated coastal areas, the reluctance of families with means to leave unsafe places, the botched efforts of those whose job descriptions are to help.

The depravity of people smashing each other’s heads open with rocks. The horrific results of blowing legs off with mine warfare. Running fuel laden planes into buildings where civilians are just trying to earn a living. People stealing shoes and liquor from stores while gale force winds still dangerously blow storm debris and downed power lines. People forging Red Cross checks, in effect stealing nickels and dimes from children. All of these are signs of a broken society that I see while I am reporting.

But, as trite as it may sound at this point, the resiliency of spirit and quiet courage in the most unimaginably stressful times has become that relieving exhale of a lighthouse pointing the way home.

As a journalist, it’s part of my job to look at the horror and suffering right in the face and try to muster that same courage I see in the best of the people whom I cover.

By Stephanie Grace (’92)

I spent the storm in Baton Rouge, expecting to work out of the New Orleans Times-Picayune’s state capital bureau, then head back home. Instead, the paper evacuated and came to me. Well, not all of it. I told the reporting crew that stayed behind to go to my house in New Orleans and take my bottled water. It turned out that my house also had one of the few reliable land lines left in the city, so they decided to move in.

Meanwhile, my first ventures back into the city were surreal, and not just because my house had become the Picayune’s New Orleans bureau. A quarter of a city block nearby had burned, because the water system was so wrecked that firefighters couldn’t

‘Every person at the paper is heartbroken.’

do a thing to fight it. Soldiers in camouflage with big guns roamed the streets. An elderly man who died during the storm was laid out on his front porch under a blue blanket down the street, a bible verse scribbled on a sign in the window. One day, I turned on the car radio and hit scan, and it just went around, and around, and around. There was nobody out there.

Three months after Katrina, it’s still the only story in town, and as journalists, there’s no distance or dispassion. Every person who works at the paper is heartbroken. When I started writing an op-ed column a few years ago, a colleague warned that it would be hard to find something to get bent out of shape about three times a week. That was Pre-K, as we now say.

These days, I’m bent out of shape at least three times a day.

By Joshua Norman (’05)

I had been living and working in Biloxi for a little over two months when I first heard that Hurricane Katrina was headed our way.

When I heard that the Sun Herald’s building would be housing a small group of administrators and no reporters, I figured first that it was safe to stay there and second that I needed to be here for the story, because there would be no way back in for at least 24 hours after the storm.

After much debate, Mike Keller and I decided to stay. The storm itself was terrifying. There was about an hour when no one was sure whether the concrete roof over our heads would be sucked off. The building itself was vibrating and making strange noises for at least four hours.

After the storm, I felt I had to go to the town I covered, Long Beach, as well as the small town next door, Pass Christian, because I thought they would be isolated, ignored and badly hit. I was right on all counts.

I saw many things during those first 48 hours after the storm that will be indelible and painful memories. One of the more interesting challenges in reporting this storm happened during the ten-day period afterwards when communications were down. All quotes, descriptions and ideas had to literally be gotten via legwork.

It was educational to be unable to call up stats on the Internet and pick up the phone for a quick quote. In addition, deadline was 2 p.m. and without being able to call in a story, it meant getting up early to get material.

I have learned a ton in the mile-a-minute reporting that has gone on since the storm started. I was fortunate in having a sort of “GA reporter” title before the storm. I have written about everything from housing to sailboats to survival since the storm.

It is impossible to escape the weight of the devastation here. There is nothing comfortable about being here, let alone working and living in it. The hardest part is how different everything has become.



Joshua Norman with a retired firefighter helping in Biloxi.

CORRESPONDENT'S REPORT

The Hard Road to the Big Easy

By Joseph B. Treaster

Joe Treaster, a Knight-Bagehot Fellow in 1995-96, has been a reporter for The New York Times for more than 30 years, reporting from dozens of countries and developing something of a specialty in covering hurricanes. His effort to outrace Hurricane Katrina to New Orleans drew on all his reportorial wiles.

As the outer winds of Hurricane Katrina were flicking at the Mississippi Coast, I drove out to a marina in Gulfport. The Gulf of Mexico was spitting and foaming and the sloops and powerboats were thrashing at their moorings. A father and son were trying to secure their little cabin cruiser. It was already too late to make a run inland. We shouted over the roar of their engines, then I headed up the beach to a floating casino. Workmen were sandbagging the doors.

When I checked in with New York in early afternoon, I was in good shape to write our main story on Katrina from Gulfport. But my plans changed. I was told to go to New Orleans.

Actually, I volunteered.

Alison Mitchell, the deputy national editor, said the New Orleans airport had closed as our reporter was flying there. The hurricane had not turned to the north as expected and was heading straight for New Orleans. We had no one in the city, and it looked as if no one from The New York Times could get there. She sounded as if she was thinking out loud about what to do.

I said, "What about me, dude?"

"Do you think you can get in?"

"Who knows?" I said. "I can try.

The mayor of New Orleans has ordered a mandatory evacuation of the

city. Traffic on all lanes on all the main roads is flowing against me: out of the City. The police have orders to stop anyone trying to enter New Orleans. Let me check with people here."

I called back and told Alison the consensus in the operations center was that getting into New Orleans was impossible. Still, I was willing to try.

"Go," she said. But first, she said I should write whatever I had. I wrote a top for the main story, and at 3 p.m., Aug. 28, I started for New Orleans.

It was already late to be trying this and I noticed I was low on gas. One station ran out as I was getting into line. Besides gas, I bought a couple of empty gas cans — which I was unable to fill — and two flashlights that broke the first time I tried to use them.

I pulled onto Interstate 10 and pointed the car west toward New Orleans. A solid line of cars and trucks streamed out of Louisiana at a slow crawl. My side of the highway was empty except for a handful of cars and trucks. All of us seemed to be cruising at about 80 miles an hour. I pushed up to 100 miles an hour. I didn't want to drive in the dark if I could help it.

In what seemed like a surprisingly short time, I reached the Louisiana border and roadblocks. I pulled over well back from the roadblocks and walked across the empty highway to talk with a police officer in a patrol car from the town of Slidell, just inside Louisiana. He was the opposite of what I expected. I knew the main roads were blocked, I said, but I was a newspaper reporter and needed to get to New Orleans.

To my amazement, he sketched out a back-road route for me on a scrap of paper. I said if I got in trouble I might need to phone him, and he gave me his cell phone number.

I thought I was on my way. But at the first turn on the officer's map, an



Joe Treaster with notebook after reaching his destination.

angry official in civilian clothes started screaming at me and blocking my way. I smiled, gave him a friendly wave and turned in the opposite direction, having no idea where I was going and hoping he was not going to shoot me.

I came upon a closed convenience store. The people inside tried to shoo me away. I told them I had an emergency and that the right thing to do, the Christian thing to do, was to help me. One of them opened the door a crack. I told him I was heading for New Orleans and needed a map. He said he was out of maps and that he had known right away that I was a dumb ass.

Two local guys came out of the convenience store. I got one of them to tell me a way to get to New Orleans. The other one had a map of Louisiana and New Orleans that was falling apart. I told him I needed that map more than he did. He said he liked his map. Then he handed it over to me.

Now I had some idea of where I was going. But it was getting dark, and the wind was picking up. I missed a turn and stopped to ask a little caravan of drivers from New Orleans for help. After they stopped laughing about a fool heading to New Orleans, they said they couldn't help. They were as lost as I was.

I drove around awhile, and the road I was looking for appeared. It turned out to be a lonely two-lane road, lined on both sides by fishing shacks and bayou water. The water was lapping at the pavement.

There was no one out there, not in the houses, not on the road. It would have been a terrible place to be stranded if, say, something went wrong with the car. I decided I should slow down.

Down the road a ways, I had to get up on an overpass paved with limestone bricks. The car did not like the bricks. It went into a big, bodacious slide. I turned the wheels into the slide, as everyone has been taught. A white guard rail flashed into my line of sight. The car did not hit it, but slid in the opposite direction. Somehow I straightened the car and kept going.

At the edge of New Orleans, I saw a car rammed into a utility pole. The driver was slumped over the wheel and the police were helping him. No one paid any attention to me.

I figured I was in New Orleans but I was lost again. And now it really was getting dark, and there was more rain and wind. I motioned to a man in a pickup truck to roll down his window as we drove along and got him to point me toward the Superdome.

His directions were not quite perfect. But a few minutes later, I was sitting in the rain and looking across the street at a line of several hundred people getting soaked and hoping to take shelter in the sports arena.

My cellphone was still working and I phoned Alison: "I made it. I'm at the Superdome."

This story originated in Ahead of the Times, the newsroom newsletter of The New York Times.

How Katrina Looked to New Orleans Times-Picayune Journalists

By James Varney ('89)

I rode out the storm in Covington at an old bank, where we planned to go in the vault if, as it looked like Sunday night, the eye came over us. It shaved us to the east, and within a couple of hours I was in a boat puttering through eastern St. Tammany neighborhoods flush against the lake and nearly annihilated by the storm.

On Tuesday afternoon I went into New Orleans. The first week had moments that felt like you were in 'A Clockwork Orange.' Big, greasy guys walked around the French Quarter with baseball bats and pool cues. People came out of smashed store windows with whatever they could carry, while columns of black smoke rose into the sky from various fires. Along with a photographer, I slept on a park bench, in a car, on floors.

The dry pocket hard against the Mississippi felt like Stalingrad that week. Each day would come reports the whole city was going to fill with water. Cops were taking over the Royal Orleans hotel and setting up strong points on the corners with machine guns.

By Thursday morning, when they

pulled a body out of the Convention Center and paraded it down the street on a hotel luggage cart while a Blackhawk hovered above a parking lot and dropped MRE's and bottled water, you had the end of days in your hometown.



James Varney in Slidell, La., three hours after Katrina passed over.

By Stephanie Stokes ('83)

After Hurricane Katrina turned sharply toward New Orleans the afternoon of Friday, Aug. 26, my husband, Dan Shea, and I weighed where to take our children, Catie, 6, and D.J., 9. We all could go the fortress-like Times-Picayune building (less than a mile from the Superdome), where the company generously allows staffers and their families to take shelter (as we did for Ivan). Or, the kids and I could go to a friend's house in Tuscaloosa, Ala., while Dan, a managing editor, stayed behind to put out the paper (as we did for George).

We pictured the worst case, stuck with the kids in a darkened, hot, unventilated building with dwindling food and drinkable water, surrounded by floodwaters for days. We opted for Tuscaloosa, and the kids and I evacuated at dawn Sunday.

By Tuesday, the worst case had in fact occurred, and Dan and the 200 others who had weathered the storm at the paper escaped the floodwaters in the back of delivery trucks, getting out with only inches to spare.

By Wednesday, it was obvious no one could go home for a long time.

After two weeks, we rejoined Dan in Baton Rouge, where The Times-Picayune was in temporary offices, and I could go back to work. We enrolled the kids in a Baton Rouge school and began commuting to New

'No one could go home for a long time.'

Orleans when the newspaper returned there Oct. 10.

Our two-story house in Metairie, a mile west of New Orleans, was flooded from the 17th St. Canal breach, but it can be repaired. We'll live in a FEMA trailer in our driveway after Christmas so the kids can go back to their old school.

We're grateful for the friends who took us in for five weeks and for our paper for continuing to do remarkable work under extraordinary circumstances.

CORRESPONDENT'S REPORT

Pakistan Horror

By Sonya Fatah ('05)

When I reached Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistani Kashmir, two days after the October 8 earthquake, the sound of pain hung in the air. I pitched my tent and slept fitfully that night. The Citizens Foundation (TCF), a Pakistani Non-Government Organization, was setting up a medical camp. They pleaded with me to help them with the injured who were being flown in by helicopter from the surrounding affected areas where village after village had been virtually leveled. I refused at first, trying to maintain my distinction as a journalist. But TCF didn't have a female volunteer, and it was clear that most of the victims were women and children.

Some had lost limbs, many had sustained serious spinal injuries and couldn't feel their legs. Unable to move, many of the victims lay on makeshift blanket beds soaked in their own urine. A 10-year-old boy writhed about screaming in pain — his back was covered in messy, bloody pus. A young man's back was torn open, layers of skin peeled away to reveal a fractured spinal cord. A young woman lay motionless, her eyes void of emotion. Another girl's leg had been hacked off when a structural beam crashed on it. The wound was infected, the smell of gangrene hung heavy around her. The tent was spacious but

within an hour it reeked.

I put down my pad and pen for the night. Army aviation pilots with whom I flew subsequently told me that their orders on Oct. 8 were simply to visit the scene of the earthquake and report to duty. They knew nothing about the scale of the disaster. One pilot told me, "the sound of people screaming for help was louder than the sound of the helicopters rotor blades."

Indeed, in Balakot, a once-resort town set in a picturesque valley in the North Western Frontier Province (NWFP), life was non-existent. An elderly man stood on the roof of his flattened house and vividly recounted the sounds of people crying for help from under the rubble, voices that stopped calling after three long days. A young girl insisted on showing me her collapsed school building, and where she last saw the 50 odd classmates whose bodies were pressed underneath.

Decomposing bodies have a peculiar smell; in Balakot you couldn't wave it away.

The smell was always too strong, a reminder of maggot-infested bodies rotting under the debris.

These were scenes from the first few days in Pakistani Kashmir and NWFP, when I was reporting for the Canadian newspaper, *The Globe and Mail*. I was reporting on the on-ground situation vis-à-vis disaster response, the role of Pakistani authorities, the



Sonya Fatah and a Pakistan border guard. The Urdu sign on the Indian side of the border says, "We have opened our hearts, not the line of control."

military and international organizations.

Since then I have spent almost four weeks in Pakistani Kashmir writing for local newspapers, magazines and for some Indian publications as well. In early November I crossed the white line that separates Indian Kashmir from Pakistani Kashmir at Poonch-Titrinot. Commanders who had shelled each other for two and a half years, and never seen each other, were shaking hands, crossing into each others' territory and sharing cups of milk tea. On the Indian side, a banner hung across the border gate. It read, in Urdu, "We have opened our hearts, not the line of control."

Yet, these were political moves engineered largely for public consumption. Which meant it was a perfect opportunity to investigate further into the Kashmir saga, the longtime political struggle that has brought India and Pakistan into three wars. And so I did, for *Tehelka.com*, an Indian investigative weekly.

Winter has come early in the northern areas. The snowcap on the mountaintop is spreading lower into the valleys. A second round of deaths

brought on by pneumonia is anticipated; a few people have already died.

The international media has packed up and gone, and the real stories have yet to be told. On Nov. 19 the donor conference in Islamabad raised \$5.8 billion towards reconstruction costs. But most of that was in terms of soft and hard loans. Reconstruction should have been an opportunity for real development.

Covering the earthquake alongside international journalists in my own country proved to be an experience. It became clear to me that international journalists, or rather editors, shape news by going after a story before they know it exists. The story is scripted before publication; the reporter simply goes after the quotes to complement the abominable nutgraf.

I am heading back this week for another series of stories, following how reconstruction efforts are moving on the ground, and how Pakistan's famously corrupt officials will manage with the funds they have.

Sonya Fatah is a freelance, writing for The (Toronto) Globe and Mail, among others.

Swedish Ambassador Views the Tragedy

By Ann Wilkens ('68)

Ambassador of Sweden to Pakistan and Afghanistan

When the earthquake struck on October 8, I was in Dushanbe, capital of Tajikistan. I later read in the newspaper that the earthquake was felt "in three capitals" (Islamabad, New Delhi, Kabul). This was wrong, it should have been "four capitals", including Dushanbe, where people ran out into the streets while the houses were shaking. However, there was no destruction to speak of, neither in the countryside, nor in the capital.

Since my main work is in Pakistan, I tried to return as soon as I understood the extent of the disaster.

But there was only one flight a week via Kabul and I did not land in Islamabad until five days after the quake. From the airport, I went straight to the Margalla Towers apartment complex, where one of the high-rise buildings had collapsed, burying three Swedish children and their mother in the enormous heap of rubble about to be cleared by search and rescue teams. The father had been on his way from his UNMOGIP (UN operation on the Line of Control through Kashmir) posting in Srinagar, on the India-controlled side, when news of the quake reached him. He was standing in front of the building, still hoping for his family to reappear. This, however, never happened and only after almost two weeks of drawn-out torture, just before the rescue work

was being closed down, were the four bodies found in the water-tank of the building. We sent the four coffins - three quite small ones and one bigger-sized - home to Sweden with a special flight on October 25.

By then I had already been around the quake-hit areas of Kashmir and the North West Frontier Province. Here, whole cities were reduced to rubble and thousands of bodies still buried underneath. In Balakot, perhaps the worst hit town in Pakistan, people were sitting beside their destroyed houses in shock, waiting for help to arrive. As from other disaster zones, the eerie silence is the thing that sticks in my mind.

Many of the staggeringly beautiful mountain sides of the Kashmir river valleys had simply fallen down, leav-

ing still smoking wounds in the landscape. It is questionable whether all the people living in these mountains have yet been reached by relief assistance. When I was back in Muzaffarabad the other day, together with a delegation headed by the Swedish Minister for Development Cooperation, we were told that people with unattended wounds from the quake were still turning up at the field hospitals.

The needs are still immense, the logistics challenging, winter snow fast approaching. The people in these conflict-ridden zones have enormous resilience and few demands - but this time they need our support. Please contribute to the relief and rehabilitation!

Rescue Workers on the Move

By Omar Jamil ('04)

October 13, 2005. It's past midnight here in Lahore, six days after an earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale devastated the northern parts of Pakistan.

I'm sitting in the driveway of my house in one of the posh parts of town, watching students from the Lahore University of Management Sciences — Lahore's answer to Harvard Business School — load a truck with food, tents and other emergency supplies. Under the truck, a match flares up, briefly illuminating

the colourful pop art adorning the truck. The driver, a Pathan from the Northern Areas, is lighting up a hashish joint, preparing for 48 straight hours of driving.

Four of the students are members of the University's Mountaineering Club and are certified paramedics. Another four spent the past two days at a local graveyard "training" as makeshift gravediggers. All in all, a dozen of them are taking time off from academics to head up to some of the worst hit areas to volunteer their services.

One of the students, barely past his teens, only just returned from

Bagh, one of the towns worst hit, now barely more than a pile of rubble and bodies. He tells of bodies piled waist-high, and how the stench hit his convoy 20 miles before they reached the town. Most of these bodies were children aged six to twelve.

It's strange sitting here, at home, watching such tragedy unfold in what seems like a world away. Entire villages wiped out, entire generations orphaned. Lahore was far enough from the epicentre to not sustain any real damage. And we Pakistanis, used to being surrounded by the despair of poverty, have become masters at inuring ourselves to tragedy. Still, the shock of it, the sheer unexpectedness, the devastation, makes it hard to ignore.

Yet even in the midst of all this

pain and death and suffering, I see a coming together the likes of which I have seldom witnessed. As I sit here, typing out these words, folks from the neighbourhood are gathering around the truck. People who make less than \$100 a month are gathering money from one another, sending clothes, food, trying to help out in whatever way they can.

Perhaps that is the lesson to be learned then: that even in the depths of misery, there is hope.

Omar Jamil is planning a documentary about the earthquake relief effort.

According to government sources, the Pakistan earthquake killed over 73,000 and left 2.5 million homeless.

Grads Honored For Feature Films

Two J-School alumnae have recently produced significant feature films of starkly different themes, background and setting.

Margarita Martinez ('98), an Associated Press reporter in Bogotá, Colombia, and her A.P. cameraman, in the 84-minute documentary, "La Sierra," chronicle a year in an impoverished, strife-torn and cruelly dangerous barrio in Medellín where, as one resident says, "The neighborhood is in the hands of kids with guns."

'Life in Colombia and South Africa.'

Suzanne Kay Bamford ('86), a former television news writer, an on-air anchor and sitcom script writer, is the co-writer and producer, with her husband, Mark Bamford, of "Cape of Good Hope." As the title suggests, the film is good-natured and optimistic, set in Cape Town, South Africa, where the Bamfords have lived for the past five years.

"La Sierra" reports the turf war

between gangs allied with leftist guerrillas or right wing paramilitaries with the innocent population caught in the middle. "Cape of Good Hope" is the story, the writers say, "about people just trying to live. It's not about black and white. It's not about politics, but about human beings."

"La Sierra" profiles three young adults who symbolize the conflict and the hopelessness of those involved — a 22-year-old "commander" of a right wing paramilitary group, a 17-year-old girl friend of one of the group's jailed leaders, and a 19-year-old "foot soldier" in the group.

"Cape of Good Hope," which centers on an animal shelter, features a refugee from the war-ravaged Congo torn between love and asylum in the West; a single mother trying to make a life for herself and her son; a young Muslim couple unable to have children but desperate to have a family; a recently widowed veterinarian, and the founder of an animal shelter who seems to relate better to stray dogs than to people.

Both films can boast of an early round of accolades:

For "La Sierra," honors include



Suzanne Kay Bamford and her husband, Mark, for the New York premiere.

the Grand Jury Award, 2004 Miami Film Festival; honorable mention, Best Documentary, 2005 Sundance Film Festival, and official selection for 2005 Seattle and Los Angeles Film Festivals.

"Cape of Good Hope" won an honorable mention, People's Choice Award; at the Toronto Film Festival;

Jury Prize for Best Film and Audience Award for Best Feature at the Austin Film Festival, and Jury Prize for Best Feature Length Film at the Starz Denver Pan African Film Festival.

Both movies had screenings in New York and other major cities in November and December.

The Making of 'La Sierra'

By Margarita Martinez ('98)

Scott Dalton and I had been covering Colombia's war for the Associated Press for a few years, Scott as a photographer, and I as a writer. What we saw made us want to tell a larger story about the lives lost, the dreams dashed.

Scott and I gained access to one of the paramilitary-controlled sectors, La Sierra. We set out to portray in film the war we were witnessing: young men and women as cannon fodder for the warlords.

In 2003, when we began the film, many parts of Colombia were controlled by guerrilla forces, independent gangs or paramilitary groups—the forces driving the country's seemingly endless civil conflict.

Medellin then was a city full of borders. The violent drug cartel of the early 90's had put a lot of money and weapons into the marginal communities. When the Medellín cartel fell, in the poor neighborhoods, only the weapons were left.

President Alvaro Uribe had begun

to negotiate with paramilitary groups and, to a lesser extent, with guerrillas. In the big cities, the war is often invisible. I found that I could witness a shootout in the morning in the neighborhood of La Sierra and return to Bogotá in the afternoon to dine out at one of the city's finest restaurants in a quiet and elegant atmosphere.

We chose our three characters almost from the first trip.

Edison chose us, more than we chose him. He was a killer, a womanizer, a paramilitary, but he was also a man of dreams. He told us eloquently on film how his hopes were to serve the community after the war as a civil engineer. It became apparent to us that he was a born leader, trapped by history and circumstance to exercise his leadership as a paramilitary warrior. We also learned that his hopes for change were not remote illusions. His father, a convicted criminal, had seen the path to civic leadership and community involvement a few years after a religious renewal.

Cielo was the daughter of Colombia's violence. Her father was

killed when she was a baby. The mother took the children to live in another town and her brother got involved with the paramilitaries. The guerrillas threatened the family and they had to leave for Medellín to save their lives.

Cielo was a mother and a widow at 15. The father of her child, a member of a gang, also was killed. When we started filming her, she lived with

'We faced the same risk as the people there.'

her in-laws and her partner was in jail, accused of being a paramilitary member.

Jesus, another of our protagonists, was 19 and had been a gang member for years. He had recently lost his hand making a grenade to combat his enemies. Heavily in drugs, he had a kind of folksy street wisdom.

We worked hard to build trust, to know the community. We did it with care, with respect and humor. It did not take much time. Edison loved the camera and wanted to be filmed, in a way to be immortalized. It was part of his desire to leave his mark. Maybe that is why he had six or seven children, with different women and almost all of them in the same year.

At times, we lived in the neighborhood. We rented a basic brick house for eight dollars a day, but never spent more than four days there at a time. In the neighborhood, I never felt there was a security issue in the sense that someone threatened us. But there were a lot of stray bullets. We faced the same risk as the people who lived there.

One day, Scott went out to film the combat between neighborhoods. "Get down, gringo," shouted one of the guys when the bullets started flying.

When we felt emotionally and physically drained from the daily violence, we would go to the beautiful part of this city. Medellín, like the rest of Colombia, is full of contrasts. A beautiful city with lush nature in between mountains, it is also known as the "city of eternal spring" because of its wonderful climate and blooming flowers. It is both a city of skyscrapers and pleasant urbanity and a city of violence.

In my work as a journalist, I have known people who were killed. But I have never known their families, their loved ones or even the victims in a personal way.

We had met Edison's teenage girlfriends, his parents and siblings. At the time lots of young men were killed in Medellín. But we never anticipated Edison's death.

One Saturday night, the army came into the neighborhood. Edison was a target for the military. As the leader of a paramilitary gang, he had committed many homicides, as he freely admits in the film.

After his murder, I did not want to go to the neighborhood ever again. I would have liked to forget about the documentary and simply disappear. Only days later they told us that another young guy we had known from the gang had also been killed.

I finally got the courage to go back months later. Scott convinced me that it was our duty to finish the project. He was right. Our last images are the ones of the demobilization of the paramilitary block and of a memorial mass with most of Edison's kids and girlfriends at his parents' humble house.

In the documentary, a shopkeeper comments in frustration, "We are in the hands of armed children. That is all the problem." We agreed, but of course, that's not all the problem.



Margarita Martinez with Don Jairo, father of Edison, a central figure in her documentary

BOSTON PANEL



Charles Kravetz, William Kirtz, Shelley Murphy and Elizabeth Ritvo.

A Legal Shield for Journalists?

By Amy Bracken ('03)

Last summer the world looked on, wide-eyed, as an American reporter was hauled off to jail for withholding the identity of a source. Journalists knew this was the dramatic tip of a mammoth iceberg. A recent panel discussion organized by Boston's Alumni Association showed there is no easy solution to obliterate one of the media's biggest problems.

In an event planned by **Marianne**

Sullivan ('92), six seasoned journalists and media-focused lawyers gathered at Northeastern University in November to discuss the complications of using anonymous sources and shielding journalists from demands to reveal them.

Participating in a two-hour talk before a roomful of students, alumni and journalists, were Charles Kravetz, news manager for New England Cable News; Robert Bertsche, a journalist-turned-lawyer; Dan Kennedy, an assis-

tant professor of journalism at Northeastern and former media critic for the Boston Phoenix; **William Kirtz ('62)**, associate professor of journalism at Northeastern; Shelley Murphy, organized crime reporter at The Boston Globe, and Elizabeth Ritvo, First Amendment lawyer.

Kravetz, who moderated the talk, is pushing for passage of a law in Massachusetts to protect journalists from being forced to turn over the names of secret sources, but he and others on the panel described it as a bitter pill journalists must swallow.

"There are not a few journalists who I've met in Massachusetts who actually oppose the efforts to bring a shield law," Kravetz said. "They basically believe that the First Amendment [guarantee of freedom of the press] is all that we need to protect us in our work." Kravetz said the First Amendment generally sufficed for many years, but concluded, "That is clearly not the case in the environment that we live in now."

Kravetz said there has long been a conflict between the First Amendment and the Sixth Amendment's right of the accused to be confronted with the witnesses against him. However, an increasing public distrust of and enmity toward the media has shifted this tension in favor of the Sixth.

As to why journalists are held in such low regard today, some panelists cited Jayson Blair, the New York Times journalist found to have fabricated sources. Others said media organizations have done too good a job of airing their laundry.

But Dan Kennedy cited another reason for the shift in court treatment of the media: a federal court judge's recent assertion concerning a decades-old Supreme Court ruling.

The Supreme Court ruled 5 to 4 in *Branzburg v. Hayes* in 1972 that

reporters must respond to subpoenas and grand jury questioning. However, Justice Lewis Powell's concurring opinion seemed to agree with the minority, saying a journalist has the right to seek protection if he believes "his testimony implicates confidential source relationships without a legitimate need of law enforcement."

Kennedy said Powell's opinion has long allowed courts to overlook the fact that the ruling was against shielding journalists. But this changed in 2003 when a federal court judge ruled against a reporter privilege and claimed that other judges' repeated assertion that such a protection exists ignored the *Branzburg* decision.

"There is some feeling out there that [Judge Richard Posner's ruling] has helped contribute to the demise of any notion of a reporter's privilege in the last few years," Kennedy said.

This demise, most of the panel agreed, has got journalists backed up against a wall. And Bertsche said even passage of a shield law won't protect journalists.

Kravetz said his bill, which has been filed in the Mass. Senate, would make Massachusetts one of 31 states in the country with a shield law, and it would be one of the farthest-reaching, including protection of bloggers. Meanwhile, federal shield legislation has been filed in the U.S. Senate.

Kirtz said he believes federal shield legislation will never pass, and that he might not support the Massachusetts bill. He said he sees no evidence journalism suffers without more legal protection. "Are sources drying up? I don't think so. We don't have a shield law in Massachusetts. The Globe seems to be doing okay."

But Murphy, of The Globe, said, "It has never been more difficult than it is now in dealing with scrutiny by the courts." she said.

FALL PANEL FROM PAGE 1

Rosenstiel asked why journalists should have special status that allows them to protect a source when an ordinary citizen cannot.

Whitaker replied that anonymous sourcing is a privilege that journalists should use carefully.

He proposed a set of three conditions for reporters: first, you're learning something you could not discover otherwise; second, the source has to speak off the record; and third, the source understands the promise is conditional until your editor agrees

One man's spinner is another's whistleblower.

there is a legitimate reason for offering confidentiality.

Seemingly surprised by the last condition, Rosenstiel asked Janison, the only reporter on the panel, if it were workable.

"I expect my editor to ask me [about my sources]," replied Janison emphatically.

Asked to respond to the same question from a legal standpoint, Gora and Abrams were less concerned about standards in the newsroom than precedents that would protect journalists in the courthouse, regardless of their source.

"It was a disappointment that the

court denied review in Floyd's case involving Judith Miller," said Gora. "That would have been an occasion for us...to persuade the court why it is important to give at least almost absolute protection."

Audience member John Martin of ABC asked Whitaker if he wished Newsweek had published the source that alleged that American soldiers in Guantanamo Bay flushed a Koran down the toilet.

"It was a very vivid detail that was unremarked upon by anybody until Imran Kahn... made hay with it, and there were riots...and ultimately the government came back and challenged us," Whitaker said.

A member of the audience asked Abrams and Gora if they saw any legal theory that could support Whitaker's idea there should be more protection for a whistleblower than for a government spinner.

"The issue to me is, is the source credible, not is the source loveable," Gora said. "One man's spinner is another man's whistleblower."

"One of the things that I found most discouraging about some of the press reaction to all this is how politicized it's been," added Abrams.

Rosenstiel asked Janison to respond to Abrams' complaint.

"You can't ignore that one of the big themes in the wider story in Iraq seems to be Bush-Cheney... cutting the CIA and professional types down to size," Jamison said.

Jeff Bogart ('64) asked whether implicit in every promise of confidentiality there are two conditions; that the confidential source isn't lying and

that he's not breaking the law.

"There's the lying exception," Whitaker said. "I think there's an exception if someone could end up dead," he added.

"Some of the best stories are probably from the people who tell stories that are illegal to tell," said Abrams. "Look at Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers."

"Do you think the Miller case will

have a chilling effect on the reluctant whistleblower?" Rosenstiel asked both lawyers.

If the law won't give lawyers a verdict, then will it be up to the journalists to defend their sources? he asked. He added that's why it was important that Judith Miller go to jail.

"The message it sends is that journalists are ready to put themselves on the line," he said.

A Libel Law Refresher

By Jeff Bogart ('64)

Metro New York area alumni brushed up on their libel law at a breakfast lecture on Oct. 26 given by Susan Buckley, a partner at the law firm of Cahill, Gordon & Reindel, LLP whose practice focuses on litigation, communications law and the rights of the press.

Entitled "Words that harm: A Libel Law Refresher for Journalists," the experimental event, sponsored by the Alumni Association, departed from typical association programs. To make it easier for working alums to attend, it was held in midtown New York and in the early morning instead of on campus in the evening. The topic was selected for its potential interest to mid-career journalists.

From the enthusiastic response of the attendees, the event was a success. Among their comments:

- Thanks so much for arranging this morning's event. I found it incredibly useful. Having the event in midtown and in the morning was a godsend.

- Ms. Buckley was an excellent speaker and described libel problems that affect all journalists. The questions were lively, to the point and sometimes involved personal experience.

- I thought the speaker was superb and enjoyed it very much.

- The libel lesson was great.

In her talk, Buckley reviewed the seven legal elements that she said are needed for courts to find against a reporter in a libel lawsuit. She also discussed various legal doctrines that impact decisions in libel cases, including the doctrines of substantial truth, incremental harm, and neutral reportage.

"You can sum the law of defamation in a sentence," she said. "And the sentence is that journalists can be liable for the publication of a false and defamatory statement of fact of and concerning the plaintiff that is published with some degree of fault and causes injury."

Another off-campus event is being planned for February.

A Professor with Passion

By Sam Brown ('72)

It was the fall of '71. The country was in the throes of the Vietnam War. College campuses across the U.S. were teeming with angry and violent protests.

Columbia University was no different. In a few short months, my class saw the campus consumed with a takeover by militant groups.

Enter a tall, crusty, passionate man who had built his reputation as Edward R. Murrow's ferocious producer, and later as president of the CBS

He instilled integrity and a work ethic.

Network News Division. He was Fred W. Friendly, who has resurfaced with Murrow in George Clooney's critically acclaimed movie, "Good Night, And Good Luck."

Murrow, already a legend for his riveting radio reporting from London rooftops during the World War II blitz, had recruited some of the finest newspaper reporters on the planet—Charles Collingwood, Eric Sevareid, Harry Reasoner, Andy Rooney and Walter Cronkite.

In 1966, Friendly left the presidency of CBS News, angered and embittered after CBS CEO William Paley refused to air Senate hearings on the Vietnam War. Instead, Paley chose to air "I Love Lucy" reruns. Friendly chronicled the events in his revealing book *Due to Circumstances Beyond Our Control*.

The team of Murrow and Friendly almost single-handedly brought down the vicious and self-righteous reign of Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy.

McCarthyism destroyed careers and lives by venomous accusations and witch hunt tactics at Senate committee hearings. He took dead aim at Murrow by calling him a Communist.

In the fall of 1971, as a nervous farm boy from Clarksville, Tenn., I sat in the Joseph Pulitzer World Room at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. Friendly, the new head of the School's broadcast department and Edward R. Murrow Professor of Journalism, marched in just as he probably marched into countless CBS offices, studios, control rooms and screening rooms while working with Murrow. We all gasped in awe.

In my year at Columbia, Friendly taught us passion for our profession. He instilled integrity and a work ethic. He scolded us, as only he could, for shallowness and superficiality—and for

not getting both sides of the story. Friendly chewed us up and spat us out if we slacked on stories. His favorite expression was, "To make the agony of decision-making so intense you can only escape by thinking." He was an intimidating figure, but he had a warm and giving heart underneath that giant, foreboding frame. Time and time again in '71 and '72, his deep, rumbling, resonant voice and passionate delivery shook the halls of the J-School.

He used his CBS connections to bring in the likes of Cronkite, Mike Wallace and the best and brightest CBS reporters he could find. Imagine spending two hours one-on-one with Mike Wallace. That was typical of Friendly's media seminar for our Class of '72. He taught us how to write, report, edit and produce for broadcast without sacrificing journalistic integrity and ethics.

Friendly was responsible for get-

A voice that shook the School's walls.

ting us some of the first videotape field cameras in this country. Never mind they shot tape in black and white. Never mind they were cumbersome with reel-to-reel recorders. Never mind they'd endured bumps and grinds from being jostled around at the national political conventions. We strapped those darn recorders on our backs and headed for the streets of Manhattan to get stories. We were reporters. We were journalists.

In Murrow's classic 1958 speech to the Radio and Television News Directors Association convention in Chicago, he said about television:

"This instrument can teach, it can illuminate; yes, and it can even inspire. But it can do so only to the extent that humans are determined to use it to those ends. Otherwise it is merely wires and lights in a box."

The movie "Good Night, And Good Luck" opens and closes with excerpts from that speech. "Good Night, And Good Luck" was Murrow's signature closing from almost every broadcast. In the movie, Clooney plays Friendly.

Ed Murrow and Fred Friendly were BC — Before Cable. They had never heard of broadcast consultants, whose business is to program news departments to maximize ratings and profits.

They'd never heard of newscasts with blaring music, obnoxious sound effects, silly sets, gaudy graphics, cuddly co-anchors and, of all things, tabloid journalism.

Call me an "old school" journalist. I'm proud to be called that. Murrow and Friendly were "old school."

I wonder what Murrow and Friendly would say today if they knew how some news organizations hyped the O.J. Simpson trial, the Scott Peterson trial, the "runaway bride," Jon Benet Ramsey's death, to name a few. It really doesn't matter, though. Despite their courage in the face of adversity, there's probably not much Murrow and Friendly could do these days to stop the endless flood of flash and trash, blood and guts journalism by some news organizations.

Friendly died March 3, 1998.

In my journalistic career, I never got to meet Murrow. He died six years before I arrived at Columbia. But there's one person I'll never forget. I knew Fred Friendly.

Sam Brown is a former award-winning investigative radio and television reporter.

He Operates and Writes

By John Celock ('04)

Every August, J-School students journey out to the neighborhoods of New York to button-hole district managers, community leaders, small business owners and those who need a voice. In the heat and humidity that is August in New York, students work hard and are tireless in their pursuit of the perfect beatnote. Hardly what one would think of as a break.

For Alex Friedman, '04, trying to get a state senator in East Harlem to talk was a break from the usual life and death decisions, which encompassed his normal day at school. Friedman came to the J-School following three years as a student at Mt. Sinai College of Medicine and he returned to Mt. Sinai after his graduation to complete his final year of medical education. He is now in residency at Brown University hospital.

"I really love writing and want to do something semi-professional with it," he said. "The Columbia program and its reputation and its length appealed to me."

A 1999 graduate of New York University with a degree in history, Friedman hails from Greenwich, Conn. He has had his sights set on a medical career, where he believes he can help the public, for a while. The writing interest began to develop at the NYU student newspaper, and he sees his unusual educational path as a way to combine the two.

"I am in this really interesting

world with so many things to write about," he said. "The public wants to know about the medical culture. The public wants to know what happens in a hospital."

According to Vice Dean David Klatell, while Friedman's decision to take a year off from medical school to come to the J-School is unusual, he is hardly the only doctor in the school's alumni ranks. Klatell recalls a class, which had several radiologists among its members, and he noted, other graduates went to medical school after

'I am in this really interesting world.'

their year in Morningside Heights.

Klatell advised Friedman on his master's project, which was on selective reduction. In that process a woman decides to abort one or more fetuses, which are implanted following in-vitro fertilization, leaving the healthy fetus in place.

Klatell said, "Because he was a medical student and he had access to the doctors, the patients and the hospital suites, he had a great advantage."

Friedman's topic of selective reduction grew from of his choice of obstetrics and gynecology as a medical specialty. While many in this specialty have been switching specialties or leaving medicine altogether in recent years, due to rising malpractice fees in this area, Friedman developed the interest delivering babies during his third year of medical school.

"It is an exciting specialty," he said. "It is 9 PM and you are sitting down to dinner and all of a sudden a patient is not doing well and you have

A New Alumni Link

Whether they live along a rural route or in a cultural mecca, Columbia alumni all over the globe now have new ways to connect, communicate and contribute their ideas.

The newborn online alumni directory, launched in November, allows you to keep your contact information free of cob-

webs. With a few clicks, you could update your profile with current whereabouts and passionate interests beginning November 15th. All alumni

will be listed with the latest information on file. To update information, add notes or hide specific details, simply go to alumni.columbia.edu/directory, create an active ID and password, and start editing.

In January 2006, alumni can also search for, and contact, grads across schools and years of graduation via the

directory. For instance, Law School grads can find friends from the B-School. College grads can search for and contact GSAS alumni.

Behind the new directory is a more cohesive approach to alumni services across all Columbia schools—the primary mission of the new Columbia Alumni Association (CAA). Until

recently, Columbia's alumni programs were largely the purview of the individual schools. The CAA will support, enhance and connect

these efforts.

Headed by Trustee Stephen Case '64CC, '68LAW, the CAA is actively seeking alumni input. "Columbia alumni are helping us to develop a full continuum of services and activities, relevant whether they graduated last May or 50 years ago," said Alumni Relations Vice President Eric J. Furda.



to do a crash c-section. It's fun."

Within his chosen specialty, Friedman is leaning towards working specifically with women with high-risk pregnancies. While he said he is leaning towards this one challenge, he is also considering specializing in gynecological oncology, in order to fulfill his interest in surgery.

Friedman said he is not scared off by his chosen field's pitfalls or his own experiences from his first delivery.

"The first delivery was scary," he

said. "The head came out first and the doctor is coaching me. The head is slippery and I went to grab it and the doctor told me not to put my fingers in and I sprang back. I pulled the baby out and clamped the cord and handed it off to the pediatrician. I go over for a look and there was a scratch near the eye. It was my untutored hands that scratched him. Thankfully it was nothing permanent."

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Framing a Life in Photography

By Pete Johnston ('50)

Before John Shearer went to Columbia and ran the Journalism School's photojournalism program, he was an accomplished international photographer.

At age 17 he became a staff photographer for *Look* magazine. Learning from the world's best, he soon was publishing pictures in *Life* magazine, and other publications such as *Harper's Bazaar* and *Paris-Match*. His camera took him all over the country and the globe. He covered all kinds of subjects, from Paris fashions to street gangs, from the civil rights movement to celebrities like the boxing champ Muhammad Ali.

Civil rights was a particularly significant subject for Shearer, and his news photos of the subject were among the most widely published. As a black person he came to know many of the movement's leaders — among them the Black Panthers and members of the Rainbow Coalition.

He was the only photographer allowed inside Attica Prison in upstate New York when protest riots erupted in 1971. He was the pool photographer and his pictures appeared in the news media everywhere.

"I was lucky," Shearer, now 58, said during a recent interview at the custom publishing firm he owns and directs — his second such company. "I had some great mentors, like the well-known photographer Gordon Parks, and my boss at *Look*, Arthur Rothstein. Gordon knew my father Ted, an artist, and got me started in photography as a kid. He also introduced me to all the top photographers."

Shearer brought all that talent and experience to the School in 1974, and shared them with the students for the next 12 years. He taught as a part-time adjunct, because his own photography, book writing and graphics work kept him busy. After *Life* folded in 1972 (it

later was resuscitated), he started and ran his first custom publishing company, Shearer Visuals, which for several years designed and produced specialized print projects.

Still, he developed the school's photojournalism program from a neglected club into a three-credit course that provides photos for the *Bronx Beat* newspaper and the school's *Columbia News Service*. He left Columbia in 1986 and started a series of media-oriented jobs.

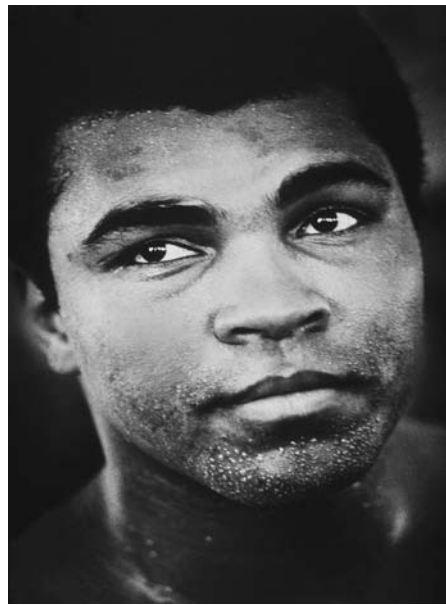
Currently, Shearer owns and runs the second of his custom publishing companies. Called Image Partners, the small firm roughly replicates the earlier Shearer Visuals: It designs and produces customized magazines, annual reports and other print projects for organizations (e.g. The Urban League) and commercial firms (e.g. Citibank).

Recently he has revived his interest in his own photographs, and has mounted a major traveling exhibit of his *Look* and *Life* work, which is spon-

'I was lucky. I had some great mentors.'

sored by Time Warner, and a few smaller exhibits of his other pictures. He also is writing two more books, illustrated with his photographs: One, motivated by the success of his exhibits, is about the restive 1960s and is called *An American View*. The other, mainly artistic pictures of nudes, is called *Light Waves* and the text is about, as Shearer puts it, "life and relationships."

His company is in Katonah, NY, a village an hour's drive north of Columbia. Shearer lives in Katonah with his wife, the former Marianne Kellogg, and their two teenage children. The couple met at Columbia when Marianne ran the Journalism School's Admissions Office in the 1980s.



A Shearer photo of a young Ali



John Shearer

The Shearers started Image Partners as partners in 1995, with John handling the creative end mainly, and Marianne overseeing the business end. Last year, with the company and her children doing well, Marianne accepted a job offer in development at Fordham.

John Shearer is a rather tall, trim man with black hair and light black skin. He's an energetic and versatile workaholic, a creative thinker who's sharp about communications technology, and confident about his work. His office/work space is large and lined with computers, pictures and evidence of projects, past and in progress.

Shearer's talent began to emerge in high school. He won prizes in photography contests, which attracted attention and encouraged him to put on his first show. He caught Rothstein's eye at *Look*, which later sent him on scholarship to a photography program at the Rochester Institute of Technology.

"I attended classes three days a week," Shearer explained. "The rest of the time I took pictures for *Look*. I flew back and forth between New York and Rochester upstate."

Although his active field work as a professional photographer plummeted as he got older, Shearer has kept graphics and design as part and parcel of his various jobs. After Columbia and Shearer Visuals, for example, he was an art editor for the *Sunday* magazine of *The New York Times*. Then he became editorial director for IBM's custom magazines. For a while he even

worked for Merrill Lynch, the investment firm, capitalizing on his expertise in photography, graphics and publishing.

Nowadays, writing and the photo exhibits command increasing attention from Shearer. Although his writing has been overshadowed by his photography, he's proud of it and never fails to mention it when discussing his career. It started early.

He wrote his first book after his *Life* job ended when the magazine died in 1972. It was about minorities, and he traveled the country collecting information for it. Then came books for kids: the first was called *I Wish I Had an Afro*; it was followed by a series of mysteries starring young Billy Joe Jive, which was used as the basis for features on the PBS television show "Sesame Street." Shearer teamed with his artist father, Ted, who did the illustrations.

For the immediate future, Shearer plans to juggle writing with his publishing and photo exhibits. He expects the exhibits to flourish, probably touring abroad as well as at home.

Shearer is somewhat surprised at the success of the exhibits.

"It started a couple years ago as a small local show," he explained, "but it got good media coverage. Guys at Time Warner saw some of the reviews and mention of *Life* magazine, which of course was published by Time, Inc. They contacted me and expressed interest in a traveling exhibit. It caught on, and the project has been growing ever since. You never know."

Auerbach: First Mother in the J-School

By Sylvia Auerbach ('60)

Can youthful dreams come true? In my case, yes. When I was a student at the Philadelphia High School for Girls, I heard of Columbia's Graduate School of Journalism, and I dreamed of going there. But as my high school counselors told me, that was impossible. Journalism was a man's field; women couldn't stand the pace, the stress, and the potential dangers. Of course, no women were allowed at the J-School. Forget it. And I did.

But the spark still smoldered.

Many years later, having been an army wife, a secretary, a worker on a factory assembly line, a truant officer, a comparison shopper, etc., I nibbled again on my ambition to work in publishing. I landed a job as an "editorial assistant" (accurate description: secretary and coffee gofer) on the staff of the *Library Journal*, and got promoted to managing editor fairly quickly. The

editor-in-chief, a graduate librarian, quit in a big huff one day. I became the editor as I took over her responsibilities—but without the title and, needless to say, the salary. No chance of becoming the editor-in-chief, because I was not a librarian. Maddening.

Then, a lovely woman named Helen Slade Sanders, who had been one of the few female trade magazine editors, established a fellowship for a woman at the J-School. I figured I was too old (39). I already had one son in high school and another about to enter college, but I applied anyway. My college-bound son left for freshman orientation the day I went up to the J-School for an interview. As he waved goodbye, he said, "Goodbye, Mother. I hope you get into the college of your choice."

I did, and it was one of the best years of my adult life. Before 7:30 a.m., wife and mother: "Mooother, did you see my lunch?" "Honey, have my



Sylvia Auerbach on graduation day.

shirts come back from the laundry?" "Did somebody walk the dog?"

Then, forget domesticity. Run for the bus, squeeze into two subways.

Arrive at the J-School at 9 a.m. sharp. Stretch your mind, write, write, write, suffer until your papers are returned, sharpen your skills, and learn a lot from the best and merciless professors. It was killing—and I loved every stressful minute of it.

There were, I think, 10 women in the class, all in their twenties, except me. All of us were determined to break out of the box of writing about home, family, and styles.

At a later reunion, I was introduced to a new student as the first mother to attend the J-School. She looked at me in surprise and said, "But you look so well-preserved." I tried to smile, but I had a vision of myself on a shelf in a bottle of formaldehyde.

I've been lucky. What I learned at the J-School led to varied editorial jobs, five books published, teaching at three universities, satisfying work, and much fun. I still freelance, I'm writing a memoir, and I have no plans to retire.

President's Column

What should be the role of the J-School's Alumni Association (AA)? Every organization should review its mission and activities periodically. Ours is no exception.

The AA's current mandate, set forth in our constitution and bylaws, is "to organize the alumni . . . for the purpose of advancing the interests and promoting the welfare of the Alumni, the journalism profession, journalism education, and the Journalism School."

Is the stated purpose still appropriate? Are existing activities good enough, or should more be done?

The AA's Executive Committee spent some time considering the Association's role. Here is a composite of their reflections:

The AA should, as an organization representing graduates of a prestigious journalism institution, become more involved with issues affecting the journalism profession. It should serve as a resource for improving the profession.

The Alumni Journal should include more about issues and an opinion page, including commentary written by a graduate on a key issue, followed by reader reaction. Also, a second annual panel focusing on issues, like the existing Fall Meeting, should be added.

The AA may be in a period of transition, as with the experiment with off-campus events, but it should be careful not to lose the emphasis placed on existing programs, which are basically good and do not need major change. More activities can be added, but there is ultimately a limit. To do more, the Executive Committee should call on alumni volunteers.

The AA's visibility before alumni and students should be increased. Alumni outside of New York City especially appear to have little knowledge of the Association. The Executive Committee needs to offer alumni more opportunities for involvement in the organization—not just through more activities but through participation in running the organization.

Ways of increasing Alumni involvement include allowing a group to run an event like the Fall Meeting, holding more midtown breakfasts, stimulating formation of J-School alumni chapters or clubs and, where that is not possible, encouraging alumni involvement in the university's regional clubs. Term limits should be set for Executive Committee members.

To increase the involvement of younger alumni, consideration should be given to adding to the AA's existing alumni awards a special "up-and-coming" award for recent graduates.

To build stronger awareness of the Association and a stronger alliance between the alumni and student body, an event might be held at the end of the school year to help students find jobs. An annual AA scholarship should be funded; with current tuition at \$38,000 and total yearly expenses

reaching \$60,000, even an amount as small as \$1,000 would be helpful.

For greater visibility, more about the AA's activities should be reported in the Alumni Journal.

The Executive Committee should seek to stimulate increased on-line communication with and among class members but be careful to avoid e-mail in-box clutter. Setting up on-line discussion rooms that alumni can access whenever they wish, achieves both ends.

For still more involvement, establish groups within the Association that appeal to the varied interests of J-School grads. And find distinguished alumni for a speaker's bureau.

Wow! Who would have predicted so many powerful ideas would surface!

How does that compare with what alumni in general perceive to be the Association's role? You probably have your own view of what the Association should or should not be doing.

Well, let us hear from you! You can address your views to me via the J-School's Alumni Relations Office; or better yet, e-mail them to me. I will share your views in the next Alumni Journal issue or on the Association's web site.

Alumni Reunion and Spring Meeting April 21-23, 2006

End Notes:

Local chapters: Hats off to **Marianne Sullivan**, ('92), for getting the Association's new Boston chapter up and running. Meanwhile, the Association's Washington, D.C. chapter is being organized by **Fran Hardin**, ('77), with plans for a panel in April.

Jeffrey D. Bogart, ('64), is president of the Alumni Association. He can be reached at jdb92@columbia.edu.



Book Shelf

1952

Howard J. Langer has written *The Vietnam War: An Encyclopedia of Quotations* (Greenwood Press, 2005), a story of the Vietnam War told through quotations in chronological sequence. An independent scholar and editor, Langer previously wrote *America in Quotations: A Kaleidoscope View of American History* (Greenwood, 2002).

1961

Elaine Yaffe has written *Mary Ingraham: Her Two Lives* (Frederic C. Bell Publisher, October 2005) about the notable 20th Century feminist and educator who was president of Radcliffe College during the sixties, dean of Douglass College, special assistant to the president of Princeton, and the first woman to serve on the Atomic Energy Commission.

1963

Dennis Redmont is the co-author of a new book *Mass Media e Nuova Europe* (Mondadori, 2005). It is a study of emerging media patterns in the countries of "New Europe," including new and prospective members of the European Union. Redmont is currently coordinator of a program by the foundation of Italy's largest bank, Unicredit, which trains emerging young media leaders.

1973

Laurie Becklund has written *Between Two Worlds: Escape from Tyranny: Growing Up in the Shadow of Saddam* (Gotham, October 2005) with Azinah Salbi. It is a memoir of Salbi's life growing up in, and escaping from Saddam Hussein's inner circle.

1977

Marialisa Calta has published a parenting/cookbook *Barbarians at the Plate: Taming and Feeding the Modern American Family* (Perigee, June 2005) for which she traveled around the country interviewing working parents about how, why and what they manage to put on the table for family meal.

Lydia Chavez published an edited collection on *Cuba, Capitalism, God, and a Good Cigar; Cuba Enters the Twenty-first Century*. (Duke University Press)

1980

Guy Garcia's book, *The New Mainstream: How the Multicultural consumer is Transforming American Business* has been published by Harper Collins/Rayo.

Leon Hadar, a research fellow in foreign policy studies at the Cato Institute, has just published *Sandstorm: Policy Failure in the Middle East* (Palgrave Macmillan)

Jill Nelson has written *Finding Martha's Vineyard: African Americans at Home on the Island* (Doubleday, May 2005). "Nelson . . . offers an intimate look at Martha's Vineyard where generations of African-Americans have lived, worked and played year-round or for a summer," according to Publishers Weekly.

1982

Kristina Borjesson won the 2005 Independent Publisher Award for Best Book in the current affairs category for

the revised and expanded paperback edition of *INTO THE BUZZSAW: Leading Journalists Expose the Myth of a Free Press*. The hardback version won the National Press Club's Arthur Rowse Award for Press Criticism and was selected by the New York Public Library's Books to Remember committee as one of the 25 most extraordinary titles of 2002.

Joel Dubin has written *The Little Black Book of Computer Security* (iserieswnetwork publishers).

Valerie Wilson Wesley has written *Playing My Mother's Blues* (William Morrow, March 2005), a contemporary story about mother-daughter relationships in an African-American family.

1983

Esther Iverem has written *Living in Babylon: Poems and Performances* (Africa World Press, 2005) which shows that there's no separation between the personal and the political.

1985

Yolanda Joe has her third Georgia Barnett mystery, *Video Cowboys*. In this book, the attractive African-American Chicago TV journalist finds herself in the center of a big news story when she and her cameraman are taken hostage by a bomb-wielding man demanding that local authorities search for his missing daughter.

Craig Marberry's *Cuttin' Up* was published by Doubleday in May. It captures the culture of the barber shop and illustrates the lives and conversations of barbers and their patrons, male and female, from Detroit to Orlando and Brooklyn to Houston.

Alecia McKenzie has had two new books published — *Stories from Yard*, a collection of short stories set in Jamaica and the U.S., and *Doctor's Orders*, a novella for teen readers. Alecia is a past winner of the Commonwealth Writers Prize.

1990

Stephanie Gutmann has written her second book, *The Other War: Israelis, Palestinians and the Struggle for Media Supremacy* (Encounter Books, September 2005). It has received good reviews from Publisher's Weekly, the Wall Street Journal and the New York Sun.

1994

William Friar has published his third book, *Moon Handbooks: Panama*. (Avalon Travel Publishing, 2005)

1997

Urania Mylonas co-edited *Captured: A Lower East Side Film & Video History* (Seven Stories Press, May 2005), which tells the story of film and video in the artists' own words. Over 100 contributors discuss the early years with Allen Ginsburg, Andy Warhol, Jack Smith, Taylor Mead, and Jonas Mekas as well as the wild '70s and '80s.

1998

Alice Sparberg Alexiou has written *Jane Jacobs: Urban Visionary*, which will be published in Spring 2006 by Rutgers University Press/Harper Collins Canada.

ALUMNI JOURNAL, Winter 2006

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THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Tami Luhby ('97), First Vice President
Judith Bender ('64), Second Vice President
Max Nichols ('57), Secretary
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PRODUCTION: Ted Phillips ('03), Craig McGuire ('98), Gloria Sturzenacker ('78)

THE JOURNAL IS PUBLISHED BY THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM AS A SERVICE TO ITS MEMBERS AND AS PART OF ITS GENERAL SUPPORT OF THE SCHOOL.

Obits

1937

Fred J. Pannwitt, a former associate editor of the Chicago Daily News, died Oct. 27, at the age of 90. Pannwitt worked for The Associated Press for five years in Chicago, Detroit, and Grand Rapids, Mich., before returning to Columbia as an assistant professor of journalism. He volunteered for the U.S. Navy in 1944 and served as a communications officer on the USS Redstart minesweeper off Japan.

He began work for the Chicago Daily News in 1946, rising to become Associate Editor, Editorial, before retiring in 1977, a year before the Daily News closed. He was President of the Chicago Press Club in 1969.

1941

Arnold A. Lerner died Oct. 11. He retired from IBM as director of communications in 1986 after a 30-year career.

1944

Robert I. Weil, retired Los Angeles Superior Court judge, died on August 13. He was 83. Weil started in journalism editing his school newspaper at Los Angeles High School. After graduating from UCLA, Weil worked briefly as a reporter in Ventura before enrolling at the J-School. His work as a journalist took him to Europe where he reported for the Associated Press before returning to the United States to attend USC law school.

1945

Otto W. Glade died September 18 at the age of 83. While Glade studied to be a teacher he found his real vocation in journalism. After receiving his degree from the J-School, he worked as a reporter and editor on newspapers in Massachusetts and New Jersey. He was a news writer for NBC in Washington and New York before going to work for Esso in 1954. He worked in communications and public relations for Exxon for 29 years before retiring in 1983. After retirement he edited the newsletter of the Exxon Memorial Annuitant Club and also served as president. He is survived by his wife, Marian, and three sons.

1947

Mary Paterson Kester died September 15 at Manor Care nursing home in Wilmington (DE) after a lengthy illness. She was 81. Kester worked in administrative capacities at Brown University, the University of Rochester and St. Mary's College of Maryland and St. Mary's City (MD). She also was active in the League of Women Voters in both Delaware and New York State. She was preceded in death by her husband **Gordon Kester ('47)**. She is survived by two daughters and a son.

1950

Ben A. Franklin, a longtime national correspondent for The New York Times, died in November. He was 78. Franklin

Class Notes

1951

James Boylan has written a profile of former dean Carl Ackerman as part of the "Living Legacies" series for Columbia magazine.

James Sunshine has moved from Tiverton, R.I., to Kendal-at-Oberlin, a retirement center near Oberlin College, Ohio. He ended a 45-year career at the Providence Journal in 1995.

1952

Hal Douthit, chairman of Douhit Communications, hosted a reception for fellow J-School graduates in the Cleveland area.

James S. Keat, former assistant managing editor of the Baltimore Sun, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Maryland, Delaware, Washington, D.C. Press Association on November 4, 2005 "for extraordinary service and dedication benefiting our association and the newspaper industry."

Ted Stanton has been named associate director of development of the University of Houston School of Communication. He has been at the university since 1982 after 27 years as a newspaper reporter and editor.

1963

Paul Boyd received a Ph.D. from Rutgers University in 2005. He has also founded and chairs his town's environmental commission, campaigned successfully to save 85 acres

joined The Times in 1959 and covered the Middle Atlantic states for many years before retiring in 1989. At his death, he was editor of The Washington Spectator, a twice-monthly political newsletter.

1955

Philip Robbins, a leading authority on the First Amendment and freedom of the press, died of pancreatic cancer on Oct. 13. He was 74. Robbins began his career as a reporter for the Baltimore Evening Sun. He moved to the Hopewell (Va.) Daily News as city editor. Then, Robbins became the assistant city editor and later metro news editor at the Washington Evening Star in Washington, D.C. He taught journalism at George Washington University, until 1995, then served as the ombudsman for the Stars and Stripes newspaper for overseas military personnel. He was awarded the Knight International Press Fellowship with the International Center for Foreign Journalists, traveling to emerging democracies to improve the standards of a free and open media.

1961

Karl Abraham died on October 15. He retired in 1994 as the public affairs officer for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission after having been the science writer for the Philadelphia Bulletin and several other newspapers. He credited the fellowship program in science writing at Columbia with launching his career in writing and reporting on science and technology. He is survived by his wife, Mickey, and two sons.

for open space and recreation, and received the New York-New Jersey Baykeeper award for grassroots activism.

Richard Levine was appointed to the new position of vice president of news and staff development at the Wall Street Journal. Levine was previously vice president and executive editor of Dow Jones Newswires.

1964

Herbert Kestenbaum retired after 31 years from the Philadelphia Inquirer. During his 40-year career he also worked at the Providence Journal.

1967

Michael Maidenberg is vice president and chief program officer of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation in Miami, Florida. The Foundation is a major underwriter of journalism programs.

1969

Amy Stone is in China, working at the Shenzhen Daily with fellow alumnus **Ranajit Dam ('04)**.

1972

Sam Brown, a TV and radio news anchor and investigative reporter, has joined Knowledge Source, a Knoxville-based company that recruits candidates to teach English in Asia.

Peter Frishauf founded

Medscape.com, a major educational website for doctors.

Andrew Schorr, a Seattle and national health radio talk show host, founded www.healthtalk.com, a major website for seriously ill patients. He recently secured a New York agent for his book *Patient Power: How to Get the Care You Need and Deserve*.

1973

Gerry Aziakou is UN correspondent for AFP in New York.

Lena Williams retired from the New York Times in October after three decades as a reporter.

1974

Joann Lee became chair of the Communication Department, William Paterson University, N.J. in September.

1975

David Heim has left Consumer Reports magazine after 28-1/2 years, most recently as deputy editor for special sections and just accepted the associate editor's job with Fine Woodworking.

1976

Jerry Berger is director of media relations at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston.

Victoria Ellington is editor of the Regulatory Affairs Journals in London. The journals cover the global regulation, including primary legislation, governing pharmaceuticals and medical devices.

Ruth Jones has worked for the American Red Cross disaster committee. She lives in Charleston, W.V.

Michael Strauss recently became chief correspondent in Paris for AFX News, the financial wire of Agence

France-Presse.

1977

Ti-Hua Chang is a general assignment and investigative reporter at WCBS-TV, New York.

Through her company, the Diasporan Touch, **Dorothy Davis** is currently working on a research project on the African Diaspora for the Ford Foundation and writing a book about her experiences growing up in the foreign service. Her late father is **Griff Davis ('49)**. She recently joined the J-School's Alumni executive committee.

Frederick Kempe has returned to New York to assume the position of assistant managing editor, international, at the Wall Street Journal.

Barbara Pierce and CBS News won the Emmy for investigative journalism in a regularly scheduled newscast for its stories on the Enron audio tapes.

1978

Hester Fuller is now back teaching in northern New England. After 20 years in radio and independent audio production in Vermont, Fuller returned to Boston and earned an Ed.D from Harvard in 2002 and worked at WGBH Interactive on assorted new media projects. At WGBH Fuller was part of the team that won a British Academy of Film and Television Arts Award for Commanding Heights online.

Jonathan Oatis has moved to Bangalore, India, to train and manage a new global team that is part of Reuters' editorial operations.

Sydney Rubin sold her Washington, D.C.-based public relations/public affairs firm, Ignition Strategic Communications, to Chandler Chicco Agency. She founded the firm, which specialized in technology and health care, after returning from Paris where she was a correspondent for The Associated Press.

E.R. Shipp has joined the Hofstra University faculty as an associate professor in Journalism, Media Studies, and Public Relations.

Michele Wolf is the manager for editorial copy at AARP The Magazine.

1979

Will Joyner is editor of Harvard Divinity Bulletin, which recently was reformulated into a general interest magazine on religion and public life. Anyone interested in receiving the magazine can e-mail Will at will_joyner@harvard.edu.

Drusilla Menaker moved from daily journalism to international development, working with an international nongovernmental organization IREX to design and implement programs supporting media independence from the Balkans to the Middle East.

1980

Adlai J. Amor was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science "for extensive work as a media trainer in the international arena and for focus on science communication as a journalist."

Mimi Chen has been named midday announcer at KCSN-FM in Los Angeles. Because her work hours are during school time, she is able "to be a

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stay at home mom for her kids.”

Wayne Dawkins has joined the faculty of the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications at Hampton University.

Elisabetta di Cagno won the Steinbeck award for best writing non-fiction from Southampton College where she just completed course work for an MFA in creative writing.

Beth Weinhouse is the editor-in-chief of *Conceive*, a new national magazine for women who hope to start or expand a family by natural conception, fertility treatments and/or assisted reproductive technologies, or adoption. The magazine won a Florida Magazine Association award for in-depth reporting.

1981

Neil Reisner, is associate professor at Florida International University's School of Journalism and Mass Communication. He previously worked as a reporter and editor at the Miami Daily Business Review, the Miami Herald and the Bergen Record.

1982

Anisa Mehdi won a grant from the United States Institute of Peace for a documentary film with the working title “Monks and Muslims: Finding Faith in Algeria.”

Jerome Reide joined the State Bar of Michigan as director of the Justice Initiatives Division where he will oversee policy, pro bono, equal access, technology and fundraising issues.

Sheryl Hilliard Tucker was promoted from executive editor of *Money* magazine to *Time*, Inc. editor at large.

1983

Erik Gunn won the Milwaukee Press Club's award for best business story of 2004 for his cover article on Master Lock for *Milwaukee Magazine*.

Fred Katayama has been named anchor of Reuters' daily global news broadcast on the Internet. He will also cover breaking news stories as he did earlier this year from Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana on Hurricane Katrina.

Mark Maremont is special projects editor at *The Wall Street Journal*. Chip Scanlan's interview with Maremont was recently featured on Poynteronline.

1984

Mike Watkiss won an Edward R. Murrow Award for a documentary called “Colorado City and the Underground Railroad.” The documentary focuses on the abuses inside the large polygamist community on the Utah/Arizona border. It forced elected officials for the first time in 50 years to take a serious look at the crimes associated with polygamy and offered some hope to the women and children who are polygamy's victims.

1985

David Bank is leaving the *Wall Street Journal* after nine years to head the Civic Ventures Institute, the think tank wing of Civic Ventures, a national non-profit working to turn the aging of the baby boom generation from a looming crisis into a new opportunity for civic engagement and renewal.

Anthony Flint, on leave from *The*

Boston Globe, is a visiting scholar at Harvard's Graduate School of Design. He is writing a book on urban sprawl and smart growth to be published in Spring 2006 by John Hopkins University Press.

Carolyn Boulger Karlson was named dean of graduate studies at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland. Dr. Karlson is the author of a newly published book, *Writing and Presenting a Business Plan* (Thompson-SouthWestern Publishing).

Charlotte Golar Richie was one of 11 former Peace Corps volunteers recognized for her service with the Franklin H. William Award. She was a volunteer in Kenya from 1981 to 1983. In 1999 Richie was named chief of housing for the City of Boston.

1986

Alan Flippen returned to the newsroom of *The New York Times* as a senior project manager in news administration after seven years on strategic planning, production and labor relations.

1987

Kissette Bundy has joined the faculty of the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications at Hampton University. Bundy, an Emmy award-winning television producer, previously served as a daytime programming unit manager for WBIS and supervising producer at WNET-TV in New York.

Leah Eskin, food columnist for the *Chicago Tribune*, was named top food columnist by the Association of Food Journalists. She describes her writing as “delicious fun” and plans to continue her assignment as she and her family relocate to Baltimore where her husband, **Robert Blau ('85)**, is managing editor of the *Baltimore Sun*.

Kym Richardson was selected for the Association of Independent Video and Filmmakers mentorship, an intensive four-month program to give independent screenwriters, producers and directors an opportunity to develop their scripts. She was selected for her screenplay “Ruby, My Dear.”

Todd Woody has been named the business editor of the *Mercury News*. Woody, 43, joined the *Mercury News* as an assistant business editor for technology in 2003 and was promoted to the deputy job last year. Previously, Woody worked for the *Sacramento Bee* and the *Industry Standard* and wrote for *Wired* magazine. He began his newspaper career as a reporter at *The Palm Beach Post*.

1988

Reginald Chua has been appointed an assistant managing editor at the *Wall Street Journal*. He is responsible for the news department's budget and administration as well as various news projects.

Joel Davis won first place for best writing in the 2004 Better Newspapers Contest, sponsored by the California Newspaper Publishers Association (CNPA), for his story “The heart of the (gray) matter,” which appeared in the *Sacramento News & Review*. The story is about Davis's deep brain surgery to alleviate his aggressive young Parkinson's disease symptoms. While recovering from surgery, Davis finished his book *Justice Waits* (Callister Press, 2005), about an unsolved murder in his hometown of Davis, Calif.

Cameron McWhirter, a staff writer for *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, has won a first place “Salute to

Excellence” award for daily news from the National Association of Black Journalists. His story, “SCLC in Conflict,” was about current problems plaguing the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a civil rights organization founded by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and others.

1989

Matt Driskill was promoted to editor-business Asia for the *International Herald Tribune*. He is based in Hong Kong.

Alex Rothenberg joined the *Wall Street Journal* as a copy editor in August 2005 after more than five years at *Bloomberg*.

1990

Patricia Gras recently received her fifth regional Emmy for her work covering pediatric AIDS in Romania. She is also hosting and producing a new weekly show, “Living Smart” to get the most out of life.

1991

Juliette Fairley recently booked nine episodes of “One Life to Live” and played the lead love interest in a short film opposite Spike Lee's brother Cinque in the film “A Dollar Short.”

Lem Lloyd is the corporate director/vice president of classified advertising for Knight Ridder/Knight Ridder Digital in San Jose, Calif.

Daniel Sloan is senior correspondent for business television for Reuters in Japan. His video and live reports appear regularly on CNN, the BBC, and Reuters. He was elected president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan in June.

1992

Rob Cox has returned to New York to launch the U.S. branch of breakingviews, a financial commentary business he founded in 2000 in London with colleagues from the *Financial Times*.

Susan Abrahamson Vaughn has moved from teaching journalism at Lynchburg College (Va.) to teaching journalism at Queens College, N.Y.

1993

Malcolm Foster moved to Bangkok in June to become Asia business editor for the *Associated Press*.

Vince Gonzales has been named broadcast journalist of the year by the National Association of Hispanic Journalists. He and CBS News won the Emmy for investigative journalism in a regularly scheduled newscast for stories on the Enron audio tapes.

Alex Walworth is the executive producer of “Debate,” a new show on USA Today Live that focuses on hot topics in the news.

1994

Matt Fine has joined Philadelphia's new all-sports station 950-WPEN, hosting the Monday-Friday 7-10 pm slot.

Seth Hettena, an *Associated Press* reporter since 1997, has been promoted to correspondent in charge of the San Diego bureau.

Hanson Hosein and **Heather Hughes**, independent filmmakers and award-winning journalists, have produced “Independent America: The Two Lane Search for Mom & Pop,” an entertaining account of Hosein and Hughes' expedition through 32 states as they look for an America unchained by corporate retail.

Tim Loughran is training to be a newspaper publisher in Richmond, Va., with *Nuevas Raices*, a Spanish-language weekly serving the Latino and Hispanic-America populations of the state. He spent 10 years covering civil war and human rights abuses in Central America, economic and political turmoil in Mexico and Argentina.

Tara Sutton won Amnesty International's Award for human rights reporting in the television news category for her reporting from Falluja during the April 2004 battle there.

Katherine Yung, who writes for the *Dallas Morning News*, was a finalist for the Livingston Awards for Young Journalists.

Kimberly Winston won an American Academy of Religion award for the best in-depth reporting on religion for articles on the influence of the movie “The Passion of the Christ,” the mainstreaming of Wicca, politicians' use of Puritan theology, the reviving of ancient religions, and how non-Christians are fighting to save Christmas.

1995

Gene Choo recently joined NBC's Burbank (CA) bureau as a network news producer after four years working in the NBC News London bureau covering international news from South Asia to Afghanistan to the Middle East and Europe.

Amy Nutt returned to the *Newark Star-Ledger* after a 10-month sojourn at Harvard as a Nieman Fellow. “It was a magical experience and it was also a curative one, as I was recovering from breast cancer at the time,” she says.

Srikant Ramaswami is director of global pharmaceutical communications at Johnson & Johnson and writing his first book.

1996

Cheryl Alkon is research editor at *Boston Magazine*. After eight years in New York, she moved to Massachusetts in 2003. She continues to freelance for *More*, *Weight Watchers*, and other publications.

Rebecca Leung has joined the Communication and Media Department at SUNY-New Paltz as an assistant professor.

1997

Laurie Brian was the supervising producer on “MegaStructures: Ultimate Casino,” “MegaStructures: NORAD,” and “MegaStructures: Ultimate Roller Coaster,” for the National Geographic Channel that was set to air in October.

Vanessa Bush has been named executive editor of *Essence* magazine. Bush, who has worked at the magazine for the past five years, most recently served as its lifestyle editor.

Bill Hughes is currently covering crime and public safety issues for *The Journal News* in Westchester County, living in Jersey City, N.J.

David Lawrence has written eight entries in the three-volume *Encyclopedia of the Developing World*.

After five years as a reporter in southeast Asia, **David Lovering** has transferred to the United States with AP to become a business writer based in Pittsburgh. He recently completed a month-long assignment in Afghanistan.

Tami Lubby, personal finance writer at *Newsday*, completed the Westchester Triathlon as part of *The*

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Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team in Training program. She also did the New York City Marathon for the second year. When not training, she taught Basic Reporting at Hunter College in the fall.

Amy Radil returned to the U.S. in 2005 after spending four years in Brazil as a freelance reporter, mostly in public radio. Radil just started a new job with KUOW in Seattle and is looking forward to being back in a newsroom.

Jim Rosenberg has returned to radio to become a producer with the Bob Edwards Show at XM Satellite Radio in Washington, D.C., following a stint with the World Bank.

Anne Francia A. Torres is the manager for news production at the Associated Broadcasting Company in Manila, Philippines. Besides supervising two evening news programs, she also hosts a documentary program, "Dokyu," which features work by first-time/independent documentary filmmakers.

1998

Mark Cardwell has joined ABCNews.com as editorial director. He had been executive producer of AP's digital group.

Colette Kunkel was nominated for a 2005 Emmy for a documentary she produced entitled "Ladies First" for Thirteen's "Wide Angle" series.

Marybeth Christie Redmond has been teaching advanced reporting and writing at St. Michael's College in Colchester, Vt., for the past three years.

Kaelen Wilson-Goldie is finishing up an MA in Middle East Studies at the American University of Beirut's Center for Arab and Middle East Studies and working as a staff reporter for the Daily Star, an English-language newspaper based in Beirut and distributed throughout the region with the International Herald Tribune.

1999

F. Brinley Bruton recently returned to London from Afghanistan where she trained journalists and helped set up what is now the country's largest independent news service. She has taken a sabbatical from Reuters and is giving freelancing a try.

Christine Haughney has joined the Wall Street Journal as a national commercial real estate reporter.

Victoria Martin received a master's degree in European politics and administration from the College of Europe (Belgium). She now specializes in covering the EU.

Josh Robbins has moved back to the Orlando area and taken a position writing for the Orlando Sentinel after four years covering Florida State University football and basketball for the paper.

Tim Townsend won the 2005 Templeton Religion Reporter of the Year Award given by the Religion Newswriters Association. Townsend, a reporter with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, was praised for his "exemplary legwork and keen news judgment which combine to produce compelling and highly informative journalism."

2000

Meg Murphy is a journalism instructor

at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Mass.

Ivan Mahoney started freelancing several years ago after working with CNN and Insight News TV in London. He has been directing/producing/filming documentaries in the UK mostly for BBC's current affairs department.

Kristi Nelson has been promoted to co-anchor of NBC 5 "First at Four" which airs every weekday from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.

2001

Roshni Abayasekara-Karwal has relocated to New York and works with the BBC bureau at the United Nations.

Jaime Bedrin was named 2005 North Carolina radio journalist of the year by the Radio-Television News Directors Association of the Carolinas. Bedrin also received a 2005 regional Edward R. Murrow award for her feature report "Recruiting Female Cops." Her monthly beauty column, "Product Perfect" debuted in the Charlotte Observer.

Tim Eaton covers the Texas capital for Scripps Howard Newspapers. In April he was named star reporter of the year by Texas APME/Headliners Foundation of Texas for his work from the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. He also won the APME award for courts coverage and an honorable mention for the 2005 Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism from the University of Maryland's Casey Journalism Center on Children and Families for a story on low conviction rates of people indicted for sexual abuse.

Ramin Ganeshram has written her first cookbook *Sweet Hands: Island Cooking from Trinidad & Tobago*. It was featured in an article in the August National Geographic Traveler magazine.

William Gorta is associate metro editor at the New York Post.

Brian O'Connor is the personal finance columnist for the Detroit News. He writes a weekly column and edits two weekly sections on personal finance. He joined the News in October, 2004 as deputy business editor.

Susana Seijas joined BBC News in Mexico City as a producer.

Sheila Stainback contributed a chapter to *A Love Like No Other* (Riverhead Press, 2005) in which 20 adoptive parents share their child-rearing experiences. An excerpt of Stainback's work appears in the December issue of Redbook magazine.

On July 5, **Amy Webb** launched Dragonfire, an interactive online publication bringing together innovative audio, video, and print content.

2002

Jamie Casini and **Nancy Reardon ('05)** have been named co-managing editors of the Palo Alto Daily News, a Knight Ridder Community newspaper that includes six free, daily papers.

Sara Clemence has been covering real estate for Forbes.com for after stints at newspapers in Alabama and Albany (N.Y.). She has also made a lot of television appearances on CNN, CNBC, MSNBC and VH-1 as an expert on celebrity vacation homes.

Ruth Jacobs will teach introduction to journalism at Colby College (Me.) beginning in January.

Yilauk Kang is a reporter at Forbes.com covering biotechnology and pharmaceutical stocks and writing "quirky" tech stories.

Alan Rappeport received the Marjorie Dean Financial Journalism Foundation fellowship awarded annually by The Economist. He will spend a year doing a master's program at The London School of Economics.

Christian Red is a sports writer at the New York Daily News and in September was in Louisiana to report on post-Katrina sports competition.

Kimberly Roots is a news editor at Soaps in Depth magazine.

Anne Sachs is editor for ELLEgirl.com, the teen version of ELLE magazine.

Eli Stokols is a general assignment reporter with KWGN in Denver.

Rasheca Williams is a coordinator in the standards and practices department at MTV Networks where she oversees standards for MTV News and online.

2003

Marilen Cawad joined Institutional Investor magazine as news editor. She received the Knight-Bagehot Fellowship in Economics and Business Journalism in 2002 and a masters in international affairs in 2005.

Geeta Dayal won an Arthur F. Burns Fellowship from the International Center for Journalism. She will be working as an arts journalist for Die Welt in Berlin.

Joel Gershon is a reporter in Bangkok for the local section of the International Herald Tribune.

Kosuke Takahashi Goto joined Bloomberg in Tokyo as global foreign exchange market reporter. He uses his former name Kosuke Takashi, when he writes for other publications, including Asia Times.

After working as an arts writer in the features department of the Florida Times-Union in Jacksonville, **Tanya Perez-Brennan** has joined the Orlando Sentinel as a news reporter covering the city of Deltona.

Robert Plotkin has purchased The Point Reyes Light, a weekly newspaper that won a Pulitzer Prize in 1979 for meritorious public service. Plotkin, a former Monterey County prosecutor, also works as a freelance reporter and photographer.

Alexis Robie spent the summer in Miami, shooting and field producing for the A&E series "The First 48." The show follows the real life investigations of homicide detectives.

Michael Schreiber was an associate producer with the now defunct New York Times TV on two episodes of Frontline — one on terrorism in Europe and the other on the credit card industry. The latter episode won an Emmy for investigative journalism. He is currently at ABC working on a documentary.

2004

Ryan Blitstein joined SF Weekly, Calif., as a staff writer.

Jessica Carsen has returned to print after a year working as a freelance producer for the BBC in New York, Washington, D.C. and London. Based in London, she is currently a reporter for the European edition of Time magazine.

Rebecca Haggerty is a producer with Dateline NBC.

Aron Heller has joined the Associated Press as a reporter in the Jerusalem bureau. For the past year he worked as a reporter at the Ottawa Citizen.

Avery Johnson is a staff reporter at the Wall Street Journal covering travel companies.

Suzanne Nam moved from London to Bangkok in May to join the International Herald Tribune's publications in Thailand as a business and general news reporter.

Jennifer Odell continues to freelance for People covering the music and movie beats. She also writes every month for Downbeat Magazine and covered indie rock for the CMJ Network as an editor and panel director for their Fall conference, the CMJ Music Marathon.

Tanya Rivero (Warren) has been working as on-air reporter for WCBS in New York City following a one-year stint at News 12 The Bronx as an anchor/reporter.

2005

Anima Aguiluz is completing production of an independently produced Philippine documentary.

Kiera Butler is an assistant editor with Columbia Journalism Review.

Emilia Casella is now completing a master of international affairs at Columbia.

Kristin Espeland is a reporter and host of Morning Edition for Wyoming Public Radio.

Jennifer Fishbein currently edits news at ThaiDay, the daily paper founded by, and distributed with, the International Herald Tribune.

Erik German is a staff writer with Newsday.

Benjamin Harvey is the Istanbul correspondent for the Associated Press.

Alex Hutchinson is a reporter with the Ottawa Citizen.

Carina Kamel has moved to London where she is a producer for CNBC.

Ivan Karakashian is a research associate with the Committee to Protect Journalists.

Jennifer Maloney is enrolled in the M.A. program at the J-School concentrating in politics and government.

Nicole Marks is an intern at New York magazine.

Laura McCandlish is an education reporter with the Daily Press in Williamsburg, Va.

Tom Namako is a staff writer at the Press of Atlantic City covering the city of Vineland, N.J.

Joshua Norman is at the Biloxi Sun Herald covering the town of Long Beach and night cops.

Christian Salazar is a municipal reporter at the Herald News in northern New Jersey.

Karen Sloan is a reporter with the Omaha World-Herald.

George Spencer is a reporter/anchor with News 12, N.Y.

Armen Terjmanian is an associate producer for sports at USATODAY.com.

Dario Thuburn is a correspondent with AFP in Moscow.

Katherine Tomassi is an intern at The American Lawyer.

Alumni of the old New York Herald Tribune are planning a reunion for Sept. 26, 2006.