

CNC NEWS

For Alumni and Friends of Christopher Newport College

Volume 3 Number 3

Newport News, Virginia

Summer 1991

Budget Cuts Result In Layoffs

In an effort to deal with budget cuts that have plagued state agencies for over a year, CNC advised 21 employees on April 15, 1991 that their positions would be eliminated August 15, 1991. CNC had not eliminated any positions prior to this time. Those affected by the cuts ranged from part-time housekeepers to full-time administrators.

After a third round of cuts in December, it became apparent that the College would have to make some personnel reductions. President Santoro then charged a nine member committee made up of representatives from the various academic and administrative areas with making recommendations for a position reduction plan.

Cindi Perry, Chairman of the Committee and Acting Vice President for Finance,

stated that "every functional area on campus was studied before recommendations were made. This was an extremely difficult task, and the committee spent many hours looking at all alternatives."

After receiving the committee's recommendations, President Santoro discussed the plan with the Vice Presidents and made minor adjustments. The plan was also presented to the Board of Visitors.

All those whose positions are being eliminated have received job placement assistance from the Offices of Career Services and Personnel. A support group has also been formed through United Campus Ministries.

The cuts will save the College approximately \$475,000 in salaries and benefits during the coming year.

In addition to the 21 positions that were terminated, one position was reduced from full- to part-time, several faculty and administrative positions that were vacant will not be filled, and money for student jobs has been reduced.

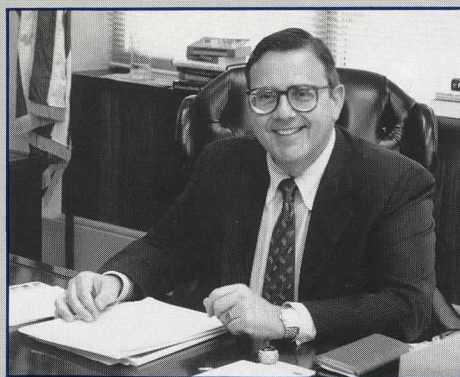
"The budget reductions forced us to layoff a lot of good people," said President Santoro. "I am certain, however, that those who remain will do all they can to maintain the level of services we provide this community. The CNC support staff may be a little smaller than before, but our commitment to providing a quality education remains unchanged."

SMILE
FOR
THE
CAMERA



GRADUATION '91 INSIDE

From the President...



Dr. Anthony R. Santoro

Beginning with an uncertain session for the General Assembly and ending with wonderful Commencement exercises on the lawn of the campus, this spring term was packed with meaningful activity for the College community.

Under beautiful skies, CNC students participated in the 59th Commencement Exercises bringing to a close the thirtieth academic year in the College's history. Honorary degrees were given to Mrs. Jean Berman Falk and to General Robert D. Russ for their contributions to philanthropy and to military service, respectively.

The graduation ceremonies also included the awarding of College medallions to Rector Erwin Drucker and former Rector William O'Neill for their service to the Board of Visitors.

Secretary of Education James W. Dyke, Jr., gave a stirring commencement address that highlighted the important priorities of Governor Wilder's administration and urged the graduates to continue on the path to excellence.

Other recent developments of interest include the awarding of the contract to a private developer for our first residence hall and during summer session we will be offering our first courses for the Master of Arts in Teaching Degree. Interest in the degree is strong among public school teachers and we look forward to a strong beginning from our graduate program.

Due to the fiscal situation in the Commonwealth, CNC was forced to make reductions in resources, including staff. No faculty positions were affected by the cutbacks, however, so the quality of instruction at the College remains strong. New and continuing students can look forward to the same high level of academic quality as before. We are committed to maintaining high standards in the academic preparation of our students.

As the College reflects upon a successful academic year and looks toward the beginning of the 1991-92 academic year, we ask for your continued interest and support.

Professorship Tops \$100,000

The Endowment for the Brauer Professorship, awarded annually to a faculty member of CNC's School of Business and Economics, reached the \$100,000 mark this year. CNC's first rector, retired businessman Harrol A. Brauer, Jr. and his family endowed the professorship in 1985 to enhance the scholarly activities at CNC.

Prof. Ronnie Cohen has been selected as the 1991-92 Brauer Professor.

Cohen, who teaches business law, will use the one-course release time to study corporate social responsibility. The study will be the focus of a seminar course she will teach during the spring semester.

Cohen, a newly-tenured professor, has been at CNC for seven years. She has a bachelor's degree from Kirkland College, and a law degree and master's degree in taxation from the College of William and Mary.

CNC Takes A Bite Out Of Crime

Once again, CNC has the lowest incidence of crime among Virginia's four-year state colleges and universities, according to a report by the Virginia State Police.

According to the annual State Police report, which tracks crimes in eight categories, CNC has had the lowest number of reported crimes since 1988.

The eight categories are arson, motor vehicle theft, larceny, burglary, aggravated assault, robbery, forcible rape, and murder and non-negligent manslaughter.

CNC reported a total of 30 crimes during 1990, up slightly from 1989, but still far lower than any other four-year state college or university. The crimes reported included 29 larcenies and one burglary.

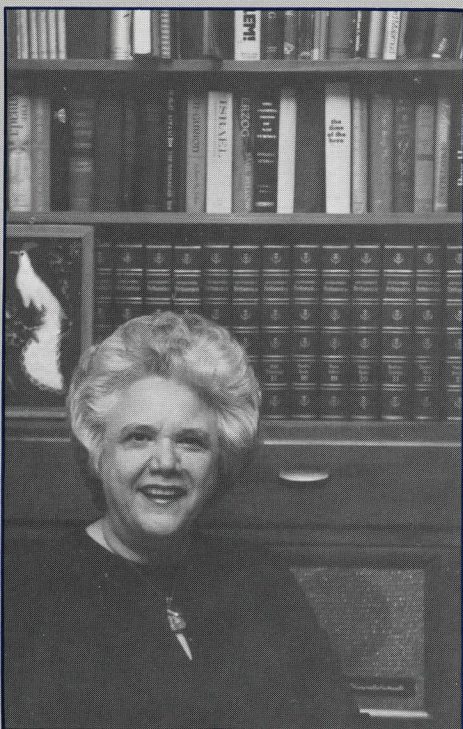
The 30 crimes reported at CNC represent just eight-tenths of one percent of the 3,953 crimes reported at the 13 state colleges and universities.

"Our campus police officers, under the direction of Chief (Gerald J.) Bright, have done an outstanding job protecting the people and facilities of Christopher Newport College," said CNC President Anthony R. Santoro. "Their hard work and dedication have gone a long way in making CNC the safest four-year state college in Virginia."



Chief Bright comments, "While our officers are well-trained and highly visible, much of our success can be attributed to the full support we receive from the students, faculty and staff. Their willingness to take an active role in our crime prevention effort has played an important part in the program's success."

Writers' Fund Established



Mrs. Barbara Smith

The Tenth Annual Writers' Conference and Contest, sponsored by CNC's Continuing Education Department, was held on April 6, 1991 in the Campus Center.

In commemoration of this anniversary, The Barbara Smith CNC Writers' Fund was established by a generous donation from Mrs. Smith. In memory of Agnes Braganza and Maryanne Farley, and in honor and memory of family and friends, the income from this fund is to be used solely for the operation of the CNC Writers' Conference.

Barbara Smith has a good idea, one that will benefit all of us. She says: "I wanted the area writers to have something special. The first phase to lock in will be money prizes for the literary contest. Then, as the fund builds, it could be used to hire speakers. I wanted to be sure it would always be there for the benefit of writers."

Mrs. Smith grew up in Newport News and attended public schools here. She graduated from The College of William and Mary with a degree in English and Remedial Reading and was a member of the first integrated teaching team on the Peninsula.

Though she had a creative writing course at William and Mary under Dr. David Jenkins, she feels her writing career really began when she enrolled in Writing for Fun and Profit, taught by Eric Arthur. Since then she has taken fiction and poetry writing classes with Jay Paul at CNC.

Mrs. Smith has had her poetry published and is a charter member of the Tidewater Writers' Association, a new member of the Virginia Writers' Club, and is included in the Directory for Writers in Virginia.

Mrs. Smith serves on the Advisory Council of the CNC Writers' Conference. In fact, she has attended every conference since its inception. She has a real love of writing and of the conference itself. We are grateful to her for this gift, one that will ensure the continuation of the conference on into its second decade.

This fund is open for anyone to contribute any amount at any time. For more information, contact CNC's Development office at (804) 594-7038.

The preceeding article was taken from CNC's Continuing Education newsletter, Voyager, Doris Gwaltney, Editor.

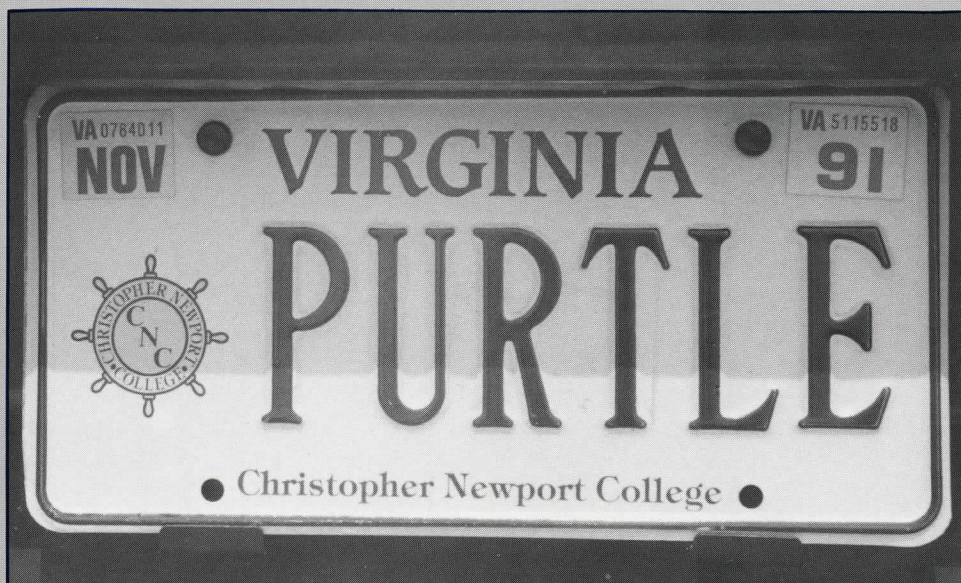
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Dr. Virginia Purtle, Dean of the School of Social Sciences and Professional Studies, gets a lot of mileage out of her CNC license plate. Call 594-7712 for more information.

GRADUATION '91

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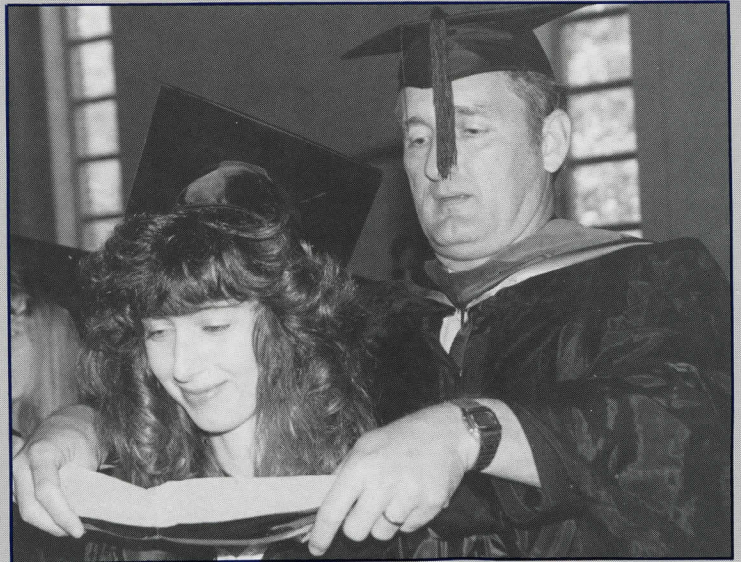
CNC was once again blessed with clear skies for the 59th Commencement Exercises held on May 12 at 4:00 p.m. on the Great Lawn on campus.

The Class of '91, which consists of August '90, December '90 and May '91 graduates, totalled 661 - the largest class in the history of the College.

In addition to the graduating seniors, two honorary degrees were conferred: Mrs. Jean Berman Falk, a Peninsula civic leader and benefactor for more than 45 years, received the Doctor of Humane Letters and Gen. Robert D. Russ, who recently retired as Commander, Tactical Air Command, received the Doctor of Laws.

Rector Erwin Drucker and former Rector William O'Neill were also honored by being awarded College medallions in recognition of their service to CNC.

Virginia Secretary of Education James W. Dyke, Jr. delivered the commencement address and the Tactical Air Command, based at Langley AFB, provided the music for the graduation ceremony.



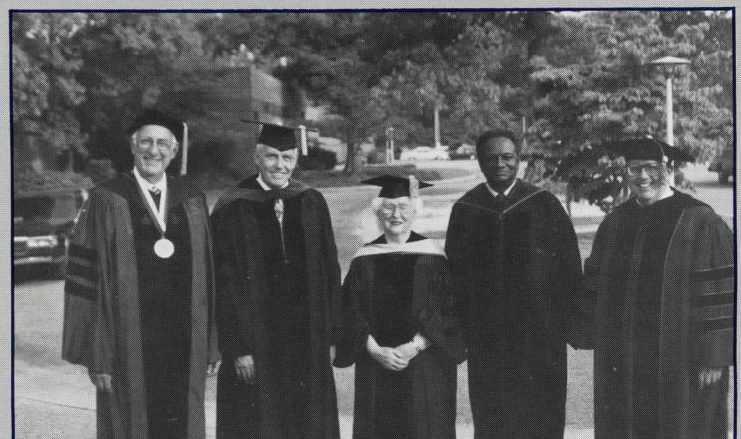
Dr. Wes Pendergrass helps a graduate with her hood.



Family members show their support.

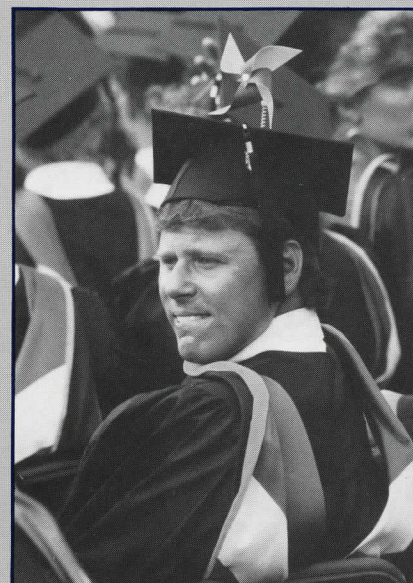
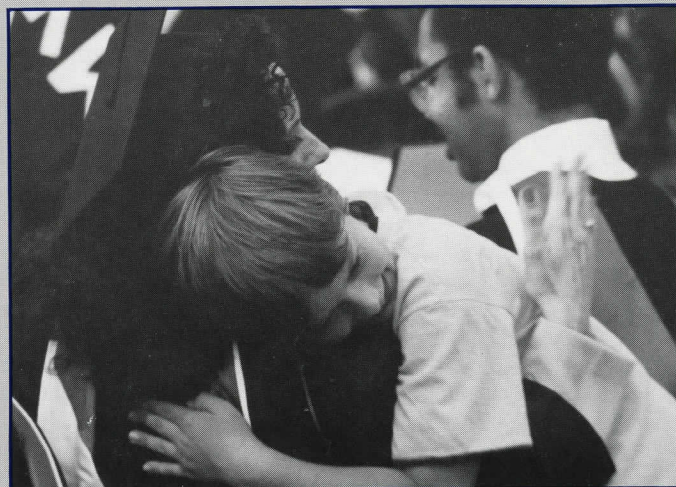
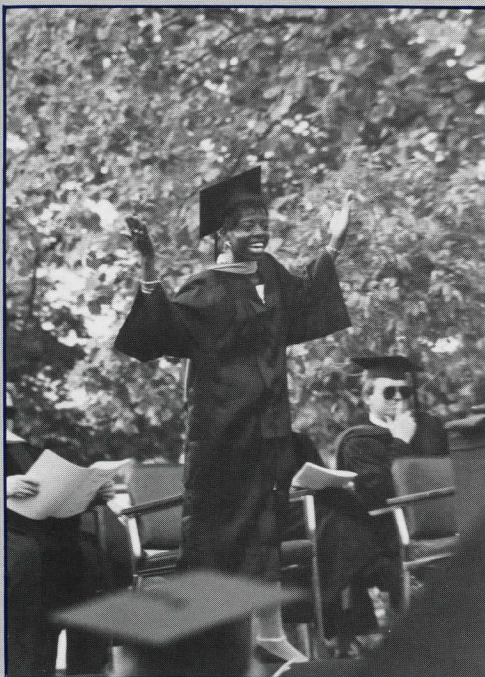


Judy Lucas, '91 "Dances" at the Graduates Reception sponsored by the Alumni Society and Office of Alumni Relations.



Rector Erwin Drucker, Hon. Degree Recipients Gen. Robert Russ and Jean Falk, Sec. of Education James Dyke and President Santoro.

GRADUATION '91



Alumni Society Honors 1991 DAA Recipient

The Alumni Society's Nominating and Elections Committee notified Dr. Paula Rankin of her nomination for the Distinguished Alumni Award and her response is printed below:

"Thank you so very much for your nomination. I am deeply honored by it.

I actually graduated from Christopher Newport twice. I was in the first freshman class, September 1961, in the old Daniels School building. As you know, then we were only a two-year College. I remained through the end of my sophomore year, receiving the Associates Degree in May, 1963 - our very first graduating class. I believe there were 15 of us.

I cannot overstate how great a godsend Christopher Newport was for me. My parents did not have the money to send me away to school, and indeed I had given them enough trouble as a teenager that they felt I was not mature enough to live away from home. CNC miraculously opened. Seven years later, with a husband and two children, I enrolled in the "new" CNC, and again, the College was a godsend. ... the first course I took upon my return as a junior was Poetry Writing, taught by Dave Smith. That was the first time I realized poems were still being written and published; all my later work would not exist if not for that class.

I guess what I'm really trying to say is that without Christopher Newport, I would not have a B.A., much less a Ph.D. Nor would I have any poems to show for the last 20 years.

In September 1974, thanks to my CNC professors' rigorous training and standards, I received a full fellowship from William and Mary for their Master's program in English. I received the Master's in August, 1975. I taught two years for the U.S. Navy in con-

junction with TVA in Tennessee. I applied to the doctoral program at Vanderbilt University, was accepted, and awarded a full fellowship for doctoral study. In 1981 I finished my course work and exams. TVA closed; my children and I followed my husband to Missouri, where he'd taken another job.

Then followed several years of moving, often in less than a year, from state to state - Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, Ohio. Somehow during all this gypsy-hood, I taught, wrote poems, and finished my dissertation, receiving the Ph.D. in May 1984. The previous year, partially because of my GPA and publications, Vanderbilt had awarded me a grant to pay for my dissertation expenses. (My dissertation, however, as my courses, has nothing to do with my poetry writing. These were strictly academic. My Ph.D. specialty is British Romanticism.)

I have taught at CNC, ODU, Volunteer State Community College (Gallatin, Tennessee), the University of Missouri at Columbia, the University of Community College in Cleveland, Ohio, Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, William and Mary, and am currently Associate Professor of English at Hampton University, where I have taught for two years. At long last, we have come home to stay.

I have published hundreds of poems in national periodicals and literary magazines, the major vehicles for poetry in this country. I have three books: By the Wreckmaster's College (1977); Augers (1981); To the House Ghost (1985). All are from Carnegie-Mellon University Press in Pittsburgh. A fourth book, from the same press, is forthcoming this year. I have also given readings of my poems and taught writing workshops all over the country, from the University of Michigan to the University of Massachusetts to Tulane. Christopher Newport very generously named an annual poetry award for me in 1983, thereby continuing its much appreciated support for my work. My son tells me there is a plaque commemorating this in the Administration building. (My son is a junior at CNC; thus I'm putting my money where my mouth is when I claim the College provides an education equal or superior to many other schools, regardless of size. Graduate school was never too difficult because I'd survived CNC's English Department.)

It bears repeating; without the vision the right people had in creating Christopher Newport and then developing it, I frankly don't know what would have become of me. The thought is chilling.

Thank you for your time and consideration."

Dr. Rankin was honored at the Alumni Society's Annual Dinner meeting on May 4, as the recipient of the 1991 Distinguished Alumni Award.

Alumni President's Corner

The Society's Annual Dinner was a great success. Those who attended heard President Santoro's update on various College business and advances, a poetry reading by the Society's 1991 Distinguished Alumna Dr. Paula Rankin and a stirring inspirational speech by Board of Visitors member, area educator and guest speaker, Mary Bicouvaris on education and Christopher Newport College in the 1990's.

In April at the Annual CNC Sports Awards banquet the Society presented a check to the Captain's Crew organization to recognize the outstanding sports year the College had for the 1990-91 academic year.

I was privileged to be able to address the graduating class of 1991 two times; once, at graduation and once at graduation rehearsal. We are looking forward to their participation in the Society.

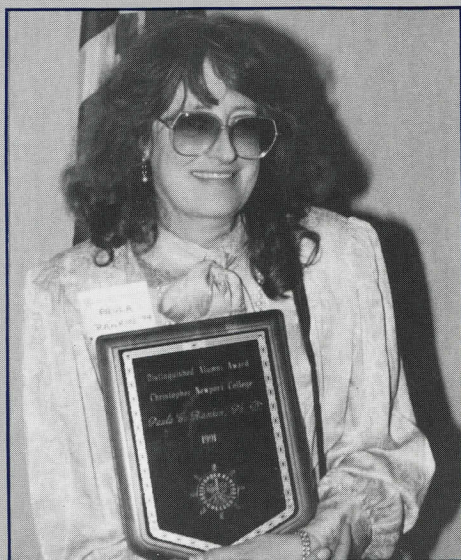
The Society has received considerable praise by the administration for its recent successful support of the CNC Educational Foundation's request for a conditional use permit for property near the College to be used as office space. Petitions and appearances before the Newport News City Council were supportive of the permit which was passed. Many thanks to local attorney and Chairman of the Foundation, Mayer Sarfan, for his excellent presentation and the Foundation's tireless efforts for the betterment of the College.

It has been an exciting, rewarding and productive year and the Society has grown and our presence has been felt in new areas. I feel we are beginning to come together as a group with identity, purpose and the means to achieve its goals.

As President-Elect, Charlie Ciccotti, takes office after our June meeting. I know the Society will continue to expand its membership, its areas of influence and its fund-raising capabilities. Thanks to all the Board of Directors who attended our meetings and activities faithfully this year. Many thanks to Director of Alumni Relations, Liz Bryant, for her invaluable direction and support as well as her boss, Vice President of Development Paul Holcomb. We also appreciate Audrae Wear for her assistance this year.

It's been fun. To all a safe and enjoyable summer.

Stan Clark, '77



Dr. Paula C. Rankin, '74

'90 Lisa Lynn Bankett Zins is a second grade teacher at Greenwood Elementary School in Newport News. She married William Zins in June, 1990.

Alumni Update and/or Address Correction

Alumni Society Elects Officers and Directors

The Alumni Society Board of Directors held their organizational meeting on June 27, 1991. Officers and Directors for 1991-92 are listed below:

President Charlie Ciccotti, '86
 President-Elect Gerald Bright, '82
 Vice President for Planning & Special Events Tom Carpini, '74
 Vice President for Membership & College Development Bob McGaw, '84
 Vice President for Communications & College Relations Mark Suiter, '77
 Vice President for College Assistance & Student Relations Steve Tross, '85
 Secretary Kay Smith, '84
 Treasurer Cary Epes, '77
 Historian Jimmy Draper, '68

Board meetings, which are open to all alumni, are held at
 7:30 p.m. in the Campus Center. The schedule for 1991-92 is as follows:

Thursday, September 19 – Thursday, November 21

Thursday, January 16 – Thursday, March 19

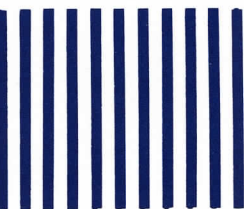
Saturday, May 2/Annual Dinner Meeting – Thursday, June 18

For more information about the Alumni Society, call 594-7712.

Board of Directors

Curtiss Back, '84
 Claudia Bolitho, '77
 Tom Bradshaw, '87
 Stan Clark, '77
 Ruth Daniels, '89
 Brian Deibler, '88
 Hector Gonzalez, '86
 Terry Heffington, '77
 Jim Johnson, '73
 Tommy Joy, '76
 Robert Kimsey, '79
 John McCroskey, '88
 M.E. McMurrin, '90
 Shelley McPhail, '82
 David Merryman, '88
 Freeman Phillips, '82
 Dave Pisle, '75
 Gail Rehmert, '77
 Patrick Rockey, '88
 Bill Thompson, '81
 Ginny Zimmermann, '88

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